



Rep. James Comer
1ST Congressional District

March 2021

www.heritage.ky.gov



About the federal Historic Preservation Fund

State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPOs) are a key component of implementing the national historic preservation program at the state and local levels, and adequate funding is needed to continue the current level of service to Kentucky constituents. We are asking for your support to:

- **Reauthorize the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF)** and maintain funding for SHPO offices. The fund **does not use taxpayer dollars**, and it goes toward allocating, protecting and utilizing historic resources.
- **Support the federal Historic Tax Credit (HTC).**
- **Support state Main Street programs**, which drive economic growth and community revitalization as well as encourage local entrepreneurship.

Kentucky Heritage
Council staff **review**
more than
\$1 BILLION worth
of investment in
projects across the
state EACH YEAR

The Kentucky Heritage Council makes it a priority to **streamline the federal process** to enhance the delivery of projects for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, and companies seeking to invest in our state.

Our work supports infrastructure development.

Our agency is not funded by federal taxpayer dollars.

Our service to the Commonwealth is a testament to our small staff.

Please support the HPF to provide basic funding to our agency.

We deliver so investment can be made throughout the Commonwealth!

Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits

KHC administers both state and federal historic rehabilitation tax credit programs. In 2020, Kentucky ranked 15th nationally utilizing the **Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit**, with 20 successfully completed projects **generating investment of \$54,292,000**. This tax credit can often be utilized in tandem with the **Kentucky Historic Preservation Tax Credit**, a key provision that strengthens use and effectiveness of both programs.

In 2020, KHC received a record 153 applications for the Kentucky tax credit from 22 counties; 127 of these were approved pending completion of the work. These approved projects **represent \$161,582,277 in proposed private investment** in rehabilitation. Since implemented in 2005, through 2020, the state tax credit has resulted in **1,091 buildings rehabilitated** across Kentucky and **\$663 million of private funds invested** in historic buildings, leveraged through \$49 million in credits.

Kentucky Main Street Program

Kentucky Main Street supports preservation and reuse of architecturally and historically significant buildings by providing structure for a community-driven approach to downtown revitalization, generating economic development and encouraging and benefiting independently-owned small businesses.

Like elsewhere in 2020 when Covid ground the economy to a halt in March, the pandemic left 27 Kentucky Main Street communities reeling with a loss of 1,344 jobs and 231 businesses over the first several months. But the good news is the Main Street Approach™ works – and these communities bounced back due to the resiliency of local directors and their ability to take advantage of tools they had learned through participation in the program. Things like assisting businesses to create space for open-air retail and dining, encouraging a shift to online sales, and networking with other directors to see what was working in their communities and apply different tactics.

By year's end, participating programs **cumulatively reported \$45,501,384 of investment in downtown commercial districts**, representing \$28,129,794 of private investment matched by \$17,371,590 in public improvements. Statewide, the program also reported 842 (net) new jobs in Main Street districts, 122 (net) new businesses, 66 rehabilitation projects completed, and 22,299 volunteer hours invested. Since the program's inception in 1979, **Kentucky Main Street can document \$4.7 billion of public-private investment** throughout the state!

The federal Historic Preservation Fund also supports:

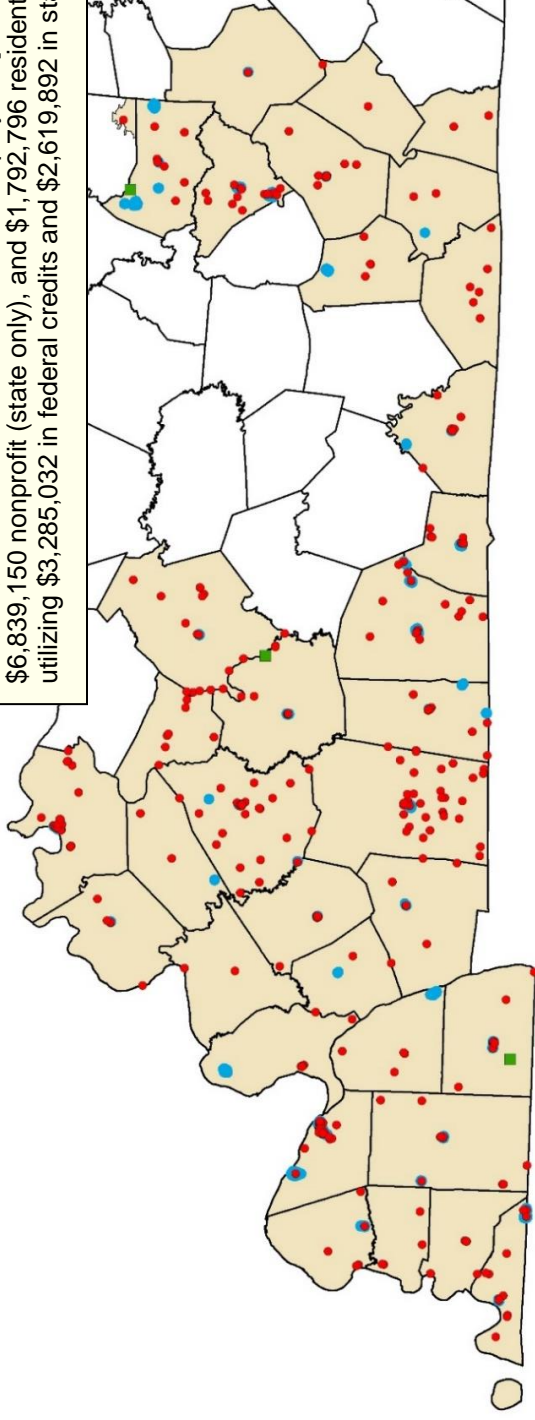
Site Identification: The Kentucky Historic Resources Inventory, the Kentucky Heritage Council's written and photographic record of all known historic buildings, structures and sites in all 120 counties, a comprehensive database with nearly 118,000 entries.

National Register of Historic Places: Administered by the National Park Service and state historic preservation offices. Kentucky ranks 4th among states in total listings, with 3,400+ districts, sites and structures encompassing more than 42,000 individual historic features. National Register-listed sites qualify for federal and state historic rehabilitation tax credits.

Certified Local Governments: A federal-state-local partnership that supports designated city and county governments that enact local historic preservation ordinances. Kentucky currently has 23 CLG communities.

In addition to the **Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit**, the Kentucky Historic Preservation Tax credit was implemented in 2005 and can often be used in tandem with the federal program.

In the 1st District, since 2005, **59 completed projects have generated \$25,057,106 of investment** in rehabilitation projects [\$16,425,160 commercial, \$6,839,150 nonprofit (state only), and \$1,792,796 residential (state only)], utilizing \$3,285,032 in federal credits and \$2,619,892 in state.



1st District Kentucky Main Street Program communities are **Campbellsville, Guthrie, Murray, Paducah** and **Scottsville**.

1st District Kentucky Main Street Program communities reported **\$7,483,257 of total investment in 2020**, representing \$5,462,873 of private investment matched by \$2,020,384 in public improvements, and including 122 (net) new jobs created, 27 (net) new businesses, and 20 rehabilitation projects completed.

1st District Certified Local Government communities are **Campbellsville, Dawson Springs, Hopkinsville** and **Paducah**.

KEY

- Sites listed in the National Register of Historic Places
- National Register districts
- National Historic Landmarks

An agency of the Kentucky Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet, the Kentucky Heritage Council is responsible for the identification, protection and preservation of prehistoric resources and historic buildings, sites and cultural resources throughout the Commonwealth. In partnership with the federal government, KHC carries out the primary functions of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). These include finding and documenting America's historic places, making nominations to the National Register of Historic Places, administering federal and state historic rehabilitation tax credit programs, reviewing impacts of federal projects as mandated through Section 106 of the NHPA, working with local governments and preservation commissions, and conducting preservation education and planning.