

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**

1. Name of Property

Historic name The Russellville Black Bottom Historic District

Other name/site number _____

2. Location

Street & town: 436- 695 East 5th Street; 419-693 East 6th Street; 503-625 East 7th Street; 160-391 S. Morgan; 352 Edwards Ave; Caldwell Ave., Corner of E. 5th and Spring, and 212 Franklin

_____ vicinity
city or town Russellville Kentucky

state Kentucky code KY county Logan code _____ zip code 42276

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title David L. Morgan, SHPO Date _____

Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is: _____ Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet. _____

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet. _____

determined not eligible for the National Register. _____

removed from the National Register. _____

other, (explain:) _____

Name of Property _____

County, KY _____
County and State _____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as apply) **Category of Property** (check only one box) **Number of Resources within Property** (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

				Contributing	
					Noncontributing
BUILDINGS					
X private	building(s)	78	20		buildings
X public-local	x district	5	10		sites
public-State	site	_____	_____		structures
public-Federal	structure	_____	_____		objects
	object	83	30		Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

Part of the district is already geographically considered a part of the National Register under the listing "Historic Russellville." Because there was no inventory for that listing, it is unclear exactly which houses were included in the 1976 addition.

6. Function or Use

Historic Function
(Enter **only** categories from instructions)
domestic, single dwelling
agricultural field, vineyard
outdoor recreation, park and baseball field

Current Function
(Enter **only** categories from instructions)
domestic, single dwelling
vacant/not in use
outdoor recreation

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter **only** categories from instructions)
shotgun
single pen brick homes

Materials
(Enter **only** categories from instructions)
foundation concrete, brick
walls weatherboard, brick

single pen frame homes

roof tin, aluminum

other _____

Narrative Description _____

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 7

Name of Property _____

County, KY _____
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Areas of Significance
(enter categories from instructions)

Ethnic Heritage: African American

Period of Significance
1847-1957

Significant Dates
1847, 1876, 1869, 1920, 1945, today (current renovations)

Significant Person (only if Criterion B selected)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder (use last names first for individuals)

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 8

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):
data:
preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National
repository:
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional
State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
Register University
designated a National Historic Landmark Other Name of

West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9

Narrative Description

The Black Bottom Historic District is located south and east of the center of Russellville (population 7149 in 2000), seat of Logan County, Kentucky, a largely agricultural area. It resides within Kentucky's Pennyrile Cultural Landscape, 25 miles southwest of regional center Bowling Green. The district consists of an African-American residential neighborhood containing single-family dwellings, a few duplexes, the newly renovated Knights of Pythias Hall community center, three historic homes converted to small museums and research centers, two small businesses currently in operation, two vacant historical business buildings, four churches, four museums, a multifunction church containing a child daycare center and a clothing donation center, and a rehabilitation center for homeless adults and veterans. The district's buildings stand along the 500-600 blocks of 5th, 6th, and 7th Streets, the 200-300 blocks of S. Morgan Street where it intersects with 5th, 6th, and 7th Streets, and one house is on Edwards Avenue (sometimes called Strange Avenue). The district covers ___ acres, and consists of 78 contributing buildings, **20** Non-Contributing buildings, 5 contributing sites, and 10 Non-Contributing sites.

A portion of the Black Bottom Historic District is included in the Russellville Historic District (NR listed 1976). That nomination encompasses approximately fifty city blocks; typical of nominations from that era, the form provides no complete list of district properties. The documentation presented here proposes separate listing for the Black Bottom Historic District, and includes areas which are in the Russellville Historic District and areas which are not. Two reasons led to this decision. First, the 1976 nomination offers virtually no information on the African American community within its boundary, either in the Description or Significance narratives, save for mention of a lynching. Second, there is a lack of precision on the 1976 district's boundary, making it impossible to tell exactly where the district travels through the Black Bottom neighborhood. The district's two maps show slight differences where the boundary cuts through the center of the Black Bottom, near the Town Spring Branch and Caldwell Street. While today, street signs posted at the edge of Black Bottom read "Historic Russellville," the 1976 Nomination which secured this sign did not include information about the buildings or people who lived in the Black Bottom. Thus, it seems more appropriate to use a separate nomination, and separate boundary, to properly recognize the identity and importance of the Black Bottom neighborhood as part of Russellville's African-American past, to help the general population of Russellville and Logan County to incorporate this area into the larger collective past. This nomination has adopted the name for the district upon the advice of the board of directors at the West Kentucky African American Heritage Center in Russellville.

The architecture of the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District helps tell the story of African American history in west Kentucky. Locally owned businesses, community centers, and family homes speak to the long-standing community in the neighborhood. Many similarities can be seen between this district and another historically African American neighborhood in western Kentucky already on the National Register—the Shake Rag Historic District (NR listed 2000) in Bowling Green. In both, the landscape of houses and buildings

tell the story of a strong sense of community—communities supported by black-owned businesses, all-black schools, and local churches—which has defined many similar neighborhoods through past and present. Yet the neighborhood is also historically unique in that it was founded by free slaves prior to the end of the Civil War and a few of the houses from this time period are still standing. While the district has many similarities to Shake Rag for example, the district is also unique because, unlike many African American neighborhoods throughout our state that have been demolished during urban renewal or eminent domain, the majority of the historic homes in this neighborhood remain standing as both homes and community buildings.

Chronology of the Black Bottom Neighborhood

Incorporated in 1798, Russellville is the oldest town in western Kentucky. Highway 68/80 is the main road in the town, and forms the district's eastern border. Highway 68/80, known as the Old Dixie Highway, has been a significant road since the early 1900s, leading to both Tennessee and Bowling Green. Located in a valley, the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District is home to the Town Spring Branch, which runs through the district. Once Russellville's primary water source during the 1700s, this creek cuts through the middle of the district and runs all year round. Near the creek are walking trails which lead to a park on 5th Street. The district occupies the lowest elevations in the town, a flood-prone area.

The Black Bottom Historic District has special power to communicate the African American experience in western Kentucky in that it was founded by free slaves twenty two years prior to the end of the Civil War. A few of the houses from that time period are still standing. Neighborhood development continued during Reconstruction and the days of Jim Crow, so that a thriving business and cultural center emerged within Russellville's African American community. Home to black-owned businesses and social clubs, the district was a highly important location for the African American community in Russellville and the outlying rural areas. People would even travel from the larger city of Bowling Green to hear musicians like Cab Calloway at the Knights of Pythias Hall and those who lived in the rural areas would come to do their shopping in the neighborhood, eat hot tamales at City Merrit's restaurant, watch the Russellville Red Devils baseball team play, or maybe even attend Leann Jennings' private school for young women. Four major phases of building can be found written upon the landscape which directly correspond to three city additions that reflect Russellville's growth as a town: Latham's Addition in 1820, Norton's Addition in 1869, and the Strange-Edward's Addition in 1945.

Russellville's Latham Addition of 1820 and the Black Bottom's earliest days

Latham's Addition created the oldest section of Russellville, which is today the most western part of the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District and is located near the intersection of 5th, 6th, and Morgan Streets. It was in this section of town where two free slave families set free by Major Richard Bibb lived prior to the Civil War. The Kimbrough House (Property # 48) became home to one of the freed families. It was built in the 1810s

and is therefore one of Russellville's oldest homes. Located on East 6th Street, near its intersection with South Morgan Street, this single-pen common-bond brick structure is located in the heart of the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District. Like many of the historic homes in the district, this building is being renovated by the West Kentucky African American Heritage Center for use as a museum and interpretive center for western Kentucky's African American history.

Russellville's Norton Addition of 1869 and Black Bottom during the Reconstruction Era

Norton's Addition followed Latham's Addition and officially created the neighborhood called the Black Bottom, extending the neighborhood to Caldwell Street and the Town Spring Branch, an area first used by some of Russellville's earliest settlers. Created in 1869, these land plots were sold specifically to African American families after the end of slavery. Unlike the wealthy homes in downtown Russellville, this area was in a flood plain, and thus susceptible to frequent flooding and illnesses that accompany standing water. Research of death records from these early settlers show that many people in the area died from malaria and related illnessesⁱ. Multiple single-pen homes, dating from the late 1800s and the turn of the century, can be found on 5th and 6th Streets. The Cooksey House (# 51) was built in 1878. The house is believed to be one of the district's oldest structures, and sits near the center of the Russellville Black Bottom District. This single-pen one-and-a-half-story brick structure is undergoing renovation for use as a museum by the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum.

The first plot of land in Norton's Addition was sold to Butler Rush, a slave preacher in 1866.ⁱⁱ The second plot of land was sold in 1869 to the Banks Street Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church (# 21), at 564 East 5th Street, right around the corner from both the Caldwell and Cooksey Houses. The church, built in 1869, is still located on that original plot of land but the building itself suffered a fire in the early 1900s. A common-bond two-story structure with brick detailing, the church was renovated in the 1930s after the fire, and retains its original interior sanctuary, including church pews dating from the 1930s. The Reverend Vaughn House (# 52), located behind the Banks Street Zion AME Church on 533 East 6th Street, was constructed in the 1890s. Vaughn would become minister of the Colored Baptist Church on Spring Street (Property # 1) .ⁱⁱⁱ A one-and-a-half-story single-pen structure with a later back ell addition, this unique house possesses its original shark-tooth gingerbread around the roof eaves. It is the only house standing in western Kentucky known to have been built by a former slave who became a Union Civil War soldier and teacher. This house was recently renovated with loan funds from Historic Russellville, and is home to one of the neighborhood's founding families.

As the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District grew into an African American business and cultural center in years following the Civil War, several community and residential structures were built along East 5th, 6th, and 7th Streets, and a great many of these buildings remain standing today. The Knights of Pythias Hall (#

2), a two-story half-block and half-wood-frame structure, was built in 1920 at the corner of South Morgan and East 5th Streets, right down the road from the Banks Street AME Zion Church. Serving as a multi-function structure, the building has been used as a church, dance hall, restaurant, gym, school, and meeting hall. Recently renovated in 2003 through a Community Block Grant and matching funds from Historic Russellville, the building now stands as a community center and the home base of the local organization the Concerned Citizens of Russellville.

Several early-20th-century bungalows and L-plan houses are also present on the landscape, indicating the rise in economic attainment of Russellville's African American population. Several houses and businesses from this period can be found in the 500, and a portion of the 600 block of East 5th, 6th, and 7th Streets. The majority of these houses have been greatly renovated to meet the needs of residents throughout the years, though comparisons from older photographs show many houses retain their original plans. The Todd House (# 80) at 675 East 6th Street is an L-plan wood frame house with central chimney. The Holman House (# 75), which belonged to a daughter of the Todd Family at 673 E. 6th Street, is one of the larger houses in the district—an L-plan wood-frame house with a pitched roof.

Russellville's 1945 Strange-Edwards Addition and Black Bottom during the Post-WWII Era

In 1945, the Strange-Edwards Addition to the city of Russellville was created out of the lots from the Norton's Addition, thus adding additional plots to the 600 block to 5th, 6th, and 7th Streets, and a small side street that cuts from East 6th to East 7th Street called Edwards and/or Strange Avenue. This city addition added a great number of small shotgun style houses to the Black Bottom, but many of these houses were torn down during the years of urban renewal. One of these shotgun plan houses with two front doors remains standing at 693 East 5th Street (# 29), and is in good condition. It appears that the front porch is not original to the structure and newer siding has been added, but the house has experienced little structural change, thus making it a highly important building in the telling of this phase of the neighborhood's history. The majority of homes dating from the mid-1900s that diverged from the common shotgun plan are small houses with single-pen plans and little ornamentation. Most of these houses have an internal chimney. Unlike the shotgun plans dating from this time period, several of the single-pen one-story wood houses remain standing and can be found spread throughout the neighborhood.

The Payne-Dunnigan House (#41), occupying a corner lot at East 5th and Morgan Streets, also dates from the 1940s. A small single pen house with a porch addition, this house has been completely renovated and is currently being used as a museum by the West Kentucky African American Heritage Center and Museum as a home for rotating exhibits about regional African American history. A similar single-pen house with a rear ell, located at 252 South Morgan Street, across the street from the Payne-Dunnigan House, is the home office for the West Kentucky African American Heritage and Genealogy Center (# 8). Aside from a small cluster of single-pen wood houses on the east end of East 6th Street, the different building styles mentioned are most often

found dispersed throughout the neighborhood, providing an eclectic array of housing that testifies to the different phases of development.

Perhaps the most profound physical changes to the district's landscape occurred during the post-WWII era, under the heading "Urban Renewal." Beginning in the mid- to late-1970s, portions of the neighborhood began to be demolished. Today, those places either remain as vacant lots, or replacement structures have been constructed. Looking through PVA records, it is obvious that the intersection of E. 5th, 6th and Caldwell streets, which runs perpendicular to the Town Spring Branch was particularly hard hit with several single pen and one story and half homes were destroyed. Evaluating these properties according to the National Register guidelines calls for assigning them to the category "Non-Contributing resources," though that classification somewhat undermines the consistency that changes occurring after 1958—the conventional 50-year close to the Period of Significance—have to tell us about the historic district. This nomination describes a Black Bottom community within Russellville that occupied a lower position of social economic power, yet survived and thrived despite a system of racism and classism which limited a great economic opportunities. One indication of the racism and classism that were experienced in the Bottom is evidenced by the some of the housing, which historically did not enjoy the same quality and durability of general housing throughout the rest of Russellville. Although many of the houses are still standing, many of the shot-gun style homes built on some of the smaller land plots often started their existence with shorter life-span potential than that enjoyed by housing constructed outside of the neighborhood. Although many of these homes still served as family homes, some of these houses were torn down during the 1970s. These vacant lots and subsequent rebuilding in the last 50 years in the Black Bottom actually have much to inform us about the events that took place prior to 1958.

Construction that has occurred since 1958, also is important to signal the vitality of the neighborhood, and testifies to a continuation of the historic tenacity that the neighborhood transmits during the historic period. While the places where construction has occurred since 1958 have experienced greater physical change than the district's contributing properties, their contribution to the overall vitality of the neighborhood's viability might be quite high. For instance, the Jesus is Lord complex (# 31), consisting of a day care center, clothing donation center, church, and home for veterans, which takes up one block on 5th Street, was created from Benton's Personal Care Home, originally built in the late 1960s. Additions to these buildings include buildings constructed on lots cleared by Urban Renewal. This and several other Non-Contributing-historic buildings indeed provide some of the highest indication of the community's deep sense of resilience that marked it through the historic period. These and several other places might be nominally Non-Contributing within the National Register's system, but they are deeply compatible with the portions of the neighborhood that enjoy contributing status. Many of the contributing and Non-Contributing features of the district serve as physical markers of social forces that have historically defined the African American experience, not only in the Black Bottom neighborhood of Russellville, but many black communities within the Commonwealth.

Integrity Considerations

The Russellville Black Bottom Historic District meets the National Register Criterion A and is historically significant within the context of evaluation “African-American Experience in Logan County, Kentucky, 1847-2008.” Extending the historic context’s perspective up to the present has helped evaluate the significance of events that occurred during the historic period. A property will be contributing if it retains integrity of location; integrity of location will extend to properties that have integrity of location, setting, and modest amounts of material and/or design. The judgment that an eligible district exists must also arise from the conclusion that combined properties collectively possess an integrity of association with the important event, i.e., the African-American experience in Logan County during the historic period.

The physical landscape present in the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District today reflects cultural, political, and economic changes that have affected most African American communities in Kentucky, as the Commonwealth at large moved from a system of slavery, through the years of segregation, through the period of greater civil rights. This particular neighborhood’s story begins somewhat differently for the region with a small number of blacks who became freedmen prior to the Civil War. From its beginning, this neighborhood was a place that stood in opposition to the inhumane racist system of slavery and continued to be a place where African American fought for rights and equality from Jim Crow onward. One narrative by which to understand the Black Bottom neighborhood, as an indicator of the local African American experience, is through a narrative of self-determination. Both historically and today, a great deal of development has taken place in the neighborhood that reflects the will of its residents. The recent conversion of several historic homes to museums and research centers witnesses an intent to fuse the historic landscape with preservation of the community/social identity. Renovation work has also recently spread to formerly vacant homes—enabling historic properties to continue broadcasting a pride of place as those houses retain their historic functions.

The district, however, also transmits an alternative message, that of power differences between whites and blacks in Russellville during the historic period. Despite the freedoms outline in the Emancipation and the U.S. Constitution’s 13th Amendment, racism increased, with a whole realm of official and unofficial measures, which took many forms—from legal segregation in public places, to illegal acts of violence. For example, Logan County had the second highest number of lynchings in Kentucky during the early 1900s.^{iv} Within this climate of opposition, African Americans built the Black Bottom community as a business, religious and cultural center for African American life throughout rural western Kentucky and Tennessee. The district signals many social problems and a system of racism that the inhabitants of the Black Bottom Historic District, and African Americans throughout the state, have had to fight throughout the years of legalized segregation. The buildings tell the story of this fight and the determination of the community in the face of unequal opportunity.

The neighborhood today exhibits the immense amount of social change that has marked the African American experience over nearly 150 years. The feeling and character of the district are contained in its built

environment, which includes the land plots themselves. Sanborn maps from 1923 and 1936 reveal that the additions to the city which created what would become the Black Bottom Historic District contain land plots that are drastically smaller than the wealthy white neighborhood downtown. Such discrepancies in land plot size reflect great economic inequalities that have been a reality in the neighborhood since its early beginnings. According to oral history and photos on record at the PVA office, there was a time when many of the small lots contained a home. For some of these smaller buildings left standing, the relatively large amount of physical alterations indicates the need to remodel the home as time went by. Many of these homes built in the 1940s and 1950s were built without indoor plumbing at a time when the rest of the town had long since had access to such standards in living. Many of these homes were substandard and according to oral history some homes did not receive indoor plumbing until the 1970s. Add to these problems the fact that the Bottom was built on a flood plain and regular flooding routinely damaged homes. Although many of these homes were continually remodeled to meet the needs of community members, many were torn down during urban renewal. Although some of the houses taken down during so-called urban renewal were in states of physical decline, the effects of tearing down homes and relocating community members was a disruptive force in the community. The negative and destructive effects of urban renewal in the 1970s and 1980s has been interpreted here as a continuation of the historical forces that led up to this substandard housing. The interpretation of this district's seven integrity factors—location, setting, design, workmanship, materials, feeling, association—were examined within this interpretation.

A house in the Black Bottom Historic District will retain its integrity of **location** as long as it resides on its original site. If a house is found to have been moved after the close of the Period of Significance, that house will still be said to contribute if both locations are within the Black Bottom District.

We can understand a great deal about the Black Bottom neighborhood, and Russellville by extension, through examination of the land plots on which the houses stand. Part of this insight comes from integrity of location, and part depends on examination of public record and collection of oral interview evidence. Two houses apparently sitting side by side are addressed as 651 and 655 6th Street. According to oral sources there is a small vacant lot between these two houses. This fact is corroborated by the 1869 Norton's Addition plat to the city. Community residents remember a time, before the destructive effects of urban renewal, when small lots such as the apparently Non-Contributing-existent 653 6th Street, all once held a house. In downtown Russellville, where many of the historic homes occupied by whites are found, the land plots are larger by comparison, showing the great economic differences between the white-owned and black-owned property in historic Norton's Addition.

A house or a vacant lot will be said to have integrity of **setting** if it continues to have the arrangement of physical features on its lot that existed at the close of the Period of Significance. One aspect of the district's setting that is critical to the overall integrity of the district is that of the collective combination of uses found

within the district. As with the example above, the historic setting of 653 6th Street has been somewhat obscured by urban renewal. Nonetheless, the retention of important social institutions, particularly churches, established a setting within the district that told a visitor which of the places enabled the community to construct a social system which anchored the community from outside influence.

A property in the Black Bottom neighborhood will possess **integrity of materials and/or design** if it retains a sufficient amount of its plan to be recognizable as a historic resource. Many of the buildings have been renovated to include new siding, porch additions and external aesthetic renovation, to meet the needs and taste of the homeowners who added them. Still, most houses still show the single pen, L- plan, or bungalow forms that the houses had historically. Comparison of the houses with older photographs has been undertaken to get a basic understanding of house forms and features, so that an appropriate judgment about the integrity of a particular house can be made.

A property in the Black Bottom Historic District will be said to have integrity of **association** through several considerations. Residential buildings included in both the 1976 area and in this proposed district that clearly reflect the building forms and styles of the late-19th and early-20th centuries will meet this test. Integrity of association can extend to properties that contain historic houses that have remained in the same families for over sixty years. Houses constructed any time during the late-1800s through the 1940s which bear the name of community members who founded the area, like the Todds, Paynes, Bibbs, Cookseys, and Vaughns, are seen by the community as containing important associations. The longstanding connection between houses and their historic residents of Russellville, further exemplifies and outlines the history of African-American community life in the region.

After the end of slavery a great number of freed slaves from Logan County moved to the larger areas of Lexington and Louisville to find jobs and separate themselves from the racism of rural west Kentucky. However, not everyone could leave or wanted to leave. The Russellville Black Bottom Historic District grew into a community center for African Americans throughout rural Logan County, and we can certainly see this written on the landscape today. The Kimbrough House dating from the late 1800s sits right next door to the Payne-Dunnigan House built in the 1940s. With one house currently being used as a museum and the other in the process of becoming a museum, taken side by side these two houses from different time period speaks directly to the story of African American life in the community. Additionally the 1930s Bank Street African Methodist Episcopal Church, the oldest church in the district, which also occupies the original plot of land in Norton's Addition, sits across the street from the 1950s Church of the God Sanctified. The Russellville Black Bottom Historic District teaches us a great deal about the changing setting of the Bottom as the neighborhood grew over multiple decades.

The Russellville Black Bottom Historic District also retains its integrity of design, workmanship, and materials. The proposed boundary expansion directly reflects the properties listed on the 1869 Norton's Addition plot map, and the 1945 Strange/Edwards Addition plot map. The majority of houses have retained their original configuration, size, scale and location. Although a somewhat large number of vacant lots exist in the neighborhood as compared with the original land plots, these are modern day landmarks signaling the effects of urban renewal in the area. Rather than see these plots of land as Non-Contributing space in the traditional sense, they are physical reminders of another moment in the neighborhood's history that is equally important to tell. Residential houses that retain historic significance have been adapted to meet the needs of the current community. As mentioned previously, siding has been added and porches redone or added. In the case of a few houses, the roofs have been slightly altered. In almost all cases the original chimneys remain in place. Given the fact that so many houses were torn down during urban renewal, the fact that these houses were renovated to meet the needs of the people while also retaining a great deal of the integrity is especially important. Except in the cases of the houses that have been converted to museums, all of these original structures have maintained their integrity of use. None of the original homes have been converted to businesses or apartments and all houses remain single-family dwellings. The Knights of Pythias Hall, recently renovated to include a complete renovation of the upstairs dancehall, retains its integrity of use as a community center where public meetings are held and area youth can participate in after school and tutoring programs. Winston's Funeral Home located at 230 S. Morgan and built in the 1920s around the same time as the Knights of Pythias Hall, is the oldest African American business in Logan County. It remains in operation today. Todd's café, also built in the 1920s is currently vacant but structurally intact. Given the amount of historic renovations going in the neighborhood, it appears that Todd's Café may also soon be renovated for use by the West Kentucky African American Heritage Center.

Perhaps nothing speaks more to a building's integrity of feeling than its use by people who live within the community. The Russellville Black Bottom Historic District is a place where buildings are being used for community historic interpretative purposes, greatly adding to the integrity of feeling in the neighborhood. The Russellville Black Bottom Historic District, both in the properties included on the 1976 Nomination and the proposed boundary expansion, retains its integrity of feeling and association in many important ways. The district remains predominantly an African American neighborhood. This reflects the history of the city, not only the African American experience, but also the interaction between the white community and black community throughout Russellville's development in the late 1800s and early 1900s. The land plots, the houses, the churches and the locations of activism like the Jesus is Lord complex and the Knights of Pythias Hall, are representative not only of the district's history, but its desire to have that history be a living part of the community today. To walk through the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District today is to walk through a microcosm of Logan County's history and its progressive future as a unique community interpreting history for

the benefit of all citizens. The neighborhood tells the story of slavery in the 1800s, the creation of the African American neighborhood before the Civil War and the enlarging of this neighborhood after the Civil War, the rise of black owned businesses in the early 1900s, and later, in the 1970s, the destructive effects of urban renewal. It also tells a story of hope and progress and looking toward the future. As mentioned earlier, four of the historic homes in the district are being renovated to interpret this history. The recently renovated Payne-Dunnigan house is now a museum, which features displays concerning African American history in the region. The house once belonged to Alice Dunnigan's sister in law. Alice Dunnigan, a native of Russellville, was the first woman and the first African American to be appointed to the position of White House journalist. She also worked as a diplomat, and she is the author of multiple books, including one about both her life growing up in Russellville and her time spent in politics. The exhibit, which was the first locally produced exhibit in the museum, is aptly named "Alice Allison Dunnigan: Russellville's Persistent fighter" in connection with her legacy as a woman who challenged racism and sexism in the world of journalism and the government. The West Kentucky African American Genealogy Center, which opened in 2007, will be the first community center of its kind allowing researchers to navigate the difficult work of researching African American genealogy before the Civil War. The Solomon Cooksey House will feature an exhibit about black Civil War soldiers in western Kentucky, and the Kimbrough House will function as a museum much like the Payne Dunnigan House.

Although part of the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District is technically considered a part of the 1976 Register Designation "Historic Russellville," the district in itself was not recognized by the 1976 nomination. In connection with a discussion of the district's integrity of feeling, we can see that the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District, although partially considered a part of the 1976 Nomination, is a neighborhood within a neighborhood. The boundary expansion will reflect the entirety of the neighborhood known as the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District, and a reevaluation of the district as a whole highlights our understanding of this historically, and presently, unique district.

Inventory

1 Contributing/NR	LO-R 69	First Baptist Church	Corner of Spring and 5 th Street.	Early 20 th Century brick and stone two story building with front gable roof.	068-08-09-001-00
2 Contributing/ NR	LO-R 70	Knights of Pythias Hall	Corner Lot of S. Morgan and E. 5th	1920 Two story wood frame and block structure with shingle gambrel-style roof. Renovation of entire structure, including the upstairs dance hall, took place in 2005.	068-08-09-003-00

3 Contributing/NR	LO-R 71	Gertrude Merritt Home. (City Merritt)	160 S. Morgan	Early 20 th Century one story home with gable shingled roof. Weatherboard siding added in 1970s.	068-08-04-005-00
4 Contributing/NR	LO-R 72	Winston Funeral Home	162 S. Morgan	1930s wood frame single story building with gable shingled roof. Weatherboard siding added.	068-08-04-004-00
5 Contributing/NR	LO-R 73	Pool Hall/Formerly Cora White Restaurant	253 S. Morgan	Early 20 th Century. Two-story stone and brick structure with flat shingle roof, and red brick foundation.	Address and PVA # not listed on file
6 Contributing/NR	LO-R 74	Vacant brick building slated for renovation/ Formerly Todd's Café and Grocery	207 S. Morgan	Early to mid 20 th Century. Two-story block building with four rooms downstairs and approx six rooms upstairs. Flat metal roof.	068-08-08-033-00
7 Non-Contributing/NR	LO-R 75	House	242 S. Morgan	1973 Frame house with brick veneer and gable shingled roof.	068-08-09-004-00
6 Contributing/NR	LO-R 76	Zion Baptist Church/ Formerly Cornelius Grocery	255 S. Morgan	1950s wood frame building, with brick foundation and front gable roof. Additions and add on to church in the 1990s.	068-08-09-006-00
7 Contributing/NR	LO-R 77	House	261 S. Morgan	1890s- early 20 th Century. Single pen wood frame house with center brick chimney. Two rooms wide by two rooms deep. Brick foundation. Vinyl siding and handicap ramp added in 1970s.	068-08-08-030-00
8 Contributing/NR	LO-R 78	West Kentucky African American Research Center	252 S. Morgan	Early 1900s-1940. Wood frame house with block foundation and rear ell and porch addition. Interior and exterior renovations completed in 2007.	068-08-09-005-00
9 Contributing/NR	LO-R 79	House	373 S. Morgan	Mid 20 th Century. Wood frame single pen house with concrete block foundation and gable shingled roof.	068-08-17-001-01
10 Non-Contributing/NR	LO-R 80	House	388 S. Morgan	1978. Wood frame house.	068-08-16-003-01
11 Contributing /NR	LO-R 81	House	390 S. Morgan	Circa 1930. Wood frame house with gable shingled roof. Vinyl paneling addition.	068-08-16-004-00

12 Contributing/NR	LO-R 82	House	391 S. Morgan	Circa 1950. Wood and stone construction with two-tiered gable roof. Front porch addition and vinyl siding.	068-08-17-062-00
13 Non-Contributing/NR	LO-R 83	Vacant Lot	436 E. 5th	Vacant Lot. Site of Urban Renewal.	068-08-09-022-00
14 Non-Contributing/NR	LO-R 84	House	518 E. 5 th	1978. Wood frame house with concrete block foundation and end gable shingled roof. Weatherboard siding. Created after Urban Renewal.	068-08-08-002-00
15 Contributing/NR	LO-R 85	House/Daycare Center/ Formerly The Peoples Funeral Home	517 E. 5 th	Circa 1920. Wood frame house with brick foundation. Vinyl/ weatherboard siding addition and metal roof added in the 1980s.	068-08-05-025-00
16 Contributing/NR	LO-R 86	House	530 E. 5 th	Circa 1930. Wood frame house with front gable shingled roof. Currently undergoing renovation. Vinyl siding added in 2007.	068-08-08-003-00
17 Contributing/NR	LO-R 87	House	533 E. 5 th	Circa 1940-1950. Brick single pen house with chimney and block foundation. End gable metal roof. 1980s. Wood framing and metal roof added in 1980s.	068-08-05-024-00
18 Contributing	LO-R 88	House	538 E. 5 th	Early 20 th Century. Wood frame with brick chimney. Side gable shingled roof and block foundation.	068-08-08-004-00
19 Contributing	LO-R 89	House	546 E. 5 th	Early 20 th Century. Two story wood frame house with dormer windows and clapboard siding. Metal roof.	068-08-08-005-00
20 Contributing	LO-R 90	House	549 E. 5 th	Circa 1920-1940. Wood frame house with rear ell. Front gable shingled roof. Clapboard siding added in 1960s	068-08-05-022-00
21 Contributing	LO-R 91	Banks Street African Methodist Episcopal Church	564 E. 5 th	1872. Two story common bond brick structure. Partially burned in early 1900s and renovated in 1930s. Contains original stained glass windows from the 1930s. Limestone and concrete foundation	068-08-08-006-00
22 Contributing	LO-R 92	The Church of God Sanctified	555 E. 5 th	Mid 20 th Century apprx 1943. Brick/ concrete block structure with front gable shingled roof.	068-08-05-021-00

23 Contributing	LO-R 93	Historic AME Church Parsonage	570 E. 5 th	Constructed in approx 1942 with weatherboard siding added in the 1960s. Wood frame L-plan house with front gable shingled roof.	No PVA listed.
24 Contributing	LO-R 94	Community Park/ Formerly baseball field	582, 584, 588, 592, 596 E. 5 th	This area has always been a baseball park and community park area. However, this is also a site of Urban Renewal which thus expanded the park.	068-08-08-008-00; 068-08-08-009-00; 68-08-08-010-00; 0 68-08-08-011-00; 068-08-08-012-00; 068-08-08-013-00
25 Contributing	LO-R 95	Extension of park toward Town Spring Branch	567, 571, 577, 579, E. 5 th	Same as above. Opposite side of the street.	068-08-05-020-00; 068-0-05-019-00; 068-08-05-018-00068-08-05-017-00;
26 Contributing	LO-R 95	House	581 E. 5 th	Early 20 th Century. Wood frame house with central chimney and stone pier foundation. Gable shingled roof.	068-08-05-016-00
27 Contributing	LO-R 96	House	597 E. 5 th	Early 20 th Century. Wood frame structure with two front doors and central chimney. Tin roof added.	068-08-05-013-00
28 Contributing	LO-R 97	Home of Harvey Smith First African American City Councilman.	598 E. 5 th	Early 20 th Century. Wood frame house with stone foundation and gable shingled roof.	068-08-08-014-00
29 Non- Contributing	LO-R 98	Vacant Lot	608 E. 5 th	Vacant lot. Site of Urban Renewal	068-08-07-001-00
30 Non-Contributing	LO-R 99	Vacant Lot	610 E. 5 th	Vacant Lot. Site of Urban Renewal	068-08-07-002-00
31 Non-Contributing	LO-R 100	Jesus is Lord Church and Community Center complex. Portions of this building formerly the Benton Personal Care Home.	635, 637, 695, 693 E. 5 th	Portions of the buildings 1963-1964 others Circa 1990. Brick and wood structures.	068-08-06-024-00, 068-08-06-024-00, 068-08-06-011-01, 068-08-06-020-00
32 Non- Contributing	LO-R 101	House	644 E. 5 th	Single story one frame house with side gable and shingle roof. Built in the 1980s after Urban Renewal.	068-08-07-006-00
33 Non-Contributing	LO-R 102	House	650 E. 5 th	Single story brick veneer house with side gable shingled roof. Built in 1980s after Urban Renewal	068-08-07-007-00
34 Non-Contributing	LO-R 103	House	688 E. 5 th	Wood frame home with side gable singled roof. Built in early 1990s after Urban Renewal.	068-08-07-009-00
35 Non—Contributing	LO-R 104	House	692 E. 5 th	Brick veneer house with end gable and shingled roof. Built in 1980s after Urban Renewal.	068-08-07-010-00

36 Contributing	LO-R 105	House	696 E. 5 th	Circa 1940. Wood frame house with partial brick veneer and two front doors. Gable shingled roof. Renovations and vinyl siding addition in 1997, but recently burned. Slated for renovation.	068-08-07-012-00
37 Non- Contributing	LO-R 106	Former ally Marla's Snack Bar/ Restaurant/ Club	603 E. 5 th	Solid brick building with gabled shingled roof. Part of the Jesus Center of Russellville.	068-08-06-028-00
38 Contributing	LO-R 107	House	693 E. 5 th	Circa 1940. Shotgun plan wood frame house with two front doors. Vinyl siding addition in 1997. Gable shingled roof. Porch addition.	068-08-06-020-00
39 Contributing	LO-R 108	House	695 E. 5 th	Mid 20 th Century. Single story wood frame house with side gable shingled roof.	068-08-06-011-00
40 Contributing	LO-R 109	Payne House	212 Franklin	Late 1800s-early 20 th Century. Wood frame boxed house with two front doors and two internal chimneys. Stone foundation and gable roof with shingles. Deep porch.	068-08-07-014-00
41 Contributing/NR	LO-R 110	Payne-Dunnigan House/Museum	Corner lot of South Morgan and East 6 th	Circa 1940. Wood frame single pen house with sloped front gable shingled roof and porch addition. Complete interior and partial exterior restoration completed in 2006.	068-08-08-029-00
42 Contributing/NR	LO-R 111	House	419 E. 6 th	Approx 1930 wood frame house with stone foundation and A frame shingled roof.	068-08-09-010-00
43 Contributing/NR	LO-R 112	House	458 E. 6 th	Early Twentieth Century one story home with gable shingled roof and brick foundation. Siding added in 1980s.	068-08-16-002-00
44 Contributing/NR	LO-R 113	Tyler House	463 E. 6 th	Approx 1940. Wood frame house with pitched metal roof. New metal roof added in 1999.	068-08-09-009-00
45 Contributing/NR	LO-R 114	Harrison House	496 E. 6 th	Mid-late 1800s wood and brick two story home with stone foundation and dormer windows. Gable shingled roof. Currently undergoing renovation.	068-08-16-003-00
46 Non-Contributing/NR	LO-R 115	House	510 E. 6 th	1978. Wood frame brick house with front gable shingled roof.	068-08-17-001-00

47 Contributing/NR	LO-R 116	Henry Proctor House	518 E. 6 th	Mid 20 th Century. Story and a half wood frame house with front gable shingled roof. Porch added in 1980s. Recently renovated.	068-08-17-002-00
48 Contributing/NR	LO-R 117	Kimbrough House/ Museum	517 E. 6 th	1810. Single pen story and a half common bond brick structure with internal end chimney and restored side gable wooden roof. Interior and exterior restoration in progress.	068-08-08-028-00
49 Non-Contributing/NR	LO-R 118	Vacant lot	524 E. 6 th	Vacant lot. Foundation still in place.	068-08-17-003-00
50 Contributing/NR	LO-R 119	House	529 E. 6 th	Early 20 th Century. Wood frame house with side gable shingled roof. Enclosed porch added in approx 1960.	068-08-08-027-00
51 Contributing/NR	LO-R 120	Solomon Cooksey House/Museum	528 E. 6 th	1870s. Single pen story and a half common bond brick structure with renovated wood shingle roof. Complete interior and exterior renovation in 2006-2008.	068-08-17-004-00
52 Contributing/NR	LO-R 121	Reverend Vaughn House	533 E. 6 th	1879. L-plan wood frame house with rear ell, internal chimney and shark teeth gingerbread. Front gable shingled roof. Porch added. Roof restoration completed in 2007.	068-08-08-026-00
53 Contributing/NR	LO-R 122	Orendoff House (Home of John Wesley Orendoff, a black Union soldier.)	536 E. 6 th	Late 1800s-early1900s. Wood frame story and a half house with deep porch. Stone foundation. "Composition" Siding and new roof added in late 1990s. Porch tiers added.	068-08-17-005-00
54 Contributing/NR	LO-R 123	House (Home of first African American police officer in Russellville.)	541 E. 6 th	Late 1800s- early 1900s. Wood frame two-story house with external stone chimney. Possibly a cabin underneath. Front gable shingled roof. Additions to the front of house. Vinyl siding addition in 1990s.	068-08-08-025-00
55 Contributing/NR	LO-R 124	House	545 E. 6 th	Early-mid 20 th Century. Two-story wood frame house with front gable shingled roof and enclosed porch addition. Slated for renovation.	068-08-08-024-00

56 Contributing/NR	LO-R 125	House	544 E. 6 th	Early 20 th Century. Wood frame single pen house with side gable shingled roof. Vinyl siding added in 1997.	068-08-17-006-00
57 Contributing/NR	LO-R 126	House	547 E. 6 th	Early – Mid 20 th Century. Wood frame shotgun style house with front gable shingled roof	068-08-08-023-00
58 Contributing/NR	LO-R 127	House	561 E. 6 th	Early-Mid 20 th Century. Wood frame house with front gable shingled roof and porch addition.	068-08-08-022-00
59 Contributing/NR	LO-R 128	Rev. Betty Sweatt House	563 E. 6 th	Early Twentieth Century wood frame home with end gable shingled roof. Weatherboard siding added in the 1980s.	068-08-08-021-00
60 Contributing/NR	LO-R 129	House	560 E. 6 th	1890. Wood frame house with two front doors. Front gable shingled roof. Slated for renovation.	068-08-17-007-00
61 Non Contributing/NR	LO-R 130	Vacant Lot	573 E. 6 th	Vacant Lot	068-08-08-019-00
62 Contributing/NR	LO-R 131	Vacant lot	Historic vacant lot.	E. 6 th	068-08-17-006-00
63 Non-Contributing	LO-R 132	House	574 E. 6 th	Mobile home	068-08-17-009-00
64 Non-Contributing	LO-R 133	House	581 B E. 6 th	Circa 1970. Wood frame house with gable shingled roof.	068-08-018-01
65 Contributing	LO-R 134	House	581 A E. 6 th	Early 20 th Century. L-frame house front gable shingled roof. Vinyl siding added in late 1900s.	068-08-08-018-00
66 Non-Contributing	LO-R 135	House	580 E. 6 th	Circa 1970. Wood frame house with front gable shingled roof.	068-08-17-010-00
67 Contributing	LO-R 136	House	587 E. 6 th	Circa 1890. Wood frame two-story house with brick chimney. Tin roof added.	068-08-08-017-00
68 Non-Contributing	LO-R 137	House	584 E. 6 th	Circa 1970. Wood frame house with siding. Front gable shingled roof.	Two properties listed for same address. 068-08-17-011-00, 068-08-17-012-00
69 Non-Contributing	LO-R 138	Park/Vacant lot by Town Spring Branch	596 E. 6 th	Vacant Lot. Site of Urban Renewal and now a community park. Part of this land was once used as a park in the early days of the Bottom.	068-08-17-013-00
69 B. Non Contributing	LO-R 139	Same as above	620 E. 6 th	Same as above	068-08-17-014-00
69 C. Non-Contributing		Same as above	622 E. 6 th	Same as above	068-08-17-015-00
69 D. Non Contributing		Same as above	637 E. 6 th		068-08-07-031-00
69 E. Non Contributing		Same as above	635 E. 6 th		068-08-07-032-00
69 F. Non-Contributing		Same as above	621 E. 6 th		
70 Contributing	LO-R 140	McGuire House	651 E. 6 th	Early 20 th Century. Two story wood bungalow with gable wood and shingle roof and deep porch.	068-08-07-030-00

71 Contributing	LO-R 141	House	652 E. 6 th	Mid 20 th Century. Wood frame house with front gable shingled roof.	068-08-17-018-00
72 Non-Contributing	LO-R 142	House	650 E. 6 th	Late 20 th Century. Wood frame house with side gable shingled roof. Vinyl siding added.	068-08-17-017-00
73 Non-Contributing	LO-R 143	Duplex	653 and 655 E. 6 th	Late 20 th Century. Wood with brick foundation and front gable metal roof.	068-08-07-028-00
74 Contributing	LO-R 144	Daniels House	659 E. 6 th	Early 20 th Century. L-plan wood frame house with two front doors and front gable shingled roof. Vinyl Siding added in 1980s.	068-08-07-027-00
75 Contributing	LO-R 145	Holman House	673 E. 6 th	Early 20 th Century. L-plan house with rear ell. Front gable shingled roof.	068-08-07-025-00
76 Contributing	LO-R 146	Holman Lot	673 E. 6 th	Lot	068-08-07-025-00
77 Contributing	LO-R 147	Vacant lot	Corner of East 6 th and Edwards Avenue.	Once home to many shotgun houses during the 1940s and 1950s.	
78 Contributing	LO-R 148	Shifflet House	674 E. 6 th	Early – Mid 20 th Century. Single pen wood frame house with center brick chimney and front gable shingled roof.	068-08-19-001-00
79 Non-Contributing	LO-R 149	House	673 E. 6 th	Late 20 th Century. Wood frame house.	068-08-07-025-00
80 Contributing	LO-R 150	Todd House	675 E. 6 th	Early 20 th Century. L-plan wood frame house with brick chimney and two front doors. Front gable shingled roof. Vinyl siding and roof added in 2004.	068-08-07-024-00
81 Non-Contributing	LO-R 151	Living Church of God in Christ	676 E. 6 th	Circa 1970. Block structure with front gable metal roof.	068-08-19-002-00
82 Contributing	LO-R 152	Thornton House	678 E. 6 th	Early 20 th Century. Wood frame house with brick chimney. Front gable shingled roof	068-08-19-003-00
83 Contributing	LO-R 153	House	680 E. 6 th	Mid 20 th Century. Wood frame house with front gable shingled roof. Vinyl siding added.	068-08-19-004-00
84 Non-Contributing	LO-R 154	Vacant lot.	681 E. 6 th		068-08-07-023-00
85 Contributing	LO-R 155	House	682 E. 6 th	Mid 20 th Century. Wood frame house with side gable shingled roof.	068-08-19-005-00
86 Contributing	LO-R 156	House	685 E. 6 th	Mid 20 th Century. Single pen wood house with center chimney. Siding added.	068-08-07-022-00

87 Non- Contributing	LO-R 157	House	684 E. 6 th	Circa 1960. Wood frame house with front gable metal roof.	068-08-19-005-00 (Second house on lot)
88 Contributing	LO-R 158	House	686 E. 6 th	Mid 20 th Century. Wood frame house with front gable shingled roof. Vinyl siding added.	068-08-19-006-00
89 Contributing	LO-R 159	House	688 E. 6 th	Mid 20 th Century. Wood frame house with front gable shingled roof. Vinyl siding added approx 1980.	068-08-19-007-00
90 Contributing	LO-R 160	House	690 E. 6 th	Early – Mid 20 th Century. Single pen house with brick chimney. Front gable shingled roof.	068-08-19-008-00
91 Contributing	LO-R 161	House	687 E. 6 th	Early – Mid 20 th Century. Wood frame house with two front doors and brick chimney. Siding and roof addition.	068-08-07-020-00
92 Contributing	LO-R 162	House	693 E. 6 th	Early–Mid 20 th Century. Wood frame house with two front doors and chimney. Front gable shingled and metal roof. Roof repair took place in the 1980s.	068-08-07-019-00
93 Contributing	LO-R 163	Vacant Lot	503 E. 7 th	Vacant Lot	068-08-17-061-00
94 Contributing	LO-R 164	House	515 E. 7 th	1940s. Wood frame house with front gable shingled roof. Vinyl siding in 1980s.	068-08-17-060-00
95 Contributing	LO-R 165	House	527 E. 7 th	1940s wood frame house with rock foundation and side gable shingled roof. Vinyl siding added in the 1980s.	068-08-17-058-00
96 Contributing	LO-R 166	Cooksey Family House	529 E. 7 th	Approx. 1900. Wood frame house with pitched gable shingled roof and rock foundation. Vinyl siding added approx 1980.	068-08-17-059-00
97 Contributing	LO-R 167	House	541 E. 7 th	Early 20 th Century. Long wood frame structure, story and a half with top gable shingled roof. Weatherboard siding added after 1950s.	068-08-17-057-00
98 Contributing	LO-R 168	House	543 E. 7 th	Early 1900s. Two-story wood frame house with end gable shingled roof.	068-08-17-056-00
99 Non-Contributing	LO-R 169	House	547 E. 7 th	1977. Wood frame brick veneer one story house with end gable shingled roof and rock foundation.	068-08-17-054-00
100 Non-Contributing	LO-R 170	Vacant Lot	563 E. 7 th	Vacant Lot 70 x 165	068-08-17-053-00
101 Contributing	LO-R 171	House	573 E. 7 th		068-08-17-052-00

102 Non-Contributing	LO-R 172	House. Site of Leann Jennings School and now home to Freedom Singer Charles Neblett.	571 E. 7 th	1978. One story brick home with gable shingled roof.	068-08-17-052-00
103 Non- Contributing	LO-R 173	Vacant Lot	581 E. 5 th	Vacant Lot 65 x 155	068-08-17-051-00
104 Contributing	LO-R 174	House	587 E. 7 th	Mid 20 th Century. L-plan house with rear ell. Brick veneer with end gable shingled roof.	068-08-17-050-00
105 Contributing	LO-R 175	Carter Morris House	595 E. 7 th	Early- Mid 20 th Century. L-plan wood frame house with side gable shingled roof and continuous brick foundation.	068-08-17-049-00
106 Non-Contributing	LO-R 176	Vacant Lot	609 E. 7 th	Vacant Lot	068-08-17-047-00
107 Contributing	LO-R 177	Rev. Shelbourne House	603 E. 7 th	Late 1800s. Two-story house covered in lapboard. Pier rock foundation and shingled gable roof.	No PVA # listed in records.
108 Contributing	LO-R 178	House	615 E. 7 th	Late 1800s. Two story wood frame house with basement and block foundation. End gable shingled roof.	068-08-17-046-00
109 Contributing	LO-R 179	House	619 E. 7 th	Early 20 th Century. Wood frame house with original deep porch. Stone foundation and gable roof. Metal roof and vinyl siding added in 1997.	068-08-17-045-00
110 Contributing	LO-R 180	House	625 E. 7 th	Late 1800s to early 1900s. Wood frame two-tiered house with deep porch. End gable shingled roof. Vinyl siding added in the 1980s.	068-08-17-043-00
111 Contributing	LO-R 181	House	352 Edwards Ave.	Mid 20 th Century. Single pen wood frame house with shingled gable roof. Weatherboard siding addition.	068-08-17-023-00
112 Non-Contributing	LO-R 182	Major Site or Urban Renewal. Vacant Lot where an undermined number of houses once sat on Strange/Edwards Ave.	No address listed for these lots. All houses are listed simply as Edwards Ave.	Vacant lots. Some of these lots have been turned into a baseball park, but the park is not included in this Nomination.	Many of the houses/properties did not have PVA numbers listed. These lots are very small. Here are the PVA # that were listed: 068-08-17-032-00 068-08-17-031-0 068-08-17-033-00 068-08-17-035-00 068-08-17-036-00 068-08-27-037-00 068-08-27-038-00 068-08-27-039-00 068-08-17-040-00 068-08-17-041-00
113 Non-Contributing	LO-R 183	Major site of Urban Renewal. Series of vacant lots where an undetermined number of houses once sat.	No addresses listed for these PVA #s. All houses Caldwell Ave.	Vacant Lots now used as community park area	068-08-08-015-00 068-08-08-016-00 068-08-07-034-00 068-08-07-035-00 068-08-07-036-00

Statement of Significance

The Russellville Black Bottom Historic District meets the National Register Criterion A, and is significant within the historic context: “African-American Experience in Russellville, Kentucky 1847-1957.” The Russellville Black Bottom Historic District reflects the history of the African American community in Logan County, from the uniqueness of the free African-American landowning population prior to the Civil War to the rise of the neighborhood as a business and cultural center for African Americans throughout Logan County. The neighborhood contains structures and cultural landscapes that are associated with the vast changes of African American community life as it developed over the course of more than a century. Even though urban renewal would tear down a great number of the historical houses in the district, today the neighborhood is currently going through a revitalization period with historic homes being renovated for use as museums and cultural interpretive centers and youth centers for the citizens of Logan County and tourists alike.

Unlike many African American neighborhoods, whose many buildings have been demolished, this neighborhood is still standing and retains many of its historic buildings. While other African American neighborhoods in surrounding western Kentucky counties have experienced demolition, erasing their names from the widely-known history of the area, neighborhoods such as the Black Bottom Historic District and Shake Rag Historic District remain to tell the story of African American community life from the 1800s through today.

The period of significance, 1847 until 1957 reflects the vastly changing nature of the African American experience, and growth of the African American neighborhood in Russellville. Although this nomination does not officially bring the date of significance up to the present, it should be noted that the district retains historical significance up to the present. The beginning date of 1847 indicates the date when Nancy Bibb and her three children moved to a property near downtown Russellville. Nancy Bibb and her family were freed by slave owner and Methodist minister, Major Bibb^v. She and her family were the second African-Americans to live in the neighborhood that would become the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District. The significant date of 1869 represents the creation of Norton’s Addition, a city addition that created the land plots that would be purchased by African Americans after the Civil War. In 1876 the Bank Street African Methodist Episcopal Zion church was built to serve the Russellville African American community as a church, center of social activism, and a Freedman’s Bureau School^{vi}. A portion of the building was lost in a fire in the late 1920s, but the building was rebuilt on the original land plot in 1930. It continues to stand as a house of worship today. The important date of 1920 reflects the construction of the Knights of Pythias Hall, which served as a meeting hall, dance hall, restaurant, and community center where many famous entertainers, including Cab Calloway, Jelly Roll Morton

and others performed. In addition to its use as a performing hall for musicians on the Chittlen Circuit in the 1950s and 1960s, the building also functioned as a church, a restaurant, a community center and a meeting hall.^{vii} The important date of 1945 reflects the creation of the Strange-Edwards Addition, which added approximately three city blocks to the district. The Russellville Black Bottom Historic District and the African American community in Russellville continued to grow during the years of segregation as black-owned businesses grew in the area. The district today is going through a revitalization period directly centering around historic preservation, and thus it can be argued that the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District's historical significance extends to the present as the neighborhood and the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum hopes to become a model organization for the transformative nature of historic preservation.

Slavery in Russellville and Logan County, Kentucky

One can understand a great deal about certain aspects of the institution of slavery in agricultural western Kentucky by looking at the history and architecture of the district. Western Kentucky was a slave owning region and many of the large homes in downtown Russellville and the outlying rural areas belonged to slave owning families who made their riches in a slave-based agricultural system. Although many people in Russellville owned slaves as did other wealthy white Americans throughout the south, there was a movement early on to eradicate this inhuman system way before the years of the Civil War. In 1817 the American Colonization Society formed in the United States, which represented the Back to Africa movement for slaves in the south. Rather than calling for an end to slavery and equal rights for all men and women, the Back to Africa Movement suggested that slaves should be freed and sent back to Africa. In 1823 Kentucky founded an independent colonization society and one of the biggest supporters of this movement was Major Richard Bibb, a prominent slave owner and Methodist minister in Russellville.^{viii} Major Bibb lived in Virginia before moving to Russellville Kentucky's tobacco fields^{ix}. In 1829 Major Bibb freed fifty-one slaves, and thirty-two of these former slaves went to Liberia along with one hundred and fifty freed slaves from other parts of the state. A cholera epidemic on board the ship forced the passengers to slow their trip, and approximately thirty to forty of the passengers died before the ship made it to Liberia^x. One of the men on the boat with the former slaves from Russellville served as President of the country of Liberia for a short time. According to oral sources in Russellville, there are no longer any living decedents of Russellville's freed slaves living in Liberia today^{xi}. Later in 1839 when Major Bibb died, his Will dictated that all of the slaves were to be freed and given a 1200 acre tract of land about six miles outside of Russellville. The area was known as Bibb Town. Another three hundred acres was also given to freed slaves near the village of Homer in North Logan County^{xii}. Many of the African-Americans who lived in Bibb Town prior to the Civil War later moved to Russellville to buy land in the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District after the neighborhood was officially established in 1869. The Bibbs were not the only slaves that were freed prior to the Civil War that would settle in the district after 1869.

Solomon Cooksey and his mother Caroline were freed according to the Last Will and Testament of Dorcas Cooksey on May 27, 1850. The Cooksey House where Solomon and Caroline settled was built around this same time period and is believed to be one of the older surviving structures in the city of Russellville.^{xiii} It still stands today in the district and is currently being renovated by the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum for use as a Civil War interpretation center.

The end of the Civil War and the creation of the Black Bottom as an African American neighborhood.

In 1860 prior to the Civil War, there were approximately 236,167 African Americans living in Kentucky and 10,684 were free citizens. However, by 1870 many African Americans had moved north. The large number of these citizens who remained in Kentucky lived in the urban centers of Lexington or Louisville^{xiv}. Around the time that Kentucky's African American population was drastically shrinking as African Americans moved to urban centers in search of work and a life away from the increasing white on black violence in rural agricultural western Kentucky, Russellville's African American neighborhood was created. With Norton's Addition added to the city in 1869, many African Americans began buying land in the town. The members of the Banks Street Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church purchased the first lot in Norton's Addition, and in 1872 the first church was built on the lot. In addition to serving as a house of worship, the building also partnered with the Freedman's Bureau to operate a school for African Americans. This building, a two-story brick structure, was partially burned in a fire in the late 1920s. The building was rebuilt in 1930 and it still stands today and operates as a church where worshippers still participate in services sitting on the original 1930 benches. Although many of the buildings dating from this time period have been torn down, the cultural landscape of these early years of the district are still reflected in the neighborhood. Additionally, the Mt. Zion Baptist Church was founded in 1886 in the district. The current house of worship for this historic church was built in 1954 and is located on the original plot of land. Church records state the church began with thirteen members and that church meetings were held in members' houses until a structure could be erected in the heart of the Black Bottom. During the church's early years the building also served as a school for the African American community, reflecting the church's history with social activism through education^{xv}. Two houses located in the far east end of the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District bear the name of the community mother and fathers that settled the neighborhood. The Payne House (not to be confused with the Payne-Dunnigan House) located at the corner of E. 5th and Bowling Green Road, and the Todd House located at 675 E. 6th, reflect the history of these early settlers of the district. The neighborhood boasted several famous preachers, including the Reverend Vaughn whose 1890 home is still standing at 533 E. 6th. Reverend Vaughn was known around both Tennessee and Kentucky as a preacher and an opinionated man, and he was the original pastor of the Banks Street Zion AME Church. Originally from Ohio, Rev Vaughn moved to Russellville in the 1870s after being asked to teach school at the Colored Baptist Church, located on E. 6th Street in the Black Bottom community. According to

documents, he was so well received in this position that members of the community asked him to stay. He did and married a woman from Russellville named Arletta. A teacher at the local Knob City School, she taught Russellville native Alice Allison Dunnigan. According to church documents, Rev. Vaughn split with the AME Church and went on to found the Zion Baptist Church as mentioned above. According to oral sources, Rev. Vaughn was an outspoken leader for human rights and spoke openly about racism, discrimination, and racial violence in the north and south. He held many positions in both the community and the state, and was elected Chairman of the State Convention of Colored Men in 1884. A man dedicated to helping people, he assisted African American Civil War soldiers who could not read or write to fill out their paper work and receive their pensions. After Rev. Vaughn's death in 1923 his house would go to his daughter Arletta Vaughn Manuel Smith, a well known educator in the region would live there until her death in 1965^{xvi}. The West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum recently put a new roof on the building and is working with the current homeowner to renovate the structure.

African American Union Solders in western Kentucky

In western Kentucky many African American men fought for the Union during the Civil War, including Russellville native Henry Morton. The Morton family is one of the oldest in Logan County. Originally from Virginia, William Jordan Morton came to Logan County in 1815, bringing many slaves with him. Henry Morton was a descendent of these original slaves and lived in the Black Bottom Historic District at 563 E. 6th Street. He lost his foot in the famous Saltville Massacre in Virginia, but lived through that battle and eventually returned home to live again in Russellville in the Historic Black Bottom community. Although the majority of Kentucky was Union, Western Kentucky broke from the rest of the state and declared itself Confederate, making the nearby town of Bowling Green the Confederate capital of the state. In spite of it's location as a Confederate stronghold, many African American men in Logan County bravely joined the Union Army and fought for the Union. Morton's story as a freed slave who fought for the Union is representative of a larger story in western Kentucky. After the war, Morton received a pension for his service and came back to The Black Bottom to build a home and raise a family. The West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum will be displaying an exhibit about Union Soldiers in the Kimbrough House, one of the museums renovated by the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum.

Racial Violence in Rural Western Kentucky.

The Civil War may have ended slavery, but racism and the violence it breeds was far from over. By the early 1900s Logan County, of which Russellville is the county seat, had the second highest number of lynchings

in the state of Kentucky^{xvii}. The 1976 “Historic Russellville” Nomination notes that the early years of the 1900s in Russellville were a time when “Night Riders burned tobacco barns and vigilantes hung four Negroes from a tree in Russellville.” This lynching is just one of many events that tell the story of western Kentucky’s violent history. Although the original 1976 nomination tells us nothing of who these men were, research conducted by the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum and Michael Morrow reveals that their names were John Jones, Virgil Jones, Joe Riley and John Bouyer, all residents of Logan County. At the turn of the century life in the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District and Logan County at large was precarious and unsafe. Many more African Americans would leave the area during these years in search of a somewhat less violent existence in the larger urban centers. However, for those African Americans that remained in Russellville, and those that moved to Russellville, the town itself became the urban center for African American life in Logan county and western Kentucky. Although life in Logan County could be dangerous for many African Americans, the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District was a neighborhood where African Americans could patronize black businesses, attend school, receive the services of an African American doctor, and worship at either the Banks Street AME Zion church or the Zion Baptist Church. For those African American who chose to stay rural Logan County, and those who may have wanted to leave but could not afford to, the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District was a strong and proud community.

The Thriving Russellville Black Bottom

From its earliest beginning founded by freed slaves, the Black Bottom Historic District was a place of great triumph and struggle. By the 1920s, the neighborhood was gaining income. In the early 1920s the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District boasted a private school on 7th street, multiple houses of worship, and several African American businesses including Winston’s Funeral Home which still stands today at 161 S. Morgan Street. This large brick structure is the only business still in operation from this time period and one of only two businesses remaining in the district today. Also during the early 1920s the Knights of Pythias Hall was built at the corner of Morgan and 5th Streets. It served several functions throughout the years including meeting hall, school, church, restaurant, barbershop, and community center. Some of the residents in the Russellville Black Bottom can remember when the top floor of the building was a dance hall and the bottom floor served as a church. On the top floor dance hall Jelly Roll Morton, Cab Calloway, Earle Hines and Lockwood Lewis played. Later the dance hall would serve as a concert location for musicians on the Chittlin Circuit. Oral history tells us that that Ike and Tina Turner, among others, played there, and residents of the community can remember a time when all of the surrounding streets would be filled with cars as people came to town from the rural areas and from the surrounding cities like Adairville, Auburn and Bowling Green to hear the music. Local photo archives document one of the most famous regional bands, Batsell’s Syncopates. Additionally, oral history tells us that Mary Ann Fisher, who was for many years Ray Charles’s backup singer, lived in a house across the

street from the KP Hall. Her adopted family, the Merritts, lived at the corner of 5th and Morgan streets. Her stepmother, City Merritt, ran a liquor store and café famous for hot tamales, a floodways tradition that still carries on today in the community^{xviii}. Today the building is the home of the Concerned Citizens of Russellville, a group that works with area youth to promote positive after school activities. At one point in the 1980s, after the devastating effects of urban renewal had left its mark on the neighborhood, drug violence was high in the neighborhood and five people were murdered. However, with the work of the Concerned Citizens of Russellville and the community members, the violence was curtailed^{xix}. In 2003 the Concerned Citizens organization received a community block grant and the entire building was completely restored, including the upstairs dance hall. On the bottom floor central heat and air were added so that the building would be of use to area citizens, and the structure was rewired for computers for use in the after school interactive learning lab and tutoring center. Returning to its original use as a multi-function community center, the Knights of Pythias Hall sits in the heart of the Black Bottom within walking distances from the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museums.

In addition to the rise of black owned businesses and community centers, during the 1920s several L-plan and bungalow houses were built to house the districts growing community. Six of the houses in the proposed boundary expansion were built somewhere between 1900 and 1923^{xx}. Although they have undergone remodeling to meet the needs of their current owners, these houses reflect a great deal of their integrity as statements of a rising African American middle class. At the same time these houses were built Russellville, with its thriving business center and music scene, continued to grow as a cultural center for African Americans in Logan County. During a time of segregation in Kentucky, Russellville was a place where African Americans could come together and patronize African American owned businesses, attend church, and hear music in the area music halls. Additionally, the neighborhood was home to some of Logan Counties influential educators including Leann Wilson Jennings who ran a private school on 7th Street. She was the first black female to operate such an institution that both offered the state mandated classes for students and teacher certification for high school graduates. Her husband Abraham Jennings ran a cleaning business and pressing shop on 6th Street. ^{xxi}These remaining homes dating from this time period are important domestic structures representing the growth of the district into a cultural and business center for all of rural Logan County.

The Russellville Black Bottom Historic District in the 1940s and the 1950s

As the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District became a cultural and business center for African Americans throughout the years of the 1920s-1940s, the neighborhood continued to grow in size. In 1945 the Strange Edwards Addition to the city added approximately three city blocks to the neighborhood and created a new street called Edwards Avenue (sometimes this street is called Strange Avenue. There is no street sign in place, and sources refer to the small street by both names). This extended the district up to the Bowling Green

road, also known as Highway 68/80. Like the rest of Logan County, the Depression years were economically destructive for Russellville's African American community. However, while some of the white families were wealthy before the Depression, residents of the Black Bottom had never been wealthy by the majority of the city's standards. Nothing more exemplifies this loss of economic gain than the Strange-Edwards Addition to the city. This addition to the town created a neighborhood within a neighborhood, referred to locally as the Bean Alley. Several structures formally used as storage buildings for beans in rural Logan County were moved to the area and used as houses during this time period. Small one-room structures, they were without indoor plumbing and were known to be very poorly insulated. At this same time, a portion of 6th Street was developed with single pen one-story frame houses. Also built without indoor plumbing these four structures (680, 682, 684, and 686 E. 6th) were later renovated in the 1970s^{xxiii}. These houses, many still standing, sit next to larger houses built only a few years before, exemplifying the changes in the economic life on the district. Although the Depression changed the nature of residential building, it did not change the nature of community life in the district. In 1949 Todd's Café was built as a hotel and restaurant for African Americans and served the needs of many of the musical acts who played at the Knights of Pythias Hall during the 1950s and 1960s. According to local oral history, Todd's Café, which still stands at the corner of Morgan and 5th Streets in the heart of the district, was famous for Margaret Ella's fried chicken^{xxiii}. Although the building is currently empty, it is the desire of the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum to renovate the building within the near future. It was during this time frame that Russellville founded its branch of the NAACP.

According to an interview with Margaret Todd Grimes, a member of the Todd family who was born and raised on 5th Street in the heart of the Bottom, during the 1940s people often frequented Clayton Taylor's store where "he had everything." She also recalls her uncle, Grimey Green, running a BBQ restaurant and of course there was the famous restaurant located near Mrs. Todd's home, City Merritt's. Being a child in the 1940s, she remembers watching the Russellville Red Devils baseball team play in the Bottom and her older sisters, and sometimes her parents, heading to the dances at the Knights of Pythias Hall. Although she was too young to join them at these popular dances, she does recall attending the Eighth of August celebration in nearby Auburn and seeing the touring Silas Greeves show from New Orleans. She recalls that her mother would take to hear these traveling shows and that "they would have a parade at midday." The annual Eight of August Celebration today is held in Russellville in the heart of the Black Bottom. However, before the 1980s the celebration of this holiday, which marks the end of Slavery in the state of Kentucky, used to move between the black communities in Logan County. When Margaret Todd Grimes was young, the celebration was in nearby Auburn and sometimes in Russellville. She recalls "they would have a picnic on the hill and all the people would have ice cream...and have a nice time. So, everybody would celebrate it." Today the celebration takes place in the Black Bottom Historic District and serves as a town homecoming. The streets are blocked off and a street dance is held in the evening. At the last two celebrations, the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum has unveiled new exhibits in the community museums as a part of the festivities.

Margaret Todd Grimes also remembers socializing in homes and recalls attending dances with young people her age in neighborhood homes, especially the home of Willie and Emma Norton who loved to host young visitors. She recalls, “We loved to dance and on Sunday evening take a walk.” The streets in the Bottom were places where young and old alike walked and visited with neighbors and socialized across generations. Mrs. Grimes also remembers the coming of Sophie Smith’s beauty shop, which was a popular place for women in the community. She remembers that around the same time Sophie’s Beauty shop opened, she had begun already working, so she saved up her money to get her hair done. Mrs. Grimes says that as she got older she worked taking care of a white doctor’s children. Later she did maid work in white homes. And while she says she “enjoyed living here all right,” she eventually left Russellville because in the days of segregation, maid or childcare work for white families “was about all the work you could get.”^{xxiv}

Throughout the mid 1940s and on through the 1950s the neighborhood saw another wave of building for at least a small number of community members. The house standing at 651 East 6th, near the intersection of the Strange Edwards Addition, was built in the mid 1940 by James and Gussie Bibb^{xxv}. James was a descendent of some of the slaves freed by Major Bibb who founded the district in 1849. Through the 1950s more houses were developed on 5th, 6th and 7th Streets. A large shotgun house on 5th Street and two houses on 7th Street were probably built in the early 1940s or 1950s. According to oral history, during the 1950s there were a great number of shotgun style houses built in the Russellville Black Bottom, especially on the extremely narrow land lots that were added to the city with the Strange Edwards addition^{xxvi}. However, most of these houses were torn down during urban renewal. The house standing at 693 E 5th Street is the probably only house left standing on the street that reflects this era of shotgun plan building.

Summary

The landscape and architecture of the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District reflect the development and evolution of African American life in Logan County. The early years of building tell the story of slavery and those first free families who bravely began the community. Later houses speak to the years of Jim Crow and a segregated society as well as the strength of area schools, community centers, and thriving churches. An examination of the homes can also tell us about people who directly fought against Jim Crow society such as civil rights leaders such as Alice Dunnigan. The Russellville Black Bottom Historic District was a location where African Americans carved out a thriving community against tough odds such as threats of violence from members of the white community, economic hardships, blatant social and economic racism and prejudice. The houses and businesses that exist in the district today trace the history of the African American experience in the area, and even though urban renewal devastated some of the older homes, a large number of the houses and businesses remain standing and tell this story of strength and resistance and hope. The district remains a predominantly African American neighborhood, and today many of these buildings are being

renovated for use as museums, as well as cultural and research centers that will examine and reflect the unique history of The Russellville Black Bottom Historic District.

Nothing speaks more to a neighborhood's integrity and historic significance than a community actually using its historic buildings for the benefit of the community. The museums under renovation by the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum help us further interpret the history of African American life in the Russellville Black Bottom and speak to a process of community activism and grassroots organizing. To state the obvious, these buildings are being used by the community, for the community, and that is what makes them significant---both historically and currently. Additionally, the current renovation work of the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum has been contagious. At least one historic home in the neighborhood not associated with the museum has been purchased and renovated by its owner.

Additional information about the neighborhood could be gained from archeological excavation. The city dump once existed in the neighborhood at the 600 block of E. 6th St. A casual walk through the neighborhood reveals foundations from 19th century houses and sidewalks peeking through the grass. Construction workers involved in renovating some of the homes from the 19th century have found multiple objects that reflect life at the turn of the century. Additionally Native American artifacts have been found when workers excavated the Cooksey house. Oral history claims that the creek that runs through the east end of the district, known today as Town Spring Branch, was used by both Native Americans and Russellville's earliest settlers both before and around the time Russellville was occupied by the first native settlers in 1770 (the town would not be called Russellville until 1798). Additional archeological work might be done in the downtown area where Major Bibb, the slave owner who freed all of his slaves upon his death, once lived to learn more about African American history in Russellville.

Notes

- i West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum, death records and unpublished research documents
- ii West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum, unpublished research documents
- iii West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum, unpublished research documents
- iv <http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/shipp/lynchstats.html> along with unpublished research from the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum.
- v Michael Morrow, recorded interview with Meredith Martin, 11/19/2006
- vi West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum, unpublished research documents
- vii Morrow
- viii Dunnigan, p 33
- ix Morrow
- x Dunnigan
- xi Morrow
- xii Logan County Chamber of Commerce, and oral history
- xiii West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum
- xiv Dunnigan,
- xv UP Zion Baptist Church “100th Year Anniversary”
- xvi Logan County Chamber of Commerce
- xvii Dunnigan
- xvii Morrow
- xvii Morrow
- xvii Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1923
- xvii Morrow
- xvii West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum
- xvii *ibid*
- xvii West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum
- xviii Morrow, UP document about Mary Ann Fisher
- xix Morrow
- xx Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1923
- xxi Morrow, Jennings
- xxii Morrow
- xxiii West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum
- xxiv Interview with Margaret Todd Grimes by Michael Morrow June 14, 2006
- xxv *ibid*

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Verbal Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District are the most is a cohesive group of residential, commercial, religious and residential structures representing several decades of African American life in rural Logan County in western Kentucky. The strong sense of community and activist historic preservation is present in the architectural history, current use, and the historical significance of the buildings. The boundary will include the corner of Spring and Morgan Streets, the 100-300 blocks of Morgan Streets where it intersects with 5th, 6th, and 7th Streets, 517-695 E. 5th, 419-693 E. 6th, and 503-635 E 7th Street, and extend westward to include the