

US 62 Intermediate Planning Study

From KY 189 to KY 181, Muhlenberg County, Item No. 2-138.00

APPENDIX G – Cultural Historic Reconnaissance Survey



**A CULTURAL HISTORIC RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY
FOR THE
US 62 IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
FROM KY 189 TO KY 181
AT
GREENVILLE
MUHLENBERG COUNTY, KENTUCKY**

Item No. 2-138

Prepared by
Palmer Engineering
273 Shoppers Drive PO Box 747
Winchester, KY 40392-0747
(859)744-1218
fax (859)744-1266

Jayne H. Fiegel, Principal Investigator
jfiiegel@palmernet.com

Prepared for
HNTB Corporation
310 West Liberty, , Suite 710
Louisville, KY 40202
(502)581-0985

May 9, 2002

I ABSTRACT

This report is being prepared for use as part of the Intermediate Planning Study for the reconstruction of US 62 between KY 189 and KY 181 in Greenville in Muhlenberg County, Kentucky. The purpose is to identify and document those properties within the project area that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, or those that appear to meet the National Register Criteria. The findings in this report are subject to change as further research is conducted for the base line report.

HNTB Corporation contracted with Palmer Engineering to conduct this study in the Spring of 2002. An Environmental Overview previously completed for the project identified three historic districts and six individual properties in Greenville that are listed in the National Register. Only one National Register district, the **South Cherry Street Historic District** is in the project vicinity. The Environmental Overview located the boundaries for this district north of US 62 (Hopkinsville Street). However, when the boundaries from the National Register file were field checked for accuracy, it was determined that the southern edge of the district crosses US 62. Following the 106 specifications for cultural historic surveys issued by the Kentucky Heritage Council, the boundaries of the district were reexamined for potential expansion. It was determined that a section on the north and south sides of US 62 between Main Street and Walnut Street is eligible as an expansion of the existing district (**See Figure 1**).

Five other sites located within the project area were previously documented during the 1984 survey of the City of Greenville by Thomason and Associates: **MUG-4, MUG-5, MUG-25, MUG-26, and MUG-41**. These sites and other undocumented properties that met the 50 year age criteria were documented and examined for eligibility for the National Register (See Figure 1). Site **MUG-5** would be eligible as part of the proposed expansion to the South Cherry Street Historic District. Sites **MUG-4, 25, 26, and 41** meet the National Register Criteria as individual sites.

In addition, three other sites within the project area appeared to meet National Register Criteria as individual sites: the **West End Cemetery (Site A), Greenville Baptist Church (Site B), and Colonial Revival house (Site C)**. (See Figure 1)

VI INVENTORY OF SITES

This section will identify and evaluate those individual sites considered potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The proposed expansion to the South Cherry Street Historic District will be documented.

SITE A/West End Cemetery

Hopkinsville Street

Photos 1-3

Figure 1

DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY

The West End Cemetery is located on the south side of US 62, approximately one mile east of the intersection with KY 189. There appear to be approximately 2-300 graves located in this facility with the oldest dating to the late 19th century. Several Civil War military markers with interments are located very near the present right-of-way.

EVALUATION

The oldest part of this cemetery sits adjacent to the south side of US 62. Approximately 10 Civil War burials were noted within this area. These burials would be considered historically significant within the Greenville community. Although little is known about the later interments in this cemetery, it is being determined potentially eligible for the National Register. The boundaries would include all known plots within the present cemetery limits.

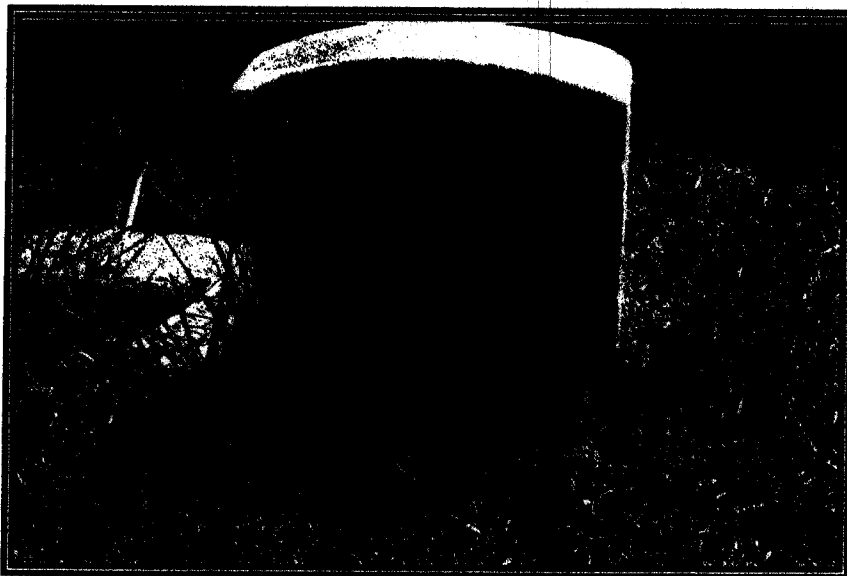


Photo 1 Civil War Marker-East End Cemetery

II TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
I ABSTRACT	3
II TABLE OF CONTENTS	4
III PROJECT DESCRIPTION	6
IV INTRODUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING	9
VI HISTORIC CONTEXT	10
VII INVENTORY OF SITES	12
I BIBLIOGRAPHY	23

LIST OF FIGURES

List of Photos	5
Exhibit 1 Project Area	8
Figure 1. Site Location	11

LIST OF PHOTOS

		Page
Photo 1.	Civil War Marker-East End Cemetery	12
Photo 2.	East End Cemetery-Looking North	13
Photo 3.	Civil War Marker	13
Photo 4.	David Duncan House--Looking North	14
Photo 5.	Clayton Rice House-Looking South	15
Photo 6.	African American School-Looking South	16
Photo 7.	Charles Eaves House-Looking South	17
Photo 8.	First Presbyterian Church-Looking Southeast	18
Photo 9.	Colonial Revival-Looking East	19
Photo 10.	First Baptist Church-Looking Southwest	20
Photo 11.	Colonial Revival-Looking Southeast	21
Photo 12.	Structures in Proposed Expansion-Looking Northwest	22
Photo 13.	Residence in Proposed Expansion-Looking Southwest	22

III PROJECT DESCRIPTION

(Taken from the US 62 KYTC Planning Website)

The purpose of the Intermediate Planning Study is to identify and gather critical information about the project corridor prior to the initiation of the design phase, and to help define the location of possible roadway improvements that might better serve the residents of Muhlenberg County. It will also aid the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet in addressing the Federal requirements regarding consideration of environmental issues, as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The ultimate objectives of the Intermediate Planning Study are:

- Defining project needs and goals
- Identifying the beginning and ending points of the project, as well as potential project locations and design concepts
- Discussing project needs and issues with public officials, government agencies, concerned citizens, and other groups with interest in the project
- Identifying known and potential environmental concerns
- Exchanging information with the public

Corridor Issues

Critical issues currently identified along the existing US 62 corridor include perceived safety problems and increasing traffic volumes. Some of the most evident safety issues are narrow lanes, lack of turning lanes and a lack of pedestrian facilities. A significant number of the accidents are the result of rear end collisions and angle collisions. Other issues are as follows:

- US 62 is a major link between KY 189 and KY 181.
- Traffic within the corridor is heavy and expected to grow.
- The existing traffic volumes do not support construction of a four-lane facility.
- Turning lanes may be needed at intersections to provide safe storage for drivers wanting to make left turns, and to lessen the possibility of rear end and angle collisions as drivers turn onto the side roads and commercial entrances.
- The section of US 62 near KY 181 is urban residential with a curb and gutter section and little right of way available.
- Right of way and utility impacts, particularly on the east side, could potentially be significant.
- Older homes, churches (3, with one being African-American), gas stations, an African-American cemetery, a hospital, an African-American funeral home, and a former African-American school are located along the corridor.
- The lanes are relatively narrow and there are sight distance problems.
- There are numerous access points along the corridor.

Draft Statement of Project Goals

US 62 is functionally classified as a Rural Major Collector and is a State Secondary in the State Maintained Highway System that provides access between KY 189 and KY 181, as well as access to the hospital. The project limits are from KY 189 east to KY 181. US 62 is a high volume road with speed limits varying from 25 MPH to 45 MPH and numerous commercial establishments and residences. Several goals have been identified for the US 62 project, including:

- Reduce the number of accidents along the route by improving turning opportunities and geometrics.
- Provide improved connectivity from KY 189 to KY 181.
- Provide improved capacity to support Design Year 2025 traffic volumes.
- Provide improved drainage along the route.
- Provide pedestrian facilities along the route.
- Improve access to the hospital.

Muhlenberg County US 62 Cultural Historic Reconnaissance Survey



Exhibit 1. Project Area

IV INTRODUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

This report presents the findings of a reconnaissance survey of the project area to document the location of listed National Register properties; and to identify those that appear to meet the minimum criteria for listing in the National Register. The files of the Kentucky Heritage Council were researched to identify any sites that had been previously documented. In 1984 Thomason and Associates of Nashville conducted an intensive survey of Greenville to document all pre-1930 structures that were determined architecturally and historically significant. A total of 48 structures were documented with Kentucky Historic Resource Inventory forms and National Register Nominations were prepared for three historic districts and four individual properties.

Only one district, the South Cherry Street Historic District is within the immediate project area and a portion of US 62 or Hopkinsville Street as it is locally known is contained within the boundary for that district. All sites within the project area that were 50 years old were examined for National Register potential. It was determined that the properties on the north and south sides of US 62 were eligible as an extension of the South Cherry Street Historic District. There are also seven individual sites within the project area that meet National Register criteria. The significance of these sites and their proposed boundaries will be discussed within the Inventory of Sites section.

US 62 is the main artery for much of the public traveling into the commercial section of Greenville. With the completion of KY 189 as a bypass route, this once residential corridor is experiencing much new growth and development. The older section of the route near the town is still a well maintained, residential neighborhood that retains much historic fabric and integrity. However, further from town, the rural character of the area is giving way to subdivisions and commercial strip development.

V HISTORIC CONTEXT

The growth and development of the community of Greenville was relatively small and slow after establishment of the county in 1798, and a small group of log and a few brick structures composed the extent of the community. By 1830 the popularity of Burley Tobacco and the resulting growth of the industry in west Kentucky provided the community with raw materials to become a market center. Several small factories producing cigars and chewing plugs were located here, and the resulting wealth produced some fashionable mid 19th century homes. Not considered "high style" by any architectural standard, the town boasted several notable structures. The population of Greenville stood at over 200 by 1860.

The greatest period of growth for the community was the result of the expansion of the Illinois-Central railroad into the county around 1873. Given a means of transporting the various raw materials in the county, Greenville experienced a significant period of development around the turn of the century. Although it was known that the county contained vast quantities of coal and iron ore, early efforts to profitably produce iron failed. With the opening of the railroad to the interior of the county, coal mining operations around Greenville began to profit and expand. By 1910 there were over a dozen major mining operations located near Greenville. The resulting building boom is evident today in the commercial and residential fabric of the community.

The South Cherry Street Historic District epitomizes the wealth and influence the coal owners and operators possessed. The district contains some very fine examples of architecture of the early 20th century including Queen Anne, Dutch Colonial, Craftsman and Colonial Revival style residences. There are also examples of styles not popularly produced in West Kentucky including Spanish Mission and Beaux-Arts.

Muhlenberg County US 62 Cultural Historic Reconnaissance Survey



Figure 1. Historic Site Locations




- 
Sites Potentially Eligible for the National Register
- 
South Cherry Street Historic District
- 
Proposed Historic District Expansion



Photo 2 East End Cemetery-Looking North

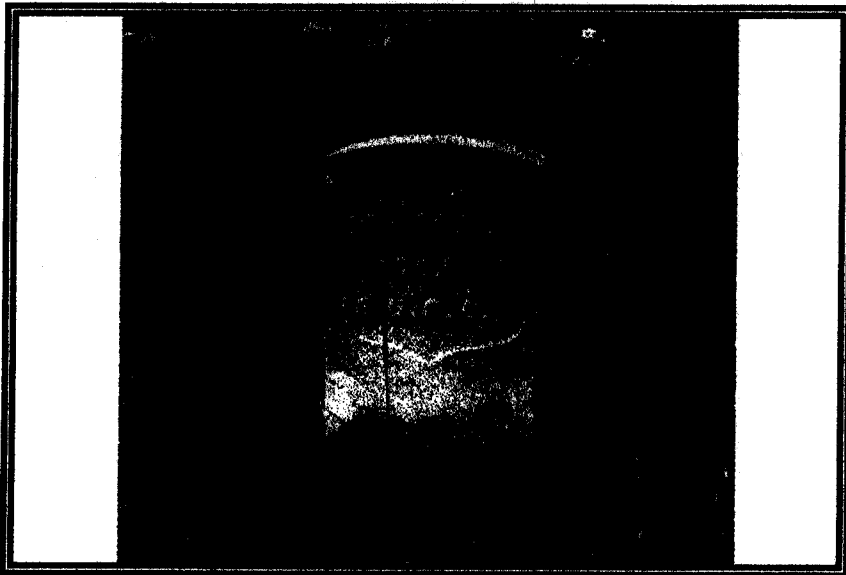


Photo 3 Civil War Marker

SITE MUG-4/ David Duncan House
225 Hopkinsville Street
Photo 4
Figure 1

DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY

The Duncan House is a two and one-half story frame structure with a wrap around, one story porch supported by Tuscan columns. Constructed in 1911, the house is a transitional Queen Anne/Colonial Revival style displaying elements from both periods. The main block is similar to a Four Square, but the structure displays projecting gables on each side and has a pediment gable over the entry.

David Duncan was born in Scotland and moved to the United States in 1885. He came to Muhlenberg County and the Duncan family helped establish one of the largest and most profitable of the mining operations in the area.

EVALUATION

This structure is eligible for the National Register individually under Criterion B and possibly C for its connections with the Duncan's, a prominent local family connected with one of the larger, and more well known coal mining operations. The boundaries for this property would include everything within present day property lines.

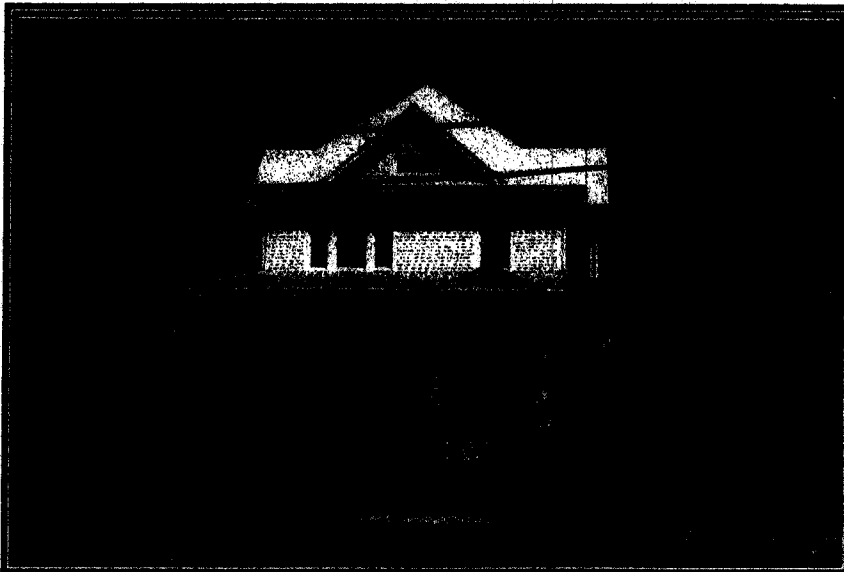


Photo 4 David Duncan House-Looking North

VII BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Camplin, Paul. A New History of Muhlenberg County. Nashville: Williams Printing Company, 1984.
- Rothert, Otto. A History of Muhlenberg County. Louisville, Kentucky: Standard Printing Company, 1913
- Thomason, Phillip. Greenville Multiple Resource Nomination. Kentucky Heritage Council Survey Files.
- Thomason, Phillip. Greenville Historic Resources Survey, Architectural Survey Analysis. Kentucky Heritage Council Survey Files.

SITE MUG-5/Clayton Rice House
216 Hopkinsville Street
Photo 5
Figure 1

DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY

This imposing Colonial Revival style residence was designed by Architect John T. Waller of Hopkinsville for the Rice Family in 1933. It is a two story, three bay, brick structure capped by a gable roof. The house features many elements of the Colonial Revival period including: denticulated cornice, sash windows with limestone sills, fan lit entrance element with side lights, and a one story portico supported by Doric columns. An eyebrow dormer projects from the front roof line and the side elevation displays an oculus window in the tympanum of the gable.

EVALUATION

This house is eligible individually under Criterion C. In addition it would be a contributing element to the proposed expansion to the South Cherry Street Historic District. Please see Figure 1 for proposed district expansion boundaries.



Photo 5 Clayton Rice House-Looking South

SITE MUG-25/African American School
Hopkinsville Road
Photo 6
Figure 1

DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY

This one-story brick, school building constructed ca. 1925 for the black students in Greenville was in use until the 1960s. Constructed of brick masonry, it is a rectangular block capped with a flat roof. The window elements are 2/2, sash type, topped with flat, brick segmented lintels. The parapet side walls display the most interesting element a battlemented cornice with stone caps. There is also a brick, soldier-coursed, water table.

EVALUATION

This structure is eligible for the National Register under Criterion B for its association with the African-American community in Greenville. This rare survivor displays a high degree of integrity. Steps adjacent to Hopkinsville Street give entrance to the school yard, so the boundaries for this site would go all the way to US 62.

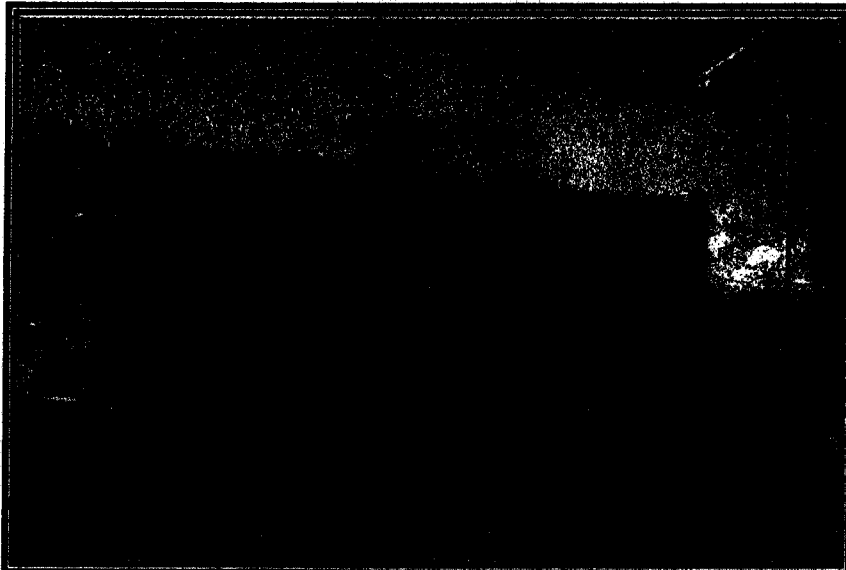


Photo 6 African American School-Looking South

SITE MUG-26/Charles Eaves House
108 Hopkinsville Road (behind the Rite Aid)
Photo 7
Figure 1

DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY

One of the oldest residences in Greenville, the original, one story section of this structure (now the ell) was built in 1870 by Charles Eaves. It faced Main Street and was reputed to be of log construction. Purchased around the turn of the century by F.B.Hancock, the structure was enlarged with the addition of a two story, I-house which faced Hopkinsville Street. The house sits on a large lot at the southwest corner of Hopkinsville Street and Main. Unfortunately the site has been compromised by the construction of a Rite Aid adjacent to the intersection. The I-house section displays interior end chimneys and 1/1 double hung, sash windows. The exterior weatherboard has been covered in aluminum siding. Mr Eaves, was a prominent Greenville attorney and served in the State Legislature between 1857 and 1859.

EVALUATION

The Eaves house is eligible under Criterion B for the association with Charles Eaves, and under C as an intact example of I-house construction during the latter part of the 19th century. The boundaries would include everything within the present property lot lines.

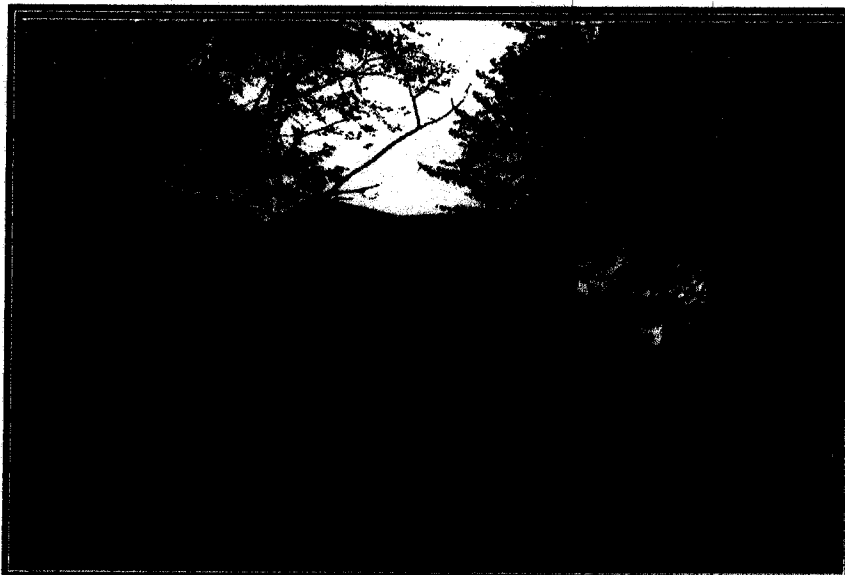


Photo 7 Charles Eaves House-Looking Southeast

SITE MUG-41/First Presbyterian Church
South Main Street
Photo 8
Figure 1

DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY

The First Presbyterian Church, located on the east side of Main near the intersection with Hopkinsville Street, is an imposing, brick, Victorian Gothic style structure constructed in 1885. The rectangular nave is detailed with recessed bays with corbeled tables at the cornice. Tudor arches top the openings, and the main window is extremely expressive with tracery and stained glass. The main entrance tower is off set, and displays paired, Tudor arched, window openings and brick string courses. The First Presbyterian congregation was organized in Greenville in 1804, and they dedicated this structure in 1885.

EVALUATION

The First Presbyterian is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C as a fine example of Victorian Gothic architecture. The boundaries would include everything within the present property lot lines.

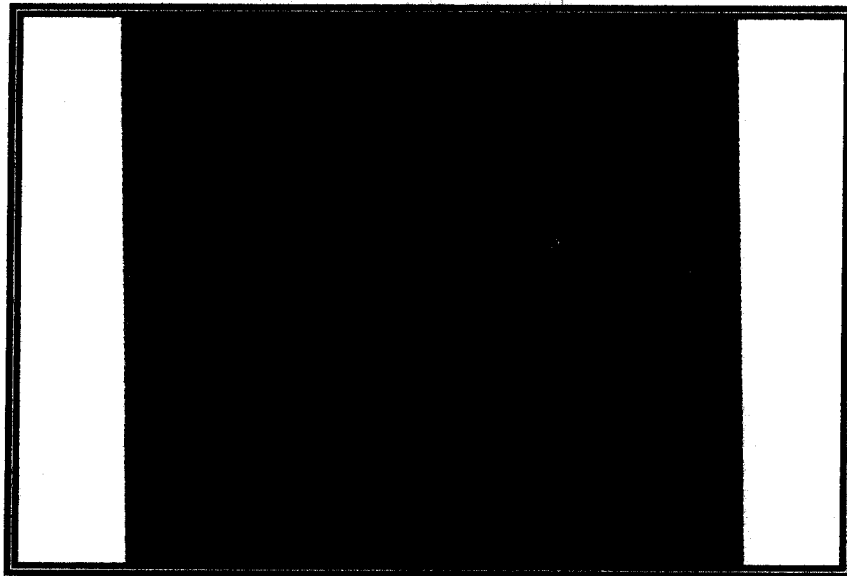


Photo 8 First Presbyterian Church-Looking Southeast

SITE C/Colonial Revival House
South Main Street
Photo 9
Figure 1

DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY

This one and one-half story, brick residence sits on the lot just south of the First Presbyterian Church and may serve as the parsonage. The structure appears to date from the 1920's and is another version of the Colonial Revival style popularized during this period. Classic details include brick construction with interior end chimneys, brick quoins, formal entrance element with pilasters, 8/8 lit double sash windows and denticulated cornice. The original, brick garage structure sitting between the house and church is intact

EVALUATION

This nicely detailed Colonial Revival structure would meet National Register Criterion C. The boundaries would include everything within the present property lot lines.



Photo 9 Colonial Revival-Looking East

SITE B/First Baptist Church
South Main Street
Photo 10
Figure 1

DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY

Directly across from the Presbyterian Church on the west side of Main is the First Baptist Church. Probably constructed during the first part of the 20th century, the church is an eclectic combination of late Victorian Gothic and Colonial Revival. The brick masonry block displays a variety of limestone detailing including ashlar quoins, gothic arches, and castellated cornice trim.

EVALUATION

The First Baptist Church is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C, as an example of early 20th century, vernacular church architecture.

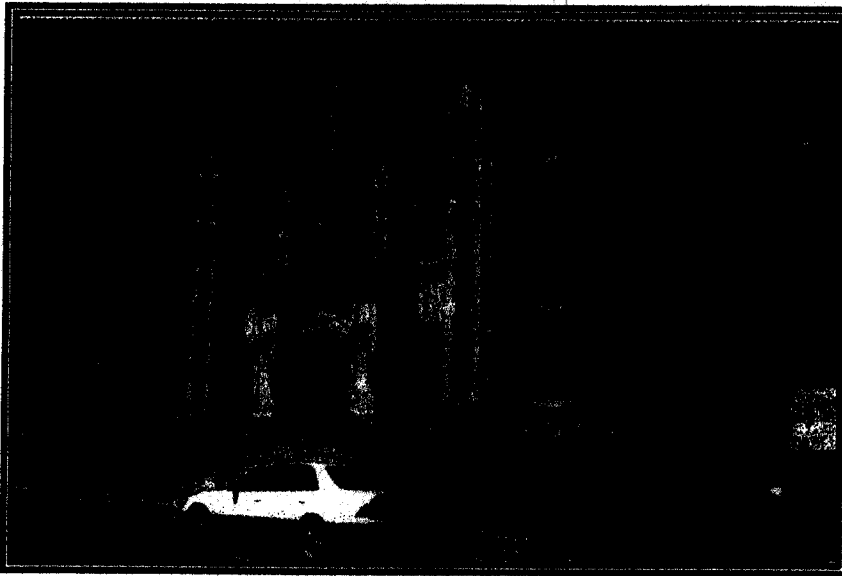


Photo 10 First Baptist Church-Looking Southwest

SOUTH CHERRY STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT PROPOSED EXPANSION

Photos 11-13

Figure 1

DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY

The South Cherry Street Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1986. The Statement of Significance stated that the neighborhood contained some of the most expressive and architecturally important residences in Greenville. The district is an eclectic mixture of popular late 19th and early 20 century styles including Gothic Revival, Beaux Arts, Spanish Mission, Colonial Revival, and Craftsman. In addition, many of the residents of the area included the most prominent mining industrialists, businessmen and political figures in the community.

The southern boundaries of the district extended across Hopkinstown Street (US 62) to include an 1890s, frame cottage and a Colonial Revival mansion (Photo 11). However, the integrity and historic fabric of the neighborhood does not end with these two structures. Between Walnut Street on the west and Main Street on the east Hopkinstown Street displays a fine variety of early 20th century residences including the architect designed Rice House, (Photo 5, MUG-5). Other more vernacular structures built along the street include Tudor Revival styles and American Foursquare plans (Photos 11-13). No intrusions were noted within this area.

It is proposed that the South Cherry Street Historic District boundaries could be expanded to include the residences along Hopkinstown Street between Walnut and just west of Main Street. New commercial construction has taken place on the northwest and southwest corners of Main and Hopkinstown Streets.

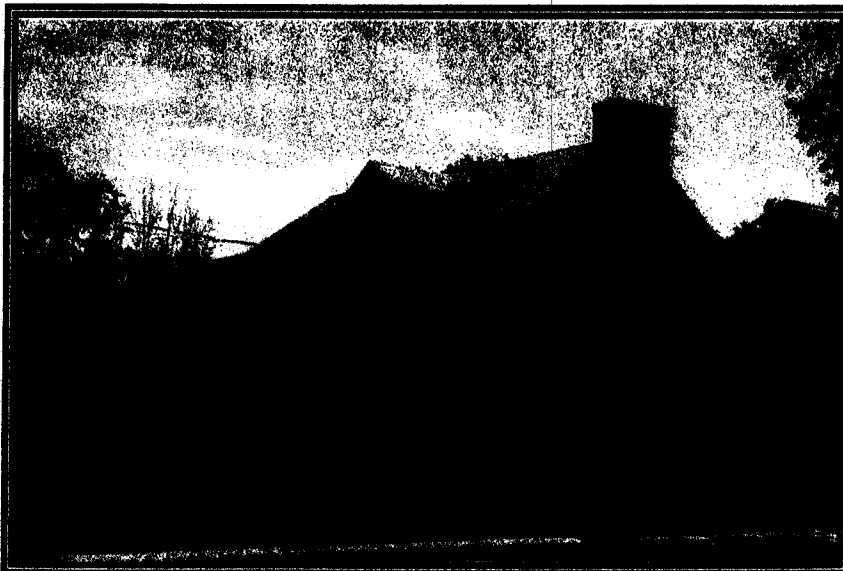


Photo 11 Colonial Revival-Looking Southeast

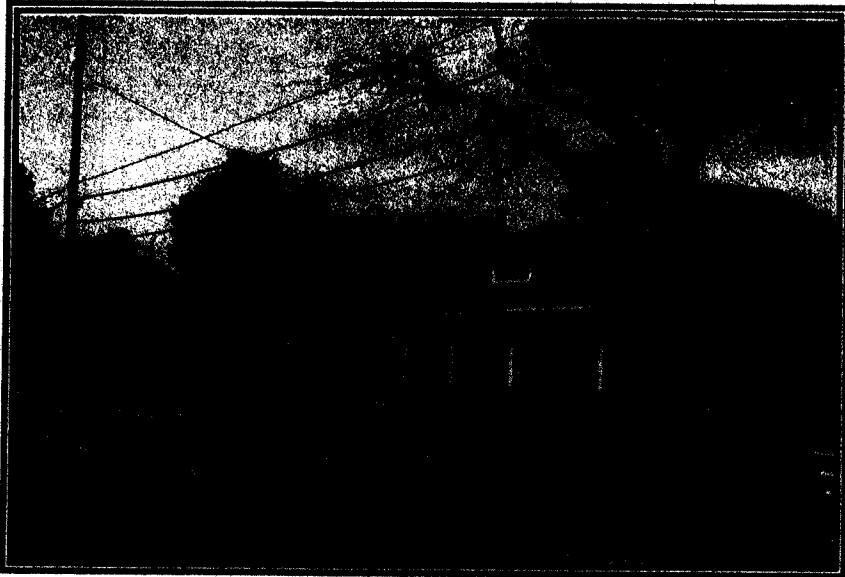


Photo 12 Structures in Proposed Expansion-Looking Northwest



Photo 13 Residence in Proposed Expansion-Looking South west