

BOONE COUNTY PRESERVATION PLAN



**BOONE COUNTY
HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD**

BOONE COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

August 1999

Adoption:

Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board August 12, 1999

1999 Historic Preservation Review Board

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Acknowledgments

The Historic Preservation Review Board would like to thank all the individuals and organizations who participated in the development of the Boone County Preservation Plan.

The Historic Preservation Review Board developed the Boone County Preservation Plan through extensive Review Board and committee meetings, with the assistance of preservation consultant Patrick Lucas, and with the assistance of the staff of the Boone County Planning Commission, especially Executive Director Kevin P. Costello and Planning Commission Attorney Dale Wilson. Funding for the development of the Preservation Plan was provided by a Certified Local Government grant from the Kentucky Heritage Council, with matching funds provided by the Boone County Fiscal Court.

The Preservation Plan is based on material gathered during a comprehensive survey of historic resources in Boone County, completed in 1996. The comprehensive survey produced an inventory of historic buildings, as determined by nationally accepted standards to be locally historically or architecturally significant. The architectural survey project was another Certified Local Government matching grant project, and was completed by Architectural Historian and Historic Preservation Consultant Margaret (Margo) Warminski of Newport, Kentucky.

The Preservation Plan process benefitted greatly from review by and comments of an Advisory Committee comprised of representatives from the Northern Kentucky Homebuilders Association, the Farm Bureau, the Boone County Businessmen's Association, and the League of Kentucky Property Owners.

In October 1997 a Public Workshop was held at Union to get input from Boone County citizens on the proposed Goals and Objectives. The Boone County Fiscal Court and the legislative units of Florence, Union, and Walton were also asked to review and comment on the Goals and Objectives, as was the Boone County Planning Commission. Since the Public Workshop, copies of the draft of the Goals and Objectives have been available at a number of public functions including the 1998 Bicentennial events, the 1998 Boone County Fair, and 1998 and 1999 Preservation Month events. In July 1999, a second Public Workshop was held at the Boone County Extension Office. Copies of the Goals and Objectives were available there as were Comment Sheets. This material was also available at the 1999 Boone County Fair, where Review Board members and Staff were on hand to answer questions.

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Preservation Plan Mission Statement

Boone County and its citizens seek to promote, identify, protect, and preserve the county's historic and prehistoric resources in order to enhance the quality of life and the economic well-being of current and future generations.

BOONE COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN **AN INTRODUCTION**

The Boone County Historic Preservation Plan is designed to clarify the role of historic preservation efforts in Boone County, provide information, and suggest guidelines for recommendations of the Historic Preservation Review Board to the Boone County Planning Commission, the Boone County Fiscal Court and to the cities of Florence, Union and Walton concerning historic preservation issues.

Citizen education about the value of historic preservation in Boone County is an important key theme of the Preservation Plan, as reflected in the first Goal. This Goal provides mechanisms and strategies for improving the availability of information about historic and prehistoric resources in the county, as well as establishing objectives that focus on the importance of heritage education in local schools and throughout the community. Increased awareness of the economic, cultural and aesthetic benefits of historic preservation for Boone County will strengthen community participation and interest in preserving tangible reminders of their heritage.

A comprehensive survey of the county's historic resources was completed between 1993 and 1996 through the use of a Certified Local Government grant from the Kentucky Heritage Council, matched with funds from the Boone County Fiscal Court. The Comprehensive Survey provided documentation of historic buildings (also a small number of bridges) that are fifty years old or older with historic or architectural significance. Adherence to these national survey standards provided an accurate inventory of historic county resources which is the foundation for this Preservation Plan. The Comprehensive Survey also provided identification of individual buildings and districts that may be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Boone County has documented almost 1300 historic resources, including houses, churches, schools, agricultural buildings, commercial buildings, industrial buildings, bridges, and historic landscape features. Survey properties will continue to be added to the inventory as they are identified or become eligible. An ongoing Certified Local Government project will nominate 25-35 individual buildings for listing on the National Register, and future projects may include the National Register nomination of eligible historic districts.

The Preservation Plan does not propose specific regulatory measures for the protection and preservation of historic and prehistoric resources. Rather, it provides guidelines which the Historic Preservation Review Board can use in making decisions and recommendations regarding potential impacts to historic and prehistoric resources. The Plan suggests further ways historic preservation can be a part of the planning process by continuing to partner with the Boone County Planning Commission. The Preservation Plan also outlines research questions that support specific Goals and Objectives. The Historic Preservation Review Board may consider these issues when planning future preservation projects, or

looking for additional funding sources to support preservation endeavors throughout the county.

The Preservation Plan suggests potential incentives to increase historic preservation efforts in Boone County. This involves a partnership of involvement from the local, state and federal governments, with individual and private sector investment in the rehabilitation and active use of historic buildings. The Plan encourages a multi-faceted approach to historic preservation which relies on information, education, and cooperation, rather than regulation, to preserve and protect the historic and prehistoric resources of Boone County.

One of the many strengths of Boone County lies in its diversity and community character. As one of Kentucky's fastest growing counties, and home to the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport, there are countless opportunities for economic development and continued growth. However, it is essential that Boone County retain this unique character and identity as expressed through its historic buildings, landscapes, cultural resources and natural features by balancing and integrating new development with historic preservation. This will strengthen and reinforce the quality of life in Boone County and leave a continuing legacy of heritage and prosperity for future Boone Countians.

Boone County Historic Preservation Context

by
Donald E. Clare, Jr.

The Historic Preservation movement in Boone County is not a new concept. As a matter of fact, Boone County can boast of hosting one of this country's first investigations of a historic and prehistoric resource when President Thomas Jefferson commissioned Captain William Clark (of the Lewis & Clark expedition) to investigate and collect the remains of Pleistocene animal bones at Big Bone Lick in 1807. These bones were then shared and studied by renowned scientists around the world, with specimens making their way to major museums, universities, and institutes in this country, England and France. Even one room of the White House in Washington, D. C. was covered with Big Bone specimens which Thomas Jefferson studied extensively with scientific cohorts and fellow naturalists. In 1807, there were no organized preservation guidelines or mandates. Only individuals with the means, influence and prestige could afford such activities, usually guided by the scientific method to study and investigate historic and prehistoric curiosities.

Over the following 175 years, historic preservation in Boone County depended on individual efforts, or small groups of citizens. These efforts were mostly dictated by necessity more than by interest in heritage and history. It made practical economic sense to maintain houses, farms, barns, outbuildings, churches, schools and public buildings. Continued upkeep, use and even adaptive reuse of buildings was good financial policy. When styles changed, older structures were not demolished to be replaced, they merely were added to or received a facelift. As a result, we still have these structures in our historic resource inventory today.

The historic fabric of Boone County today is due largely to the original settlers, their subsistence activities, and early transportation patterns. The Ohio River was the most frequently utilized means of early travel. Naturally, land along the river and up its tributary creeks and streams were logical settlement areas. Agriculture and river commerce supported these settlements. As roads developed and the desire to escape mosquito infested bottoms and marshy areas, with its subsequent fevers and "ague", development turned inland and upland. The old home places were maintained, but newer homes and communities began to spring up. Lineal river communities remained but were joined by inland towns, such as Union and Florence, located along the toll roads. As population density increased, these towns expanded based on the grid system of development. However, remnants of historic streetscapes survived and were maintained, along with old and new life styles. In the late nineteenth century, extensive development of the railroad enhanced communities such as Walton, and, in the early to mid twentieth century county, state and federal highway improvements further impacted the historic landscape of Boone County. In the late 1940s, the development of the Cincinnati International Airport altered the rural landscape of Boone County, helped create new land uses, and brought about a significant change in the county's built environment.

As growth changed the complexion of Boone County, not all of its past and heritage was lost. Many historic and prehistoric resources survived, and are still viable, tangible reminders of Boone County's heritage and history. This, however, was due largely to individual preservation efforts. Throughout the county there are examples of historic resources which were rehabilitated, removed and rebuilt, refurbished and reused. An early example of this occurred in 1975 when a log house was dismantled, moved from airport property, where demolition was eminent, and rebuilt along Lower River Road between Belleview and Rabbit Hash. Since then, a number of log houses and timber frame barns and houses have been removed and rebuilt elsewhere in the county, accomplished by individual effort and expense, and motivated by practicality, challenge, nostalgia, or aesthetic appreciation of Boone County's past. One individual even preserved the entire town of Rabbit Hash, made up of seven buildings on 3.5 acres, by acquiring one property at a time, "just because it needed to be saved."

There are countless other examples of homes, commercial buildings, barns, farms, prehistoric Indian sites, and mounds, natural resources, and scenic vistas, which remain today solely because of individual endeavors. Also, there are similar resources preserved due to the efforts of small groups of individuals; for example, Big Bone Park was purchased and preserved by the Big Bone Lick Association in the 1950s, and the Dinsmore Homestead by the Dinsmore Foundation in the 1980s. Organizations such as the Nature Conservancy, and the Archaeological Conservancy are responsible for the preservation of Boone Cliffs, the Dinsmore Woods, and Reeves Mound.

The Boone County Fiscal Court is responsible for the preservation of several historic structures within the county, particularly in Burlington. Matching funds provided by Fiscal Court and a grant from the Kentucky Bicentennial Commission helped to complete the rehabilitation of the Renaker House as a 1992 Kentucky Bicentennial project. Teaming up with the Parks Department, the old Petersburg school is maintained as a community center. Likewise, various religious congregations and denominations have maintained and preserved their churches and cemeteries. Boone County's oldest congregation, Bullittsburg Baptist Church, established in 1794, still worships in its 1819 sanctuary. The East Bend Methodist Church, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, survives because of the efforts of several area residents who acquired the church and cemetery property and established its own endowed cemetery board.

Boone Countians, by nature of their heritage, and Kentucky birthrights, are proud people. Collectively their pride is reflected in their homes, properties, lifestyles, professions and interests, but it originates in their ancestry, heritage and history. Local government also has a sense of pride which is dictated by and directly proportional to the pride of the people it governs. Because Boone County is rich in prehistory and history, the local governing bodies of Boone County have implemented certain measures to preserve and protect this heritage for future generations of Boone Countians.

Historically, across the country, increases in population and economic development have occurred at the expense of historic preservation. Many of the tangible reminders of our national heritage has been lost to such overwhelming growth. However, numerous examples of community partnerships have demonstrated that historic preservation and economic development can successfully complement and support each other. Boone County's population is growing rapidly and is expected to continue so at exponential proportions. This growth has the potential to significantly affect our history and heritage in both a positive and negative manner. The Boone County Planning Commission and the local governments had the keen insight to consider these trends and act in a very positive way for preservation.

In 1986, the Boone County Fiscal Court, on recommendation of the Boone County Planning Commission, created the Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board and a local historic preservation program, following the guidelines of state and federal historic preservation agencies. In doing so, Boone County became only the second county in the Commonwealth of Kentucky to gain the status of Certified Local Government. This enables the county to have a direct role in the protection and preservation of its cultural and historic resources by participating with Federal and State agencies to monitor construction and development projects which have the potential for a negative impact to a historic or prehistoric resource.

These preservation guidelines were reflected in the adoption of the Historic Preservation chapter of the Boone County Zoning Regulations and the Historic Preservation element of the Boone County Comprehensive Plan. As a direct result of this action, the Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board was established as an advisory board to the Boone County Fiscal Court and the Boone County Planning Commission. This Board consists of a maximum of seven volunteer members, appointed by the Fiscal Court, who provide recommendations to the Planning Commission and the Fiscal Court on matters pertaining to historic preservation. In addition to the Board, the full time position of Boone County Historic Preservation/Rural Planner was created within the Planning and Zoning Department.

Certified Local Government Program in Boone County

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 provided for the establishment of a nationwide program by which local governments could create a local historic preservation commission for the purpose of providing an active role in the identification, protection, and preservation of the cultural and historic resources within its jurisdiction. The Certified Local Government Program provides financial and technical assistance to protect and preserve historic properties of importance to the historical and cultural life of this nation. A local government can participate directly in this program when the State Historic Preservation Officer, under the auspices of the National Park Service, certifies that the local government has established its own historic preservation commission, and local preservation

guidelines, meeting both federal and state standards. A local governing body that receives such certification is thus known as a Certified Local Government (CLG).

In 1986, the Boone County Fiscal Court established the Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board completing the state and federal requirements, and Boone County received CLG status in September of that year. This program actively involves all three levels of government (federal, state, and local), and provides an innovative and comprehensive approach to all aspects of historic preservation in Boone County.

CLG's are eligible to apply for annual grants through the State Historic Preservation Office. These grants may be used to provide staff support for the historic preservation program, or for a variety of projects such as:

1. To survey and inventory historic homes, buildings, properties and other historic features of Boone County
2. To survey, document and test prehistoric and historic archaeological sites to determine their significance and provide for their protection
3. To prepare nominations to the National Register of Historic Places for eligible properties in Boone County
4. To perform activities related to comprehensive community planning in Boone County such as:
 - Providing staff support for the CLG's historic preservation commission
 - Writing or amending Boone County's preservation ordinance
 - Developing and implementing a comprehensive preservation plan for Boone County.
5. To prepare and provide programs and information resources for public education concerning historic preservation
6. To provide technical assistance and aid in establishing and maintaining other groups and organizations within Boone County concerned with historic preservation and history related endeavors

As an established CLG, the Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board is recognized by federal and state agencies as having special expertise in local historic

preservation issues. The Board receives technical assistance and training from the Kentucky Heritage Council through the State Historic Preservation Officer and the Boone County Historic Preservation/Rural Planner. Such assistance and training will enable Boone County to pursue its preservation goals and plans.

A good example of the cooperative efforts of Boone County's CLG with federal and state agencies is the 1988 National Register of Historic Places listing of over sixty Boone County properties. This major accomplishment involved the coordinated efforts of the Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board, the Kentucky Heritage Council, the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the United States Department of Interior, resulting in a source of pride and honor for all Boone County citizens.

An ongoing cooperative preservation effort can be found in the role of Boone County's CLG with pending federal action within this community. Section 106 of the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act established an important federal regulation to protect prehistoric and historic resources. Plans for a project using federal funds or requiring a federal permit must assess potential negative impacts to National Register listed or eligible sites, above and below ground. While these regulations do help preserve some historic sites, more often they provide for mitigation of the negative impact. For a building, this usually means detailed documentation, including architectural drawings, extensive photographs, and historical research, as well as possibly salvaging reusable materials. In the case of an archaeological resource, the site is often properly excavated by professional archaeologists so that valuable information, usually unattainable any other way, is recovered and preserved. Mitigation of these sites is regulated by a document, known as a Memorandum of Agreement, negotiated by the federal agency involved, the State Historic Preservation Office, in consultation with the local CLG, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. In Boone County, Section 106 regulations are used frequently in dealing with the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Airport (Federal Aviation Administration), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (42 miles of Ohio River and numerous creeks), and the Kentucky Department of Transportation (more miles of Interstate highway than any other county in Kentucky).

Even before these federal preservation regulations, Boone County had been the focus of archaeological investigations by professional and avocational archaeologists for many years. There are currently 475 Boone County archaeological sites registered with the Office of State Archaeology. Many of these sites represent resources that were documented prior to their destruction by federal or private development. Several of these sites have been placed on the National Register of Historic Places, and a number of others are considered National Register eligible. The ruins of a former grist mill site is a good example of an historic archaeological site placed on the National Register.

Identification of archaeological sites began early in Boone County with work done by William Webb, the father of Kentucky archaeology, in the 1930s. Prehistoric mounds,

village sites, earthworks and cemeteries were identified by Webb and his associates, Funkhauser, Baby, and others, all associated with the University of Kentucky. During the Works Progress Administration (WPA) era, 1938-1941, seven Adena mounds, and a Fort Ancient mound and village site were excavated. The WPA was one of many federal relief programs instituted by Roosevelt's New Deal to provide relief employment to those Americans affected by the Depression of the 1930s.

In the 1960s, the federal historic preservation regulations were responsible for several Boone County archaeology projects including the testing of ten sites in the Boone County portion of the 1-275 corridor. In 1976 fifty sites were identified in the upper portion of East Bend Bottoms in preparation for the proposed East Bend Power Station. A comprehensive historical archaeological study was conducted and an architectural/historical document was published by Cincinnati Gas & Electric, as part of the MOA for the Winfield Cottage and Piatts Landing site, prior to its eventual demolition.

Recent airport runway expansion plans required extensive Phase Three archaeological research that culminated in the documentation of a highly significant prehistoric Indian site. Extensive material from the c. 600 B.C. occupation site gave archaeologists, and in turn the general public, a better understanding of domestic life in the Early Woodland cultural time period.

Not all of the archaeological research completed in Boone County is due to federal regulations or activities, however. Through the CLG program, the Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board has sponsored several major archaeology projects. In 1992 the Petersburg archaeological project was undertaken as a unique opportunity to document the town's extensive prehistoric and historic heritage. Plans were to combine prehistoric and historic archaeological research, and a detailed architectural survey of the town's built environment, in order to nominate the entire town to the National Register of Historic Places based on a 1000 year continuum of prehistoric and historic evidence. The project, however, was postponed at the request of a consensus of townspeople. Their refusal stopped the project, but Petersburg remains National Register eligible on all three levels. The Petersburg project was also a major preservation education project. During the two year project, over 1200 Boone County school children took part in onsite demonstrations or heard classroom presentations about archaeology and the Petersburg site. Several community meetings, and an artifact washing night, all held at the Petersburg Community Center, are other examples of Board sponsored heritage education. Other county archaeology projects include the 1993 archaeological survey with special emphasis on the Hamilton/East Bend bottoms area, an updated documentation of Indian Burial Mounds, and the current Big Bone Lick National Register Nomination.

Since the 1730s, Big Bone Lick has been noted as a place where bones of extinct Pleistocene mammals could be found. Paleontological research was conducted by the University of Nebraska in the 1960s. In 1976, the Kentucky Heritage Commission (now

Council) undertook a reconnaissance survey of Big Bone Lick State Park. Although no sites were located, other archaeological investigations by Dr. James Hopgood of Northern Kentucky University documented the presence of two Fort Ancient sites in the park. In 1982, the University of Kentucky Archaeological Field School surveyed three sites and excavated two of them within the park boundaries. Research on Paleoindian period sites and materials from all cultural periods at Big Bone Lick was the focus of archaeologist Ken Tankersley's 1982 research.

More recent investigations at Big Bone Lick include the Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board updated archaeological survey in 1993. In 1996 and 1997, William H. Lowthert IV (assisted by B. Jo Stokes) did extensive survey and testing within the park, as part of his Masters Thesis, documenting a number of new sites as well as completing further research on several Fort Ancient village or camp sites. In 1993, 3D/International, Environmental Group, a local contract archaeological firm, voluntarily performed excavation and mitigation of a washed out Fort Ancient roasting pit in a wall of Big Bone creek.

Historic buildings in Boone County were initially surveyed in 1976-1977 by Kenneth T. Gibbs, a staff member of the Kentucky Heritage Council. The results of the survey were reported in Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky: Boone County, published by The Kentucky Heritage Commission in conjunction with the Boone County Extension Homemakers and the Boone County Fiscal Court in 1979. The survey of Boone County historic sites was part of a federal-state effort to identify all sites that were worthy of preservation in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The survey also served as a means of documenting historic buildings so that some record would remain should the resource be destroyed. Although the survey was completed quickly, 353 significant sites, were identified.

A local effort in 1979 produced the Burlington National Register Historic District nomination, documenting twenty seven buildings representing a wide range of historic and architectural diversity in the county seat of Boone County. The Burlington Historic District includes the 1889 Boone County Courthouse, thought to be the third courthouse on the same site. In 1984, three Boone County stone houses were determined eligible for the National Register as part of a statewide thematic nomination, "Early Stone Buildings of Kentucky: Outer Bluegrass and Pennyrile."

In 1988, the Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board prepared the Boone County Multiple Resource Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The original 353 surveyed resources were re-examined, and those that met the required historic and architectural criteria, as defined by the National Park Service in National Register Standards and Guidelines, were included in the multiple resource nomination. Additional resources were also added to the survey and evaluated for inclusion in the National Register nomination. In February 1989, 60 properties, including a total of 191 contributing buildings, were listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

More recently, the Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board has updated the original survey of historic buildings in Boone County, using CLG grant funds. This work identified over 800 additional historic resources bringing Boone County's inventory to almost 1300 buildings. This comprehensive architectural survey was completed over a three year period, and identified all historic resources including barns and outbuildings, twentieth century architecture, and sites of engineering significance such as bridges. The survey represents an inventory of buildings that played a role in the historic development of Boone County. Their inclusion on the survey does not necessarily mandate their preservation, but instead serves as an informational tool for use in planning decisions and the future development of Boone County. The survey also provides a written record, with photographs, of the county's remaining historic resources. There is a great deal of public interest in these buildings, and a new architectural survey publication is currently being prepared.

As part of the CLG program, the Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board has developed and progressed differently than many other Historic Preservation Commissions which usually serve an individual town or city, and often focus primarily on design review for local historic districts. Even though there are several National Register historic districts in Boone County, including Burlington, only the National Register eligible community of Rabbit Hash is also covered by a historic preservation overlay, mandating design review for any exterior changes to buildings within the district. The designation of local historic districts in Boone County has been impacted by state legislation that calls for 100% property owner agreement in order to form a local historic district. The local historic district overlay protection for Rabbit Hash was specifically requested by the owner of the community's seven buildings.

The Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board has been presented with different and sometimes unique needs and issues of historic preservation. The fact that the county consists of an unincorporated area, under the jurisdiction of the Boone County Fiscal Court, as well as three independent legislative units, Florence, Union, and Walton, has dictated different approaches to similar preservation issues. On the other hand, preservation issues affecting the entire county, such as the protection of historic and prehistoric cemeteries and burial places, have been uniformly addressed by the Board.

One of the Board's most significant accomplishments has been the creation, development and implementation of the Boone County Cemetery Preservation Plan which was adopted in November, 1989. Recommendations from this plan were incorporated into the Boone County Zoning Regulations. The plan addresses and answers the specific preservation needs of all Boone County family, church, public, and individual cemeteries, including prehistoric burials and burial mounds. It provides for the legal, moral, ethical, and practical considerations which arise as development threatens to impact these sacred areas. The plan recommends specific policies for relocation of cemeteries, development restrictions, archaeological documentation of unfenced cemeteries, security measures,

maintenance, and landscaping. The plan also presents cemetery preservation techniques, and suggests possible funding sources for continued preservation. This Boone County Cemetery Preservation Plan created one of the first local government regulated mandates for the preservation of historic and prehistoric cemeteries in the country. It has served as a national model for cemetery preservation efforts throughout the United States

The Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board is not a legislative or regulatory body. It is an advisory body which makes recommendations to the Boone County Fiscal Court, to the three legislative units, and to the Boone County Planning Commission, offering the means and direction for preservation needs and issues within the county. The Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board's most powerful tool is education. By providing educational opportunities for the public and the elected officials, the Board can accomplish its preservation objectives.

Educating the public to help instill a sense of pride and stewardship in their property is the primary goal of the Board. To date, the Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board has developed and offered many educational programs and activities within the county. For example, the Board has published a walking tour of Petersburg, and participated in the development of the Northern Kentucky Back Roads Tour, a 1992 Kentucky Bicentennial project. Educational publications include a newsletter, informational preservation briefs and fact sheets, and the reprinting of the 1883 Atlas of Boone, Kenton & Campbell Counties. Educational programs for elementary, middle and high schools, guest lectures, and slide programs for the general public or for civic groups and organizations, and displays and an information booth at the Boone County Fair are just a few of the activities of the Board. The annual Preservation Awards, given during National Preservation Month in May, are the Board's special acknowledgment of excellent individual preservation efforts.

Over the past twelve years, the Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board has experienced some lost battles, and less than perfect concessions in the overall scope of countywide historic preservation efforts. However, these too can be interpreted as education, and the knowledge gained by this form of education is indelibly retained. There is a real sense of loss in witnessing the demolition of an historic school building, or a National Register house. When an 1847 church stood its final ground against the machine, and stubbornly refused to succumb, requiring an even bigger machine to complete the raze, the county suffered a great loss, but learned some important lessons in the process.

Continued growth and economic development in Boone County during the next several decades will offer historic preservation opportunities, as well as challenges. The development of a historic preservation plan will provide goals and guidelines for the role of preservation in the future growth of Boone County. A well-informed public, government, and development community can collectively cooperate in a workable preservation-oriented direction into the next millennium.

Prehistoric Resources of Boone County

**By
Donald A. Miller**

INTRODUCTION

Humans have lived in Boone County continuously for the last 12,000 years. Although we do not know what the earliest inhabitants called themselves, or what languages they spoke, they did leave behind clues in the soil in the forms of debris from stone tool manufacturing, the tools themselves, and pottery. These people married, raised families, buried their dead, and enjoyed the natural beauty of Boone County just as its citizens do to this day. These clues remind us all that Boone County has a history that is far older than the written word and the coming of Europeans to this continent.

The methods utilized in determining how past cultures lived is through the systematic excavation and analysis of the artifacts and cultural remains that the people left behind. This is more commonly known as archaeology. Localities in Boone County where the Native Americans hunted, lived, buried their dead, and obtained materials for technological purposes are all archaeological sites. Each site is unique just as Burlington is different than Verona, and Petersburg is different than Florence. Therefore, archaeological sites are not considered better or worse than one another and each has the potential to answer important archaeological questions. The goal of archaeological research is to reconstruct the lifeways (day to day activities) of a specific group, or groups, of people in attempts to record how these cultures adapted to the environment and changed over time. Unfortunately, most of what archaeologists analyze are the remains of technology (i.e. stone and bone tools, ceramics, broken animal bones, fire cracked rock). Questions regarding languages, beliefs, and social systems, can not be adequately addressed through archaeology since there are no longer members of the culture to provide this information.

Often archaeologist are forced to make conclusions based on what is not recovered from archaeological sites. Based on what we know, a time line emerges for the prehistoric cultures that lived in Boone County. These cultures and their lifeways will be discussed below in chronological order from earliest to latest. The dates that are represented below are approximate and some overlap of cultures in a specific time is certain. Cultural changes can be slow or very rapid depending on the reason for the change.

The Paleoindian Period

The populization of North America by groups of people from Asia via the land bridge most probably occurred sometime between 25,000 B.C. - 15,000 B.C. (Jennings 1989). During the last Ice Age, large herbivores such as mammoth, mastodon, bison, horse, and various mammals long since extinct, roamed freely over North America. The movement and

migration of these large herbivores dictated the habits of the small bands of nomadic people living in northeast Asia that relied on them for food. Most probably, the movement of herds across the land bridge resulted in the peopling of the North American continent. An ice free corridor, which existed from Alaska all the way into what is now known as the northern Plains, acted like a funnel for humans, now known as Paleoindians, and the animals that they hunted.

The climate in Kentucky at this time was moister and cooler than it is now and most probably was similar to the climate of the Pacific Northwest today. Climatic changes occurred and a warming trend forced the large mammals to move north with the receding glaciers (Pollack 1990). In turn, Paleoindians in Kentucky were forced to become innovative and adapt to the rapidly changing environmental conditions.

The Paleoindian culture in Boone County, and Kentucky, dates from 9,500 to 8,000 B.C. (Pollack 1990). A number of Paleoindian sites have been recorded in various areas of Boone County (Pollack 1990; Miller in press). These sites constitute 1.4% of the total number of sites recorded for Boone County. However, the majority of these sites are isolated Clovis Cluster (Justice 1987) projectile points or point fragments, obtained from surface collections in plowed fields. Clovis type points were most probably used on the ends of thrusting spears or as dart tips which were thrown from an atlatl (spear thrower). Locations where these point types are found reflect areas where small groups of people performed specific tasks for short durations.

For obvious reasons the most famous and possibly the best location for recovering stratified data on Paleoindian culture in Boone County is Big Bone Lick. The saline springs at Big Bone attracted large numbers of the large mammals who came to drink from the mineral rich waters. In turn the people followed, hunted, and possibly scavenged on animals that had fallen into the brackish marsh. Such locations where animals were known to congregate would have been an invaluable resource to the Paleoindian subsistence strategy.

Countless remains of mammoth, bison, and other animals have been taken from Big Bone over the last 200 years as well as artifacts dating from the Paleoindian period. Unfortunately, the early studies were directed at the bones and not the artifacts that may have been associated with these remains. In addition, the methods utilized to recover these remains in the past are now seen as horrendous. Other factors such as looting, erosion, and development within the park have severely compromised the resources within Big Bone. Certainly more multi-disciplinary research is needed at Big Bone using strict and advanced methodologies to fully understand and ascertain the significance of this site, and to answer questions regarding Paleoindian culture history, technology, subsistence, and settlement patterns in Boone County, and Kentucky.

The Archaic Period

The Archaic period is the longest cultural period in Kentucky, and Boone County. For ease of identification, archaeologists have divided this time period into Early Archaic (8,000 - 6,000 B.C.), Middle Archaic (6,000 - 3,000 B.C.), and Late Archaic (3,000 - 1,000 B.C.). The Early Archaic period is seen as a tradition of mobile and seasonal exploitation of resources over smaller geographic areas than their Paleoindian ancestors. The relatively small amount of cultural materials left at most Early Archaic sites indicates that small bands of people stayed at locations for short periods of time, then moved on to a different location to exploit available resources (Pollack 1990). Most of these sites are located in the uplands. The expanding deciduous forest would have produced a more favorable habitat for game species, such as the white tailed deer, in upland areas.

Most Early Archaic tool types were used, repaired, then used again numerous times. This practice of tool curation supports data concerning the mobility practices of Early Archaic peoples. The low number of plant processing tools, and plant remains on Early Archaic sites indicate that gathering of plant resources was a minor activity compared to hunting (Dragoo 1976) (Pollack 1990).

The Middle Archaic is a time of regionalization of cultures and their tools, especially projectile point types (Pollack 1990). The development of specialized tools indicate that a wider variety of food resources were becoming available and being used. In addition, Middle Archaic sites often are quite large and contain massive numbers of artifacts, storage and cooking features, and burials. This suggests that some sites were occupied for long periods of time, or year round (Pollack 1990).

The Late Archaic cultures further adapted to the environmental conditions and excelled at exploiting plant and animal resources (Pollack 1990). During the Late Archaic an increase in the exploitation of starchy oily seeds such as marshelder, erect knotweed, and goosefoot, in addition to exotic species such as sunflower and gourds, suggest that Late Archaic peoples were experimenting with horticulture (Pollack 1990).

Late Archaic mobility patterns were based on the season and the resources that could be easily extracted at that time. For example, the uplands were exploited in the fall when large amounts of hickory nuts and acorns, starchy seeds, and congregating deer could be easily harvested. In addition in the summer months large "Base Camps" were located on the floodplains to exploit shellfish, fish, migratory waterfowl and riverine resources.

Artifacts made of exotic materials such as copper and marine shell indicate a long distance trade network was established. In addition, these artifacts are often found in graves. In this context, such artifacts reveal a social system that contains some degree of hierarchy or stratification (Pollack 1990).

Early, Middle, and Late Archaic sites have been recorded in Boone County. In total, 47 Archaic sites have been recorded in Boone County. Certainly more sites exist that are not recorded. These sites can be situated on the floodplains of the river, streams, or the uplands. The locations of these sites help us to understand how Archaic people used the landscape of Boone County to exploit the resources.

The Woodland Period

The Early Woodland period ca. 900 - 100 B.C., appears to represent a cultural expansion of the Late Archaic. At this time there was greater permanence in habitation sites and increasing elaboration of the ceremonial exchange and mortuary rituals. The introduction of pottery, an increase in the cultivation of squash, sunflower and gourd, as well as changes in projectile point styles, are traits of the Early Woodland.

In Boone County, the Early Woodland cultural expression is called the Adena culture. The Adena people built earthen mounds in which they buried their dead. Like the Late Archaic cultures, the Adena were semi-sedentary peoples, but were territorially restrictive. This may be due to the efficient resource exploitation which led to a population increase.

Much speculation and mystery have surrounded the burial mound phenomenon. One possible explanation is that the Adena people, in an attempt to claim a particular area or resources, began building burial mounds as "turf markers". These ritual facilities are spatially segregated from habitation sites (Railey 1990). Due to the high visibility of these mounds, archaeologists and looters have focused their attention on them for several hundred years.

Numerous mounds in Boone County were excavated in the 1940's under the Works Progress Administration. Among these are Robbins, Crigler, Riley, Landing, and the Hartman Mounds. Although the excavations of these sites led to a large database regarding artifacts and mound construction, the data focused on one aspect of Adena life...death. Recent excavations at the Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport revealed a substantial Early Woodland occupation at 15Be391 (Wall et al. 1996) (Bergman et al. 1996, 1997, 1998), and gave much needed data regarding Early Woodland domestic activities. A series of Radiocarbon dates recovered from cooking pits containing Fayette Thick ceramics place the occupations at 600 B.C., which is the earliest secure date for Fayette Thick ceramics in Kentucky.

The recently completed Boone County Mound Survey (French et al. 1997), which was conducted by the University of Kentucky Program For Cultural Resource Assessment, gathered important data on mound locations in Boone County, and documented several Early Woodland mounds that had not yet been recorded. This specific project has wide implications for Early Woodland settlement patterns in the Ohio Valley which are crucial

for understanding Early Woodland activities, and prehistoric resources in Boone County in general.

The Middle Woodland is described as a period of increased complex integration of cultural elements including social stratification, elaborate burial ceremonialism, distinctive artifact styles and specialization, and an improved economic base.

To the north of Boone County, the regional expression of the Middle Woodland is the Hopewell. The Hopewell are now seen as a continuation of Adena but on a more expanded and elaborate level. Elaborate earthworks in various geometric designs, extensive trade networks that extended as far west as Yellowstone National Park, and cultural artistic motifs are recorded all over the Eastern United States.

Interestingly, numerous hilltop enclosures or “forts”, indicative of the Hopewell, are recorded to the north of Boone County, but are non-existent here. We do know from the recovery of projectile points and other artifacts that Middle Woodland people lived in Boone County, but why there are no hilltop enclosures remains a mystery.

Around the 500 A.D., a decline and realignment took place, the exact causes of which are unknown. This marks the beginning of the Late Woodland period. Much speculation has been put forth on the causes of this change, but regardless of the reasons, by A.D. 700 ceremonial centers were abandoned, trade networks dissipated, and less emphasis placed on burial ceremonialism.

The Late Woodland culture in Boone County is known as the Newtown phase. Newtown peoples increased their reliance on domesticated plants such as corn beans and squash supplemented with hunting and intensive gathering. The Newtown people lived in base camps or villages in the summer with their agricultural fields nearby. After the harvest, these villages were temporarily abandoned for hunting camps in the forests. The replacement of the spear thrower with the bow and arrow during this time would have lead to different hunting techniques and strategies being used.

Newtown sites are most often located on elevated land surfaces above floodplains. The utilization of upland and bottomland sites is during the Late Woodland is suggestive of the settlement system documented for early historic tribes in the northeast United States. In sum, the Late Woodland cultures gradually restricted their geographic movement.

Late Prehistoric Occupation

By A.D. 1,000, a new cultural complex, the Mississippian tradition, developed on the highly fertile and productive Mississippi River Valley and major tributaries such as the Ohio. This period witnessed the climax of systemic social, economic, and political systems that had been slowly developing throughout Woodland Times.

The Mississippian tradition in Boone County and North Central Kentucky is known as the Fort Ancient Culture and dates from A.D. 1,000 - 1,600. The Fort Ancient Culture emerged from the Late Woodland due to an increase in maize production (corn), increase in sedentism, and influx of Mississippian influences (Essenpreis 1978). This cultural expression lasted until European contact. It is thought that the Fort Ancient people were the ancestors of the Shawnee and possibly other tribes that were known to inhabit the area when the first explorers entered this area.

Fort Ancient subsistence was based on the cultivation of corn, beans, and squash, as well as deer, elk, turkey, shellfish and fish. Most Fort Ancient village sites in Boone County are located on the Ohio River floodplain and larger tributary streams which provided the occupants wide flat areas for the village and agricultural fields. However, hunting camps are most often located in the uplands. This is a marked contrast to Central Kentucky where Hockensmith (1983 A), records that Village sites are located in the uplands and removed from the river valleys. Fort Ancient sites were organized in a circular pattern and often stockaded for defensive purposes (Pollack 1990).

The most common artifact type found at Fort Ancient sites is pottery (Pollack 1990). Triangular Projectile points were fashioned from locally available flint, and functioned as tips for arrows. In addition, a wide variety of bone, antler, and shell artifacts are found at Fort Ancient sites. Some European trade goods such as beads, gunflints, and metal items are often found at very late Fort Ancient sites such as Madisonville in Ohio, and Arrasmith in Kentucky (Henderson, personal communication).

Several Fort Ancient sites are recorded for Boone County and account for 10.6% of the total number of sites recorded. Recent research sponsored by the Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board at Petersburg (15Be6) has revealed substantial occupations consisting of two temporally separate villages (Henderson 1995). Although the historic town of Petersburg sits on top of these villages, some areas of the town contain intact trash areas and occupational deposits (Henderson 1995). Such projects are invaluable to the resources, and to the citizens of Boone County for several reasons including public education, and publication, within the archaeological field.

Conclusion

Boone County has a rich and diverse prehistoric past. The sites that are located here reflect a series of traditions and lifeways that are of great importance to researchers and to the public. The people who lived here before the European invasion led efficient but harsh lives that were based on the ability to adapt to changing environmental conditions.

The descendants of the prehistoric peoples of Boone County are modern American Indians. They exist as sovereign nations within a nation, and most have lost their ancestral homelands and cultural identity. When the Europeans arrived in the Ohio valley, most the

Native Americans living here were already killed off by diseases and inter-tribal warfare (brought on by the European greed for furs), long before they had physical contact with Europeans.

The ratification of local legislative acts, such as the Boone County Cemetery Plan, that effectively control private developments, are some possible answers to effectively preserve, or mitigate adverse affects on prehistoric and historic archaeological sites in Boone County.

Approximately 94.2% of the recorded sites in Boone County are prehistoric sites. Due to industrial and residential development, the most often destroyed site is the small upland habitation or short term camps. These locations are key pieces of a larger puzzle and must be investigated to understand prehistoric and historic subsistence and mobility strategies.

The sites of Boone County are a finite resource and after the last one is gone there is no going back. The history of Boone County belongs to all of its citizens. Therefore, it is grossly inappropriate that thousands of years of Native American and Euroamerican history is destroyed and not recorded for future generations.

One of the most serious problems that exists in Boone County regarding historic preservation is the fact that most individuals believe that preservation actions impede progress. This is simply not the case. Not every site is worth saving but they are worth recording. The recording process can take the form of excavations, reporting, and documenting what is being lost. Progress is inevitable, however, with that progress comes the responsibility of documenting what is being lost, which is the history of the Native American and Euroamerican.

Boone County: A Historical Overview

Located in the largest bend of the Ohio River, a few miles downstream from Cincinnati, Boone County is the northernmost county in Kentucky. For forty-two miles the Ohio River bounds the county on the north and west. As in most sections of the outer Bluegrass region of Kentucky, the land in Boone County is gently rolling to steeply hilled. Historically Boone County's economy has been dominated by agriculture; corn, soybeans, produce, and especially tobacco continue to be the principal cash crops, along with livestock. The land is drained by numerous small streams that flow westward into the Ohio River from headwaters along the Great Ridge, or Dry Ridge Divide. This major feature runs north-south just inside the eastern boundary of the county and has long served as both an ancient and modern transportation corridor (today's U.S. 25 or Dixie Highway) connecting Cincinnati and Lexington. The completion of the Greater Cincinnati Airport in Boone County in 1947 and Interstate 71/75 in the 1960s accelerated the suburban growth that began about 1950. Today, substantial residential, commercial, and industrial development are significantly changing the once rural landscape of Boone County.

Perhaps the first European to visit Boone County was a Frenchman who sailed down the Ohio River in 1729. He highlighted primeval Boone County on his chart with an inscription in French that translates "where they found the bones of an elephant." Thus, Big Bone Lick became one of the wonders of the world. That Frenchman was followed a decade later by Captain Charles de Longueuil who was credited with the first investigation of that area. His account of the huge bones of prehistoric mammals provided incentive for further exploration, and attracted the attention of the British and early American colonists. The salt deposits at Big Bone Lick had long been known to the American Indians and, in 1755, Mary Draper Ingles, the first recorded Euroamerican woman to visit this region, escaped from her Shawnee and French captors while they were boiling water from the lick to make salt.

France claimed the Ohio Valley until the end of the French and Indian War, and a veteran of the war, Captain Thomas Bullitt, led surveyors to this territory in 1773 when it was a part of Fincastle County, Virginia. In 1789, over a decade after the first settlement in central Kentucky, John Tanner, a Baptist preacher from North Carolina, established Tanner's Station, now known as Petersburg, along the Ohio River. Tanner's Station was the first formal settlement in what would shortly become Boone County. The community's name was changed to Petersburg in 1814. Soon other pioneers occupied tracts of land above and below Tanner's Station. Many came from central Kentucky, now Woodford and Scott counties, and in 1794 seven persons founded the Bullittsburg Baptist Church in the North Bend Bottoms up river from Tanner's Station. Bullittsburg Baptist went on to become the "Mother Church" for other Baptist congregations in Boone County. Bullittsburg Baptist Church is the longest continuously active church in the county, still holding services in their 1819 sanctuary. Other early settlers in the area were Captain Jacob Piatt and Captain John Brown, both of whom were from New Jersey and were Revolutionary War veterans.

Many pioneers arriving during this first period of settlement migrated from Virginia. A large portion of them were of northern German ancestry and came from the Germanna communities in Culpepper and Madison counties of Virginia. Eleven people from that part of Virginia arrived in Boone County in November, 1805 under the leadership of Ephraim Tanner. The following year, they organized the Hopeful Lutheran Church in the east-central part of the county. Other families came after them and settled in Florence and Hebron (named after Hebron, Virginia), eventually establishing the Mt. Zion and Hebron Lutheran Churches. In the northern part of Boone County immigrants from southwestern Germany settled among the steeply wooded hillsides and fertile floodplains along the Ohio River where the landscape is very similar to the Rhine Valley in Germany.

In the mid-nineteenth century, the southern part of Boone County saw an influx of Irish immigrants who were no doubt escaping the famine in Ireland. A substantial Irish population developed in Verona, where the newly arrived Boone Countians established St. Patrick's Catholic Church. The skilled Irish craftsmen may have constructed many of the stone fences once prominent along southern county turnpikes. Boone County's Irish-Americans became prosperous in their new home and contributed much to the heritage of this area.

When Boone County was officially established in 1799 (having been created by the Kentucky Legislature in 1798), less than two hundred men owned all of the land and the population was approximately 1500. On June 17, 1799 the first county court, held at the William Cave home in North Bend Bottoms, decided to locate the county seat on a seventy-four acre site donated by Robert Johnson and John Hawkins Craig in the north central part of the county. The town, originally known as Craig's Camp, was initially named Wilmington and, at the request of the Post Office, renamed Burlington in 1816. In January of 1801, the Boone County Court Order Book notes that "... a Court held for the County of Boone at the Courthouse ..." after having met for over a year at homes in and around the county seat. According to early reports, this Courthouse was a log building and was used for sixteen years until a large brick structure, facing Jefferson Street, was completed in 1817.

In its earliest days, Boone County prospered largely because of the Ohio River which forms its northern and western boundaries. At one time there were six ferry crossings to the opposite shores of Ohio and Indiana, and at least as many shipping points with warehouses. Early industrial activity included distilleries at Petersburg and Hamilton, and the building of steamboats at Big Bone and Belleview. Inland, blacksmiths, sawmills, and general stores flourished at crossroads communities serving neighboring farmers who cleared forests and cultivated grain in the rich soil. The waters of Gunpowder, Woolper and other creeks were harnessed by grist mills, grinding the corn to meal and the wheat to flour. Petersburg was the largest community in Boone County until the Civil War and the coming of the railroad. The town featured a well laid-out gridded street plan, the large Boone County Distilling Company, several other smaller industries, two inns, many active

community businesses and a bustling riverfront. Petersburg retains many fine examples of early Boone County building traditions, both residential and commercial.

Further south in Boone County, other familiar communities had their beginnings as well. In the mid-1790s, Archibald Reid was active in the early government of Campbell County (founded in 1795), and owned considerable land near today's Walton. Reid became one of Boone County's first justices in 1799. He also apparently established a distillery and a tavern house which James Matthews received permission to operate in 1800. This land was later purchased by Abner Gaines, the brother-in-law of Matthews, in c.1813. Gaines continued to operate a tavern and inn, building a striking new house, preserved today, in c. 1814. Abner Gaines was a Boone County Justice from 1805 to 1817, at which time he was appointed Sheriff. Gaines also became the proprietor of the first stagecoach line that carried mail and passengers between Cincinnati and Lexington; a thirty four hour trip in 1818. His oldest son, James Matthews Gaines, was the first Postmaster for the community know as Gaines Cross Roads in 1815. The Kentucky Legislature renamed the town Walton in 1840.

In the central part of Boone County, the Aylor, Fowler, Stansifers and Steers families were among those contributing to the early settlement of the Union area along Fowler's Branch of Gunpowder Creek. In c. 1817 Benjamin Piatt Fowler built a magnificent stone house on part of his father's 5000 acres and in 1818 Revolutionary War veteran Hugh Steers (buried on the eighteenth green of today's Lassing Point Golf Course), donated land for the Bethel Baptist Church on Frogtown Road. Union developed at the crossroads of the Covington-Louisville Road and the Gaines Old Stand-Visalia Road and was designated a United States Post Office in 1830.

The early farms had ready access to the Ohio River and its down river markets, and most appear to have thrived in nineteenth century Boone County. The towns along the river, such as Constance, Taylorsport, Petersburg, Belleview, and Rabbit Hash, however, failed to develop as trade centers for the interior of the state. They instead became specialized centers for cross-river ferry traffic, post offices, general stores and businesses that served the needs of the surrounding rural population. The fertile floodplain along the Ohio River in Boone County seems to have attracted those settlers who were more interested in agriculture than in commerce, but there are other reasons, including geography and the nearby development of Cincinnati, for the lack of commercial growth in Boone County.

Despite Boone County's proximity to Cincinnati, its nineteenth century development was largely isolated from that of its more urban neighbor. Early in its history, Cincinnati became the chief metropolitan focus for the central Ohio River Valley because of the reputation as a fortified settlement offering protection from Indian attacks, its role as a stopping point for westward bound settlers, and the feature of a large floodplain, suitable for expansion. The population of Cincinnati in 1800 was 750 while that of Boone County was 1,534 but, between 1800 and 1820, the population of Cincinnati took the lead.

The Kentucky cities along the Ohio River that became successful gateways to central Kentucky were either closer to the geographic center of the state, such as Maysville and Carrollton, or opposite the Ohio from Cincinnati, such as Newport and Covington. Even Boone County's potential advantage of having a major transportation corridor, the Dry Ridge Divide, pass through its border seems to have had a minimal effect on the county's economic growth until recent years.

Florence, a major crossroads community, was established at the intersection of roads from Covington to Louisville and Lexington. Ten miles from Covington, it eventually became the first stagecoach stop on the trip south. In the early years of development, Florence was known as Crossroads, Polecat, Maddensville, and finally Connersville, under which a Post Office was established in 1828. The Post Office again caused the name of the community to change, and it became Florence in 1830. The Covington and Lexington Turnpike brought a tremendous amount of traffic through Florence and its nickname of "Stringtown" may well refer to the many businesses and services that sprung up along the turnpike. The elaborate Southern Hotel, which once stood at the corner of Youell and Main Streets, was a comfortable resting spot for travelers, as was the later (and still standing) Florence Hotel across the street which included livestock pens in the rear to hold animals being driven to market at Cincinnati.

Relative to its over all population in the years preceding the Civil War, Boone County had a fairly large slave population. In 1800, the Boone County population consisted of 1194 whites, 325 slaves and 15 free blacks. Local families generally owned less than ten slaves and master and slave often worked side by side on Boone County farms. Although poor treatment of slaves as well as the obvious burden of enforced servitude is a documented fact, some slaves in Boone County appear to have been considered trusted members of the family. Many of the historic homes, barns and outbuildings in Boone County were crafted by skilled black workers whose talent and hard work contributed greatly to the success of nineteenth century Boone County. By the early twentieth century, Boone County had at least six schools for black students. One of the last to be integrated in 1960 was located in Burlington where Wallace Strader served as Principal. Mr. Strader finished his career as a Boone County educator at Boone County High school.

Boone County participated quietly but diligently in the horrors of the Civil War. Although Kentucky was officially neutral, men from the county served on both sides of the conflict. During the War there were two brief skirmishes in Boone County, one at Florence in 1862 and one at Snow's Pond near Walton in 1863. Also in 1863, the famous Confederate General John Hunt Morgan came through Boone County after his escape from a Columbus, Ohio prison. Generally speaking, after the War, men who had fought against each other for five years returned home and once again became neighbors, fellow churchmen, and friends.

As was the case in many communities throughout the country, the women of Boone County kept families and farmsteads together during the long years of the Civil War. Used

to hard work, the women took on added responsibilities and dealt with the loss, crippling, and poor health of husbands, fathers, brothers and sons returning from the War. In many ways, women were the great strength of Boone County families, coordinating numerous tasks, bearing many children, and efficiently running pious and productive households. Some widows or spinsters, such as Julia Dinsmore successfully operated large farms on their own.

With the completion of the first rail lines through the county in 1869, the town of Walton held great promise as the county's primary railroad community. By the late nineteenth century, it was the Boone County's largest city with a population of 538. The architectural landscape of Walton is an excellent showcase for building styles and innovations that were popular around the turn of the century and into the 1920s. Walton's downtown has suffered several disastrous fires, including one in 1876, another in the early twentieth century, a third in 1971 and, finally, the loss of the former City Building in 1983. Walton has the positive distinction of being home to the first county high school, established in 1901, currently in active use as apartments.

Throughout Boone County, many small communities were centered around churches, schools, grange stores and low key commercial concerns. Some small communities, such as Devon, Hume and Hamilton, were even official Post Office sites while towns such as Berkshire, Grange Hall, Gunpowder, and Gainesville are only names on the back of an old picture, part of family legends or simply a memory. Some Boone County communities retain their sense of identity even though commercial activity has long since disappeared; among those are Bullittsville, Beaver, Francisville, Big Bone, and Limaburg.

In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, young and old left Boone County farms for work in the city, and shopping "over the river" became the popular thing to do as the railroad through Richwood, Walton and Verona offered extensive passenger schedules. When the new school was built in Verona in 1914, students from the counties to the south would ride the train daily to attend classes. In the late 1880s, the town of Erlanger was established across the county line from Florence. The railroad promoted the sale of land near its right-of-way, and Florence despaired. Its population fell off 24 percent at the turn of the century, and remained so until 1930. With the advent of automobile, long, tiresome journeys to the city, over the river road through Constance or the Dixie Highway through Florence, became short and enjoyable. It became possible to work in the city and live in Boone County. It was the beginning of a new era.

The population of Boone County grew slowly between the Civil War and the 1890s and then declined slowly until the great population surge that began in the late 1940s and early 1950s. Between 1920 and 1940, Boone County lost 21 percent of its farms and 3 percent of the farmland acreage. The average farm size fluctuated little throughout the twentieth century: 93 acres in 1900 and 102 acres in 1969. Today, county acreage devoted to agriculture is steadily decreasing. In 1946 the Cincinnati Airport was dedicated in northeastern Boone County, although it is officially owned by Kenton County. The

population of Boone County grew by twenty percent from 1940 to 1950. With the construction of Interstates 71 and 75 in the late 1960s, Boone County became one of the fastest growing counties in the nation. Based on the 1990 census figures, Boone County is still one of the fastest growing counties in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

The last half of the twentieth century has been a time of tremendous change for Boone County. There are three incorporated cities, Florence, Union and Walton, but much of the county is unincorporated, including the county seat of Burlington. Senior citizens lament over the loss of familiar rural landscapes, comfortable small towns, and family and friends as neighbors. At the same time, longtime residents welcome improved roads, new conveniences and a booming economy. In the early 1960s, Boone County was enjoying increased economic vitality, but soon realized that proper long-range planning was necessary in order to effectively guide growth and development. The Boone County Planning Commission began in 1966, with the first Comprehensive Plan being developed in 1980. Their service to the county government, as well as the cities, provides a professional evaluation of proposed residential, commercial, and industrial development as well as long term planning strategies for the future growth and preservation of Boone County.

The twenty-first century will be an exciting time for Boone County. The county's diversity provides an excellent quality of life and continued progress toward a balance of old and new insures that the Boone County will continue to grow and prosper.

The Historic Architecture of Boone County

From its early settlement in the late eighteenth century through the Second World War, Boone County developed a fairly conservative building tradition, with little emphasis on formal architectural trends. The basic form or plan of the building serves as the identifying factor, as do certain commonly recognized building types. Stylistic details were incorporated into what became vernacular or homegrown construction techniques. Vernacular architecture is represented by those buildings constructed in a locally traditional manner, often using readily available materials. The vernacular architecture of Boone County is significant as a demonstration of the key role played by local builders in providing straightforward workmanlike, utilitarian houses, industrial buildings and churches necessary to everyday life during the period 1820-1930. Local carpenters used building forms and plans known by Boone County settlers, such as hall-parlor, central passage and doublecell, brought with them from the East Coast. Portions of the county regularly exposed to outside influences, such as river towns, areas along major transportation routes, and the county seat were more likely to contain innovative or nationally popular designs. In rural areas, the most common house plan remained in use for several decades, with little variation.

In the early days, available materials such as log and stone were used extensively throughout the county. These building supplies often came from the clearing of land for agricultural purposes, along with stone from numerous nearby creek beds. Timber frame buildings, a strong construction form featuring massive timbers with interlocking mortise and tenon joints secured by wooden pegs, were popular in Boone County. As transportation improved, and industrialization increased, in the mid to late nineteenth century, the use of lightweight balloon frames surpassed the use of timber framing for homes but not for barns. Timber frame barns continued to be the preferred construction technique well into the twentieth century throughout Boone County.

Brick was also a popular building material, running the spectrum from the first days when local clay was found suitable for making bricks, to the early twentieth century when large quantities of brick arrived by train. The more decorative Flemish bond brick pattern, featuring alternating long and short faces of brick, was often seen on the facade or front of a building while common bond was used on less visible elevations.

Boone County's architectural heritage is significantly diverse as to require a case by case evaluation of building integrity, character, materials, design, and setting when considering the importance of preserving individual historic resources. Taken both singularly and collectively, the historic buildings of Boone County represent, in tangible form, two hundred years of the history of its people, their accomplishments and the commitment and hard work that helped make Boone County the success it is today.

Inventory of Historic Resources

The initial comprehensive architectural survey of Boone County was conducted in 1976-1977 by the Kentucky Heritage Council. The inventory included 353 resources, although twentieth century buildings, barns and outbuildings, and simple vernacular structures were largely neglected. Some ten years later, all of the original 353 resources surveyed were reexamined, and approximately 65 buildings, along with related contributing resources, were listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Criteria for inclusion were based upon local historic and architectural significance as defined by the National Register Standards and Guidelines. The Burlington National Register Historic District, Boone County's only urban historic district, was established in 1979 featuring twenty seven historic buildings.

In 1992, a new comprehensive architectural survey, funded by a county matched Certified Local Government grant, began in Boone County. Completed in 1996, this survey created an inventory of all Boone County buildings and structures, fifty years old or older, with historic and/or architectural significance, primarily in a local context. This inventory includes agricultural buildings, ruins, and bridges, as well as houses, businesses, and public buildings. The Boone County inventory now includes almost 1300 historic resources. The inventory provides a foundation for this county-wide Preservation Plan, and gives the Historic Preservation Review Board documented evidence of the wealth of historic resources found throughout the county. This information can be used in the review of plans for development, by citizens completing historic or genealogical research, or as a guideline for future historic preservation projects or initiatives in Boone County. Currently, a number of individual National Register eligible buildings are being considered for possible listing on the National Register of Historic Places, as an addendum to the 1988 Multiple Resource Listing. The inventory final report also makes recommendations for potentially eligible National Register Historic Districts, especially in Petersburg, Belleview, Rabbit Hash, Verona and Walton. Individual inventory forms, as well as the final report are public information and copies can be obtained from the Boone County Historic Preservation Office, or the Kentucky Heritage Council in Frankfort. A database listing of basic information for all Boone County historic inventory sites will be available shortly at the Boone County Planning Commission or the Boone County Historic Preservation Office. In the near future, all sites will be mapped through the GIS system and may be available on the Boone County Planning Commission Web Site.

Historic residential and commercial building plans and types represented in Boone County include hall-parlor, single pen, doublecell, side-passage, central passage, T-form, cross-gable form, saddlebag, dogtrot, foursquare, and the I-house, the single most popular form in Boone County during the nineteenth century, and bungalows. Stylistic influences varied with the most popular being Federal, Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, and Colonial Revival. Brief explanations of the most commonly seen building plans and types, and stylistic details are given below.

Building Plans and Types

The hall-parlor plan, one of the most commonly found house types in Boone County, originated in medieval England, was popular in early Virginia settlements, and was eventually carried west by settlers from that region. It is simply defined here as a one to one and a half story plan with a side gable roof and two rooms of unequal size in the main block. Although the hall parlor plan is often seen in early log buildings in Boone County, it was particularly popular in mid-to- late nineteenth century Petersburg, frequently with an expanded rear ell. The hall-parlor plan is important to Boone County in the period 1800-1900 as a distinctive and long-lived component of the county's architectural history.

Two other early plans usually seen executed in log, are the dog trot and the double pen forms. Few dogtrot designs, featuring two single rooms or pens separated by a broad open passage (usually closed in fairly soon after construction), still exist in Boone County although a large two story example can be found on Rabbit Hash Road. More common is the log double pen plan, consisting of two equal rooms, usually with a front door into each room, and exterior chimneys on either gable end.

The I-house building type, a two-story, single-pile (one room deep) house usually with a central passage and two rooms on each floor, was the single most popular house type in nineteenth century Boone County. This popular house type, again a traditional British folk form, can be seen in its earliest version (with a off center entrance) in the Hughes House in Richwood, and in a mid-nineteenth century more symmetrical design as seen in the Grubbs House (Rosegate) on Dixie Highway, and in the Hodge House in East Bend, an early twentieth century version. The significance of the I-house type to Boone County, spanning a century of use here from c. 1800-1910, lies in its being the most prevalent architectural type in the historical landscape of the county for both rural and urban areas.

The doublecell building plan consists of two equal size rooms in the primary block, with no center passage, usually a side gable roof, and interior gable-end chimneys. Although this plan is plentiful in Boone County, it is uncommon in the rest of Kentucky. A good example of the doublecell building plan is seen in the c. 1820 Utz House on Bullittsville Road in Burlington.

Expanding on the doublecell plan is the square plan house, built in relatively large numbers in Boone County during the second half of the nineteenth century and the first three decades of the twentieth century. These buildings are two rooms deep (known as double pile) and usually contain four rooms on each floor, with no central hall. An example of this plan is the c. 1895 Sadie Rieman House in Hebron.

The side-passage plan, consisting of a hallway at one side of the main block, was constructed in both single and double pile versions in the county. Many of the Boone County examples adopted the Greek Revival style, and they are nearly evenly divided between brick and frame construction. A good example, executed in brick, is the c. 1849

Hudson House in Bedinger's Landing Subdivision in Richwood. The plan was important to Boone County in the period 1840-1880, the same period of national significance for the Greek Revival style.

The well-known shotgun plan, allegedly nicknamed for the possibility of firing a shot from the front door and having it exit through the back door without passing through any walls, was a simple rectangular house, usually two or three rooms deep. Shotgun houses were frequently built as workers housing and can often be seen clustered together, such as the small grouping on Fairview Court, near the railroad line, in Walton.

In the late nineteenth century, the T-plan house became a popular house type in Boone County. Lightweight, readily adaptable balloon frames were now widely available and builders were no longer limited to square or rectangular forms. The T-plan house is shaped like a T or a L laid on end, usually with intersecting gable roofs. Decorative details and architectural embellishments were now mass produced and their popularity in Boone County is seen in entry porches with turned posts and "gingerbread" trim, in bands of fishtail shingles, or in spindled braces in gable roof peaks. An excellent example of a detailed T-plan house is the 1897 Emma Craig House on Lower River Road in Rabbit Hash.

The foursquare plan was an early twentieth century reaction to the ornamental excess of the Victorian period. The national trend focused on simple, practical house designs with clean lines and natural materials and color schemes. Built throughout Boone County primarily in the first three decades of the century, the foursquare is literally four rooms over four rooms, and frequently features a hipped roof and a side front entrance. Porches often extend across the front with Craftsman or Colonial Revival (see Architectural Styles) detailing. A large collection of foursquare houses can be found on Main Street in Walton, with a good representative example seen in the c. 1913 Robert Jones House on South Main Street.

Easily the most popular house plan of the 1920s and 1930s in Boone County was the bungalow. This house type, with many variations, can be found in large numbers in Florence and Walton, with good examples in Burlington and Hebron, and individually represented throughout the county. The Bungalow/Craftsman form is important in Boone County as a local illustration of a national style produced in great numbers in most American cities and towns, and also as a symbol of rapid changes in the building industry in the years of its period of significance, 1905-1930. The term bungalow comes from India and the American version of the building form was initially seen in California, where the Arts and Craft movement was particularly popular. It generally features a low house, with a wide overhanging roof, often with exposed rafters and braces, and a deep porch with solid square posts. There are frequently dormer windows in the front slope of the roof, and prominent porches offer an important transition area between interior and outside space. Bungalow windows were often paired and have a divided glass top sash over a solid glass bottom sash. Many of Boone County's examples are "semi-bungalows" with side gabled

roofs and a center entrance flanked by windows. This popular sub-type can be seen in the c. 1925 Jack Johnson House on South Main Street in Walton, and the former Dam 38 site in McVille features a collection of semi-bungalows. Other bungalow sub-types include the box bungalow, a smaller, more compact version of the plan, and the front gabled bungalow, identified by its roofline, as seen in the 1929 Surface House on Lloyd Avenue in Florence.

In the early twentieth century, many bungalow plans, as well as foursquares, were offered in prefabricated form by mail order from Sears and Roebuck and other housing materials manufacturers. Some Boone County homes may well be Sears houses, although none have been definitely identified. Books of house plans were widely distributed during this period, and even popular women's magazines featured ideas for floor plans, modern kitchens, and easy to care for interior furnishings.

Stylistic Influences

As has been noted, basic building plans or types were often individualized by certain features such as overall proportions, symmetry, roof style, pitch and detailing, window and door shapes and designs, decorative surface elements and porches. Few Boone County buildings are formal examples of a particular architectural style, but instead builders and homeowners chose features and details they remembered from a former home, admired in a pattern book, or saw used on someone else's home. These stylistic influences were then applied to basic, and often locally traditional, building plans.

The Federal style was the first architectural expression to gain popularity in Boone County. Seen primarily in houses from the earliest years of county settlement, Federal details include fanlights over entrance doorways, six, nine, or twelve pane double hung sash windows, jack arches (on brick examples) and delicately proportioned door and window surrounds. Familiar Federal style examples in Boone County include the c. 1814 Abner Gaines in Walton and the c. 1822 Tousey House in Burlington.

The Greek Revival style, the single most prevalent architectural trend in Boone County, is found in more stylistic houses of the 1840s and 1850s and in simple vernacular farmhouses of the 1870s. It is the style most closely linked with the height of the county's agricultural economy, which occurred between 1840 and 1880. This closely mirrors the style's national popularity, when it was the dominant domestic architectural pattern. Distinguishing features of the Greek Revival style include symmetrical design, entrance doors with rectangular transoms and narrow sidelights, six over six pane sash windows, and simple columned porches (many more formal examples had elaborate one and two story porches with towering columns.) Commonly seen Boone County I-houses often had Greek Revival detailing, evident in the c. 1842 Vest House outside Verona. Although most county examples were two story versions, an excellent version of Greek Revival style on a modest scale can be found in the c. 1850 Mrs. Miller House in East Bend Bottoms.

A number of houses in Boone County illustrate the transition from Federal influenced styles to Greek Revival style which was slower to arrive in rural areas than it was in large urban centers. Boone County's historic house museum, the 1842 Dinsmore Homestead near Belleview, is a good example of transitional Federal/Greek Revival architecture.

The Gothic Revival style, most commonly seen close to the river, had a definite impact on buildings in mid-nineteenth century Boone County. Its decorative detailing, with pointed, narrow windows, steep roofs, and fretwork cornice and porch trim, may have been an easy-to-accomplish alternative to the more formal and plain Greek Revival style during the period of c.1860-1880.

The Italianate style was a viable stylistic alternative in nineteenth century Boone County, although it was less important numerically than the Greek Revival. Elements of the style include a vertical building emphasis, tall narrow windows, bracketed cornices, and ornamental porch and entrance details. These features appear in commercial buildings, churches, and simple houses in both urban and rural areas, including four good examples in the Petersburg area. The most familiar of those is the Jenkins House that sits high on a ridge above the town. Its simple cross gable form originally constructed in 1861 was embellished after the Civil War with a variety of decorative details, including a tower. The most common feature of the Italianate style, eave brackets, are found on historic Boone County buildings throughout the county and are good examples of the use of stylistic details to dress up an otherwise conservative farmhouse.

The Decorated Cottage style was a locally significant architectural trend in Boone County. A number of historic county buildings display the same recurring decorative elements and serve as a demonstration of local builders working with well known design features to create small-scale housing of a locally distinctive nature. The Jonas Clore House in Belleview was constructed in 1878 by local builder James M. McIntire who used similar design elements in other Boone County buildings attributed to him. This Jonas Clore House (there is another earlier one on East Bend Road) is also the county's only documented example of a double cell house that is two rooms deep. The period of importance for this style in Boone County is the 1850s through the 1880s.

Folk Victorian architecture continued this decorative trend, and resulted from the application of milled, stock wooden ornament to common house types. The significance of Folk Victorian architecture to Boone County is its demonstration of the fondness of the county's residents for picturesque architectural detail in their everyday lives. They were responding to a national trend in residential design whose period of influence ran from c. 1875 to c. 1900.

The Queen Anne style was important to Boone County in the period 1880-1915 as a local illustration of a popular national architectural style. Originating in England, the Queen Anne style freely mixed classical and medieval sources, using a variety of textures and materials. Although Boone County examples of this style are limited, and are conservative

in their design, and detailing, they are among the most commonly recognized architectural styles. Two fine examples are the 1894 John E. Walton House on Burlington Pike and the 1893 Alilie Corn House on Graves Road.

The Georgian or Colonial Revival style became nationally popular following the Centennial Exposition of 1876 when interest in early American architecture was revived. The Colonial Revival style is characterized by simple rectangular building forms, balanced plans, and gabled or hipped roofs, often with dormers. Although the style was numerically less important to Boone County than the Craftsman/Bungalow style, Colonial Revival elements appear over a much longer period, from 1900 to 1945. The Boone County offerings in this style range from simple Cape Cods to imposing two story versions. The 1930s Sperti Farm near Burlington features a collection of Colonial Revival buildings, all constructed from materials found on the property. The 1941 Ellis House on Burlington Pike illustrates the popular custom of imitating the look of Mt. Vernon. Older homes, such as the log c. 1820 Simeon Tanner House in Florence were remodeled or enlarged during this period using a Colonial Revival theme.

The Tudor Revival style was significant to Boone County beginning in 1910, and, although most of the few local examples were constructed between 1915 and 1930, elements of the style continued to be used through the 1930s. Based loosely on a collection of English styles, Tudor Revival architecture features steeply pitched roofs, massive chimneys, narrow and grouped or paired windows, and half-timbered stucco or rock-faced stone trim. One of the few high style architectural examples in Boone County is the Tudor Revival Wallace House on Main Street in Walton, designed in 1930 by Covington architect Chester Disque.

Burlington National Register Historic District

The social and visual center of Burlington is the intersection of the two main streets, Washington and Jefferson, and includes the principal commercial, retail and governmental structures. In consideration of Burlington's small size (approximate pop. 350), architectural styles span a rather wide range. Several early vernacular 19th century houses remain, although artificial siding and layers of alterations conceal much of the original fabric. One log building (5878 N. Jefferson c.1860), and one brick building (5825 N. Jefferson, National Register, c.1830) have recently been restored to their original appearances. North of the courthouse are three sizable Federal style residences, with later Greek Revival influences, that date from 1820-35 and share certain similarities. The Greek Revival is well represented in public buildings by the former county clerk's office and in residential architecture by a small house on North Jefferson Street. Late nineteenth century architectural influences can be seen in residential and commercial structures throughout the Historic District.

The 1889 Boone County Courthouse, designed by the McDonald Brothers of Louisville, is the third courthouse on this site. This architectural firm was responsible for numerous such

structures in the southeastern United States. However, the Renaissance-inspired Burlington building is somewhat unique among most late 19th century courthouses, especially those of McDonald Brothers, which were typically Romanesque or eclectic in design. The original courthouse in Burlington was a c. 1800 log structure, which was replaced in 1817 by a two story brick building that faced Jefferson Street.

Agricultural Landscapes

Agriculture was the mainstay of Boone County's economy from the time of settlement through the mid-twentieth century, and remains an important component today. Perhaps more than any other type of historic buildings found in the county, agricultural buildings symbolize the heritage of Boone County. With the development boom of the late twentieth century the preservation of these distinctive collections of utilitarian buildings becomes increasingly difficult. Boone County's historic inventory is one means of documenting agricultural landscapes so that future generations can appreciate this important part of the county's history.

Small farmsteads typically consisted of a multipurpose stock barn, a corn crib, a smokehouse, a few sheds and perhaps a root cellar. Medium to large farmsteads typically consisted of a second or possibly third stock barn, often designed for particular animals, such as hogs, horses, or milk cows, a tobacco barn, and a second corn crib. Also evident are a variety of outbuildings for specialized uses, including icehouses, slave or tenant quarters, meal houses or granaries, chicken houses, and carriage houses or machinery barns. Because some of these outbuilding types have long been outmoded, and their maintenance difficult to justify, it may be assumed that they were once more common than their current numbers indicate.

The most common form and materials for Boone County agricultural outbuildings were rectangular gabled structures of wood frame construction with vertical-board siding and fieldstone foundations. Smaller outbuildings within the domestic space of the house might also be square, of stone or brick masonry, and they might also be hip-roofed. Bank barns are uncommon, level land being the preferred sitting in the county. The most common spatial arrangement of outbuildings was an open oval shape, with the smaller, more domestic outbuildings, such as privies, smokehouses, and chicken houses clustered near the house.

Several different types of barns are seen throughout the county. A few examples of early log barns still exist with a unique c. 1810 double-crib version found on the Glore Farm near Big Bone. Most commonly seen are English barns featuring a center drive flanked by stabling areas, and an open hay loft on the second level of each side. One of the best preserved English barns in the county is the c. 1840 B.F. Rogers Barn near Belleview. This barn has always been maintained by the Rogers family and continues in active use today. Also occasionally seen in Boone County are bank barns, built into a slope or on a side hill with entrances at both levels.

Perhaps most familiar are the tobacco barns of Boone County. These simple rectangular structures have tall narrow hinged panels in the side walls for ventilation while drying tobacco. Tobacco barns are often of timber frame construction and may also have an attached stripping shed.

Churches

The importance of religion in Boone County is evident in the number of churches founded in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Many historic church buildings survive and continue in active use, ranging from the c. 1819 Bullittsburg Baptist Church to the 1922 Walton Methodist Church. Many of the early to mid-nineteenth century churches featured a simple gable front rectangular frame or brick building with one or two front doors. This adaptable plan can be seen in the East Bend Baptist Church and the East Bend Methodist Church. In the late nineteenth century, restrained Victorian details were added to simply constructed houses of worship. The 1888 Big Bone Methodist Church features an unusual two level interior design with arched windows and a decorative entrance. In the early twentieth century, church designs became more sophisticated as is apparent in the 1903 Belleview Baptist Church and the 1917 Hopeful Lutheran Church. Finally, historic church buildings have also been adaptively reused in Boone County such as the Forks of Gunpowder Baptist Church in use as a barn, and the former Burlington Methodist Church, now home to Burlington Antiques.

Schools

Like other rural communities, Boone County had a widespread system of community one and two room schoolhouses. Most early public schools were a simple design with a centered front door and tall windows on each side for light. Possibly the best preserved of these early schools is the c. 1890 Burlington School, now a home. Other surviving small school buildings also adapted for residential use are the brick Bullittsville School and the Limaburg School. In the early twentieth century, new school buildings housing grades one through twelve were constructed throughout the county. The most well preserved is the 1910 Petersburg School, now owned by the County and used as a community center. The 1903 Walton School has been reused as apartments and the 1909 Belleview School is a business. In the 1930s, several larger consolidated schools were built in key geographic locations. Three of these, Burlington Elementary, Florence Elementary and New Haven Elementary, are still in use. Both Burlington and Florence feature well preserved Art Moderne exterior detailing and symmetrical rectangular horizontal designs.

Commercial Buildings

A number of pre-1870 commercial structures such as inns, toll houses, and store buildings, have been identified throughout the county. Two former inns, the Loder House and the Schramm Tavern, are located in Petersburg, where they could take advantage of the Ohio

River trade, one on the road between Cincinnati and Lexington, the principal overland transportation corridor in Northern Kentucky, and one in the county seat of Burlington. These inns are the remnants of an important early commercial activity in the county. The surviving toll houses serve as reminders of the intricate turnpike system that existed on all major roads in nineteenth (and into the twentieth) century Boone County. Early retail store buildings in the county vary from an urban example in Petersburg, originally retail on the first with a second floor added for meeting space, to the Rabbit Hash General Store, an all-purpose facility, to the former Grange store on East Bend Road. Post-1870 commercial buildings in Boone County are represented by examples such as the Hebron Deposit Bank in Hebron, and the Renaker Garage in Verona.

Between 1870 and 1930, the larger towns in the county, especially Petersburg, Burlington, Florence, and Walton, matured and became more urbanized. In all these communities, notable examples that combined commercial activities on the first floor with social, entertainment or fraternal functions on the upper floor have been identified. This commercial type is represented by two structures in Petersburg, a store-public hall and a store-fraternal meeting hall. In structures of this type, local business activity took on civic roles found in single-function halls and theaters in urban areas elsewhere. A similar mixed-function building in the town of Florence is an 1870s hotel that also served as a store and a post office, again combining commercial and community roles.

Industrial Buildings

Few structures have been identified with definitive links to local industry, a testament to the dominance by agriculture of the county's economy, as well as the short life span of 19th century small-scale industrial architecture. In Petersburg, there are three structures associated with the distilling industry, an enterprise important to Boone County in the period of its operation, c.1820 to 1916. They include the cooperage (site of barrel-making activities), and the superintendent's house and guest house for the Boone County Distillery. The third surviving building, also built as part of the same distillery, has lost integrity and the main buildings of the distilling operation, the warehouses, are in ruins.

Along Gunpowder Creek, in the central park of the county, are the ruins of a grist mill, saw mill, and blacksmith shop complex. Although the structures associated with this site have largely disappeared, the foundations, mill stone and portions of equipment, as well as patterns in the land such as the mill races, and dam site, remain. This type of activity is closely linked to the agricultural economy of nineteenth century Boone County. The remaining remnants of other former mill complexes are yet to be documented but are present on major watersheds throughout the county.

Just as Boone County's major transportation corridors did not guarantee commercial growth, so the Ohio River and the Dry Ridge Divide did not ensure a substantial body of high style architecture for Boone County. Despite its location on main routes of architectural communication, Boone County was minimally affected by changes in stylistic

tastes and by the flow of builders, artisans and architects into the Ohio River Valley and the Bluegrass region of Kentucky. With a few notable exceptions, the builders and architects are unknown. Many of the structures with stylistic features are found along Highway 42 (Old Louisville Road), in the Burlington county seat, and along the Ohio River.

Landscape Features

Other significant features of the historic Boone County landscape include rock fences, plank fences, and cemeteries. Drylaid stone fences can still be seen in various locations throughout the county but appear to be most plentiful in the Verona area. Local tradition suggests that the Irish immigrants who settled in the southern part of the county may have constructed these fences. Once commonly seen, wooden plank fencing was used on farms throughout the county for enclosing pastures. Original plank fencing is now somewhat rare in the county. An important feature of the nineteenth century Boone County landscape were family cemeteries. Many farms included a burying ground for loved ones, and today these small graveyards are part of subdivisions, commercial developments, golf courses and farm fields.

Conclusion

The historic architecture of Boone County is important not only for individually significant properties, but for its collection of unique resources and landscape that create a historic context and represent the tangible heritage of two hundred years of hard work, commitment and prosperity. If only a limited number of the “best” historic buildings are preserved and protected, the community will lose its overall character and identity. Historic buildings can and should continue to be adapted to modern needs and uses, while retaining their historic character and the plans, details and features that represent the evolution of a community and a culture. Combined with new development, the active reuse of historic buildings throughout Boone County provides a unique visual quality and a defining diversity that sets this community apart from surrounding areas. The established presence of agricultural and small community landscapes represent the heritage of the past and the spirit of the future. Boone County and Boone Countians have an opportunity to continue the pioneering efforts of their ancestors by supporting a vision for the twenty-first century and beyond that preserves renewable historic community resources.

Legal Basis for Historic Preservation

The Kentucky Revised Statutes, Chapter 100.187 refers to historic preservation as an additional element in a comprehensive plan. The Historic Preservation Element of the 1995 *Boone County Comprehensive Plan* suggests the completion of a Preservation Plan in order to implement a successful preservation program based upon a comprehensive architectural survey. In addition, the Preservation Plan assists in achieving the overall goal of the *Boone County Comprehensive Plan*, which is to assure that "proper future growth management for Boone County is implemented." Also, the Comprehensive Plan's Goals and Objectives support the promotion of overall quality of life through growth management, proper design and a balance between development and preservation in Boone County. The legal basis of the *Boone County Preservation Plan* consists of a specific recommendation to create such a plan in the Historic Preservation Element of the 1995 *Boone County Comprehensive Plan*. Over a period of time, the Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board will work with the four legislative units and other organizations to implement this recommendation.

The Historic Preservation Element of the 1995 *Boone County Comprehensive Plan* generally describes the history of Boone County and then outlines a series of preservation strategies to create a balance between new development and preservation. This Element has been in place in the Comprehensive Plan since 1990. These strategies include the completion of a survey or inventory of historic buildings, the preparation of a Preservation Plan, the development of heritage tourism in Boone County, the creation of a Local Landmarks Program, the publication of the *Boone County Cemetery Preservation Plan* and various incentive programs such as investment tax credits, easements and low-interest loans. The Planning Commission, along with the four legislative units, adopted the 1995 *Boone County Comprehensive Plan*.

In addition to the legal basis of historic preservation on a local level, there is a federal and state role. There are three major laws which protect historic resources from federal government action. First, the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and subsequent amendments (1980 & 1992) established a national preservation program and a system of procedural protections, which encourages both the identification and protection of historic resources at the federal level and indirectly at the state and local levels. This includes the expansion and maintenance of the National Register of Historic Places, the establishment of a protective review process to study the effect of development on listed or eligible properties, and to assume responsibility of such properties. Second, the National Environmental Policy Act examines federal agency actions on cultural resources, including property listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Third, Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act prohibits the use and negative impact of any National Register site, public park, recreation area, or wildlife refuge unless there is no feasible and prudent alternative.

On the state level, state agencies through their state historic preservation officers, participate in the Section 106 review process by helping federal agencies identify historic resources and develop alternatives to mitigate adverse effects. The Kentucky Heritage Council plays this role in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. States generally address private actions affecting historic resources primarily through enabling laws, which serve as the police power authority given from the state to local government. Typically, this is done through a local city or county historic preservation ordinance or through zoning.

In Boone County, a county-wide historic preservation program was created in 1986 with the adoption of a Historic Landmark/Historic District Overlay District (H) in the *Boone County Zoning Regulations*. The Zoning Regulations are designed to implement the Elements of the *Boone County Comprehensive Plan* and any corridor land use study. Under K.R.S. 100.203, cities and counties may enact zoning regulations which contain districts of special interest to the proper development of the community, which include historical districts and conservation districts. In addition, a Certified Local Government (CLG) status was attained through the Kentucky Heritage Council by the Boone County Fiscal Court based on federal and state historic preservation laws. The (H) district is identified as Article 21 in the *Boone County Zoning Regulations* and the purpose of it is to encourage the protection and preservation of certain areas and neighborhoods or individual properties designated as having substantial prehistoric and/or historic significance and/or architectural integrity. This zoning district has been in place since 1986 and subsequent adoptions of Zoning Updates. The Article creates a specific overlay zoning district for historic resources and a local historic preservation review board to oversee the county historic preservation program. These Board duties include the following:

- 1) Serve a liaison on behalf of local government to individuals and organizations concerned with historic preservation.
- 2) Assist in conducting a survey of historic buildings and areas and preparing a plan for their preservation.
- 3) Recommend the designation of historic districts and individual landmarks.
- 4) Regulate changes to designated property, including proposed alterations and new construction.
- 5) Adopt guidelines for changes to designate property.
- 6) Work with and advise federal, state and local officials in historic preservation issues, including any federally funded projects under the 106 review process.

- 7) Advise property owners who are interested in historic preservation and initiate plans to pursue it.
- 8) Undertake educational programs about historic preservation.
- 9) Nominate structures and sites to the National Register of Historic Places.
- 10) Recommend the establishment of local Historic Landmark and District Overlays.
- 11) Review Certificates of Appropriateness for building alteration or new construction in local historic districts or on local historic landmarks.

Other references to historic preservation include regulations relative to limiting development surrounding an existing cemetery and taking measures to preserve it. These regulations appear as Article 31 in the *Boone County Zoning Regulations* and in Article 3 in the *Boone County Subdivision Regulations*.

COORDINATION WITH ZONING, LAND USE, GROWTH MANAGEMENT

Communities such as Warren County, Kentucky have recently initiated a county-wide preservation plan. This plan is one of many elements in the Warren County Comprehensive Plan prepared by the Bowling Green Historic Preservation Board and the Warren County Planning Commission. This plan consists of a historic resources survey, a summary of past preservation efforts, coordinating preservation with zoning, land use and growth management, defining public sector responsibilities, incentives for historic preservation, and education program and implementation plan.

Nationally, the American Planning Association has been promoting the principles of Smart Development or Smart Growth. The principles include the efficient use of land resources, full use of urban services, mixture of uses, transportation options, detailed human-scale design and proper implementation. The preservation of historic and prehistoric resources falls under the principles of the "efficient use of land resources" and the "full use of urban services."

As stated, previously, the goals of the *Boone County Preservation Plan* consist of the following:

- 1) Promote historic and prehistoric resources as a viable part of the county's lively past and vibrant future.

- 2) Identify historic and prehistoric resources as valuable assets to the county and to its citizens.
- 3) Protect historic and prehistoric resources from physical threats, which endanger their preservation.
- 4) Preserve historic and prehistoric resources through a variety of economic and other programs.

In evaluating the above goals with the existing zoning regulations and comprehensive plan, there are some strengths and weaknesses. The strengths include a specific article in the Zoning Regulations dealing with historic preservation as well as a brief reference to historic preservation in utilizing the Future Land Use Development Guidelines. The duties of the Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board are identified in this Article and they match the goals of the Preservation Plan. The Land Use text is divided into sections based upon geographical area. Reference to historic preservation is noted based on the resources located in each geographical area. The text usually emphasizes the need to preserve the existing resources. The Future Land Use Map, a 25 year projection, concentrates future development on the eastern side of the county. The western portion of Boone County contains the highest concentration of historic and prehistoric resources. It is also an area where steep topography exists and a lack of utilities. The weaknesses include a lack of reference to identifying historic resources in the Amendment (Article 3) section of the *Boone County Zoning Regulations* in order to plan for new development through the zone change process. Another weakness includes a lack of a published (map) inventory of historic resources in the Comprehensive Plan, which could identify assets on a specific site for a property owner. This could be achieved using Boone County GIS.

A series of recommendations is being proposed to the 2001 Update of the *Boone County Zoning Regulations* and the 2000 Update of the *Boone County Comprehensive Plan* as it relates to historic preservation. These recommendations appear below:

- 1) The duties of the Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board, the staff and the relationship of the Board with the legislative units should be clearly defined in Article 21.
- 2) A text amendment should be considered in Article 3 and in Article 30 requiring an applicant to identify National Register historic resources on a site in order to plan for future development.
- 3) The architectural survey or inventory mentioned in Article 21 should be defined in terms of its intended use.
- 4) Reference should be made in Article 21 and other pertinent articles of GIS mapped National Register historic resources.

These maps should be included in the 2000 Comprehensive Plan Update.

- 5) Consideration should be given to provide an incentive through zoning to retain historic and prehistoric resources. This could mean more flexible zoning requirements (e.g. building setbacks and density, landscaping, paved surfaces, etc.) as a trade-off.
- 6) Article 21 should be amended to reflect the relationship or written agreement between the Boone County Fiscal Court, the Boone County Historic Preservation Review Board and the Boone County Planning Commission. In addition, such agreement should address the relationship between the Board and the Cities of Florence, Union and Walton.
- 7) The Historic Preservation Element of the 1995 *Boone County Comprehensive Plan* should be amended in the 2000 Update to reflect the recommendations of the *Boone County Preservation Plan*.

In reviewing the text for each section of the Future Land Use of the 1995 *Boone County Comprehensive Plan*, there isn't a stated preservation goal for each geographical area. Consequently, it is difficult to determine whether the land use recommendations for each section of the county is consistent with the preservation goals for that area. The Land Use Element describes the significant natural and historic features of each geographical area and simply stress the importance of retaining these areas. Consideration should be given to promote the preservation of National Register sites by integrating them with new development based upon certain criteria, relocating them or by removing them and salvaging materials. This could be done by highlighting them in the Land Use Element.