

PH0005495

STATE: <b>Kentucky</b>
COUNTY: <b>Mason</b>
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE <b>AUG 30 1974</b>

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**"Old Library Building"**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**Maysville & Mason Co. Library, Historic & Scientific Assn. Bldg.**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**221 Sutton Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Maysville**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
**07**

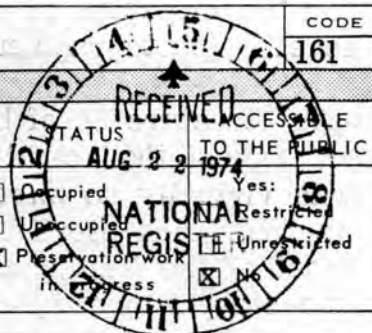
STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **41056** COUNTY: **Mason** CODE: **161**

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	<b>Vacant-Being</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<b>Restored</b>	



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Maysville Library Association**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**c/o Louis Browning, Edgemont Road**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Maysville**

STATE:  
**Kentucky**

CODE:  
**021**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Mason County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Third Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Maysville**

STATE:  
**Kentucky**

CODE:  
**021**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1971**  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**Kentucky Heritage Commission**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**401 Wapping Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Frankfort**

STATE:  
**Kentucky**

CODE:  
**021**

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRY NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

FOR NPS USE ONLY

AUG 30 1974

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The library is a long narrow structure set perpendicular to the street. The original front on the street, as shown in an old photograph, was absolutely plain, with a bare brick wall interrupted only by two small wooden porches. (photograph number 5) The appearance must have been as if unfinished and awaiting a facade or additional block across the front. (photograph number 6) In 1973, a new wing consisting of three bays was added onto the front of the original structure. The new facade consists of three bays that match those of the original side elevation exactly except for the insertion of plain double doors into the end bays at ground level. (photograph number 4)

The structure is of brick used in a characteristic and effective way to suggest the actual structural system. Except on the front, there was virtually no bare solid wall surface. Instead, there are tall narrow brick piers between which the actual wall is recessed. But most of the wall consists of the apparent frames of the tall, narrow two-story windows, which seem to occupy most of the surface. These deepset windows have round arches at the top with prominent stone keystones. Circular windows, framed in wood, are inserted within the arch. Above the keystones and within the vertical panels are corbelled brick features with narrow slits between, suggesting machicolation. There has apparently never been an ornamental cornice. The overall effect of the design is of emphatic rhythm and severe functionalism in Victorian terms. The scale of the two-story windows is distinctly non-residential and their form suggests a variant of the mid-19th-century Italianate style often applied to semi-public buildings such as fire stations, banks, Masonic meeting halls, and, as in this case, libraries. (photograph number 4)

The interior, soon to be used as a museum, is striking. It originally consisted of a single long hall with gallery above. The gallery is reached by a dramatic staircase at the far end that splits above a central landing to lead up to the gallery on either side. The gallery is supported by wide-spaced turned columns; above them are strongly modelled newel posts topped by graspable knobs punctuating a severely stylized balustrade. (photograph number 3)

The relatively light gallery seems barely to interrupt the vertical thrust of the side windows, which provide brilliant lighting for the entire space. (photograph number 2)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



(continued)

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE <b>Kentucky</b>	
COUNTY <b>Mason</b>	
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(Number all entries)

Maysville & Mason Co. Library, Historic & Scientific  
Association Building

7. Description (continued)

Page Two

The addition on the front contains a reduced version of the main gallery to be used as a small art gallery. The balustrade and other details of the interior have been carefully matched. The whole recent adaptation of the structure is both ingenious and rigorously authentic in detail, and seems not only to preserve the integrity of the design, but also perhaps to realize the original architectural concept. (photograph number 1)



*How is this supported?*

**6. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **circa 1880**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  |  |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Mason County was formed in 1788. It was one of the nine counties in existence when Kentucky obtained its statehood in 1792. Being located on the Ohio River, Maysville was commercially important. It was the commercial port of entry for the Bluegrass region of Central Kentucky. Wealthy merchants and businessmen played a large part in the development of Maysville culture. By their philanthropy, these people added to Maysville's cultural enrichment. A case in point is the Maysville and Mason County Library, Historic and Scientific Association.

These people felt the need for a library from the early 1840's until the establishment of the present library in 1878. A library was seen as a needed educational asset to the community.

Since Mason County was established in 1788, four libraries were chartered by the State Legislature. The Maysville Lyceum was chartered in 1839, the Maysville Athenaeum in 1840, and the Maysville Library at an unknown date: it appears, however, not to have existed after 1859. The Maysville and Mason County Library, Historic and Scientific Association initiated the fourth library that was chartered in 1878.

The Old Library Building was built between 1878 and 1880 on land deeded to Dr. A. K. Marshall, William H. Cox, Dr. Thomas E. Pickett, R. A. Cochran, and J. G. Hickman from James Wormald on February 19, 1878. All these men were leading citizens in Maysville. They were involved, not only in the incorporation of the library, but also in the incorporation of other civic and business organizations. All were active in the commercial and civic life of the city. Dr. Thomas E. Pickett served as city physician, was chairman of the Municipal Board of Health, and served on the State Board of Medical Examiners. A. K. Marshall was also a physician. R. A. Cochran and J. G. Hickman were attorneys. William H. Cox was an owner of a dry goods and notion store.

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Clark, Wadsworth. "Historical Account." Mr. Clark was a former library trustee. The account is presently owned by the Maysville and Mason County Library, Historic and Scientific Association.

Clift, G. Glenn. History of Maysville and Mason County. Volume I. Lexington, Ky.: Transylvania Printing Co., 1936. p. 248.

(continued)

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		38° 38' 55"	83° 46' 03"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than an acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Mrs. C. C. Calvert, Jr., V. P. Board of Trustees, Library Assoc.**

ORGANIZATION: **Library Association** DATE: **July 31, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Hillcrest**

CITY OR TOWN: **Maysville** STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **021**

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: Eldred W. Melton

Title: State Liaison Officer

Date: 8-16-74

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

A. R. [Signature]  
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 8/30/74

ATTEST:

[Signature]  
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 8-29-74

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Kentucky	
COUNTY	Mason	
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(Number all entries)

Maysville & Mason Co. Library, Historic & Scientific  
Association Building

8. Significance (continued)

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At one time, early in its history, the library had approximately 2500 volumes. William Hixson, the first librarian, used the library not only for books, but also for natural history displays. He was an editor and reporter for a local newspaper and a teacher at the local academy operated by Jacob W. Rand and William Richeson. His stuffed animals and other natural history articles were displayed among the books. He was a great collector of Indian artifacts, many of which were also displayed in the library. His interest in the pioneer era led him to the authorship of a "History of Maysville and Mason County." Unfortunately this work was never published and the manuscript was eventually destroyed.

The early citizens of Maysville understood the need for well-planned architectural style. This is evident by the architectural grace of the Old Library Building. The architecture of this building is distinctive because of its galleried form. It is characteristic of the post-Civil War two-story commercial building. The vertical window units have a vaguely Italianate form. This type of utilitarian facade is typical of many structures in this area, but this building has a style and grace which distinguishes it from others.

The front has now been extended and three bays added for adaptive use as a museum, genealogical library, and art gallery.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Kentucky	
COUNTY	Mason	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		AUG 20 1974

(Number all entries) Maysville & Mason Co. Library, Historic & Scientific Association Building

9. Major Bibliographical References (Continued) Page Two

McMullen, Haynes. "Special Libraries in Ante-Bellum Kentucky." Register of the Kentucky Historical Society. Volume 58. Frankfort, Kentucky: Kentucky Historical Society, 1960. p. 123.

The Biographical Encyclopedia of Kentucky. Cincinnati, Ohio: J. M. Armstrong & Co., 1878.

Sheppard's Maysville Directory 1874. Volume I. Cincinnati, Ohio: J. S. Sheppard, 1874.



PROPERTY "Old Library Building" STATE Ky.

74000895

WORKING NUMBER 8.22.74.1337

TECH REVIEW

PHOTOS 6

MAPS 1

Mason

CONTROL REVIEW

89.

8.23.

74

HISTORIAN

good addition - name is not great. but

OK

Accept  
w.r. lue  
8/26/74

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Accept  
H.W. and  
8/26/74

ARCHEOLOGIST

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept  
Cole  
8/27/74

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

accept  
Hunt for  
Murtosh  
8.29.74

National Register Write-up Oct 23 1974

Send-back \_\_\_\_\_

Federal Register entry Oct. 1, 1974

Re-submit \_\_\_\_\_

Entered AUG 30 1974





by McKay  
MAYSVILLE, KY.



by McKay  
MAYSVILLE, KY.

#13



*by McKay*  
MAYSVILLE, KY.



by McKay  
MAYSVILLE, KY.







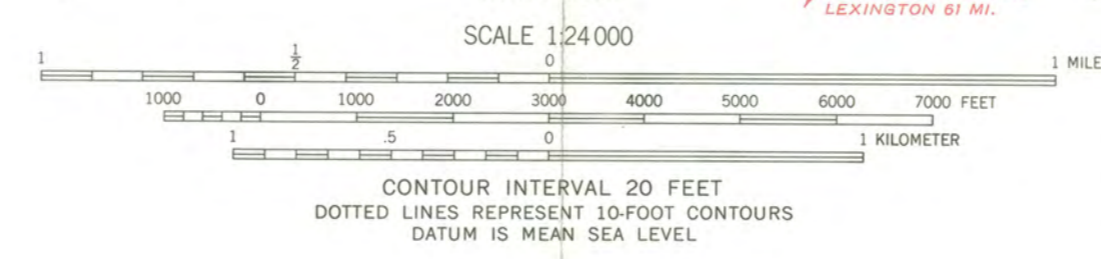
PUBLIC LIBRARY





Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey in cooperation with State of Kentucky Geological Survey and State of Ohio agencies  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE  
Topography in Kentucky by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1950. Field checked 1952. Revised 1961  
Topography in Ohio by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1960. Field checked 1961  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum. 10,000-foot grids based on Kentucky coordinate system, north zone, and Ohio coordinate system, south zone. 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 17, shown in blue  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked  
The state boundary as shown represents the approximate position of the old waterline as determined from U. S. Corps of Engineers Ohio River charts, surveyed 1913, and supplementary information  
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown  
Ohio area lies within the Virginia Military District

TRUE NORTH  
MAGNETIC NORTH  
APPROXIMATE MEAN DECLINATION, 1961



SCALE 1:24,000  
CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET  
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 10-FOOT CONTOURS  
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL  
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.,  
KENTUCKY GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY,  
AND KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Medium-duty ——— Light-duty ———  
Ready-duty ——— Unimproved dirt - - - - -  
U. S. Route      State Route

MAYSVILLE WEST, KY.-OHIO  
NE 1/4 MAYSVILLE 15' QUADRANGLE  
N 3837.5-W 8345/7.5

1961

UTM  
17 259 190  
4281 170  
CD  
RECEIVED  
AUG 22 1974  
NATIONAL REGISTER

OLD LIBRARY BUILDING  
LAT. 38° 38' 55"  
LONG. 83° 46' 03"

Old Library Building  
Latitude 38° 38' 55"  
Longitude 83° 46' 03"





# *Kentucky Heritage Commission*

401 Wapping Street

Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

August 19, 1974

Dr. William J. Murtagh, Keeper  
National Register of Historic Places  
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
18th and C Streets, N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20240



Dear Doctor Murtagh:

Enclosed is the National Register Nomination Form for the Maysville & Mason County Library, Historic and Scientific Association Building, 221 Sutton Street, Maysville, Mason County, Kentucky. This nomination was approved by the Kentucky Historic Preservation Review Board on March 6, 1973. As State Historic Preservation Officer, I recommend it be entered on the National Register of Historic Places.

The recent restoration of the Old Library Building was a result of much effort on the part of local citizens. It is nearing completion and hopes to open by November 15. Placement on the National Register by this date would be a boost to this opening.

The building will be used as a museum, genealogical library and small art gallery. The genealogical library is of greatest importance because of Mason County's wealth of old records which date to Mason County's formation in 1788.



Dr. William J. Murtagh  
Page Two

Your early consideration of this nomination will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

*Eldred W. Melton*

Mrs. Eldred W. Melton  
State Historic Preservation  
Officer

EWM:KB:bsc

cc: Mrs. C. C. Calvert  
Mrs. Andrew C. Duke  
Mrs. Frank Wise



Enclosures: National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form 10-300  
National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form - Continuation Sheet - 10-300a  
One Continuation Sheet for each:  
7. Description - Page Two  
8. Significance - Page Two  
9. Bibliographical References - Page Two  
National Register Property Map Form 10-301  
National Register Property Photograph Form 10-301 A (#1. View of new second floor addition)  
National Register Property Photograph Form 10-301 A (#2. Second floor gallery)  
National Register Property Photograph Form 10-301 A (#3. Interior view of first floor of original library)  
National Register Property Photograph Form 10-301 A (#4. Eastern and south elevation showing ornate, elongated original windows, etc.)  
National Register Property Photograph Form 10-301 A (#5. Eastern (front) elevation showing colonial porch)  
National Register Property Photograph Form 10-301 A (#6. Original eastern front of building)

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE KENTUCKY

Date Entered AUG 30 1974

Name

Location

Old Library Building

Maysville  
Mason County

Also Notified

Hon. Marlow W. Cook  
Hon. Walter D. Huddleston  
Hon. Carl D. Perkins  
Regional Director, Southeast  
Region

State Historic Preservation Officer  
Mrs. Eldred W. Melton  
Director  
Kentucky Heritage Commission  
401 Wapping St.  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

PR MMott/row 9/3/74