

(Rev. 10-90)

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

**1. Name of Property**

historic name Bristol Commercial Historic District

other names/site number VDHR # 102-5017-0001 - 102-5017-0037 (Virginia) SU-7005 - SU-7049 (Tennessee)

**2. Location**

street & number Along sections of State, Piedmont, Moore, Shelby, Bank, Progress, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th Streets. not for publication N/A

city or town Bristol vicinity N/A

state Tennessee & Virginia code TN & VA county Sullivan (TN)/City of Bristol, Virginia code 163 & 520 zip code 24201

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination      request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets      does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant      nationally      statewide X locally. (     See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property      meets      does not meet the National Register criteria.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I, hereby certify that this property is:

     entered in the National Register \_\_\_\_\_

     determined eligible for the \_\_\_\_\_

National Register  
     See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the \_\_\_\_\_

National Register

\_\_\_\_\_ removed from the National Register \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

Bristol Commercial Historic District (102-5017-0001 - 102-5017/ SU-7005 - SU-7049)

Bristol, Tennessee & Virginia

## 5. Classification

### Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply) Category of Property (Check only one box)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	_____
building(s)	
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
district	
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	_____
structure	
<input type="checkbox"/> object	

### Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count).

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<input type="checkbox"/> 83	<input type="checkbox"/> 23	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	sites
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	structures
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	objects
<input type="checkbox"/> 83	<input type="checkbox"/> 23	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 3

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

N/A

## 6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE/TRADE	<input type="checkbox"/> Business/Professional
<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE/TRADE	<input type="checkbox"/> Financial Institution/Specialty Store
<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE/TRADE	<input type="checkbox"/> Department Store/Restaurant
<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> Post Office
<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturing Facility
<input type="checkbox"/> RECREATION AND CULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE  Business/Professional

COMMERCE/TRADE \_\_\_\_\_ Financial Institution/Specialty Store\_  
 COMMERCE/TRADE \_\_\_\_\_ Department Store/Restaurant \_\_\_\_\_  
 INDUSTRY \_\_\_\_\_ Manufacturing Facility \_\_\_\_\_  
 RECREATION AND CULTURE \_\_\_\_\_ Theater \_\_\_\_\_

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/Commercial Style\_  
 LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Beaux Arts/Colonial Revival \_\_\_\_\_  
 MODERN MOVEMENT/Art Deco/Art Moderne \_\_\_\_\_

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

**foundation** \_\_\_\_\_ BRICK, STONE, CONCRETE \_\_\_\_\_  
**roof** \_\_\_\_\_ ASPHALT, METAL \_\_\_\_\_  
**walls** \_\_\_\_\_ BRICK, CONCRETE \_\_\_\_\_  
**other** \_\_\_\_\_ BRICK, ALUMINUM, TERRA COTTA \_\_\_\_\_

### Narrative Description

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

Bristol Commercial Historic District (102-5017-0001 - 102-5017/ SU-7005 - SU-7049)

Bristol, Tennessee & Virginia

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

#### Areas of Significance

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property

instructions).

(Enter categories from

for National Register listing)

ARCHITECTURE \_\_\_\_\_

COMMERCE \_\_\_\_\_

A

Property is associated with events that have made

ENTERTAINMENT \_\_\_\_\_

a significant contribution to the broad patterns of

INDUSTRY \_\_\_\_\_

our history.

B

Property is associated with the lives of persons

significant in our past.

C

Property embodies the distinctive characteristics

Period of

Significance

of a type, period, or method of construction or

Ca. 1885

- 1952 \_\_\_\_\_

represents the work of a master, or possesses

high artistic values, or represents a significant and

distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

**Significant Dates**

\_\_\_\_ D        N/A    
Property has yielded, or is likely to yield

information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

\_\_\_\_ A        N/A    
owned by a religious institution or used for

religious purposes.

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_ B        N/A    
removed from its original location.

\_\_\_\_ C      \_\_\_\_\_  
a birthplace or a grave.

\_\_\_\_ D      \_\_\_\_\_  
a cemetery.  
  Architect-Clarence B. Kearfott  

**Architect/Builder**

  Architect-James

Knox Taylor \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ E      a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

  Architect-McDonald  
and  
Company  

\_\_\_\_ F      \_\_\_\_\_  
a commemorative property.        Architect-Unknown  

\_\_\_\_ G      less than 50 years of age or achieved significance  
within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

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

\_\_\_\_\_

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

previously listed in the National Register

previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Location of Additional Data

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources/Tennessee Historical Commission

Bristol Commercial Historic District (102-5017-0001 - 102-5017/ SU-7005 - SU-7049)

Bristol, Tennessee & Virginia

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property 23 acres

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Bristol, TN-VA USGS Quad Map

Zone Easting Northing    Zone Easting Northing

A 17 394350 4959395    B 17 394365 4050145

C 17 393945 4050100    D 17 393805 4050305

See continuation sheet.

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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Name/title Philip Thomason

organization Thomason and Associates date February 25, 2002

street & number P.O. Box 121225 telephone (615) 385-4960

city or town\_Nashville\_\_\_\_\_ state\_TN\_\_\_\_\_ zip code\_37212\_\_\_\_\_

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**Additional Documentation**

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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**Property Owner**

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(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name \_See continuation sheet\_\_\_\_\_

street & number\_\_\_\_\_ telephone\_\_\_\_\_

city or town\_\_\_\_\_ state\_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**NPS Form 10-900-a**

**(8-86)**

**No. 1024-0018**

**OMB**

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**1 Commercial Historic District**

**Bristol, Tennessee/Virginia**

**SUMMARY DESCRIPTION**

The Bristol Commercial Historic District is located in the commercial center of the city, which straddles the Tennessee-Virginia border. The main corridor in downtown Bristol is State Street, which also serves as the state line. The Bristol Commercial Historic District includes much of State Street in addition to properties along the adjacent streets of 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, Bank, Progress, and Shelby Streets in Bristol, Tennessee, and Cumberland, Lee, Moore, and Goode Streets, and Piedmont Avenue, in Bristol, Virginia. Bristol had a combined population of 42,188 residents in 2000. The district developed in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and contains primarily two- and three-story masonry commercial buildings constructed from ca. 1890 to the early 1950s. The Bristol Commercial Historic District contains 106 primary buildings, of which 83 or 80% are considered to be contributing to the character of the district. Intrusions are limited in the district and it retains much of its integrity of time and place as a late 19th and early 20th century commercial center.

## **NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION**

### *Prehistory (to 1607)*

No archaeological sites are known to exist within the district. No prehistoric sites were documented as part of this survey.

### *European Settlement to Society (1607-1752)*

The area which was to become Bristol remained unsettled wilderness during this period and no standing or below ground sites from the Settlement Period were documented as part of this survey.

### *Colony to Early National Period (1753-1830)*

The earliest European to settle in Bristol was James King (1752-1825) who immigrated to Virginia from London at age seventeen in 1769. King adopted the colony as his new home and fought in the Revolutionary War. In 1782, he married Sarah Goodson and soon purchased several acres near what is now present day Bristol. King erected a two-story log house on the acreage and named the home site "Holly Bend." King became a prosperous businessman, and his son, James King, Jr., (1791-1867) followed in his father's footsteps and also became a wealthy landowner. Soon after his marriage in 1812, James King, Jr. purchased land containing the present site of Bristol. King and his new wife established a large plantation on the land and chose a prominent hill on which to build their home. During these years, the land now occupied by Bristol remained unsettled and no properties from this period are extant within the district.

### *Antebellum Period (1831-1860)*

The construction of the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad was proposed to extend through the lands of James King, Jr. during the early 1850s. Recognizing the potential for economic development, King's son-in-law, Joseph Rhea Anderson, purchased 100 acres of the King estate in 1852. Anderson subdivided the property into lots and named the town Bristol after a manufacturing city in England. The original town plat included most of the present downtown area. Lots sold quickly and Anderson erected the first building in 1853. Several other homes soon followed and in November of 1853, the Bristol Post Office was established. Bristol soon developed into a thriving community astride the railroad. Many of the earliest buildings constructed in the downtown area were of frame construction and no properties dating to this period survive.

### *Civil War (1861-1865)*

Bristol's growth and development ceased during the Civil War, and it was not until 1866 that extensive construction once again took place. No properties from this era were surveyed.

### *Development in Downtown Bristol (1866-1900)*

In 1870, practically all Bristol residences were located along what is now State Street and adjacent streets. Originally known as Main Street, State Street was the primary commercial and residential thoroughfare which extended in an east/west direction through the central section of the community. The railroad and railroad station were both located just off of State Street, and a series of hotels and commercial buildings were constructed in the 1870s and 1880s in the adjacent blocks. Early hotels included the Virginia House, the Nickels Hotel, and the Thomas House. Along State Street from 4th Street to 7th Street were over three dozen frame commercial buildings. These buildings housed typical businesses of the period such as dry goods stores, drug stores, clothing stores, saloons, and restaurants. The Bank of Bristol was located in the 400 block of State Street, and on 5th Street was the Bristol City Hall and Opera House. To the north and south of State Street were schools, churches, and numerous frame dwellings. From 1890 to 1900, Bristol's economic development increased significantly as new industries moved to the community. The population increased to over 10,000 residents, and many of the frame commercial buildings were replaced by two- and three-story brick buildings. Buildings constructed in this decade are the oldest which remain extant in the downtown area.

Buildings constructed in downtown Bristol from ca. 1890 to the early 1900s were built reflecting common building forms and styles of the period. The earliest buildings remaining from the late 19th century reflect the Italianate style, and have segmental arched windows, hood molding, and sheet metal cornices at the roofline. In addition to their stylistic designs, the buildings constructed during this period can also be described as one-part or two-part commercial blocks.<sup>1</sup> One-part commercial blocks are one-story in height, and were built with traditional storefronts. These storefronts were often supported by cast iron pilasters, and contained large display

windows with transoms. Two-part commercial blocks are at least two-stories in height, and have separate storefronts and upper facades. This pattern of commercial building construction lasted well into the 20th century in downtown Bristol.

In 1888, the Sanborn Insurance Map for Bristol, Tennessee and Goodson, Virginia showed Main (State) Street lined with both dwellings and one- to three-story brick and frame commercial buildings. The majority of these were of frame construction, and would later be replaced by more substantial masonry buildings. These brick and frame commercial buildings were constructed in the 400 to 600 blocks of Main (State Street). In the 700 and 800 blocks, dwellings and boarding houses were predominant until after 1910. During the 1910s and 1920s, these early dwellings were also razed to make way for expansion of the business district.

Only nine buildings in the downtown area appear to have been built prior to 1900. These include the buildings at 503-505 State Street, and 524 State Street which are three-stories in height and display arched windows on the upper floors. These buildings reflect the commercial Italianate style in their overall design and detailing. Although the storefronts of these early buildings have been altered, several of these buildings retain their upper facade detailing and are considered contributing to the character of the district. After 1900, many of the downtown area's 19th century frame and brick buildings were replaced as Bristol experienced a significant construction boom in the early decades of this century.

#### *Downtown Bristol in the Early 20th Century (1900-1930)*

From 1900 to 1920, Bristol's population increased to almost 15,000 residents and the city emerged as the commercial center for southwest Virginia and upper east Tennessee. During the first three decades of the 20th century, most of the existing buildings in the downtown area were constructed and replaced many of the city's 19th century frame commercial buildings and dwellings. The commercial district of the city gradually expanded to the west along the 700 and 800 blocks of State Street and into former residential areas to the north and south. This enormous building boom is reflected in the dozens of one- to four-story masonry buildings shown on the 1922 Sanborn map of the city.

Indicative of the city's growing prosperity was the construction of the three-story First National Bank at 500 State Street, ca. 1905 (**National Register-listed, Photo No. 15**). This building was designed in the Beaux-Arts style with a stone and brick exterior. The building's design features a pedimented entrance, decorative spandrels, stone quoins, and an elaborate cornice. The First National Bank was one of the city's most important financial institutions during the early 20th century. Also reflective of the city's growing prominence was the construction of the U.S. Post Office for Bristol, Tennessee in 1900 (**National Register-listed, Photo No. 16**). Also designed in the Beaux-Arts style, this three-story brick building was built one block south of State Street and served as the city's Tennessee postal facility until the late 20th century. The building features brick quoining, voussoirs, windows with jack arching, and an elaborate cornice at the roofline. The building continues to be an important landmark in the downtown area and is presently undergoing restoration into offices. Another prominent Beaux-Arts style building is the YMCA constructed ca. 1905 at 100 5th Street (**SU-7006, Photo No. 20**). Although modified in recent decades, the building's original design and detailing remains evident. The building housed the city's main YMCA facility for over sixty years.

As a regional shopping center, Bristol became home to numerous prominent department stores of the period. These included the national chain department stores of S.H. Kress, J.C. Penny, F.W. Woolworth, and W.T. Grant. One of the most prominent businesses in the downtown area at the turn of the century was the locally owned, H.P. King Department Store. The company built a three-story, brick commercial building ca. 1905 with Neo-classical detailing at 620-624 State Street (**SU-7043, Photo No. 17**). The building was designed with brick Doric pilasters and Ionic engaged columns on the upper facade and housed one of the city's most prominent department stores for many years. The business later expanded into adjacent buildings during the mid-20th century.

Along with the large department stores, many new buildings were constructed in these years to house dry goods stores, hardware stores, offices and other businesses of the period. These masonry buildings were designed with detailing commonly referred to as "Brick Front" or "Tapestry Brick."<sup>2</sup> These buildings were constructed with traditional storefront designs including single-light glass and wood doors, large display windows, frame or brick bulkheads and multi-light transoms. Upper facade details include rectangular windows with decorative surrounds, recessed brick panels, decorative inset panels of brick, concrete or stone, and cornices of corbelled brick or sheet metal. The majority of the buildings in the downtown area of Bristol reflect this type of commercial building form. Representative Brick Front commercial buildings include those at 16-20 6th Street (**SU-7008**) and 812 5th Street (**SU-7005, Photos No. 18 and 19**). Both of these buildings were constructed in the early 1900s and have rectangular windows, recessed brick panels, and corbelled brick or sheet metal cornices at the roofline. The building at 812 5th Street also has influences of the Colonial Revival style in its brick pilasters which divide the window bays.

With the growing prominence of the automobile in the 1920s, the city's streets were improved and parking garages and automobile

service buildings were constructed. Several of these early parking garages remain downtown, most notably the building at 520-530 Cumberland Street (**102-5017-0003, Photo No. 21**). Built in 1920, this two-story brick building was designed with a parking garage and drive-thru bays on the first floor. The building originally housed a taxi service, service station and automobile repair company. A gas station built ca. 1935 also remains at 827 State Street. Constructed by the Southern Oil Company, this building has been altered in recent decades and no longer retains integrity of its original design.

Bristol's regional prominence in these years was highlighted by the construction of the Reynolds Arcade in 1925 (**102-5017-0001, Photo No. 23**). This seven-story brick building was the largest constructed in the downtown area and was built to house the city's growing professionals such as physicians and attorneys. Designed with the influences of the Colonial Revival style, this building was the city's most prominent office building of the early 20th century. In recent decades, the interior of the building was remodeled but its exterior design remains largely intact.

In addition to commercial buildings, numerous industrial buildings and warehouses were also built in downtown Bristol in these years. One of the largest buildings constructed on State Street was the Bristol Grocery Company building at 833 State Street (**102-5017-0036, Photo No. 22**). This three-story building was completed ca. 1915, and was a large supply house for groceries and dry goods. To the north of this building at 832 Goode Street is the four-story Service Mills Company buildings which was built in 1922 as a flour mill (**102-5017-0004, Photo No. 26**). This milling company was later expanded and additions were made to this building in the 1940s and early 1950s. South of State Street along 7th Street and Shelby Street are several industrial buildings associated with the prominent King family of Bristol. At 30 7th Street is the E.W. King Manufacturing Company building constructed in 1913 (**SU-7018**). This company manufactured overalls and other clothing and later expanded through the construction of an addition adjacent on 7th Street. The company also built the large, four-story manufacturing building at 636 Shelby Street (**SU-7026, Photo No. 24**). Completed ca. 1920, this building is remarkably intact and retains its original windows, entrances and interior floor plan and detailing. Other nearby industrial buildings from this era include the Hecht's Bakery at 700 Shelby Street (SU-727) and the Troy Laundry at 136 7th Street (**SU-7019, Photo No. 25**).

Several architects have been identified who practiced in Bristol in the early 20th century and designed buildings in the downtown area. These known architects include Thomas S. Brown, George W. Burnett, Henri Doriot, and Clarence Kearfott. Thomas S. Brown practiced architecture in Bristol from 1911 to 1915, and designed the Dominion National Bank (razed), the Mahoney Block (replaced in 1945) and Columbia Theater (razed). George W. Burnett established his business in Bristol in 1905 and he designed several buildings in the downtown area, although the exact buildings are unknown. Henri Doriot practiced in Bristol from 1897 to 1927 and most of the buildings he designed have been razed. Bristol's most prominent architect of the early 20th century was Clarence B. Kearfott. Kearfott was born in 1884 and he graduated with a degree in Mechanical Engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute in 1903. After several years of working as a draftsman, Kearfott moved to Bristol in 1907 and opened his own architectural firm.<sup>3</sup> Over the next few decades Kearfott designed hundreds of buildings in Virginia and Tennessee including residences, commercial buildings, churches and school buildings. Within the downtown commercial district, Kearfott designed the Reynolds Arcade, the E.W. King Building at 636 Shelby Street and numerous other buildings. Kearfott continued to practice architecture in Bristol into the 1950s.

#### *Downtown Bristol at Mid-Century (1930-1952)*

With the stock market crash of 1929, commercial and industrial expansion in Bristol slowed considerably during the 1930s. The Paramount Theatre, begun in 1929 and completed in 1930, was designed to be the city's premier movie palace (**National Register-listed, Photo No. 27**). This Art Deco style theater building was designed with an exterior of polychrome terra cotta and a glass and metal marquee. The Paramount remains a landmark in the downtown area and has been restored into a multi-use theater and arts center. In addition to the Paramount, the Cameo Theater at 703 State Street was also built around 1930 (**Photo No. 32**). The Cameo Theater was designed with Colonial Revival influences and continues to be a working theater. The building's facade has been remodeled several times and it no longer retains integrity of its original design. Other historic theater buildings of the early 20th century such as the Columbia and the State Theaters are no longer extant.

Another major building project of the 1930s was the construction of the Bristol, Virginia Post Office at 100 Piedmont Avenue (102-0012). Completed in 1933 in the Neo-classical style, the two-story building was designed with large Doric columns on the main facade, and an elaborate cast concrete cornice at the roofline. The building served as Bristol, Virginia's main postal facility until recent decades. The building is individually eligible for the National Register and is not within the boundaries of the proposed historic district.

By the late 1930s, building construction gradually increased and this included new buildings in the downtown area. One of the most prominent of these was the Louis Sterchi Furniture store at 519-521 State Street (**102-5017-0017, Photo No. 31**). Built in 1939, this three-story brick building was designed with Art Moderne influences on the upper facade. The upper facade has curved windows built

of structural glass blocks. In addition to building construction, during the late 1930s the influence of the Art Deco and Art Moderne styles led to the remodeling of several storefronts downtown. New materials such as Carrara glass, a tinted glass also known as vitrolite and aluminum were used to create sleek and curved display windows and bulkheads. Storefronts which remain intact from this period include those at 525 and 529 State Street. The storefront at 525 State Street has black Carrara glass and aluminum and glass display windows (**102-5017-0019**). The storefront at 529 State Street was built in 1939 and has maroon colored Carrara glass (**102-5017-0020, Photo No. 28**). Both of these storefronts are in excellent condition, and reflect this early wave of modernization of Victorian era commercial buildings. At 8 Piedmont Avenue, a one-story building with a glazed tile exterior was built ca. 1940 (**102-5017-0012, Photo No. 29**). Now home of the Burger Bar, this restaurant was designed with a grill in view of the patrons who sat around a counter on raised stools. Similar lunch counters were also built at this time in Woolworths and several of the other downtown department stores.

Construction in the downtown area slowed during World War II but the vitality of downtown Bristol led to new construction as the war came to a close. One of the most important buildings constructed in the 1940s was the Central Building at 600-604 State Street (**SU-7039, see Photo 4**). Completed in 1945, this three-story steel and concrete building replaced an earlier masonry building at this site and provided modern professional offices. Designed by architect Clarence Kearfott, the building's marble facade and restrained ornamentation marked a departure from earlier building styles in the commercial area.

After World War II, downtown Bristol remained as the region's main shopping center and additional department stores opened in the post-War years. Several new buildings were constructed along State Street to house additional department stores and other businesses to cater to the region's growing population. At 528-530 State Street, an older building was razed in 1951 for the construction of McCrory's Department Store (**SU-7036, Photo No. 30**). The building's exterior was designed with glazed tile bulkheads and on the upper floors are narrow windows outlined with glazed tile. The building's design reflects the 1950s movement towards more minimal decoration and functionalism for commercial buildings. This movement also led to the remodeling of several Victorian-era storefronts downtown in the early 1950s.

#### *Downtown Bristol's Recent Past (1952-2001)*

Bristol's downtown area remained a dominant regional retail center into the 1960s. In 1956, it claimed a retail trade of 500,000 population and downtown department stores continued to thrive. As in the case with many communities, downtown's retail activity waned in the 1960s as automobile oriented strip shopping centers opened on major highways such as US11E and US421. Gradually, the downtown area's department stores began to close or relocate to shopping centers. The construction of the Bristol Speedway in 1961 south of the downtown area also stimulated new businesses away from the older commercial area.

The most dramatic change to Bristol's commercial area in this period was the loss of its pre-1950 hotels. During the late 19th and early 20th century, a series of notable hotels were built in the 300 and 400 blocks of State Street, and on adjacent streets. These hotels catered to railroad passengers and were situated within two blocks of the Norfolk and Western Railway Station. The Hotel Burson, St. Lawrence Hotel, and Virginia House Hotel were among the earliest built along State Street. The city's finest hotels were the Hotel Bristol and the General Shelby, which were both multi-story brick buildings constructed in the early 20th century. With the reduction of rail passenger traffic, business at these hotels gradually declined and all were demolished. Several were razed to make way for new buildings while others were removed during urban renewal projects along Cumberland and 4th Streets.

On State Street, little new construction occurred after 1960 with the exception of several new banks. The Dominion Bank constructed a new building at 601 State Street in 1974, and new buildings were also constructed by the First Tennessee Bank at 800 State Street and the Blue Ridge Bank at 425 State Street. A number of buildings in the downtown area were razed for parking lots and storefront changes and alterations also occurred to many of the buildings.

Since the 1980s there has been a renewed commitment to preserving and revitalizing the downtown area. One of the most visible projects has been the restoration of the Paramount Theater. This landmark building on State Street was renovated through community efforts into a performance theater, and it has attracted many patrons and visitors back to downtown. Plans are now underway for the renovation of the Bristol Train Station, as well as new parks and landscaping along Beaver Creek. There has also been renewed interest in building restoration by property owners and investors. Both city governments are promoting revitalization of downtown and it is hoped that additional investment will occur through the availability of state and federal tax credits for rehabilitation.

#### **INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTIONS**

Properties in the inventory are organized by street and numerically by address. Entries list the address of the property, approximate

date of construction, their VDHR or THC survey number, and associated secondary resources. Known historic names are listed where applicable.

Key:

CB -	Contributing Building
NCB -	Non-Contributing Building
ca. -	Circa

## Inventory

### 5th STREET

#### **8-12 5th Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1910 SU-7005 CB**

This three-story brick building was constructed ca. 1910 as Bristol Commercial College. The building has three separate storefronts and a central entrance. The storefronts were remodeled ca. 1980 with stucco added over the dividing brick piers and transom area. The 8 storefront has a ca. 1970 aluminum and glass door and sidelights. The 10 and 12 storefronts retain original recessed entrances with original single-light glass and wood doors. Above the doors are original rectangular transoms. The central entrance leading to the upper floors has a ca. 1980 multi-light glass and wood door. The interior of the 8 section has carpeted floors, added partition walls, and dropped acoustical tile ceilings. The 10 section has plaster walls, carpeted floors and an original pressed metal ceiling. The 12 section has carpeted floors, a dropped acoustical tile ceiling, and plaster walls. The upper floors have carpeted floors, plaster ceilings and added partition walls. The upper floors are divided into apartments with ca. 1980 six-panel doors. The original staircase with square newel posts and balusters remains extant.

#### **14-18 5th Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1965 NCB**

At this location is a ca. 1965 brick building.

#### **100 5th Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1905 SU-7006 CB**

This building was originally erected ca. 1905 and housed the local YMCA. It was remodeled in 1985, and the building's interior was completely remodeled at this time and no original detailing remains. It is now known as the Shelby Square Business Center. This is a four-story brick building designed in the Beaux Arts style. The building has a cast concrete foundation. The first floor has horizontal bands of stretcher bond brick with every fifth brick course recessed. The main entrance is set within an original cast concrete surround with Doric pilasters, engaged Doric columns, and an arch with radiating voussoirs and keystone. Windows on the first floor are set within brick arches with radiating voussoirs, and have terra cotta keystones with acanthus leaf brackets and guttae. Below the windows are cast concrete spandrels with inset geometric designs. Windows on the second and third floors have cast concrete sills and jack arches with keystones. The 4th floor windows have cast concrete sills. The central bay of the 5th Street facade is recessed and the second and third floors have a continuous terra cotta surround. Above the third floor window is a keystone and dividing the two floors is a terra cotta beltcourse with leaf and dart molding. All original windows in the building were removed and replaced in 1983-84 with fixed anodized aluminum windows. The building has brick quoins both at the corners and at the recessed central bay. At the roofline the original cornice and balustrade were removed in 1983-84 and replaced with aluminum panels. The interior was rebuilt in 1983-84 and no original fabric remains. The main entrance has double doors of glass and wood design added in 1983. On the Shelby Street facade is an entrance set within an arch with radiating brick voussoirs and a keystone of terra cotta. The upper facade details matches that of the 5th Street facade.

#### **35 5th Street, Bristol, Tennessee 1939 SU-7007 CB**

This is a two-story brick lodge hall built as the Masonic Temple in 1939. The building has a concrete foundation, flat roof and an exterior of five course common bond brick. On the 5th Street facade is the main entrance, which has ca. 1990 anodized aluminum double doors. This entrance has a ca. 1990 shed roof aluminum canopy and anodized aluminum surround. Windows are original three-over-three horizontal sash design with header course sills and both stretcher bond and soldier course lintels. On the first floor of the main facade are two blind windows. At the roofline is a concrete parapet, and below the roofline is an inset masonic symbol of concrete. On the Shelby Street facade is a projecting two-story bay containing a secondary entrance. This entrance has an original three-light and single-panel glass and wood door. Windows on the Shelby Street facade are similar to those on the 5th Street facade.

#### **16-20 6th Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1900 SU-7008 CB**

This is a two-story, brick commercial building built ca. 1900. The building has three separate storefronts and a separate entrance connecting with the upper floor. The building has a flat roof and exterior of stretcher bond brick. Each storefront has original paired cast iron columns with Doric capitals. These columns rest on original stone piers. The 16 storefront retains an original recessed

entrance with an original single-light glass and wood door. Over the door is a single-light transom. The original bulkheads and display windows were replaced ca. 1970 with stucco bulkheads in imitative stone, glass and wood display windows and wood panels over the transoms. The 18 6th Street storefront retains original brick bulkheads and some elements of the original display windows. The transoms have been painted and the original entrance has been replaced with a ca. 1970 aluminum and glass door. The 20th 6th Street storefront is largely original and retains original brick bulkheads, glass and wood display windows, an original single-light glass and wood door and painted transoms. Between the 18 and 20 storefronts is an entrance leading to the second story staircase. This entrance is set within an arched entry bay with two-course header brick arches. The entrance has original double doors of single-light and two-panel glass and wood design. Above the doors is an original multi-light transom. The interior of the 16 storefront has original wood floors, drywall walls and a dropped acoustical tile ceiling. The interior of the 18 storefront has added wall panels, carpeted floors and a dropped acoustical tile ceiling. The 20 storefront also has added wall panels, carpeted floors, and a dropped acoustical tile ceiling. Above each storefront is a terra cotta beltcourse of bead and reel and dividing each storefront are brick piers. Dividing the first and second floors is a sheet metal cornice and terra cotta bead and reel molding. Each of the three upper floor divisions have three, one-over-one, original wood sash windows. Some windows have been covered with wood panels. Above the windows is another row of bead and reel molding. Upper facade decoration above the windows includes corbelled brick and recessed brick panels. At the roofline is an original sheet metal cornice with acanthus leaf brackets.

#### **19-21 6th Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1905 SU-7009 CB**

This three-story brick building was constructed ca. 1905. The building has two storefronts and a central entrance leading to the upper floor staircase. Both storefronts were remodeled ca. 1970 and have aluminum and glass display windows and a wrought iron railing added in front of the display windows. The entrances retain original single-light glass and wood doors. Above the doors are transom panels with added wood panels over the glass. The central entrance has an original single-light glass and wood door. Above the door is a rectangular transom with an added wood panel. Above the two storefronts and central entrance are ca. 1970 wood canopies. The interior of the first floor has wood floors, wall paneling, and dropped acoustical tile ceilings. Dividing the first and second floors is a corbelled brick cornice. There are five window bays on the upper facade. The second floor original windows have been removed and replaced with ca. 1970 two-over-two horizontal wood sash design. Those on the third floor have ca. 1970 six-over-six wood sash windows. The window openings are set within recessed bays and the windows have stone sills. Below the roofline are recessed brick panels and corbelled brick. The original sheet metal cornice at the roofline has been removed.

#### **22-26 6th Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1905 SU-7010 CB**

This is a two-story brick building constructed ca. 1905. In the early 20th century it housed Campell Grocery. The building has three separate storefronts and a separate entrance leading to the second story. The 22 storefront was altered ca. 1970 with the addition of tile bulkheads, an aluminum and glass door and aluminum and glass display windows. The transom area was also enclosed with brick panels. In the north bay of this storefront is a ca. 1970 aluminum and glass door which leads to a second story staircase. The 24 storefront was added ca. 1980 and has aluminum and glass display windows, transoms and a central aluminum and glass door. Above the storefront is a stucco panel. The 26 storefront was remodeled ca. 1940 into its present appearance. This storefront has green Carrara glass paneled bulkheads and surround. The storefront has two entrances with ca. 1940 single-light glass and wood doors. The display windows are ca. 1940 aluminum and glass design. Above the doors the transoms have added air conditioning units. Across the storefront is a ca. 1940 aluminum and frame canopy. Between the 24 and 26 storefront is an entrance leading to the second floor staircase with an address of 26 1/2. This entrance has a ca. 1940 single-light glass and wood door and single-light transom. The 22 storefront has carpeted floors, drywall walls and an original pressed metal ceiling. The 24 storefront has a paneled ceiling and drywall walls. The 26 storefront has paneled wood walls, linoleum and carpeted floors, and a dropped acoustical tile ceiling. The second story of the 26 section has original wall paneling and wainscoting on the walls, an original railing and newel post at the second floor landing and original plaster walls and ceilings. The upper floor is divided into separate offices, each has original single-light glass and wood doors. Floors have linoleum surfaces. In the landing area is an original skylight. Both the 22 and 26 storefronts have a row of indented brick beneath the stone beltcourse dividing the first and second floors. This row of brick is concealed on the 24 storefront. The upper facade is divided into three sections by brick pilasters. Each section has three window bays. The window bays contain original arched one-over-one wood sash windows. The window openings have soldier course arches and stone springers. Above the windows is a row of corbelled and indented brick and the 22 and 24 sections also have a beltcourse of egg and dart brick. Below the cornice are recessed brick panels. At the roofline is a sheet metal cornice with acanthus leaf brackets. In the south bay of the 26 section is an original bay window. This bay window contains three one-over-one wood sash windows. Decorative elements on this frame bay include dentils, garland and swag panels and egg and dart molding.

#### **23 6th Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1890 SU-7011 CB**

This is a three-story brick building constructed ca. 1890. The building's storefront was altered ca. 1958 and has aluminum and glass bulkheads, display windows and an aluminum and glass door. Across the width of the storefront is a canvas awning. The transom area has been covered with wood panels. The upper facade consists of three window bays on each floor. These windows were originally

designed with two-course header bond brick arches and brick sills. The original windows were removed ca. 1950 and twelve-light steel hinged windows were added. The original brick arches remain extant above the existing windows. At the roofline is a corbelled brick cornice. The interior of the first floor has a dropped acoustical tile ceiling, carpeted floors and added wall paneling. On the upper two floors are also dropped ceilings, wall paneling and plaster walls and carpeted floors. Connecting the upper floors is an original staircase with milled balusters and square newel posts.

**27 6th Street, Bristol, Tennessee** ca. 1980 NCB

This is a one-story brick building constructed ca. 1980.

**28-32 6th Street, Bristol, Tennessee** 1901 SU-7012 CB

This is a three-story brick building constructed in 1901 with an exterior of rock-faced concrete block. The building has two separate storefronts and a central entrance leading to the upper floors. The 28 storefront was remodeled ca. 1980 and has wood paneled bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows and wood panels over the transom. Across the width of the storefront is a canvas awning. The entrance has a ca. 1980 aluminum and glass door. The 32 storefront has added wood panels over the bulkheads and transom. This storefront retains its original copper and glass display windows. The storefront has a recessed entrance with an original single-light glass and wood door. In the ceiling of the recessed entrance are original wood panels. The 30 address is for the central entrance leading to the staircase. This entrance is set within a surround of rock-faced concrete block and above is radiating voussoirs of smooth concrete. The entrance has a ca. 1970 aluminum and glass door and single-light sidelights. Above the door is an original multi-light arched transom. Over this entrance is a canvas awning. The interior of the 28 storefront has added carpeting, a dropped acoustical tile ceiling and paneled wood walls. The 32 storefront has drywall walls, a plaster ceiling, and wood floors. The staircase has original tongue-and-groove wainscoting. The upper floors have carpeted floors, original newel posts and railings, five-panel wood doors and a dropped acoustical tile ceiling and paneled walls with original wainscoting and chair rails. Other doors have two-panel doors with transoms. The third floor has original wood floors, some added partition walls, dropped acoustical tile ceilings and original plaster walls. Above the first floor is a sheet metal cornice. On the 6th Street facade are eight window bays on both the second and third floors. The window openings have original concrete sills and lintels. The windows are one-over-one anodized aluminum with single-light transoms added in 1980. Dividing the second and third floors is a belt course of ashlar finish concrete block. Below the roofline is a sheet metal cornice. On the Shelby Street facade are two original entrances on the first floor. The east bay entrance has original double doors of single-light and two-panel glass and wood design. Above the doors is a single-light transom. The west bay entrance has a ca. 1980 six-panel door and transom. The upper facade has eight window bays with similar detailing to the 6th Street facade.

**29-31 6th Street, Bristol, Tennessee** ca. 1910 SU-7013 CB

This three-story brick building was built ca. 1910. The building has two storefronts with a central entrance leading to the upper two floors. Both the 31 and 29 storefronts were remodeled ca. 1980 and have wood panels over the bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows, aluminum and glass doors, and wood panels over the transoms. The central entrance bay has the address of 29 1/2 and has similar wood panels and an aluminum and glass door. Dividing the storefronts are original cast iron pilasters were manufactured by the Dominion Iron works of Bristol, VA. The interior of the 31 storefront has added carpeting, paneled wood walls and a dropped acoustical tile ceiling. The interior of the 29 storefront has carpeted floors, plaster and exposed brick walls and an original pressed metal ceiling. The upper floor was remodeled ca. 1980 with added partition walls, dropped acoustical tile ceilings and linoleum floors. In the brick corner piers framing the storefronts are original brick panels. The upper two floors have three window bays on the 6th Street facade. Dividing the first and second floors is a sheet metal cornice. Windows are original one-over-one rectangular wood sash. The windows have a large central sash window flanked by narrow one-over-one sash. These tri-part windows share concrete sills and soldier course jack arches of brick with concrete keystones and shoulders. Windows on the third floor are of similar design, but instead of jack arches they share a continuous band of tan colored soldier brick coursing. Dividing the upper floor window bays are rectangular soldier course panels. At the corners of the building are original brick quoins. At the roofline the exterior has a stucco stepped parapet that appears to have been added ca. 1925. Below the roofline is a rectangular panel of soldier course brick. On the Shelby Street facade on the first floor is an entrance with a ca. 1980 paneled wood door. Windows on this facade are paired one-over-one sash set within four window bays. The detailing on the upper facade is similar to the design on the 6th Street facade.

**9 7th Street, Bristol, Tennessee** ca. 1925 NCB

This one-story concrete block building was built ca. 1925. The building was remodeled ca. 1955 with a permastone and stucco exterior.

**10 7th Street, Bristol, Tennessee** ca. 1935 SU-7014 CB

This one-story, concrete block and brick veneer building was constructed ca. 1935. The building has a roof of rolled asphalt and a poured concrete foundation. The south and west walls are of rock faced concrete block, and the main facade facing 7th Street is of

stretcher bond brick veneer. The storefront is recessed and has original double doors of single-light glass and wood design. Over the doors is an original two-light wood transom. Display windows are original aluminum and glass design and rest on brick bulkheads. Over the recessed entrance is a five-light aluminum and glass transom. The interior retains two original skylights, wood floors and has added acoustical tiles at the ceiling.

**11 7th Street, Bristol, Tennessee** ca. 1925 SU-7015 CB

This is a one-story, concrete block and brick veneer building built ca. 1925. The building retains a recessed storefront with two original single-light glass and wood doors. Over the doors are enclosed transom openings. The storefront has original display windows resting on ca. 1980 wood and metal bulkheads. The transom over the storefront has been covered with metal panels. The north, south and east facades of the building are of ashlar finish concrete block. The main facade is of five-course common bond brick. The upper facade has a recessed brick panel and at the roofline is a concrete parapet.

**15-17 7th Street, Bristol, Tennessee** ca. 1910 Su-7016 CB

This is a two-story, brick building constructed ca. 1910. The building's original storefront was altered ca. 1970 with the enclosure of the original doors and display windows with brick and single-light wood windows. These windows have added muntin bars. On the south bay of the storefront the original opening leading to the second floor staircase has been bricked in. The transom area of the storefront has been covered with plywood panels. Dividing the first and second floors of the main facade is a corbelled brick beltcourse. On the second floor are four window bays. Each window has been covered with plywood panels. The windows retain original rock faced concrete block lintels. Below the roofline is a row of corbelled and indented brick. At the roofline is a concrete parapet wall. The north facade faces an alley and has arched window openings on both floors. These window openings have original brick sills and two-course header bond arches. A garage bay has been added on this facade and an original pedestrian entrance has been enclosed with brick and aluminum and glass doors. On the second floor of this facade is an enclosed skywalk which connects with 638-640 State Street. On the south facade the east section of the building appears to date to ca. 1890 and has arched windows on the second floor. Some windows in this east section have two-over-two wood sash windows, but most openings have been covered with plywood. Entrances on the first floor of the east section of this building have been enclosed with brick. The west section of this facade has a bay window and entrance on the first floor added ca. 1970.

This building's east section appears to date ca. 1880-90. The west section appears to date ca. 1900 with the facade rebricked ca. 1915.

**18-20 7th Street, Bristol, Tennessee** ca. 1960 NCB

This two-story brick building was built ca. 1960 with an aluminum paneled façade.

**22-26 7th Street, Bristol, Tennessee** ca. 1925 SU-7017 CB

This building was constructed as an addition to the L.C. King Manufacturing Co. (30 7th Street) ca. 1925. This addition has a concrete foundation, roof of rolled asphalt and an exterior of six-course common bond brick. The 7th Street facade has two entrances both of which have original double doors of single-light glass and wood design. Above the doors are original multi-light transoms. Windows on the first floor are original twenty- and twenty-five-light steel design. These windows have concrete sills and soldier course lintels. On the second story are similar windows with a header course beltcourse above the windows. Below the roofline is a concrete and soldier course brick beltcourse. At the roofline is a stepped parapet with concrete coping.

**30 7th Street, Bristol, Tennessee** 1913 SU-7018 CB

This building was constructed in 1913 as the L.C. King Manufacturing Co., which originally made overalls and it remains at this location. The interior retains original pressed metal ceilings on the first and second floors. On the first floor is an original office area with single-light glass and wood doors and glass and wood partition walls. The office retains an original brick mantel. The original staircase to the second floor is also intact. The original building was two stories in height and a third story was added ca. 1920. The building has a poured concrete foundation, roof of rolled asphalt and an exterior of five-course common bond brick. The main entrance on the east facade is recessed and has an original single-light glass and wood door. The door is flanked by large single-light sidelights resting on frame bulkheads. Above the entrance is an original three-light transom with opaque glass. Flanking the entrance are two original fixed light wood windows with concrete sills and opaque glass transoms. The south bay of the first floor has an arched window opening with brick hood molding, a concrete sill and a ca. 1970 aluminum one-over-one window. The north bay of this facade has an original double door entrance with single-light glass and wood doors. Over the doors is a two-light rectangular transom with opaque glass set within a brick arch with hood molding. On the second floor are rectangular window openings with concrete sills. The original windows were replaced ca. 1970 with aluminum horizontal sash windows. These windows have concrete sills and connecting the windows is a header course beltcourse. Between the second and third floors is a beltcourse of soldier bond brick and a concrete beltcourse. The third floor has original sixteen-light and twenty-four-light steel windows with central hinged panels. These windows have a connecting brick beltcourse. At the roofline is a stepped parapet with concrete coping. On the Shelby Street facade is a loading bay entrance with ca. 1970 glass and wood doors. Windows on this facade are original sixteen and twenty-five light steel

hinged design with central panels. Separating the second and third floors are brick and concrete beltcourses.

**136 7th Street, Bristol, Tennessee** ca. 1920 SU-7019 CB

This is a two-story, brick industrial building constructed ca. 1920 and was originally the Troy Laundry Company. The building has a concrete foundation, monitor roof of rolled asphalt and an exterior of stretcher bond brick. On the east facade is the primary entrance with ca. 1985 aluminum and glass doors. Four window and two pedestrian openings on this facade were enclosed with brick in the mid-1980s. There are five original windows on the first floor of this facade and they are twenty-light steel design with a central six-light hinged panel. These windows rest on concrete sills. The east facade overall has twelve window bays divided into four sections by brick pilasters with Doric brick capitals. Windows on the second floor are original with twenty-light steel windows and six-light hinged panels. These windows also have concrete sills. At the roofline is a stepped parapet wall with concrete coping and added metal panels. On the north facade are multi-light steel windows and a garage bay with a ca. 1985 overhead track metal door. On the west facade is a metal ca. 1985 loading dock. Attached on the south facade is an attached ca. 1999 metal building. The interior has been largely retained and has open floor space with a concrete floor, brick and concrete block walls and a monitor roof with wood clerestory windows. The roof has a steel truss system. Office areas were added or remodeled in the mid-1980s.

**11-15 8th Street, Bristol, Tennessee** 1954 SU-7020 NCB

This is a one-story, brick and concrete block automobile repair building constructed in 1954. The building is composed of two sections: a garage built near the street and a recessed office/garage. The garage bay section has a brick veneer of stretcher bond brick. The main (W) facade has a large garage bay and a smaller opening in the south bay. Both garage bay openings have original multi-light glass and wood paneled overhead doors. At the roofline is a parapet wall with terra cotta coping. The recessed office/garage has a concrete loading dock and two loading bays. The south bay has an original glass and wood overhead track door, and the north bay has a ca. 1980 overhead metal door. The pedestrian entrance has a ca. 1980 wood door. Across the width of the building is a metal and wood awning and at the roofline is a parapet wall of terra cotta. Because of its late construction date, this building is considered non-contributing to the district. Once the building becomes fifty years old in 2004, its status should be changed to contributing if no major alterations have occurred.

**17 8th Street, Bristol, Tennessee** ca. 1940 SU-7021 CB

This is a one-story, concrete block commercial building constructed ca. 1940. The building has a roof of rolled asphalt and exterior of stretcher bond brick. The main entrance has an original single-light glass and wood door. The transom has been enclosed with plywood. Flanking the entrance are ca. 1970 aluminum and glass display windows resting on original brick bulkheads. On the south facade are three original twelve-light steel hinged windows. Also on this facade is a garage bay with an overhead track metal door. The north, east, and south facades are of stucco finish on concrete block.

**12-18 Bank Street, Bristol, Tennessee** ca. 1920 SU-7022 CB

This is a two-story brick building constructed ca. 1920. The building has a concrete foundation, flat roof of rolled roofing material and an exterior of six-course common bond brick. The building has two storefronts and a central entrance leading to the second story staircase. The 18 Bank Street storefront has an original single-light glass and wood door. The display windows have been covered with ca. 1980 wood panels. The 12 Bank Street storefront has two original single-light glass and wood doors. Over both the 12 & 16 storefronts are canvas awnings. Between the two doors is a brick bulkhead and a ca. 1960 multi-light steel window. The central entrance (14 Bank St.) retains an original single-light glass and wood door. Between the 14 and 16 Bank St. entrances is a ca. 1960 fixed glass window. On the second floor of the main (E) facade are 5 window bays. The two north bays have original two-over-two rectangular wood sash windows with brick sills. The remaining three window bays have ca. 1980 one-over-one vinyl clad wood sash windows. At the roofline is a stepped parapet wall with metal coping. On the north facade are four window bays with original two-over-two wood sash windows. This facade also has an original four-light wood display window. The rear (W) facade has three window bays on the second story with ca., 1980 one-over-one vinyl sash windows. Two similar windows on the second story are on the south facade. This facade also has ca. 1960 fixed glass windows on the first floor. Both the 12 and 16 storefronts have added acoustical ceilings and carpeted floors.

**500-502 Cumberland Street, Bristol, Virginia** 1954 NCB

This is a one-story brick veneer building built in 1954 with Art Moderne influences. The building was remodeled in the early 1980s with paneled wood doors and sections of the storefront were enclosed with stucco panels. The corner bay is curved with original glass and aluminum storefronts resting on brick bulkheads. This storefront has ca. 1970 aluminum and glass doors. The upper facade is covered with metal panels. The interior was remodeled in the early 1980s with added wall, ceiling and floor finishes.

**510 Cumberland Street, Bristol, Virginia** 1925 102-5017-0001 CB

The Reynolds Arcade was built in 1925 as Bristol's largest office building for owner Hardin W. Reynolds. The building was designed by Bristol architect Clarence B. Kearfott and Kearfott's office was located in this building for many years. The seven-story, brick

building housed various professional offices during much of the 20th century. The first floor of the building has a central entrance with eight flanking storefront bays. The storefront bays were remodeled ca. 1980 and have anodized aluminum transoms and aluminum and glass doors. Some of the display windows are original copper and glass and rest on original cast concrete bulkheads. The main entrance to the lobby area has ca. 1980 aluminum and glass doors and a rectangular transom. Above the doors is an original elliptical glass and wood transom. This entrance is set within an original cast concrete arch with Doric pilasters and a scrolled keystone. The exterior of the first floor facing Cumberland Street is of cast concrete blocks. On the second floor, the central bay window has a surround of cast concrete with a cornice and scrolled shoulders. Windows throughout the building are paired one-over-one rectangular vinyl clad sash added ca. 1980. The window openings have original concrete sills and soldier course lintels. The main facade has nine window bays. On the fifth floor are five original wrought iron balconets below the central and east bay and west bay windows. Below the seventh story is a cast concrete beltcourse. Above the seventh floor windows is a large terra cotta cornice with dentils. At the roofline is a stepped parapet with concrete coping. The interior of the building was completely remodeled ca. 1980 with added interior partition walls, doors, and floor, wall and ceiling finishes. At the rear is an original one-story garage wing with a stucco exterior.

**516-518 Cumberland Street, Bristol, Virginia ca. 1900 102-5017-0002 CB**

This is a two-story brick commercial building built ca. 1900. In its early years, the building was used as a grain, feed, fertilizer, and cement warehouse. The building has two storefronts and a central garage bay opening. Both storefronts have been covered with corrugated metal panels. The original single-light glass and wood doors remain along with original rectangular transoms. Above these transoms are original rectangular transoms of Luxfer glass. Dividing the storefront bays are brick piers. The central garage bay has been covered with corrugated metal panels. The upper facade has nine window bays with ca. 1970 one-over-one aluminum sash windows. The window openings retain original segmental arches with two-course header bond brick. At the roofline is concrete coping.

**520-530 Cumberland Street, Bristol, Virginia 1920 102-5017-0003 CB**

This is a two-story concrete and brick commercial building constructed in 1920. The building was constructed to house an automobile sales and service company on the first floor, while the second floor was home to the Nickels Manufacturing Company which made women's clothing. The building has a brick veneer exterior of textured brick and a poured concrete foundation. The Moore Street facade has five bays divided by brick piers with concrete Doric capitals. The central bay is an original drive-thru bay which connects with another drive-thru bay off the Cumberland Street facade. The walls and ceilings of these driveways are of poured concrete and concrete block. The storefronts on this facade have been remodeled with ca. 1950 aluminum bulkheads, glass and display windows and aluminum panels. The south bay has an original ten-light transom and ca. 1960 glass and wood storefront. Above the storefront bays are original concrete lintels. The Cumberland Street facade has seven bays also divided by brick piers with concrete Doric capitals. The storefronts were remodeled ca. 1950-60 with aluminum and glass display windows, transoms and doors. Above the storefronts are original concrete lintels. One of the bays contains an open drive-thru that connects with another drive-thru bay off Moore Street. The upper facade of the building retains original twenty-eight light and sixty-light steel hinged windows. These windows have concrete sills and lintels. At the roofline is a row of header course brick and terra cotta coping. The interior of the first floor storefronts have added wall, ceiling and floor finishes.

**832 Goode Street, Bristol, Virginia 1922 102-5017-0004 CB**

The original section of this building was constructed in 1922 as a four-story flour mill for the Service Mills Company. The building has a rail spur leading to the main (S) facade. On the south facade are two entrances on the first floor. The west entrance has been enclosed with brick and a ca. 1980 solid metal door. The east entrance has a ca. 1980 overhead track metal door. These entrances have concrete lintels. The upper three floors have two window bays on each floor of the south facade. These windows are original twenty-light steel design with a central four-light hinged steel panel. The windows have brick sills. At the roofline is a stepped parapet with terra cotta coping. The east facade has a ca. 1960 concrete block wing on the first floor and two original window bays. The upper three floors on this facade have original twenty-light steel windows. On the north facade is a large ca. 1940 steel and aluminum awning and an entrance with a ca. 1970 metal door. There are no windows on the upper floor of the original section. On the west facade the upper floors retain original steel windows. Attached on the west facade are several ca. 1940-1950 brick wings with both six-light steel hinged windows and two-over-two horizontal sash wood windows and six-over-six wood sash windows. Entrances have ca. 1970 single-light glass and wood doors and paired four-light steel and glass doors. The west facade of the one-story wing has an exterior of concrete block and an address of 15 Commonwealth. This facade was rebuilt possibly when Commonwealth was widened. This facade has ca. 1970 fixed metal windows and an aluminum and glass door.

**22 Lee Street, Bristol, Virginia ca. 1905 102-5017-0005 CB**

This three-story brick commercial building was built ca. 1905. The building has a storefront remodeled ca. 1980 with stucco and wood panels added between original brick piers. Across the width of the storefront is a shed canvas awning. The main entrance has a ca. 1980 solid wood door, and above are small ca. 1980 glass and wood transoms. The upper facade has a central window bay flanked by

original circular windows. Dividing the storefront and second floor is a concrete cornice with dentil molding. The central windows on both the second and third floors have ca. 1980 anodized aluminum windows. These window openings have concrete sills and above the windows is a band of darker colored brick. The circular windows have original brick surrounds. Above the third floor is a corbelled brick cornice with egg and dart molding. At the roofline is terra cotta coping. On the alley facade are segmental arched window openings with two-course header bond brick. The existing windows are ca. 1980 fixed single-light aluminum design. An entrance on this facade has a solid wood door added ca. 1980. The interior has been remodeled with added wall, floor and ceiling finishes.

**9-15 Moore Street, Bristol, Virginia ca. 1920 102-5017-0006 CB**

This is a one-story brick commercial building constructed ca. 1920. The various storefronts of the building housed numerous businesses during the early 20th century including the Bristol Book Mart, the Moore Street Cafe, beauty shops and billiard halls. The building is largely of rock faced concrete block with a brick veneer facade. The building has three storefronts. The 9 Moore Street storefront was remodeled ca. 1970 and has an exterior of vertical board siding, a recessed entrance with a solid wood door and a glass and wood display window. The 13 Moore Street storefront was also remodeled ca. 1970 and has vertical board siding, and a recessed entrance with a solid wood door. Above the storefront is an original rectangular transom that has been covered with wood panels. The 15 Moore Street storefront has a ca. 1950 storefront with formica bulkhead panels, an aluminum and glass display window, single-light glass and wood door and corner piers covered with green Carrara glass panels. Above the door is a rectangular transom. Above the storefront is a large transom covered with vertical board panels. The upper facades of all three storefronts have recessed brick panels and a beltcourse of soldier course brick. At the roofline is concrete coping. The interiors of the three storefronts have been remodeled with added partition walls and wall, ceiling and floor finishes.

**17-21 Moore Street, Bristol, Virginia ca. 1920 102-5017-0007 CB**

This is a one-story commercial building of rock faced concrete block construction with a brick veneer facade facing Moore Street. The various storefronts of the building housed numerous businesses during the early 20th century including the Silver Grill, Hayes Plumbing, and beauty shops. The building was constructed ca. 1920 and has four separate storefronts. The 17 Moore Street storefront has stuccoed bulkheads, a ca. 1940 aluminum and glass display windows, and original single-light glass and wood door. Over the door is a rectangular transom. Above the storefront the transom area has been covered with wood and stucco panels. The 19 Moore Street storefront was remodeled ca. 1960 and has brick bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows, an aluminum and glass door and the transom area has been covered with vertical board panels. The 21 Moore Street storefront has stuccoed brick bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows and an original single-light glass and wood door. Over the door is a rectangular transom. Above this storefront the transom area has been enclosed with wood and stucco panels. The upper facades of the building are intact. These consist of recessed brick panels outlined with soldier course brick. The 17 and 19 sections have had their original parapet wall removed.

**23 Moore Street, Bristol, Virginia ca. 1920 NCB**

The 23 Moore Street storefront was constructed ca. 1920 and remodeled ca. 1975. It has an exterior of vertical board panels, fixed glass and wood windows, and a solid wood door. The building's upper facade has been covered with a ca. 1975 shed roof canopy. The interiors of the building have been remodeled with added wall, ceiling and floor finishes.

**28 Moore Street, Bristol, Virginia ca. 1900 102-5017-0008 CB**

This is a two-story brick commercial building built ca. 1900 as the Bristol Overall & Paint Company. The building's storefront was remodeled ca. 1960 and has brick bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows and a single-light glass and wood door. Across the width of the storefront is a metal awning. Above the storefront is a corbelled brick beltcourse. The upper facade has three window bays with ca. 1990 one-over-one vinyl sash windows. The windows have segmental arches and retain original arched transoms. Below the windows is a stone sill and a row of brick egg and dart molding. The window arches have stone springers with egg and dart molding. Above the windows is a corbelled brick cornice with egg and dart molding. On the south facade are two added windows in what was originally a party wall. The interior of both floors have added wall, ceiling and floor finishes.

**30-32 Moore Street, Bristol, Virginia ca. 1905 102-5017-0009 CB**

This is a two-story brick commercial building constructed ca. 1905, also as part of the Bristol Overall & Paint Company. In the 1920s, it housed a hay and feed supply on the first floor and a shirt factory on the second level. The building has a veneer on the main facade of ashlar finish and rock face concrete block. The storefront was remodeled ca. 1960 with formstone added over the concrete piers and added formstone bulkheads. Display windows are aluminum and glass, and entrances have aluminum and glass doors. Across the width of the building is an aluminum canopy. The original transom areas have been enclosed with wood and stucco panels. The upper facade has an exterior of rock face, ashlar and smooth concrete block. These varying types of concrete block are designed to form beltcourse and quoining designs. The upper facade retains seven bays of original one-over-one rectangular wood sash windows. These windows rest on a continuous concrete sill, and above the windows is a continuous concrete lintel of rock faced block. Below the

roofline is a concrete cornice with modillion blocks. At the roofline is a stepped parapet with concrete coping. At the rear of the first floor is an original entrance with double doors of single-light glass and wood design. The first floor has been remodeled with added wall, ceiling and floor finishes. The second floor has open floor space with wood floors and added wall and ceiling finishes.

### **33 Moore Street, Bristol, Virginia 1925 102-5017-0010 CB**

This building was built in 1925 to house the Bristol Publishing Corporation which produced the city's primary newspapers, the Herald and the Courier. The company occupied the building until about 1970 when they moved to a new location. The building was purchased in 1989 and remodeled into its present form by Bristol Office Supply. The interior of the building retains some original tile floors and has its original staircase with a square newel post and solid wood railing. There are original double doors of ten-light paired glass and wood doors leading into offices on the first floor. This is a two-story brick commercial building. The storefront retains an original recessed entrance with double doors of single-light glass and wood design. Over the doors is a large rectangular transom. The north bay of the building has been enclosed with brick, but the remaining storefront has original concrete and stucco bulkheads and copper and glass display windows. One bay of the storefront has ca. 1940 structural glass blocks. Above the entrance and display windows are original transom bars and twenty-eight-light glass and metal transoms. Dividing the storefront bays are brick piers resting on concrete bases. Above the storefront is a cast concrete cornice. The upper facade has six rows of stretcher bond brick forming a large beltcourse above the storefront cornice. On the Moore Street facade are nine window bays with ca. 1950 twelve-light steel hinged windows. The window openings retain original segmental arches and above the arches are lintels of soldier course brick. Between the windows are recessed brick panels and quoins. At the roofline is concrete coping. The south facade has a variety of windows including single-light aluminum windows added in 1989, ca. 1950 steel hinged design, and original twenty-light and twenty-five-light steel hinged design. These windows have concrete sills. Similar windows are located on the north facade along with a garage bay with an overhead track metal door.

### **34 Moore Street, Bristol, Virginia ca. 1915 102-5017-0011 CB**

This two-story brick commercial building was constructed ca. 1915. The building has a ca. 1940 storefront with a single-light glass and wood door, copper and glass display windows and brick bulkheads. Above the storefront is a wood transom bar and four-light transom. The upper facade has a concrete beltcourse below the windows. This upper facade was rebuilt ca. 1950 and has an exterior of six-course common bond brick. The windows are ca. 1950 four-over-four wood rectangular sash. The north wall of the building is the remnant of a party wall that has an exterior of rock faced concrete block. The original building at this location was demolished ca. 1960 for the existing building. The interior of the first floor has added wall, ceiling, and floor finishes. The second floor has original wood floors, ceilings and exposed brick walls.

### **8 Piedmont Avenue, Bristol, Virginia ca. 1940 102-5017-0012 CB**

This is a one-story brick commercial building constructed ca. 1940. The building has an exterior of glazed tile. The entrance has an original aluminum and glass door. Display windows are original aluminum and glass fixed design. The building's facade has panels below the display windows of glazed black tile. Above the black tile is yellow glazed tile with vertical and horizontal bands of red glazed tile. In the north bay of the facade is a ca. 1970 solid metal door. Over this door is a rectangular panel of red glazed tile. At the roofline is concrete coping. The interior retains an original counter with formica panels, an original tile floor, original counter stools with replacement upholstery and original wood paneled walls and ceilings.

### **12-14 Piedmont Avenue, Bristol, Virginia 1956 NCB**

This one-story brick building was constructed in 1956. The building has two storefronts and was built with a chamfered corner to fit on this lot. The 14 storefront has been altered with ca. 1980 glass and wood display windows and the transom and bulkheads have been covered with corrugated metal panels. Dividing the display windows are original brick piers. The cornice area has been covered with metal panels. The 12 Piedmont Avenue storefront has original aluminum and glass display windows and an aluminum and glass door. The bulkheads and transoms have been covered with corrugated metal panels. The interiors have been altered with added wall, ceiling and floor finishes.

### **509 Shelby Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1920 SU-7023 CB**

This building was originally occupied by the King Printing Company. The present owners, Mallicote Printing, purchased the building from the King Printing Company in 1973. This two-story brick building was constructed ca. 1920. The building has two entrances on the primary facade. The main entrance has original double doors of ten-light glass and wood design. Above the door is an original ten-light transom. Flanking the entrance are two original windows of thirty-light steel awning design. The entrance and flanking window bays are set within cast concrete arches with keystones. The keystones have raised shield panel designs. The window and door surrounds are also of cast concrete and above the windows and entrance is a cast concrete cornice. In the west bay of the first floor is a secondary entrance with original double doors of ten-light glass and wood design. Above this entrance is an original ten-light transom. This entrance bay has brick label molding. The east bay of the first floor contains an original thirty-light steel awning design window.

This window has a cast concrete sill, brick label molding and a soldier course surround. Dividing the first and second floors is a cast concrete beltcourse. Windows on the second floor of the Shelby Street facade have original twenty-five-light steel awning windows, and original sixteen-light steel windows with inset paired eight-light casement windows. All five of the windows on this facade have soldier course surrounds and label molding. Below the roofline is a cast concrete cornice. Below the roofline is also a raised shield design inscribed "Leroi Press." The interior retains an original staircase leading to the second floor. The interior of the office area has added wall paneling, an original coffered ceiling and carpeted floors. On the side facades the building has original fifty-light steel awning windows. The rear section of this building is one-story in height.

**617 Shelby Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1915 SU-7024 CB**

This is a two-story, brick building constructed ca. 1915. The building's storefront was altered ca. 1970 and has two aluminum and glass doors, aluminum and glass display windows and bulkheads and a transom covered with aluminum panels. Above the transom area is a beltcourse of cast concrete and egg and dart brick molding. The original second story is visible and has a stretcher bond exterior. This second story has four window bays with ca. 1970 two-light fixed aluminum windows. These windows rest on concrete sills. Above the windows is a belt course with egg and dart molding. Above this beltcourse is a cornice composed of a row of brick dentils, egg and dart molding and cast concrete panels. At the roofline is a stepped parapet with cast concrete coping and another row of egg and dart molding. On the east facade of the second story are eight window openings with both original one-over-one wood sash windows and ca. 1950 steel hopper windows. The first floor interior has a dropped acoustical tile ceiling and linoleum floor.

**619 Shelby Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1950 SU-7025 CB**

This is a two-story building constructed as an annex for the H.P. King Co., ca. 1950. The building's storefront is intact and has aluminum and glass display windows resting on glazed tile bulkheads. Entrances have original aluminum and glass doors and transoms. Across the width of the storefront is an original concrete and aluminum paneled awning. The main (S) facade of the building has an exterior of glazed tile on the first story corner piers and second floor facade. The second story has a solid row of fixed aluminum windows. These windows have aluminum sills and muntin bars. This large central section of the second floor is recessed from the perimeter wall. The interior has been remodeled with added carpet and dropped acoustical tile ceilings. This building was enlarged and remodeled into its present appearance in 1947. In the mid-1990s the original multi-light steel windows were replaced with the existing fixed aluminum and glass windows. On the west facade the second story retains original twenty-four-light steel windows.

**620 Shelby Street, Bristol, Tennessee 1900 CB/National Register-listed (1985)**

The Bristol, Tennessee Post Office was constructed in 1900 in the Beaux-Arts style. Designed by government architect James Knox Taylor, the building features brick quoining, original wood sash windows and an elaborate cornice at the roofline. The building served as Bristol, Tennessee's main postal facility until recent decades. The building was listed on the National Register on November 7, 1985, and is currently undergoing rehabilitation into offices.

**636 Shelby Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1920 SU-7026 CB**

This is the E.W. King Co. building, a four-story brick building constructed ca. 1920. It housed the Big Jack Manufacturing Company which manufactured clothing for many years. The building was designed as a manufacturing facility and has a flat roof, an exterior of five course common bond brick and a poured concrete foundation. The primary entrance is located on the north facade facing Shelby Street. This entrance is recessed within an arched vestibule. This vestibule has a tile floor and cast concrete surround. The entrance retains original fifteen-light double doors and an arched eight-light transom. Flanking the entrance vestibule are cast concrete wall buttresses with Gothic influences including trefoil and Tudor arched inset panels. Inscribed over the door is "E.W. King Co." Dividing the basement and first floor levels is a cast concrete belt course. On the first floor are eight window bays. The corner bays have original eighteen-light steel hopper windows. The remaining windows are original thirty-six-light steel design with inset eight-panel hinged units. These windows have soldier course lintels and cast concrete sills. Dividing the first and second floors is a cast concrete belt course. The upper three floors have window bays divided by brick pilasters with Doric concrete capitals. The windows on the second and third floors are original thirty-six light, eighteen-light, and thirty-light steel windows. These windows have cast concrete sills and header brick sills. Windows on the fourth floor are original thirty-light and fifteen-light steel design with the central thirty-light windows within arched window openings. These arches have brick soldier courses. Above the fourth floor windows is a concrete belt course and a parapet with concrete coping. The parapet has small concrete wall buttresses at the roofline along with inset concrete shield designs. There is no fenestration on the east facade. On the west facade, the building has an original entrance with a two-panel steel door. Windows on this facade are similar to the primary facade and upper floor windows are also separated by brick pilasters with Doric capitals. The south facade has similar steel windows on the upper floors. The first floor of this facade has a pedestrian entrance with original two-panel double doors. This facade has a recessed loading dock bay with replacement wood doors opening onto an original steel and wood loading dock. The interior of the building is composed largely of open floor space with wood floors and exposed brick walls.

**700 Shelby Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1920 SU-7027 CB**

This two-story, brick industrial building was constructed ca. 1920 as Hechts Bakery, which operated out of the building for several decades. The present business, Bristol Products Corp., moved here in 1984. The building has a poured concrete foundation, a monitor roof of rolled asphalt and an exterior of stretcher bond brick. The main entrance was originally located facing 7th Street. This entrance has been bricked in. All windows on the first floor of the building facing 7th Street have been enclosed with brick or concrete block. The window bays retain original cast concrete sills. On the second story of the 7th Street facade are ten window bays with original twelve-light steel hinged windows. These windows are recessed within corbelled brick panels and have concrete sills. Dividing the window bays are brick pilasters with raised brick panels in a double cross design. The central bay of this facade has a third story with a gable roof and paired nine-light steel hinged windows. On the south facade of this building is a ca. 1950 two-story brick wing with the address of 118 7th Street. This wing originally contained the shipping and loading docks for the bakery plus offices upstairs. The pedestrian entrance on this wing has a cast concrete surround and an aluminum and glass door recessed within a vestibule. The loading dock bays have been enclosed with brick but original structural glass block transoms above the openings remain. Above the pedestrian door is a window with structural glass blocks. Windows are original, four-light aluminum horizontal pane hinged design. At the roofline is concrete coping. The Shelby Street facade has seven bays divided by brick pilasters. The first floor windows have been enclosed with concrete block, but retain original cast concrete sills. Second story windows on this facade have original twelve-light steel hinged windows with concrete sills. This facade has a gabled bay with a stucco and metal panel inscribed "Hecht." At the roofline is a crenelated parapet with concrete coping.

**714 Shelby Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1920 SU-7028 CB**

This is a one-story brick building constructed ca. 1920 as an annex to the Hecht Bakery (700 Shelby St.). On the 1956 Sanborn Map of Bristol, this building is listed as the bakery's pie shop. The building has a poured concrete foundation, a rolled asphalt roof and an exterior of six-course common bond brick. The original window openings on the main (N) facade have been enclosed with brick. The main entrance has a ca. 1985 steel door and metal awning. Above the window openings is a beltcourse of soldier bond brick. At the roofline is a parapet wall with clay tile. Attached to the main facade is a ca. 1960 concrete block loading dock. The original openings on this wing have been enclosed with concrete block.

**720-724 Shelby Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1920 SU-7029 CB**

This is a two-story, brick building constructed ca. 1920 for automobile sales. On the first floor, the east bay of the storefront originally contained the garage bay. This bay has been enclosed with wood and stucco panels. The pedestrian entrance on the storefront was located in the west bay and has been enclosed with brick. The original cast concrete transom bar and rectangular transom are intact. The two central display window bays have been enclosed with brick but retain original cast concrete transom bars and three-light transoms with original opaque glass. Dividing each bay is a brick pier with inset brick "V" shaped panels at the capitals. Above the storefront is a beltcourse of soldier bond brick. Dividing the first and second floors is an original sheet metal cornice with modillion blocks. The second story has original eight-light steel hinged windows. Above the windows are soldier course lintels. At the roofline is a concrete parapet. On the west facade of this building is a ca. 1985 one-story brick loading dock wing with metal panels covering most of this facade.

**815-817 Shelby Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1910 SU-7030 CB**

This is a two-story building of concrete block construction built ca. 1910. This building has a concrete foundation, roof of rolled asphalt and an exterior of rock faced hollow core concrete. The main (S) facade has two entrances. The west entrance has been enclosed with wood panels and the east entrance has a ca. 1970 aluminum and glass door. The transom area above the door has been enclosed with wood panels. Flanking these entrances are rock faced concrete piers. Between the piers are ca. 1970 aluminum and glass display windows resting on an original brick belt course. This storefront retains an original four-light wood transom with opaque glass. Dividing the first and second stories is a concrete beltcourse with floral designs. Second floor windows have wood sills and concrete lintels. All of the windows are either ca. 1970 single-light fixed design or covered with plywood panels. On the first floor window openings have been enclosed with concrete block. Connecting the window lintels is a row of floral design concrete panels. A similar beltcourse is located below the roofline. On the east facade is a one-story ca. 1970 shed roof frame wing. The interior retains open floor space with wood support columns.

**500 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1905 CB-National Register listed (1985)**

This three-story brick building was constructed as the First National Bank ca. 1905. The building was designed in the Beaux-Arts style with extensive cast concrete decoration. The storefront retains its original entrance with paired single-light glass and wood double doors and a rectangular transom. The entrance is framed by engaged Ionic cast concrete columns. Over the entrance is an entablature inscribed "First National Bank." Above the entablature is a cast concrete pediment. Flanking the entrance are Ionic cast concrete engaged columns. On either side of the columns are window openings containing ca. 1980 single-light fixed windows. These windows

rest on bulkheads of rock faced concrete. At the corners of the buildings are Ionic pilasters with egg and dart and bead and reel molding. The upper facade has three bays. The corner bays have single window openings while the central bay has paired window openings. All of the windows are ca. 1980 fixed aluminum design. Dividing the upper floor bays are brick piers with concrete quoins and terra cotta Ionic pilasters with floral designs and lion's head motifs. Above the windows is a cast concrete egg and dart cornice. Above this cornice is a frieze with concrete eagle and shield designs. At the roofline is an elaborate cornice with egg and dart molding, dentils and leaf and dart molding. At the roof is an elevator penthouse. On the 5th Street facade the storefront has fixed windows resting on rock faced concrete bulkheads. Each bay is divided by an Ionic engaged column. The upper two floors also have ca. 1980 fixed aluminum windows divided by brick piers and the windows have cast concrete and terra cotta detailing similar to the main facade. This facade has both eagle and shield and female busts in the frieze below the cornice. At the roofline is a cornice which is similar to the main facade. A pedestrian entrance on this facade has been enclosed with stucco and glass panels. The interior has been extensively altered in recent years with added wall, ceiling and floor finishes. This building was individually listed on the National Register on July 25, 1985.

**501 State Street, Bristol, Virginia ca. 1890 NCB**

This three-story brick building was constructed ca. 1890. The building is one of the oldest remaining in the downtown area, but its exterior has been covered with a metal facade. The building housed numerous businesses during its history including the Thrift Auto Supply Store in the 1940s. On the third floor the building was used as a Masonic Temple. The building's storefront was remodeled ca. 1980 and the upper facade is concealed beneath aluminum panels. This design is consistent on both the State Street and 5th Street facades.

**504 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1910 NCB**

This is a three-story, brick building constructed ca. 1910 and remodeled ca. 1960. The storefront retains an original door leading to the upper floors. This door is located in the east bay of the building and is single-light glass and wood design. Above the door is an original diamond light transom. This entrance has a ca. 1960 surround of green marble. The rest of the storefront was added ca. 1960 and has metal bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows and an enclosed transom. The upper facade has an exterior of ca. 1960 stucco, metal panels and horizontal sash aluminum windows. The interior has been remodeled with added floor, wall and ceiling finishes.

**503 State Street, Bristol, Virginia in 1890 102-5017-0013 CB**

This is a three-story brick building constructed in 1890. In the 1920s, the building was occupied by the Eagle Theater and by the 1940s it housed the State Theater. The building's storefront has ca. 1970 aluminum and glass doors and display windows. The original transom has been covered with wood and stucco panels. A cornice over the storefront has been removed. The west bay of the building has an entrance leading to the upper floor staircase. This entrance has a ca. 1970 solid wood door. Above this door, a transom opening has been enclosed with wood shutters. Above the transom opening is a section of original sheet metal cornice. The upper facade has four segmental arch window openings on each floor. The window arches are of two-course header bond brick. The original windows have been removed and the openings enclosed with wood panels. At the roofline is an original sheet metal cornice. This cornice has decorative rectangular floral panels beneath the brackets. The first floor interior has a dropped acoustical tile ceiling and added floor and wall finishes. The theater seats on the upper floors have been removed.

**505 State Street, Bristol, Virginia 1890 NCB**

This three-story brick building was constructed in 1890. The building has had numerous occupants including the Isis Theater in the 1920s and in the 1940s, the building's first floor was occupied by Lanes Restaurant. The storefront was remodeled ca. 1970 with frame bulkheads and aluminum and glass display windows. The upper facade was remodeled ca. 1960 with new windows. The upper facade of the building has stucco over the brick and windows with steel jalousie lights. These windows have been covered with wood shutters. At the roofline the original cornice has been removed. The first floor has been remodeled with added wall, ceiling and floor finishes. The upper floor retains original plaster ceilings with floral medallions, a dentilled plaster cornice, wainscoting and wood floors.

**506-510 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1905 SU-7031 CB**

This is a three-story brick building constructed ca. 1905. It was first used as a hardware store, and it later housed the Wood-Nickels Co. department store in the 1920s. By 1940, Ball Brothers Furniture resided in the building and remained there into the 1960s. The storefront was remodeled ca. 1960 and 1980. The storefront has ca. 1960 formica bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows and a central entrance with aluminum and glass doors. Above the storefront is a surface of glazed tile with metal cornices added ca. 1980. The upper two floors have six bays divided by brick Doric pilasters. The corner bays have arched window openings while the four central bays have paired, rectangular window openings. Most of the window openings have added ca. 1980 wood shutters. Only four windows are visible and these are ca. 1980 fixed aluminum and glass design. The second floor windows rest on a continuous

concrete sill that has a sawtooth brick valence. The third floor windows also have concrete sills. The arched windows in the corner bays have segmental brick arches. Above the third floor windows are recessed brick panels. Below the roofline are rectangular terra cotta panels with garland and swag designs. At the roofline is a sheet metal cornice.

**507-509 State Street, Bristol, Virginia ca.1915 NCB**

This two-story brick commercial building was constructed ca. 1915. The building was completely remodeled ca. 1980 with storefronts of stucco and gravel and aluminum and glass display windows and doors. Across the width of the storefronts is a wood canopy. The upper facade has a stuccoed exterior and two faux window openings with wood canopies and wrought iron railings. The interior has added wall, ceiling and floor finishes.

**511 State Street, Bristol, Virginia ca. 1900 102-5017-0014 CB**

This two-story brick building was constructed ca. 1900. In the 1940s, it was occupied by the Sherwin-Williams Company. The storefront was remodeled ca. 1990 with frame bulkheads, wood and glass display windows, and a single-light glass and wood door. Transoms have been covered with wood panels. The interior has an original pressed metal ceiling on the first floor along with added wall and ceiling finishes. The second story has original wood floors, wood ceilings and plaster walls. Above the storefront is a canvas awning and ca. 1990 wood cornice. The upper facade has an exterior of original textured brick. The second floor has an original tripart window with a fixed central wood window flanked by one-over-one wood sash casement windows. Over the windows are original diamond light transoms. This window opening has a concrete sill and lintel. Above the window is a sheet metal cornice with terra cotta egg and dart molding and corbelled brick. At the roofline is a stepped parapet with concrete coping.

**512 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1915 SU-7032 CB**

This is a two-story brick building constructed ca. 1915. During the 1930s and 1940s, the building was occupied by the Western Union Company. The building has a ca. 1960 and ca. 1980 storefront. The storefront has a ca. 1980 aluminum and glass door and formica bulkheads and aluminum and glass display windows added ca. 1960. Above the storefront are glazed tile and metal cornices which conceal the original upper storefront and transom area. This tile and metal was added ca. 1980 when the building at 506-510 was remodeled in the same fashion. The second story of this building has ca. 1980 fixed windows. Above the windows are brick jack arches and a rectangular brick panel outlined in soldier courses. At the roofline is an original sheet metal cornice with brackets. Between the brackets are diamond shaped panels. At the corners of the roofline are brick piers. The interior has been remodeled on the first floor with added wall, ceiling and floor finishes.

**513-515 State Street, Bristol, Virginia 1948 102-5017-0015 CB**

This was the site of the Harmeling Opera House which was the main center for performing arts in Bristol at the turn of the century. A new building at this site was built ca. 1910 and was known as the Mahoney Building. The present building was constructed in 1948 and originally known as the Faucett Building. It housed the Rose Department Store for many years. This is a two-story, brick and concrete building constructed in the Art Deco style and it retains its original storefront and upper facade. The storefront has original marble bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows and a recessed entrance with ca. 1970 aluminum and glass doors. Above the storefront is an original wood and aluminum canopy. Above the canopy are marble transom panels. The exterior of the upper facade is of marble panels. The central bay of the building has vertical fluted marble panels that divide the three window bays. These window bays contain original structural glass blocks. In 1989, the current accounting firm added partition walls for offices on the first floor.

**514 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1910 SU-7033 CB**

This is a two-story brick building constructed ca. 1910 and remodeled into its present form ca. 1940. Following its remodeling, this building was occupied for many years by Roger's Jewelry. The building retains its ca. 1940 storefront, which is recessed. This storefront has aluminum and glass display windows resting on wood bulkheads. Above the display windows are also wood panels. The recessed entrance has an original terrazzo floor, plaster ceiling and original aluminum and glass door. Above the storefront the transom has been covered with wood panels. The second story has a stucco exterior with rectangular panels, vertical and horizontal incised fluting and a central stepped rectangular panel. At the roofline is metal coping. The interior of the first floor has been remodeled with dropped acoustical tile and added floor and ceiling finishes.

**516-520 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee 1930 CB/National Register-listed**

The Paramount Theatre (516 State Street) and its associated office building (518-520 State Street) were both constructed in 1930 as Bristol's premier movie theater. Designed in the Art Deco style by architects McDonald and Company of Atlanta, the theater features an exterior of polychrome terra cotta, and retains its original marquee. The building features vertical fluting on the main facade, and much of its original storefront area is intact. The theater was restored in the 1980s, and continues to be an important arts center in the community. The adjacent office is a two-story brick commercial building. The building has two storefronts separated by original terra cotta piers. The 518 storefront was remodeled ca. 1960 and has a recessed entrance and glass and wood display windows. Both the

518 and 520 storefronts have ca. 1960 terrazzo floors. The 520 storefront is also recessed with ca. 1970 aluminum glass display windows and aluminum and glass doors. Above the storefronts is a terra cotta beltcourse. Above this beltcourse is a brick beltcourse of rectangular panels. The second floor has three bays of paired original steel twelve-light hinged windows. These windows have glazed terra cotta surrounds and share a continuous terra cotta sill. Above the windows is a beltcourse of rectangular brick panels. At the roofline is a terra cotta cornice and corbelled brick. Because of its architectural and historical significance, the theater and its associated office building was individually listed on the National Register on April 4, 1985.

**517 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** ca. 1910 102-5017-0016 **CB**

This three-story brick building was built ca. 1910. During the 1940s, it housed the McChesney and Lester Company, Jewelers. The building has a storefront remodeled ca. 1970 with brick bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows and a recessed entrance with a glass and wood door. The east bay of the storefront has an entrance leading to the upper floors. Across the width of the storefront is a wood mansard canopy. Metal panels conceal the rest of the first floor. The upper floors of the building were originally used as a boarding house. The upper two floors are divided into separate apartments and have original two panel doors, wood floors, and plaster walls with wainscoting. Original bathrooms remain with tile floors. The doors have rectangular transoms and wood surrounds. The original staircases in the front and rear of the building remain and have square newel posts. Some original partition walls of multi-light glass and wood remain in the hallways. The upper facade of the building has a central enframed curved window bay. Each floor has five one-over-one wood sash windows that have been painted and have lower sash panels of added louvered vents. The exterior wall surface between the two floors has been covered with plywood panels. The original brick walls framing the central bay have brick pilasters with stylized terra cotta Doric capitals. Above the window bay is a Romanesque blind arcade. Above this arcade is a terra cotta cornice with egg and dart molding. At the roofline is a stepped parapet with concrete coping. Just below the parapet wall is a rectangular brick panel of soldier course brick with a central inset diamond shaped concrete panel. The interior of the first floor has been remodeled added ceiling, wall and floor finishes.

**519-521 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** 1939 102-5017-0017 **CB**

This three-story brick building was constructed in 1939, and originally housed the Louis Sterchi Furniture Company. The building was designed with Art Moderne influences. The storefront was altered ca. 1970 with the addition of brick veneer over the original blue glazed tile. Brick veneer piers were also added. The recessed storefront has an original terrazzo floor, aluminum bulkheads and original aluminum and glass display windows. The entrance has ca. 1970 paired glass and wood doors. The upper facade is original and has curved central window bays of structural glass blocks and narrow two-light aluminum sash windows. Between each floor the windows are divided by green glazed tile panels. The windows are enframed by original blue glazed tile. The interior of the building retains an original staircase with three floors of open floor space and a mezzanine. The floors are of wood with walls and ceilings of plaster.

**523 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** ca. 1905 102-5017-0018 **CB**

This two-story brick building was constructed ca. 1905. The building has two storefronts, both of which were remodeled ca. 1970 with wood bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows and recessed entrances with aluminum and glass doors. Across the width of the storefront is a ca. 1970 metal canopy. The east bay of the building has an entrance with a ca. 1970 aluminum and glass door that leads to the second floor staircase. The transom area over the storefront has added stucco panels. The three second floor windows were enclosed ca. 1980 with two-light aluminum sliding track windows and stucco panels. Above the windows are rectangular brick panels. At the roofline is an original corbelled brick cornice, and ca. 1930 concrete coping. Both of the first floor storefronts have acoustical tile ceilings and added wall and ceiling finishes. The second floor has been remodeled into offices.

**524 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee** ca. 1890 SU-7035 **CB**

This is a three-story brick commercial building constructed ca. 1890, and it originally housed the Merchants National Bank. The building has housed a wide variety of occupants including the Glen-More Clothing Company in the 1940s. The building's storefront was remodeled ca. 1965 with tile bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows, and a recessed entrance with paired aluminum and glass doors. Across the width of the storefront is an aluminum awning. On the State Street facade above the storefront are green Carrara glass panels that date to a ca. 1950 storefront remodeling. The second story has four ca. 1990 one-over-one vinyl clad windows. Above these windows are original rectangular wood transoms. Below these windows is a beltcourse and corbelled brick panels. Between the second and third floors is a sheet metal cornice. The third story has four one-over-one vinyl clad windows. Above these windows are original arched transoms. Dividing the windows are Doric pilasters and these pilasters are connected by brick arches. Above the arched transoms is brick laid with decorative header courses. Above the third story is a brick half story lacking fenestration, which was added ca. 1940. On the alley facade on the first floor are arched openings that have been enclosed with brick. The upper floors have ca. 1990 one-over-one and six-over-six vinyl clad windows. The window arrangement and design on this facade is similar to the State Street facade. This facade also has an entrance with original double doors of single-light glass and wood design. This entrance leads to an original staircase with square newel posts and a milled railing. The entrance on the alley facade has a large

arched transom over the single-light and two-panel original doors. Attached at the rear is a ca. 1930 one-story brick wing. This wing has three storefront openings enclosed with wood frame panels. At the south facade of this wing is an added garage entrance with an overhead track garage door. The upper floors of the building are used as apartments. Several original doors remain, which are single-light and two-panel design with transoms.

**525 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** ca. 1905 102-5017-0019 **CB**

This one-story brick commercial building was constructed ca. 1905. The building was subdivided into two sections ca. 1940 and the storefronts were remodeled with black Carrara glass. The Pendleton Jewelry Company moved into one of the storefronts at this time, and remains in business at this location. Both storefronts have ca. 1940 bulkheads and surrounds of black Carrara glass. The east bay storefront is recessed with original aluminum and glass display windows. The entrance has a ca. 1970 aluminum and glass door. The west bay storefront has an elliptical aluminum and glass display window and a ca. 1970 aluminum and glass door. Over both storefronts are rectangular aluminum transoms covered with wood panels. The west bay storefront has a canvas awning. The upper facade has ca. 1940 added inset glass blocks and at the roofline is a sheet metal cornice. The interiors of both sections have dropped acoustical tile ceilings beneath the original pressed metal ceiling and added wall and floor finishes.

**527 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** ca. 1910 **NCB**

This one-story brick building was built ca. 1910. The building was remodeled ca. 1970 with a tile and aluminum and glass storefront and stuccoed upper facade. It no longer retains integrity of its original design.

**528-530 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee** 1951 SU-7036 **CB**

This is a three-story, concrete and brick building constructed in 1951 to house McCrory's Department Store. The building retains an original storefront with glazed tile bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows and a recessed entrance with three pairs of original aluminum and glass double doors. The upper facade is composed of stretcher bond brick. On both of the upper floors are horizontal rectangular window bands with eight original three-light steel awning windows. The windows have surrounds of yellow glazed tile. At the roofline is a cornice of yellow glazed tile. The interior of the first floor retains original plaster walls and ceilings and round concrete support columns.

**529 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** ca. 1905/1939 102-5017-0020 **CB**

This is a two-story brick building built ca. 1905 and remodeled into its present form in 1939. This location has been home to the Jewel Box since 1939. The building retains a ca. 1950 storefront with Art Moderne influenced curved maroon Carrara glass bulkheads and aluminum and glass display windows. The recessed entrance has a terrazzo floor inscribed "The Jewel Box" and an original aluminum and glass door. Above the storefront is an original carved aluminum canopy and a ca. 1970 metal awning. The upper facade has an original ca. 1950 neon sign. The upper facade has an exterior surface of maroon and tan Carrara glass. A central window panel has original structural glass blocks. The first floor interior has added wall, ceiling and floor finishes.

**531 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** ca. 1890 **NCB**

This is a two-story brick commercial building constructed ca. 1890. The building has been altered through the addition of a new storefront ca. 1980 with stucco bulkheads and wood and glass display windows. The upper facade has ca. 1960 formica panels over the original one-over-one wood sash windows. The first floor has an original pressed metal ceiling. The upper story has open floor space with plaster walls, and wood floors and ceilings. The original interior staircase remains intact. The building no longer retains integrity of its original design.

**532-534 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee** ca. 1895 SU-7037 **CB**

This is a three-story brick commercial building constructed ca. 1895. The building has housed a variety of businesses including the Bristol Floral Company in the 1940s. The building presently has two storefronts, 532 and 534. The 534 storefront was remodeled in 1981. This storefront has stone bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows, and an aluminum and glass door. The transom area is concealed beneath added wood panels and across the storefront is a canvas awning. The 532 storefront was added ca. 1935 and has bulkheads of black Carrara glass, display windows of aluminum and glass and an entrance with a ca. 1960 aluminum and glass door. The first floors of both sections have been remodeled but the original pressed metal ceiling is extant under the dropped ceiling. The upper facade has three bays divided by brick piers. Each bay contains an original two-over-two arched wood sash window. The windows have wood sills and brick arches. Between the second and third floors is a brick beltcourse with indented brick. On the second floor's central bay, the window has an elliptical transom. Above the third story windows is a brick beltcourse with indented brick. At the roofline is a ca. 1980 small wood cornice. The interior of the upper floors retains original open floor space, wood floors and on the third floor is an added acoustical tile ceiling.

**533 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** ca. 1890 102-5017-0021 **CB**

This two-story brick building was constructed ca. 1890 with commercial Italianate detailing. During the 1940s the building housed Bradley's Drug Store. The storefront was remodeled ca. 1970 with tile bulkheads and glass and aluminum display windows. The transom area has been covered with wood panels. The upper facade facing State Street has three window openings with original brick hood molding. The windows are ca. 1990 one-over-one vinyl clad sash with rectangular transoms. Above the windows is a corbelled brick cornice. On the 6th Street facade are six window bays on the upper facade with similar windows. At the rear of the building is a ca. 1910 one-story brick wing. This wing has a ca. 1980 open walkway to the parking lot at the rear and a door on the 6th Street facade has been enclosed with brick. The upper facade has a recessed brick panel and a corbelled brick cornice. The interior of the first floor has been remodeled with added wall, ceiling and floor finishes. The second floor has both original and added partition walls. The original staircase connects the two floors.

**536 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee 1921 SU-7038 CB**

This is a two-story brick and cast concrete building constructed with Neo-classical influences in 1921. The building housed the Sterling House Ladies Clothing Company in the 1940s. The building's corner storefront was remodeled ca. 1970 with anodized aluminum and glass display windows, a recessed entrance with aluminum and glass doors and an added aluminum and frame awning. The building was originally designed with elliptical windows on the upper facade. These have been covered with wood panels. The rest of the upper facade has an exterior of cast concrete panels. There are no windows on the State Street facade and below the roofline is a cornice of cast concrete with dentils. On the 6th Street facade are six bays. The south bay has an entrance with a ca. 1960 aluminum and glass door and metal awning. This entrance is set within a two-story arched opening, which has a scrolled keystone. The window in the arch on the second floor level has an original steel tri-part casement window. The remaining bays contain all or parts of original two-story steel tri-part casement windows. These windows are separated by concrete pilasters with Doric capitals. Above the windows are concrete voussoirs and keystones. One of the window bays has an added ca. 1970 door of aluminum and glass. Below the roofline is a cast concrete cornice with dentils. The interior of the first floor has been remodeled with dropped ceilings and added wall and floor finishes.

**600-604 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee 1945 SU-7039 CB**

This is a three-story steel and concrete building constructed in 1945, and known as the Central Building. The building was designed by Bristol architect Clarence B. Kearfott and two families financed its construction. The State Street section was originally built for J.A. Mahoney and the 6th Street section was built for Clarence P. Daniel. The Daniel family later purchased the Mahoney section in the 1970s. The building was designed in 1941 but not built until 1945 following the end of World War II. The Central Building originally housed physicians and dentists on the upper floors and the Coles Drug Store and the Fashion Shop occupied the first floor. The State Street facade has a unified storefront with separate upper facade treatments. The storefront of the building has original Carrara glass bulkheads, aluminum and glass doors, aluminum and glass display windows and surrounds of marble panels. In 1999 rectangular wood panels and engaged wood panels were added to the exterior of the storefront. The upper facade of the 600 section has an exterior of marble panels. There are four narrow window openings on the second and third floors. Windows are original three-light aluminum awning design. Between the windows are tile spandrels. The 602-604 upper facade also has an exterior of marble panels. Windows on the upper facade are within horizontal bands and are original three-light aluminum awning design. Between the windows are glass block panels. The 6th Street facade has an exterior of marble panels and similar windows as the 602-604 State Street facade. The Daniel Building section on 6th Street has four original storefronts with terrazzo bulkheads, aluminum and glass doors and aluminum and glass display windows. The upper facade has an exterior of glazed tile. Windows are ca. 1995 anodized aluminum set within horizontal bands. The interior of the upper floors retain original doors, linoleum floors and some interior windows have structural glass block. The original staircase is also intact. The 6th Street lobby has an original tile floor and glazed tile walls. The 6th Street entrance has original double doors of glass and aluminum. The interior of the 600-602 section has original terrazzo floors and plaster walls. The plaster ceiling has circular inset panels. This first floor was occupied by Minor and Cole Drugstore for many years. The 604 section has a similar ceiling and added floor and wall finishes.

**601 State Street, Bristol, Virginia 1974 NCB**

At this location is a concrete building constructed as the Dominion Bank in 1974.

**606 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1890 SU-7040 CB**

This is a three-story, brick, Romanesque style building built ca. 1890. The building's storefront was rebuilt ca. 1960 and has a recessed entrance with aluminum and glass doors, aluminum and glass display windows, corner marble piers and marble bulkheads. The transom area has been covered with metal panels. The upper facade has an exterior of stretcher bond brick. The second and third floor windows are divided by brick pilasters with Doric capitals. The capitals are connected by brick arches with egg and dart molding. The second and third floors have three bays of paired windows. The second floor has original one-over-one rectangular wood sash windows and rectangular transoms. The third floor has original one-over-one rectangular wood sash windows and arched transoms. The spandrels between the second and third floors have rectangular panels of terra cotta rope molding. The building has an attic story

that is separated from the third floor by a brick beltcourse. This attic story has three bays of connecting three arched one-over-one wood sash windows. At the roofline is a corbelled brick cornice. The interior of the first floor has been remodeled with an acoustical tile ceiling and added wall and ceiling finishes.

**610-612 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee** ca. 1910 SU-7041 CB

This is a three-story brick building constructed ca. 1910 and later became part of the E.W. King Department Store. The State Street facade was remodeled ca. 1945. The building's storefront retains original marble bulkheads. The storefront was remodeled ca. 1990 with anodized aluminum and glass display windows and a recessed entrance with aluminum and glass doors. The transom area has been covered with a large aluminum awning. Over the entrance is a canvas awning. The upper facade and storefront piers have a surround of glazed tile panels. The central section of the recessed upper facade has an exterior of aluminum panels. Windows on both floors are continuous bands of five-light aluminum awning design. Inscribed above the third floor windows is the name "E.W. King Company Inc." The interior of the first floor was remodeled ca. 1980 with dropped ceilings and added wall and ceiling finishes. The second floor has original wood floors, plaster walls, and pressed metal ceilings. Between the second and third floors is an original wood staircase with a milled newel post and railing. The third floor also retains wood floors beneath added carpet, and linoleum and original pressed metal ceilings. The upper two floors of 606 are also connected and have wood floors and pressed metal ceilings.

**611-613 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** ca. 1920 102-5017-0022 CB

This four-story brick commercial building was constructed ca. 1920 when the original building at this site was destroyed by fire in 1918. The building housed the Mitchell Powers Hardware Store and was designed with Colonial Revival influences by Bristol architect Clarence B. Kearfott. During the 1950s, the building was joined with its neighbor at 615-617 State Street and became part of the Parks-Belk Company Department Store. The building has a storefront remodeled ca. 1980 with brick bulkheads, brick piers, and anodized aluminum display windows. This building no longer has an entrance into the main facade. Across the width of the storefront is a wood and metal mansard canopy. The building's storefront is tied into the adjacent building at 615-617 State Street. The upper facade of the building is intact and has three window bays divided by brick piers with concrete Doric capitals. The exterior is of multi-colored textured brick. The original windows have been covered with wood louvered shutters. Dividing the first and second floors is a terra cotta cornice. Between the windows on each floor are spandrels with rectangular brick panels outlined with soldier courses. Windows on the second and third floors are rectangular while the fourth floor windows are set within segmental arches. Above the windows on the fourth floor are arched brick panels. Below the roofline is a terra cotta cornice with modillion blocks, brackets, and egg and dart molding. At the roofline is terra cotta coping. The interior of the building has been remodeled extensively with added floor, wall and ceiling finishes.

**614-618 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee** 1891 SU-7042 CB

This is a three-story brick building constructed in 1891 as the Cox Hat Co., which manufactured beaver hats. In the 1920s, F.W. Woolworth's occupied the first floor of the building and remained there throughout the 1980s. This building has three storefronts. The 614 and 616 storefronts are a unified design, while the 618 storefront is part of a unified storefront with 620-624 State Street. The 614 and 616 storefront was remodeled ca. 1945 and has recessed entrances with aluminum and glass double doors, aluminum and glass display windows and marble bulkheads. Over this storefront is a canvas awning. The upper facade of the building has three window bays in each section. Each building section is divided by a brick pilaster with Doric motif capitals. Windows are original one-over-one rectangular wood sash with soldier course lintels and concrete sills. Above the third floor windows are decorative rows of soldier course brick. Below the roofline is a stuccoed brick panel. At the roofline of the 614 and 616 sections is a parapet with concrete coping. The 618 section has an extended brick parapet wall. The first floor of these two sections (614 & 616) housed Woolworths in the mid-20th century. The interior retains the original chrome dinette counter, original chrome padded chairs, a linoleum floor and pressed metal ceilings. Adjacent to the counter is a dumbwaiter which connects to the kitchen on the second floor. Woolworths moved out in 1988. The upper floors have original wood floors, wood ceilings and brick walls. The 618 storefront was rebuilt ca. 1935 and 1999. The remodeling of ca. 1935 was done in conjunction with the adjacent building for the H.P. King Department Store. This storefront has marble bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows and a terrazzo entry floor dating from ca. 1935. The entrance's double doors are aluminum and glass design added in 1999. The first floor interior has an original pressed metal ceiling and wood floors.

**615-617 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** ca. 1920 102-5017-0023 CB

This is a three-story brick commercial building constructed ca. 1920 following a fire which destroyed the original building at this site. The building housed a furniture store for many years, and in the 1940s and 1950s it became the Parks-Belk Department Store. The building has a storefront remodeled ca. 1980. This storefront has brick piers, anodized aluminum display windows and doors and a recessed entrance. Across the width of the storefront is a wood and metal mansard canopy. The upper facade is intact and has three window bays divided by brick piers. The window openings have been covered with wood shutters. Each window bay is outlined by soldier course brick and between the two floors are rectangular brick panels. The window openings retain original concrete sills.

Above the third floor windows is a belt course of soldier course brick. Below the roofline is a terra cotta cornice supported by large brackets. At the roofline is concrete coping. The interior has been completely remodeled with added wall, floor and ceiling finishes. The one exception is the retention of the original pressed metal ceiling on the first floor.

**619 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** ca. 1900 102-5017-0024 CB

This two-story brick building was constructed ca. 1900. During the 1940s, it was occupied by the Payless Department Store. The storefront was remodeled ca. 1955 with formica paneled bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows and a recessed entrance with double doors of aluminum and glass. Across the width of the storefront is a metal awning. The transom area over the storefront has been covered with wood panels. The second floor is intact and has three window bays divided by brick piers with cast concrete Doric capitals. Dividing the first and second floors is a cast concrete beltcourse. Windows are original one-over-one arched wood sash and are presently concealed beneath louvered wood shutters and wood panels. The windows are set within brick arches. Above the windows are applied circular medallions. Above the windows is a brick beltcourse and at the roofline is a sheet metal cornice with acanthus leaf brackets, egg and dart molding, and large brackets at the corners of the building. The interior of the first floor retains original plaster walls and a pressed metal ceiling. The second story has original wood floors, ceilings and plaster walls.

**620-624 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee** ca. 1905 SU-7043 CB

This is a three-story, brick building constructed ca. 1905 and for many years was the H.P. King Co. Department Store. The building's storefront was rebuilt ca. 1935. The storefront has marble bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows and marble corner piers. The entrance has three pairs of original double doors of aluminum and glass design. The second and third floors have nine window bays divided by brick pilasters with Doric stone capitals and engaged brick columns with stone Ionic capitals. Windows are original one-over-one rectangular wood sash. The windows have concrete lintels and concrete sills. Between the second and third floor windows are spandrels with rectangular panels outlined in egg and dart molding. Above the third floor windows is a beltcourse of recessed brick panels. The original cornice on this building has been removed and an added brick parapet wall continued at the roofline. The interior of the first floor has a dropped acoustical tile ceiling beneath the original pressed metal ceiling. This floor also has a linoleum floor and plaster walls. On the west wall of the first floor is an original mezzanine level with square newel posts and a wood railing. The original metal ceiling is visible at the mezzanine level. Beneath the mezzanine is the ca. 1935 H.P. King lunch counter with original formica top counter and padded chrome stools. Leading to the mezzanine is an original staircase with a square newel post and wood rail. A second staircase near the front of the building connects all three floors and has a square newel post and milled balusters in the railing. On the second floor is open space with square wood support posts with Doric capitals. Some sections of the original pressed metal ceilings are on the second floor. This floor also retains Art Deco design display cases from ca. 1935. The third floor has original wood floors and its entire pressed metal ceiling.

**623 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** ca. 1925 102-5017-0025 CB

This is a three-story brick commercial building built ca. 1925. The building was designed with influences of the Colonial Revival style by Bristol architect Clarence B. Kearfott. For much of the 20th century, this has been the location of the Kemble-Cochran Company which sold books and stationery in the 1920s to 1940s and office supplies in the 1950s. The building's storefront was remodeled ca. 1960 with formica bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows, and an aluminum and glass door. Across the width of the storefront is an aluminum canopy. The upper facade has a central window bay within an enframed brick exterior. The window bays were covered with formica panels ca. 1960. Outlining the window bay is header course brick and above the window is brick soldier coursing. The window opening retains an original concrete keystone and shoulders. At the roofline is concrete coping. The interior of the first floor has added wall, ceiling and floor finishes. Above the dropped ceiling is an original pressed metal ceiling. The second story retains original open floor space, a wood ceiling and floor and plaster walls. The original staircase with a milled newel post and railing remains.

**625-627 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** ca. 1900/ca. 1910 NCB

The building at 625 State Street was constructed ca. 1900, while its neighbor at 627 State Street was built ca. 1910. Both of these buildings were remodeled ca. 1960 with a storefront with concrete bulkheads and aluminum and glass display windows. The upper facades of both buildings were covered with cast concrete panels ca. 1960. The interior of the first floor has added wall, floor and ceiling finishes. The second floor retains original wood floors, exposed brick and plaster walls and wood and plaster ceilings. The buildings no longer retain integrity of their original design.

**626 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee** ca. 1920 SU-7044 CB

This is a one-story brick building built ca. 1920 and remodeled into its present form ca. 1945. The building's storefront has ca. 1970 plywood bulkheads and ca. 1945 aluminum and glass display windows. The storefront has a recessed entrance with ca. 1945 double doors of aluminum and glass. This entrance has a terrazzo floor with "Diana" inscribed. The interior has plaster walls and ceilings and wood floors beneath carpeting.

**628-630 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee** ca. 1922 SU-7045 CB

This three-story, brick building is the Kress Building constructed ca. 1922. The storefront was remodeled ca. 1960 and has bulkheads of wood and formica, display windows of aluminum and glass and a recessed entrance with two pairs of double doors of aluminum and glass design. The corner and central piers and transom area have panels of formica or similar material. The interior of the first floor has a linoleum floor and original beamed plaster ceiling and plaster walls. The upper facade is of stretcher bond glazed brick. The upper facade is divided into three bays with the central bay containing four windows and the flanking bays two each. Windows are original one-over-one rectangular wood sash. Dividing the first and second floors is a terra cotta cornice. Between the second and third floor windows are spandrels with rectangular panels outlined in header brick, and circular decorative terra cotta panels. The central circular panel has a floral and shield design and the flanking panels display floral designs. The third floor windows have terra cotta sills and lintels of soldier course brick. Above the third floor windows are also terra cotta corner blocks with floral designs. Below the roofline is a terra cotta cornice with modillion blocks. The roofline of the building has a stepped gable and within the gable is a terra cotta panel inscribed "Kress" in blue terra cotta letters. The roofline has terra cotta coping. On both of the upper floors are original pressed metal ceilings.

**629 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** 1939/1959 NCB

This commercial building was constructed in 1939 to house the J.C. Penney Department Store. In 1959, the exterior was remodeled with porcelain paneled bulkheads, a recessed entrance with paired aluminum and glass double doors, and aluminum and glass display windows. The upper facade has an exterior of porcelain panels. The interior retains much of its 1939 layout with a mezzanine level, open floor space and acoustical tile ceilings. The rear section of the building was added in 1959.

**634 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee** ca. 1925 NCB

This is a one-story brick building built ca. 1925. The building has a ca. 1980 storefront with paneled wood bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows, and an aluminum and glass door. The transom area is covered with wood panels. At the upper facade is a ca. 1980 metal panel. The storefront has a canvas awning. The interior has an original pressed metal ceiling, added tile floor, and original plaster and brick walls. The building no longer retains integrity of its original design.

**636-638 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee** ca. 1905 NCB

This is a three-story, brick building constructed ca. 1905. The existing storefront was added ca. 1970 and has stone bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows and a recessed entrance with double doors of aluminum and glass design. The rest of the storefront is covered with wood panels and over the storefront is a wood and metal awning. The upper facade has an added metal front of opaque wire mesh. The original facade is visible underneath and has original rectangular one-over-one wood sash windows and a terra cotta exterior. This exterior decoration includes fluted Corinthian pilasters, arches above the third story windows with inset decorative panels and beltcourses of brick and terra cotta. Because of the mesh front on the upper facade, this building is included in the nomination as non-contributing.

**642-648 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee** 1930 SU-7046 CB

This is a two-story brick building constructed in 1930. The building was designed with three separate storefronts. The 642 storefront was remodeled ca. 1950 into its present form. It has bulkheads of black Carrara glass, aluminum and glass display windows and a recessed entrance with double doors of aluminum and glass. The transom area over the storefront has been covered with wood panels. Over the storefront is a canvas awning. The interior of the first floor has been remodeled with added carpet on the floor, and tile ceiling below the original pressed metal ceiling. The interior also has original plaster walls. The 644-648 storefront was occupied by Grant's Department Store for many years. This storefront was remodeled in 2001 with glass and wood display windows separated by Doric pilasters. This storefront also has single-light glass and wood doors and an added tile floor. The corner and central piers and upper facade is of stretcher bond wire brick. Above the storefronts are lintels of glazed terra cotta. The upper facade is composed of three sections divided by brick piers. Each section contains four original six-over-one wood sash windows. These windows rest on terra cotta sills with decorative floral panels. Above the windows is a terra cotta beltcourse with keystones above the windows. Below the roofline are inset terra cotta panels. The central section's panel has a shield and the date 1930. The flanking sections have panels with wreath designs. At the roofline is a terra cotta cornice and the central section has terra cotta panels in "Union Jack" designs. On the 7th Street elevation are seven pairs of similar windows. The first floor has two six-light casement windows and three six-light windows.

**700-706 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee** ca. 1945 SU-7047 CB

This one-story brick building was constructed ca. 1945. The building has two storefronts facing State Street. This storefront is original to the building and has marble bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows and two recessed entrances with aluminum and glass double doors. Above the doors are rectangular transoms. The exterior of the building is of five-course common bond brick. Below the roofline on the State Street facade is a concrete beltcourse with inset rectangular concrete panels. At the roofline is a concrete parapet wall. The interior has a tile ceiling and added floor carpeting and wall surfaces.

**701 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** ca. 1920 102-5017-0026 CB

This two-story brick commercial building was constructed ca. 1920 and it housed a drug store for many years. The building's storefront was remodeled on both the State Street and Piedmont Avenue facades ca. 1960. This remodeling includes the addition of glazed tile bulkheads and piers, aluminum and glass doors and aluminum and glass display windows. The transom area has been covered with vertical board panels. The upper facade on State Street has four window bays with original one-over-one wood sash rectangular windows. These windows rest on a continuous concrete sill. Over the windows are soldier course lintels. At the corners of the building are Doric brick pilasters. Above the windows is a beltcourse of soldier course brick and a sheet metal cornice. On the Piedmont Avenue facade are seven window bays with original one-over-one wood sash windows set within segmental arches. The interior of the first floor has added wall, ceiling and floor finishes.

**703 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** ca. 1930 NCB

This two-story brick building was built as the Cameo Theater ca. 1930. The main facade was remodeled ca. 1950 and again ca. 1970. The entrance has ca. 1970 doors of anodized aluminum. Above the doors and the corner piers is an added surface of ca. 1970 gravel and stucco panels. The ticket booth also has this added surface. The existing marquee and sign were also added ca. 1970. The central bay of the upper facade has a ca. 1950 stucco surface and three bays of ten-light steel awning windows. Flanking the central stuccoed bay are piers of ca. 1970 gravel and stucco panels. The rest of the theater, including its facade facing Goode Street, has original brick walls with steel windows. The building no longer retains integrity of its ca. 1930 and ca. 1950 appearance.

**705 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** ca. 1925 102-5017-0027 CB

This three-story brick building was constructed ca. 1925. The building's storefront retains an original recessed entrance with an original single-light glass and wood door. The storefront has ca. 1950 aluminum and glass display windows and the bulkheads have been covered with ca. 1970 metal panels. Above the storefront is a ca. 1970 wood and metal awning. The first floor above the storefront has an exterior of tan and maroon Carrara glass. The upper facade of the State Street facade has three bays of original sixteen-light steel awning windows. These windows on the second floor share a continuous concrete sill and have soldier course lintels. Third floor windows have concrete sills and soldier course lintels. Below the roofline is a concrete and soldier course cornice. At the roofline is concrete coping. The James Street facade has ten window bays with original steel sixteen-light windows with similar concrete and brick sills and lintels on both floors. At the roofline is also a continuation of the cornice. This facade has an entrance with an original single-light and two-panel glass and wood door. The interior of the first floor retains an original pressed metal ceiling, added floor surfaces, and original plaster walls. The first floor has a mezzanine level with an original staircase and glass and wood office partitions. The second and third floors retain open floor space and have exposed brick walls, wood floors and wood ceilings.

**708-712 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee** ca. 1905 SU-7048 CB

This is a two-story brick building constructed ca. 1905. The building was designed with similar features but the 708 section appears to have been built first with 710-712 built soon after with different upper facade features. All three storefronts have been altered. The 708 storefront has a recessed entrance with a ca. 1970 aluminum and glass door. Bulkheads and corner piers are of ca. 1970 random course stone veneer. Some sections of the bulkhead have formica panels. Display windows are ca. 1970 aluminum and glass design. In the west bay of this storefront is a ca. 1970 aluminum and glass door leading to the second story staircase. Over the transom area is added metal panels. The 710 storefront is also recessed and has a ca. 1970 aluminum and glass door, aluminum and glass display windows and corner piers and bulkheads of random course stone veneer. The transom area has been covered with plywood panels and over the storefront is a canvas awning. The 712 storefront has a recessed entrance with an aluminum and glass door, aluminum and glass windows and random course stone veneer exterior. The transom area has been covered with wood panels and over the storefront is a canvas awning. The upper facade of the 708 building has three original one-over-one rectangular sash windows. These windows are set within two-course header brick arches with label molding. Above the windows is a brick beltcourse. At the roofline is a corbelled brick cornice and terra cotta coping. The upper facades of the 710 and 712 buildings are identical. On both upper facades are three original rectangular one-over-one wood sash windows. Each window has a rock faced stone sill and lintel. Above the windows is a brick belt course and at the roofline is a corbelled brick cornice and terra cotta coping. Separating the three sections of this building are brick pilasters with inset bands of recessed brick. The first floor of all three buildings have been remodeled, but the 708 section retains an original pressed metal ceiling.

**709 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** 1922 102-5017-0028 CB

This is a two-story brick building constructed in 1922. The building has a storefront rebuilt ca. 1990 with frame bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows and transoms and aluminum and glass doors. The interior has been remodeled with added floor surfaces, new partition walls, and wall surfaces. The first floor retains an original pressed metal ceiling. Above the storefront is a soldier course lintel and across the width of the storefront is a shed roof canvas awning. The corner brick piers of the storefront have soldier and sailor brick courses in textured and colored brick. Above the storefront are rectangular brick panels with diamond pattern inset brick.

On the second floor are four window bays with paired ca. 1990 six-over-one aluminum sash windows. The windows rest on a continuous concrete sill. Dividing the window bays are paired Doric brick pilasters with concrete capitals. The central bay has a brick pier lacking a Doric capital. Above the windows is a brick soldier course beltcourse. Above this beltcourse are panels of diamond shaped brick. At the roofline is an elliptical parapet wall with concrete coping supported by paired brick piers. In the elliptical parapet is a panel outlined in concrete with an inscribed concrete "S".

**711-713 State Street, Bristol, Virginia 1923 102-5017-0029 CB**

This is a one-story brick and terra cotta building constructed in 1923. The building has two storefronts both remodeled ca. 1980 with aluminum and glass display windows, wood bulkhead panels and aluminum and glass doors. The transoms have been covered with wood panels. Across the width of the storefront is an elliptical awning. The 713 storefront retains one small section of original storefront consisting of six-light and single-panel display windows. The corner piers and upper facade have an exterior of white glazed terra cotta. These terra cotta panels have inset cross and circular designs. Above the storefront is a terra cotta cornice. At the roofline is a double gable parapet and each gable has a rectangular panel inscribed "1923." At the roofline is terra cotta coping. The interior has been remodeled with new wall, ceiling and floor surfaces.

**714 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1945 NCB**

This three-story brick building was constructed ca. 1945, but its facade was rebricked ca. 1960. The storefront was rebuilt ca. 1960 and has brick bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows and aluminum and glass doors at the entrance. The transom area is covered with metal panels. The upper facade has no fenestration and has a mural with painted windows and brick piers and cornice.

**715-717 State Street, Bristol, Virginia 1926 102-5017-0030 CB**

This two-story brick building was constructed in 1926. The building's storefront was remodeled ca. 1970 with aluminum and glass display windows and doors. The transom area has been covered with aluminum panels. The storefront's brick corner piers have raised brick in quoin and cross designs. Above the transom panel the brick has raised brick in cross designs. The second floor has seven window bays on the main facade. The windows rest on a continuous concrete sill. The original windows were replaced ca. 1970 with the existing twelve-light hinged steel design. Above the window openings is a continuous brick soldier course lintel. Above the central and corner windows are rectangular brick panels with diamond shaped concrete inset designs. Above the remaining windows are arched brick panels with concrete keystones. Below the roofline are rows of soldier and sailor brick courses and two inset concrete panels inscribed "1926." At the roofline is a stepped parapet with concrete coping. On the west facade the first floor retains original nine-light steel hinged windows with header course brick sills and soldier course lintels. The second story has seven window bays with ca. 1970 twelve-light steel hinged windows. These windows have corbelled brick sills and soldier course lintels. At the roofline is a stepped parapet with terra cotta coping. The interior has added floor, ceiling and wall finishes on the first floor.

**716-718 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1925 SU-7049 CB**

This one-story brick and terra cotta building was constructed ca. 1925. The 716 storefront was rebuilt ca. 1970 and has an aluminum and glass door, aluminum bulkheads and the display windows have been covered with wood panels. Over the transom area is also wood panels. The 718 storefront was rebuilt ca. 1970 and has aluminum and glass display windows, an aluminum and glass door, and aluminum bulkheads. Over the transom area are wood shingles and across the storefront is a canvas awning. The building's piers and upper facade are of white glazed terra cotta. Across both upper facades is a terra cotta beltcourse with rosettes. The vertical piers have elliptical capitals and Gothic arch inset panels. The interiors of both sections have been remodeled with added ceilings and wall and floor finishes.

**720-724 State Street, Bristol, Tennessee ca. 1925 NCB**

This is a one-story brick building with three storefronts built ca. 1925. All three storefronts were rebuilt ca. 1965-70 and have aluminum bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows and aluminum and glass doors. The upper facades of all three sections have added metal and wood panels concealing the original facade. The original brick piers separating the storefronts have recessed panels. The interiors of all three sections have added dropped ceilings and wall and floor finishes.

**801 State Street, Bristol, Virginia ca. 1925 102-5017-0031 CB**

This two-story brick and terra cotta building was constructed ca. 1925. During the 1940s and 1950s, it was home to Byrd Arthur Furniture. It later became Hayes Furniture. The building's storefront retains original terra cotta bulkheads, original copper and glass display windows and two recessed entrances with ca. 1970 aluminum and glass doors. Above the display windows the transom area has been covered with aluminum panels. Across the width of the storefront is a ca. 1990 canvas awning. The corner piers and upper facade of the building are of tan colored glazed terra cotta. The corner piers have inset panels of dark red terra cotta with floral designs. Above the transom area are terra cotta panels and a terra cotta belt course. The State Street facade has three window bays with the openings covered with wood panels. These windows are arched and they are divided by terra cotta pilasters. Above the

windows are inset rectangular panels of green glazed terra cotta, and small dark red terra cotta with floral designs. At the roofline is a stepped parapet of terra cotta with inset floral panels. The pilasters have capitals of garland and swag designs, above which are terra cotta urns. A large metal ca. 1960 sign on the facade advertises "Hayes Furniture." The east facade facing 8th Street has a brick exterior with eight window bays. The windows have been covered with wood panels but have header course brick sills and soldier course lintels. Above the windows are rectangular panels of herringbone brick and inset concrete diamond shaped panels. The interior has added carpet on the floors, original plaster walls and a pressed metal ceiling. An original wood staircase with square newel posts and balusters leads to the mezzanine level.

**803-805 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** ca. 1925 102-5017-0032 **CB**

This is a three-story brick building constructed ca. 1925. The 803 storefront is largely intact and has two original glass and wood single-light doors divided by a central display window. Above the doors are rectangular transoms. The are directly above the storefront has a ca. 1970 wood sign panel. The display window is of copper and glass and rests on an original brick bulkhead. Above the storefront is an original multi-light leaded glass transom. The 805 storefront has an original recessed entrance with single-light glass and wood double doors. Above the doors is an original rectangular transom. The rest of the storefront was remodeled ca. 1960 with formica bulkheads and aluminum and glass display windows. Formica panels cover the original transom area. Dividing the storefront and second story is a corbelled brick beltcourse. The upper facade has four window bays on each floor. The windows are original thirty-light steel design with two panels of inset six-light hinged steel design. The windows have concrete sills and soldier course lintels. Above the third floor windows is a sheet metal cornice. At the roofline is a stepped parapet with metal coping. The interior has added floor, wall and ceiling finishes on the first floor. A section of an original office is within the 805 section and this office has original oak wainscoting.

**807 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** ca. 1925 102-5017-0033 **CB**

This is a two-story brick building constructed ca. 1925. The building retains an original storefront with concrete bulkheads, copper and glass display windows and a recessed entrance with original single-light glass and wood double doors. Above the doors is an original rectangular transom. Across the width of the storefront is a wood transom bar and an original leaded glass transom. This transom has been painted and a section removed for the addition of a fan. The first and second floors are divided by a corbelled brick cornice. The second floor has three window bays with original arched twenty-light windows of steel hinged design. The windows have arched multi-light transoms. The window openings share a continuous concrete sill, and dividing the windows are brick pilasters with Doric concrete capitals. The windows have brick arches with concrete keystones. Above the windows is a corbelled brick and concrete cornice. At the roofline is a parapet wall with concrete coping. The interior has an original pressed metal ceiling, wood floors and plaster walls.

**809 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** ca. 1920 102-5017-0034 **CB**

This two-story brick building was constructed ca. 1920. The building's storefront was altered ca. 1970 and has aluminum and glass display windows, aluminum bulkheads and a recessed entrance with an aluminum and glass door. The transom area above the storefront has an added formica sign panel. Between the two floors is a corbelled brick cornice. The second floor has three window bays with original paired twenty-four-light steel windows with inset eight-light hinged panels. Each window has a concrete sill and above the windows are soldier course lintels. Below the roofline is an original sheet metal cornice. At the roofline is a parapet with metal coping. The interior of the first floor has added wall, ceiling and floor finishes.

**811 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** ca. 1945 102-5017-0035 **CB**

This one-story brick building was constructed ca. 1945. The building was designed to house an automobile oriented business and it has a central garage bay with an original fifteen-light glass and wood overhead track door. This entrance is flanked by a recessed brick panel on the east and fixed single-light display window on the west. Above the garage bay is a soldier course lintel. Below the roofline is a corbelled brick cornice. At the roofline is a parapet with terra cotta coping. Windows on the west facade have been enclosed with brick. The interior has original open floor space, a concrete floor, brick walls and a wood ceiling.

**827 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** ca. 1935 **NCB**

Built ca. 1935, this one-story building originally housed a Southern Oil gas station. The building has been extensively modified in recent decades through the addition of new siding materials, windows and door. The interior has also been remodeled into an office. Due to the extent of these alterations, this building is included as non-contributing to the district.

**833 State Street, Bristol, Virginia** ca. 1915 102-5017-0036 **CB**

This is a three-story brick building constructed ca. 1915 as the Bristol Grocery Company. The first floor has a central entrance with ca. 1970 double doors of aluminum and glass. Above the doors is an original eight-light glass and wood transom. Flanking the entrance are four window bays. The east and west bays have original paired four-over-four rectangular wood sash windows. The windows

adjacent to the entrance are original six-over-six rectangular wood sash. The first floor windows have concrete sills. Dividing the first and second floors is a corbelled brick cornice. The second and third floors have four window bays. Each window bay has paired original four-over-four rectangular wood sash windows with header course brick sills. Below the roofline is a corbelled brick and terra cotta cornice. At the roofline is a stepped parapet with concrete coping. On the west facade are thirteen window bays each with an original six-light steel casement window. The windows are set within three course header bond brick arches and have brick sills. Two windows on the first floor are original six-over-six steel sash design set within segmental arches. The first floor also has two loading dock bays. Over these bays is an original steel and aluminum canopy. The east facade of the building lacks fenestration. The interior retains an original staircase leading to the first floor office area. This office area has original glass and wood double doors at the top of the stairs. The office area has original glass and wood partition walls, counters, plaster walls and a pressed metal ceiling. Painted on the east wall is "Bristol Grocery Co. Inc."

### **Building at the rear of 833 State Street, Bristol, Virginia ca. 1920 102-5017-0037 CB**

This is a two-story brick manufacturing building constructed ca. 1920. It originally housed the Jobbers Candy Company and was later the home of the Aronhime Meat Packing Company. The building has a poured concrete foundation and exterior of five-course common bond brick. On the main (S) facade is a pedestrian entrance with an original solid steel door. Over the door is a concrete lintel. The central bay has a large arched opening of three-course header bond brick. This entrance has an original steel door. Windows on the upper facade are original twelve-light single and paired steel design with six-light hinged panels. The windows have poured concrete sills and lintels. Window openings on the other facades have similar steel windows. Some windows have added wood panels over the original windows. On the north facade most of the original door and window openings have been enclosed with brick. On the north facade is a second floor entrance with a ca. 1960 two-light glass and wood door. At the roofline is a stepped parapet with terra cotta coping.

## **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

### **SUMMARY STATEMENT**

The Bristol Commercial Historic District is located in the cities of Bristol, Tennessee, and Bristol, Virginia. The two cities merge at their combined downtown commercial area, which is situated along the Tennessee-Virginia border. State Street divides the two cities and serves as the state line. The Bristol Commercial Historic District is eligible for historic designation under National Register criterion A for its historic commercial development, and under National Register criterion C for its architectural significance. The district contains 106 primary buildings, of which 83 or 80% would be considered contributing to the character of the district. The Bristol Commercial Historic District is significant under National Register criterion A for its development as a regional commercial, industrial, and entertainment center. Bristol evolved around the construction of railroads, and emerged as one of the region's most important concentration of business and trade. By the mid-20th century, Bristol was known as the "Shopping Center of the Appalachians." The Bristol Commercial Historic District is also significant under National Register criterion C for its collection of late 19th and early 20th century architecture. Buildings within the district date primarily from ca. 1890 to ca. 1952. Architectural styles represented include Italianate, Beaux Arts, Neo-classical, Art Moderne, and Art Deco. The district represents a large intact collection of contiguous period commercial buildings. The buildings retain a high degree of architectural integrity and collectively retain the character of a late 19th/early 20th century commercial district.

## **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

### *Colony to Early National Period (1753-1830)*

Bristol, Tennessee-Virginia, developed in the mid-19th century at the time of the construction of the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad. The line was to end at the Virginia-Tennessee state line, and visionary investors rushed to purchase the woods and farmland surrounding the proposed route each with the intention of establishing a town. Such interests resulted in the formation of not one but three towns in two states: Bristol, Tennessee; Bristol, Virginia; and Goodson, Virginia. Well before the coming of the railroad, however, the roots of Bristol's history reach to the late 18th century and the estates of John Goodson and Colonel James King.

James King (1752-1825) immigrated to Virginia from London at age seventeen in 1769. King adopted the colony as his new home and fought in the Revolutionary War. In 1782, he married Sarah Goodson and soon purchased several acres near what is now present-day Bristol. King erected a two-story log house on the acreage and named the homesite "Holly Bend." In 1784, he established an iron works south of present day Bristol at the mouth of Steele's Creek. One of the first iron works in the region, the company hauled iron from the furnace by wagon to Kingsport, which was named in honor of Colonel King, then shipped the iron down the Holston River. King's furnace also made cannon balls for the War of 1812. In 1790, King became business partners in a nail factory with William

Blount, Governor of the Territory South of the Ohio River.<sup>4</sup> King became one of the region's wealthiest men. King's youngest son, James King, Jr. (1791-1867), followed in his father's footsteps and also became a wealthy landowner. It was his land that became the future site of Bristol.

Soon after his marriage in 1812, James King, Jr., wanted to establish a residence close to that of his father's and on September 26, 1814, he purchased 1600 acres from Issac Shelby. The land was situated in Sullivan County, Tennessee, and Washington County, Virginia, and is the present site of Bristol. King and his new wife established a large plantation on the land and chose a prominent hill on which to build their home, a two-story brick Federal style dwelling named Mountain View.<sup>5</sup>

During the same period that the elder James King was developing his estate, his wife's brother, John Goodson, also began establishing roots in the area. On September 10, 1799, Goodson purchased a 348-acre tract of land northeast of the King property. He and his wife Sarah Wickham Goodson ran a prosperous farm and Goodson served in the Virginia House of Delegates in the 1817-1818 session. John Goodson died in 1829 and his son Colonel Samuel Eason Goodson (1793-1870) inherited the property. Like his father, he became involved in politics and served in the House of Delegates from 1837 to 1849.

#### *Antebellum Period (1831-1860)*

By the mid-1840s, word began to spread throughout the region about a possible railroad line. The proposed route was to cross James King's land and terminate at the Virginia-Tennessee border. In 1848, King donated an eighty-foot right of way and approximately ten acres on either side of the tracks for depot lots. Because railroads often brought with them numerous business opportunities and prosperity, the proposed railroad made conditions favorable for establishing a town along the state border. Chief among those interested in pursuing such a venture was King's new son-in-law, Joseph Rhea Anderson. A young merchant from Blountville, Tennessee, Anderson had married Melinda King on June 3, 1845 and was an ambitious businessman. Anderson realized that the railroad "would provide the necessary traffic for developing the area's great natural resources and agricultural potentials."<sup>6</sup> In 1852 he approached James King about purchasing some of his land for the development of a town. After some persuasion from his daughter, King finally agreed and on July 10, 1852 sold one hundred acres to his son-in-law.<sup>7</sup>

In less than a month, Anderson had the area surveyed and divided into lots. He envisioned "the development of an important trade and industrial city," and named the town Bristol, after a manufacturing city in England.<sup>8</sup> Situated in both Virginia and Tennessee, it was legally two towns. The original town plat included most of the present downtown area of Bristol. Lots sold quickly in the new town, and Joseph R. Anderson erected the first building in 1853. This two-story frame structure was sited at 4th and Main (Edgemont and Sate) Streets and served as both a home and store. Anderson opened his general store, which was the town's first business, by Christmas 1853.<sup>9</sup> In November of 1853, the Bristol Post Office was established. Sales of lots increased in 1854 and 1855 as anticipation of the railroad continued.<sup>10</sup>

While Joseph Anderson was establishing Bristol, Colonel Samuel Eason Goodson was making a similar effort. Goodson owned over 300 acres north and east of King's land and also realized the impact a railroad would have on the area. To take advantage of the situation, he established the town of Goodsonville alongside Anderson's Bristol. In the early 1850s, Goodson had eleven and one-tenth acres surveyed and mapped with a depot as the town center. Goodson tried to persuade the railroad to pass through his town. However, the land was near, but not on, the proposed route, and King had already donated prime land for a depot in 1848. Although it did not secure the depot, a portion Goodson's land was used for rail yards.<sup>11</sup>

In September of 1856, the track was finally completed, and on October 1, 1856, the first train pulled into Bristol. The town was the end of the line and two special trains made the 27 hour, 204 mile trip from Lynchburg. Bristol citizens celebrated with speeches and barbecues as cannons and bands escorted the trains into town. At this time the town, which had been built entirely during the past two or three years, contained only about 800 residents.<sup>12</sup> Another railroad line, that of the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad, was also working its way to the town. To accommodate this second route, a depot was constructed in Bristol, Tennessee, in 1857. This track was completed and in operation by late May, 1858 with trains running from Bristol to Knoxville.<sup>13</sup>

As the first railroad was nearing completion, three towns surrounded it: Bristol, Virginia; Bristol, Tennessee; and Goodsonville, Virginia. To clarify the situation, Joseph Anderson pushed to combine the towns into one. However, the matter of the state line prevented the formation of one town and a move arose to incorporate all of the Virginia side as Goodson. A bitter controversy erupted over the issue as business interests and personal loyalties clashed. A final decision was made December 17, 1855 when citizens voted to establish all of the Virginia side consisting of both Goodsonville and the original Bristol, Virginia as the town of Goodson. Bristol, Tennessee moved ahead with incorporation the following February and elected Joseph Anderson as its first mayor. Goodson, Virginia incorporated on March 5, 1856 and citizens chose Austin M. Appling as their mayor.<sup>14</sup> With the railroad finally a reality, Bristol and

Goodson prospered. Quick and numerous lot sales coupled with the completion of the railroad instigated numerous land purchases. The town grew considerably as houses, stores, hotels, and other businesses emerged. Five hotels were established in Bristol before the Civil War. Alfred T. Wilson constructed the town's first hotel next to his store on Main (State) Street in 1854. It was named the Columbia Hotel and around 1855, a restaurant opened in the building. The establishment burned in 1859. In 1857, the Magnolia Hotel (also known as the Virginia House) was constructed by John Langhorne. This large frame structure contained fourteen bedrooms for rent, a large gathering hall, and a sizeable dining room. The town's founder, Joseph Anderson, transformed his large brick warehouse constructed in 1858 as a grain commission house into a hotel in 1859. Located on Main (State) and Fourth Streets, this hotel was first known as the Exchange and later became the Nickels House. In addition to these establishments were the Famous Hotel, opened in 1858, and the Walker House, a rather risqué establishment with a shady reputation.<sup>15</sup>

Merchants also flourished in the new town. The first business, that of town founder Joseph R. Anderson, began operation in 1853 in Anderson's home. Around 1858, Anderson moved his business into a large two-story building where it remained until 1881. At this time, Anderson relocated his business into a three-story brick structure he had built at 410 Main (State) Street. By this time, Anderson's son, John Campell Anderson, and his nephew, Aaron B. Carr, managed the business.<sup>16</sup>

In addition to Joseph Anderson, other initial merchants in Bristol were Joseph H. Moore and W.W. James. Moore set up business at the corner of what is now Lee and State Streets. James came from a family of merchants and operated a store in nearby Blountville, Tennessee. He opened his Bristol store in 1855 on the corner of Fourth and Main (State). This prime business location cost the merchant \$600, the highest price paid for any early lot in Bristol. He continued to operate stores in both towns with his relative J. William James managing the Bristol establishment. W.W. James eventually moved to Bristol and became one of the town's leading merchants and citizens.<sup>17</sup> Other businesses in the emerging town were Nunley & Fuqua; Booker & Trammell; Henry Rosenheim; Martin Brothers; Joseph W. Jones; Keebler & Simpson; L. F. Johnson; Raine & Megginson; Gugginheimers; and Wingfield & Campbell.<sup>18</sup>

Dr. Richard M. Coleman opened Bristol's first drugstore in 1856. He soon had competition from David J. Ensor, who opened the second drugstore in town. John N. Bosang's saloon, opened in 1855, was the first of many saloons to operate in the new town. Also in 1855, Bristol's first blacksmith shop, owned by James N. Yoste, began operation. The town also had two silversmiths: Joseph Bunn and A.S. Jones. Around 1858, Mrs. Elizabeth J. Vance set up the town's first tailor shop in the Famous Hotel around 1858, and Bristol's first bakery was established by Samuel H. and Oratta Buckalien. Richard More, the town's first photographer, set up a studio in a local tavern in 1859.<sup>19</sup>

Due to the presence of the railroad, Bristol was a center for receiving, selling, and shipping area produce. As a result, the operation of commission houses to oversee these operations became profitable businesses. One of the more successful early commission houses was that of L. F. Johnson and Son. The railroad also influenced entrepreneurial efforts such as that of Lewis and Rosetta Bachelor, who initiated a successful draying business in the mid-1850s by hauling supplies from the depot to local merchants. The Bachelors expanded their business in 1857 to include a buggy taxi service for travelers and others who needed rides in the area.<sup>20</sup>

Banking was also an important catalyst in Bristol's early commercial development. Joseph R. Anderson also led the way in this field as the town's first banker. He operated a private "salt bin bank" out of his store, and in 1855 added a banking room to the back of his store and enlarged his financial services.<sup>21</sup> Likewise, W.L. Martin operated a private banking business out of the back of his store on Main (State) Street. In 1857, a drive for a new bank resulted in the establishment of the Bank of Southwestern Virginia which operated for a brief time in the town.<sup>22</sup> Early industry in Bristol included saw mills, a shingle mill, and a woodworking shop that produced cabinets, furniture, and coffins. Many of these businesses harnessed the power of Beaver Creek, while others used steam engines. The Virginia and Tennessee Pottery Works operated in the commercial district in the 1850s, and a wagon and carriage factory based in Abingdon, Virginia, opened a branch in Bristol around 1859. The town also had its own tannery and brickyard.<sup>23</sup>

By the eve of the Civil War, Bristol had developed into a thriving young border town. Its rising commercial success was attributed to its location and the presence of the railroad, which connected the town to important markets. Bristol commercial establishments not only served its residents, but also people from surrounding counties. Farmers and traders from the region brought their goods and trade to Bristol.

#### *Civil War (1861-1865)*

Bristol and Goodson's growth was temporarily interrupted by the Civil War. The town depended on wholesale suppliers located in eastern cities such as Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York. As part of the Confederacy, Bristol no longer had access to these eastern markets. Confederate money caused inflation and prices rose.<sup>24</sup> The towns were raided several times by Federal troops, which

engaged in looting and destruction of some buildings. The most severe occurrence was on December 14, 1864, when Federal troops led by General Stephen Burbage entered the town and destroyed its railroad depots.<sup>25</sup> The Exchange Hotel, which also suffered extensive damage, was converted into a Confederate hospital.

### *Boom Years in Bristol (1870-1900)*

Following the Civil War, the town rebounded quickly as connections with northern markets were re-established. As early as September 1865, the local paper presented an optimistic outlook: "We are pleased to see business generally looking up. At present we have some twenty stores and business houses which are thronged during the day with customers and from the wagons on the streets we presume that a good deal of trade is coming from the back counties."<sup>26</sup> Businesses recovered during the latter half of the 1860s and by 1870, Bristol was poised for a boom period.

At the beginning of the 1870s, the combined Tennessee-Virginia population of Bristol-Goodson was roughly 2,000, and practically all residences were located in the downtown area, known as Beaver Flats. Houses were crowded among stores and other businesses along Main (State) Street, while Shelby, Broad, and Cumberland Streets were mostly residential. Past 7th Street, Main Street was also primarily residential. As the economy continued to expand, homes were demolished for new and expanding businesses. The city's first major expansion occurred in 1871 as the town of Goodson, Virginia, purchased over fifty acres northwest of the growing business district. Prosperous merchants who had initially combined their homes and businesses began to build homes in the new area as newer and larger buildings were erected to house their businesses.<sup>27</sup>

During the twenty year period from 1870-1890, Bristol experienced "a tremendous increase in both business and industry."<sup>28</sup> Entering this period of growth, Joseph R. Anderson and W.W. James remained leading merchants in the town and several new businesses formed during this period including H.C. Caldwell's jewelry shop, Betty Gallaway's millinery store, and W.E. Cunningham's confectionery company. Numerous dry goods stores and produce commissions were in operation. Also, by the late 1860s, William N. Keller and W.P. Brewer both marketed cooking and heating stoves.<sup>29</sup> In the mid 1870s, S.R. Ferguson opened a large hardware store, and Colonel J.M. Barker erected a three-story brick store building along Main (State) Street to house his mercantile business. Throughout the decade, the number of jewelry stores, millinery shops, bakeries, tailors and druggists increased, and G.C. Gallaway and A. S. McNeil produced fine furniture.

The town's growing prosperity was also reflected in the organization of two major banks. In 1868, Joseph R. Anderson organized his private banking business into The Bank of Bristol. In 1874, it was converted into a national bank and renamed the First National Bank of Bristol.<sup>30</sup> A new bank building was constructed in 1902. In 1871, a group of both Virginia and Tennessee citizens established the Exchange Bank of Goodson, for which merchant E.H. Seneker served as president.<sup>31</sup>

Industry was also on the rise in Bristol during this period. To encourage industrial growth, Sullivan County, Tennessee, granted tax exemptions to large industries, particularly those that employed at least fifteen people.<sup>32</sup> Some of the early industries of this period include H.A. Bickley, a manufacturer of furniture and coffins, and the Dixon & Smith iron foundry. Formed by William Dixon in the late 1860s, this firm produced many of the ornamental iron fences that surrounded the town's homes, churches, and cemeteries. Around 1870, Charles C. Campbell began a water-powered sawmill along Beaver Creek, and W. G. Taylor established a tannery. In addition the town soon contained two large brick plants, a mattress factory, and a shoe and boot factory.<sup>33</sup> C.H. Lewis established the Bristol Woolen Mills about 1870, and both the Jordon & Pepper Woolen Mill and Thomas C. Lancaster's cotton mill were in operation in 1874. During the last half of the decade, the Virginia Marble Works and Brown Brothers Carriage Factory were organized. At this time the town also had a watch factory, a cigar factory, and a pencil factory.<sup>34</sup>

During the 1880s, the Bristol Bone Meal Company was founded as was an extensive fruit drying plant. A. A. Hobson's sawmill business was prosperous and employed fifty men. The McCrary Brothers opened a machine shop and sash and door blind factory, and the Brown Brothers operated a carriage factory. A box factory and a cannery also developed. Around 1889, John Buffman of Boston, Massachusetts, built Buffman Mills, which later became the Bristol Door and Lumber Company. About this same time, the Bristol Iron and Steel Company established a plant in the town.<sup>35</sup> This industrial boom spurred hopes of making Bristol the "Pittsburgh of the South" and boosted the local economy for many years.<sup>36</sup>

The tobacco industry also became important to Bristol's growing economy in the late 19th century. In 1871, Major A. D. Reynolds, brother to R.J. Reynolds, arrived in Bristol and established a tobacco processing plant in a four-story building on Fourth Street. Reynolds instructed locals on how to grow the plant and encouraged the market for the product. His operation grew quite successful and in ten years it employed five hundred workers. In 1880, a second building was added, and in another ten years, a third was added. In 1892, the company erected an office building. By the late 1890s, the Bristol Reynolds Tobacco factory was "one of the leading

tobacco processing plants in the nation."<sup>37</sup> Salesmen for the Reynolds plant covered the entire South, and the success of the plant made Bristol a regional market for area tobacco farmers. Among the name brands produced in the Bristol plant were "Tennessee Leaf" and "AAAA" chewing tobacco and "Geranium Rose" and "May Queen" smoking tobacco.<sup>38</sup> Despite this success, the tobacco industry disappeared from Bristol by the turn of the century. In 1897, Reynolds sold the plant to a group of local investors who in turn soon sold the plant to the American Tobacco Company. In what was probably an effort to eliminate competition, this company dismantled the large tobacco operation at Bristol and the town's importance as a tobacco market faded.<sup>39</sup>

By the end of the 19th century, the Virginia, or Goodson, side of the town finally secured its identity as Bristol. From its beginning, Goodson suffered from an identity problem. Residents had grown accustomed to the name of Bristol, and the "new name was never universally accepted or used."<sup>40</sup> Although the town was legally known as Goodson for approximately thirty-four years, it continued to be referred to as Bristol by many. Businesses gave their location as Bristol, Virginia, and often the name Bristol-Goodson or vice versa was used. Some deeds referred to the town as Bristol and to complicate the matter further, the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad refused to recognize Goodson and gave its depot location as Bristol, Virginia.<sup>41</sup> Naturally, this caused a great deal of confusion and by 1890, the town conceded to the common usage and citizens voted to officially rename the town Bristol on January 7, 1890. That year the town of Bristol, Virginia was incorporated as a city.

At the turn of the century, the combined Bristol, Virginia, and Bristol, Tennessee population was just under 10,000. Main (State) Street had developed as a strong commercial district and very few homes remained located in the area. Rail service was rapidly improving and industry was growing. In addition, the region's coal resources were being promoted, and investors were opening mines and furnaces which also encouraged further railroad development. These industries joined the already lucrative lumber industry that exploited forests in the surrounding Cumberland and Holston Mountains. In 1890, the South Atlantic and Ohio Railroad completed its line from Bristol to Big Stone Gap and soon after extended it to Appalachia, Virginia. In 1899, the South Atlantic and Ohio Railroad Company merged with the Bristol, Elizabethton, and North Carolina Railroad to form the Virginia and Southwestern Railway Company.

The earliest commercial buildings remaining in the downtown historic district were built during this period of Bristol's development. Extant buildings from ca. 1890 to 1900 include the three-story buildings at 503-505 State Street, 524 State Street, 532-534 State Street, 533 State Street and 606 State Street. These buildings were designed with Italianate and Romanesque influences, and housed a variety of businesses such as dry good stores and drug stores. These buildings retain much of their original upper facade design and are contributing to the character of the district. Although many other buildings were constructed in the downtown area at the turn of the century, most of these buildings were replaced with more modern commercial buildings from the 1920s to the 1950s or have been razed.

#### *Downtown Bristol in the Early 20th Century (1900-1930)*

After 1900, Bristol increasingly became a preferred destination for regional travelers and served as the commercial, financial, retail, educational and entertainment center for surrounding counties. Bristol's prominence was highlighted by the construction of a new post office for Bristol, Tennessee in 1900. Designed by government architect James Knox Taylor, this Beaux-Arts style building was constructed on Shelby Street, one block south of State Street. In 1914, an estimated 500,000 passengers came through the Bristol railroad station annually.<sup>42</sup> People came to shop in the town's numerous stores, visit its theaters, stay at its hotels and conduct business at its financial institutions. By 1901, many of the downtown streets were paved with brick, replacing the earlier dirt and gravel bed streets. The city's various banks served merchants, farmers, and stockmen not only in Bristol, but also in adjacent counties in east Tennessee, southwestern Virginia, and western North Carolina. The largest bank was the National Bank of Bristol, which changed its name to the First National Bank in 1902. At the time John C. Anderson, son of bank and town founder Joseph Anderson, was president of the institution. In 1913, John Anderson died, and merchant E.W. King replaced him as bank president.<sup>43</sup> First National Bank's ca. 1905 Beaux-Arts style building at 500 State Street remains a notable architectural focal point in Bristol's downtown landscape (NR-1985). Bristol was also home to three colleges: King College for young men, and Sullins and Virginia Intermont Colleges for young women. Bristol Commercial College also opened at 8-12 5th Street ca. 1910. The city also had a normal or teachers school for African Americans. Despite the trends toward commercial buildings, the congregation of the State Street Methodist Church constructed a new Romanesque style building in the 700 block of State Street in 1904. This congregation remained at this location until 1956 when it moved and the church was razed for a parking lot.

Out of town guests had a variety of choices in hotel accommodations including the Hotel Tip Top, erected in 1902 on the corner of State and Front Streets, the Hotel Burson, erected ca. 1902 at the intersection of State and Moore Streets, and the Hotel Bristol at the corner of Cumberland Avenue and Moore Street. Other hotels included the St. Lawrence Hotel, the Virginia House Hotel, and the General Shelby Hotel. Bristol's famous Fairmount Hotel, a large resort on Spruce Street, burned in September of 1900. A local

YMCA was constructed at 100 5th Street ca. 1900. Bristol's Harmeling Opera House, built in 1889 at 513-515 State Street, remained the social and cultural center of the city until it was replaced with a two-story commercial building ca. 1915. The Columbia theater also offered entertainment at its location on 5th Street. In the late 1920s, the Cameo Theater opened at 703 State Street, and the Paramount Theater was constructed at 516 State Street in 1930 (NR 1985).

At the beginning of World War I, Bristol was a bustling city full of commercial and industrial activity. The *Sullivan County News* captured a snapshot of the downtown area during this period:

The setting was State Street in Bristol, 1914. Street car tracks centered the main thoroughfare. A motor car, with top down and driver seated high as if on a throne, was crossing the state line on intersecting Fifth Street. In the parking space at the sides of the street were a mixture of carriages, horses, bicycles, and cars. Familiar sights in the setting were show windows of Bunting's Drug Store, the three banks, . . . and the sign-- "Bristol-Virginia-Tennessee"; but instead of reading "a good place to live" it said "push! that's Bristol."<sup>44</sup>

The Bristol Virginia-Tennessee sign, which crossed State Street and noted the town's two-state location, was first erected on June 21, 1913. The sign along with a long line of electric street lights illuminating the commercial district initiated the opening of Bristol's "Great White Way." With a wide selection of diverse stores, goods, and services offered in its growing number of establishments, Bristol was quickly emerging as the region's top retail and commercial center. People from surrounding counties came to Bristol to shop in its many specialty stores, most of which were located on State Street. At 501 State Street was men's clothier Mitchell-Smith Co., Inc., the Mitchell Powers Hardware Store was located at 611-613 State Street, 615-617 State Street housed first Earhart's and then Gutman's Furniture Store, and across the street at 614-618 State Street was the Cox Hat Company.<sup>45</sup> One of the oldest businesses on the street was Bunting's Drug Store, which Dr. Jeremiah Bunting established in 1869 on the 400 block of State Street. Bunting's remained in business at this location until 1984, when the building was razed.<sup>46</sup> In 1920, Bristol's combined Virginia-Tennessee population was 14,776, and its commercial district remained strong.<sup>47</sup> The Kemble-Cochran Company was established at 623 State Street in the early 20th century and was a premier book and stationary store. It remained in business for decades adjusting its stock to fit the changing needs of its customers. Initially a book and stationary store, it became solely a book store in the 1940s and by the late 1950s, it sold office supplies. Other retail establishments included Moore and Earhart's leather and sporting goods store, the Bristol Typewriter Company, Ball Brothers Furniture Store, Hamilton-Bacon-Hamilton Feed and Farm Equipment, and Morley Brothers, fruit and vegetable wholesalers.<sup>48</sup> In 1925, the two-story building at 33 Moore Street was erected to house the Bristol newspapers, which occupied the building until about 1970. The King Printing Company built a two-story brick building at 509 Shelby Street ca. 1920, and continued to own the building until the mid-1970s.

Perhaps the most well-known commercial establishment in Bristol in the early 20th century was H.P. King's Department Store. Located at 620-624 State Street, King's three-story brick building was constructed ca. 1905, and originally housed his dry goods business. By 1913, it had evolved into the latest trend in retail shops, the department store, and was the most prominent such store in the region. Other early Bristol department stores included the E.W. King Department Store at 610-612 State Street and the Strauss Department Store at 619 State Street, both of which were established in the late 1910s-early 1920s. Around 1930, Grant's Department Store opened at 642-648 State Street. Variety or "five-and-dime" stores also became popular during this era and during the 1920s, Bristol gained two national chains. F.W. Woolworth's opened at 614-616 State Street ca. 1920 and remained in business at this location until 1988. The building still retains the original lunch counter, for which Woolworth's was well-known, including the chrome padded chairs, linoleum floor, and dinette counter. The Kress Company also came to Bristol in the early 1920s. The three-story brick building at 628-630 State Street with terra cotta detailing was a typical Kress design and displays the company's name at the roofline. In 1939, J.C. Penney expanded Bristol's shopping choices by building a store at 629 State Street.

Another important business to emerge in Bristol in the early 20th century was Hechts Bakery. Established at 700 Shelby Street ca. 1920, Hechts Bakery quickly became a successful business. Within a few years it added a one-story annex at 714 Shelby Street and as its success continued, a two-story brick wing was added to the main building ca. 1950. Hechts Bakery remained at this location until 1984. In 1925, Hardin W. Reynolds erected the Reynolds Arcade at 510 Cumberland Street. The seven-story structure towered over other buildings in the city. It housed retail establishments on the ground floor, while a variety of businesses and professional offices were located on the upper stories.<sup>49</sup>

Bristol's industrial growth also continued to increase in the early 20th century. Large coal fields and vast timber tracts on the city's outskirts provided ample quantities of natural resources for competitive businesses. Lead, zinc, and iron ore were also mined in varying degrees throughout the area. By 1914, Bristol contained 57 manufacturing establishments, which employed 1,385 workers. Cortrim Lumber Company, organized in 1916, became one of the area's largest employers and turned out various hardwood stock, house trim, furniture parts and other products. Among the rising number of manufacturers were the Bristol Coffin and Casket

Company and the Appalachian Hardwood Casket Company, both of which began operation in 1904. Bristol Steel and Iron Works, Inc., was established in 1908, and produced steel for building materials and bridges and the Enterprise Wheel and Car Corporation, organized in 1899, manufactured mine cars, truck trailers, and various steel fabrications. Textiles were also an important industry. The L.C. King Manufacturing Company, manufacturers of clothing, was established in Bristol in 1913 at 24 7th Street. After initial success, the business expanded its two-story building into a three-story structure ca. 1920. Service Mills Co. erected a four-story building at 832 Goode Street in 1922, and the Nickels Manufacturing Company, makers of dresses and sportswear, began operations in 1920 at 520-530 Cumberland Street. Around 1920, the E.W. King Company's Big Jack Manufacturing Company began producing overalls and work clothes at their 636 Shelby Street address. The Mary Grey Hosiery Mill was established in 1920 and the Bristol Weaving Company, a division of Burlington Industries, Inc., came to Bristol in 1937.<sup>50</sup>

The railroad continued to be an important force in Bristol's growth and development in the early 20th century. The city was the western terminus of the Norfolk and Western Railway and the eastern terminus of the East Tennessee, Virginia, and Georgia railways. Manufacturing and commercial activity continued to rise after the construction of a freight station in 1891. Bristol manufacturers shipped textiles, building materials and products, furniture, barrels, boxes, leather goods, wagons and carriages, tobacco, grain and iron products to points east and west. Lumber, coal and other natural resources from the surrounding area were transported via rail to regional and national markets. In 1899, George L. Carter established the Virginia Iron, Coal, and Coke Company, which played an important role in Bristol's development as an industrial center for the Appalachian area. In 1906, the Southern Railway Company built a line from Moccasin Gap, Virginia, to Bulls Gap, Tennessee, via Bristol. This line aided the shipping of coal as it shortened the run to the coal fields and eliminated particularly steep grades.<sup>51</sup>

In addition to being an important source of freight transportation, the railroad also grew in importance as a passenger service. Around the turn of the century, the Norfolk and Western Railway promoted passenger traffic on its lines. The company embarked on a campaign to encourage people to visit southwestern cities and resorts that were destinations along its various routes. As passenger service increased, new passenger depots became necessary in smaller towns such as Bristol. In 1902, the Norfolk and Western Railway completed the construction of a stone and brick passenger station at the edge of Bristol's commercial district. The Romanesque-influenced structure made a grand architectural statement for the railroad and has continued to be a notable landmark in the city. The Bristol passenger depot was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980 for its architectural and historic significance.

#### *Downtown Bristol at Mid-Century (1930-1952)*

Bristol's citizens like those across the country suffered economically during the Great Depression of the 1930s. Despite hard times, some growth and development occurred during this decade. Construction in the downtown area in the 1930s included two Masonic buildings and a new post office. In 1931, a three-story, Art Deco style Masonic Temple was constructed at 56-68 Piedmont Avenue on the city's Virginia side. At the end of the decade in 1939, a two-story brick, Masonic Temple was built on the Tennessee side at 35 5th Street. In 1933, a United States Post Office was completed in Bristol, Virginia. Located at 100 Piedmont Avenue, the post office is a two-story, Neo-classical style building that was designed under the supervision of architect James Wetmore. The building retains its original architectural design including a large Doric portico on the main facade.

In 1935, Bristol officials met with representatives from nearby Johnson City and Kingsport, Tennessee, to discuss the creation of an airport to serve the tri-cities area. A commission was established to look into the matter and found it favorable. The three cities combined financial efforts and acquired acreage that was equally accessible to all. A common airport was developed, and Bristol's transportation services expanded into the modern era.<sup>52</sup>

By 1940, Bristol had a population of around 32,000 and had settled comfortably into its role as a leading regional city. To reflect its status, Bristol adopted the slogan, "A Good Place to Live," which replaced the phrase "Push - That's Bristol" on the sign straddling State Street.<sup>53</sup> Several factors contributed to Bristol's success. Its location at the corner of a five state area and its accessibility by rail, highway and air made it an ideal distribution center. The presence of the Tennessee Valley Authority in the area provided an abundance of cheap electricity and encouraged industry. As the United States became involved in World War II, the region became home to the production of the atomic bomb in nearby Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Wartime industries located in Bristol itself and included a shell loading plant and Universal Moulded Products Corporation. Each of these enterprises employed around 3,600 workers, and the latter continued production after the war as a manufacturer of radios. Raytheon Manufacturing Company, which produced magnetron tubes, also built a plant in Bristol and employed approximately 2,000 people. In 1946, the Monroe Calculating Company was established in Bristol, and in 1951, the Sperry Farragut Company came to town and employed around 1,000 workers.<sup>54</sup>

Bristol's commercial area centered along State Street continued to grow as well. In 1939, the district contained 142 retail stores, which

had over 900 employees. Reported annual sales for that year were \$6,168,000.<sup>55</sup> The largest shopping and business district between Roanoke, Virginia, 160 miles to the northeast, and Knoxville, Tennessee, 125 miles to the southwest, Bristol was considered the "Shopping Center of the Appalachians."<sup>56</sup> The H.P. King Department Store remained an anchor establishment on State Street and was the largest department store in the region. The E.W. King Company distributed wholesale dry goods over a seven-state area.<sup>57</sup> The Parks-Belk Department Store joined local retail establishments at 615-617 State Street and later moved to 611-613 State Street. The Woolworth and Kress five-and-dime stores remained prominent businesses as did J.C. Penney's. Other businesses included Byrd Arthur Furniture at 801 State Street, McCrory's Department Store at 528-530 State Street, and Moore-Earhart Leather Goods at 647 State Street. Jeweler J.P. Pendleton opened his establishment at 525 State Street ca. 1940, and the Jewel Box located at 529 State Street in 1939. These two jewelry stores remain key businesses in Bristol.

#### *Bristol's Recent Past (1952-2002)*

Following World War II, Bristol's population continued to rise. In the post-war years, many young men were returning home and the economy was reaching new heights. In 1956, Bristol celebrated its one hundredth year as an incorporated city. In the previous sixteen years, its population had increased 62 percent. At this time the city's commercial enterprises employed 14,000 people, 10,000 of whom were industrial workers. Manufacturers included "15 food and confection concerns, 3 heavy metal plants, 13 light metal plants, 5 sewing industries, 3 textile plants, 9 woodworking establishments, and 22 miscellaneous concerns."<sup>58</sup> The Norfolk and Western as well as the Southern railroads served the city as did six national highways. Bristol's reported retail sales for 1954 was \$50,690. Its retail trade area was estimated to reach 500,000 people and it reached a wholesale trade area of 1,200,000 population.<sup>59</sup>

Like many other cities of its size, Bristol's downtown area began to lose its retail trade in the 1960s. The rise of strip shopping centers further out State Street and other major arteries, led to the closing of several downtown department stores in the 1970s. Construction of the Bristol Mall and access to other regional shopping areas continued this decline. Most department stores such as Woolworths, Kress, McCrory and J.C. Penny closed their doors by the 1980s. With the decline of downtown business, the city's historic hotels such as the General Shelby and Hotel Bristol were razed. The entire block of commercial buildings in the 400 block of State Street were also razed to make way for a new bank and other businesses.

Despite these losses, the downtown area of Bristol continues to retain a significant collection of late 19th and early 20th century commercial and manufacturing buildings. Along State Street, many of the buildings formally occupied by department stores have been converted into antique malls or specialty shops. Both the Paramount and Cameo theaters continue to provide entertainment through movies and other performances. South of State Street, the L.C. King Manufacturing Company remains in operation and several other manufacturing concerns maintain operations in nearby buildings. Interest in downtown revitalization has taken major steps in recent years as evidenced by the current restoration of the Bristol, Tennessee Post Office and the planned renovation of the Bristol Train Station. Continued enhancement of the downtown area through historic preservation is now a priority for both the Bristol, Virginia and Tennessee city governments.

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## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the Bristol Commercial Historic District includes the following parcels:

### **Bristol, Tennessee, (Master Section/Block/Parcel Numbers)**

20D/E/11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 33 and 34.

20D/F/1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 25, 26, 27, 35, 35,20, 36, 37, 38, 39 and 40.

21A/A/10, 20, 22, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 37, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 48.1, 49, 50, 51 and 52.

21A/F/9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 31, 32, 33 and 34.

### **Bristol, Virginia (Map/Block/Parcel Numbers)**

37-1/L/1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7.

37-1/I/1, 2, 3, and 4.

37-1/H/8, 9, 10 and 11.

36-6/H/1, 2, 4 and 12.

36-6/G/2, 2A, 3, 4 and 5.

37-5/1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 6A, 7, 8, 8A, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 21A, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35 and 36.

37-3/4, 5 and 6.

37-4/1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 14 and 15.

The boundary is also illustrated on the accompanying Bristol Commercial Hill Historic District map which is drawn at a scale of 1" = 200'

## VERBAL BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary of the Bristol Commercial Historic District includes all contiguous commercial buildings retaining integrity along 5th, 6th, 7th, Cumberland, Lee, Moore, Goode, and State Streets and Piedmont Avenue. The district boundary is drawn to exclude post-1952 buildings and parking lots which surround the historic commercial core area. The south side of the 800 block is excluded from the district due to the presence of a modern bank building on the southwest corner and a large adjacent parking lot. While several pre-1952 commercial buildings are located on this block, most have been altered and retain minimal integrity of design.

Bristol Commercial Historic District  
Bristol, Washington County, Virginia

Bristol, Sullivan County, Tennessee

Photo by: Thomason and Associates

Date: September-December, 2001

Location of Negatives: Virginia Department of Historical Resources

Photo No. 1 of 32: South side of 500 block of State Street, view to west.

Photo No. 2 of 32: North side of 500 block of State Street, view to west.

Photo No. 3 of 32: South side of 500 block of State Street, view to east.

Photo No. 4 of 32: South side of 600 block of State Street, view to west.

Photo No. 5 of 32: North side of 600 block of State Street, view to west.

Photo No. 6 of 32: South side of 600 block of State Street, view to east.

Photo No. 7 of 32: South side of 700 block of State Street, view to west.

Photo No. 8 of 32: North side of 700 and 800 blocks of State Street, view to west.

Photo No. 9 of 32: 6th Street, block south of State Street, view to northwest.

Photo No. 10 of 32: 6th Street, block south of State Street, view to northeast.

Photo No. 11 of 32: Moore Street, block north of State Street, view to north.

Photo No. 12 of 32: South side of 700 block, Shelby Street, view to east.

Photo No. 13 of 32: 7th Street, block south of State Street, view to north.

Photo No. 14 of 32: 7th Street, 100 block, view to south.

Photo No. 15 of 32: 500 State Street, view to southwest.

Photo No. 16 of 32: 620 Shelby Street, view to southwest.  
Photo No. 17 of 32: 620-624 State Street, view to southwest.  
Photo No. 18 of 32: 16-18 6th Street, view to northwest.  
Photo No. 19 of 32: 812 5th Street, view to west.  
Photo No. 20 of 32: 100 5th Street, view to northwest.  
Photo No. 21 of 32: 520-530 Cumberland Street, view to northeast.  
Photo No. 22 of 32: 833 State Street, view to north.  
Photo No. 23 of 32: 510 Cumberland Street, view to south.  
Photo No. 24 of 32: 636 Shelby Street, view to southwest.  
Photo No. 25 of 32: 136 7th Street, view to northwest.  
Photo No. 26 of 32: 832 Goode Street, view to north.  
Photo No. 28 of 32: Storefront at 529 State Street.  
Photo No. 29 of 32: 8-10 Piedmont Avenue, view to west.  
Photo No. 30 of 32: 528-530 State Street, view to south.  
Photo No. 31 of 32: 519-521 State Street, view to northeast.  
Photo No. 32 of 32: 703 State Street, view to northwest.

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  19. Phillips, 224-227.
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49. "Bristol, Virginia-Tennessee, A Pictorial History," 55; Bristol, Virginia-Tennessee City Directory, 1922, 1940.

50. Lay, 84-92.

51. Lay, 58, 78.

52. Lay, 65.

53. Bristol, Virginia-Tennessee City Directory, 1940.

54. Lay, 89; "Stake Your Claim, Bristol Virginia-Tennessee. A Pictorial Prospectus Prepared By the Bristol Chamber of Commerce for the Convenience of those Searching for "A Small City with a Great Destiny,"" (Bristol, Virginia-Tennessee: Bristol Chamber of Commerce, 1947), n.p.

55. Lay, 86.

56. "Stake Your Claim, n.p.

57. Ibid.

58. Lay, 86-88.

59. Ibid., 86-88.