



Historic Building Spotlight

478 Elm Street



Pictured: 478 Elm Street in the late 2000s, operating as Deelites with their rooftop deck

Though perhaps not the most space with the opening of their historic building in Ludlow, the restaurant 1975, whose name pays homage to the LHS football state champs of the same year. 1975 will be open Monday – Friday for lunch and dinner, Saturday for Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner, and Sunday for Breakfast and Lunch. Their menu will include burgers, chicken sandwiches, fries, soft serve ice cream and milkshakes, and will feature several items from the original Reeves Drive In menu – a double decker cheeseburger called the Big Burr and the Footlong Cheese Coney. Follow 1975 on Facebook for more information!

commercial building sitting at the corner of Elm and Adela has seen its share of change. The structure was originally built by brothers Burr and Jim Reeves in 1958 to house their new business, Reeves Drive In (originally named Dairy Cheer but was renamed after learning of an existing business by the same name). Over the years this location has been home to a variety of eateries including Deelites Dairy Bar, Subway, and most recently, Bucks Barbecue. This year, Matt Brock and Austin Bauer are breathing new life into this

Upcoming LHS Events

Did you know Ludlow once had southern plantations and a race track? That German and Irish immigrants swarmed the town in the 1870s when the Southern Railway yards were built? That the town had a nationally known amusement park? That “Pigeon Hill” was a favorite hangout?

LHS is bringing these and many other stories to you with two events at **Second Sight Spirits!**

Wednesday, Feb 1st, 2023

7–8:30 PM • Second Sights 301 Elm
Featuring Dave Schroeder, Ludlow native and Director of the Kenton Co. Public Library, focusing on Old Ludlow, a lazy suburb prior to the arrival of the railroad.

Wednesday, Feb 22nd, 2023

7–8:30 PM • Second Sights 301 Elm
Join Ludlow native Chris Mayhew, president of the Cincinnati Railroad Society with expertise on the city’s railroad history. Chris will show and tell what the railyards looked like in its heyday. The public is welcome, and light refreshments will be served.

Doors open at 6:30.

Introducing... Messages from the Mayor!

Taking office as the new Mayor of Ludlow, I’ve been reflecting a great deal about what makes our community great. I’m fortunate in that my familial heritage in this community goes back generations and generations. Both a history of and a pride in this town are in my blood.

Did you know...?

Ludlow was first incorporated as a city on February 20, 1864!

Articles and pictures available at the Ludlow Heritage Museum – open Saturdays 12–4PM, reopening in March

Our community has done a tremendous job of recognizing and preserving our history. As a youth I

learned about Israel Ludlow and his plans to create a utopia. I learned about how the railroad greatly altered the town, bringing both residents and commerce. I learned about the Lagoon amusement park and how it rivaled any of the greatest amusement parks in the Midwest. I learned about 1975 and a 7–6 victory in the football state championship. Understanding this history helped instill that pride and understanding that Ludlow is a special place. I’ve also reflected on the great responsibility that goes with creating a future that matches our rich history. I see a future where Ludlow continues to foster art and music. I see a future where we are able to grow and develop appropriately. I see a future

where neighbors continue to know their neighbors and where families are able to live and grow happily together! I am always open and willing to discuss the community I love! You can reach out to me in a variety of ways.

First, city council meetings are hosted on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at the City Building at 7 PM. On the third Thursday of each month, I will be hosting informal conversations about the community at Ludlow Coffee from 6–7 PM. I am also accessible via email at cwright@ludlow.org.

I cannot thank everyone enough for entrusting me with such a great responsibility as your new Mayor!
–Mayor Chris Wright

Our Historic District

by Ruth Bamberger

Older Ludlow residents remember the days when the busy railroad yards and passenger trains were the lifeblood of the community. When freight and passenger trains gave way to cars and trucks in the late 50s and 60s, Ludlow lost population and housing stock in parts of the city declined.

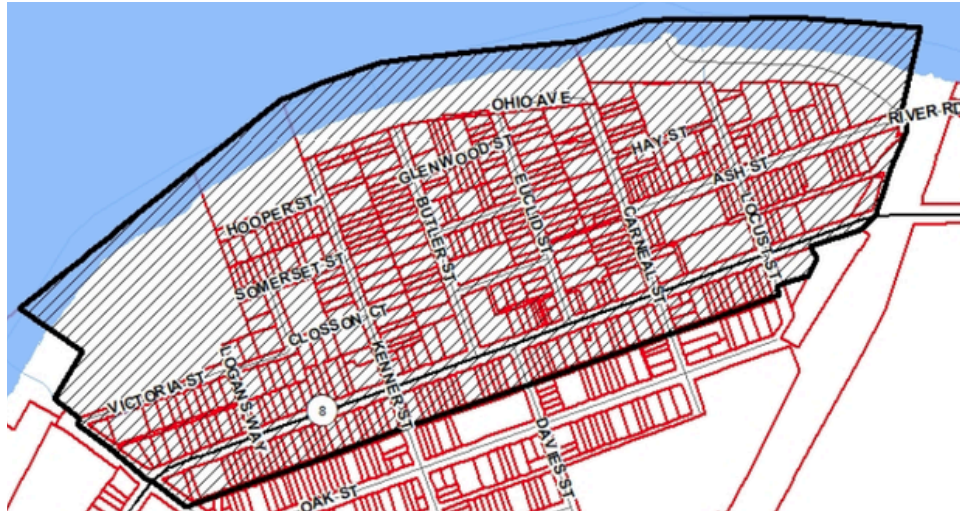
Today the city is undergoing a revival of its commercial district and older housing is making a comeback as consumers want homes convenient to their workplaces, shopping and entertainment.

The city recognized it was now the time to market its older solidly built housing and commercial building stock to accommodate consumer demand as well as the growing popularity to "shop local".

Creation of a Historic District became an avenue to meet this demand. In 2019, Ludlow joined Covington, Newport, Bellevue and Dayton with a designated Historic District encompassing 89 acres bounded by both sides of Elm Street on the south to the Ohio River on the north, and the railroad bridge to the east to Adela Avenue on the west. (pictured in upper right)

What is a Historic District?

It is an area of historic significance in its properties and architecture worthy of preservation and upkeep to maintain its original character. The buildings in the Ludlow Historic District are primarily Italianate and Princess Anne style mostly built from 1850-1924. The process for becoming a Historic District is lengthy, as a city must comply with guidelines laid out by the Kentucky Heritage Council. Ludlow worked with technical staff of Planning and Development Services of Kenton County on its proposal, and in that part of the process, formally solicited input from affected



residents and commercial owners. The final proposal was submitted for approval by the Kenton County Commission with an opportunity for the public to comment.

Upon their approval, the Ludlow City Council voted to adopt the District.

Why is a Historic District beneficial to Ludlow?

1. It fosters ownership of quality housing stock.
2. It contributes to the quality of the neighborhood.
3. It encourages development in the city, attracting a diversity of businesses
4. It preserves the unique architectural neighborhood of the city.

How is one's property in the District affected?

Property owners do not have to do anything to their property beyond

what is required by the city's maintenance code. If an owner plans exterior changes to a building's façade, this would be subject to approval by the Urban Design Review Board, the city approved committee authorized to make sure a proposal is in keeping with the neighborhood architectural character.

The UDRB

meets on the Third Thursday at 7 PM in the basement of the city bldg.

While this body has oversight of projects, its priority is to give technical assistance to applicants. The members of the Urban Design Review Board are all Ludlow residents who have architecture, construction management, and home renovation backgrounds.

Questions? Contact Andy Corn: acorn@rwaarchitects.com



Community Calendar

City Wide

- 2/11 5-9 PM Shop Ludlow Saturday
- 2/25 12 PM-Late Nite Cabin Fever Festival

Bircus Brewing Co.

See the Bircus marquee for events!

Conserva

Enjoy sangria and tapas Wed-Thurs 5-9 PM, Fri-Sat 5-10 PM

Leeta Ruth & Second Sight

2/9 6-8PM • 301 Elm Street
Permission Granted - an evening of connection, conversation on how to unlock your best life!

Ludlow Coffee

First Wednesdays, 9-10 AM
Coffee w/ Mr. Borchers
Third Thursdays, 6-7 PM
Coffee w/ the Mayor

This issue of the *Ludlow Express* is brought to you by our friends...

LUDLOW COFFEE

Location

630 Elm Street
Ludlow, KY

Hours

Mon - Fri: 6AM-2PM
Sat: 8AM-12PM

@ludlowkycoffee

Ludlow Coffee is a small, community-centric coffee shop featuring Deeper Roots Coffee and local baked goods. Join for Coffee with Mr. Borchers on First Wednesdays, and Coffee with Mayor Chris Wright on the Third Thursdays.

Interested in joining the Ludlow Historic Society? Email us to join.

Annual Ind Membership: \$20
Annual Fam Membership: \$35
Lifetime Membership: \$100

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Logo art courtesy of Jeff & John Winkle