

## CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT NATIONAL REGISTER REVIEW

**CLG:** Kingsport

**PROPERTY:** Earles Drug Store

**ADDRESS:** 134 W Center Street

### CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIAL EVALUATION

**NAME OF COMMISSION:** Kingsport Board of Mayor and Aldermen

**DATE OF MEETING:** May 6, 2025

**HOW WAS THE PUBLIC NOTIFIED OF THE MEETING?** City of Kingsport website, published meeting schedule

☒ **ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER**

☐ **NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER**

**REASONS FOR ELIGIBILITY OR NON-ELIGIBILITY:**

**SIGNATURE:**

**TITLE:**

**DATE:**

### THC STAFF EVALUATION

☒ **ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER**

☐ **NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER**

**REASONS FOR ELIGIBILITY OR NON-ELIGIBILITY:**

Earles Drug Store is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Commerce for its contribution to the commercial development of Kingsport. Built in 1960, the Earles Drug Store became known for its innovative business model, which provided a one-stop shop for patrons who utilized the services of medical professionals on the upper levels and picked up their prescriptions or stopped for lunch on the first level. Earles Drug Store featured Kingsport's first drive through window, which allowed them to innovatively serve motorists at a time when changing transportation patterns was contributing to changing business patterns. The business's owner, Janie Earles, was an active voice in local and state politics, including serving on national committees recommending policy improvements for elderly Americans. Within Kingsport, she served on the board of the local hospital and provided job opportunities for local women in her store. The Period of Significance begins in 1960 with the building's construction and ends in 1976 when Earles Drug Store moved to a new location.

**SIGNATURE:**



**TITLE:** Historic Preservation & National Register Specialist

**DATE:** March 17, 2025

**PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN BEFORE: May 16, 2025**

**RETURN FORM TO:**

**REBECCA SCHMITT**  
**TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
**2941 LEBANON PIKE**  
**NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37214**  
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