United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms Type all entries—complete applicable sections

| 1. Nam | e | | | | | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|--|--------------------|--|
| historic | Speed Hall | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | | | | | | |
| and/or common | Same | | | | | | | |
| 2. Loca | ation | | | | | | | |
| street & number | College Street | | | | | | | NA not for publication |
| city, town | Barbourville | | NA_ vi | icinity of | congi | ressional dis | strict | 05 |
| state | Kentucky | code | 021 | county | Knox | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | | code 121 |
| 3. Clas | sification | | | | | | | |
| Category district _X_ building(s) structure site object | Ownership public private both Public Acquisition in process being considered | | Accessib yes: r | cupied in progress le | X | sent Use agriculture commercia educationa entertainme governmen industrial | il il ent | museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other: |
| 4. O wn | er of Prop | er | ty | | | | | |
| name | Union College | | c/o Mr. | Mahlon M | iller, | Presiden | t | |
| street & number | College Street | | | | | | | |
| city, town | Barbourville | | <u>NA</u> vi | icinity of | | | state | Kentucky |
| 5. Loca | ation of Le | ega | l Des | cripti | on | | | |
| courthouse, regi | stry of deeds, etc. | Knoz | x County | Courthous | se | | | |
| street & number | | Cour | rt Square | <u> </u> | | | | |
| city, town | | Bark | ourville | 2 | | | state | Kontucky |
| 6. Rep | esentatio | n i | n Exi | sting | Surv | veys | | |
| title _{Survey} of | Historic Sites | in Ke | entucky | has this pr | operty be | een determir | ned el | egible? yes _ _X no |
| date Januar | y 1982 | | | | | federal | _x _ sta | te county local |
| depository for su | rvey records Heri | tage | Division | n, Dept. o | of the | Arts | | |
| city, town | Fran | kfort | <u></u> | | | | state | Kentucky |

| 7. | De | scri | ption |
|----|----|------|-------|
| | | | P |

| Condition excellent deteriorated _X_ good ruins fair unexposed | Check one unaltered _x_ altered | Check one _X_ original site moved date |
|--|---------------------------------|--|
|--|---------------------------------|--|

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Speed Hall, constructed in 1903-05, stands near the heart of the Union College campus on an attractive, tree-shaded lawn. The campus is located in a residential neighborhood just north of the courthouse square and business center of Barbourville, a small eastern Kentucky community of approximately 3500.

Facing southwest towards College Street, Speed Hall is a $2\frac{1}{2}$ -story brick building with a hipped roof of asbestos shingles. The regularity of the otherwise rectangular mass is alleviated by various projecting bays on the east, south, and west sides of the building. These translate into numerous intersecting planes in the roof. Several shingled dormers jut from the roof as well. A dentilled cornice surrounds the building. Most window openings are straight-headed with smooth stone lintels and sills and contain double-hung sash windows. Smaller, round-arch windows pierce the gables on the southwest and southeast walls.

A one-story Colonial Revival porch shelters the main (southwest) facade and wraps around to the northwest. Fifteen Ionic columns support the porch. A one-story brick addition is located at the northeast (rear) corner of the building.

Much of the original woodwork including the broad oak staircase remains intact on the interior.

8. Significance

| Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 1900– | Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric agriculture x architecture art commerce communications | | ng landscape architectur law literature military music | re religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify) |
|--|---|-------------------|--|---|
| Specific dates | 1905 | Builder/Architect | Unknown | |

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Speed Hall, constructed in 1903-05, is the oldest building on the campus of Union College. Union, a small school of 1,030 students, was founded in 1879 and was the first college located in southeastern Kentucky. It continues to serve not only the commonwealth, but the neighboring regions of western Virginia and east Tennessee as well. By its association with the early days of the school's founding, Speed Hall, therefore, has a special meaning for the college and the community of Barbourville. It can also be said to be the most important building in terms of its architecture constructed in the town during the first quarter of the twentieth century.

Most of Barbourville's significant historic buildings are confined to late nineteenth century Victorian residences. The majority of these structures which retain their original exterior appearance are frame, with gingerbread trim typical of the period. Few buildings of any consequence were constructed during the first two decades of the twentieth century. The two or three brick structures that were of any architectural merit dating to the period are no longer extant. Speed Hall is by far the most impressive and still remains virtually unchanged on the exterior. It projects, as was initially intended by its builders, an inviting, home-like image for Union's students.

Speed Hall was named for Fanny Henning Speed, a generous benefactor who, more than anyone else, kept the college alive in its early difficult days. Fanny Speed, from Louisville, was the wife of Joshua Speed, an intimate friend of Abraham Lincoln. Mrs. Speed's involvement with Union College developed as a result of her acquaintance with Dr. Daniel Stevenson. She was a member of the Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church in Louisville where Stevenson served as pastor before he became president of Union in 1886. Upon her death, the school fell heir to one-half her estate, valued at \$500,000. These funds gave some financial permanence to the college and made possible the completion of the first important building program set in motion since the founding of the college. ²

Speed Hall served as the women's dormitory from 1905 until the official opening of Pfeiffer Hall in 1943. It was then used for a time as the music department and later as the home economics department. In 1960, the first two floors were converted entirely to administrative use, leaving the third floor for storage.³

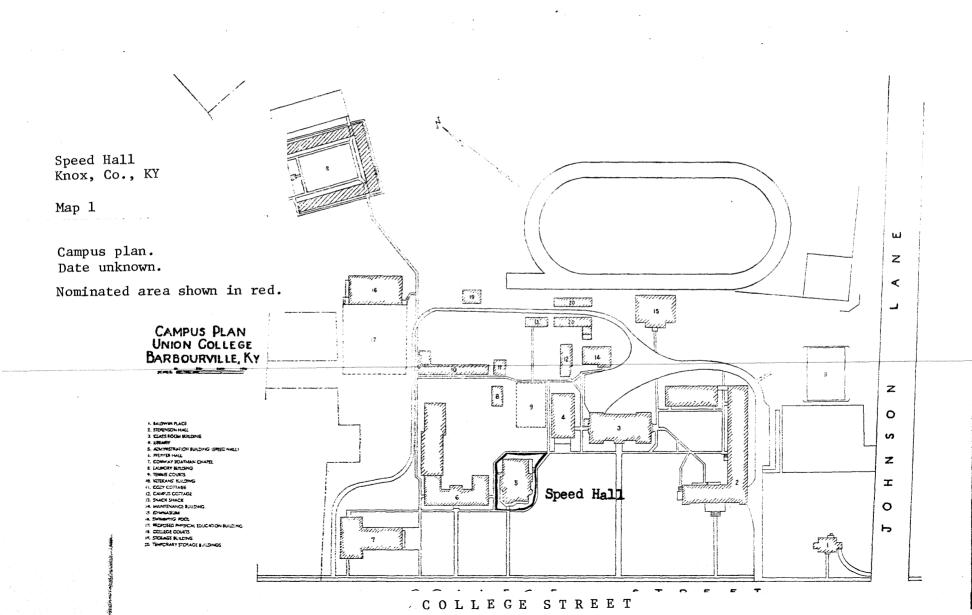
 1 Other buildings over fifty years of age on campus include the Old Classroom Building, constructed in 1907 (listed in the National Register 30 May, 1975); and Stevenson Hall (1907).

³Information provided by Milton Townsend, Union College, Barbourville, Kentucky.

Major Bibliographical References

"Old Classroom Building, Knox County, Kentucky." National Register nomination form, Heritage Division, Frankfort, Kentucky.

| information provided by | THE THEFEON TOWNS | send, onton c | College, Barbourville, Kentucky. |
|--|--|--|---|
| 10. Geographi | cal Data | | THE AUREAU VINILD |
| Acreage of nominated property | .21 | _ | |
| Quadrangle name Barbourvi | <u>11e</u> _ | | Quadrangle scale 1:24000 |
| UMT References | | _ | |
| | 0 8 14 2 11 10 rthing | B Zone | Easting Northing |
| c | | D | |
| E | | F | |
| G | | н 🔟 | |
| Verbal boundary description a | and justification | | |
| The nominated area inclu as the boundary. The wa | des Speed Hall, lkway lies rough | | ewalk surrounding the building rom all exterior walls.(See Map 1) |
| List all states and counties fo | or properties overla | pping state or o | county boundaries |
| state | code | county | code |
| state | code | county | code |
| 11. Form Prepa | ared By | | |
| | | | |
| nome/Aible 01 . 11111 1 . | | | |
| name/title Gloria Mills, his | storian; Charlot | te Worsham, | architectural historian |
| organization Heritage Divis | | | architectural historian date January 1982 |
| | ion, Dept. of th | e Arts | |
| organization Heritage Divis | ion, Dept. of th | e Arts | date January 1982 |
| organization Heritage Divis: street & number 2200 Capital city or town Frankfort | ion, Dept. of th | e Arts | date January 1982 telephone (502) 564-7508 |
| organization Heritage Divis: street & number 2200 Capital city or town Frankfort | ion, Dept. of the Plaza Tower Oric Prese | e Arts | date January 1982 telephone (502) 564-7508 state Kentucky |
| organization Heritage Divis: street & number 2200 Capital city or town Frankfort 12. State History | ion, Dept. of the Plaza Tower Oric Prese property within the sta | e Arts | date January 1982 telephone (502) 564-7508 state Kentucky |
| organization Heritage Divisions street & number 2200 Capital city or town Frankfort 12. State Histo national As the designated State Historic P | property within the state state stays for inclusion in the | e Arts rvation ate is: Local r the National Historial Registe | telephone (502) 564-7508 state Kentucky Officer Certification toric Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-er and certify that it has been evaluated |
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Main Campus

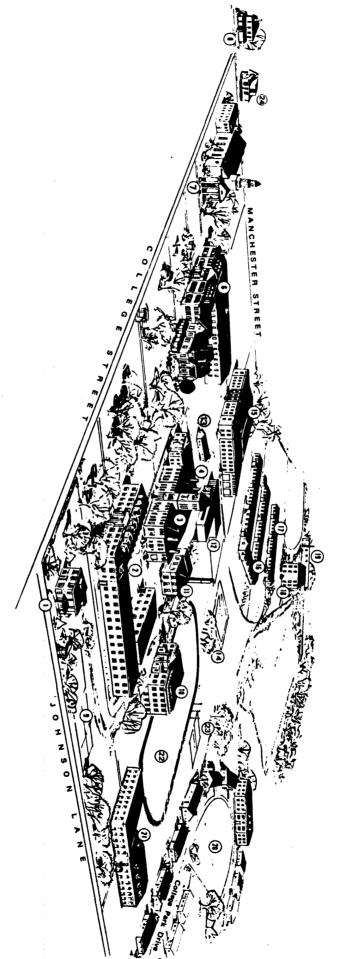
Knox Co., KY Speed Hall

Map 2

No scale. Campus map. Date unknown.

Union College

Barbourville, Kentucky



- 1. Baldwin Place, President's Residence
- 2. Stevenson Hall, Men's Residence
- 3. Classroom Building, Historical Site
- 4. Abigail E. Weeks Library
- Speed Hall, Administration Building
- 6. Pfeiffer Hall, Women's Residence
- Conway Boatman Chapel Fine Arts Building
- 8. Home Economics Building
- 9. Tennis Courts
- 10. Dramatic Arts Center
- 11. Data Processing Center 12. Student Center
- 13. The Lighthouse, Religious Life Center
- 14. Colonel Harland Sanders Baseball Field
- 15. Physical Education Building and Swimming Pool
- 16. College Courts, Married Students' Apartments
- 21. Mahlon Miller Science Center 20. College Park, Faculty Housing 19. Mining Enforcement and Safety Administration 18. Lakeside Hall, Men's Residence

17. College Courts Addition

- 23. Tennis Courts 22. Athletic Field, Track
- 24. Manchester Street Building, Regional Studies