Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED AUG 1 8 1980

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Chandler Normal School Building and Webster Hall

AND/OR COMMON

National Temple of the House of God and Parsonage

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

548 Georgetown St.			NOT FOR PUBLICATION		
CITY, TOWN			CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT		
	Lexington	VICINITY OF	6th		
STATE	Kentucky	CODE 021	COUNTY Fayette	соде 06 7	

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENTUSE	
DISTRICT	PUBLIC		AGRICULTUREMUSEUM	
X_BUILDING(S)	<u>X</u> PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIALPARK	
STRUCTURE	ВОТН	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL X_PRIVATE RESIDENCE	E
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT X_RELIGIOUS	
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	X_YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENTSCIENTIFIC	
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIALTRANSPORTATION	
		NO	MILITARYOTHER:	

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

Frankfort

NAME The National Temple of the House of God, the Holy Church of the Living God, The Pillar and Ground of the Truth, The House of Prayer for All People, Inc.

STREET & NUMBER			
548 Georgetown St.			
CITY, TOWN		STATE	
Lexington	VICINITY OF	Kentucky	
5 LOCATION OF LEGAL D	ESCRIPTION		
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Fayette	County Courthouse		
STREET & NUMBER			
W. Main	St.		
CITY, TOWN		STATE	
Lexington		Kentucky	
6 REPRESENTATION IN H	EXISTING SURVEYS	6	
TITLE Survey of Historic	Sites in Kentucky		
DATE			
April, 1980	FEDERAL	¥STATE COUNTY LOCAL	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Kentucky Heri	tage Commission		
CITY, TOWN		STATE	

Kentucky

7' DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE	
excellent _Xgood fair	DETERIORATED RUINS UNEXPOSED	UNALTERED X_ALTERED	LORIGINAL SITE MOVED DATE	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

These two buildings are located in the northwest quadrant of Lexington, about a mile from the Courthouse, on the Georgetown Road, a former turnpike that leads to the nearby seat of Scott County. The property originally extended from Georgetown St. to the Newtown Road, another radial road that splits off the Georgetown Road a short distance southeast of the school grounds, which extended across the triangle of land between the two branching roads. The school building, which faces south, is set near the peak of a rise, and is partially visible from both roads; Webster Hall is somewhat lower, facing the Georgetown Road (southwest) behind an adequate lawn (see Photos 1 and 3). Most of the original property, however, has been developed as Lincoln Terrace, a public housing project of one-story multiple-unit dwellings (see Planning Commission map, Map IV), set lower than the school building, that surrounds it quite closely on the north, south, and east sides. The new wing on the west of the old building faces the present church parking lot between the church and Webster Hall (Photo 2); a housing unit also lies between the church building and Webster Hall. Access to the church is from Georgetown Place (formerly Emma) St., which runs east from Georgetown Road north of Webster Hall and then curves north ward toward the property of the former Colored Orphan and Industrial Home, and its ca. 1912 building, with somewhat older modest housing remaining between the two institutions' grounds.

Webster Hall faces a section of Georgetown St. (the principal thoroughfare of this largely black residential area) with a mixture of old and new residential and commercial structures. Less than a block to the southeast is the former Booker T. Washington Public School (now a community center), built in 1915. Northwest of the Chandler and Orphan's Home complexes, also on the same (northeast) side of the Georgetown Road, is Charlotte Court, a public housing development; then Douglass Park with its playgrounds and other facilities; and beyond that the Julius Marks Sanatorium, a picturesque grouping of Spanish-Colonial-inspired buildings in a parklike setting. Thus, the Chandler School complex remains one of the outstanding features of a cluster of neighborhood and city-wide institutions along Georgetown St.

The Chandler Normal School Building is essentially a brick cube three stories high on a rou rough-stone foundation, with a square tower on the front (south) side partially inset, forming a square loggia above the main roof line crowned by a fairly tall pyramidal roof; the main roof is also pyramidal but with a somewhat lower slope (compare Photos 1-3 and Map II). The tower has the segmental-arched former main entrance at the base, with a pair of small square windows on the second story under the pair of tall round-arched windows over the stairs to the original third-floor chapel (see Map I). Flanking the tower are groups of three windows on each story, linked by flush stone sills, lintels, and mullioncourses; the third-floor windows are round-arched with raised brickcourses outlining the voussoirs. The east side has two widely-spaced sets of similar double windows; those remaining on the top floor of the west side over the new wing have been blocked up (see Photo 2). A modern glass-and-metal door has been inserted in the original recessed tower entrance and there is an older wooden canopy over another entrance in the center of the first-floor windows west of the tower. The windows of the old building retain 2/2-pane sash. Some standard concentric-corner-block woodwark remains inside, although many alterations have been made.

The ca. 1960 west addition, of pale yellow brick, has two stories treated as one with tall narrow round-arched windows and an entrance porch on the center of the west side with three round arches. This wing contains the main auditorium, which extends into the older building to include its first floor.



PERIOD AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	X.RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	XARCHITECTURE	X EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
X_1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
X _1900-	COMMUNICATIONS		POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
SPECIFIC DAT	School - 1889 TES Webster Hall - ca.	. 1914 BUILDER/ARCH	HITECT School - Unkno Webster Hall -	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Chandler Normal School Building and Webster Hall are among the most important structures associated with the education and culture of black persons in Central Kentucky. The school, which was founded shortly after the Civil War by a white Eastern missionary society, was located here in 1889 and continued to serve as a private educational institution for blacks with a definite moral and religious bias until it closed in 1923. Many of the most prominent members of the Lexington area's black community-and others who carried their talents elsewhere--received their training at the Chandler School, which also produced many of the teachers in the area. The fine Richardsonian Romanesque school building, although somewhat altered internally and with an addition on one side, is the only surviving example of a school building in that architectural style in Fayette County. Set at the top of a rise in the angle between two radial roads, it is still a visual landmark of the predominantly black neighborhood, even though surrounded by modest public housing.

Webster Hall--originally a teachers' and principal's home for the school and now residence of the bishop of the sect which has adapted the school building as its national headquarters and local sanctuary--also has architectural significance. It is the only building in Kentucky yet identified as the work of Vertner A. Tandy, Sr., a native of Lexington and son of a successful black builder at the turn of the century. Vertner went on to become one of the earliest and most prolific of black professional architects in the United States. The first black architect registered in New York State and one of the first to be admitted to the American Institute of Architects, he designed many of the fine homes and institutions of Harlem, New York.

The Chandler Normal School was an outgrowth of the first formal educational institution for black children in Lexington, established immediately after the Civil War in the Ladies' Hall or Independence Hall, an 1822 Methodist Church formerly on Church St. The Ladies*, later American, Missionary Society sent half-a-dozen white female teachers here at the urging of the Rev. James Turner, the pastor of the St. Paul's African Methodist Episcopal Church (now the oldest church building in Lexington), called by Perrin (p.475) the man "who has taken more interest, perhaps, in the cause of his people than any colored man in the county" (see also his obituary, <u>Transcript</u>, March 17, 1885, 4-4). The Society withdrew support in 1872 or 1874 (Perrin and the unsigned manuscript source on the school differ in some such particulars), but apparently Mr. Turner came to the rescue again and they remained behind the school at least financially until it closed in 1923.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See attached continuation sheet.

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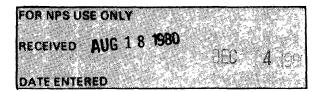
ATTEST:

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED IITM NAT VFRIFIFA **10**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY (Chandler) .32 acres: (Webster) .23 acres UTM REFERENCES Webster Hall Chandler School 4 2 1 5 A 1,6 7 1,9 1,7.0 4 2 1 5 6 2 0 8 1 6 7 1 9 2 6 0 6. 1. 1 EASTING NORTHING ZONE EASTING NORTHING ZONE D VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION Webster Hall: Beginning at point A (see Map IV) northeast of the building at the intersection of the lot with Georgetown Place, proceed south(east) 95' to pointB southeast of the building; then approx. 100' (south)west to point C at the intersection of the lot with Georgetown St; then 95' north(west) to point D at the intersection of Georgetown St. and and Georgetown Place; then 100' (north)east to point A, to include bldg. and grounds. Chandler School Building: Beginning at point E slightly northeast of that corner of the building proceed 100' south to point F southeast of the corner of then building, then LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES cont. STATE CODE COUNTY CODE CODE COUNTY CODE STATE **IFORM PREPARED BY** NAME / TITLE Walter E. Langsam, Architectural Historian DATE ORGANIZATION 5/7/80 Lexington-Fayette Co. Historic Comm. STREET & NUMBER TELEPHONE 255-8312 253 Market Street CITY OR TOWN STATE Kentucky Lexington **2 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION** THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS: LOCAL NATIONAL _____ STATE_ As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE OR NPS USE ONLY I HEREBY CERTLY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REALETER DATE DIRECTOR

GPO 892.453

DATE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM



Lexington, Kentucky Chandler Normal School Building and Webster Hall

CONTINUATION SHEET . ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

<u>Webster Hall</u> is a two-story frame structure with the first floor veneered in brick (now painted yellow; see Photo 3). The front facing Georgetown St. has a double bay in the center over the entrance with widely-spaced single bays flanking it. The segmental-arched entrance has "Webster Hall" inscribed above in the keystone. The hipped roof has a double hipped-roof dormer over the entrance and rather dramatic chimney stacks on either side. The second story (now re-clad with aluminum siding) tapers out slightly at the base over the first-floor walls. The entrance porch is modern but an interesting porch with Arts and Crafts-inspired timber supports remains on each end. The building retains its basic substantial appearance with a few subtleties such as the wall treatment, chimneys, and side porches providing character.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Lexington, Kentucky

Chandler Normal School Building and Webster Hall

CONTINUATION SHEET

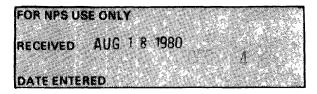
ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE

In 1869-70 a two-story frame building was erected for the school at the corner of Corrall and Race (then Lincoln) Sts. in the northeast sector of the city. The teachers continued to include white women from outside the area, although Mrs. E. Belle (Mitchell) Jackson, later wife of wealthy undertaker and politician Jordan Carlisle Jackson, was the first black teacher (see her biography in Johnson, pp. 68-69, and other references to her many activities here and in the 1899 <u>Negro Business Directory</u>). According to Perrin, there were four schools for black children in Lexington in 1882, including the Corrall Street School, which had four departments, with 310 students enrolled, and an average attendance of 255. It was then the largest school for blacks in the city and taught "all the English branches...efficiently."

In 1889, thanks to a teacher, the Rev. Azel Hatch, Miss Phoebe Chandler of Massachusetts became interested in the school and generously provided funds for the purchase of four acres on the Georgetown Pike extending through to the Newtown Road. The present fine Richardsonian Romanesque structure was completed in 1889. The institution was renamed the Chandler Normal School or Institute, the term being usually applied appropriately to teacher-training institutions at the time; there were three normal schools for blacks in Kentucky at the time (Kentucky's Black Heritage, p. 42). Chandler turned out many, if not most, of the black teachers in the area during its almost 40 years at that location. The school originally had eight grades, gradually expanding to include all twelve. The emphasis was on thorough training in the standard disciplines, although music. athletics, and debates also received particular attention. High moral and religious standards were maintained, attracting--and providing education for--many outstanding black persons in the community. Although blacks from outside the city school districts could attend Chandler, it faced increasing financial and educational competition from the city schools, which were established officially about 1891 in Lexington. Chandler closed in 1923, the year that the Dunbar High School formerly on N. Upper St. was opened. In 1954, however, many of the alumni gathered and set up an annual scholarship program to encourage worthy graduates of local schools to attend college, with noteworthy results.

Among distinguished graduates of the old Normal School and the designer of Webster Hall were Vertner A. Tandy, Sr., one of the first professional black architects in the United States; sculptor Isaac Scott Hathaway (see National Register form for his family home and birthplace, 760 and 766 W. Pine St.); educators L.W. Taylor (see Johnson, pp. 71-72), who taught at the Chandler School and also wrote for <u>The Standard</u>, Andrew T. Paey (Johnson, p. 41), and Mary E. Britton (Johnson, pp. 18-19); and many, if not most, of the prominent members of the black community in the area during the first half of the 20th century.

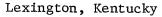
In 1923 the facilities, including Webster Hall, were purchased by the First Congregational Church of Lexington, which became known as the Chandler Memorial Congregational Church; it also served at one time as a branch of the Y.M.C.A. (see 1934-56 Sanborn map). In



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> UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



Chandler Normal School Building and Webster Hall

ITEM NUMBER 8 CONTINUATION SHEET PAGE 3

1960 they were acquired by the National Temple House of God under Bishop S.P. Rawlings, who has been pastoring in Lexington for forty-four years. The church itself, whose official name is the House of God, the Holy Church of the Living God. The Pillar and Ground of the Truth, The House of Prayer for All People, celebrated its 50th anniversary this year (see Leader, 3/14/1980, D-3, Col. 1), although it had its origins about 1914 and was officially organized in Washington, D.C., in 1918; there are now about eighty-five associated congregations across the country, with their headquarters at the National Temple in Lexington. The building has been renovated and a \$180,000 addition made on one side, but the old Chandler School building remains in essentially its original exterior form.

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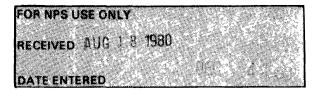
Although a definite date has not been determined for Webster Hall, it seems likely that it was built shortly after 1914 as part of Prof. Frederick J. Werking's intended \$100,000 "improvements" to the school plant, of which only this building seems to have been executed. Werking became principal of the school about 1914, evidently replacing Miss Fannie J. Webster, the previous principal; Webster Hall was no doubt named for her.

Werking apparently remained at the school until its closure in 1923, as he and his wife Clara were still listed in the directory that year. It may also be significant that Chandler is first listed as at 548 Georgetown Street in 1914-15 when Werking became principal (Miss Webster had lived at 651 North Broadway); perhaps the principal as well as other teachers lived at Webster Hall.

A notice in The Leader (7/7/1914, 7-2) described Werking's ambitious proposal and mentioned that the school was "under the supervision of the General Educational Society," presumably a successor to the Missionary Society. The improvements, which were intended to "greatly increase the capacity of the school," were to include a new manual training building and two large dormitories. Perhaps World War I interfered with the planned fund-raising campaign.

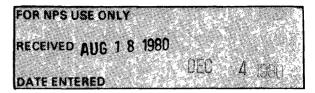
Webster Hall probably continued to serve as a residence for the First Congregational Church of Lexington. It has been the Parsonage or bishop's residence of the present National Temple of the House of God, which has occupied the facilities since 1960.

Perhaps the major distinction of the building is that it is the first work as yet identified in Lexington designed by Vertner A. Tandy, Sr., a native Lexingtonian who became one of the first and most successful professional black architects in the U.S.(Cont)



^{*}An article in the special 50th anniversary edition of The Lexington Leader in 1938 (sec. 4, p. 47) entitled "Development of Negro People / in Lexington/Parallels The Leader's Growth" declared that "Any discussion of the development of the colored schools would be incomplete without mention of Miss Fanny Webster, a white woman who took great interest in educational work among the Negroes of the city, and was especially active at the Chandler Normal School here."

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

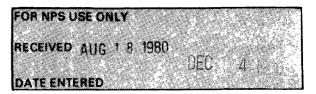


Lexington, Kentucky Chandler Normal School Building and Webster Hall

CONTINUATION SHEET . ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 4

Born in 1885, he was the son of Henry A. Tandy, of Tandy & Byrd, an important brick masonry and building firm in Lexington at the turn of the century. Henry Tandy was also a prominent member of the black social and cultural community, serving on the board of a number of civic and fraternal organizations (see Johnson, pp. 46-47; Negro Business Directory; also Survey form for the recently-demolished United Brethren of Friendship Building, 148-50 N. Limestone St.). Vertner Tandy was educated at the Chandler School and the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, and trained at Cornell University, graduating from the School of Architecture in 1907 (or 1909, according to Dozier, p. 165, who provides additional information on his career). According to Withey, he practiced professionally in New York for over 40 years, having been the first black registered as an architect in the state and one of the first to become a member of the American Institute of Architects. The firm, under the name of Tandy and Foster. was responsible for numerous residential, religious, and institutional structures. Encluding large-scale public housing, in Harlem, the traditional black district of Manhattan. Although now somewhat altered, Webster Hall further confirms that the Chandler School sought quality in its buildings, as well as in the education it supplied for over half a century.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM



Chandler Normal School Building and Webster Hall

CONTINUATION SHEET . ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

Lexington city directories.

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Dozier, Richard. "The Black Architectural Experience in America." <u>Journal of the</u> <u>American Institute of Architects</u>. July, 1976, pp. 162ff.

Kentucky Commission of Human Rights. Kentucky's Black Heritage. Frankfort, Ky., 1971.

- Johnson, W.D., ed. <u>Biographical Sketches of Prominent Negro Men and Women of Kentucky</u>. Lexington, Ky., 1897.
- Negro Business Directory. Lexington, Ky, 1899.
- Perrin, William Henry, ed. <u>History of Fayette County, Kentucky</u>. Chicago: O.L. Baskin & Co., 1882.
- Withey, Henry F. and Elsie Rathburn. <u>Biographical Dictionary of American Architects</u> (Deceased). Los Angeles, 1956.

Much additional information from an unsigned manuscript history of the Chandler Normal School in the files of the Lexington-Fayette Co. Historic Commission.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

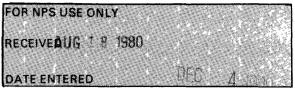
Chandler Normal School Building and Webster Hall

Lexington, Kentucky

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 2

Verbal Boundary Description (continued)

140' west to point G; then 100' north to point H; then 140 east to the starting point E, to include the entire original building and c. 1960 addition with a minimum amount of ground around them.



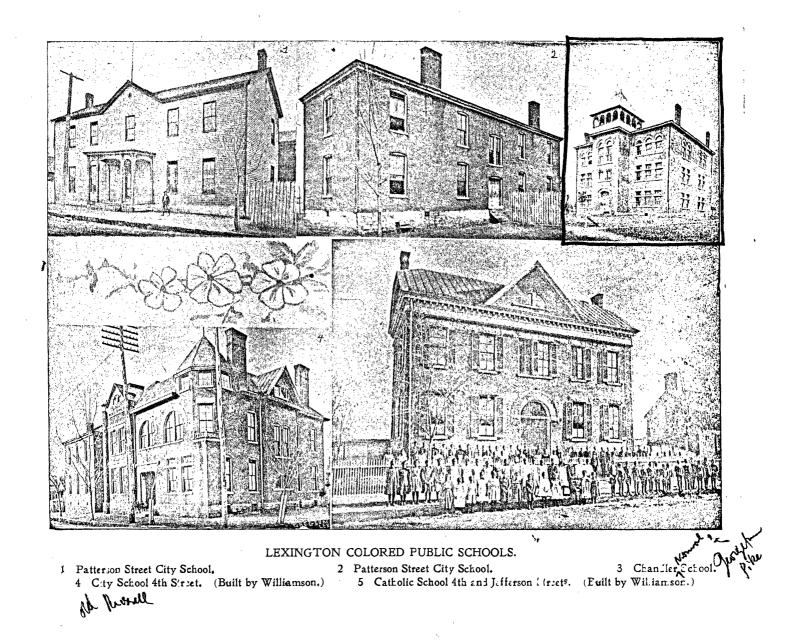
[1890-23] Detached 1 mile S.E. of PO. Astron Sty Hran Stablek Chandler Normal 0000 CHAREL Detached 1 mile N. W. of Court Ho.

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9UG 1 8 1980	7 Mach Shop ° %	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

Chandler Normal School Building and Webster Hall Lexington Fayette Kentucky

Map I - Sanborn Insurance Map University of Kentucky Scale: 1"=100' Date: 1890

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Chandler Normal School Building and Webster Hall Lexington Fayette Kentucky

Map II - Copy of photograph (upper right) of Chandler School Building, looking northwest, showing building in original form. From <u>Views of Lexington and</u> <u>Vicinity</u>. Lexington: The Lexington Observer, 1903, p. 21.

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/Chandler Normal School Building and Webster Hall Lexington Fayette Kentucky

Map IV - Urban-County Planning Commission Map Scale: 1"=100' Date: 1976

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