UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INIVENITODY NIOMINIATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUN 2 5 1980

AUG 26 1980

Kentucky

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NAME	THE ALL LIVINGS O	OWN ELTE / WY EIG/	VDEE OF	0110110	
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AND/OR COMMON	egg Fee House				
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STATE	·	CODE	_	OUNTY	CODE 023
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CLASSIFICA	ATION				
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS		PRES	ENT USE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	X.OCCUPIED		AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
XBUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED		COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	ВОТН	WORK IN PROGRESS		EDUCATIONAL	ZPRIVATE RESIDEN
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE		ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	XYES: RESTRICTED		GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED		INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATION
		NO		MILITARY	OTHER:
OWNER OF	PROPERTY				
NAME T					
	es T. Norris				
STREET & NUMBER					
Box 213				STATE	
		VICINITY OF		Kentucky	41101
Ashland	OF LEGAL DESCR		,	Kentucky	41101
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SURVEY RECORDS	Kentucky Herit	age Commission			
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CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

__EXCELLENT

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__UNALTERED

XORIGINAL SITE

X.GOOD ___FAIR __RUINS
__UNEXPOSED

__MOVED

DATE____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Bracken County, Kentucky, located on the Ohio River in the northeastern part of the state, is largely a rural area comprised of small towns and villages. The land varies from gently rolling to steeply formed hills and valleys. A total of 204 square miles is contained within the county and the population is about 7,227 inhabitants.

The John G. Fee house is located about four miles due east of Brooksville, the county seat and approximate center of the county. The structure sits on a high ridge facing west and away from the Sunny Fork of Locust Creek.

The early 19th century structure has a two-story, hall-parlor plan with Flemish bond brickwork. Jack arches top the window openings and the main entrance is capped by a transom. Mouse-toothed brickworkdecorates the cornice above. Partially exposed exterior chimneys flank the main block which sports a 20th century porch. A one-story frame ell projects from the rear of the main block, with an enclosed shed addition. The interior woodwork is simple with paneled doors and chairrailing in the parlor. The mantels on the first floor have unbroken shelves, and a double frieze flanked by fluted pilasters. The second floor mantels were replaced with Victorian grates.

No related outbuildings are extant and the boundary includes the main house only.

ERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE	 CHECK AND J 	USTIFY BELOW

PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	XSOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
_X1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

John G. Fee, a Presbyterian minister, was one of Kentucky's most vocal and staunch abolitionists of the 19th century. He was the founder of Berea College, the first college in the United States established for the specific purpose of providing an integrated education for blacks and whites. Through his work at Berea, he did much to further the education and support the equality of black people prior to and long after the Civil War.

The abolitionist movement in Kentucky preceded her admission into the Union, and intensified up to the Civil War. Most early Kentucky churches had anti-slavery leanings, but the Baptists and Methodists were the strongest in opposition. They preached that slavery was a sin against God, unlike some other abolitionists who saw it merely as a factor detrimental to the Southern economy.

John G. Fee was born in Bracken County in 1816 in the brick house built by his father on Locust Creek and where he grew up. He decided early in life that he desired to become a preacher of the Gospel, obtaining his eduction at Augusta College (see Augusta College Historic Buildings, listed on the National Register February 20, 1980) and Lane Theological Seminary in Ohio. The immorality of slavery was impressed upon Fee at school and although his parents were slaveholders, he determined to work for its abolition. He was a Presbyterian minister for many years but withdrew from the denomination in 1847 because of their persistent support of slavery. Fee then traveled about within Kentucky and parts of Ohio, preaching the sin of slavery. His views were not always well received and he was often persecuted for his stance.

In 1853, Fee was invited to preach in Madison County in central Kentucky. His anti-slavery pamphlets had come to the attention of Cassius M. Clay, an emancipationist who was also a large landowner. Clay offered Fee some land to establish a church/school within a small community of non-slaveholding residents. The place was named Berea, after a town in the New Testament noted for its open-minded citizenry. Fee built his church and began his lifelong dream--to have a school and teach anyone, regardless of race, caste, or creed. By 1858, the school was known as Berea College (see Lincoln Hall, listed on the National Register December 2, 1974), and the following year the constitution which still guides the school was written:

The purpose of this college shall be to furnish the facilities for a thorough education to all persons of good moral character, at the least possible expense, and all the inducements and facilities for

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Fee, John G. John G. Fee, An Autobiography. Chicago: National Christian Association, 1891 "Lincoln Hall." National Register Nomination Form, Kentucky Heritage Commission, Frankfort, Kentucky. 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY ___ less than one acre Germantown QUADRANGLE NAME UTM REFERENCES 3 1, 6 VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION The nominated area is a line parallel to and thirty feet from the foundations of the building. LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES STATE CODE COUNTY CODE STATE CODE COUNTY CODE FORM PREPARED BY NAME / TITLE Henderson, Historian DATE May, 1980 Kentucky Heritage Commission STREET & NUMBER TELEPHONE 502/564-3741 104 Bridge Street CITY OR TOWN STATE Frankfort Kentucky 2 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS: NATIONAL < LOCAL_ 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 HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER DATE

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John Gregg Fee House Bracken County, Kentucky

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manual labor which can be reasonably supplied by the Board of Trustees shall be offered....This college shall be under an influence strictly Christian and as such opposed to sectarianism, slaveholding, caste, and every other institution or practice. 1

Soon after, however, John Brown's raid upon Harpers Ferry almost destroyed Berea College. A mob of Madison County citizens, believing the Bereans to be in support of Brown, drove them from the state, many of whom moved to Cincinnati. Berea College subsequently closed. During the Civil War Fee spent most of this time raising money for the school and in 1865, he returned to Berea. With the financial help of the American Missionary Society, the School soon reopened.

Berea suffered another major setback in 1904, when the school lost a Supreme Court case in which they contested prevailing "Jim Crow" laws which established segregation in the classroom. However, due to the dedication and farsightedness of John Gregg Fee, Berea College survived and continues to operate under the original constitution he created.

Fee's childhood home in Bracken County is the only known extant house in Kentucky intimately associated with this nationally significant figure.

¹Berea's constitution as quoted in the "Lincoln Hall" National Register nomination form, Kentucky Heritage Commission, Frankfort, Kentucky.

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