

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE 1849 C Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20240

February 11, 2011

Notice to file:

This property has been automatically listed in the National Register of Historic Places. This is due to the fact that the publication of our Federal Register Notice: "National Register of Historic Places: Pending Nominations and Other Actions" was delayed beyond our control to the point where the mandated 15 day public comment period ended after our required 45 day time frame to act on the nomination. If the 45th day falls on a weekend or Federal holiday, the property will be automatically listed the next business day. The nomination is technically adequate and meets the National Register criteria for evaluation, and thus, automatically listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

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National Register of Historic Places

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4



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

| 1. Name of Property | | |
|--|--|------------------------|
| historic name Jenkins School | | |
| other names/site numberLR-J-13 | | |
| 2. Location | | |
| street & number 75 Pane Street | | NA not for publication |
| 9 | | NA |
| city or town Jenkins | | vicinity |
| state Kentucky code KY county Let | cher code 133 | zip code <u>41537</u> |
| 3. State/Federal Agency Certification | | |
| As the designated authority under the National Historic Pre I hereby certify that this _X_ nomination request for d for registering properties in the National Register of Historic requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property _X_ meets does not mee be considered significant at the following level(s) of significant at the following | etermination of eligibility meets c Places and meets the procedut the National Register Criteria ance: | ural and professional |
| Signature of commenting official | Date | - |
| | | |
| Title State | or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal G | overnment |
| 4. National Park Service Certification | | |
| I hereby certify that this property is: entered in the National Register determined not eligible for the National Register other (explain:) | determined eligible for the N removed from the National F | 5.00 |
| Signature of the Keeper | 2 · 11 · Date of Action | <u> </u> |

(Expires 5/31/2012)

| Jenkins School Name of Property | | Letcher, Kentucky County and State | | |
|---|--|--|--|------------------|
| 5. Classification | | | | |
| Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply.) X private public - Local public - State public - Federal | Category of Property (Check only one box.) X building(s) district site structure object | Number of Rese (Do not include previous) Contributing 1 | ources within Price outline ou | s in the count.) |
| Name of related multiple prope (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a m | erty listing ultiple property listing) | Number of cont listed in the Nat | | ces previously |
| 6. Function or Use | | | | |
| Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions.) EDUCATION / school | | Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions.) VACANT/NOT IN USE OTHER/ senior center | | |
| | Se Longille | A CHILAR | | |
| 7. Description Architectural Classification | | Materials | | |
| (Enter categories from instructions.) | | (Enter categories from | m instructions.) | |
| LATE 19 TH AND 20 TH CENTURY | REVIVAL | foundation: ST walls: BRICK | ONE | |
| | | roof: RUBBEF | X | |

(Expires 5/31/2012)

Jenkins School Name of Property Letcher, Kentucky
County and State

Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

The Jenkins School (LR-J-13) is a 2½-story masonry building opened in 1912 and located along Main Street in Jenkins, Kentucky, situated in the coal-rich mountains of Letcher County. The school building as it is today consists of the original building and two additions; one addition houses additional classrooms with a gymnasium and stage area, and a second addition provides additional classrooms. The building is situated up on a hill overlooking the rest of the downtown area, which follows Main Street at the bottom of a valley. The school is located in a mixed use area, with residential buildings on one side, a library, church and retail establishments located on the other.

Narrative Description

Site

Jenkins, Kentucky is situated in a valley in the Appalachian Mountains. It has a linear narrow town form, organized around Main Street. The town was erected at once by its owner, Consolidation Coal Company, beginning in 1911. Richard Francaviglia observes in *Hard Places: Reading the Landscape of America's Historic Mining Districts*, it is very typical for a mining town to occupy a tight site, giving minimal area to lawns, displaying a very dense urban building pattern, despite a situation within a very remote area. Jenkins follows and exhibits these trends in coal company towns in its own design. With buildable area at a premium, the school building lacked a large school yard. The school's planners had the foresight to allow some room on the site for expansion, which the additions largely cover.

The school building faces North West and sits on a small hill above Main Street behind a stone retaining wall. Pane Street runs immediately along the rear of the building and serves as an access to several residential streets and proceeds as an alley/access road into the commercial portion of the city. The southwest side of the building is bordered by the commercial portion of the town and the opposite side of Main Street features a number of public and retail entities.

The site of the school is a hillside that rises up from Main Street. The retaining wall appears to be original to the property. Rising from street level, it reduces the slope of the land in front of the school. There is no vegetation on the site aside from a small grass lawn that runs from the street to the front of the building. The building has a half basement which looks out over Main Street on the front of the building and out into light wells along the rear façade of the building. The site is approximately one acre and the only changes on the site are the two additions that flank the original structure, and handicapped access points at the rear side of the building.

Immediately to the left and rear of the school building are residential areas, and to the right of the school building is a church, which is also one of the original structures built by Consolidation Coal Company. Elsewhere nearby, the town is fairly well kept; though few commercial structures remain which are original to the city, buildings along Main Street have been updated and new construction, infill and redevelopment has occurred.

(Expires 5/31/2012)

| Jenkins School | |
|------------------|--|
| Name of Property | |

Letcher, Kentucky
County and State

Exterior

The Jenkins School consists of the original 1912 building, a 1924 addition with four classrooms and gymnasium, and a 1936 addition with additional classrooms and funded by WPA. Both additions maintain the school's original Colonial Revival style.

The School has a limestone foundation and load bearing brick walls in a running bond pattern with limestone lintels and sills. There is a stone water table over the half basement, also of limestone, and the building rises up two additional stories in brick. The building displays little applied ornamentation. The parapet rises above a small geison with built in box gutter and hides a flat roof that slopes slightly to the rear of the building. There is a tall square brick chimney that rises from the rear portion of the building, presumably from the boiler.

The front and rear façades exhibit a great deal of openings, many of which house one-over-one sash windows likely used en masse to provide natural light instead of taxing the hydroelectric power station that served the entire city. All original wood windows in the building have been replaced with vinyl windows, but the replacement windows look similar to the original window as seen in historic photos of the building. The replacement windows also appear to have the same operation. The historic stone lintels and sills remain in place. The gymnasium also has had its windows replaced, but given that the fenestration pattern is different on this portion of the building, it is not clear if the replacement windows are in a pattern that follows the pattern of the original windows. In each side is a large single window of 6 lights, three-by-three in orientation, flanked on each side by rectangular panels made of raised bricks with a cross pattern in the center. Several one-over-one windows are found in the ground floor level within the stone foundation.

There are entrances to the building on all four sides, though the back entrances take on a more secondary or service appearance. The two entrances on the front of the building and the two at grade on either side of the building are obviously the primary entrances. These more significant entrances are comprised of a stone landing that projects from the face of the building with small hipped roof porticos over both the landing and the stairs that lead up to them. At the rear of the building there is decidedly less ornamentation and new approaches to the original openings have been added to the building for both egress and handicapped accessibility. A small parking area has been developed behind the school along Pane Street for those making use of this new rear entrance.

Interior

The interior of the building is in poor condition cosmetically, but the majority of the building is structurally stable. Much of the plaster in the building has fallen and has been removed from the building, leaving only exposed brick in many portions. Although the building has been cared for recently, the building was looted for its Chestnut paneling in the hallways (Chestnut lumber is no longer available in the United States due to a fungus which caused the trees to almost completely disappear in this country), and a poorly executed attempt at placing an elevator in the building has caused some damage to interior walls. Although there is some woodwork missing, a large portion of interior woodwork remains intact as well as the original wood flooring and staircases in the building. The building plan is also still in its original configuration with the exception of where the aforementioned elevator shaft was constructed in the building.

The building does have some slight elevation changes, navigated by stairs, between the original building and the first addition. In this area, flooring and woodwork vary slightly but overall the addition

(Expires 5/31/2012)

Jenkins School
Name of Property

Letcher, Kentucky
County and State

is not obviously different and has similar mass, scale and corridor rhythm as the original building. In the second addition, some changes can be seen. The classroom entries are on a diagonal to the hallway rather than being parallel to the hallways and the trim changes as well. This area is easier to determine to be an addition, but the interior architecture in no way detracts from the original and was sympathetic to the other two portions of the building.

The original building and the first addition take on an appearance on the interior which is typical for schools of the era. The floor plan is a double loaded corridor with no lockers and exits located at either end of the hallways. The new addition, however, did have locker space, the entrances are articulated differently, and, though still a double loaded corridor, takes on a different rhythm than the other portions of the building.

Gymnasium

The gymnasium addition is in fair shape despite years of neglect and vacancy. Similar to other portions of the building, windows in this portion have been replaced with a vinyl window, though it is unclear whether these windows match the original. The structure of the gymnasium appears to be beams created by laminated lumber spans that terminate at the load bearing walls. The gym also has a balcony and stage, neither of which is in good condition. There is a great deal of damaged plaster in the gym. The bleachers in the gymnasium are small and run along the walls beneath the windows, and the basketball court is not of standard regulation size. There are exterior entrances that lead from the gymnasium to Pane Street. The stage is in poor condition as the roof over the stage had a substantial leak and caused most of the plaster backstage to fall as well as some damage to the wood in and around the stage.

Jenkins School

(Expires 5/31/2012)

Letcher, Kentucky

| Areas of Significance | |
|--|--|
| (Enter categories from instructions.) | |
| COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT | |
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| (| |
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| | |
| Period of Significance | |
| 1911-1949 | |
| | |
| | |
| Significant Dates | |
| 1911 – Construction of Jenkins School Begins | |
| 1949 - The Sale of Jenkins to the Public | |
| 2 | |
| Significant Person | |
| (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.) | |
| NA | |
| | |
| Cultural Affiliation | |
| NA | |
| | |
| | |
| Architect/Builder | |
| Consolidation Coal Company (company architect | |
| and builders designed and built structure) | |
| and builders designed and built structure) | |
| | |
| | |

Period of Significance (justification)

This period is constitutes the time that Consolidation Coal Company was active in the area as a comprehensive mining, mercantile, housing, and full life services company. They developed the area beginning in the April of 1911 to provide incentives for coal miners and their families to move to the area as well as a way to increase profit margin by operating the businesses for miners to shop at. Prior to the arrival of Consolidation Coal Company, the area was essentially wilderness, so residents of the new city had no choices of place to purchase goods than the company's store. In addition,

(Expires 5/31/2012)

Jenkins School Name of Property Letcher, Kentucky
County and State

most workers were paid at least partially in scrip, a currency that could only be used at companyowned establishments, which provided the company a monopoly on the commodities available in the town.

Criteria Considerations NA

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

Jenkins School (LR-J-13) meets National Register Criterion A, and is historically significant for its status as the largest and finest school to be produced as part of the efforts by Consolidated Coal Company to develop Jenkins, a coal camp, in the coal rich mountains of eastern Kentucky. As coal companies looked to begin mining the coal found in the remote parts of eastern Kentucky, they could see the benefit of providing amenities to their workers. This led some coal corporations to develop coal towns with one or more of the following amenities: churches, schools, stores, a bakery, butcher, entertainment venues, dormitories, bathhouses, a hospital, and hotels. Jenkins was considered one of the crown jewels of coal towns -- Consolidation Coal Company would bring politicians and visitors from all around the United States and abroad to see their accomplishments in this Letcher County settlement. Jenkins' outstanding school building signaled the quality of the town. Many of its graduates went to college, and the school was expanded several times while under Company control. This school is one of the largest in the region built during the period of significance and stands within one of the most fully developed coal camps in eastern Kentucky. Jenkins School is a significant contributor to the understanding of how the educational system developed in Letcher County and eastern Kentucky as a whole during the time coal corporations were involved in developing settlements.

Narrative Statement of Significance

Research Design

Finding information concerning the history of Jenkins School proved challenging. Because the school was owned by a company, there was little publically accessible archival information available about the building's early life. The local library yielded little information regarding the school, aside from mentions of it when describing the development of the city. The main source of information regarding the school's history comes from two documents: a non-academic publication produced by the local Jaycees organization called "The History of Jenkins, KY" which contains transcribed interviews, amateur histories, and a short article about the school's history, and a video, "The Birth of a Coal Mining Town: Jenkins, Kentucky," which documents how the city evolved from a rough wilderness area into a prosperous coal town that was considered one of the finest company towns in the country. The second resource appears to be produced by an organization with pro-coal interests, though there is not excessive editorializing. Other resources were consulted, but most did not have extensive or additional information on Jenkins or the school itself.

Although many coal towns have been abandoned or demolished, Jenkins continues to remain a respectable city; it does not appear to have suffered as much from poverty and unemployment as some other coal towns in eastern Kentucky. The area continues to be a city which relies on the coal industry, and the people who live in Jenkins seem to have a positive perspective when discussing the

(Expires 5/31/2012)

Jenkins School
Name of Property

Letcher, Kentucky
County and State

coal industry, despite the industry having a reputation outside the region for preying on workers, causing health and safety issues, and causing some of the nation's worst poverty by halting operations in different cities around the region. The pride that citizens have in their city and the lack of neglect of the structures in the city could be attributed to the legacy of having been one of the nicest coal camps of its time (being in fact a "model town") and the resourceful "do it yourself" mentality that has always been a part of the Eastern Kentucky persona.

The following quote sums up how that persona is reflected in Jenkins; though published in 1973, it seems still prevalent today. When asked what he thought the future held for Jenkins, prominent historian and retired mining engineer for the Bethlehem Steel (which took over many of the mines in Jenkins after Consolidation left the area) David Zegeer stated "Just what the people in Jenkins want it to be. It can be a clean, healthy city with a continued spirit that the people have, that we all I hope have, a spirit of friendliness and compassion; or we can let the town deteriorate and become something that we all will be ashamed of, if we don't work together to keep it clean and neat and keep it in good repair. It's just up to all of us as people to decide what we want for ourselves. If we don't do it for ourselves, nobody is going to do it for us." (Jenkins Area Jaycees, "Interview with Dave Zegeer.") One gets a sense that the people in Jenkins realize that, though coal is still a substantial part of both their present and past, they are not victims of an industry but instead the safe-keepers of a lifestyle and unique Eastern Kentucky city.

Historic Context: COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

The city of Jenkins, Kentucky is one of the best examples of a city created solely to support the coal mining corporation which established it, and was considered a model coal industry town. Cities like Jenkins were not developed as towns in other regions of the country had been, i.e., organically and over time. Instead, these coal towns were created quickly by a corporation for the purpose of creating a livable environment for workers and their families. The corporation would build homes, at the very least, adding sufficiently few accessories found in conventional towns, as made economic sense (Perry 28). The company could control every aspect of the workers' lives in the town, even going as far as developing their own currency (or scrip) which could not be used outside of the camp, to ensure that the company could recover wages at a company-owned store serving a captive clientele. This made leaving the coal camp difficult as savings were hard to compile with a large portion of pay being in scrip, which was useless outside the camp's company-owned stores and had no cash value.

Consolidation Coal Company, now known as CONSOL Energy, began in 1860 when several western Maryland coal companies consolidated to form one of the largest coal companies of that time. Though the company did not actually start working as a corporation until 1864 due to the Civil War, their early foothold in the Northeast's energy market was a key to becoming a one of the most prominent coal companies of the era. By 1870 the company owned nearly all of the mines in the western Maryland region, and soon had the US federal government buying most of its coal for rail transit from Consolidation. The company first moved into Kentucky with the acquisition of the acreage in and around Jenkins in 1911. In 1927, Consolidation became the largest coal producer in the United States, due in large part to the huge seams they owned in Kentucky and West Virginia. The company is still the largest bituminous coal producer in the United States, and is the largest coal producer east of the Mississippi. The company has the largest coal reserves in the United States and

(Expires 5/31/2012)

Jenkins School
Name of Property

Letcher, Kentucky
County and State

has diversified business into natural gas, industrial supplies and real estate. (CONSOL Energy: Our History).

The city of Jenkins began as an enterprise of the Consolidation Coal Company, which acquired 101,000 acres of land in Letcher County, Kentucky in April of 1911 and founded a city named after one of the company's top executive officers -- George Jenkins (The Birth of Coal Mining Town, Jenkins, KY). The company began to develop the rugged area on the backs of mules and oxen which carried all of the heavy mining and construction equipment over the mountains until the railroad could be completed. In order to house the workers in the area and the future miners. Consolidation built multiple duplexes and established Jenkins as the main city for the company mines and smaller camps in the area. The area grew rapidly, as large seams of the bituminous coal were uncovered, helping to propel Consolidation Coal Company to be the largest producer of coal by 1927. In the first two years after arriving in Jenkins, Consolidation built a company warehouse, a large office building, a company store, a hospital, a hotel, a church, a Young Men's Christian Association, and the Jenkins School. Homes were built in the steeper areas so that the flatter land where little excavation would be required could be reserved for the larger buildings that served the company and community. Bricks for these buildings were produced at Brickyard Hill, a nearby clayrich area and kiln, wood was supplied by the surrounding old growth forests then milled at 9 newly built sawmills, and the limestone used for foundations, ornamentation sills and lintels was guarried from Wheaton Hollow (The Birth of Coal Mining Town, Jenkins, KY).

The Sandy Valley and Elkhorn Railway Company, which owned the tracks nearest Jenkins and was owned by the Consolidation Coal Company during Jenkins first few decades, extended rail service to the town of Jenkins beginning in 1912 to haul off the coal mined in the region. ("The Birth of Coal Mining Town, Jenkins, KY"). The original line was from Glamorgan, Virginia from the Wise Terminal through the Shelby Gap; the original track was narrow gauge to accelerate railroad construction, but the track was soon after was upgraded to standard gauge once the city was ready to begin mining operations (Jenkins Area Jaycees, "A Social and Economic Study of Jenkins."). The railroad, named after two rivers in the region, is no longer in service today, but originally had tracks that ran through downtown Jenkins, parallel to Main Street. In fact, there is an old storehouse which was part of the original rail service across Main Street opposite the school, in addition to the public Library which is in the form of a traditional train Depot. By 1935 the railroad had been purchased by the Baltimore & B.O. Railroad Company (Baltimore & O. R. Co. v. Commissioner of Internal Revenue), which gave the region access to additional markets which likely allowed Consolidation Coal Company to be even more successful in Jenkins. Given that the coal from Jenkins was some of the most desirable, this access likely helped to propel Consolidation to the place it holds in the industry today.

Central to all of this development was the institution that children had contact with every day and was a necessary amenity for attracting families to the area: the school. Jenkins school was originally built as the coal company's central school in 1911 and opened in 1912. In its first year, the school system, which encompassed smaller schools in McRoberts, Burdine, Fleming, and Neon in addition to the large school at Jenkins, enrolled 490 students at both the elementary and high school levels (Jenkins Area Jaycees, "Jenkins Independent School District"). The Jenkins School also served as the central school for a system that incorporated much smaller satellite schools in Burdine, Dunham, and Fleming–Neon (also in Letcher County). Even today, the new Jenkins High School serves those

(Expires 5/31/2012)

Jenkins School

Name of Property

Letcher, Kentucky
County and State

areas as a city school system, despite much of the state of Kentucky having trended towards county schools.

Similar smaller cities were created by Consolidation and other mining companies in areas such as Haymond, Hemphill, McRoberts, Millstone, Seco, Whitesburg, and Blackey (all in Kentucky). Jenkins was considered by many as the best camp in the region, both due to the quality of life there and the quality of the bituminous coal that lay underground; in fact, it was not uncommon for coal companies unfamiliar with the region to visit Jenkins to see an example of how their own future camps could prosper. In fact, the local Consolidation offices would bring its inspection teams, the press and dignitaries to Jenkins to inspect the mines there rather than those in the camps outfitted with less glamorous buildings (The Birth of Coal Mining Town, Jenkins, KY).

One support for Jenkins' claim to be one of the finest coal camps in Kentucky was its school, recognized not only a top notch physical plant, but as strong an educational facility. The majority of graduates would go on to college at the urging of their instructors, and the school's sports teams, and marching band were well known; former long-time superintendent C.V. Snapp touted the schools prominence often, and hired the best teachers from what is today Berea College and Eastern Kentucky University (The Birth of Coal Mining Town, Jenkins, KY). The success and expansion of the town was shown in the school's expansion. The additions more than doubled the number of classrooms and provided a gymnasium for both the community and school to use. The school system's enrollment peaked at 3000 during the final boom years of the Consolidation era (Jenkins Area Jaycees, "Jenkins Independent School District"). The building was turned over to the local school board in 1947, when Consolidation Coal Company sold the town to the public and gradually halted mining operations as it transitioned the mines to another company's holdings.

Balancing the view of Jenkins as an outstanding coal company town is its rather conventional segregation of African Americans from whites during the historic period. George Wright quotes Ronald L. Lewis' *Black Coal Miners in America* (1987), relating that "Jenkins, Kentucky was segregated...with blacks living in their own hollow and usually in the worst housing. The same pattern prevailed in nearby Dunham and McRoberts. Both towns also had two recreation halls, one in town for whites and one on the hill for blacks." Lewis added that in Wheelwright, another model coal company town in southern Floyd County, company officials took steps to ensure that blacks and whites had minimal contact outside of work (Wright: 64). The earliest Sanborn Insurance map of Jenkins was published in 1962, too late to confirm the likely case: that blacks were prohibited from attending Jenkins School during the historic period. Thus, while places like Jenkins were progressive with respect to the white work force, this model company town did not disrupt prevailing social norms with respect to racial interactions during the miners' free time. Blacks and whites could mix underground, in the dark, but not in the light of day.

The Jenkins School is the largest remaining Consolidation-built structure in the city. The school was not expanded after its final addition in 1936, and instead new school buildings were built for both the high school and grade school in the town as needed. Jenkins is still an independent school district which has not consolidated with county schools, as most independent districts in Kentucky had done, a tradition which spans nearly a century.

(Expires 5/31/2012)

Jenkins School
Name of Property

Letcher, Kentucky
County and State

Evaluation of Jenkins School within the Historic Context

The Jenkins School is one of the few remaining structures from the original coal camp that served as a model town for other Consolidation Coal Camps. The school, which was a critical part of the camp, remains in its original prominent location in the center of downtown. The school's multiple additions provide direct evidence of the success of Consolidation's primary activity.

As an institution within the community, the school became one of the more important features of the model coal camp. Consolidation attracted great marching band directors, faculty and staff in order to use the school as a recruitment and public relations tool for Jenkins. By having a good school, the company was able to convince families to move to the city from as far away as Europe (The Birth of Coal Mining Town, Jenkins, KY) and convey to visitors the humane and generous amenities Consolidation Coal Company supposedly provided the workers in the company's camps. The Jenkins School is a critical piece of the Historic Context and one of few remaining structures from the early days of the city.

Many other schools in other coal camps in Letcher County were significantly less permanent or as well constructed. In fact, many of the coal camps which were created in Eastern Kentucky have been demolished or are no longer inhabited (Perry 28). A school in McRoberts, another Consolidation camp, eventually served as a satellite to Jenkins School; it was a frame building of considerably smaller size and less expensive construction, yet McRoberts at its peak was as large a mining operation as Jenkins had been and employed an almost identical number of miners ("Letcher County Coal Camps"). Another school in Beefhide, a very small camp in Letcher County, was a gabled log structure, likely built prior to the Jenkins School; it appeared in photographs to be in very poor repair while still in use. Photos show the building with fascia board missing or never applied and chinking in poor condition or missing in places. This is a testament to the higher investment, to make Jenkins a model coal mining town. Beefhide was a substantially smaller camp, but both the Beefhide and McRoberts camps' schools were of a much smaller size and lower quality than that in the model town of Jenkins.

Although Jenkins School is no longer owned by a coal company, the school is one of the best examples of the public/private partnership created to foster the development of Consolidation Coal Corporation's interests in the area.

Evaluation of Jenkins School's integrity within the context

A building meeting Criterion A, significant for its illustration of Coal Company town's institutional buildings, must retain integrity of location, setting, along with a modest amount of materials and design. If the property retains these integrity factors, it can be said to have integrity of associations. With Criterion A expressed in terms of important associations—"the Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history"—saying the property possesses integrity of association is equivalent to saying it is eligible.

A building in a Letcher County coal camp will be said to have **integrity of location** if it still stands on its original site. Location is an important factor in connecting the property to a place. At the early-20th century, Letcher was one of Kentucky's most inaccessible counties to regional travel. With the arrival of the railroad in 1912, the county's exploitation for mineral riches unfolded quickly. The development of mining camps and their distinctive array of buildings were very much a product of

(Expires 5/31/2012)

Jenkins School

Name of Property

Letcher, Kentucky
County and State

their relatively remote locations. The construction of Jenkins tells a powerful story of the economic value of coal, of corporate image-making, and something about the importance of education to the people of the region. The location of Jenkins School, both currently and historically located in the center of downtown, is critical to explaining all three issues.

A building in a Letcher County coal camp will be said to have **integrity of setting** if it still is surrounded by the majority of the historic buildings that comprised that coal camp. If those buildings are gone, the intra-site setting alone can sometimes convey the importance of the setting to establishing the key relationships that support the important associations. The Jenkins School retains not only its extra-site relationships with buildings in its prominent community setting, but the intra-site setting has not changed since the end of the Period of Significance. The setting tells an important story of how precious is each square foot of buildable land in eastern Kentucky. The way that a mining company would squeeze the community into a narrow valley, and limit the span of non-residential buildings the corporation would erect, says something about the tension between choices made to maximize profits vs. choices made to enhance the environment of the workforce. Many coal camps have disappeared because the company chose to build profits over enduring communities; the retention of setting at Jenkins School indicates an important exception to the more normal choices for settings in coal company towns.

Many coal camp buildings in Letcher County and other eastern Kentucky locations were eventually sold from company to individual interests; houses often were purchased by their tenants. This transfer of ownership from a single corporate owner to many individual owners, along with the new owners' interest in personalizing their properties, has led many former company town buildings to undergo tremendous change. A building in a Letcher County coal camp will be said to have a modest **integrity of materials and design** if it still retains sufficient historic materials to be recognizable as a product of the company town era. The nominated building retains its historic footprint, floor plans, and a great deal of original building material. Jenkins School has an extremely high degree of material and design integrity, which testifies to the unusually high quality construction that Consolidation Coal invested in creating the town.

The Jenkins School building, which is now controlled by a non-profit organization dedicated to the building's preservation, has had some historic fabric removed. Due to a long period of neglect, many leaks occurred in the building causing substantial plaster damage and some woodwork problems. In addition, the original wood windows were replaced with the existing vinyl windows; the replacement windows do appear to mimic the design and pattern of the original windows. The site itself has not substantially changed; the only changes have been to provide handicapped access to the building and the two additions to the building, both of which are historic. There is a small senior center currently in the building which has finished out three of the former classrooms but has not altered the building other than finish work.

With Jenkins School possessing the requisite integrity factors, it can be said to have integrity of the important associations with Letcher County coal camps, and thus is eligible for National Register listing.

(Expires 5/31/2012)

Jenkins School
Name of Property

Letcher, Kentucky
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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- Perry, L. Martin. Coal Company Towns in Eastern Kentucky, 1854-1941. Frankfort: Kentucky Heritage Council, 1991. Print.
- The Birth of Coal Mining Town, Jenkins, KY. Dir. David Zegeer." Jenkins Heritage Foundation: 1988, Film. http://www.coaleducation.org/miningtv/Jenkins.htm.
- Wright, George C.

 A History of Blacks in Kentucky. Volume 2, In Pursuit of Equality, 1890-1980. Frankfort: Kentucky Historical Society. 1992.

Maps: A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

Submit the following items with the completed form:

(Expires 5/31/2012)

Jenkins School
Name of Property

Letcher, Kentucky
County and State

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- Continuation Sheets
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property:

Jenkins School

City or Vicinity: County: Jenkins Letcher

State:

KY

Photographer:

Joseph Klare 8-30-2010

Date Photographed: Location of Original Digital Files:

159 Old Georgetown St. Lexington, KY 40508

Description of Photograph: Northwest facade (front) with surrounding site, camera facing northeast.

Photo #1 of 9 (KY LetcherCounty JenkinsSchool_0001).

Name of Property:

Jenkins School

City or Vicinity:

Jenkins

County:

Letcher

State:

KY

Photographer:

Joseph Klare

Date Photographed:

8-30-2010

Location of Original Digital Files:

159 Old Georgetown St. Lexington, KY 40508

Description of Photograph: Northwest (front) façade of the gymnasium addition with surrounding site, camera facing northeast.

Photo #2 of 9(KY LetcherCounty JenkinsSchool_0002).

Name of Property:

Jenkins School

City or Vicinity:

Jenkins

County: State: Letcher

KY

Photographer:

Joseph Klare

Date Photographed:

8-30-2010

Location of Original Digital Files:

159 Old Georgetown St. Lexington, KY 40508

Description of Photograph: Northeast (left) facade of gymnasium and surrounding site, camera facing south.

Photo #3 of 9 (KY_LetcherCounty_JenkinsSchool_0003).

(Expires 5/31/2012)

Jenkins School

Name of Property

Letcher, Kentucky
County and State

Name of Property: Jenkins School City or Vicinity: Jenkins

County: State: State: Senting.

Photographer: Joseph Klare
Date Photographed: 8-30-2010

Location of Original Digital Files: 159 Old Georgetown St. Lexington, KY 40508

Description of Photograph: Southeast (rear) façade at the gymnasium addition, camera facing west.

Photo #4 of 9 (KY_LetcherCounty_JenkinsSchool_0004).

Name of Property: Jenkins School

City or Vicinity:

County:

State:

Photographer:

Jenkins

Letcher

KY

Joseph Klare

Date Photographed: 8-30-2010

Location of Original Digital Files: 159 Old Georgetown St. Lexington, KY 40508

Description of Photograph: Southeast (rear) façade of the building, camera facing west.

Photo #5 of 9 (KY_LetcherCounty_JenkinsSchool_0005).

Name of Property: Jenkins School

City or Vicinity:

County:

State:

Jenkins

Letcher

KY

Photographer: Joseph Klare
Date Photographed: 8-30-2010

Location of Original Digital Files: 159 Old Georgetown St. Lexington, KY 40508

Description of Photograph: Interior second floor hallway from gymnasium addition, camera facing southwest.

Photo #6 of 9(KY LetcherCounty_JenkinsSchool_0006).

Name of Property: Jenkins School

City or Vicinity: Jenkins
County: Letcher
State: KY

Photographer: Joseph Klare
Date Photographed: 8-30-2010

Location of Original Digital Files: 159 Old Georgetown St. Lexington, KY 40508

Description of Photograph: Interior of gymnasium addition, camera facing north.

Photo #7 of 9 (KY LetcherCounty_JenkinsSchool_0007).

Name of Property: Jenkins School

City or Vicinity: Jenkins
County: Letcher

(Expires 5/31/2012)

| Jenkins School | | Letcher, Kentucky |
|---------------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| Name of Property | | County and State |
| State: | KY | |
| Photographer: | Joseph Klare | |
| Date Photographed: | 8-30-2010 | |
| Location of Original Digital Files: | 159 Old Georgetown St. Lexington, KY 405 | 08 |
| Description of Photograph: Interior s | econd floor hallway, camera facing southwest. | |

Photo #8 of 9 (KY_LetcherCounty_JenkinsSchool_0008).

Name of Property:

City or Vicinity:

County:

State:

Jenkins

Jenkins

Letcher

KY

Photographer: Joseph Klare
Date Photographed: 8-30-2010

Location of Original Digital Files: 159 Old Georgetown St. Lexington, KY 40508

Description of Photograph: Interior first floor hallway camera facing southwest.

Photo #9 of 9 (KY LetcherCounty JenkinsSchool 0009).

| Property Owner: | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-------|
| (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.) | | | |
| name Old Jenkins School Renovation Committee | | | |
| street & number P O Box 870 | telephone | | |
| city or town _Jenkins | state KY | zip code_ | 41537 |

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

| REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION |
|---|
| PROPERTY Jenkins School NAME: |
| MULTIPLE NAME: |
| STATE & COUNTY: KENTUCKY, Letcher |
| DATE RECEIVED: 12/27/10 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/28/11 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST: DATE OF WEEKLY LIST: 1/28/11 |
| REFERENCE NUMBER: 11000004 |
| REASONS FOR REVIEW: |
| APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N |
| COMMENT WAIVER: N |
| ACCEPTRETURNREJECTDATE |
| ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS: Nomination is sufficient Automatic Listing Due to Fed. Reg NEW pask of UTMs (neerled. |
| Description of A |
| RECOM./CRITERIA Accept 4 |
| REVIEWER DISCIPLINE tohim |
| TELEPHONE DATE 2-8-201 |
| DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N |
| If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS. |





















STEVEN L. BESHEAR GOVERNOR

TOURISM, ARTS AND HERITAGE CABINET KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL

THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
300 WASHINGTON STREET
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601
PHONE (502) 564-7005
FAX (502) 564-5820
www.heritage.ky.gov

MARCHETA SPARROW
DEC SEGRETARY

NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

MARK DENNEN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

December 22, 2010

Ms. Carol Shull, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service 2280
National Register of Historic Places
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, NW 8th Floor
Washington DC 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed are nominations approved at the December 10, 2010 Review Board meeting. We are submitting them for listing in the National Register:

J. Hawkins Hart House, Henderson County, Kentucky
McBrides Harrods Creek Landing Site, Jefferson County, Kentucky
Miller Paper Company Buildings, Jefferson County, Kentucky
Most Blessed Sacrament School, Jefferson County, Kentucky
Jenkins School, Letcher County, Kentucky

We also have enclosed current owners' signatures withdrawing objections to the listing of the **Joseph Crockett House** in Jessamine County, Kentucky (NR ID #83004587). That property was submitted in 1983 for a Determination of Eligibility, due to the objection of its owner at the time, Mr. Roger Springate, Jr. The DOE documentation was submitted as part of the **Early Stone Buildings of Central Kentucky Thematic Resources**, in 1983. With the new owners supporting listing, we request that the building be placed on the National Register. Along with the current owners' letter are current photographic images of the property.

We appreciate your consideration of these nominations.

Sincerely,

Mark Dennen, SHPO and

Executive Director

Kentucky Heritage Council

