

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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JUN 12 1979

DATE ENTERED

AUG 8 1979

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Georgetown College Historic Buildings

AND/OR COMMON

Same

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

East Jackson Street

\_\_\_ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Georgetown

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

06

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Kentucky

021

Scott

209

**3 CLASSIFICATION****CATEGORY**

DISTRICT  
 BUILDING(S)  
 STRUCTURE  
 SITE  
 OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

PUBLIC  
 PRIVATE  
 BOTH  
**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**  
 IN PROCESS  
 BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

OCCUPIED  
 UNOCCUPIED  
 WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
 YES: RESTRICTED  
 YES: UNRESTRICTED  
 NO

**PRESENT USE**

AGRICULTURE  
 COMMERCIAL  
 EDUCATIONAL  
 ENTERTAINMENT  
 GOVERNMENT  
 INDUSTRIAL  
 MILITARY  
 MUSEUM  
 PARK  
 PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
 RELIGIOUS  
 SCIENTIFIC  
 TRANSPORTATION  
 OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Georgetown College

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Georgetown

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

Kentucky

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Scott County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Georgetown

Kentucky

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

DATE

1971

\_\_\_ FEDERAL  STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

STATE  
Kentucky

Frankfort

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Georgetown College Historic Buildings, located in Georgetown, the county seat of Scott County, Kentucky, consists of three structures on the north side of East Jackson Street in the heart of the small Georgetown College campus. They include: Giddings Hall (1829), Pawling Hall (1844 and 1879) and Highbaugh Hall (1860).

The college lies just southeast of the Main Street Commercial District (placed on the National Register February 24, 1975) and is one block south of the East Main Street Residential District (passed by the Kentucky Historic Preservation Review Board June 5, 1973). To the south and west are also older residences, with dormitories and other college-related buildings opposite the southeastern extent of the district. An enclosed playing field is situated east of Pawling Hall (a small building used by the athletic department shown on the enclosed U.S.G.S. map as located next to Pawling Hall on the west side has since been demolished).

NIR... FEB 6'73

Access to the campus of East Main is along Giddings Drive, a tree-lined road which becomes a circular drive directly in front of Giddings Hall, the focal point of the campus. Facing north toward Main Street, and set impressively on a light rise Giddings Hall is a large red brick Greek Revival building with a full length hexastyle Ionic portico. Originally, a double door in the central bay was the only opening on the main facade but during the 1879 renovation four windows were cut and hoodmolds were added to the side and rear windows.

The interior has been completely remodelled to serve as administrative offices. Only the interior front door frame appears to be original.<sup>1</sup>

East of the John L. Hill Chapel, somewhat separated from the rest of the buildings, is Pawling Hall, presently an Italianate "T"-shaped building with the older 1844 block composing the rear wing. The Italianate block was attached in 1879 at which time the windows of the 1844 section were lengthened and the paired brackets added to the cornice. The bonding of the ell (which is Flemish) abruptly changes above the second story windows, suggesting that the roof line was altered in 1879 to compliment the new section of the building.

The main, south facade of the common bond portion of the building has two, two-bay sections receding in a stair-step manner from either side of a central gabled projection. The four-over-four pane windows of the central portion are paired under a single bracketed hoodmold. Panelled pilasters and brackets support the lintel over the entrance. The glass-paned door is flanked by four-light sidelights. The design of the cast iron hoodmolds varies on each of the three stories of the building, although the rosette-ornamented brackets remain the same. A Tuscan porch was added over the entrance to visually integrate Pawling Hall with its Greek Revival and Georgian Revival neighbors.

Although the interior of the building has been slightly modernized, the doorframes and window frames appear to be original. A Victorian staircase with a heavy square newel post and turned spindles is in the small front hall.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1839-40 Giddings, 1844;79 Pawling, 1860 Highbaugh BUILDER/ARCHITECT J.E. Farnam - Giddings Hall

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Georgetown College Historic Buildings, located in Scott County, Kentucky, comprise the three oldest remaining structures on campus. The school, established in 1830, became the first Baptist college in the United States west of the Alleghenies, and joined part of a general movement among the various other religious denominations in the promotion of higher education and training of their clergy.<sup>2</sup> In the mid-nineteenth century before the founding of public schools and the state university the college served an important function as a private girls and boys academy. With its convenient location in the Bluegrass it attracted students from all over Kentucky (with the possible exception of Louisville and Lexington, which had their own private schools). The college buildings, all ante-bellum, are symbolic of this very significant role the school played prior to the Civil War. They also present architectural interest in displaying variations of the Greek Revival and Italianate styles as adapted to educational institutions.

Early prejudices against formal education, particularly against the education of ministers, delayed the founding of Baptist colleges in Kentucky.<sup>3</sup> Also, during the first two decades of the nineteenth century, many Protestant churches were torn by conflicting philosophies arising out of the Great Revival of 1800, particularly by the ideas espoused by Alexander Campbell and his followers. Campbellites placed heavy emphasis on emotion and divine inspiration, and downgraded the importance of specialized training for their ministers. This issue, as well as others, caused a split in many congregations, most notable among Presbyterians, but also affecting Baptist congregations as well.

Among those who felt the education of ministers critical to the continued success and progress of the Baptist Church was the Reverend Silas M. Noel, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Frankfort, Kentucky, and Issachar Pawling (1757-1832), a wealthy Bluegrass farmer. Born in New Jersey, Pawling came to Kentucky early in life, settling in Mercer County. Here he acquired a considerable fortune and was "desirous to set apart a fund for the education of Baptist ministers, and candidates for the Baptist ministry."<sup>4</sup> Pawling's donation of \$20,000 to the school for the education of indigent young men preparing for the ministry made possible the founding of Georgetown College.

The college had its birth in January 1829, when a group of 23 men, which included Noel, as well as the Reverend Alva Woods, President of Transylvania, and former Governor Gabriel Slaughter, were incorporated as the Trustees for the Kentucky Baptist Education Society. Several sites were discussed as locations for the college, with Georgetown making the most generous offer of about \$25,000 in money and property. An added inducement was the availability of the old Rittenhouse Academy building, no longer in use.<sup>5</sup>

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bevins, Ann. The Magazine Antiques. March 1973, p.507.

Collins, Lewis and Richard. History of Kentucky. Berea: Kentucky Imprints, 1874, pp. 696-98.

See Continuation Sheet

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1/4 acre for each structure

QUADRANGLE NAME Georgetown

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1	6	7	1	4	0	2	1	0	4	2	3	1	4	0	0
ZONE			EASTING			NORTHING									

B 

1	6	7	1	4	1	0	1	0	4	2	3	1	4	0	0
ZONE			EASTING			NORTHING									

C 

1	6	7	1	4	2	2	1	0	4	2	3	1	3	8	0
ZONE			EASTING			NORTHING									

D 

ZONE			EASTING			NORTHING									

E 

ZONE			EASTING			NORTHING									

F 

ZONE			EASTING			NORTHING									

G 

ZONE			EASTING			NORTHING									

H 

ZONE			EASTING			NORTHING									

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated acreage includes the building site only.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Gloria Mills, Jayne Henderson, Ginny Goodlett

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

STREET & NUMBER

104 Bridge Street

CITY OR TOWN

Frankfort

DATE

TELEPHONE

(502) 564-3741

STATE

Kentucky

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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

*Donna C. Hopkins*

TITLE Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 6-8-79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*Carol Shuel*  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 8-8-79

ATTEST: *Walter J. Smith*  
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE Aug 7 '79

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Georgetown College Historic Buildings

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Directly west of the Cooke Memorial Library is Highbaugh Hall, which unlike Giddings and Pawling Halls, appears much as it did when it was constructed in 1860. The major alterations were the addition of a tetrastyle portico to the main facade during the 1952-53 renovation and the bricking up of the window over the main entrance.

The building now presents the appearance of a Greek Temple block three-bays wide and five-bays deep. Brick pilasters with simple Tuscan capitals separate the bays on all four sides. The windows on the front and two sides were lengthened at the time of the construction of Pawling Hall but are still topped by plain stone lintels. The rear of the building has no windows. A double door occupies the central bay of each side; each door is topped with a five-light transom and framed by a simple shouldered architrave. Plaques carrying the names of the original societies of the college are on the doors of the east and west sides. A plain, painted cornice encircles the building.

Although the interior of the building has suffered the addition of modern wood panelling, the Greek door and window frames and the panelling in the arches appears to be original.

The nominated acreage includes the buildings sites only.

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The college opened its doors in 1830, although there was not a full faculty employed until 1840.<sup>6</sup> The first few years proved difficult--students were few, especially with the competition of Bacon College, founded in 1836 by Campbellite Thornton Johnson, former faculty member of Georgetown College. Bacon was moved to Harrodsburg in 1839, after which Georgetown College began to grow and prosper. However the primary reason for the increased financial stability of the college at that time was the appointment of Reverend Rockwood Giddings as President in October 1838. Giddings was charged with the task of securing endowments for the school, which he did with great success.

Part of the endowment amassed by Giddings was given to the project of completing construction of the central building on campus, Giddings Hall, named in honor of the young president (see Giddings Hall, placed on the National Register February 6, 1973). It is said to have been designed by Dr. J.E. Farnam, one of Giddings' classmates at Waterville College (the present Colby College, located in Waterville, Maine), who accompanied Giddings to Georgetown to become professor of mathematics. Unfortunately Giddings did not live to see the building completed. He died on October 29, 1839, at the age of twenty-seven.<sup>7</sup>

The second building to be constructed on campus was Pawling Hall, a thirty-student dormitory facility which was named for the college's generous benefactor, Issachar Pawling.<sup>8</sup> Reported President Howard Malcom in June 1845: "The most important fact since my last report, is the opening of Pawling Hall, for the reception of students preparing for the ministry. This fine edifice is now entirely finished. The grounds in front are tastefully laid out in parterres, with flowers and shrubbery, and in the rear is a flourishing kitchen garden. The whole of this beautiful and profitable arrangement has been accomplished by the personal labor of the young brethren of the Hall."<sup>9</sup> Rooms were furnished by various churches and student expenses amounted to \$.80 per week. The structure, often referred to as "the Boarding House," was designed "to aid indigent young men who are licensed to preach by United Baptist Churches in reducing the price of their board while receiving an education. To all such tuition is remitted. . . . It is for the benefit of all our churches, for the wide unoccupied regions of the West."<sup>10</sup> The plain three-story Greek Revival block forms the rear ell of the present building now facing Jackson Street. In 1879 the hall had filled to overflowing and the three-story frame section block was constructed. A fire in 1916 seriously damaged the interior, but a complete restoration and modernization made it ready for occupancy the following year. The building is currently used for faculty and administrative offices.

Rittenhouse Academy, a "coffee-mill" structure with cupola on top, was replaced in 1860 by the building previously called "the Academy," and known today as Highbaugh Hall. The structure served to provide classrooms for the college's preparatory department, and also housed the "Literary Societies" of the college, which continued as rival

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debating organizations for ninety-one years. Plaques of the Tau Theta Kappa Society (1839) and the Ciceronian Society (1839) now affixed to the east and west sides of the structures, are believed originally to have been attached to the old Rittenhouse Academy Building. Like the other two early buildings on campus, Highbaugh Hall was designed in the Greek Revival style. Restored in 1952 and 1953, the structure was renamed in honor of LeRoy Highbaugh, Sr., who provided funds for the renovation, which included the addition of a Tuscan portico on the north end of the building to relate the structure to nearby Giddings Hall.

Among the prominent graduates of Georgetown College was Robert Bratcher, a writer of religious literature in the mid 1900's. Another graduate of note was a young preacher named Robert James, father of Frank and Jesse James.

The schools' present enrollment consists of approximately one-half in-state students. In the early years after its founding, Georgetown was one of the first schools in the country to receive international students. By the 1890's, at least one hundred missionaries from the college were working in foreign countries such as China and Nigeria. Around the turn of the century, however, the influence of the college became more localized and has remained such until the present day.

<sup>1</sup>For additional architectural description, please see the National Register form for Giddings Hall, listed on the National Register on February 5, 1973.

<sup>2</sup>Simkins, p.166; Kerr, p.762. At the opening of the nineteenth century the Baptists could point to but one institution of learning of their own founding in America--Brown University in Rhode Island. The Baptist Missionary Convention, organized in 1814, eventually established Columbian College (George Washington University) in Washington, D.C. This institution was the forerunner of Georgetown College, which was fifth in order of founding.

<sup>3</sup>Ibid.,

<sup>4</sup>Masters, p.223.

<sup>5</sup>Ibid., p.224.

<sup>6</sup>Collins, p.698.

<sup>7</sup>Masters, p.230.

<sup>8</sup>Peter, p.198.

<sup>9</sup>Meyer, p.69.

<sup>10</sup>Ibid., p.69.

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Georgetown College Historic Bldgs.  
Georgetown  
Scott County  
Kentucky

AUG 8 1979

Map of Scott County, Kentucky.  
Philadelphia: Beers and Lanagan,  
1879. Map 2

JUN 12 1979

*Map of Scott County, Kentucky, 1879*