Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-14)
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY DATA SHEET MAY 3 1 1977
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CONDITION

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Most of the 30,000 acres owned by the Berry School is forest. The Berry Schools Historic District comprises the Berry College campus, the Berry Academy campus, a scenic corridor connecting them, the Possum Trot Church, the House of Dreams Oak Hill, the waterwheel and mill and the Richard W. Wood House.

On the eastern side of U.S. 27 are Oak Hill, Martha Berry's family home, the original log cabin, and the Richard Wood house. Oak Hill was built in 1847, probably as a two-story frame house of much simpler proportions than at present. In the 1890s it was burned and rebuilt immediately, though the extent of the fire is not known. In 1932 the house was remodeled. No records of the house's earlier appearance remain, but it probably received most of its present classical styling during the remodeling. Also, a downstairs kitchen and pantry and two upstairs bedrooms were added.

The original cabin (built late 1800s) is a one-room, log building on the grounds of Oak Hill where the first Sunday School classes were held. The Richard W. Wood House is a two-story frame house with one-story portico and classical styling said to be one of the oldest houses in Floyd County. It is not significant to the Berry Schools' history except that it sat on land bought for the schools.

The Berry College campus is west of U.S. 27 and its various sections provide an architectural record of the schools' growth. About 1,000 feet above the Redmon Road junction is the Gate of Opportunity leading to the original boys' campus (A), built from 1902 to about 1910. Two representative structures in this complex are the Hoge Building (1905), a two-story frame T-shape structure with classical styling, and the Roosevelt Cabin (1902), a 1 1/2-story log building.

Directly north of the original campus is the men's residence campus (B), begun in the mid-1920s when the college was established and continued through about 1940. Thomas Berry Hall (1930), a three-story, 11-bay brick structure with Roman Doric columns supporting a pedimented entrance proch, is representative of this cluster of buildings.

Adjoining the men's residence section on the north is the classroom complex (C), These buildings, as well as the men's residences, were constructed by the students (with supervision) of brick they made themselves. Cook Hall (about 1930), a two-story brick building with one-story wings and brick and ballustered deck on the roof of the central pavilion, is representative of this group. Also in the classroom area is the Berry College chapel, originally constructed in'1916, probably frame. It was greatly enlarged in 1928 and given a brick exterior. The tower was rebuilt in 1945-46 and is presently brick with a three-tiered frame belfry with classical styling.

North of the classroom buildings is a cluster (D) of three recently built structures (1970s) These brick structures are tastefully built to blend with the other buildings. Herman Hall, the two-story brick administration building with central projecting portico, is an example.



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Northwest of the most recent buildings is the log cabin complex (E) made up of the second oldest group of buildings. The log cabins, all 1-1/2 to 2-1/2-stories constituted the original girls' school and were built from 1909 to 1924 as recitation halls, dormitories and faculty houses. They now serve as guest and faculty housing.

East of the lob cabin area are the Ford Buildings (F), a fine Collegiate Gothic complex built as the women's residence campus when the college was established in the mid-1920s and completed by the early 1930s. Mary Hall, a 2-1/2 story coursed stone dormitory with central tower with battlements and Tudor-arched doorway is typical of the buildings in this area.

The Berry Academy campus is about three miles northwest of the college and may be reached by means of either of two roughly parallel connecting roads. The physical plant for the academy was begun in the early 1920s as the Mountain School and consists of log and coursed stone structures. Cherokee Lodge (1920), a two-story log structure now used as a staff residence, was probably the first structure. A second phase of construction took place during the latter half of the 1920s after the boys' and girls' schools were moved up to this campus. Pilgrim Hall (1929-30), a 3-1/2-story, coursed stone dormitory with central mass and symmetrical wings, is typical of this period construction. In the southwest corner of the campus are the dairy barns (1931-37), a complex of nine white-painted brick buildings with brick tile roofs. The spires on these buildings are reputedly due to Martha Berry's wish that the students be reminded of their religion during the week as well as on Sunday.

The three final structures of significance on the Berry Schools campus are west of the academy, each reached by a separate road. The House o' Dreams (1927) is a 1-1/2-story board-and-batten cabin built by the students as a retreat for Berry. It is approximately one air mile northwest of the academy on Lavender Mountain, reached by means of a winding mountain road.

The mill and millwheel (see Amendment) are a half-mile directly west of the academy. Finally, the Possum Trot community church (c. 1840) is just over a mile southwest. Possum Trot is a one-room board-and-batten- church with a hood on brackets over the entrance and a small open belfry.



8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AR	EAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
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1500-1599	_ZAGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	XARCHITECTURE	X EDUCATION	MILITARY	*SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-179 9	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
<u>-x</u> 1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
<u>-x</u> 1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	PÓLITICS/GOVERNMENT	**OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		history

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Berry Schools are significant as an educational innovation. They were built under the personal direction of Martha Berry to provide educational opportunity for the mountain children of north Georgia. Berry's personal convictions included a strong religious faith and a belief in the educational value of "honest labor," and thus these two aspects were woven into the fabric of the schools' programs from the beginning.

Most of the 30,000 acres owned by Berry College and Berry Academy is forest. This nomination includes a portion encompassing both campuses, the Possum Trot Church, Oak Hill (Berry's family home), the House o' Dreams, and the water wheel and mill (see Amendment). The various sections of the Berry College campus provide an architectural record of the schools' growth. At the far south is the original boys' campus of classical and log buildings begun in 1902; at the northwest is the original girls' campus, called the log cabin campus. Just east of the cabins are the Ford Buildings, a fine Collegiate Gothic complex built as the women's residence campus when the college was established in the mid-1920s. The men's college residences were begun just north of the original boys' campus and the classroom buildings north of those. Buildings of recent years are between the classrooms and women's campuses. Most of the buildings on the Academy campus were built as the Mountain School and converted to Academy use when the college was established.

Martha Berry was born October 7, 1866, the daughter of Captain Thomas Berry and Frances Rhea Berry. Thomas Berry, from Virginia, had been one of the earliest settlers of Rome, Georgia, arriving in the early 1840s, and became one of its wealthiest residents. He bought Oak Hill, a two-story frame structure built in 1847, shortly before he left to join the Confederate Army in 1861.

It seems Berry was brought up with a sense of responsibility toward the mountain people in the area. As a child she accompanied her father to take food and supplies to them and she apparently continued the practice as an adult.

She was educated at home by a governess, after which she attended a finishing school in Baltimore. Her ambition had been to write, but her life changed its course about 1900 when she began teaching Sunday School to the mountain children, first in a log cabin on the grounds of Oak Hill and then in a church in Possum Trot community.

Since the children and their parents were illiterate, she began teaching them to read from scriptures she painted on the wall. From there she established day schools, one at Possum Trot, two in other nearby communities, and a fourth on her own property, 86 acres inherited from her father. In 1902, she built a dormitory and created the Boys' Industrial School. She deeded her property to the school in a permanent trust. In 1909, she had two additional buildings built for a girls' school, and the complex was called the Berry Schools. During the early '20s, she established a separate Mountain School on the

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES	
iggers, Dan, Martha Berry Museum curator, interviewed by J. Prescott, July 14, 1976. arper, Joyce, Individual Structural and Site Survey Forms prepared for 22 structures. Berry Women's Club, October, 1974. On file at the Historic Preservation Section. lippings on file at the HPS. aston, Joel, "Centennial for Lady of Possum Trot," Atlanta Journal and Constitution Magazine, October 2, 1966.	
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est along Redmon Road for one mile. Turn right (north) at intersection and continue on edmon Road. The road proceeds north for one mile then veers to a northwesterly route for pproximately 31/2 miles to Possum Trot Church. Proceed due north for two miles, then ea or 11/2 miles to Texas Valley Road. Follow Texas Valley Road southeast for approximate.	or ast
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grounds of the present academy to spare older students just learning to read and write the embarrassment of attending school with more advanced students their age and younger.

The purpose of the schools was to provide an education for the mountain children, and Berry traveled through the surrounding hills in search of potential students. Entrance requirements were that the student be of good character, too poor to go to school elsewhere and have made the utmost of previous chances at schooling.

In 1926, she added a two-year college program, extended in 1930 to four years. The college is on the site of the original boys' and girls' schools. Those schools were moved to the Mountain School campus.

From the beginning, when the Possum Trot community church, a pre-Civil War structure in severe disrepair, was repaired by potential students and their parents, work has been an integral part of the program of all the Berry schools. Most of the buildings were built by the students themselves during Berry's lifetime, either from logs on the property or, later, from bricks made by the students.

Eighty percent of Berry School students paid no cash at all, though even those who paid were required to work, for Berry felt that work fulfilled a "vital educational function." Students worked rotating shifts of two days at work and four in school. They built roads, cooked and served me als, managed a forestry operation, and operated a dairy, an orchard, shops, a farm, poultry yards, a nursery, weaving and sewing rooms, a bakery, and furniture and print shops. They also rebuilt the wooden waterwheel, one of the largest overshot wheels in the country.

In addition to providing most of the food for the schools, agricultural achievements included a jersey dairy herd which received a top rating from the American Jersey Cattle Association. Poultry production and livestock raising also set records for the school. The forestry program used the latest land management techniques, and Berry was made vice-president of the American Forestry Association in recognition of the schools' conservation program.

Because of the lack of tuition revenue, the schools always were in need of money, and Berry was remarkably proficient at raising funds. Her first major contributor was Andrew Carnegie, who gave \$50,000 on condition it be matched from other sources. The publisher of the New York Times led an endowment drive for the Berry schools, and the Henry Fords contributed money for the Ford Complex of buildings as well as the kiln where bricks for campus buildings were made. Theodore Roosevelt, who called the schools "the greatest work in the conservation of human resources in America," introduced her to influencial people and also came to dinner in 1910 in the log cabin which now bears his name. Berry received the sympathy and support of, among others, Calvin Coolidge, Woodrow Wilson, Eleanor Roosevelt and William Jennings Bryan.



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Among the honors sher received were honorary degrees from eight American universities, a medal from the Roosevelt Memorial Association presented by President Calvin Coolidge, appointment as first woman member of the board of regents of the Georgia University System and presentation at the Court of St. James when King George and Queen Mary honored American educators. She also was voted one of America's Twelve Greatest Women in a Good Housekeeping Magazine nationwide contest and honored on her birthday in 1939 with a national hook-up as "Woman of the Week." She died in 1942.

Martha Berry established her schools during a period of great idealism regarding education. Consequently, she, along with contemporaries such as John Dewey and Marie Montessori, captured the public's imagination at a time when it was thought that education could accomplish virtually anything. Practically, her work improved the lives of 15,000 students who graduated during her lifetime, and thousands of others who benefited from her legacy.

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"The Berry Schools in North Georgia Have Unique Educational System." Pipe Progress a publication of the American Cast Iron Pipe Co., Vo. XXXIII, No. 2, 1948, rev. 1949.

The Story of Martha Berry. Bery School and College, The Berry Schools, Mount Berry, Ga., 1959



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The Berry Schools, Mount Berry, Floyd County, Georgia

Description:

The enclosed booklet, <u>Berry Trails</u> (1977), identifies all the structures and their background. The foreword provides a brief sketch of the present school and the Old Mill is discussed on page 52. The enclosed maps (brochures) of the college and academy campus have keys (on separate sheets) that list the dates of the buildings.

Significance:

The Berry Schools own 30,000 acres, only 5,300 of which are being submitted for nomination. A departmental employee is an alumnus of the college; and he reports that the college is very land conscious and has managed the acreage as a land system since 1902. Thus, the forest connecting the two campuses is part of this timber management system and is significant to the history of the school. A brief comment on this land, known as "The Stretch", is on page 44.

Prepared By:

Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr. Historic Preservation Section Department of Natural Resources 270 Washington Street, S. W. Atlanta, Georgia 30334

February 2, 1978

Elizabeth A. Lyon

Acting State Historic Preservation Officer

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Berry Schools Historic District photographs

- 1. Oak Hill facade; photographer facing east.
- 2. Oak Hill interior; photographer facing front entrance from rear of hall.
- 3. Oak Hill interior; left front room.
- 4. original cabin.
- 5. Richard W. Wood House facade; house faces west.
- 6. Hoge Hall facade: photographer facing east.
- 7. Roosevelt cabin; photographer facing east.
- 8. Thomas Berry Hall facade; photographer facing west.
- 9. Cook Hall facade; photographer facing northwest.
- 10. Berry College chapel facade; photographer facing northwest.
- 11. Hermann Hall administration building; photographer facing west.
- 12. log cabin complex; photographer facing southwest.
- 13. Barnwell Cahpel; photographer facing north.
- 14. Mary (Ford) Hall; photographer facing northwest.
- 15. Ford Dining Hall; photographer facing northwest.
- 16. Clara (Ford) Hall interior; gift shop.
- 17. Cherokee Lodge; photographer facing west.
- 18. Pilgrim Hall; photographer facing north.
- 19. dairy barns; photographer facing southwest.
- 20. House o' Dreams exterior; photographer facing north.
- 21. House o' Dreams interior.
- 22. mill house and mill wheel; photographer facing northeast.

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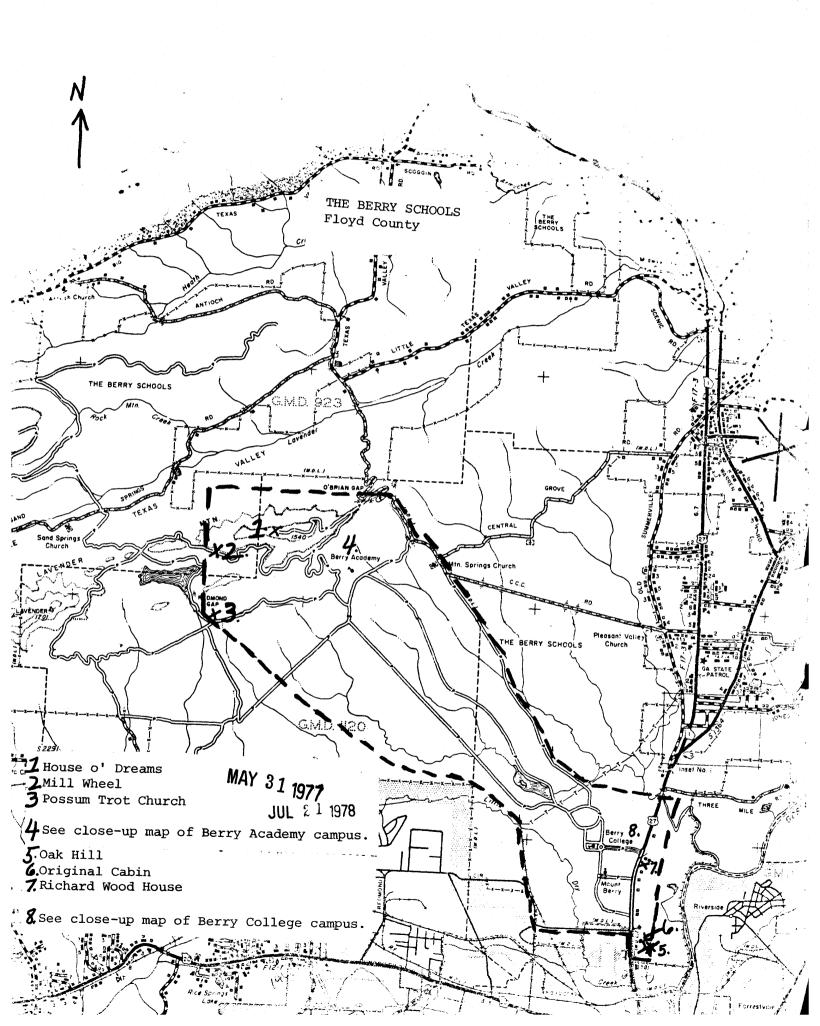
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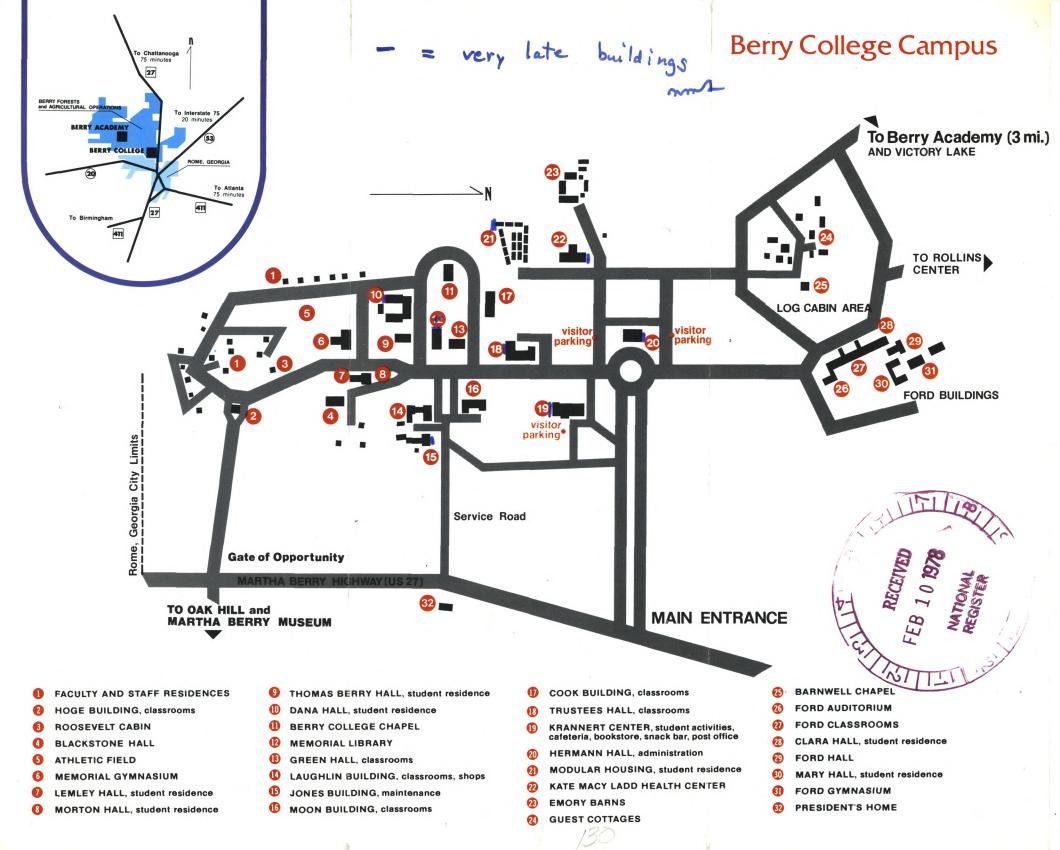
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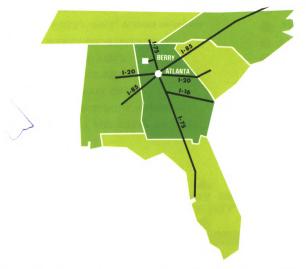
Berry Schools Historic District photographs -- page two

- 23. mill wheel; photographer facing north.
- 24. mill wheel; photographer facing northeast.
- 25. Possum Trot church; photographer facing north.
- 26. street scene from college gate facing northwest toward academy.
- 27. Berry College street scene; photographer standing west of Trustees Hall and facing southwest.
- 28. Berry Academy street scene; photographer standing east of Cherokee Lodge and facing south.

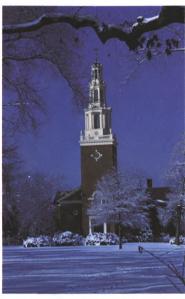










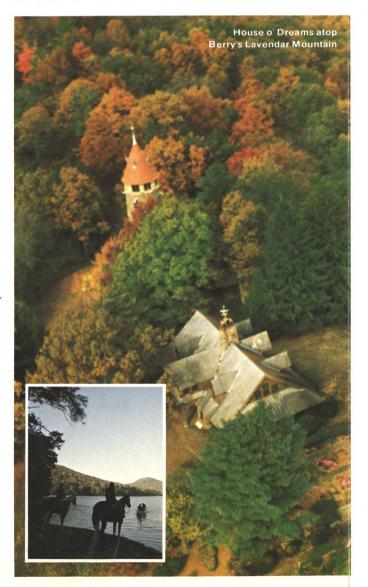




Berry College and Berry Academy...

are a rare combination of environmental charm, intellectual attainment, opportunities for work experience and religion in life.

Berry College is coeducational, and in its innovative academic programs students may elect majors and minors — individually tailored, if they wish — from a wide range of undergraduate areas as well as preprofessional sequences. The college offers the Associate of Science, Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Science plus Master of Business Administration and Master of Education degrees. Students may reside on the campus or commute from their homes.





Berry Academy is a coeducational, college preparatory school with grades 6 through 12. Young men and young women in grades 9 through 12 may reside on the academy campus. Commuting students attend all grades.

There are approximately 1,700 students at the college and 210 at the academy. They come from most of the states and several other countries. Both residential and commuting students share in a strong sense of community on the Berry campuses. A friendly atmosphere is a hallmark of Berry, and it is conducive to close personal relationships among students and faculty.

Believing in man's innate need for a meaningful faith, Berry makes available diversified interdenominational Christian religious activities, including regular worship services in the campus chapels. A resident chaplain serves as pastor to the campuses.

The college and academy believe that experience in total living is important. Thus, students participate in internal affairs and governance at Berry.

Students also have an opportunity to work at a job—ranging from campus maintenance, laboratories, dining halls and offices, for example, to industry, business and government—a part of the Berry experience in preparing for useful lives and rewarding careers. Of course, earnings may be used to help defray charges. Comprehensive student financial aid is available.

Berry students have the further distinction of learning and living on campuses nestled among 30,000 acres of Berry's forests, fields, mountains, lakes and streams. The campuses, with their beautiful buildings and attractive landscaping, create an environment of natural charm.

The institutions were founded in 1902 by the late Miss Martha Berry. The holdings have increased through the years. A realization of growth is exemplified in the transition from the handful of log buildings of the early days to the handsome structures of later and very recent years which provide outstanding modern facilities. There are 40 principal buildings, and other buildings and faculty homes are located throughout the campuses. Pure water is piped from the Lavendar Mountain reservoir through Berry's modern filter plant.

Edgewood

Plumwood

Dellwood

Brookwood

Maplewood

Rosewood

Brentwood

Greenwood

Oak Grove

Gate Cottage

Stone Haven

Wren's Nest

President's Home

Cottonwood

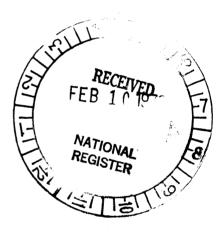
Dana

Faculty and Staff Residences: (Not identified by numbers on map) a. Homewood 1910 p. 1954 b. Robinwood q. c. Glenwood 1916 r. 1928 d. Martha s. 1910 t. e. Boxwood f. Oakwood 1904 u. 1930 v. g. Ashwood h. Zellwood 1941 w. i. Ormewood 1958 x. j. Elmwood 1924 у. k. Flock Together 1958 z. 1922 a.(1).1. Greenwood Cottage 1907 b.(1). m. Poland 1907 c.(1). n. Inman d.(1). o. Cedarwood 1928 1905 2. Hoge Building Roosevelt Cabin 1902 **Blackstone** 1915 4. XX 5. Athelitic Field 1937 -6. Memorial Gymnasium Lemley Hall 1921 7. Morton Hall 1953 -8. Thomas Berry Hall 1931 9. 10. Dana Hall 1959 -11. Berry College Chapel 1915 12. Memorial Library 1926, 1956-57) 1976 13. Green Hall 1921-22 14. Laughlin Buildings 1932-33 Jones Building 15. 1973 16. Moon Building 1934 17. Cook Building 1937 18. Trustees Hall 1930-31 1967) (Mothers Memorial Building 19. Krannert Center 1967-69 20. Hermann Hall 1964 21. Modular Housing 1975 22. Kate Macy Ladd Health Center 1966-67 -23. Emery Barns 1915-16 24. Guest Cottages Jewe1 1976 Emily 1916 Frances 1913 25. Barnwell Chapel 1011 26. Ford Auditorium 1928 27. Ford Classrooms 1928 28. Clara Hall 1925 29. Ford Hall 1925 30. Mary Hall 1931 ---

31.

Ford Gymnasium

1928



29 No Service.

1911

?

1920

1954

1956

1954

1952

1953

1846

1940

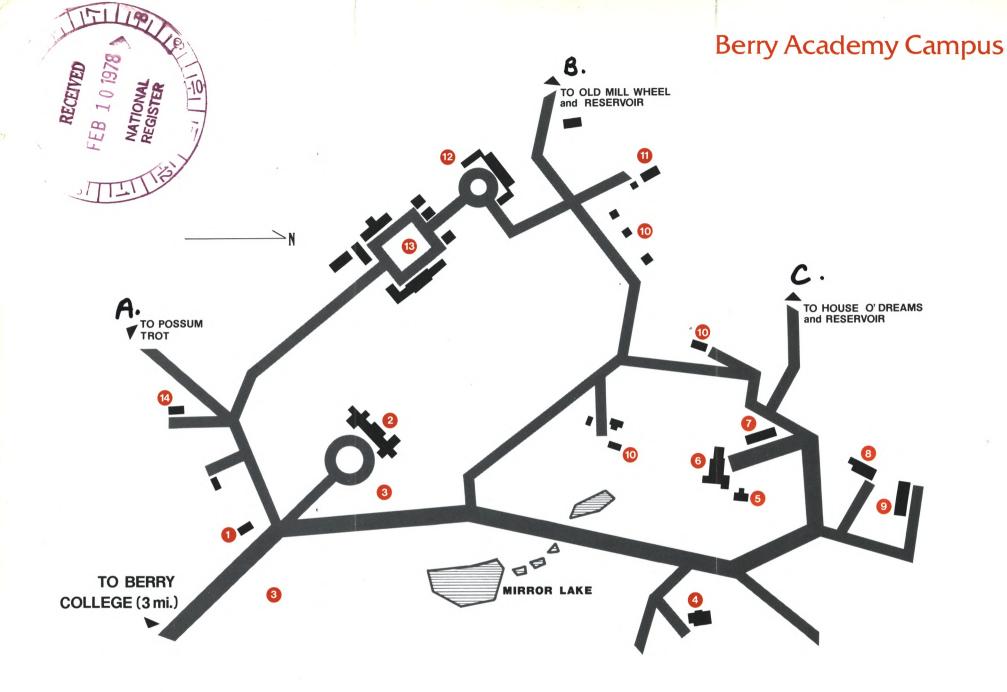
1846

1940

1928

?

?



- 1 HEADMASTER'S HOME
- MIDDLE SCHOOL AND GYMNASIUM
- **3** ATHLETIC FIELD
- 4 FROST MEMORIAL CHAPEL
- 5 BARSTOW MEMORIAL LIBRARY
- 6 HAMRICK HALL, upper school and administration
- FRIENDSHIP HALL, student residence
- **8** HILL DINING HALL
- 9 PILGRIM HALL, student residence
- **10** FACULTY AND STAFF RESIDENCES

- **11** WATER FILTER PLANT
- NORMANDY APARTMENTS, faculty and staff residences
- B DAIRY BARNS
- 4 GUNBY HORSEMANSHIP CENTER

Location

Berry is located in northwest Georgia. The college campus adjoins Rome, which has a metropolitan population of 68,000 and is between Atlanta and Chattanooga (about 65 miles, or 75 minutes, from each). The college's main entrance is on U.S. Highway 27, the Martha Berry

■ To reach Berry from Chattanooga, take the Rome exit or Highway 53 off Interstate 75 ■ From Atlanta, take I-75, then U.S. Highway 41 and the Rome exit (U.S. Highway 411, north of Cartersville). The route from Atlanta to Rome and Berry is four-lane. From Birmingham, take I-59, then U.S. Highway 411 or some alternate routes.

Visit an uncommon campus

Visitors are welcome, and thousands come to the campuses and to the adjacent Martha Berry Museum and Art Gallery each year.

A reception and information desk in Hermann Hall is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 12 noon Saturday. An information desk in Krannert Center is open Saturday and Sunday afternoon. Visitors may utilize the lounges in Hermann Hall and Krannert Center, and they may obtain refreshments or have a light meal in the Krannert Center "Valhalla" room which is open throughout the day and evening.

Visitors enjoy walking or driving over the expansive college campus-from the Georgian buildings to the gothic Ford Buildings with their mall.

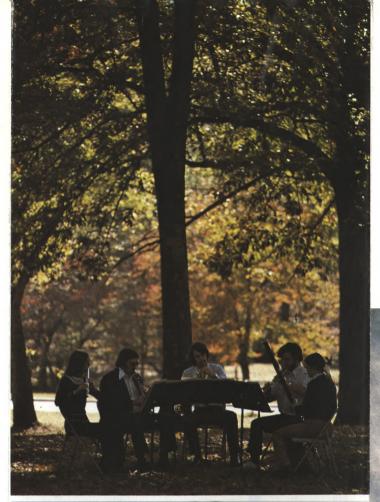
Berry's aesthetic atmosphere is enhanced because most of the countryside bordering the campuses is owned by Berry and can be utilized in maintaining a distinctive environment for education. Some of the surrounding natural beauty can be seen in driving the three miles between the college and academy campuses.

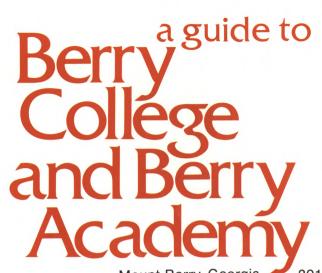
While at Berry Academy, in addition to viewing its fine facilities, native stone structures and setting at the foot of Mount Lavendar, visitors usually see the picturesque Old Mill Wheel

The new Martha Berry Museum and Art Gallery and Oak Hill, both adjacent to the college, are open to the public on Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m.

(For information about campus tours, please write Martha Berry Museum, Mount Berry, Georgia 30149 or telephone (404) 234-4465.)

For further information about enrolling at the college or academy, the development program or any other matter, please write the President, Berry College and Berry Academy, Mount Berry, Georgia 30149. You will receive a prompt reply. The college's telephone number is (404) 232-5374 and the academy's is (404) 234-9446





Mount Berry, Georgia



Mount Berry, Georgia 30149

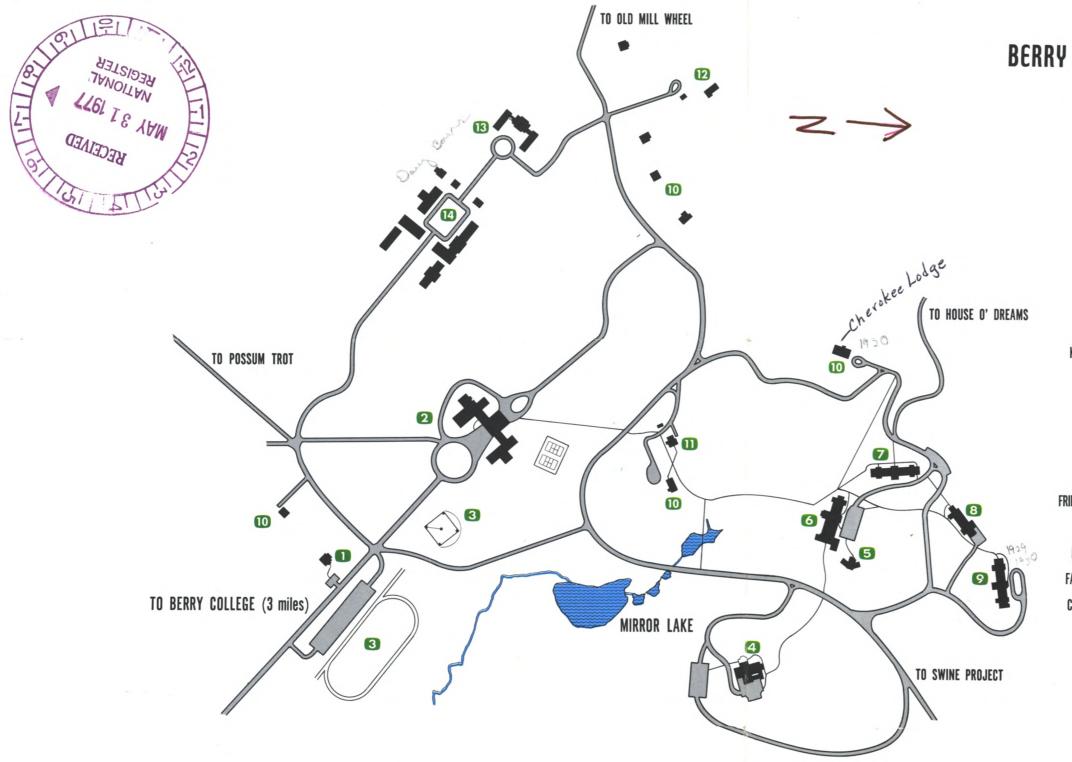
DATES, KEYED TO MAP OF BERRY ACADEMY CAMPUS

1	Headmasters Home	1957
		1930-31
	Middle School and Gymnasium Athletic field	1965
	Frost Memorial Chapel	1936-37
	Barstow Memorial Library	1940
	Hamrick Hall	1922-23
7.	Friendship Hall	1925–26, 1955, 1973 —
8.	Hill Dining Hall	1923
9.	Pilgrim Hall	1929-30
10.	Faculty and Staff residences	1
	(Not listed by numbers on map)	
	a. Meacham Hall	1921
	b. Cherokee Lodge	1920
	c. Pine Lodge	1916
	d. Azalea	1920's
	e. Bonnie Brae	1920's
	f. Dogwood	1920's
	g. Pinewood	1920's
11	Water Felter Plant	1927-28
-		
	Normandy Apartments	1931-37
	Dairy Barns	1931–37
14.	Genby Horsemanship Center ?	1974
A	. Possum Trot prior	to 1850
_ ,	. Old Mill Wheel	1930
C.	. House O ' Dreams	1926

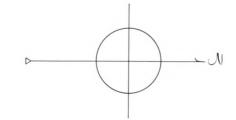
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BERRY ACADEMY CAMPUS



- HEADMASTER'S HOME
- KEOWN SHOPS AND GYMNASIUM
 - ATHLETIC FIELD (3)
 - FROST MEMORIAL CHAPEL 4
- BARSTOW MEMORIAL LIBRARY (5)
- HAMRICK HALL, classrooms and administration
- FRIENDSHIP HALL, student residence
 - HILL DINING HALL (8)
- PILGRIM HALL, student residence 9
- FACULTY AND STAFF RESIDENCES 10
- CHEROKEE LODGE, student center
 - WATER FILTER PLANT 12
 - NORMANDY APARTMENTS, faculty and staff residences
 - DAIRY BARNS 14

