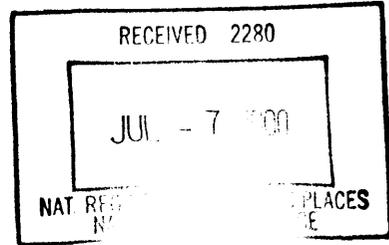


860

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name Home of the Friendless
other names/site number Friendly Home; Mc-NP-136

2. Location

street & number 1335 Burnett Street not for publication N/A
city or town Paducah vicinity N/A
state Kentucky code KY county McCracken code 145 zip 42002

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

David L. Morgan, SHPO / Executive Director 6-5-2000
Signature of certifying official Date

State Historic Preservation Office/ Kentucky Heritage Council

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register Beth Boland 11/15/00

See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register

See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register _____

removed from the National Register _____

other (explain): _____

Signature Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)		
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u> 1 </u>	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> 0 </u>	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> 0 </u>	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u> 0 </u>	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

Name of related multiple property listing NA

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions: **Domestic/Institutional Housing = Orphanage**
Government/Government office = Municipal building

Current Functions: **"Work In Progress"**
Social/Civic = Public Service Organization
Healthcare/Clinic = Pre-natal Ultrasounds
Education/School = GED preparation
Commerce/Specialty Store = thrift store

7. Description

Architectural Classification: **Late 19th Century/Classical Revival**
Italianate

Materials foundation Brick
Roof Slate
Walls Brick
other

Narrative Description (begins p. 7-1)

8. Statement of Significance: Applicable National Register Criteria

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.

Criteria Considerations continued:

- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance _____ **SOCIAL HISTORY**
 Period of Significance _____ **1902-1950**
 Significant Dates _____ **1902, 1910**
 Significant Person _____ **N/A**
 Cultural Affiliation _____ **N/A**
 Architect/Builder _____ **Unknown**

Narrative Statement of Significance (begins p.8-1)

9. Major Bibliographical References

- Previous documentation on file (NPS)
 preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
 previously listed in the National Register
 previously determined eligible by the National Register
 designated a National Historic Landmark
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: Kentucky Heritage Council

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property Less than one acre
 UTM References Zone Easting Northing
 Coordinate 1: 16 356270 410560 Paducah East Quad

Verbal Boundary Description and Boundary Justification (see p.10-1)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan Hamner Organization Hope Unlimited Pregnancy Care Center, Inc.
 date: 04-04-2000 street & number P.O. Box 7403 telephone (270) 442-5842 (-1166 fax)
 city or town Paducah state KY zip code 42002

Home of the Friendless

Name of Property

McCracken County, KY

County and State

Property Owner

name Hope Unlimited Pregnancy Care Center, Inc.

street & number 2330 Cairo Road telephone (502) 442-5842

city or town Paducah state KY zip code 42002

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1 **Narrative Description**

The "Home of The Friendless (Mc-NP-136), also known as "The Friendly Home", is a large two-story brick institutional home located at the intersection of 14th and Burnett Street in Paducah's central area. Since its construction circa 1902, until 1972, the home served as an orphanage for children. Three wings and a front porch were added on to the building circa 1910. In 1972, the home was gifted over to the city of Paducah and utilized as office space for employees of the Juvenile Center and Western Kentucky Mental Health Board until 1977 and after that time has since remained vacant.

The land in which the home sits was purchased by the Home of the Friendless Organization from Dr. S.B. Caldwell and his wife Addie on June 25th, 1901 in the amount of three hundred dollars. In 1916, the adjacent lot was purchased from the Caldwells in the amount of twelve hundred dollars.

The original building has a rectangular plan, approximately 65 feet by 47 feet, including an enclosed screened porch on the east façade. The original foundation is of brick construction. Circa 1910, two additions were added to the home, following the same structural pattern of the original building. The two-story east wing, measuring approximately 52 feet by 32 feet, was added to accommodate the additional living space needed and served as a living room on the first floor and as the girl's dormitory on the second floor. The second wing, a two-story rear ell, measuring approximately 45 feet by 19 feet, was utilized as a playroom for the children and the second floor serving as quarters for the cook and nursery. An open porch was added to the front of the home at this time, measuring 45 feet by 12 feet.

The all-brick construction is a symmetrically arranged form that was derived from the late-nineteenth century Classic Revival style of architecture. The main entrance is round arched with corbelled brick surround with double doors, sidelights and fanlight. The round-headed bays and advanced brick stringcourse give this institutional structure an Italianate look that offsets the classical form. The second story front and sides of the building host twenty-one one-over-one double-hung round arched windows with two roundel windows separating the pairs of six windows on the original main building and sixty-four segmented arched windows on the first floor and entire rear of the building. The variation in window styles breaks up the monotony in the design and adds style to the home. The hipped slate roof hosts three dormers, two on the front and one in the rear with a simple wood framed cornice. Two brick chimneys are located on respective east and west wings of the building.

The interior of the home features hardwood floors in the east and west wings, eleven-inch base board moldings, chair rail moldings throughout, picture moldings, and ten foot nine inch ceilings. Most doors and windows have five inch encasing with square corner blocks at the tops and plinth blocks at the bottom. The walls are plaster on wood lath in the interior and exterior walls are plaster on brick. Many of the original inside doors are four-panel wood with transom windows. The heating system had been updated from a coal burning boiler system to natural gas. The interior has been gutted of all fixtures and appliances and is in great disrepair after having sat vacant for twenty-two years.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1 **Statement of Significance**

The Home of the Friendless (MC-NP-136) in Paducah, Kentucky, meets National Register eligibility criterion A. It is significant within the historic context "Social Welfare Programs in Paducah, Kentucky, 1865-1950," a framework of evaluation developed for this nomination. The home was constructed circa 1902 from funds donated by John W. Keiler and Joseph L. Friedman, local industrialists and philanthropists. Mary Wheeler Campbell initiated the organization; "Home of the Friendless" in 1892 to care for Paducah's "unfortunate women". The home later evolved into caring for orphaned, abandoned, abused and neglected children. In 1932 directors of the organization changed its name to "The Friendly Home for Children" which remained its identity until the home ceased to operate in 1972 and the building was gifted to the city of Paducah. During the Period of Significance, 1902-1950, the facility contributed to the social history of Paducah.

Historic Context: "Social Welfare Programs in Paducah, Kentucky, 1865-1950"

The methodology of building a case for historical significance for The Home of the Friendless has been to examine the history of Social Welfare on three different levels: national, state and local during the period of significance, 1865-1950. Gathering information on the history of social welfare became a great challenge as frequently it was discovered that records were virtually non-existent, as there was no governing force that required specific information be kept or for how long. The Commonwealth's Department of Child and Family Services indicated that they had no records of orphanages, nor was there any significant information of other social welfare programs that would be of benefit to support this nomination. Ron Bryant, at The Kentucky Historical Society was also unable to locate information on orphanages and related social welfare programs as well.

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, Public Records Division was also consulted and was not able to locate the article of incorporation for the orphanage, and Hasse's Guide, a comprehensive index to Kentucky State Board of Health Records was also void of any helpful information related to social welfare programs.

The local library did not have newspapers on microfilm for the periods of 1891 until 1894, which may have provided information on the beginnings of the Home of the Friendless. The Paducah City Directories were also missing the following years 1896-1903, which may have assisted with dating the actual year the home went into operation. No file had been kept on the Home of the Friendless, and local historians provided only a rudimentary sketch of the home in Paducah's history. The City of Paducah's Department of Inspections had no record of building dates, permits, contractor or architects. Records merely listed the deed transfers of the home. The Department of Engineers was able to provide Sanborn Insurance Maps for the years 1906-1916 only, which did not assist with the dating of the home or the additions.

Through conversations with local historians, past residents of the home, letters written to the Campbell family, conversations with the Keiler family, meetings with local charitable organizations, and hours spent pouring through microfilm and newspaper articles at the local paper's own personal library, did the

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pieces of the local history of social welfare puzzle begin to develop. Multiple conversations with various state archival organizations led to various individuals or other organizations, such as Professor Olasky, Dr. Richard E. Snarr, and Eastern Kentucky University who greatly assisted with the national and state historical perspective.

National Perspective

To understand the significance of the Friendly Home, it is helpful to understand the history linked to orphans in our country. In the May, 1996 issue of *Philanthropy, Culture & Society*, Professor Marvin Olasky states that "In the colonial era small children without parents were taken in by relatives or informally by neighbors; older children were indentured to a master who would teach them a trade." He goes on to say that apprenticeship bore no stigma since it was common for a child of thirteen to live with another family while receiving training or education. As of 1800, there were no more than seven institutions in America for parentless children and it was "typically, a society of citizens" who would take the initiative to care for the homeless children. He reports that orphanages grew throughout the first half of the nineteenth century largely in connection with evangelical benevolence, with women often in the forefront.

By 1850 there were between 71 and 77 orphanages in the country. Their numbers increased predominately as a result of the epidemics such as the cholera disaster of 1832, which left many orphaned. Olasky reports it was common for churches and individuals to pay for most of the cost, but not unusual for municipalities to pay up to a third, and expenses sometimes reduced through work by the orphans. During this period, many orphanages expanded in size and became impressive buildings, some up to five stories high.

In New York City, in the 1850s, there were ten thousand homeless children who roamed the streets in search of food and shelter. A thousand immigrants a day were flooding into the city from rural America and Europe. Work was scarce, living quarters were often crowded, and the city grew into a breeding ground for cholera, TB and alcoholism. At that time the modern institutions called "houses of refuge" or "orphan asylums" were built to house the astronomical number of orphaned, abandoned and neglected children, but the numbers quickly reached capacity.

In 1853, Charles Loring Brace founded the Children's Aid Society, a regional charity whose goal was to locate families to adopt "outcast children". As a result, the Orphan Train" movement emerged. The idea was to transport these children out of the city and into the homes of farmers in rural America where, in return for room, board, education, and personal attention, the children would work part-time. Over 91,000 children were placed by Brace between 1853 and 1893. His program would turn out to be a forerunner of modern foster care.

The Civil War greatly increased demand for orphanages, and the supply grew to over 600 by 1880. "Character (of the facilities) as well as the quantity changed," says Olasky, noting, "in the late 1800s children of destitute single parents increasingly found their way to orphanages."

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Reaching their peak between 1880 and 1920, orphanages became a massive network of institutions, most segregated by race. The number of orphanages peaked in the 1920s, with the census bureau recording 143,000 residents in 1923. Olasky states, "Most were small, with one-fourth holding fewer than 30 residents and 65 percent housing fewer than 80". A comprehensive study by William P. Letchworth, commissioner of the New York State Board of Charities in 1875, visited some 130 institutions and reported positive impressions about the conditions of the facilities and the moral and religious training that the children were receiving.

Olasky describes the typical orphanage director as someone who "tried to instill virtues such as thrift, self-reliance, and sobriety, and to create a capacity for hard work; they believed in busy daily routines and strict discipline." Interviews with former residents and employees of The Home of the Friendless support this notion.

Olasky observed that what he terms "yellow journalism" set the stage for government intervention. "Two White House Conferences on the Care of Dependent Children, in 1909 and 1919, bent in an anti-orphanage direction, concluded that single mothers were to receive financial aid so children could stay at home, and orphans of those completely abandoned should be placed in foster care." The states began to take over the task that orphanages had performed, which has ultimately led to the foster care and the welfare system.

Despite the ideology that orphanages were bad and homes good, Olasky states that most of the children who needed help had a surviving parent or parents who had not freed children for adoption. So often they were placed in homes temporarily and would end up with less stability than the orphanages had provided. The 1920s through the 1940s clearly indicated that foster care was no panacea, as children often went through a succession of foster homes.

State Perspective

Produced for the Cabinet for Human Resources Department for Social Services, Dr. Richard W. Snarr, Eastern Kentucky University Professor, published *A History of Services for the Commonwealth's Children 1890-1989*, which outlines in detail the history of services provided to the delinquent and neglected children in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Prior to 1900, children in Kentucky served time in adult prisons and institutional settings such as county poor houses and alms houses. Conditions were often overcrowded and inadequate in terms of diet and health care. In the latter portion of the 1800's, Snarr reports that these practices "were coming under closer scrutiny and were met with increasing public disapproval." In 1897, Kentucky established a state supported institutions for children known as "Houses of Reform" (known as Greendale and later named Kentucky Village). Many children became residents of private institutions that were developing across the state. The first juvenile court act was passed in 1906, which developed a separate set of laws that dealt only with the needs of children.

The year 1920 marked the beginning of significant State Government Involvement. Governor Edwin P. Morrow appointed a Children's Code Commission to survey Child Welfare of Kentucky. This was the first official act that explored all services children were receiving. In 1928 Legislature established the

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Kentucky Children's Bureau with authority to establish a Mother's Aid Program; organize county welfare boards; and provide for dependent and neglected children. Snarr stated, "Few of these goals even began to be realized until 1936."

Deinstitutionalization began to emerge in the mid 1930's, where dependent children were placed in a community setting. Children were literally "given away," as vehicles brought children to county courthouses where people could select a child to live with them, usually to perform farm labor, act as a babysitter or to provide maid service (KERA "Study of Social Facilities in Kentucky", April 1, 1953). Programs were developed to assist families to be able to provide for children in their own homes.

With the passage of the United States Social Security Act, the Division Child Welfare in the Department of Welfare was created in 1936 with a mandate to supervise and regulate child welfare activities. Excerpts from the Child Welfare's Annual Plan addressed the concerns of rural areas where there "is little or no county activity for the prevention of Juvenile Delinquency and many dependent children are still being sent to Alms Houses or other institutions not equipped for child care."

Several transfers between the Department of Economic Security and the Department of Welfare took place as to where the responsibility for the Division of Child Welfare would ultimately rest. Administrative responsibility began some stabilization with the creation of the Department of Child Welfare, Division of Field Services in 1960, which has evolved into the present day Division of Family Services, Department for Social Services, Cabinet for Human Resources."

Local Perspective

On a local level, social welfare efforts were loosely organized and conducted on an informal basis through churches, civic organizations, and local philanthropists. It would be most common for families and possibly neighbors to help meet each others' needs, however, events such as the Civil War, Great Depression, World War II, and the transient nature of a 'River Town' impacted the ability of families or friends to care for relatives or children. It appears that until the close of the 19th century, many social service services in Paducah were delivered on an irregular basis. The lack of formal documentation during the period of significance supports this notion. Newspaper articles verify that the poor and needy were cared for by volunteers in the community. Where on a national level, many of the rural towns were lacking in social welfare, Paducah responded quite early to the indigent, homeless, or otherwise destitute population. In growing Paducah, Kentucky, orphaned children were not put on trains to find homes, outside the city, rather, they were care for by their community.

Pre-dating the Home of the Friendless, the McCracken County Poor House existed during the years 1868-1967. Records for the Poor House, are for the most part lacking, and those that do exist are incomplete. The Poor House, funded by the county, apparently housed individuals who otherwise could not care for themselves; black and white, male and female, young and old, averaging 40-45 residents per year. The main purpose in the records appears to be to document the deaths of the residents and to indicate the plot in which they were buried in the County Sanitarium Cemetery. Records listed names, race, date of birth (if known), place of birth (if known), cause of death and whom to notify in the event of death. In 1938 records began to indicate when the individuals came in to the Poor House and when they left. A pattern of comings and goings were noted, beginning in the 1960s. Individuals may have left for work; went to

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live with family; left of own accord; sent to Hopkinsville, KY state institution; ordered out by judges orders, etc. Records did show that about 20 people considered "flood refugees" were taken in as a result of the 1937 flood. According to Ron Bryant, Curator of Rare Books at the Kentucky Historical Society, the County Poor House was the last place someone would want live. He stated, "They would rather have died than to have gone into the Poor House, but often were left with no choice".

Home of the Friendless

It was in 1892 that Mary Wheeler Campbell, wife to James Campbell IV (attorney, Paducah City Councilman, and 1880 Circuit Court Judge), conceived of a shelter for the unfortunate women of the city, which gradually came to serve the needs of the homeless children of Paducah. The first Home was opened in a building on Murrell Boulevard that is now the site of Immanuel Baptist Church. Very active in Paducah club and social circles all of her married life, she was one of the leading figures of the community in many charitable affairs. She served as president of the Home of the Friendless until 1918 and led many efforts to secure funding and contributions to support the home.

Joseph L. Friedman and John W. Keiler receive official credit for their donations, which funded construction of the nominated building in 1902, but Mary Wheeler Campbell conceived the idea to provide for the unfortunate through construction of the Home of the Friendless. Campbell, who traveled in the same affluent social circles as the Friedmans and the Keilers, may have influenced two women, John Keiler's wife, Blanche, sister to Joseph L. Friedman, and Joseph L. Friedman's wife, Elizabeth (Lizzie), sister to John Keiler, of the need for an orphanage in the community. All three women were involved in a number of social and civic volunteer organizations in the area.

Joseph L. Friedman, raised in Louisville, and James W. Keiler in St. Louis, were both born of German Jewish parents. They moved to Paducah as young adults, embarking on separate enterprises. By 1890 the men had combined their interest in the Friedman and Keiler Company, as distillers and wholesalers of bonded whiskies. With distilleries in Nelson County and shipping offices in Paducah, Friedman and Keiler maintained a national trade with such well-known brands as Brook Hill and Early Times. In addition to this thriving business, both Friedman and Keiler were active investors in most of Paducah's major concerns. Friedman was vice-president of the City National Bank (Mc-NP-65), president of the Paducah Traction Company, (Mc-NP-75) and president of the Palmer Hotel Company. His civic volunteer membership includes the Elks, Knights of Pythias and Knights of Honor. In his book The Story of Paducah, author Fred G. Neuman states that Mr. Friedman for a quarter of a century, until his death in 1913, contributed in many ways to the growth, happiness and prosperity of Paducah and was a "potent factor in bringing many leading industries to the city." He goes on to describe him as a wealthy man who freely expended his means to make the burdens of his fellow men lighter. "He was a friend and a benefactor to all and seemed to read the needs of those about him."

John W. Keiler served as president of the Paducah Brewery Company (McN-P-118) and vice-president of the Palmer Hotel Company. He was also involved with a number of volunteer organizations in the community, including the Masonic bodies, the Scottish Rites, The Elks, and Harmony Lodge. Among the partners' many philanthropic contributions was the building of the orphanage: The Home of the Friendless.

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The Home of the Friendless was likely a result of the community's attempt to provide an alternative living situation for children to that of the County Poor House. The orphanage became home to the children whose mothers or fathers were widowed and could no longer care for their children, who lost their parents to death, or who were removed from the home due to the suffering they endured at the hands of abusive or neglectful parent(s). McCracken County Census Records from 1910 and 1920 indicate that the average number of residents in the home was 50 and the average age of those living in the home was 10. There were also young women who were assisted in finding work to support themselves. Boys were not permitted to live at the home past the age of 9. They were either placed for adoption or with families where they worked or learned a skill or trade. Children living in the home had the task of cleaning the home and working in a vegetable garden, which was kept on the grounds.

All throughout the period covered by this content, infectious diseases took the lives of many in Paducah, leaving more children to be taken care of. In an interview with Elsie Ousley-Rushing and her sister Mary Ousley-Wheatley-King, residents of the Friendly Home during the period of 1938-1946, they stated that there were several children whose parents had died of Tuberculosis, some of whom were found living in cardboard boxes along side the riverfront, or others like themselves whose mother could not care for them after their father had abandoned them. For those who had living parents, the first Sunday of every month was designated as visitation day for parents to come and visit with their children at the home.

As a private organization, funding for The Home of the Friendless came from churches, civic and charitable organizations, individuals and businesses throughout the community. The home received partial funding from both the city and the county over the year, as well. Housing an average of 45-50, "inmates" as they were referred to by the Census, the costs of running a home during the period of significance without what we know today as federally-funded or state-funded monies, would be quite an undertaking, but obviously a cause well backed by the community.

City of Paducah Annual Reports show the existence of a "Pauper Fund", dating back to 1905, which appears to have been a discretionary fund used to assist family members in the care of relatives, children or to assist charity organizations. Annual reports from the City of Paducah 1906 and 1908 show apportionment allotments in the Pauper Fund to be \$3,000 and \$4,500 respectively. The Home of the Friendless was included in the allotment, but does not indicate the amount of funds received. The Paducah Sun Democrat, December 30, 1909 writes, "Three children of unknown names were removed from County Sanitarium and placed in the Home of the Friendless. Judge Lightfoot granted \$8 per month to the Home to care for 'said Pauper Infants'. The same day, the Home of the Friendless was granted \$8 per month out of the Pauper Fund to care for two other children.

The community so strongly supported this home that "Block Day", which occurred in March of 1910, was probably the largest organized fundraising event the city had ever seen, so much so that 'Ladies of the Home of the Friendless' had the event copyrighted and intended to set aside a day each year to continue this event. It was reported that at 10:00a.m. on Wednesday, March 16, 1910, the ladies left their homes and canvassed all the homes on her block leaving a small envelope at each house. The following Wednesday at promptly 10:00a.m., every whistle from every factory and steamboat blew, along with the chiming of church bells, indicating that the time had come for the donations to be collected. Once again the ladies made their rounds, resulting in \$1,020.45 being collected. Those who were unaware of the plan that following Wednesday probably searched the skies for smoke, certain that the city was on fire! The

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funds were used to install a "heating plant" and a donation from the Borneman family was used to build the additions. Two of the annexes were built in memory of Mrs. Sol Vaughn and Mrs. J.L. Friedman, whose inscriptions remain over the door of each annex.

Throughout the 70 years of existence of the Friendly Home for Children, newspaper articles record the numerous churches, businesses and civic organizations that were making charitable contributions to the children of the home. As early as 1894, the local symphony was putting on concerts to support the Home of the Friendless. The Women's Philanthropist Association, dating back to 1906 provided funding to the Home of the Friendless and addressed other social needs in the community. The Paducah Evening Sun, January 1911, records the numerous individuals, churches (First Baptist and Broadway Methodist), and businesses that supported the Home in 1910. In 1928, The Women's Charity League held its first 'Snowball' Dance to benefit the Home of the Friendless. The dance has become a yearly tradition supporting local charities.

Over the years, local businesses such as Kirchhoff's Bakery (1873 – present) who gave bread and sweet rolls every other week, Nagel and Meyer jewelers who one year gave semi-precious rings to all the girls, and American Legion Post 37 who bought clothes, brought fruit and gave of their time. Uncle Lee's Mercantile allowed the orphan children to come in and pick out a new outfit at Christmas time. Keiler Theatre for years allowed the children to come and watch picture shows. Brass plaques hung over each child's bed with the name of the individual or group that would supply linens to each bed. Rosenfield's Clothier allowed children to pick out clothing, Throgmorton's brought ice cream to the center, Lockheed-Martin, formerly known as Union Carbide, supported the Home.

Articles in the November, 1902 edition of the Paducah Sun referenced two other local organizations, the Union Rescue Mission and the Young Men's Christian Association (Y.M.C.A.), who both "had concern for the poor in the community". During the Christmas of 1902, a tree was erected at the Rescue Mission and over 100 baskets filled with food were taken to poor families in the community. The Y.M.C.A. collected toys and such for the poor.

Spared by the flood of 1937, the home temporarily became a refuge for some 300 residents. Having survived the Depression and the Flood of 1937, World War II brought about scarcities and rationing, which they also survived. A 1953 interview with Ms. Young, Matron, attributes resourcefulness to bringing her children through that trying time.

However, the home could not survive the changes taking place in Child Welfare Reform. In 1972, the Friendly Home for Children petitioned to dissolve the organization and cited its reasons as the following: "Due to economic changes and the enactment by the Commonwealth of Kentucky of statutes relative to providing aid through the Welfare Department for children's services there is no further need for the continued services or the activities that the home has been engaged in, and it would be a waste of its assets to attempt to continue its activities." Children were now being placed in foster homes rather than institutions. The Friendly Home Corporation officially was dissolved on June 16, 1972, and assets were distributed to various organizations that had a similar objective as that of the Friendly Home. The building was given to McCracken Fiscal Court, which housed the Juvenile offices.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 8 **Local Organizations**

There is only one other organization which mirrors the efforts of the Home of the Friendless: The Colored Home of the Friendless. Other social welfare organizations such as Paducah Day Nursery, Family Services Society, or Salvation Army were established in the 1920s to meet the needs of those living in the community by providing for material needs and social support.

In October of 1910, the Colored Home of the Friendless was organized. Like the Home of the Friendless, it was a place for homeless children between the ages of two to twelve years old, both male and female. In the 1960s the name of the home was changed to the Burton and Gaines Friendly Home, named after its founders Mrs. Cora Burton and Mrs. Vina Gaines. The two sold pies and cakes until they had enough money to buy a lot of land in Rowlandtown. The home averaged only ten children, but remained in existence until at least 1976 as it was listed as a member of the Community Chest that provided a portion of its funding.

The following paragraphs describe other organizations that in some way provided relief efforts to needy families, including the Home of the Friendless. Prior to their evolution in the 1920s, it would have been common for churches to provide relief services to needy families.

The Family Services Society, loosely formed in the early 1920s, and officially incorporated on December 22, 1927, was designed to provide general family relief, work out long-term family supervision and provide child welfare work to the poor and unfortunate of the City of Paducah and McCracken County. A resource for food, clothing, placement of elderly in personal care homes, assistance with bills, or to link people with other aid services or local charities to provide for their needs.

In a 1962 article by the Paducah Sun-Democrat, it described the Family Services Society as "ahead of the 'bean ticket' days of the Kentucky Emergency Relief Administration and the 'make-work' era of the Works Progress Administration, which were brought about to meet the bitter problem of feeding the hungry in the depression era of the 1930s."

The article went on to discuss the Family Service Society (FSS) constitutions and by-laws, which were to provide child welfare work. At this point, the state had taken over child welfare services to some extent, although FSS continued to provide for hundreds of children and youth each year in a variety of efforts.

The charitable service organizations were able to adapt to Child Welfare Reform as many did not offer services such as those of the Friendly Home. A few, such as the Y.M.C.A., Family Services Society, and Friedman Community Center, which is now Friedman Substance Abuse Center, are still in existence today.

The Community Chest, was organized by local Paducahans in 1934, and was an important movement to coordinate fundraising efforts for various charitable organizations. The first goal was to raise \$17,000. Money was to be distributed amongst the Boy Scouts, Family Service Society, The Home of the Friendless, Public Health League, Day Nursery and the Salvation Army. The Community Chest became affiliated with the United Community Funds and Councils of America in 1949 and in 1971, that group

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changed its name to the United Way of America. The Home of the Friendless and Colored Home of the Friendless received partial funding from this organization until their doors closed.

The Home of the Friendless (The Friendly Home for Children) follows a course of historic significance of Social Welfare in our country and in our state and stands as a physical monument and memorial to those who lived and worked within its walls. When Mary Wheeler Campbell conceived of a home for the unfortunate children of the community, it would be safe to assume that in her attempt to meet the needs of the time, she had no idea the longevity the home would experience, nor what the future held for Social Welfare. The Home of the Friendless is a tribute to the community who, for over 70 years came together to show their concern for the needy. The home has left behind a legacy of stories and memories and has established a foundation for charitable giving in the community.

It is the intention of the organization currently owning the building, Hope Unlimited Pregnancy Care Center, Inc., to continue the legacy of caring for those in need. Ours is to care for and equip mothers to care for their unborn and born children, to provide for their basic physical needs as well as their emotional, spiritual and developmental needs. In the 10 years of our existence, Hope Unlimited has existed solely on the contributions of churches, individuals, businesses and a faith in God for our continued existence. With the acquisition of the Friendly Home and the longstanding reputation we have in the community, like the Home of the Friendless organization, we are positioned to take meeting the needs of our clients to a new level.

An interesting parallel drawn between the Home of the Friendless and Hope Unlimited Pregnancy Care Center is that both existed for a period of ten years in the community before the building passed into each of their hands. Ten years allowed for growth and establishment in the community. While the Home of the Friendless sustained itself with little government funding, Hope Unlimited relies on no government funding whatsoever, but totally on God and the community for its existence. For over 100 years, local Paducahans have been moved to care for the children of their community. The Home of the Friendless survived as an orphanage for 70 years because, in part, the building help stabilize their operations and their presence in the community. With a decade behind Hope Unlimited, the acquisition of this building, and the presence and awareness that has been created in the community, one begins to imagine what the next 70 years will bring for Hope Unlimited.

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Home of the Friendless

Name of Property

McCracken County, KY

County and State

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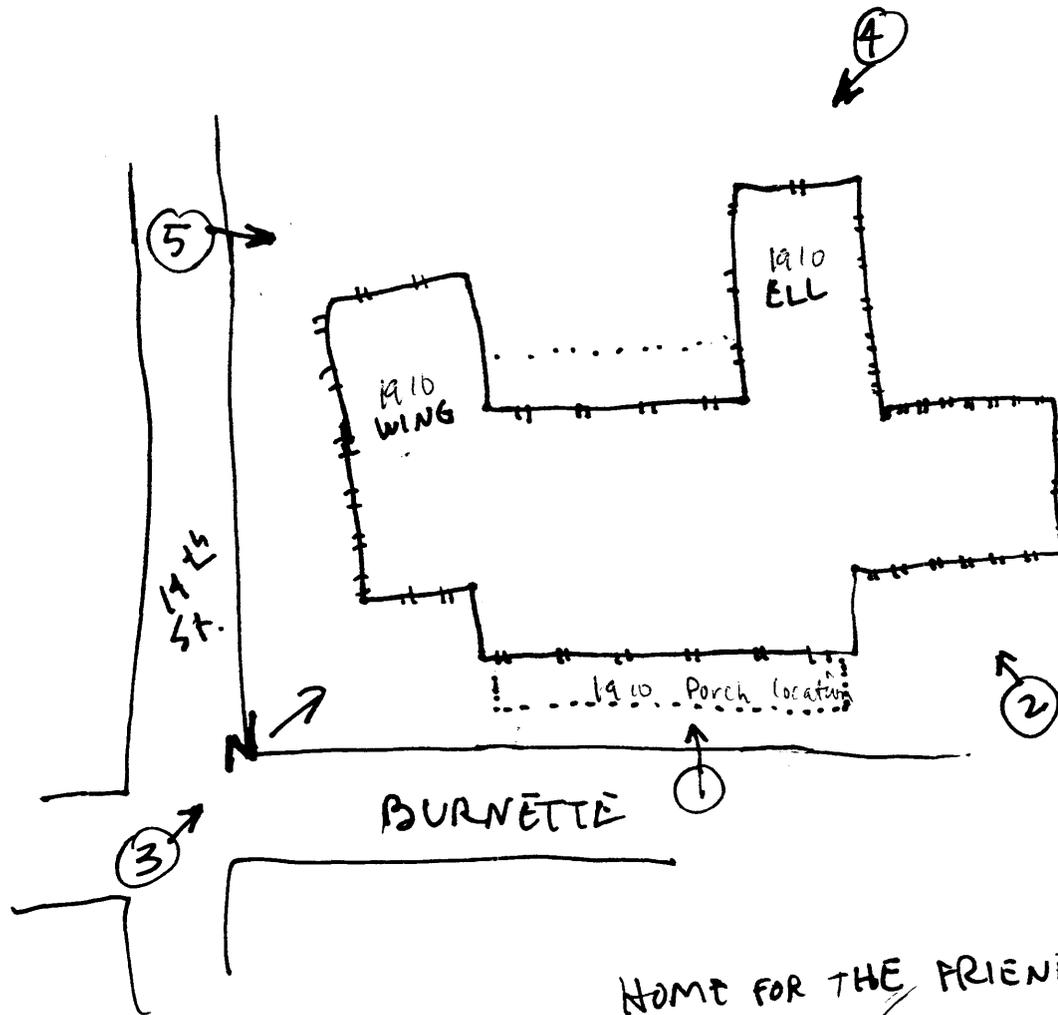
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Verbal boundary description

Beginning at the intersection of Burnett and 14th Streets, being the southeast corner of Block 45, running thence westward and along the north line of 14th Street, 200 feet to a stake; thence, northward and parallel with Burnett Street 175 feet to an alley; thence at right angles and towards Burnett Street to a stake in the west line of Burnett Street 200 feet; thence with the west line of Burnett Street 175 feet to the beginning.

Verbal boundary justification

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Home of the Friendless.



HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS
PADUCAH RM MCCracken Co.
NO SCALE

Home of the Friendless

Name of Property

McCracken County, KY

County and State

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Photographic Identification Sheet: **Home for the Friendless**, McCracken County, KY

Same information for all photos:

Photographer: Bobbi Gwill **Date:** October, 2000

Location of Negatives: Kentucky Heritage Council, 300 Washington St., Frankfort, KY

Notes: Property Identification Number indicated below by “#.”

Photo 1:	front of building	camera facing to Northwest
Photo 2:	front and north side of building	camera facing to West
Photo 3:	front and south side of buiding	camera facing to North
Photo 4:	back of building	camera facing to South
Photo 5:	South and back of building	camera facing to Northeast