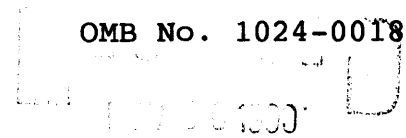


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



NATIONAL  
REGISTER

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Milliken Memorial Community House

other name/site number: TOE-6

2. Location

street & number: 208 W. Main Street

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Elkton vicinity: N/A

state: KY county: Todd code: 219 zip code: 42220

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	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: N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets        does not meet the National Register Criteria.        See continuation sheet.

*David L. Morgan*

10-24-90

Signature of certifying official

Date

David L. Morgan, State Historic Preservation Officer, KY Heritage Council

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property        meets        does not meet the National Register criteria.        See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register        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):

*Entered in the National Register*  
*Shelley Byers* 12/6/90

*for* Signature of Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic:	<u>      </u> SOCIAL <u>      </u>	Sub:	<u>      </u> Meeting Hall <u>      </u>
Current :	<u>      </u> SOCIAL <u>      </u>	Sub:	<u>      </u> Meeting Hall <u>      </u>

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Neo-Classical Revival

Other Description: N/A

Materials: foundation Concrete roof Metal  
walls Brick other Wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Local.

Applicable National Register Criteria: A

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance: SOCIAL HISTORY

Period(s) of Significance: 1928 - 1940

Significant Dates : 1928

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Builder - Price, V.L.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above. X See continuation sheet.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

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 -- Specify Repository: \_\_\_\_\_

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 2.1 acres

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing      Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>16</u>	<u>486 100</u>	<u>4073 640</u>	B	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
C	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	D	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>

Elkton Quad

Verbal Boundary Description:  See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification:  See continuation sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Philip Thomason, Jane Laub  
 Organization: Thomason and Associates Date: July 3, 1990  
 Street & Number: P.O. Box 121225 Telephone: (615) 383-0227  
 City or Town: Nashville State: TN ZIP: 37212

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number   7   Milliken Memorial Community House, Page # 1

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The Milliken Memorial Community House is a two-story, five-bay, Neo-Classical social building constructed in a central-hall plan in 1928. The building is located in the community of Elkton, Kentucky (pop. 1,815) which is the county seat of Todd County. The building is sited in a commercial area just to the west of the public square on W. Main Street.

The building has a gable roof of original metal standing seam, a concrete foundation, and two interior wall chimneys. Above the concrete foundation is a row of brick soldier coursing. On the main (south) facade is a full-height, three-bay portico supported by Roman Doric columns and pilasters. The columns are of wood and rest on concrete bases. The portico's frieze is decorated by dentils below the molded cornice. On the roof of the porch is a Chippendale-style wood balustrade with rectangular piers and balusters.

The main entrance has original double doors of three panel design and two light screen doors. Above the doors is a six light transom. The door surround has fluted Doric pilasters, and a broken pediment and urn. Flanking the door are original metal and glass globe fixtures. Windows are original eight-over-eight rectangular wood sash with concrete sills, brick jack arching, and concrete keystones. Many of the windows retain original three panel blinds. Between the first and second story windows are concrete spandrels on the main facade. At the roofline is a dentilled cornice which extends the full width of the building.

On the west facade of the building are three bays of eight-over eight sash windows on the second story. In the gable field is a large wheel window with concrete shoulders and keystones and opaque Florentine glass. On the first story is a porte-cochere with square Doric motif wood columns resting on a concrete base. At the roofline is a balustrade with detailing to match the portico balustrade. Opening onto the porte-cochere is an entrance with double doors of three panel design, a five light transom, and original two light screen doors.

The east facade of the building has three bays of eight-over-eight rectangular sash wood windows. This facade also has an entrance in the recessed bay. This entrance has a three panel wood door and three light transom. In the gable field is a wheel window with opaque Florentine glass lights. At the first floor level is a concrete sunken staircase which leads to a basement entrance below grade.

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Section number   7   Milliken Memorial Community House, Page # 2

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At the rear of the main section is a one-story brick wing which contains the Ballroom. This wing is also of Flemish bond construction and has a hipped roof of metal standing seam. Windows are eight-over-eight rectangular wood sash and at the roofline is a dentilled cornice. On the north facade are five bays with the central bay containing a primary entrance. This entrance has original double doors of three panel wood design, a five light transom, and surround with fluted Doric pilasters. Ca. 1970 metal and glass storm doors have been added at this entrance. At the roofline is a ca. 1970 deck roof which was added over the skylight opening.

The interior of the building retains its original floor plan and layout. Recent renovation has been in keeping with the original character of the interior and no loss of historic fabric has occurred. Floors throughout the building are of original oak and poplar. Walls and ceilings both retain their original plaster surface over wood lathe.

The interior of the first floor is composed of a wide central hall with one large room and several smaller rooms on either side. On the east side of the hall is the Library Room and kitchen. On the west side of the hall is the Meeting Room and restrooms. The hallway opens onto a large double return staircase which connects with the second floor. Flanking the staircase are stairs which descend into the Ballroom wing. The hallway features original rectangular paneled wainscoting, a picture rail, and dentilled crown molding. Framing the hallway at the staircase are Doric wall pilasters.

The Library Room has original built-in bookshelves and crown molding with dentils at the ceiling. The mantle is of Federal influence and displays fluted Doric pilasters, bead and reel molding, and rosettes. The entrance leading into the Library Room from the hallway contains double doors of wood and eight glass light design and architrave molding. The Meeting Room across the hall has a similar entrance, ceiling crown molding, and Federal influenced mantle. This room differs in its lack of bookshelves and retention of original rectangular paneled wainscoting. The room also has an original picture rail which extends the circumference of the room. The kitchen area has original glass and wood cabinets and gas oven. Restrooms retain original fixtures, tile floors, and plaster and tile walls.

The double return staircase connects the first and second floors and retains its original newel posts and square balusters. Beneath the

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staircase are two entrances which open into the Ballroom. Each entrance has double doors of eight light glass and wood design and architrave molding.

The Ballroom is located in an attached one-story wing at the rear of the main building. The Ballroom is composed of one large room without any interior partition walls. It has its original wood floors, plaster walls and ceiling, and copper and glass light fixtures at the ceiling. It retains rectangular paneled wainscoting, dentilled crown molding, two chair rails, and a picture rail. Beneath the windows are large rectangular aprons. In the center of the ceiling is an original rectangular skylight of metal and opaque Florentine glass.

The second story of the building contains a large auditorium complete with a 255 seat area and proscenium stage. Leading into the theater from the staircase are two entrances. Each entrance has folding doors of eight light design and architrave molding. The seating area has original metal and wood chairs, rectangular wainscoting, and windows with projecting cornices. The proscenium stage has a voluted keystone in the arch, swag decoration, and is framed by Doric pilasters. The stage is approximately eight feet deep and retains its original wood floor. Opening onto the stage from the wings are three panel wood doors. At the ceiling are original glass and metal light fixtures.

The building is sited on a rectangular urban lot one-half block west of the Elkton public square. In front of the building is a large yard with numerous oak and maple shade trees. A semi-circular asphalt driveway extends around the building and a large parking lot is located at the rear. There are no outbuildings or other distinctive site features.

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The Milliken Memorial Community House is significant under criterion A for its role in local social history. This Neo-Classical style building was completed in 1928 and was built to serve as a social center for the town of Elkton. The building was the home of the town's first public library and was also built with meeting rooms, a ballroom, and theater. The building has not been altered and retains its original exterior and interior design. The building continues to be operated by a private foundation for meetings, community programs, and special events. The Milliken Memorial Community House is the only social building of its type in Elkton.

The Milliken Memorial Community House was a gift to the community of Elkton by Mrs. Mary Louise Milliken Childs. The Community House was built on the site of the Irvin home where Mrs. Childs was born and where her mother, Mrs. B.H. Milliken, died in 1890. Following the death of her mother, Mary Louise Milliken moved to St. Louis when she was seventeen. In 1923, she married S. Canning Childs of Camden, New Jersey. Childs was a wealthy businessman who had founded the American Food Store Company, a prominent Mid-Atlantic retail grocery chain.

A Woman's Club was organized in Elkton in 1924 and Mr. and Mrs. Childs began formulating plans to construct a community center for this and other social groups. At a meeting of the Women's Club in January of 1927, it was announced that Mrs. Childs was to give a community house to the City of Elkton. The community house was to replace the Irvin home on W. Main Street where Mrs. Childs was born and where her mother died. The building was to be a permanent memorial to the memory of her mother.

Construction of the building began in fall of 1927 and it was completed in April of 1928 at a cost of \$75,000. Local contractor V.L. Price constructed the building but the architect or origin of the building's design is unknown. The building was designed in the Neo-Classical style of Flemish bond brick with a large two-story portico on the main facade. The main section is two-stories in height with a porte-cochere on the west facade and with a one-story wing at the rear. Upon completion the building contained the community's library and a meeting room on the first floor, a large theater on the second floor, and a ballroom in the rear wing.

The Milliken Memorial Community House was dedicated on April 11, 1928 in a ceremony which drew over 500 people. The dedication was reported in the Louisville Courier-Journal which stated that the "Eyes of all West



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Kentucky, more particularly that section adjacent to Todd County, were focused on Elkton last night..." Attending the ceremony were Mary Louise Milliken Childs and her husband, S. Canning Childs, Elkton Mayor W.W. Weathers, Judge Seldon Trimble of Hopkinsville, and many other prominent local citizens. A program was held to formally dedicate the building and following the dedication a reception and dance took place in the ballroom with music provided by the Francis Craig Orchestra.

The building was formally deeded to the Milliken Memorial Community House Association in April of 1928 to operate and maintain the building. After 1928, the Association solicited books and furnishings for the library and meeting room and worked with the Elkton Garden Club to design and maintain landscaping around the building.

From its beginnings, the building has been the center of social activities in the community. The Library Room served as Elkton's main library facility until it was later moved to the Todd County Courthouse. The Meeting Room was used as the site of weekly meetings by the Jaycees, Rotary Club, Civitan Club, and other groups. The theater on the second floor was used for graduation exercises, lectures, recitals, home talent plays, and concerts. The ballroom was the location for weddings, dances, private parties, and other functions. The building continued to be the primary social center of Elkton throughout the mid-20th century.

In recent decades the theater of the building fell into disuse as did the ballroom. A restoration campaign was begun and over the past ten years both the theater and the ballroom have been restored and are once again the site of plays, dances. and dinners. The restoration of the building has been in keeping with its original character and no major alterations have occurred to the exterior or interior of the building.

The Milliken Memorial Community House continues to be used by various civic and social organizations and remains significant to the social heritage of Elkton. The building has retained its original architectural design as well as its prominent role as the community's center for social groups and activities.

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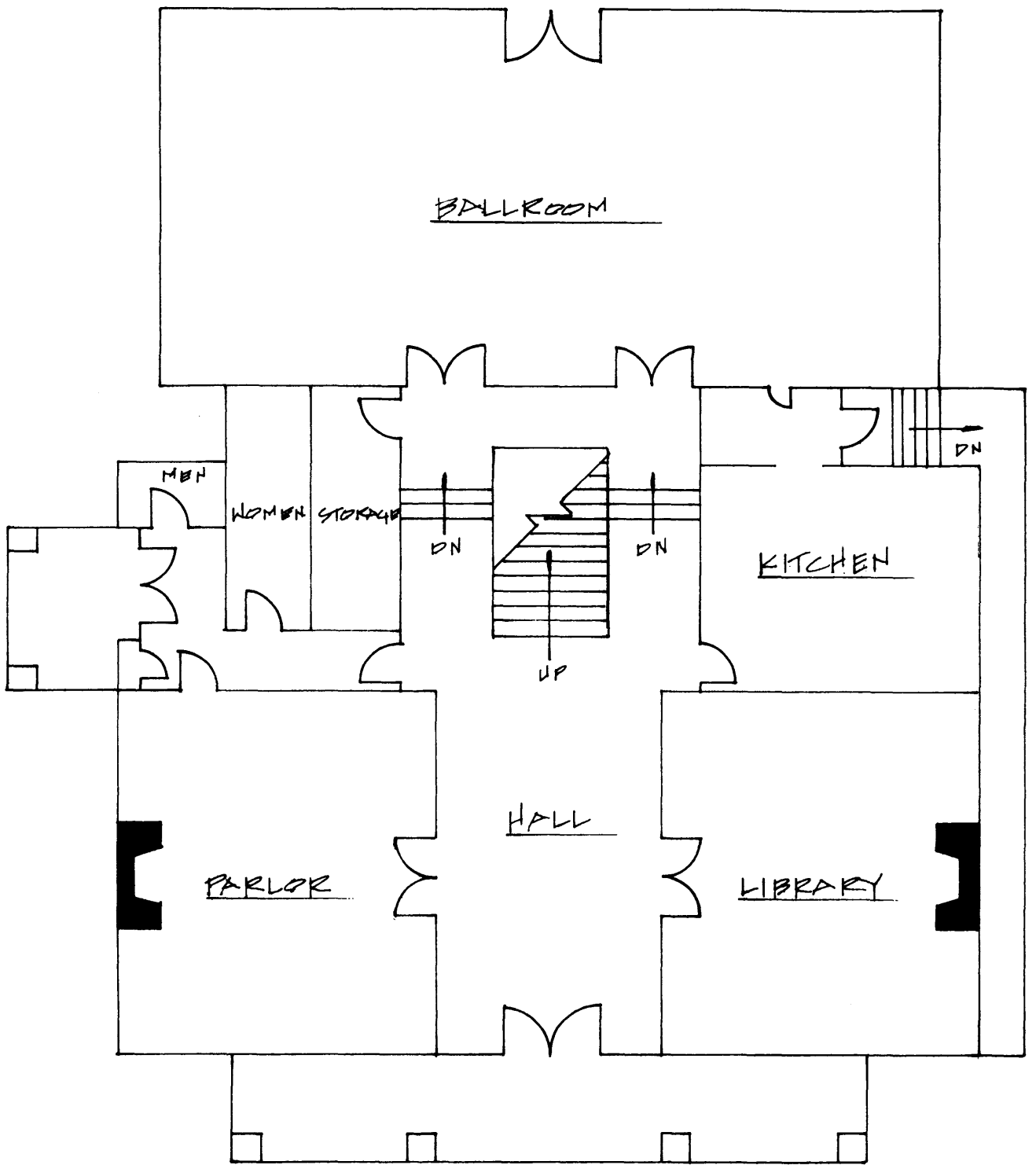
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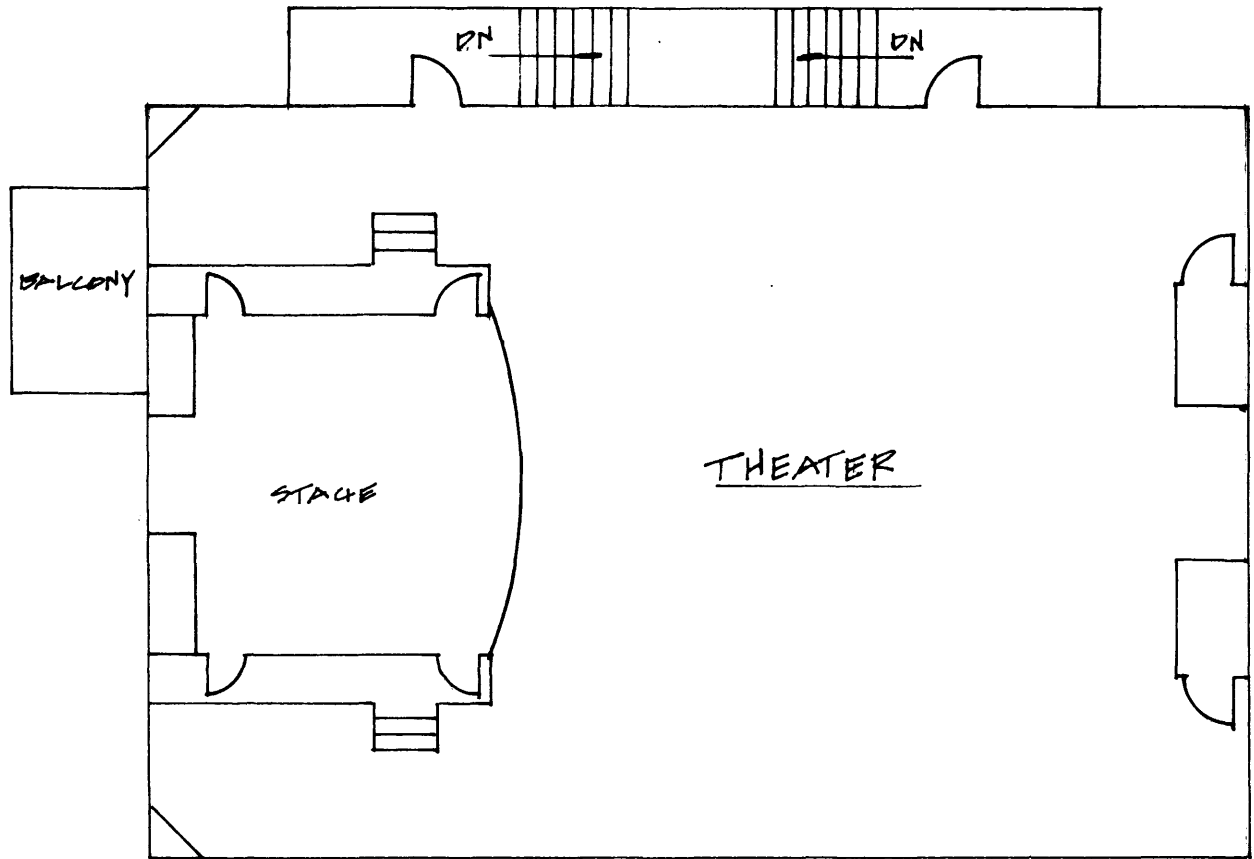
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Verbal Boundary Description: The boundary for the Milliken Memorial Community House is shown as the heavy black line on accompanying Todd County tax map 2. The boundary encompasses all of lot 37 of block 1.

Verbal Boundary Justification: The boundary for the Milliken Memorial Community House includes all of the property which has been historically associated with the building.



MILLIKEN COMMUNITY HOUSE  
FIRST FLOOR  
NOT TO SCALE



MILLIKEN COMMUNITY HOUSE  
SECOND FLOOR  
NOT TO SCALE



Milliken Memorial Community House  
1" = 200'



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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number      Photos      Milliken Memorial Community House Page #1

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Milliken Memorial Community House

Photo by: Thomason and Associates  
Date: June 28, 1990  
Location of Negs: Kentucky Heritage Council

Photo # 1  
View of south and east facades.

Photo # 2  
View of south and west facades.

Photo # 3  
View of primary entrance on the south facade.

Photo # 4  
View of west and north facades of the ballroom wing.

Photo # 5  
View of east and north facades of the ballroom wing.

Photo # 6  
View of Library Room on first floor.

Photo # 7  
View of central hall and staircase.

Photo # 8  
View of second floor theater.

Photo # 9  
View of interior of ballroom.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Milliken Memorial Community House

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: KENTUCKY, Todd

DATE RECEIVED: 11/06/90      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/20/90  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 12/06/90      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/21/90  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90001834

NOMINATOR: STATE

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

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    12/6/90 DATE

Entered in the  
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_  
REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_  
DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N