

PH 364703

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 28 1976

DATE ENTERED DEC 12 1976

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 Greensburg Academy

AND/OR COMMON

Barrett-Shreve House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 101 Second Street

CITY, TOWN

Greensburg

___ VICINITY OF

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

05

STATE

Kentucky

CODE

021

COUNTY

Green

CODE

087

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: vacant

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. L. E. Thompson

STREET & NUMBER

30 Bay Valley Drive

CITY, TOWN

Milledgeville

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Georgia 31061

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Green County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Greensburg

STATE

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

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Greensburg Academy is located at the corner of West Second and West Court Streets in Greensburg, county seat of Green County, Kentucky. The Academy faces east from Buckner's Hill across a shallow valley towards the town square. Buckner's Hill, the western-most of three gentle hills over which the town is spread, is now an uncrowded residential district. The town square is situated on the middle of the three hills, and the eastern-most hill constitutes what is now called the New Addition; a residential district that is new by name only, since its three earliest homes date to the early nineteenth century. The Academy has a dramatic view of both the town and the New Addition, and although it is now in a residential setting, the one and one-half acre plot on which it is located preserves its natural setting. The hillside is terraced with several hundred feet of limestone walls, which are fairly well preserved. Of the outbuildings that once stood, only the springhouse built into the hillside still stands, although the remains of the slave quarters are still visible.

The present building consists of two parts, though remains of a third section are visible to the right of it. The earlier section of the building, built c. 1794-1818, is built into the hillside, so that its two and one-half stories are fully exposed on the facade, while only the top floor and one-half are revealed on the rear. The brick walls are approximately two feet thick and are laid in common bond, except for the facade, which is laid in flemish bond with queen closures at the north end.

The facade has three bays with nine-over-six-pane sash set in jack-arched windows with simple casings. The south end has a center door and a single lookout in the gable. The rear is three bay on the second floor and has a shed porch with four square posts enclosed by a simple balustrade. A brick chimney is located at the north end wall and incorporated within the walls of the addition. The house is built on a dry stone foundation. All three entrances are centered and deeply set with stone sills. The back and side doors are original and vertically beaded; the front door was replaced with a handsome single-paned door with a latch and bell.

The early section has only one room on all three floors. The corner stairway runs up the south end, with diagonally beaded boards enclosing the stairs to the third floor loft. The first and second floors each have a simple frame and shelf mantel at the fireplace. The original chairrails were removed long ago, but the original wall plaster, windows, and window casings are still largely intact. All woodwork is of yellow poplar, including the massive round logs used as joists for all three floors.

(continued)

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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES *c.* 1794

BUILDER/ARCHITECT John Barrett

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Greensburg Academy was the first classical school in Green County, and probably one of the earliest private academies in the State of Kentucky. While the exact years of the Academy's operation are unknown, it is known that Mentor Graham, later a teacher of Abraham Lincoln's, taught at the school from 1818 to 1823. Only three private academies were authorized by the State legislature before 1820, and though it seems likely that the number does not account for every private academy then in existence in the Commonwealth, it does suggest the importance of the Greensburg Academy as an early seat of learning within the State.

The private academy normally offered a four year course of study including the subjects of English, geography, history, arithmetic, science, Latin, Greek, and mental and moral philosophy. Students were encouraged to use their studies as preparation for college work, or for a teaching job in a similar school. Since tuition was charged, students enrolled in the private academies were generally the children of well-to-do parents.

In addition to the Academy's primacy as an educational institution, it is also considered to be one of the oldest extant buildings in Greensburg, a town that was founded in 1794 and is still rich today in historic resources. The one room floor plan on all three floors of the original two and one-half floor brick building suggests that it was built to serve as a school building, though for many years after the Academy ceased operation, the building and its two floor, two room brick addition was used as a private residence.

In January of 1815, the trustees of Greensburg sold the lot to John Barret, who kept it in his possession until 1833, when it was sold to George Wax. Barret, a prominent citizen in Greensburg's formative years; The Wax family maintained ownership of the house for only nine years and then sold it to John V. Taylor. Taylor sold the house, after just two years, in 1843, to Joshua M. V. Shreve, in whose family it remained for many years.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Green County Courthouse Records, Greensburg, Kentucky.

Ligon, Moses Edward. "A History of Public Education in Kentucky." Bulletin of the Bureau of School Service (June, 1942).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 3/4 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	<u>1,6</u>	<u>6,3,2,5,8,0</u>	<u>4,1,2,4,7,1,0</u>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C			

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Mrs. L. E. Thompson, Owner/Jim Oppel, Publications Editor

ORGANIZATION

/Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

June 1976

STREET & NUMBER

30 Bay Valley Drive/104 Bridge Street

TELEPHONE

(912)452-6345/(502)564-3741

CITY OR TOWN

Milledgeville/Frankfort

STATE

Georgia/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

Eldred W. Melton

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

10-21-76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE *12/12/96*

DATE

12/12/96

ATTEST

[Signature]

DATE

12/8/96

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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Greensburg Academy

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

The addition was built c. 1840-50 on the downhill or north side of, and sits a half story lower than, the earlier section. The facade wall is brick from the ground up, while the rear and side walls have three to four foot stone foundations before the brickwork begins. The facade has two bays. The windows have six-over-six-pane sash; the two on the second floor are positioned slightly to the right of the first floor openings. The door, located on the right side, is large and has reeded moldings. The north end wall has a brick chimney and no openings. The rear is two bay; the door to the right has a small overhanging pediment. The ground level window is set just above the high stone foundation, while the door is set half in the stone foundation and half in the brickwork.

The first floor room has a handsome vertically paneled mantel, and is otherwise simple and unadorned. There may have been a stairway in the southeast corner of the room, though the only means of getting to the second floor today is by the stairway in the original section of the house. The second floor is graced by a grooved and reeded mantel with a reeded heart in the center of the frame below the shelf, and by a closet with a beaded door to the right of the fireplace.

The rather ordinary east facade of the building overlooking the town, which is given a unified appearance by a simple five-columned porch extending from the edge of the north wall of the addition to just beyond the door of the original block, is contrasted by the multi-level appearance of the rear of the building.