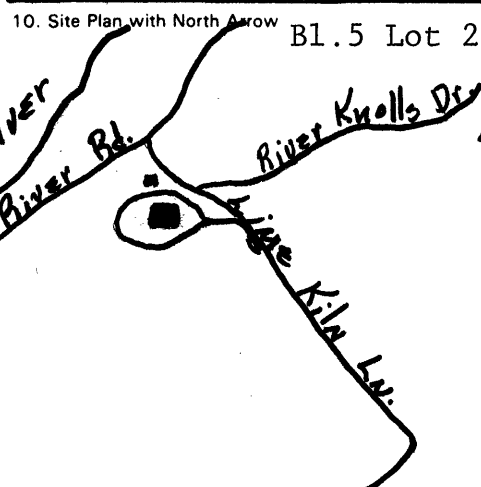


KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Site No. JF 555

1. Historic Name(s) <u>Rogers Clark Ballard Memorial School</u> Original Owner <u>Jeff. Co. Board of Education</u>		22. Add County <u>Jefferson/Jefferson</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>56</u>
2. Present Name <u>The Chance School, Inc.</u>		23. U.S.G.S. Quadrant (15'/75') <u>Jeffersonville, Ind.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>08</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>6</u> G.I.S. Mod.
3. Location <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>4200 Lime Kiln Ln. Louisville, Ky.</u>		24. UTM Reference <u>16</u> <u>61</u> <u>84</u> <u>00</u> <u>4</u> <u>24</u> <u>1</u> <u>19</u> <u>0</u> Zone Easting Northing
4. Owner's Name <u>c/o Mr. Ted Merhoff, Citizens Fidelity Bank</u> 5. Owner's Address <u>and Trust Co.</u> <u>Citizens Plaza, Lou, Ky. 40202</u>		25. Coordinate Accuracy <input type="checkbox"/>
6. Open to Public Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	7. Visible from road Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	26. Prehistoric Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object Historic Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other
9. Local Contact/Organization <u>Jeff. Co. Office of Historic Preservation &amp; Archives</u>		27. National Register District Name: <input type="checkbox"/>
10. Site Plan with North Arrow <u>Bl. 5 Lot 28</u> 		28. Significance Evaluation <u>Meets Nat'l, Reg. Crit.</u> <input type="checkbox"/>
11. Architect <u>John Bacon Hutchings</u>		29. Status <input type="checkbox"/> Date National Landmark <input type="checkbox"/> National Register <input type="checkbox"/> Landmark Certificate <input type="checkbox"/> Kentucky Survey <input type="checkbox"/> <u>1977</u> Local Landmark <input type="checkbox"/> HABS/HAER <input type="checkbox"/>
12. Builder <u>Unknown</u>		30. Historic Theme Primary <u>Architecture</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>03</u> Secondary <u>Education</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>09</u> Other <input type="checkbox"/>
13. Date <u>1914</u> A. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B. <input type="checkbox"/>		31. Endangered Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14. Style A. <u>Arts &amp; Crafts</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>23</u> B. <input type="checkbox"/>		32. Preservation Project Status <input type="checkbox"/>
15. Original Use <u>School</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>9</u>		Actual Cost in \$1,000s <input type="checkbox"/>
16. Present use <u>Private Kindergarten</u>		33. ATTACH PHOTO
17. Condition <u>Good</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>2</u>		Roll No. _____ Picture No. _____ Direction _____
18. Description <u>See next page</u>		34. Prepared by: <u>Mary Jean Kinsman</u> <u>Researcher</u>
(Continue on Back)		35. Organization <u>Jeff. Co. Office of Historic Preservation &amp; Archives</u>
19. History <u>See next page</u>		36. Date <u>77</u>
20. Significance <u>See next page</u>		37. Revision Dates <u>83</u> 38. Staff Review
21. Source of Information <u>See next page</u>		

## 18. Description

Two-story rustic stone structure situated on a wooded hillside near Glenview and Upper River Road. The stone is laid in random courses. Front facade has a projecting central section. Main entrance is a wide opening with a large arch of irregular stone voussoirs and a smooth limestone surround with the school name encised. Wood double doors with glass panes are sheltered by a cast iron hood supported by large iron brackets. Two round-arched windows on the second story have large arched tops with stone voussoirs. Other fenestration varies but generally consists of 6/6 double hung sash. Some windows are grouped in bands with continuous sills of smooth limestone. The hipped roof has extended eaves. A winding flight of stone steps leads from the entrance court of the school down the hillside to the old passenger shelter near the former interurban right-of-way. The shelter consists of a rectangular, pyramidal roof supported by four iron pipes based in rough limestone piers. The roof was recently resingled with cedar shakes. The interurban train operated until 1935 and this stop was known as the Florida Heights stop.

## 19. History

The Ballard School was opened in 1914 as the result of a joint effort of parents and the county board of education to provide a single school to replace four one-room schools which, prior to that time, accomodated children from an area of about 16 square miles in eastern Jefferson County. Mr. and Mrs. S. Thruston Ballard donated the site from their land at Upper River Road and Lime Kiln Lane and also gave \$6000 toward the building. The Ballards were a prominent family in Louisville and were among the first families to build homes in the wealthy suburban enclave of Glenview just west of the school site. The Jefferson County Board of Education appropriated \$5000 and parents in the area are said to have raised about \$20,000. The architect was John Bacon Hutchings (1859-1916), one of Louisville's most prominent architects at the turn of the century. Hutchings and his son, E.T. Hutchings, designed many of the early houses in Glenview as well as fine residences, churches, and commercial buildings in Louisville.

The school was named the Rogers Clark Ballard Memorial School in memory of the Ballard's son who died in 1909 as a young boy. The school was known for its high standards and "progressive" methods. By the 1930s enrollment had grown from 35 students to about 200 and the school included ten grades. The principal from 1934 until his death in 1953 was Ninde S. Wilder, a graduate of Antioch College who came here from Winnetka, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago long known for its excellent educational system. The Ballard School received substantial support from the parents of its students. From its opening the school had a board of governors composed of parents. A school fair held each year from the 1920s until the 1950s raised funds for the school and for needy families. The fair included a horse show, dog and livestock shows, and athletic competitions.

The school closed in 1959 after a new, and larger, elementary school was built to serve the area. The old Ballard School building is now occupied by a private kindergarten.

## 20. Significance

The Ballard School is a handsome Arts and Crafts-style building designed by one of Louisville's well-known architects of the early 20th century. The school which occupied the building from 1914 until 1959 was considered one of the better educational units in the Jefferson County public school system. Although it was a public school the parental support and involvement were of the caliber most often found in private schools and the institution was unique among the county's public schools.

## 21. Source of Information

Jefferson County (Ky.) Deed Books

Information from Ms. Ann Franklin, Archivist, Jefferson County Board of Education, August 1983.

"Salubrious Suburbia: Glenview," The Herald-Post, 28 October 1936.

"Ballard School Runs on Idea That Pupils Learn by Doing," The (Louisville) Courier-Journal, 9 October 1949.

"N.S. Wilder, Principal at Ballard School, Dies," The (Louisville) Courier-Journal, 9 September 1953.

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCE INVENTORY SUPPLEMENT  
BOUNDARY AND LOCATION INFORMATION

Historic Property Name Rogers Clark Ballard Memorial School Site # JF 555  
Multiple Resource/Thematic Nomination Title Jeff. Co. Ky. MRA

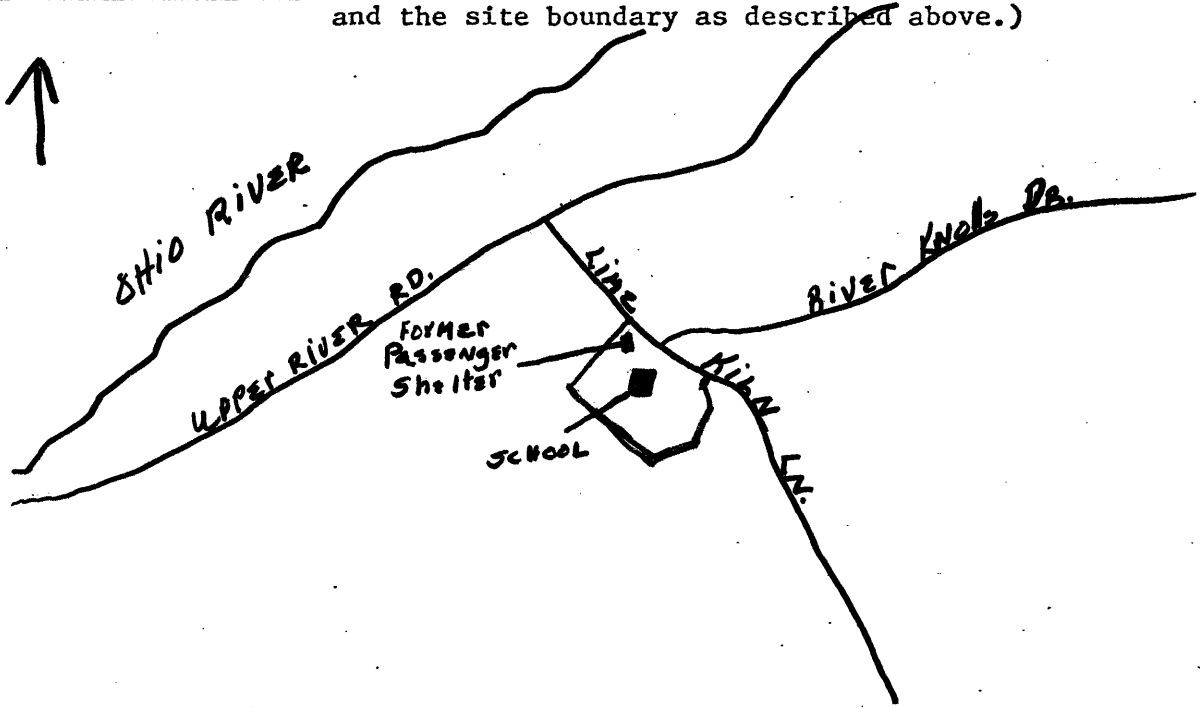
U.T.M. Coordinates - List multiple UTMs if property is ten or more acres.

A. 16 618400 4241190 D. \_\_\_\_\_  
B. \_\_\_\_\_ E. \_\_\_\_\_  
C. \_\_\_\_\_ F. \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal Boundary Description \_\_\_\_\_ Acreage 1.7 acre

The nominated property comprises all of Lot 28 in County Block 5 of the Jefferson County Property Valuation Administrator: approximately 1.7 acre.

Sketch of Site Plan (Showing outbuildings, structures, landscape features and the site boundary as described above.)



Official Courthouse Property Reference: \_\_\_\_\_ Description as recorded in Deed  
Book 4082 page 298, December 1966.