

P-11711

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Kentucky</b>
COUNTY: <b>Woodford</b>
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE <b>NOV 20 1974</b>

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Pinkerton Hall**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**Kentucky Female Orphan School, Incorporated**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**650 East Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Midway**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
**06**

STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **021** COUNTY: **Woodford** CODE: **239**

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

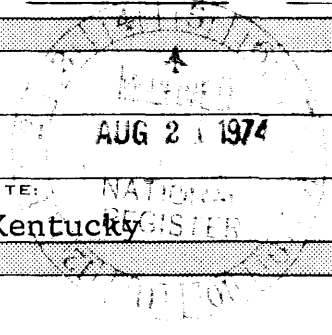
**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Midway College**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Weisenberger Mill Road**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Midway**

STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **021**



**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**County Clerk's Office**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Main Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Versailles**

STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **021**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1971**  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**Kentucky Heritage Commission**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**401 Wapping Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Frankfort**

STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **021**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

NOV 20 1974

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

 Excellent     Good     Fair     Deteriorated     Ruins     Unexposed

(Check One)

 Altered     Unaltered

(Check One)

 Moved     Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This original two-story building with attic and basement accommodated all the activities of the school: administrative office, dormitory, classrooms, dining room, kitchen, etc. As demands for increased accommodations arose, a one-story addition was built which contained three classrooms. In 1891, a second story was put over this addition to provide a large room for chapel purposes. This story was reached by an outside stairway. The whole addition was later razed. Since both front and back of the original building, Pinkerton Hall, were the same, the enclosed porch was removed and a stone porch with winding steps from the ground converted what was once the rear into the front entrance of the building. The delicate curved steps contrast with the severe rectangular shape of the facade and have slightly changed the character of the original 1859 building.

The exterior today is essentially the same or original except for the lack of chimneys and the alterations in the front in 1891. This blocklike building is given an interesting appearance--and a Greek Revival flavor--by the vertical recessed panels which leave vertical strips like pilasters. These appear to link the horizontal brick bands at the top and bottom to suggest an entablature and base. These flat brick bands hint of a Grecian structural system. The wall breaks forward at the entrance to form pylons. The balconies are further recessed and create deep shadows and a sense of protection. The strange but effective treatment of the roof over the balconies evokes thoughts of a temple pediment. The thinness of the cornice contrasts to the sturdiness of the piers that provide only illusory support.

As a whole this seems to be a remarkably unaltered survival from the Greek Revival period. The functional adaptation of stylistic elements to an unusual purpose resulted in a design still modern in appearance.

Aug 23 1974

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
 15th Century |  17th Century |  19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1859**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy            | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                      | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |   | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |   | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Midway, Kentucky, was founded in 1835 and incorporated in 1846. Midway developed around the main railroad line between Frankfort and Lexington.

Doctor L. L. Pinkerton, a medical doctor and minister, came to Midway to deliver the dedicatory sermon of the Midway Christian Church in 1844. In 1845 he opened a school in the church. While conducting a meeting in Madison County, Kentucky, Dr. Pinkerton saw a blind girl led into the church. He learned she was an orphan and he then began to plan for a school for orphan girls.

In 1847, Pinkerton and nine other men were granted a Charter by the Kentucky Legislature to establish the Kentucky Female Orphan School. Dr. Pinkerton conveyed the philosophy of the school in the November 1848 The Millennial Harbinger, a publication of the Christian Church, when he said:

"This education shall be directed for four subjects:

1. The development and corroboration of the moral constitution
2. The improvement of the intellectual powers
3. The development of the physical system
4. Such a direction of all capabilities and attainments of the pupils as will afford them the best prospects of a livelihood in the useful and honorable employment of their acquirements."

The Charter, section 7, states, "Be it further enacted, that the beneficiaries of the school be female orphan children and the Board of Trustees shall have power to determine the number that shall at any time be admitted."

(Continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

HB  
E703400  
2/16

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Charter of Kentucky Female Orphan School.  
 Giovannoli, Henry, Kentucky Female Orphan School. Midway, Ky.:  
 1930.  
 Minute Book. Kentucky Female Orphan School. 1859.  
 Railey, William E., History of Woodford County. Frankfort, Ky.:  
 Roberts Printing Company, 1928.  
 "The Millennial Harbinger" Vol. V. November, 1848.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		38° 08' 47"	84° 40' 44"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **one-half acre**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Albert N. Cox, President**

ORGANIZATION: **Midway College (Ky. Female Orphan School, Inc)** DATE: **Feb. 11, 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Weisenberger Mill Road**

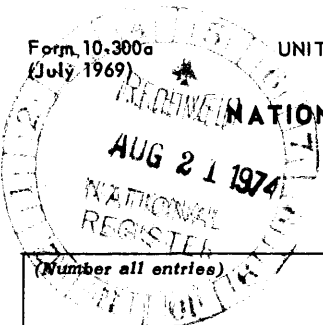
CITY OR TOWN: **Midway** STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **021**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION	NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION
<p>As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>Eldred W. Melton</u></p> <p>Title <u>State Liaison Officer</u></p> <p>Date <u>8-2-74</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>A. R. Neaton</u>          Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>11/20/74</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>Wm. M. ...</u>          Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>11/18.74</u></p>

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Kentucky	
COUNTY	Woodford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		NOV 20 1974



(Number all entries)

Pinkerton Hall

8. Significance (continued)

Page Two

In October, 1849, the school opened with fourteen students. They were housed in a frame building erected on five acres of land on the outskirts of Midway, Kentucky. The land had cost \$1,000 and the building \$3,300.

On October 17, 1858, while all officers and students were at Sunday School, the main building burned to the ground. Although Dr. Pinkerton had accepted the presidency of Eureka College at Eureka, Illinois, he remained at Midway to assist in raising funds to begin rebuilding. The new building, still known as Pinkerton Hall, was completed. It was insured for \$9,000 and the contents for \$3,000.

There were other "female academies" formed throughout Kentucky in the latter half of the 19th century. As years passed, these one by one closed their doors, but the appeal for the "needy" and "orphan" girl kept alive this institution. Although the use of "orphan" has come to be defined variously with the passing of the years, the educational institution here established has continued to be humanitarian in purpose and interest and no student in need is denied admission if said student is eligible for entrance.

With expansion, the school changed from Kentucky Female Orphan School to Midway Junior College and Pinkerton High School in 1972. The school offered scholarships to foreign students. Gradually the high school program was phased out and now the institution operates as Midway College. With the humanitarian spirit still practiced, scholarships from the endowment fund go to students, many of whom are in the nursing program. During the present school term, approximately 40% of the enrollment are in the nursing curriculum.

Being unique in purpose, there is no other institution of the kind in the State, nor has there ever been. Even in the beginning, it was not an orphanage but a school. The survival of this 125-year-old institution and its 115-year-old "Mother" building is significant in the history of education in Kentucky.