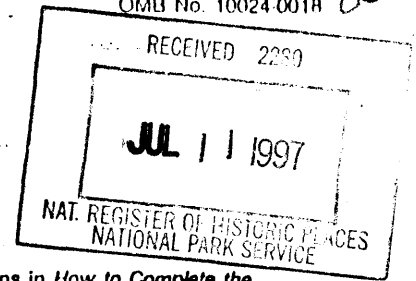


869

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Monterey Grade School

other names/site number ONM-76

2. Location

street & number 9725 U.S. 127 South not for publication N/A

city or town Owenton vicinity

state Kentucky code KY county Owen code 187 zip code 40359

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 and
Executive Director 7-1-97
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office

State of 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 certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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.) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Patrick Andrus

8/19/97

Monterey Grade School
Name of Property

Owen County, Kentucky
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
1		sites
2		structures
		objects
4	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/school

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and Early 20th Century American
Movements
Other: No style

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE
walls CONCRETE (rock faced)
BRICK
roof ASPHALT
other STONE (lintels)

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- 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

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

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

(Enter categories from instructions)

Education

Period of Significance

1939

Significant Dates

1939-1945

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Wilson, John F., architect

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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
Frankfort, Kentucky

Monterey Grade School
Name of Property

Owen Co., Kentucky
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.8 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	6	6	8	5	8	0	0	4	2	5	5	6	0	0
Zone			Easting					Northing						

3

Zone			Easting					Northing						

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Donna G. Logsdon, Historic Preservation Consultant

organization Logsdon & Logsdon Architects date 3/14/97

street & number P.O. Box 177 telephone (502) 528-4698

city or town Hardyville, state Kentucky zip code 42746

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Victor and Mary Helm

street & number 4026 Dover telephone _____

city or town Houston state Texas zip code 77087

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

Monterey Grade School, Owen Co., Kentucky

7. Narrative Description

Site Characteristics

The **Monterey Grade School** (ONM-76) is located in Owen County, Kentucky, 1/10 mile north of downtown Monterey, at 9725 U.S. Route 127. The property consists of 1.8 acres and is situated on a hill on the west side of U.S. Route 127 north of the intersection of State Route 355, otherwise known as the Gratz Road. A paved semi-circular driveway provides entry and exit to the school and access to a shaded parking lot located in front of the building that is lined with trees along U.S. Route 127.

This one-story, masonry school building was built in 1939, and was based on one of four schools in Owen County designed by Lexington Architect John F. Wilson between 1935 and 1936, according to the General Record Book of the Owen County Board of Education meeting minutes. The school was operational until 1970 when Owen County elementary schools were consolidated into one elementary school in Owenton. After the school building closed in 1970, it was used as a dance hall, and in 1984, the current owner purchased it for use as a single family residence. This is the most prominent building on the property. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type of school architecture found in Owen County that was constructed during the 1930s by Architect Wilson. It expresses historic integrity in terms of its location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, and feeling, while representing the year it was built, 1939. The area proposed for nomination also includes a ballfield and two outhouses located to the rear of the building.

Descriptive Statement

The **Monterey Grade School** was named for the town Monterey and served as the last local public education facility for children who lived in the Monterey area of Owen County. Prominently situated on a hill near the corner of U.S. Route 127 and State Route 355, it was built on this outlying lot since there was no land available in the downtown city limits. This one-story, rock-faced building is situated on almost two acres and is surrounded by several farms with one- and two-story wood-frame and brick residences that were built between 1920 and 1970.

The character-defining features of the **Monterey Grade School** includes: a broad flat hipped roof intersected by a centrally located front cross gable; a rounded arched entry with a return at the impost level; rock-faced coursed ashlar; eaves close to the walls; and deep inset windows. These exterior building features and numerous interior features, such as beaded board wainscoting, high ceilings, chalkboards, stage, and water fountains, remain intact. Although used as a single family dwelling since 1984, the current

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Monterey Grade School, Owen Co., Kentucky

owner respects these character defining features which makes the **Monterey Grade School** an exceptional school building in Owen County that remains intact, portraying the original overall design that was developed by Lexington Architect John F. Wilson in the mid-1930s.

List of Resources

<u>Code</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date of Construction</u>	<u>Evaluation</u>
1	Monterey Grade School	1939	Contributing
2	Outhouse	1941	Contributing
3	Outhouse	1941	Contributing
4	Ballfield	1939	Contributing

Building Characteristics

1 The Monterey Grade School, located on 1.8 acres of land, faces U.S. Route 127 and is situated top of a hill. It is presently accessible by U.S. Route 127 from the north and south by a paved semi-circular driveway. The ballfield, located to the rear of the site, and the two box-frame outhouses with vertical board siding, which were built in 1941, are contributing features on the site.

This lot is surrounded by several large farms that are dotted with houses and outbuildings ranging in date from the 1920s to the 1970s. In recent years, small wood-frame and masonry homes have been constructed along U.S. Route 127 minimally altering the picturesque landscape which was once rural farmland.

This one-story rectangular building is constructed of rock-faced ashlar and is three bays wide and two piles deep. The front facade is highlighted by a projecting central entry with a cross gabled roof. This entry is accented by a pair of wood-frame and glass doors set in a semi-circular brick arch with quoins. Windows on either side of the arched opening have stone sills and lintels adding to the distinctive architectural character.

Inside, separate boys and girls coat rooms are located on opposite sides of the main entry hall which is enhanced by tongue and groove vertical beaded board wainscotting. A sloped wooden floor, which now provides handicap access, covers the original two steps up to the coat rooms and main assembly hall. The north coat room was renovated into a bathroom in 1994 with a shower, bath tub, sink, toilet and washing machine all within the original room dimensions. The south coat room was converted to a sleeping loft suspended from roof rafters in 1987 with a small study area below.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Monterey Grade School, Owen Co., Kentucky

Adjacent to each coat room is one large room that used to be a classroom along the front of the building for teaching two grades together. Each of these rooms have been used as bedrooms since 1994. Vertical beaded board wainscotting remains on all of the interior classroom walls with the original chalkboards situated directly above. Beyond the central entry is a large assembly hall which was divided into two classrooms with a sliding panel wall system, as evidence shows in the ceiling structure. Moisture penetration through the leaking roof deteriorated the original plaster ceiling in the main assembly area making it necessary to remove the sliding panel wall system in 1985. Batt insulation is now visible between the roof rafters. Today, this large room functions as the main living room area.

On the north end of the assembly hall is a raised platform stage. A door situated to the west of the stage provided access to a small room which was used as a dressing room for students that performed on stage. The stage was enclosed with wood panels to form a library in 1991.

The kitchen, located on the south end of the assembly hall, had a wall with swinging doors and a opening to accept lunch trays that faced the assembly room. This wall was removed in the fall of 1995 to enlarge the kitchen a few feet. The new wall has a door opening on the side and four clerestory windows above the new wall mounted cabinets.

To the west of the kitchen is the one-story ell addition that served as a lunch room. Constructed in 1947 of similar rock-faced masonry, this room is used for storage today.

Wide red pine floorboards, which are visible throughout the building, remain in good condition. The building was originally heated by coal stoves, then by a coal oil furnace system with ductwork near the ceiling which is evident by the paint shadows left on the walls. The ductwork was removed in the 1980s and the structure is currently heated by a wood stove in the kitchen.

A single door on the north and south ends of this rectangular building provided ancillary egress and exit for students and staff. A small plain-faced concrete block addition was built on the south end of the building in the 1960s with a shed roof, metal door and vertical wrought iron bars covering the two windows. Originally constructed for use as the storage room for government commodities, such as cheese and meat, with a refrigerator to store these items, the owner continues to use it as a personal storage room.

2-3 On opposite sides of the ballfield behind the school are separate boys and girls outhouses of box frame construction with vertical board siding and a shed metal roof. Both remain in fair condition and were constructed according to plans from the Health Department in 1941 (General B, 128). The

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

Monterey Grade School, Owen Co., Kentucky

outhouses continued to be used until the school closed in 1970. Today, they are used for storage. The school's only indoor plumbing was the kitchen sink and water fountains.

4 There is only one tree in the open ballfield which is located directly behind the 1947 lunch room addition. This ballfield is earmarked by two wooden poles which were used to hold a safety net to catch fly balls, protecting the windows against breakage.

The Monterey Grade School, with its outbuildings and ballfield, are the only historic buildings in existence associated with Monterey and served as the town's last educational facility. This cohesive collection of buildings retain integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship and feeling, while contributing to the history of the town through its sense of time and place.

Integrity Evaluation

The Monterey Grade School is being considered for nomination under National Register Criterion C for its significance within the area of Education. The property embodies the distinctive characteristics of school architecture that was prevalent in the late 1930s in Owen County. The Monterey Grade School possesses the integrity of design since it is distinct in being only one of five schools that were built in the county between 1937 and 1939, and one of four schools designed by Architect John F. Wilson during that time period in Owen County. It also retains the integrity of location, setting, materials, design, workmanship, and feeling from the date of its construction, 1939.

The Monterey Grade School retains integrity of location due to the fact that the land it is situated on was specifically purchased by the Owen County Board of Education for \$ 500.00 from James Lathrem in the spring of 1939 for the erection of this school (General B, p. 25, 29). Its setting is enhanced by a row of trees which grace the parking lot facing U.S. Route 127, partially shielding the school from the highway. Isolated on top of the hill has further emphasized its importance in the community at the time it was constructed. The school's prominence is heighten in this rural farmland setting for its hilltop location and easy access by a semi-circular driveway which has been maintained since the school was built. Today, it blends in with the surrounding historic farmland and recent residential development.

The integrity of materials has been retained by the tall metal multi-paned windows, stone sills and lintels, and the use of rock-faced coursed ashlar blocks which emulate stone on the exterior. A windshield survey of Owen County revealed only one other building built of this type of block construction, the J.R. Kemper Garage, located on U.S. Route 127 in Monterey.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

Monterey Grade School, Owen Co., Kentucky

The availability of materials and skilled laborers must have been limited due to the fact there are relatively few structures built of this material in Owen County.

The integrity of design of the Monterey Grade School has been maintained since the main structure remains intact as it was constructed in 1939. Similar in design to four other schools in Owen County, this school was based on the Pleasant Home School designed by Lexington Architect John F. Wilson, with slight modifications as recorded in the May 16, 1939 meeting minutes of the Owen County Board of Education. See Figure 1. The lunchroom addition to the Monterey Grade School, constructed in 1947, and the storage room, for commodities in the 1960s, were two later additions which do not seriously damage the essential design.



Figure 1, Pleasant Home School

The integrity of workmanship is displayed at the central entry with the decorative brick arch which is highlighted with brick quoins. Stone lintels and sills which emphasize the window openings, beaded board, tongue and groove wainscotting in the central hallway, combined with high ceilings and wide red pine floor boards are some of the original character-defining features that have been carefully maintained.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 7 Page 6**Monterey Grade School, Owen Co., Kentucky**

The integrity of feeling is expressed in the building's exterior facade since all of the original character-defining features have remained intact, reflecting its original 1939 appearance. These features include tall metal multi-pane windows with stone lintels and sills, rock-faced coursed ashlar walls, flat hipped roof, and central arched entry highlighted with brick quoins. While the majority of the interior has remained intact, including the beaded board tongue-and-groove wainscotting, chalkboards, water fountains, stage, and classrooms, only a few modifications have been made in recent years slightly impacting its design integrity in order to renovate the school building into a residence.

One modification that does not compromise the overall integrity of design is that the steps inside the main entry doors were covered with a sloped wooden floor providing handicap access in the 1980s. Many public buildings have made similar modifications due to handicap code enforcement in recent years. This wooden ramp can be removed in the future to reveal the original steps or modified to allow both steps and a ramp to access the main assembly hall, now living room.

Also, the girls' coat room, on the north side of the entry hallway, was converted to a bathroom/laundry room in 1994, providing the only indoor plumbing other than the sink in the kitchen and the water fountains. The integrity of design has been maintained since the addition of plumbing fixtures fit within the original walls. In the boys coat room, on the south side of the central hallway, a sleeping loft was constructed within the confines of the walls suspended by roof rafters. A small study area was built-in below in 1987.

The raised stage at the north end of the assembly room has been enclosed with wood panels, altering its original appearance, however, access doors, stairs, and flooring remain virtually intact allowing the original stage area to be visible.

The deteriorated roof caused the plaster ceiling in the assembly hall to disintegrate. The roof has been temporarily repaired with roll asphalt roofing and batt insulation is situated between roof rafters in anticipation of a new ceiling. The original kitchen wall with swinging doors and lunch tray access was removed in the fall of 1995 and replaced with a new wall extending the depth of the original kitchen an additional five feet.

Although several modifications have been made over the years to this structure, they are in keeping with the existing walls and have retained the majority of the original character-defining features of the building. Many original design features have remained intact such as the exterior rock-faced coursed ashlar walls, with tall metal, multi-paned windows, a hipped roof

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 7

Monterey Grade School, Owen Co., Kentucky

with eaves close to the wall, and a brick arched central entry accented with quoins. Also, the integrity of building materials has remained intact including the original doors, hardware and screens, tongue and groove vertical wood wainscotting, and chalkboards. The integrity of the setting including parking lot, trees, semi-circular driveway access, ballfield, and outhouses has been maintained since its creation in 1939. The location and setting of the **Monterey Grade School** combined together with the materials, design, and workmanship, express the feeling of a historic time and place.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

Monterey Grade School, Owen Co., Kentucky

8. Statement of Significance

The Monterey Grade School (ONM-76) is being considered for nomination under National Register Criterion C in the area of Education because it represents the efforts of a small school district in Owen County that was able to provide for its educational needs. The property was evaluated within the context "Education in Monterey, 1847-1946" focusing on the built environment and the people who made contributions to the growth and development of Monterey and Owen County. This context was developed as part of the survey of Monterey in 1996 and is included in the "Monterey Historic Structures Survey and National Register Nominations Summary Report" on file at the Kentucky Heritage Council in Frankfort, Kentucky. Excerpts from the context "Education in Monterey, 1847-1946" are included in the following Statement of Significance. The significance of the property is its embodiment of design as appropriate for education in Monterey and Owen County during the 1930s, a time of economic hardship. That hardship influenced decisions for building needed school buildings.

EDUCATION IN MONTEREY, 1847-1946

Education was instrumental in the development of Owen County and Monterey as early as 1830, when the first schools were established in Owen County. By 1866, growth in education was evident by the fact that there were 68 school districts in Owen County. Growing population in the area increased the number of school districts to 75 white school districts in 1881 since formal education of colored children was not prevalent until the turn-of-the-century. The length of the school term increased from five months to six months a year between 1881 and 1910 with an average attendance of fifteen students per school per month. Historically, men school teachers were paid more than women by \$ 7.00 a term.

The number of schools that were in existence for educating children in an area is a reflection of the availability of materials and laborers during that time period. In the early years, nine districts held school in abandoned buildings or homes. Elsewhere in the county there were a limited number of box frame structures and brick schools with the majority of structures being wood-frame and log in the late 1800s. Finally, by 1910, a hurdle in educational facilities for African-American children was overcome with the addition of seven designated African-American schools in an overwhelming majority of sixty-three white schools (Houchens, 262-263) in Owen County. One of the first districts in the area serving African-Americans was located in the southern portion of Monterey in 1884, serving 31 pupils. Local resident and African-American Cobbler Sam Sims was the trustee (Murphy b).

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 2**Monterey Grade School, Owen Co., Kentucky**

Historically, churches supported the creation of educational facilities by giving land for buildings to be erected or by offering their Sunday School classrooms for the education of children. The history of education in Monterey is closely intertwined with religion, since the first school building was located adjacent to the circa 1870 Union Church, on the corner of High and Worth Street. An agreement was made with the trustees of the church to lease 30 feet off the north side of lot #34 next to the alley for 35 years, beginning September 2, 1878, for erecting and maintaining a public school house. The school building was completed in 1880 at a cost of \$ 300.00 with associated outbuildings. School trustees agreed to clean out the well on the church lot, erect a box around it, and supply it with a bucket and dipper. A fence was built around it and shade trees were planted.

This one-story wood-frame structure was completed in 1881. That summer the first classes started with 102 students in the district between the ages of 6 and 20. The school term was five months long with an average attendance of 34 students. Tuition was \$ 3.14 per pupil and increased to \$ 7.15 per pupil in 1882. In 1883 there were only 90 students in the district with the average attendance being 48 and tuition at \$ 3.39 per pupil. The teachers salary was established at \$ 40.00 for the term (Murphy b).

By 1900, this one-room school was no longer sufficient. Therefore, the school trustees selected a different site for a larger new building to be constructed June 17, 1901. Three-fourths of an acre was purchased for \$ 150.00 on the south side of Cedar Creek on Old Bridge Street. This pressed brick school building, known as the Monterey Elementary School, opened for the 1902-1903 school year and was designed in the Gothic Revival style similar to the Monterey Baptist Church (Murphy b).

The second county high school, known as the Monterey High School opened in 1926 in classrooms above the Kelly and Eddins Grocery Store in town. Classes were also held in the Modern Woodman Lodge. In November 1927, the high school students moved to their new two-room addition to the Monterey Elementary School building. By 1934, Monterey high school students were transferred to Owenton and the grade school expanded into the high school addition. December 15, 1938, this edifice burned after serving thirty-six years as a grade school and seven years as a high school (Murphy b). In the summer of 1939, the Monterey Grade School was built north of Monterey on U.S. 127, and served Monterey students until 1970 when the Owen County elementary schools were consolidated, transferring all students to the school campus two miles outside Owenton, the County seat.

Today, the Monterey Grade School best represents the effort of a small school district to provide for its educational needs in Owen County. Several factors were involved in the design of the Monterey Grade School. First of all, the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

Monterey Grade School, Owen Co., Kentucky

transportation network of highways and roads expanded between the 1920s and 1940s making travel easier. Increasing availability and affordability of automobiles, trucks, and buses created the opportunity for schools to be located in rural area versus in the center of a community. Growth in population of school age children during the 1930s in Owen County made it apparent that larger facilities were needed with the consolidation of schools. These factors, combined with the limited resources for funding, labor and materials, produced the overall design of the modest one-story stone Monterey Grade School.

Historically, one teacher taught first through eighth grade children who lived within walking distance of the one-room school house. Usually built of wood-frame construction, it was designed as a small, one-room building with a front gabled roof, a central entry, and large windows on the north facade to allow constant diffuse daylight to brighten the room.

Improved transportation avenues became an important aspect in determining the location of the future school buildings. Building sites were selected by Owen County Board of Education members with the guidance of the Director of School Building and Grounds from Frankfort, Kentucky. Owen County resident, Mrs. J.T. Walker, sold two acres of land to the school board for the construction of the Long Ridge School in 1936 (General A, 26). Two acres of James Lathrem's Farm, located on U.S. Route 127, was chosen for the Monterey Grade School (General B, 25). Bethany School, Pleasant Home, and New Columbus schools were also built on rural sites which were easily accessible by buses.

The next step in the development of the new school buildings in Owen County came with the design of a new elementary school plan type. A four teacher school was requested, reflecting the increase in population as well as available transportation. Lexington Architect, John F. Wilson, designed and prepared plans for four schools in Owen County in 1935 based on this plan type: New Columbus, Bethany, Long Ridge and Pleasant Home.

The four teacher school floor plan is long and rectangular and is divided in half lengthwise. The front half is divided into two permanent classrooms and the back half is used as a large assembly hall or can be divided in two by a sliding panel wall system attached to a ceiling track. This plan type accommodated four teachers, each with their own two grade classrooms.

Each school was constructed using locally available building materials. Stone was used in the New Columbus School and the Monterey Grade School while Pleasant Home, Bethany, and Long Ridge were built of brick. Although Superintendent of Owen County Schools, J.O. Webster, was authorized to execute and file an application for financing the construction of the five schools through the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works on

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 4Monterey Grade School, Owen Co., Kentucky

behalf of the Owen County Board of Education (General A, 47) and Architect Wilson was directed to complete all plans and applications to be submitted to the Public Works Administration (General A, 65), the Owen County Fiscal Court refused to cooperate in securing Federal aide. Therefore, the Board of Education approved financing a building program in 1936 through a bonding company (General A, 73). The New Columbus School building was the only school of these five designed by Wilson built with Project Works Administration assistance in 1936 (General B, 74).

The one-story stone **Monterey Grade School** was based on the four teacher plan type of the Pleasant Home School. Bids for construction were advertised for the **Monterey Grade School** to be built similar to the Pleasant Home School with "exceptions in plans as noted in specifications" according to the General Record Book of the Owen County Board of Education, dated May 16, 1939 (General b, 32). Today, the **Monterey Grade School** is the only existing educational facility associated with Monterey. One of five schools designed by Lexington Architect John F. Wilson in Owen County in the 1930s, it has retained the majority of its character-defining features, providing us with a rare opportunity to experience the feeling of what it was like to be educated in a four classroom school house with limited facilities.

Monterey Grade School

The **Monterey Grade School** is similar in design to four other schools in Owen County; Long Ridge, Bethany, Pleasant Home, and New Columbus that were built in 1937. The Owen County Board of Education entered into a contract with Lexington Architect John F. Wilson in the spring of 1935 (General A, 34) to prepare plans for the four schools for a fee of \$ 52.95 that was paid on January 29, 1936. Since the Owen County Fiscal Court refused to cooperate in securing funds through the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works program, these schools were constructed with a bond issued June 27, 1936 (General A, 68). It was noted that the New Columbus School building was built with PWA assistance in 1936 as recorded in Deed Book 76, p. 203 dated June 27, 1936 in the County Clerks office in Owen County. All four of these four teacher schools opened for the 1937-1938 school year (General A, 120). Only three of these school buildings remain intact today since the Long Ridge School burned. The Bethany School, located in a field on State Route 227, is red brick with two separate entries on the front facade, deviating from the main central entry. See Figure 2. The wood 12-over-12 light windows have been well maintained and painted, however, the interior has deteriorated. Since the school closed in 1969, the classrooms and gymnasium on the rear of the building have been removed and a new large metal structure, attached to the facade in their place, houses farm machinery.

In comparison with the **Monterey Grade School**, only the New Columbus School,

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 5

Monterey Grade School, Owen Co., Kentucky

which has a stone facade, has been well maintained. See Figure 3. Wide stairs with original beaded board wainscotting are located inside the main central entry. Large classrooms are situated on either side of the raised entry with the main assembly hall beyond, similar in plan to the Monterey Grade School. After the New Columbus School closed, the building was used as a store and is currently a private residence. Over the years interior modifications have altered its original design including new windows infilling existing openings and lowered ceilings installed in the old assembly hall, now living room, for energy conservation purposes. The

Figure 2, Bethany School

Figure 3, New Columbus School

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

Monterey Grade School, Owen Co., Kentucky

dressings room next to the stage is now a bathroom and the stage is a platform for the bed in the bedroom. The kitchen walls have been removed and altered to accommodate modern conveniences.

The Pleasant Home School, located on State Route 22, sits in a field and is covered with vines and foliage. This one-story red brick school building appears similar in design as the **Monterey Grade School** except it is constructed of brick, has wood windows, a hipped roof, and has deteriorated due to abandonment. See Figure 1. A stone keystone accents the brick arched projecting central entry with paired wood doors and transom. Stone sills and brick soldier course lintels highlight the wood 12-over-12 light windows. Some of these character defining features were altered in the specifications for construction of the **Monterey Grade School**, however, the basic building form and fenestration remain the same.

With exceptions in plans as noted in the specifications for the Pleasant Home School designed by Architect John F. Wilson, the Owen County Board of Education solicited bids for the construction of the **Monterey Grade School**. Five bids were opened June 5, 1939 with local contractor Thomas Hardware Company of Owenton receiving the contract to construct the school building at a cost of \$ 6,874.75 (General B, 35).

During the summer of 1939, this new block elementary school building was constructed north of Downtown Monterey, on U.S. Route 127 north of town. Known as the **Monterey Grade School** (ONM-76), it was ready for occupancy September 4, 1939 (Murphy a, 302). A new lunch room was added in the summer of 1947 (Murphy a, 203). In 1969, only the first through the fourth grade remained at this school with the fifth graders transported to Long Ridge School (Murphy a, 302). In 1970, the school finally closed as students were bussed to the new Owen County Elementary School.

The **Monterey Grade School** was abandoned (Murphy a, 295) in 1970 when it closed, then purchased by Red True who used it as a dance hall. In November 1984, Victor and Mary Lee Helm purchased the building for use as a private single-family residence. Their daughter Kathy Tingle is currently residing here and has carefully renovated portions of the building to accommodate a bathroom/laundry room, library, sleeping quarters and has enlarged the kitchen. She has maintained the majority of character-defining features of the historic school, such as the beaded board tongue-and-groove wainscoting, chalk boards, ceiling heights, wood floors, windows, main entry, classrooms, coat rooms, lunch room, ball field and outhouses. The building exterior reflects the appearance of a 1939 school while being utilized as a private residence. Today, the structure remains in good condition and is a reminder of Monterey's only standing school building which was occupied by elementary school children between 1939 and 1970.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 1

Monterey Grade School, Owen County, Kentucky

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 2

Monterey Grade School, Owen County, Kentucky

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- **Volunteers:**

Mayor Becky Albaugh

Mrs. Leota Derringer

Mrs. Lela Maude Hawkins

Mrs. Margaret Karsner Murphy

Mr. Bill Hardin

Ms. Kathy Tingle

Mrs. Doris Riley

Mrs. Bettina Sommerville

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

Monterey Grade School, Owen Co., Kentucky

10. Verbal Boundary Description

The **Monterey Grade School** is located on Property Identification Map 40, lot 2 in Monterey, Kentucky. The parcel is approximately 330 feet wide by 400 feet long. It is bound on the north, south and west by farmland, and on the east by U.S. Route 127. See attached map.

Boundary Justification

The boundary chosen for this property encompasses the significant building and associated outbuildings, known as the historic **Monterey Grade School** property. The entire 1.8 acres has been associated with the property since construction of the school building in 1939. The large lot was included as an appropriate setting for this rural resource.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 97000869

Date Listed: 8/19/97

Monterey Grade School Owen KY
Property Name: County: State:

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Patrick Andrews
Signature of the Keeper

9/16/97
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

This SLR makes a technical correction to the form. The school is nominated under Criterion C (architecture) but "education" was selected as the Area of Significance. The form is amended to change the Area of Significance to Architecture.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

Photographs Monterey Grade School, Owen County, Kentucky

The following information is the same for all photographs.

3. Donna G. Logsdon
4. 1/96
5. Kentucky Heritage Council
300 Washington Street
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Photograph #1

6. West, front, facade showing brick arched central entry, stone lintels and sills at multi-paned windows.

Photograph #2

6. North, side, facade showing side exit and flat hipped roof.

Photograph #3

6. West, rear, facade with 1947 lunchroom addition. Ballfield in foreground.

Photograph #4

6. South and West facades showing 1947 lunchroom addition on the left and the 1960s storage room addition on the right.

Photograph #5

6. South, side, facade showing 1947 lunchroom addition on the left and the 1960s storage room addition on the right.

Photograph #6

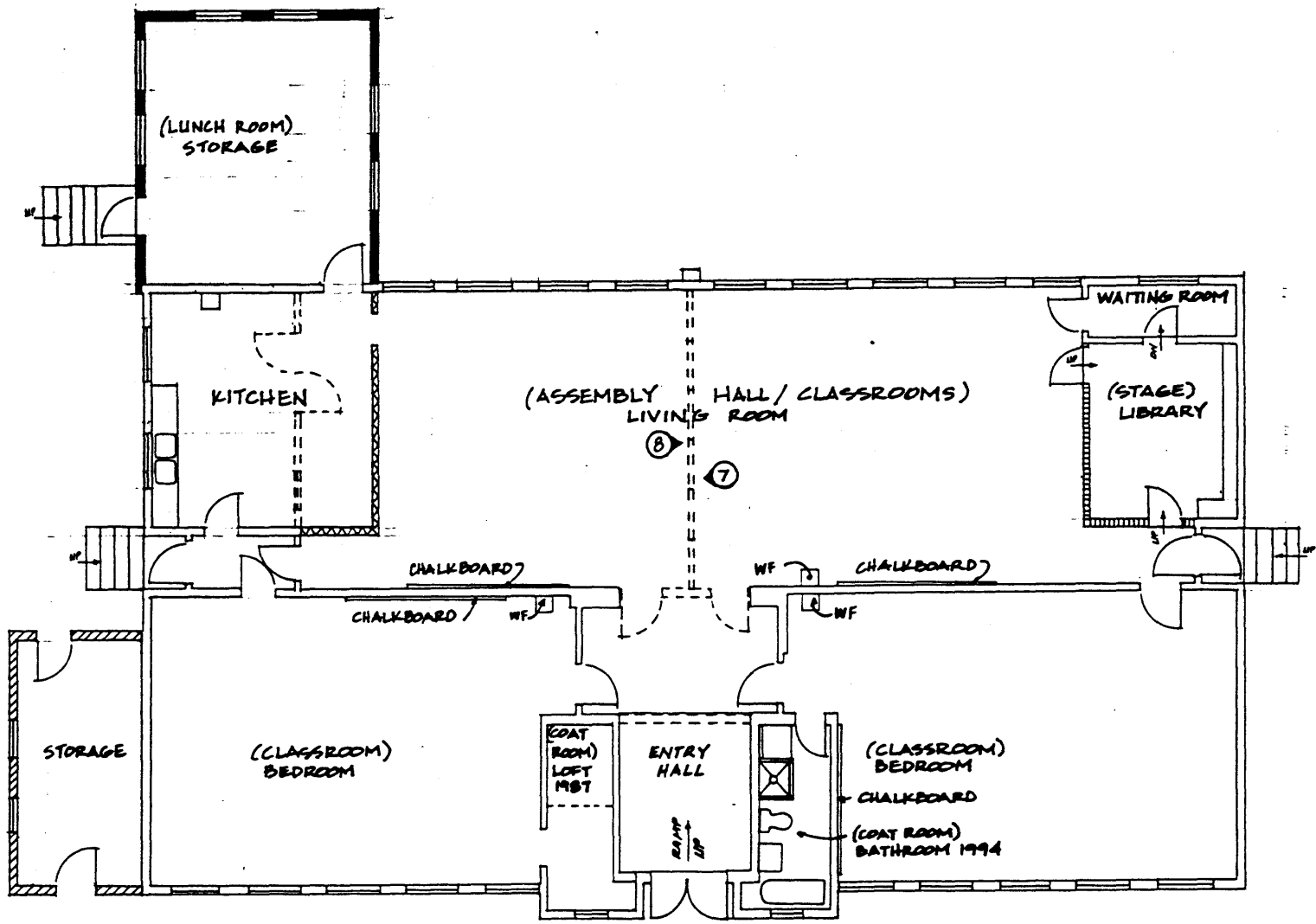
6. Girl's box frame outhouse built in 1941.

Photograph #7

6. Interior facing South showing the new kitchen wall with clerestory windows, batt insulation between the ceiling joists, wide red pine wood floor boards, chalkboard on the left wall and the original multi-pane windows on the right.

Photograph #8

6. Interior facing North showing raised platform stage area, now library, and small dressing room accessed by a door adjacent to the original multi-paned windows.



6

4

3

5

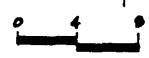
8

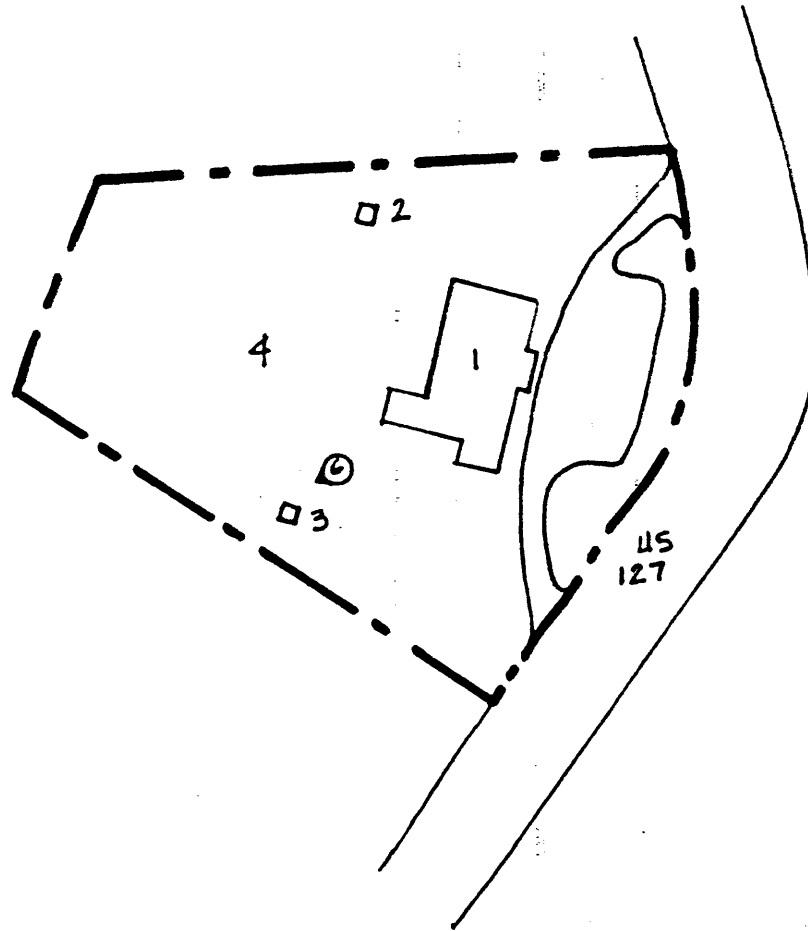
7

2

- 1939
- 1947
- ▨ 1960s
- ⋯ 1991
- ⊠ 1995

MONTEREY GRADE SCHOOL
 9725 US 127 OWENTON, KY.



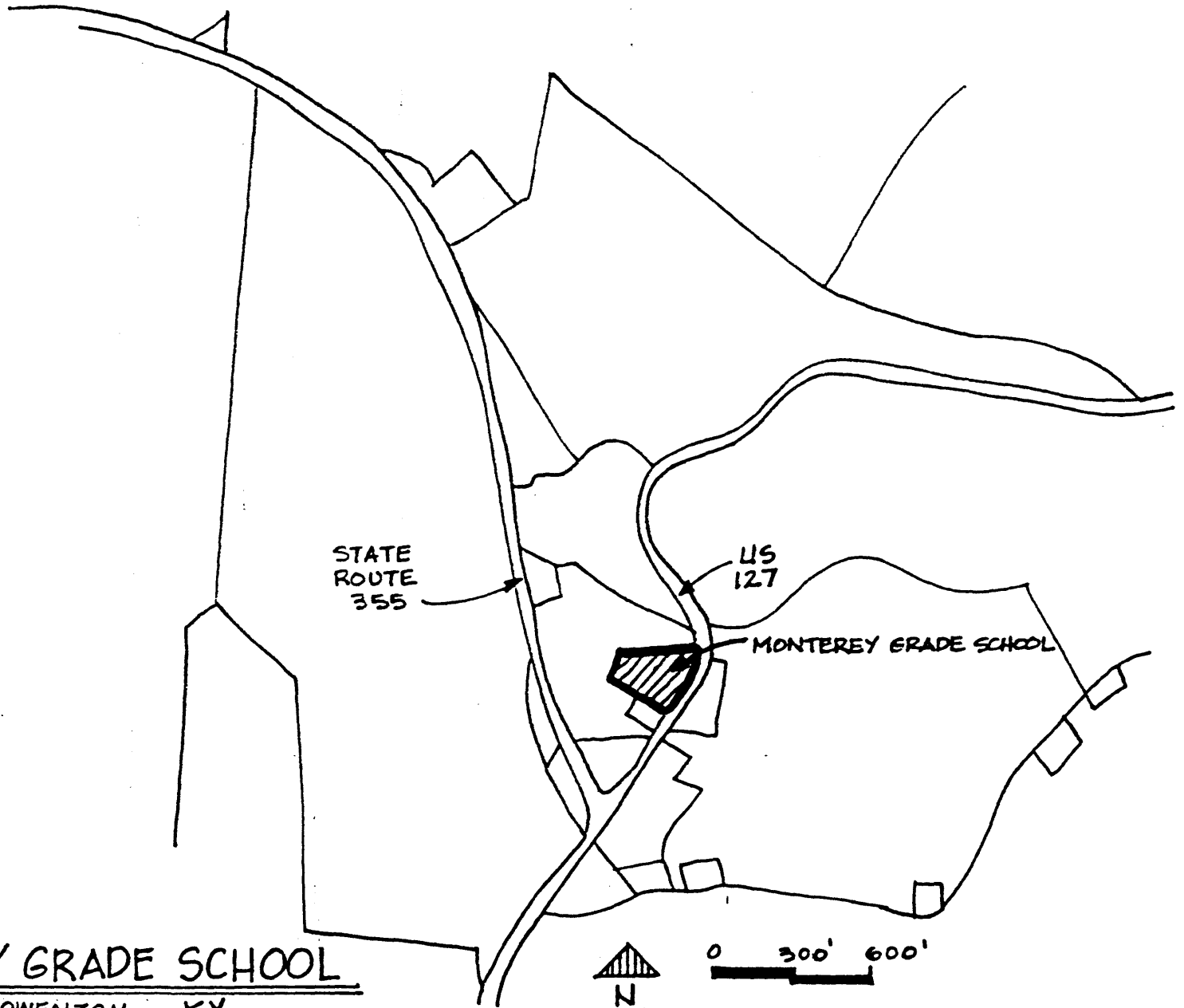


- RESOURCE BOUNDARY
- 1 BUILDING/SITE NUMBER
- BUILDING
- ④ PHOTOGRAPH NUMBER

MONTEREY GRADE SCHOOL
9725 US 127 OWENTON, KY.



0 50 100 FEET



MONTEREY GRADE SCHOOL
9725 US 127 OWENTON, KY.