

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0688665

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED NOV 1 1978  
DATE ENTERED DEC 22 1978

**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

Frenchburg School Campus

AND/OR COMMON

United Presbyterian Center

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

U.S. 460

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Frenchburg

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

7

STATE

Kentucky

CODE

021

COUNTY

Menifee

CODE

165

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

**ACCESSIBLE**

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.

*RANKEN & ASSOCIATES  
P.O. BOX 766  
MT. STERLING, KY  
NEW JUNE 11/21/79*

STREET & NUMBER

475 Riverside Drive

CITY, TOWN

New York

STATE

New York

(continued)

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Menifee County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Frenchburg

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 Frenchburg School Campus is situated on approximately eleven acres of land nestled at the base of a wooded hillside on the western outskirts of Frenchburg, Ky. Frenchburg with a population of less than 500, is the seat of government for the sparsely populated, rural county of Menifee in eastern Kentucky. The campus is bounded on the south by U.S. 460, a two-lane highway, and enclosed on the east and west by branches of Beaver Creek. The main buildings in the complex consist of the Gymnasium, Jane Cook Hospital, Girl's Dormitory, School Building, Manual Training Shop, and Teacher's Residence. The majority of these structures are located at the base of the hillside with the result being that they face inward upon a grassy quadrangle dotted with trees. A service road borders the creek on the west side of the campus and runs behind the Teacher's Residence, School Building, and Girl's Dormitory, then circles in front of the Hospital and Gymnasium and returns to meet the highway (see site location map).

To the east of the main complex are several structures not directly associated with the educational and medical aspects of the facility, but nevertheless, are contributors to the tranquil campus setting. Southeast of the Gymnasium is a frame cottage, contemporary with the main buildings. In close proximity to this cottage are two frame sheds and a barn which facilitate approximately a half-acre of cultivated land. Another frame residence is located on the southeastern edge of the campus near the intersection of Beaver Creek and U.S. 460.

The following are descriptions of the significant structures:

### Teacher's Residence

Constructed in 1921, this two and one-half story, brick building (see photo 1 and site location map F) is ten bays wide and has a two-story portico sheltering the four central bays. Windows are single-pane, sash type with flat jack arches and stone sills. Two doors with single-pane transoms give access to the interior. Brick piers support the portico which is encircled by a wooden balustrade on both levels. Wooden stairs leading to the second floor of the portico abut the facade between the central bays. Three dormers project from the tin, hipped roof on the facade in addition to the end dormers. The building rests on a foundation of roughly dressed stone.

### Manual Training Shop

Erected in 1926, the Manual Training Shop (see photo 2 and site location map E) is a one and one-half story, frame structure with attached garage. The gable-roofed building is five bays wide with a projecting shed-roofed dormer. The door is located slightly left of center.

(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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1910, 1917, 1921, 1926, 1929, BUILDER/ARCHITECT A. B. Hamilton (Contractor)  
1941

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Frenchburg School, a mission enterprise sponsored by the United Presbyterian Church, served Menifee County in eastern Kentucky and the surrounding area for many years as an educational and medical center in addition to its religious activities. For many years since 1909 it provided the only high school educational opportunities in the area and from 1915 for a period of time served as the only hospital between Lexington and Ashland. Although its service has been ended as a school since 1957 and as a hospital since 1967, during its many years of operation from 1909 it performed many real needed services to the people of the mountainous area.

For many years various Protestant religious denominations have considered the mountain counties of Eastern Kentucky, as well as other parts of Appalachia in other states, as fertile fields for home mission activities. One of the most active of these groups, particularly in the field of education, has been the United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America (so called to differentiate it from the other two main Presbyterian groups in the nation, viz., the Presbyterian Church in the U.S. and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church).<sup>1</sup>

After the conclusion of the Civil War, both the United Presbyterian or the "Northern Church" and the Presbyterian or "Southern Church" were extremely active in missionary activities in Eastern Kentucky. One of the most active apostles toward this end was Dr. Edward Owings Guerrant, a physician who was also a preacher. One of the many Presbyterian mission institutions which was established in Eastern Kentucky upon Dr. Guerrant's recommendation was the Frenchburg School.<sup>2</sup> In response to his request and an appeal of public-spirited citizens of this village, in 1908 a committee was sent from the Women's General Missionary Society of the United Presbyterian Church of North America ("The Northern Church") to examine the field and to determine if it would be feasible to establish a mission in that area. They found that Menifee County was unable at that time to maintain a high school even though this was required by Kentucky state school law. The rural schools were kept open only six months of the year and most of the pupils were able to finish only the first five grades.

(continued)

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Barrus, Ben M., Milton L. Baughn, and Thomas Campbell. A People Called Cumberland Presbyterians.  
 "Frenchburg School... nestled in the hills and mountains of our beautiful Kentucky,"  
The Menifee County Journal (Frenchburg, Kentucky).

(continued)

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approx. 12 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME \_\_\_\_\_

QUADRANGLE SCALE \_\_\_\_\_

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1	7	2	6	9	1	8	0	4	2	0	3	6	1	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

B 

1	7	2	6	9	1	8	0	4	2	0	3	5	8	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C 

1	7	2	6	9	1	0	0	4	2	0	3	5	6	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

D 

1	7	2	6	8	9	8	0	4	2	0	3	4	5	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

E 

1	7	2	6	8	8	3	0	4	2	0	3	4	4	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

F 

1	7	2	6	8	7	8	0	4	2	0	3	5	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

G 

1	7	2	6	9	0	2	0	4	2	0	3	6	8	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

H 

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## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the Frenchburg School Campus begins at point A (see U.S.G.S. map) at the base of the hillside and runs south for approximately 100 feet to a branch of Beaver Creek (point B). The line then turns southwest following the creek for approximately (cont.)

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Calvin P. Jones, Sr. Historian; Charlotte Schneider, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

September 1978

STREET & NUMBER

104 Bridge Street

TELEPHONE

(502) 564-3741

CITY OR TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

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 H. Melton Lydeh*

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

10-24-78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

*[Signature]*

DATE

12-22-78

ATTEST: *[Signature]*

DATE

12/22/78

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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Frenchburg School Campus

**CONTINUATION SHEET**

ITEM NUMBER 4 PAGE 2

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c/o The Reverend Raymond V. Kearns,  
Interim General Director  
Office of the General Director  
Room #918  
Inter-Church Center  
Office of the General Assembly  
475 Riverside Drive  
New York , New York

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Frenchburg School Campus

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

School Building

Constructed in 1910, this two-story, brick structure (see photos 3 and 4 and site location map D) is built on an axial plan and embodies a variety of historical elements. The overall arrangement of the facade is symmetrical while the fenestration is somewhat irregular. The two floors of the lateral axis are delineated by brick stringcourse. Windows are single-pane, sash type with stone sills. The entrance, situated to the left of the intersecting axis, is sheltered by a frame pedimented portico supported by columns. Above this is a tripartite window arrangement. The focal point of the facade is the three-bay intersecting axis projecting from the lateral section. The gabled parapet contains a round arch window with sitchline tracery. Windows on the first floor are set in round, blind arch openings. Two, small squares of raised brick set on angles with stones at each end corner add a decorative touch at the second floor level. A row of brick laid vertically beneath the eaves gives the effect of a cornice.

Girl's Dormitory

Erected ca. 1917, this three-story Georgian Revival structure (see photos 5,6 and 7 and site location map C) embodies a slightly projecting central pavilion with pediment. The entrance consists of an arched pediment with entablature supported by columns and piers. Sash windows on the first floor are set in round, blind arch openings. Encircling the building between the second and third floors is a beltcourse of bricks set on an angle. A round four-pane window pierces the pediment. Interspersed between window openings are rectangular areas of brick headers offering variety to the rather formal facade. A tin, hipped roof covers the building.

Attached to the dormitory by a one-story, brick unit is a sympathetic, two-story, mid-1940s addition (see photo 7). The main feature of the facade is the central pavilion containing a recessed window on the second level. Pilasters supporting a plain entablature frame the door and multi-paned transom. A large, rectangular brick area offers the only other adornment of the facade. Projecting rows of bricks under the eaves imply a cornice. The pediment is pierced by a multi-paned, circular window.

Jane Cook Hospital

Constructed in 1941, the present hospital building (see photos 8 and 9 and site location map B) replaces the original 1915 structure which was destroyed by fire in 1940. The building consists of two sections displaying Neo-Georgian characteristics in an apparent attempt to blend into the existing architectural setting. A slightly projecting pavilion with brick quoins is the focal point of the asymmetrical facade of the western section. The entrance is treated with a broken pediment and flanking pilasters. A

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Frenchburg School Campus

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 3

square tower with pyramidal roof rises from a one-story wing appended to the western end of this section. The smaller, eastern section was added later in the 1940s and compliments the main block, being three bays in width with an identical door treatment.

Gynmasium

Constructed in 1929, the gymnasium (see photo 10 and site location map A) is a one-story, weatherboarded structure resting on a concrete block foundation. The unadorned, gabled facade is pierced by three six-over-six pane windows. These are centered between two five-panel doors which are sheltered by wooden, gabled overdoors. A simple stoop approached by steps from the side gives access to each opening. The side walls are pierced by a row of nine square windows each containing four panes. Halfway down the west side wall are double, five-panel doors. The low-pitched gable roof is composed of asbestos shingles, and a small, brick chimney rises from the west side. A shed-roofed section is appended to the rear.

At present, the various buildings are all structurally sound and in fair condition. Some remodeling would be necessary to make the structures functional again; however, they could easily be adapted to serve the community in a variety of useful ways.

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Frenchburg School Campus

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

After careful consideration it was decided to locate a school and church in Frenchburg, the county seat of Menifee County. The location selected was a cove of about five acres, surrounded by hills. Money and labor to the amount of nearly \$1,000 was contributed by local citizens. In addition to this, the West Lexington Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church deeded to the Women's Board a small frame "church house" which had been abandoned several years previously.

The story of the Frenchburg School is similiar to that of so many other Presbyterian missions in Eastern Kentucky and in Appalachia in general. It passed through a series of expansion and decline and provided excellent services to the people of the area until it finally became possible for the various counties with state financial assistance to provide the necessary educational services themselves. Buildings were added from time to time, conversions were made changing the buildings from one use to another, and various teachers and preachers, all with a definite missionary bent, came and served and left. Some later went on to serve in foreign fields of missionary activities.

In 1914 Frenchburg School graduated its first high school class. Local teacher candidates qualified for teaching certificates there. In 1915 the Jane Cook Hospital was established there to provide medical service for the area.<sup>3</sup> Although it had only ten beds and one operating room, it was the sole hospital between Lexington and Ashland at that time and one of the few in the mountains of Eastern Kentucky. The hospital was expanded during the 1920s, survived the Great Depression, and continued its valuable service until January 24, 1940, when it was destroyed by a disastrous fire. It was rebuilt in 1941 and 1942 and continued to serve Menifee and surrounding counties for the next quarter of a century.

In May, 1957, the educational work at the Frenchburg School was terminated by Presbyterian Church officials. In 1967, it became necessary to close the hospital as well. Faced with climbing costs and the inability to secure a government loan for an area nursing home that would have qualified for Medicare, the Church Board decided it could no longer afford to operate the United Presbyterian Center which included Jane Cook Hospital. On December 31, 1967, therefore, Jane Cook Hospital closed its doors. The facilities were leased by the Commonwealth of Kentucky for a period of approximately five years and used as a Boy's Rehabilitation Center by the Kentucky Department of Child Welfare but that contract has also expired and has not been renewed.

(continued)



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Frenchburg School Campus  
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 3

Stylistically, the buildings composing the Frenchburg School Campus reflect the classical renaissance that developed in late nineteenth century American architecture and reached its fruition in the first two decades of the twentieth century. This is seen most clearly in the Classical Revival attributes of the Girl's Dormitory and the Georgian Revival influences of the School Building. Similar qualities are evidenced to a lesser extent in the Teacher's Residence. The addition to the dormitory and the Jane Cook Hospital, both of which were constructed in the 1940s, maintain this classical feeling and therefore blend into the quiet academic setting.

The complex is presently not in use and is for sale. There is an attempt by several members of the community to form a non-profit organization which will hopefully be able to purchase the buildings for community use.

<sup>1</sup>The United Presbyterian Church has sometimes been called the "Northern Church" while the Presbyterian Church in the U.S. has been called "The Southern Church." For further information consult the following: "We, The Presbyterians," Atlanta, Georgia: Joint Committee on Presbyterian Union, Presbyterian Materials Distribution Service, 341 Ponce de Leon Ave., N. E., 1975; and Barrus, Ben M., Baughm, Milton L., and Thomas Campbell. A People Called Cumberland Presbyterians. (Memphis, Tennessee: Frontier Press, 1972).

<sup>2</sup>McAllister, J. Gray. Edward O. Guerrant: Apostle to the Southern Highlanders. (Richmond, Virginia: Richmond Press, Inc., 1950).

<sup>3</sup>Howard Green, "Effort Afoot to Reopen Menifee Hospital Facility," Sunday Herald-Leader (Lexington, Kentucky: March 17, 1968), p. 31.

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Frenchburg School Campus

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

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Green, Howard. "Effort Afoot to Reopen Menifee Hospital Facility," Sunday Herald-Leader (Lexington, Kentucky: March 17, 1968), p. 31.

Guerrant, Edward O. The Galax Gatherers: The Gospel Among the Highlanders. Richmond, Virginia: Onward Press, 1910.

Information secured from Mrs. Robert P. Collier (Lexie E. Collier) by letter dated 30 August 1978.

McAllister, J. Gray. Edward O. Guerrant: Apostle to the Southern Highlanders. Richmond, Virginia: Richmond Press, Inc., 1950.

"We, The Presbyterians," (a promotional filmstrip). Atlanta, Georgia: Joint Committee on Presbyterian Union, Presbyterian Materials Distribution Service.

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Frenchburg School Campus

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 2

300 feet to point C and again turns in a southwesterly direction for approximately 450 feet to point D on the north side of U.S. 460. The boundary follows the north side of U.S. 460 for approximately 400 feet to point E where U.S. 460 meets the service road. Turning northwest, the boundary extends approximately 325 feet to point F before turning northeast along the base of the hillside for approximately 1000 feet to point G. Continuing along the base of the hillside in a southeasterly direction for approximately 600 feet the line returns to the point of origin.

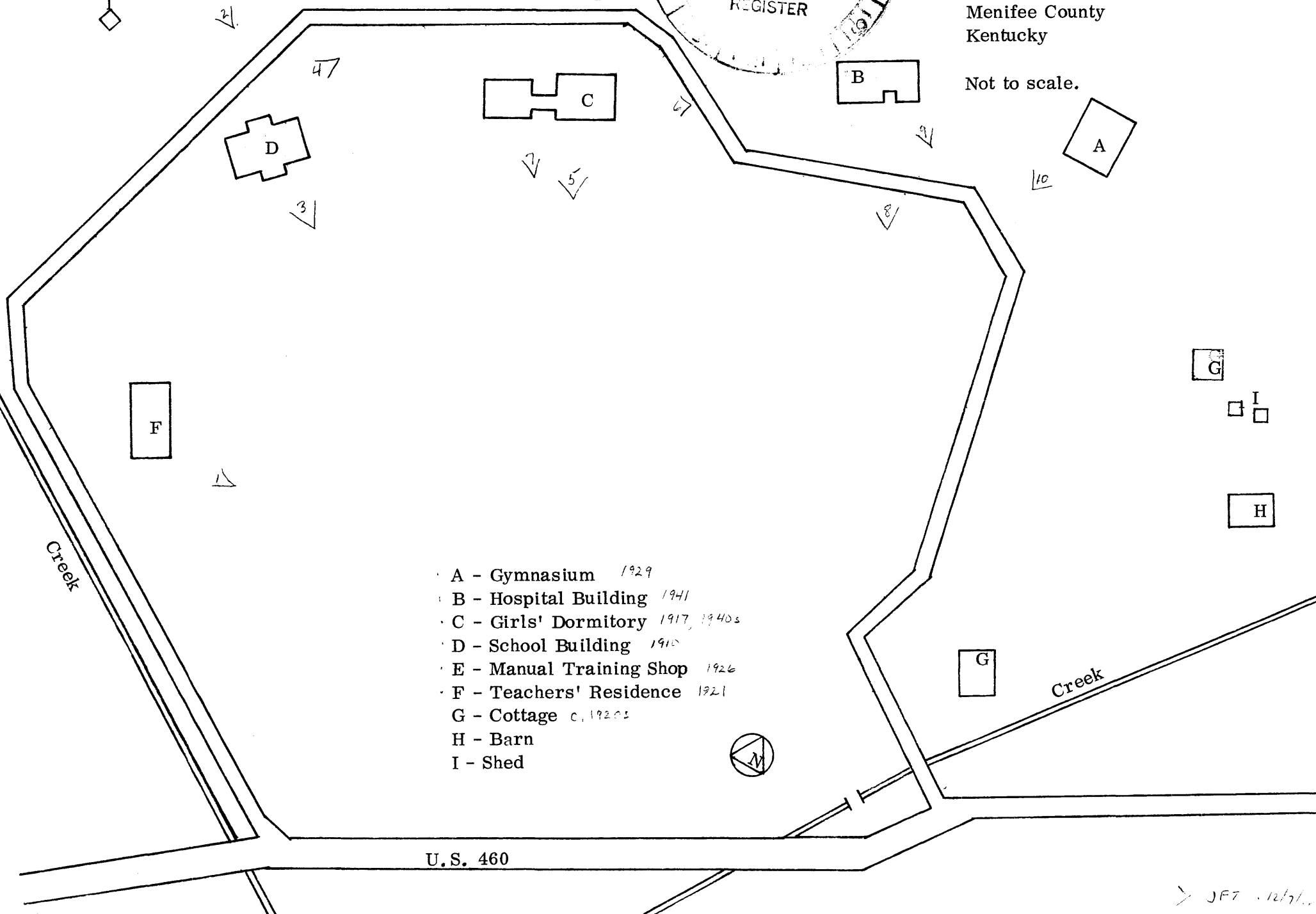
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NATIONAL REGISTER

Frenchburg School Campus  
Frenchburg  
Menifee County  
Kentucky

Not to scale.



- A - Gymnasium 1929
- B - Hospital Building 1941
- C - Girls' Dormitory 1917, 1940s
- D - School Building 1910
- E - Manual Training Shop 1926
- F - Teachers' Residence 1921
- G - Cottage c. 1920s
- H - Barn
- I - Shed

U.S. 460

JF7 12/71

Frenchburg School Campus  
Frenchburg, Menifee County  
Kentucky  
Map 2

Not to scale.

**DEC 22 1978**