

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Kentucky	
COUNTY: Boyle	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	AUG 25 1972

1. NAME

COMMON: **Old Centre**

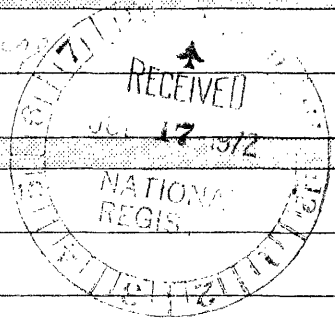
AND/OR HISTORIC: **Old Centre**

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: **Walnut Street, W.**

CITY OR TOWN: **Danville,**

STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **21** COUNTY: **Boyle** CODE: **021**



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<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	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <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: **Centre College**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Walnut Street, W.**

CITY OR TOWN: **Danville,** STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **21**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Boyle County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Main Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Danville,** STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **21**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

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

DATE OF SURVEY: **1970** Federal State County Local

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

STREET AND NUMBER: **401 Wapping Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Frankfort,** STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **21**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: _____
COUNTY: _____
ENTRY NUMBER: _____
DATE: _____
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Centre's Administration Building, Old Centre, is believed to be the oldest college building in the south, west of the Alleghenies, to be in continuous use. Erected in 1819 and restored in 1929, it now houses the offices of the major administrative personnel of the College. The structure as it stands today is rectangular in plan comprised of two additions about the original red bricked two story rectangular edifice.

The original structure built in 1819 was a very simple two story rectangular building of the Georgian style. It was characterized by a large elliptically fan lighted central portal flanked by double hung twelve pane sash. This impressive portal is located on the east front of the building.

The roof of the original building is gabled with its ridge line extending in a north-south direction. The walls are constructed of red brick having been laid in a flemish bond. There are four symetrically spaced chimneys, two at each gable end.

The first addition occurred prior to the Civil War and consists of two story wings added to the north and south ends of the original building. The ends of the wings terminate in hipped roofs. The addition's east facade is in line with the east facade of the original structure; however, its width does not match that of the original structure. The brick is laid in a running bond with a flemish header every fifth course.

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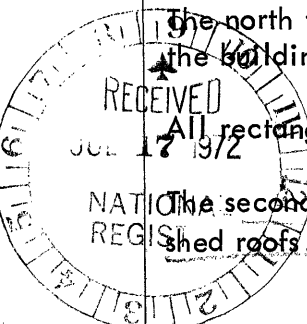
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The north facade of the first addition opens onto a brick walled courtyard which joins the building to a cluster of early structures called the "Quadrangle".

All rectangular masonry openings are spanned by "jack arches".

The second addition occurred in 1930 and consists of one story structures with low pitch shed roofs. This addition occurred on the north and south sides and is flush in line with

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SIGNIFICANCE

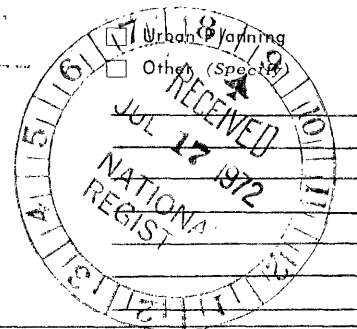
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1819; 1820; 1929

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"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <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 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

The construction of the original building of Centre College has considerable historical significance. It was devised by a Board of Trustees appointed by the Legislature at the time the charter of the College was issued. The list of first trustees is a priceless one, made up as it was of important Kentuckians of the first independent generation. The Chairman was the greatly esteemed Isaac Shelby, the first Governor of the Commonwealth. The Board was composed of John Boyle, Frankfort; William Owsley, Frankfort; Thomas Montgomery, Lincoln County; Samuel McKee, Lancaster; William Craig, Boyle County physician; Thomas Clelland McAfee, Boyle County; Barnabus McHenry, distinguished Methodist minister of Washington County; Samuel Nelson, Danville; Nathan Hall, Springfield; Joshua Fry, Danville; Ephraim McDowell, to this day the most distinguished man who ever lived in Danville; Jeremiah Briscoe, Mercer County; Jeremiah Fisher, Boyle County; Joseph McDowell, Boyle County; and Edward Worthington.

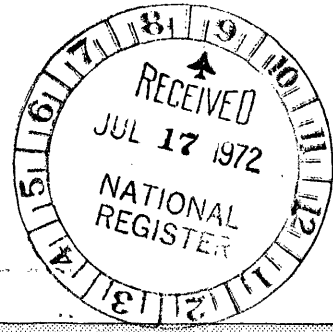
Centre College is fortunate in the possession of the first minute book of the Board of Trustees. It extends from January 21, 1819, to July 1, 1821. Among other things, it throws light on the building of Old Centre. Early in the year 1819, the minute book indicates provision for the appointment of a committee of the Board to arrange for the construction of the building. From an entry made on April 3, 1819, it is clear that a contract had been made by the trustees' committee with Mr. R. D. Crutchfield and Mr. Robert Russell to build the building and that the contract was approved by the Board. On February 15, 1819, the Board appropriated \$10,000 for "the erection of an edifice" for the use of the recently chartered College. The money was to come from the sale of public lands, presumably from the grants made in the eighteenth century by the Virginia Legislature. David Cowan was appointed to collect these payments and was permitted to accept notes of hand in payment. In 1820, the building was accepted by the Board as complete and the Board proceeded to make the building available to the College. This building, of course, has been the central focus of the Centre College campus throughout its history and, as a consequence, all of the Centre alumni who have so well distinguished themselves and brought honor to the College have received all or a part of their education in this building. Among these distinguished graduates have been two Vice-Presidents of the United States, one Chief Justice and one Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, eight United States Senators and forty-two Congressmen, eleven Governors of the states and thirty-one college presidents. In the most recent statistical survey of "Who's Who in America," Centre College ranked first among

(Continued on Continuation Sheet #2)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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 Lewis Collins, Historical Sketches of Kentucky, 1847.
 J. Winston Coleman, Jr., Historic Homes of Kentucky.
 Hardin Craig, Centre College of Kentucky, 1967.



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
NW	° ' "	° ' "		37°	38'	55"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		84°	47'	15"
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **3 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

UTM
 16/6957201
 4168600
 CD

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **John W. Frazer, Assistant to the President**

ORGANIZATION: **Centre College of Kentucky** DATE: **7/6/72**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Walnut Street, W.**

CITY OR TOWN: **Danville** STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **21**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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:

National State Local

Name: *[Signature]*

Title: **State Liaison Officer**

Date: **July 12, 1972**

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

[Signature]
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: *8/25/72*

ATTEST:

[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: _____

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Kentucky	
COUNTY	Boyle	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
AUG 25	1972	

(Number all entries)

7 Description

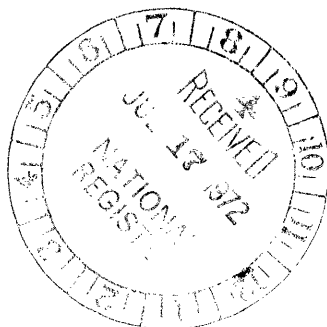
the west facade of the original structure, which completes the rectangular plan of the whole building. The brick bond style is common running bond. The addition is typical of its era, and no attempt was made to articulate the design to compliment the existing building.

The plan is symmetrical about a north-south axis with the central portal opening into a central foyer running in an east-west direction through the entire width of the building. A stair is located at the west end of the foyer and provides the only means of access to the second floor areas.

The original structure has two large spaces on each floor flanking the central foyer on either side. The additions extended this flanking space and are presently partitioned into small offices.

Interior walls are simple, consisting mainly of painted plaster. The woodwork is very simple, done showing no great concern for ornamentation that is sometimes found in the Georgian or Greek Revival periods of architecture in Kentucky.

The ground floors are random width wood planking. The upper level floors are narrow uniform width wood planks.



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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Kentucky	
COUNTY Boyle	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER AUG 25 1972	DATE

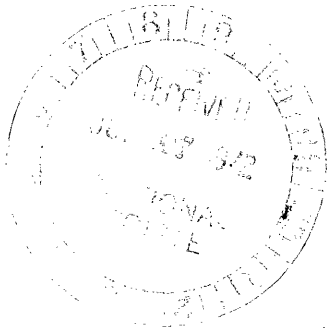
(Number all entries)

8 Statement of Significance

the nation's private co-educational liberal arts colleges in the percentage of its alumni listed.

Not only have the graduates of Centre College distinguished themselves, the College has played a significant role in southern and national higher education. Centre was the first Kentucky college to use the "Carnegie Unit" in admissions and was a leader in developing its use in the South. Centre was one of the founding members of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools and the first Kentucky college to become a member of the College Entrance Examination Board. More recently Centre and Vanderbilt University have taken the lead in developing the Southern Conference of Colleges and Universities, a consortium of nine leading Southern institutions. Centre is one of two Kentucky institutions to shelter a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa and very early participated in the development of Omicron Delta Kappa, a national leadership fraternity for men.

As can readily be seen, from its very inception, this building has had an influence on the lives of many of the most distinguished citizens of this Commonwealth and, in fact, of the United States. It has been a building which is a very vital part of an institution that has been a leader in Southern and national higher education. The building has been in continuous service since the day it was built and continues today as the principal administrative building of Centre College of Kentucky.



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

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	AUG 25 1972

1. NAME

COMMON: **Old Centre**

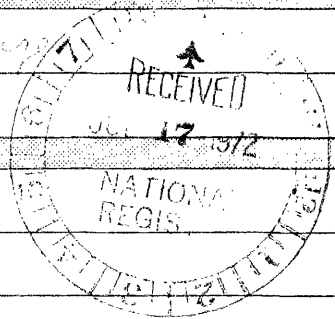
AND/OR HISTORIC: **Old Centre**

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STREET AND NUMBER: **Walnut Street, W.**

CITY OR TOWN: **Danville,**

STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **21** COUNTY: **Boyle** CODE: **021**



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<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	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
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4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: **Centre College**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Walnut Street, W.**

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COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Boyle County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Main Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Danville,** STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **21**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

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

DATE OF SURVEY: **1970** Federal State County Local

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

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CITY OR TOWN: **Frankfort,** STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **21**

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STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
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	(Check One)			(Check One)		
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

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The first addition occurred prior to the Civil War and consists of two story wings added to the north and south ends of the original building. The ends of the wings terminate in hipped roofs. The addition's east facade is in line with the east facade of the original structure; however, its width does not match that of the original structure. The brick is laid in a running bond with a flemish header every fifth course.

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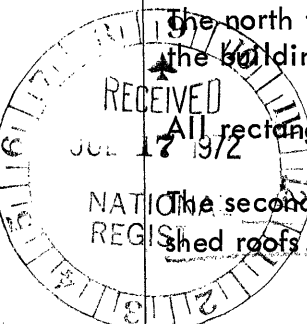
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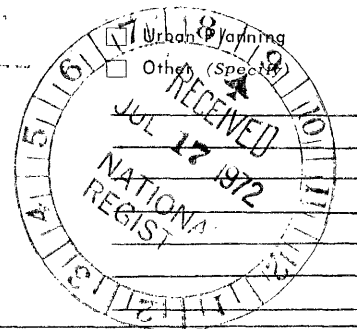
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 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

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- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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NW	° ' "	° ' "		37 ° 38 ' 55 "	84 ° 47 ' 15 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **3 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

UTM
 16/6957201
 4168600
 CD

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **John W. Frazer, Assistant to the President**

ORGANIZATION: **Centre College of Kentucky** DATE: **7/6/72**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Walnut Street, W.**

CITY OR TOWN: **Danville** STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **21**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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National State Local

Name: *J. W. Frazer*

Title: **State Liaison Officer**

Date: **July 12, 1972**

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert K. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: *8/25/72*

ATTEST:

William Stewart
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: _____

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE		Kentucky	
COUNTY		Boyle	
FOR NPS USE ONLY			
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE	
AUG 25 1972			

(Number all entries)

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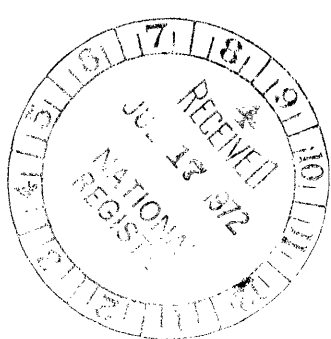
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COUNTY Boyle	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER AUG 25 1972	DATE

(Number all entries)

8 Statement of Significance

the nation's private co-educational liberal arts colleges in the percentage of its alumni listed.

Not only have the graduates of Centre College distinguished themselves, the College has played a significant role in southern and national higher education. Centre was the first Kentucky college to use the "Carnegie Unit" in admissions and was a leader in developing its use in the South. Centre was one of the founding members of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools and the first Kentucky college to become a member of the College Entrance Examination Board. More recently Centre and Vanderbilt University have taken the lead in developing the Southern Conference of Colleges and Universities, a consortium of nine leading Southern institutions. Centre is one of two Kentucky institutions to shelter a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa and very early participated in the development of Omicron Delta Kappa, a national leadership fraternity for men.

As can readily be seen, from its very inception, this building has had an influence on the lives of many of the most distinguished citizens of this Commonwealth and, in fact, of the United States. It has been a building which is a very vital part of an institution that has been a leader in Southern and national higher education. The building has been in continuous service since the day it was built and continues today as the principal administrative building of Centre College of Kentucky.

