

OCT 28 1994

INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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 Morehead State University

other names/site number NA

2. Location

street & number NA not for publication

city or town Morehead vicinity

state Kentucky code KY county Rowan code 205 zip code 40351

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 David L. Morgan, Executive Director/
Signature of certifying official/Title State Historic Pres- 10-21-94 Date
ervation Officer

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

Autonette Allee

11/25/94

Name of Property

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	
9	2	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
9	2	Total

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

N/A York Campus, Morehead State

Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Education/College

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Education/College

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th & 20th Century Revival
Other: Collegiate Gothic

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete
walls Brick Limestone Combination
roof Flat Tin-Tar Combination
other

Narrative Description

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

See Continuation Sheets, Section 7, pages 1-10 and Section 8, pages 1-3

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.

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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Education

Architecture

Period of Significance

1926-1936

Significant Dates

NA

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

Appalachian

Architect/Builder

Joseph & Joseph Architects

Louisville, Kentucky

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Morehead State University Library
University of Kentucky Library

Morehead State University
Name of Property

Rowan County, Kentucky
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 12 approximately twelve

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 | 17 | 286950 | 4229315 |
Zone Easting Northing
2 | 17 | 286720 | 4228900 |

3 | 17 | 286650 | 4229145 |
Zone Easting Northing
4 | | | | |

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

See Continuation Sheet, Section 10, page 1

Boundary Justification See Continuation Sheet, Section 10, page 2

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jill Jayne-Read, Special Assistant to the President

organization Morehead State University date August 1, 1994

street & number University Boulevard, HM 101 telephone 606/783-2206

city or town Morehead state KY zip code 40351

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 Morehead State University

street & number University Boulevard, HM 101 telephone 606/783-2022

city or town Morehead state KY zip code 40351

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.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Morehead State University Historic District

This proposed district is defined by placement of the nine buildings in a "crescent moon" configuration running east to west on University Boulevard along the foot of a heavily wooded mountain (now Daniel Boone National Forest) overlooking the City of Morehead (Rowan County) in the Northeastern section of Kentucky, to the South in a valley created by Triplett Creek. The nine contributing structures that define the proposed historic district were built simultaneously and completed during the decade of 1926 to 1936. Today, the district is bordered by Battson Avenue on the West, Ward Oates Drive on the North curving to the Southeast corner of University Boulevard which spans the front of the district to the Southern side. A cohesive arrangement of Collegiate Gothic style buildings were arranged facing University Boulevard and the City of Morehead to form a crescent moon on the campus landscape symbolic of "enlightenment through education". In the original campus design (and in the proposed historic district), Radar Hall (the original Administration Building) was located at the Center of the crescent. Wide expanses of green space frame the majesty of the perfectly scaled buildings against the mountain behind them. Originally, the Olmstead Brothers located a grassy mini-park across University Boulevard to the front of the buildings in the shape of a parallelogram in the internal curve of the crescent. The observer could stand in the center of the park and view all the buildings above by turning his/her head from side to side. In the 1960's, land in the mini-park was used to accommodate a new Administration Building and Art Department.

In 1924, the Olmstead Brothers landscape design firm of Brookline, Mass. were employed to survey the properties of the newly reorganized college and normal school and to provide recommendations for buildings, approaches, sewer lines, conduits, walks and beautifying the grounds. Joseph & Joseph, Architects of Louisville, Kentucky were employed to design the buildings and to oversee the construction. A cohesive arrangement of nine buildings in the Collegiate Gothic style were designed for construction within a ten year period. All the buildings are constructed of brick with limestone appointments. Today the original buildings in the proposed district are the "crown" of a sprawling campus that experienced massive development to the Northeast during the 1960's. There has been change to the exterior of all the buildings. That change will be described in the inventory entries to follow. Current condition of all buildings in the nominated district is excellent and more renovation is planned for Breckinridge Training School to begin in 1995-96. A visual canvas of the proposed district from the Boulevard gives the onlooker the feeling of the original campus.

Inventory list of original buildings and their functions (see accompanying map for building site markers):

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| contributing: | Map Building 1. Presidents Home - 1936 (residence) |
| | Map Building 2. Senff Natatorium - 1932 (swimming pool) |
| | Map Building 3. Button Auditorium - 1928 (auditorium and gymnasium) |
| | Map Building 4. Fields Hall - 1926 (dormitory) |
| | Map Building 5. Camden-Carroll Library - 1931 |
| | Map Building 6. Allie Young Hall - 1926 (dormitory, cafeteria and infirmary) |
| | Map Building 7. Radar Hall - 1926 (administration and classroom) |
| | Map Building 8. Thompson Hall - 1927 (dormitory) |
| | Map Building 9. Breckenridge Training School - 1931 (classroom) |
| non-contributing: | Building (8): Upward Bound: A post-WWII, wood frame, aluminum-clad structure scheduled for demolition in 1994 |
| | Building (15): Lyman Ginger Hall: A post-WWII brick-clad structure |

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The President's Home (1936)

Architectural Style: Late 19th and 20th Century Revival
Other: Collegiate Gothic

Foundation: Concrete

Walls: Brick-Limestone Combination

Roof: Flat Tin-Tar Combination

Map Building 1.

The President's Home, which has never been officially named for anyone, stands at the corner of University Boulevard and Battson Avenue on a terraced lawn at the Southwest corner of the campus. Construction began in 1928 under the guidance of Joseph & Joseph Architects and Engineers with associate Walter C. Wagner, all of whom were from Louisville, Kentucky.

This elegant three-story brick home has served University presidents and their families since Harvey Babb (President 1935-40) moved into the home when it was completed in 1936. Since the Babb administration, eight Presidents have resided in the home: William A. Vaughan (1940-46), William Jesse Baird (1946-51), Charles Spain (1951-54), Adron Doran (1954-77), Morris Norfleet (1977-84), Herb Reinhard (1984-87), C. Nelson Grote (1987-93), and Ronald Eaglin (1993-).

Surprisingly the home has remained much like it was when it was first built. There has been very little renovation with only minor changes to the exterior of the home. Inside, the large living room/parlor measures the length of the East side of the main floor of the house. It contains an Eastern Kentucky hardwood (Morehead calls itself "The Hardwood Capital of America"), fireplace mantel which has a hand carved American bald eagle medallion in the center - the official mascot of the school . This room opens out to a colonaded porch spanning the East side of the dwelling.

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Senff Natatorium (1932)

Architectural Style: Late 19th and 20th Century
Other: Collegiate Gothic

Foundation: Concrete
Walls: Brick-Limestone Combination
Roof: Tin-Glass Combination
Map: Building #2

Named for State Senator Earl C. Senff of nearby Mr. Sterling, who was the first Secretary of the Board of Regents of the College, Senff Natatorium is a single story red brick structure located on the Western end of the proposed historic district behind Button Auditorium.

This structure housed the first campus swimming pool, built in 1932. The main entrance to the structure is located on the West side. On the parapet on the South side two tile mosaic bathing girls in blue swim suits frame the statement, "This swimming pool is dedicated to the ideal of a clean and vigorous youth". It is unlikely than any student who came to the college at the time the building was constructed had ever seen an outdoor swimming pool, much less an indoor one. The main floor interior floor and pool are completely crafted from small royal blue and bright yellow tiles, the school colors. One third of the basement area houses a small mechanical space underneath the pool on the Southwest side of the building.

The Natatorium was closed to the public in 1988 when major plumbing pipes under the pool were damaged during an extended winter freeze. The building is unchanged from its original structure, and is in sound condition with no damage to the exterior or the main floor.

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Section number 7 Page 4

Button Auditorium (1928)

Architectural Style: Late 19th and 20th Century Revival

Other: Collegiate Gothic

Foundation: Concrete

Walls: Brick-Limestone Combination

Roof: Flat Tin-Tar Combination

Map: Building #3

Button Auditorium, built in 1928, is named for Frank C. Button who served as first President of the College from 1923-30. Construction began in 1927 under the guidance of Joseph & Joseph Architects and Engineers and Associate Walter C. Wagner.

The building is located behind the President's Home on the Northern side of University Blvd. Inside, the auditorium was designed to serve as the center of the school's activities. Games took place in the heated 8,000 sq. ft. gym. Theatrical performances were presented in the 1500 seat auditorium, along with all commencement exercises and convocations.

Over the years Button Auditorium has seen many changes, mostly minor. However, in 1968 major renovation was begun. The exterior was left intact, and the building still has a high degree of integrity of design and materials. The gymnasium and the auditorium were redesigned to house the Military Science Department. Today, the auditorium seats 1,367 people and the gymnasium is now 8,900 sq.ft. and has become a drill room.

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Fields Hall (1926)

Architectural Style: Late 19th and 20th Century Revival

Other: Collegiate Gothic

Foundation: Concrete

Walls: Brick-Limestone Combination

Roof: Flat Tin-Tar Combination

Map: Building #4

One of the three original buildings built after the Morehead Normal became a state school (1922-23), Fields Hall is named in honor of Mrs. William Jason Fields, wife of the Governor who was born and raised 20 miles east of Morehead and was serving as Governor of Kentucky at the time the first Board of Regents was appointed. She was the first woman to serve on the Board of Regents (1924-28).

Also designed by Joseph & Joseph Architects, this four-story brick and limestone structure was built in 1926 and located on the West end of campus next to Button Auditorium on the North side of University Boulevard. Fields Hall was originally a female dormitory with a capacity for 160 students. The building also housed a 20 bed infirmary and treatment center for the University.

Fields Hall was renovated and reopened in October 1990. The exterior was left intact, and the building still has a high degree of integrity of design and materials. That work was completed by W.M.B., Inc. of Lexington, Kentucky, at a cost of \$2,176,140 funded by University bonds. The building has 41,281 square feet with four floors and one elevator. It's current use is as a coed dormitory for honor students (present capacity 252 students).

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Camden-Carroll Library (1931)

Architectural Style: Late 19th and 20th Century Revival
Other: Collegiate Gothic

Foundation: Concrete
Walls: Brick-limestone Combination
Roof: Flat Tin-Tar Combination
Map: Building #5

Named for both Johnson Camden, a former United States Senator and Julian Carroll, a former Governor of Kentucky, Camden-Carroll Library is a three-story brick stone structure built in 1929 and located near the center of campus to the North of University Boulevard. As with all the others nominated, it was designed by Joseph & Joseph Architects. When the building opened on January 22, 1931, it had 15,225 books with a book budget of \$1,250,000. At the time, it was considered one of the finest libraries in the South. The interior of the library is a combination of plaster, stone, brick and marble with a central staircase with elaborate cast iron banisters.

In 1964, construction began on a addition and again the architects were Joseph & Joseph . The new addition, completed in 1965, doubled the existing floor space of the library which allowed the inclusion of 245,000 books and a new book budget of \$263,000 per academic year. In December of 1978 another addition was begun by Louis Ryan Hugg, Jr., Architect. This post-modern style tower increased the library space to 112,457 gross square feet. The impact of the new tower is like adding a new building. It does not interfere with the original design of the Library.

Today the library has three main floors and a tower with five floors. It holds over 432,000 volumes with an annual book budget of \$405,927. Staffed by 43 full time employees, three graduate assistants, and 78 student assistants, it subscribes to over 2,000 professional journals, magazines and daily and weekly newspapers. In addition, the library owns over 178,000 recordings, films, filmstrips, tapes, videos, compact disks, and computer programs as well as over 669,000 volumes of microfilm and microfiche. The library also offers three computer centers for student use. In the Special Collections Department, the James Still Room contains all the contemporary Eastern Kentucky author's original manuscripts. The Jesse Stuart Collection contains many publications and artifacts from the Pulitzer Prize winning Greenup County, Kentucky author. The Roger W. Barbour Collection contains the life's work of the eminent botanist and his personal geneology collection. This section of the library also houses the Kentucky-Appalachian collection which contains works by regional authors as well as works on Kentucky and Appalachia.

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Allie Young Hall (1926)

Architectural Style: Late 19th and 20th Century Revival
Other: Collegiate Gothic

Foundation: Concrete

Walls: Brick-Limestone Combination

Roof: Flat Tin-Tar Combination

Map: Building #6

This structure, named for Allie W. Young State Senator (1924-36), the moving political force behind the decision in the Kentucky General Assembly for the establishment of the College in the community of Morehead; member of the Board of Regents (1924-35); and Judge. Architect for the project was Joseph & Joseph, Alfred S. Joseph, Sr., Principal.

This four-story structure is located on the North of University Boulevard. Originally built as a female dormitory and cafeteria in 1926, the structure contained brick, cement, and plaster as well as wood and stone window and door frames. At one time the Art Department, Office of School Relations (including the Trail Blazer newspaper) occupied the basement.

In 1976, a renovation project was undertaken to remodel the interior of the structure costing \$1.6 million with Don Tucker as contractor. At this time, the interior was remodeled to house the Caudill Health Clinic, Research and Development, and administrative support offices. The exterior of the structure remains was left intact, and the building still has a high degree of integrity of design and materials.

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Rader Hall (1926)

Architectural Style: Original Structure - Late 19th and 20 Century Revival
Other: Collegiate Gothic

Foundation: Concrete
Walls: Brick Limestone Combination
Roof: Flat Tin-Tar Combination
Map: Building #7

The Education-Social Studies Building was the first building to be constructed on the campus. Later named Rader Hall, for Clifford Rader a respected professor of the University, the three story red brick structure is located to the Northeast of University Boulevard in the Center of the "Crescent Moon" configuration planned by the Olmstead Brothers landscape architecture firm of Boston, Mass.

Built in 1926 and originally named the "Administrative Building", it housed the primary departments of the institution except music, art, and physical education. Designed by Joseph & Joseph, the original structure has a rectangular shape. The 39,630 square feet building included one basement level and two upper floors. The basement consisted mainly of laboratories and small research facilities. The first floor contained the school's administrative offices and eleven of its classrooms. The second floor accommodated eight classrooms, one demonstration room, and a small library. The interior composition of the building contains stone and wood window and door frames while the walls and floors are plaster, cement and marble.

In 1963, the Howell-McDowell Administrative building was completed across the street, and the primary function of Rader Hall was moved. Rader Hall continued to serve as an classroom structure. In 1971, a renovation project was begun by L.E. Gregg & Associates from Lexington, Ky. The architect was Lee Potter Smith and the Engineers were Pritchett, Hugg and Carter. The front exterior wall of the old original building was covered by the addition of the facade that appears today. Now, Rader Hall serves as the home of the Caudill College of Humanities; including the departments of Government, Geography, History and Sociology and a few administrative support offices. Present value of Rader Hall is estimated at \$4,987,787.

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Thompson Hall (1927)

Architectural Style: Late 19th and 20th Century Revival
Other: Collegiate Gothic

Foundation: Concrete

Walls: Brick-Limestone Combination

Roof: Flat Tin-Tar Combination

Map: Building #8

Thompson Hall was named for J.H. Thompson of Bourbon County, Kentucky, who served as Speaker of the House of Representatives at the time the law was passed which authorized the establishment of the Morehead Normal School becoming a state institution.

Built originally as an 82 room women's residence hall, the building was first occupied in 1927 when it housed 164 girls. By the early 1930's Thompson Hall opened as a men's dormitory housing primarily athletes. This three-story red brick structure is located is near the center of campus on the Northeast side of University Boulevard. It was designed in 1926 by Joseph & Joseph Architects, and by 1927 the construction was begun.

The building was renovated in 1991 at a cost of approximately \$3,000,000. The building program involved exterior tuck pointing of bricks and mouldings as well as replacement of the roof, door and window trimmings. This renovation was conducted by Dow, Inc. of Lexington, Kentucky. Today, Thompson Hall embodies the same architectural style of 1926 when it was first designed by Joseph & Joseph. While there has been some small replacement of materials, the building retains its integrity of design.

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Breckenridge Hall (1931)

Architectural Style: Late 19th and 20 Century Revival
Other: Collegiate Gothic

Foundation: Concrete

Walls: Brick-Limestone Combination

Roof: Flat Tin-Tar Combination

Map: Building 9

Breckenridge Hall, named for Robert J. Breckinridge, the 6th State Superintendent of Public Instruction, is a three-story red brick structure located on the Eastern end of the proposed district, on the North side of University Boulevard. It was designed in 1929 by Joseph & Joseph Architects of Louisville, Kentucky and by late 1931 the construction was begun.

By the early 1930's Breckinridge Hall opened as the new training developed as a "state of the art" teaching laboratory housing twelve grades including kindergarten and a three-hundred seat auditorium. The contract was given to Key-Langston Construction of Murray, Kentucky at the price of \$166,525 including walks to the building and water proofing. The completed contract was \$201,938 not including hardware. The Ceremony for placing the cornerstone occurred on April 21, 1930, with full Masonic honors at the request of Professor Warren Lappin.

From that point on the structure remained untouched until 1966 when an addition to the back of the building was made. This addition was completed by McLoney & Tune Architects and approved by President Adron Doran in 1965. The Laboratory school was closed June 1982, but the building remains a vital part of the University, serving the Speech/Communication Department. In 1992, the building was appraised at \$3,393,400. Renovation of Breckinridge Training School is scheduled to begin in 1995-96. Plans are for it to house a modern Distance Learning Center to serve to educate the people of Eastern Kentucky. The exterior was left intact, with the exception of an addition to the rear. It still has a high degree of integrity of design and materials.

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Statement of Significance

Morehead State University Historic District meets National Register eligibility criteria A and C. With a primary mission of preparing students to become teachers in the Eastern Kentucky section of the Appalachian mountains, the University enjoys a reputation as one of the finest teacher training institutions in the Nation. Geographically located in one of the most disadvantaged regions of the United States, it is the only college in the region that has served to provide higher education by nurturing a lineage of teachers, now in their fourth generation of service to this geographical region, to thousands of children who otherwise could not have obtained an education. Since 1923, when there were 8 faculty members and 73 students, the success of the institution in reaching its goals has been reflected by four generations of students who have returned to their homes in Eastern Kentucky to become leaders in local education development. This educational legacy continues in 1994 with the majority of the students still coming from public schools in Eastern Kentucky where their teachers are MSU graduates, as were their teachers before them. The effectiveness of the school in coping with local social problems such as widespread illiteracy, ill prepared public school teachers, and inadequate educational opportunities, is obvious today as the surrounding town flourishes under the wing of the institution with cultural activities and a prosperous (by regional standards), peaceful community. Public schools in the mountainous, geographically inaccessible region benefitted from the educational opportunities afforded by the college as they have evolved from primarily one-room schools providing schooling only through the eighth grade to full fledged K-12 consolidated schools.

The period of significance selected for this National Register District nomination encompasses the years 1926-36, the time when the first nine buildings of the existing campus were built, and the time when the transition from the school's serving primarily as a normal school (primarily high school curriculum) to becoming a full-fledged higher education institution offering college degrees to its graduates.

In 1887, this small, church affiliated, provincial normal school was located in an impoverished, feud-ridden, relatively isolated, agrarian community of Eastern Kentucky. Founded as The Morehead Christian School by Dr. F.C. Button and his mother, Phebe, in October of 1887, with only one student it

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was operated by the Kentucky Christian Missionary Society to stabilize the county after the Rowan County War (1883-87). For a brief period, Button enjoyed a close association with the Rockefeller Foundation, which he hoped to enlist in support of an innovative teacher training program which would establish existing schools in Rowan County as teacher training centers. The result of a disagreement over the relationship of the individual schools to the Rockefeller Foundation resulted in Button's compromise of taking the Gearhart Pond School in West Morehead and making the one-room school serve grades 1-8, establishing the laboratory school that preceded the development of Breckinridge. The school would later be run by the United Christian Missionary Society of St. Louis, Mo. after Pheobe Button's death. During these early years the stabilizing force that the school provided opened the educational door to the region's female youth. In 1921, due to the largesse of General William T. Withers of Lexington and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hodson of Oquawka, Ill and Hon. T.F. Hargis of Louisville, the campus had grown to encompass 75 acres and four frame buildings, none of which are standing today. However, by 1922, the women's school had declined in enrollment which ultimately caused the school to close the same year after only graduating three women.

In 1922, a State commission recommended that two normal schools be established, one in eastern Kentucky and one in western Kentucky. In March, Governor Edwin Morrow appointed a committee to locate possible sites for the new schools. The committee recommended Morehead, a town of 1500 population and Murray, Ky. In September 1923, Morehead State Normal school registered its first students with the mission of training white elementary school teachers. Frank Button, one of the original founders of the Morehead Normal School, became the first president with eight faculty members and seventy three students. During Button's administration, five buildings were built (Radar Hall - 1926, Allie Young Hall - 1926, Thompson Hall - 1927, Button Auditorium - 1929, and Fields Hall - 1927), the primary core of the proposed historical district. In 1930, Morehead State Teachers College awarded eleven degrees. During the 1950's Morehead became one of the first institutions in the South to fully integrate the races and was the first state supported college or university in Kentucky to have integrated dormitories. Enrollment grew from 600 to 4800, and faculty numbered 160. In the 1960's the school was named Morehead State University as a result of the creation of a contemporary university system created by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

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The Collegiate Gothic Revival architectural style employed by Joseph and Joseph, Architects, of Louisville, Kentucky was carried throughout all the buildings selected for the proposed National Register Historic District. Alfred S. Joseph (d. 1970), the Principal in the firm served as the Project Director. During the same time period, Alfred S. Joseph also designed and supervised the construction of Atherton High School in Louisville in the same style and materials. In a region of Kentucky that has a paucity of elegance in formal architectural style, this uncommon attention to the details of building, landscape design and planning symbolized the importance of quality in aesthetic design as an important component of a complete education. It is clear that President Button and the first Board of Regents of the school recognized that students from this geographically isolated mountain area of Eastern Kentucky might never be exposed to architecture designed to encourage scholarly pursuit unless Morehead State gave it to them.

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Bibliography

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Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the proposed Morehead State University Historic District is illustrated by the dotted line on the accompanying map entitled "Morehead State University - June 1994". The nominated property is located on a twelve acre site and is bounded by the following: University Boulevard to the South, Battson Avenue to the West, Ward Oates Drive curving to the North and East.

In 1926, the campus included 75 acres of land provided by an agreement with the United Christian Missionary Society of St. Louis, Missouri who deeded it to the State of Kentucky in 1922 for use as a normal school. The nominated property falls within that original 75 acre tract.

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Verbal Boundary Justification

The boundaries chosen for the Morehead State University Historic District are based on the original plans historically associated with those buildings constructed on this site during the years 1926 - 1936. All share a common historic development, use, and function. Buildings in close proximity to the proposed district fall into two categories: academic and student residential (all buildings North of University Boulevard), institutional and private residential (all buildings South of University Boulevard), all of which were built after 1936.

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Photographs

This information is the same for photographs #1-#4:

1. Name of property: Morehead State University Historic District
2. Location: Rowan County, Kentucky
3. Photographer: Jill Jayne-Read
4. Date of Photographs: July 1994
5. Location of original negatives: President's Office, Morehead State University

This information relates to each individual photograph :

Photograph #1: Name of Property: The President's Home (Map: Building #1)

Photograph #2: Name of Property: Button Auditorium (Map: Building #3)

Photograph #3: Fields Hall (Map: Building #4)

Photograph #4: Camden-Carroll Library (Map: Building #5)

This information relates to photograph #5 only:

1. Name of Location: Morehead State University Historic District
2. Location: Rowan County, Kentucky
3. Photographer: Unknown (Photograph copied from 1929 yearbook)
4. Date of photograph: Circa 1929
5. Location of original negative: Photographic Services Office, Morehead State University
6. Photograph #5: View of City of Morehead from Clack Mountain looking to the North

This information relates to photograph #6 only:

1. Name of Location: Morehead State University Historic District
2. Location: Rowan County, Kentucky
3. Photographer: Eric Shindelbower
4. Date of photograph: Winter 1993-94
5. Location of original negative: Photographic Services Office, Morehead State University
6. Photograph #6: Rader Hall (Map: Building #7)

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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 94001381 Date Listed: 11/26/94

Morehead State University
Property Name

Rowan County KY State

N/A
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.

for Submittal d'Bea
Signature of the Keeper

11/26/94
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Statement of significance: Under Cultural Affiliation, "Appalachian" is removed.

This information was confirmed with Marty Perry of the Kentucky State Historic Preservation Office.

DISTRIBUTION:
National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)