CITY, TOWN

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JAN

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STATE

DATE ENTERED

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SEE	INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TYPE ALL ENTRIES			S
NAME	THE MEETINGS	JOHN EETE MITERO	IDEE GEGITAING	
HISTORIC Augu	sta College Historic Bui	ldings		
AND/OR COMMON				
LOCATIO	N	1		
	0.	rd		
STREET & NUMBER	205 Frankfort Street, 20	4 Bracken Street	NOT FOR PUBLICATION	
CITY, TOWN	Augusta	77-11-2-2-3	CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	RICT
CTATE	Kentucky	O29DE	COLLATIV	023 CODE
		3,7-71	Diacken	020
CLASSIFI	CATION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENT USE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	_OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
X.BUILDING(S) 2	X_PRIVATE	_UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	_PARK
STRUCTURE	вотн	_WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDEN
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION		ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	_IN PROCESS	X_YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
X thematic	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	_INDUSTRIAL	_TRANSPORTATION
		NO	MILITARY	_OTHER:
OWNER C Harold NAME Mac Wa	F PROPERTY Bradford			
STREET & NUMBER	503 E. 5th Street	-		
	307 Bracken Street			
CITY. TOWN	gusta	VICINITY OF	STATE Kentucky	
	N OF LEGAL DESC			
COURTHOUSE.				
REGISTRY OF DEED	s, etc. Bracken County	Courthouse		
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REPRESE	NTATION IN EXIST	TING SURVEYS		
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DATE		FFDFF		
DEPOSITORY FOR		FEDERAL	_STATE _COUNTY _LOCAL	
SURVEY RECORDS				



EXCELLENT

XGOOD

FAIR

CONDITION

_DETERIORATED RUINS

CHECK ONE UNALTERED

X_ALTERED

CHECK ONE

X ORIGINAL SITE

MOVED

UNEXPOSED

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Augusta Kentucky is located on the Ohio River in Bracken County in the northeastern part of the state. Augusta College was situated on Frankfort and Bracken Streets between Second and Third Streets, near the river. Echo Hall and West Hall, two of the college dormatories built around 1825, are the only remaining buildings directly associated with the school.

Echo Hall, on Frankfort Street, is a brick structure with a stone foundation. It is composed of a gabled, two-story, three-bay, central block and two, one-story, three-bay side wings. 1 The exterior trim is simple with Flemish bond brickwork and jack arches over the openings. The main entrance has a transom but no sidelights. A fan-shaped opening decorates the tympanum of the gable. A box cornice with returns beneath decorates the side wings.

West Hall, which faces Bracken Street, is also of brick construction. It is a two-story, five-bay structure with a rough cut stone foundation and a twentieth century portico. The brickwork is Flemish bond on the facade and Common bond on the sides. Jack arches top the window openings and a transom covers the main door. The north end of the central-hall, double-pile structure is divided into two separate rooms with two separate chimneys. The south end of the house is one room deep and served by one chimney at the roof cresting. A recent one-story frame shed addition was built on the rear.

No original interior woodwork remains in either of these structures.

The nominated properties consists of the building and lot on which they sit.

¹ The rear, end chimney in the main block was truncated; and a twostory, shed-style brick addition put on the back. A one-story frame shed addition was attached to the north wing of the structure.

PERIOD AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW _COMMUNITY PLANNING _PREHISTORIC ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC _LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE **X**RELIGION _LAW _1400-1499 _ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC __CONSERVATION SCIENCE _1500-1599 AGRICULTURE ECONOMICS _LITERATURE SCULPTURE __1600-1699 _ARCHITECTURE X_EDUCATION _MILITARY SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN _1700-1799 ART ENGINEERING _MUSIC THEATER X_1800-1899 _EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT _TRANSPORTATION _COMMERCE __PHILOSOPHY _1900-_COMMUNICATIONS _INDUSTRY _POLITICS/GOVERNMENT OTHER (SPECIFY) _INVENTION

SPECIFIC DATES

1820s

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Constructed in the 1820s, the Augusta College Buildings at Augusta, Kentucky, are significant in being associated with one of the first Methodist colleges in the United States. Because two previously organized Methodist schools were in operation less than ten years, Augusta is considered to be the first established Methodist college in the United States. Augusta College also functioned as the only formal academic institution for the residents of Bracken and the surrounding counties for the first half of the nineteenth century. It was the only institution of higher learning in this part of the state. \(\begin{align*} \text{Torong the state} \).

The establishment of an educational system in Kentucky can be said to have had its beginnings with an act passed in 1798. This act granted 6,000 acres of land for the founding of "seminaries." This system of funding lasted until about 1821. Of the 100 counties organized before 1850, 81 had one or more academies. The state constitutions of 1792 and 1799 made no provisions for public education. Although the first legislative act for true public education passed in 1870, taxes were not levied for the establishment of schools until 1904.

No study of education and methodism can be initiated without mention of John Wesley, an outstanding 18th century English educator. His greatest achievement was to arouse interest throughout England in making educational opportunities available to all people. Most of the early Methodists who came to America brought Wesley's convictions about education with them. Cokesbury College, established in Maryland in 1787, was destroyed by fire in 1795, and Bethel Academy, the first Methodist institution in Kentucky, established in 1792, closed for lack of funds in 1803.

In 1820 the Kentucky Conference of Methodists came into being with a total of 16,000 active church members throughout the state. The establishment of schools was a priority for the new conference. A committee was sent to Augusta to affect an agreement with the trustees of Bracken Academy (established in 1798). A merger took place and on December 7, 1822, Augusta College was chartered by the Kentucky Legislature. Martin Ruter of Massachusetts was known as "the forerunner of the modern Methodist educational program" and its acknowledged leader during the first third of the nineteenth century. He became Augusta's president in 1828, following the death of Reverend John P. Findley.

MAJOR BIBLIOG				
Arnold, W. E.	A History of Metho	dism in Kentuck	y . Vol. II. Lou	isville: Herald
Press, 1936.	no Reginnings of Ar	nerican Method	ism. New York:	Abingdon Press, 1961.
McVey, Frank L.	The Gates Open Slo	wlv. Lexington	: University of Ke	ntucky Press, 1949.
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west by Frankfort				oy 60 1000 H 4 1000 H 1000
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o in it	10000	302.3.1		
STATE	CODE	COUNTY		CODE
NAME/TITLE Jayne C.	. Henderson/Histor	ian	July	1979
ORGANIZATION		4 5.01	DATE	1714
STREET & NUMBER	Heritage Commiss	ion	502/564-1 TELEPHO	
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Form No. 10-300a (Hev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

PER 2 D 1980

Augusta College Historic Buildings

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 2

Due to the backing of the Methodist church and Augusta's location, the school acquired many exceptional faculty members and soon-to-become well-known scholars. Among the more prominent were Henry Bascom and John P. Durbin. Bascom was a widely reputed Methodist preacher, later a bishop of the church, Chaplain of the U.S. House of Representatives, and President of Transylvania College. Durbin, writer and traveler, later became President of Dickenson College in Pennsylvania, and Chaplain of the U.S. Senate. Numbered among Augusta's alumni were the following: Dr. Randolph Sinks Foster, who became President of Northwestern University, later pastor of St. Pauls' Church in New York City, and second President of Drew Theological Seminary. Dr. John Gregg Fee, founder of Berea College in Madison County, Kentucky, also attended Augusta.

The college's greatest source of investment income came from the <u>Augusta Herald</u>, a newspaper established by the school in 1825, and from the ferry rights in Augusta. Although all the revenue from the paper and the ferry went directly to the support of the college, it was not sufficient. Augusta was in dire financial straits from its inception. The panic of 1837 saw the wreck of many fortunes and institutions. Never adequately endowed, the school nevertheless set their fees at their lowest level to enable the poorer students to attend. Consequently, the college's resources were strained and salaries were reduced.²

By 1841 two crises culminated in a situation that would eventually result in the closing of the college. The problems involved the severe lack of funds and the controversy over slavery. With the Ohio River serving as somewhat the line between opposing factions, Augusta's location placed the school in the middle of the conflict. So acute was the problem that patronage to the school was affected and many professors went unpaid.

In 1842 the Kentucky Conference of Methodists withdrew their support of Augusta College in favor of controlling influence in Transylvania College in Lexington. Augusta was officially open under the control of the Chio Conference until around 1849. At that time the ferry rights were sold and the Legislature repealed the school's charter.

¹In the 18th and early 19th centuries, there was no formal division between secondary schools and higher educational institutions. Augusta College, therefore, functioned partially as what we term an "academy."

 2 During the ten years that Bascom served the college he was promised an annual salary ranging from \$700 to \$1,000. In actuality he never received one half that amount in cash. In 1839, the Kentucky Conference appointed a committee of seven to consider the problem.

Property augusta College Historia Buildings	88410008
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TECHNICAL Photos Maps	CONTROL
	HISTORIAN
buildings - brick vernacular Federal style smicrises—built in ARCHITI 620's for hist Hethodist college in the U.S., which was also aly institution of higher ed. in this part of ky. for many yous. naneth College's early presidents included leading gures in 19th century education.	ECTURAL HISTORIAN Accept O'Connell 2/20/80
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	BRANCH CHIEF
	KEEPER
National Register Write-up Send-back Federal Register Entry 2-3-81 Re-submit	Entered FEB 2 0 198

















Kentucky Heritage Commission 101 Bridge Street Frankfort, Kentucky 10601

December 20, 1979

Mrs. Carol Schull, Acting Keeper National Register of Historic Places Heritage Conservation & Recreation Service United States Department of the Interior 440 G. Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20243

Dear Mrs. Schull:

The following nominations to the National Register of Historic Places were approved at the State level by the Kentucky Historic Preservation Review Board on the dates indicated. As State Historic Preservation Officer, I recommend they be entered on the National Register. Additional comments on the status of the sites may be attached to the appropriate forms.

Name and Location of Site(s)	Date Approved at State level
U. S. Army Fort Thomas Mess Hall, Campbell County, Ky.	12/12/79
Ripy T. B., House, Anderson County, Kentucky	12/12/79
First National Bank Building, Fayette County, Kentucky	12/12/79
Louisville and Nashville Railroad Depot, Harlan County, Kentucky	12/12/79
Salter, Michael, House, Garrard County, Kentucky	12/12/79
Odd Fellows Temple, Fayette County, Kentucky	12/12/79
Augusta College Historic Buildings, Bracken County, Kentucky	12/12/79

Your carly consideration of these nominations will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Eldred W. Melton

Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Ficer

Enclosures (see List of Attachments)

RECEIVED

UAN 4 1980

R-GISTER

December 20, 1979 Mrs. Carol Schull, Acting Keeper Page 2 Augusta College Historic Buildings Bracken County, Kentucky

List of Attachments

- 1 National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form
- 1 Continuation Sheet
- 1 Map
- 7 Photographs



AUGUSTA PUBLIC SCHOOL

MACK WALLACE, SUPERINTENDENT

AUGUSTA, KENTUCKY 41002

BOARD OF EDUCATION
ROBERT BACH, CHAIRMAN

JUDITH FEDERER, TREASURER
ADRIAN CURTIS

AUGUSTA, KENTUCKY 41002

BOARD OF EDUCATION
RUSSELL RICHEY, IN
GOREE SPRADLIN
RAYMOND WHITEHEAD

January 18, 1980

Ms. Carol D. Shull
Acting Keeper of the National Register
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Services
Department of the Interior Pension Building
44G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20243 (Att'n.: NOM)

Dear Ms. Shull:

I am happy this property is being considered to be included on the National Register. I am of the opinion this property is worthy of being on the National Register. It would be appreciated if the property is included on the National Register.

Sincerely,

Mack L. Wallace 307 Bracken Street

Augusta

Kentucky 41002

RE: Augusta College Historic Building

mlw/emw

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ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE KENTUCKY

Date Entered

FEB 20 1980

Name

Location

Augusta College Historic Buildings

Augusta Bracken County

Medley House

Owensboro Daviess County

Ripy, T. B., House

Lawrenceburg Anderson County

Also Notified

Honorable Wendell H. Ford

Honorable Walter D. Huddleston Honorable Carl D. Perkins Honorable William H. Natcher State Historic Preservation Officer Mrs. Eldred W. Melton Director Kentucky Heritage Commission 104 Bridge Street Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

NR

Byers/bjr 2/25/80

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.