

DATA SHEET
 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0678651
FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

MAR 6 1979

DATE ENTERED

APR 16 1979

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

Bracken County Infirmary

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

NE of Chatham on KY 19

STREET & NUMBER

State Highway 19, near Chatham

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Chatham

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

07

 VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky

CODE

021

COUNTY

Bracken

CODE

023

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Apts.

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Harold Perkins

STREET & NUMBER

1801 Holman Street

CITY, TOWN

Covington

VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Bracken County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Brooksville

STATE

Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

DATE

1971

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY 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 type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Bracken County Infirmary is situated on a slight rise on State Highway 19 overlooking the rolling hill country of Bracken County near the small community of Chatham.

Constructed in 1885 by Samuel Wetmore, a builder from Ohio, the 2 1/2-story brick building is ten bays wide with a first floor veranda. The main entrance is accented by a three-pane transom and single-pane sidelights, over which is a double window. The windows are original, and are two-over-two pane with plain wooden lintels.

A truncated hipped roof with roof dormers and a central pavilion cover the structure. The central pavilion is accented by a pair of narrow double-hung sash windows.

The original property was comprised of 150 acres of farmland, the main structure, a one-story brick kitchen directly behind the infirmary, three barns, a hog barn, and a one-story frame structure toward the rear of the farm, all of which survive today.

The county home was used until 1968. In 1969, the Bracken County court sold the 150 acre farm, the main building and all outbuildings to Harold Perkins, who converted the main structure into apartments. A barn and a hog barn, which are in close proximity to the main building were also converted into use as apartments.

The nomination comprises a rectangular lot of six acres to include the main structure and all outbuildings.

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 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input 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 1885

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Samuel Wetmore

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Constructed in 1885 near the small community of Chatham in northeastern Kentucky, the Bracken County Infirmary is the earliest remaining institution in the county built to provide a home and place of refuge for the indigent and elderly citizens of Bracken County, and served this purpose from 1886-1968.¹

The 2 1/2-story brick building which contained 40 rooms, was constructed by Samuel Wetmore from Ohio.² The County Home opened in February 1886 and consisted of 150 acres fertile land, the main building, a brick kitchen directly behind the infirmary, several outbuildings, and a frame house toward the rear of the farm where individuals with communicable diseases were housed, isolated from the other residents at the home.³

The infirmary was almost entirely self-sufficient. The land was farmed for the cultivation of a cash crop and the production of food for the county home. Cattle and hogs were raised for meat and milk, and at one time the home had the finest herd of registered Herefords in the county, as well as registered Jerseys.⁴ The supervisor of the home, in addition to his administrative duties, grew the cash crop and other crops. Residents who were physically able worked on the farm.

The infirmary remained in operation until 1968 when it was closed due to the existence of new social welfare programs on both state and federal levels which provide for indigent individuals. A year later, the county home, outbuildings and land was sold to a private individual by the Bracken County court. The new owner has converted the main building, as well as two of the outbuildings, into apartments.

¹The first infirmary or county home was a log structure situated on Turtle Creek near Augusta.

²Bracken County Homemakers, Recollection: Yesterday, Today for Tomorrow; A History of Bracken County, p. 37.

³Ibid.

⁴Brooksville Fire Department, Brooksville Centennial, 1839-1939, p. 71.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bracken County Homemakers. Recollections: Yesterday, Today for Tommorrow, A History of Bracken County. Brooksville, Kentucky: Poage Printing Co., 1969.

Bracken County Order Book for 1885.

(continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 6 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Brooksville

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,6 | 7,5,9,6,8,0 | 4,2,8,9,4,4,0

B | |

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C | |

D | |

E | |

F | |

G | |

H | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated six acres comprise a rectangular lot that includes the main building and accompanying outbuildings. The nominated site fronts State Highway 19 on the northwest and is surrounded by open farmland in all other directions.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

William G. Johnson, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

November 1978

STREET & NUMBER

104 Bridge Street

TELEPHONE

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 W. Nelson

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

2/26/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

4-16-79

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

4/16/79

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Bracken County Infirmary

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

Although altered, the main building, together with almost all its original outbuildings remaining, reveals much about the care of the indigent during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

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Bracken County Infirmary

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE 2

Brooksville Fire Department. Brooksville Centennial, 1839-1939. Brooksville, Kentucky: Brooksville Fire Department, 1939.

Collins, Richard. A History of Kentucky. Covington: by the author, 1874.

Interview with Mr. Garnett High, long-time resident of Bracken County who grew up on a farm near the county home.

79000966

Property Bracken County Infirmary
State Ky. (Bracken) Working Number 3.6.79.490

TECHNICAL

Photos ✓
Maps ✓

CONTROL

OK 3.7.79

HISTORIAN

1885 brick County Home with associated kitchen & buns, used until 1968 as county institution for poor or elderly. Significant for association with humanitarian movement in Victorian America to improve living conditions of the poor. Magnal statement of signif.

ACCEPT DUBIE 9/16/79

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

While not nominated for architectural significance, the structure is an example of 2nd Empire styling - Nominated significance is for associations as county home -

accept Brasham 4.12.79

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

ACCEPT ON HUMANITARIAN ASSOCIATIONS w/ LATE 19TH CENTURY CONCERNS RE: HOUSING FOR THE NEEDY. BOUNDARY IS CORRECT - JUST TO INCLUDE MAIN BLDG. AND DEPENDENCIES - NOT THE 150 ACR [WORKING] AREA.

ACCEPT
H. Brink 4/16/79

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____
Federal Register Entry 6-5-79 Send-back _____
Re-submit _____

Entered APR 16 1979











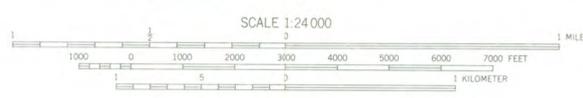


Bracken County Infirmary
Chatham
Kentucky
Map 1.

USGS Map, 7.5 Minutes Series,
1952, 1:24000, Brooksville
Quadrangle, UTM References:
16/759680/4289440



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex methods
Aerial photographs taken 1950. Field check 1952
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Kentucky coordinate system,
north zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 16, shown in blue



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242,
KENTUCKY GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40506,
AND KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	4 LANE 6 LANE	Light-duty
Medium-duty	4 LANE 6 LANE	Unimproved dirt
U.S. Route	Circle	Slate Route



BROOKSVILLE, KY.
NE/4 MOUNT OLIVET 15' QUADRANGLE
N3837 5-W8400/7.5

APR 16 1979

1952
AMS 4161 II NE-SERIES V853

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE KENTUCKY

Date Entered APR 16 1979

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Swope-Dudderar House and Mill Site	Lincoln County
St. Francis deSales Roman Catholic Church	Paducah McCracken County
Bracken County Infirmary	Chatham vicinity Bracken County

Also Notified

Honorable Wendell H. Ford

Honorable Walter (Dee) Huddleston

Honorable Tim Lee Carter

Honorable Carroll Hubbard, Jr.

Honorable Carl D. Perkins

State Historic Preservation Officer

Mrs. Eldred W. Melton

Director

Kentucky Heritage Commission

104 Bridge Street

Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

NR Byers/bjr 4/18/79

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