

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUN 25 1980

DATE ENTERED AUG 26 1980

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

John Gregg Fee House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

NW of Germantown

CITY, TOWN

Chatham Germantown☒ VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

07

STATE

Kentucky

CODE

021

COUNTY

Bracken

CODE

023

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mr. James T. Norris

STREET & NUMBER

Box 213

CITY, TOWN

Ashland

VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky 41101

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Bracken County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Brooksville

STATE

Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

DATE

1979

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT

☒ GOOD

☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED

☐ RUINS

☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED

☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE

☐ MOVED

DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Bracken County, Kentucky, located on the Ohio River in the northeastern part of the state, is largely a rural area comprised of small towns and villages. The land varies from gently rolling to steeply formed hills and valleys. A total of 204 square miles is contained within the county and the population is about 7,227 inhabitants.

The John G. Fee house is located about four miles due east of Brooksville, the county seat and approximate center of the county. The structure sits on a high ridge facing west and away from the Sunny Fork of Locust Creek.

The early 19th century structure has a two-story, hall-parlor plan with Flemish bond brickwork. Jack arches top the window openings and the main entrance is capped by a transom. Mouse-toothed brickwork decorates the cornice above. Partially exposed exterior chimneys flank the main block which sports a 20th century porch. A one-story frame ell projects from the rear of the main block, with an enclosed shed addition. The interior woodwork is simple with paneled doors and chairrailing in the parlor. The mantels on the first floor have unbroken shelves, and a double frieze flanked by fluted pilasters. The second floor mantels were replaced with Victorian grates.

No related outbuildings are extant and the boundary includes the main house only.

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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

John G. Fee, a Presbyterian minister, was one of Kentucky's most vocal and staunch abolitionists of the 19th century. He was the founder of Berea College, the first college in the United States established for the specific purpose of providing an integrated education for blacks and whites. Through his work at Berea, he did much to further the education and support the equality of black people prior to and long after the Civil War.

The abolitionist movement in Kentucky preceded her admission into the Union, and intensified up to the Civil War. Most early Kentucky churches had anti-slavery leanings, but the Baptists and Methodists were the strongest in opposition. They preached that slavery was a sin against God, unlike some other abolitionists who saw it merely as a factor detrimental to the Southern economy.

John G. Fee was born in Bracken County in 1816 in the brick house built by his father on Locust Creek and where he grew up. He decided early in life that he desired to become a preacher of the Gospel, obtaining his education at Augusta College (see Augusta College Historic Buildings, listed on the National Register February 20, 1980) and Lane Theological Seminary in Ohio. The immorality of slavery was impressed upon Fee at school and although his parents were slaveholders, he determined to work for its abolition. He was a Presbyterian minister for many years but withdrew from the denomination in 1847 because of their persistent support of slavery. Fee then traveled about within Kentucky and parts of Ohio, preaching the sin of slavery. His views were not always well received and he was often persecuted for his stance.

In 1853, Fee was invited to preach in Madison County in central Kentucky. His anti-slavery pamphlets had come to the attention of Cassius M. Clay, an emancipationist who was also a large landowner. Clay offered Fee some land to establish a church/school within a small community of non-slaveholding residents. The place was named Berea, after a town in the New Testament noted for its open-minded citizenry. Fee built his church and began his lifelong dream--to have a school and teach anyone, regardless of race, caste, or creed. By 1858, the school was known as Berea College (see Lincoln Hall, listed on the National Register December 2, 1974), and the following year the constitution which still guides the school was written:

The purpose of this college shall be to furnish the facilities for a thorough education to all persons of good moral character, at the least possible expense, and all the inducements and facilities for

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Fee, John G. John G. Fee, An Autobiography. Chicago: National Christian Association, 1891

"Lincoln Hall." National Register Nomination Form, Kentucky Heritage Commission, Frankfort, Kentucky.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM NOT VERIFIED
ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Germantown

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 239620 4286700

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated area is a line parallel to and thirty feet from the foundations of the building.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
-------	------	--------	------

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Jayne C. Henderson, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

STREET & NUMBER

104 Bridge Street

CITY OR TOWN

Frankfort,

DATE

May, 1980

TELEPHONE

502/564-3741

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

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

W. Ray Luce

DATE

8/26/80

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: Kristin J.O. Connell

DATE

8/25/80

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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John Gregg Fee House
Bracken County, Kentucky

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

manual labor which can be reasonably supplied by the Board of Trustees shall be offered....This college shall be under an influence strictly Christian and as such opposed to sectarianism, slaveholding, caste, and every other institution or practice.¹

Soon after, however, John Brown's raid upon Harpers Ferry almost destroyed Berea College. A mob of Madison County citizens, believing the Bereans to be in support of Brown, drove them from the state, many of whom moved to Cincinnati. Berea College subsequently closed. During the Civil War Fee spent most of this time raising money for the school and in 1865, he returned to Berea. With the financial help of the American Missionary Society, the School soon reopened.

Berea suffered another major setback in 1904, when the school lost a Supreme Court case in which they contested prevailing "Jim Crow" laws which established segregation in the classroom. However, due to the dedication and farsightedness of John Gregg Fee, Berea College survived and continues to operate under the original constitution he created.

Fee's childhood home in Bracken County is the only known extant house in Kentucky intimately associated with this nationally significant figure.

¹Berea's constitution as quoted in the "Lincoln Hall" National Register nomination form, Kentucky Heritage Commission, Frankfort, Kentucky.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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John Fee House
Bracken County, Kentucky

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE 2

McPherson, James M. The Abolitionist Legacy. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1975.

Property

Fee, John Gregg, House

80001487

State

Ky, Bracken

Working Number

6.25.80.1624

TECHNICAL

Photos

5

Maps

1

CONTROL

HISTORIAN

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Accept
O'Connell
7/1/80

Birthplace of nationally prominent abolitionist + educator who founded Berea College. This is only house in Kentucky "unmistakably associated" w/ him, but Lincoln Hall at Berea is listed (12/2/74). House is a routine example of early 19th cent (Federal) vernacular. I am reluctant to accept on historical associations - perhaps

ARCHEOLOGIST

This is too rigid. Call for more info to see if architecturally significant? I would not absolutely rule out accepting as is but would like another opinion.

See sel. slip 8/25/80 - accept

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up

Send-back

Entered

AUG 26 1980

Federal Register Entry

2.3.81

Re-submit











John Gregg Fee House
Bracken County, Kentucky
U.S.G.S. Map, 7.5 Minute
Series, Germantown, Ky.
Quadrangle, 1952.

UTM References;
16/239620/4286700
670

AUG 26 1980



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

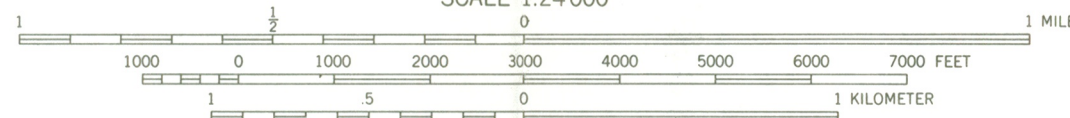
Control by USGS and USC&GS

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 17, shown in blue

UTM GRID AND 1952 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

SCALE 1:24,000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

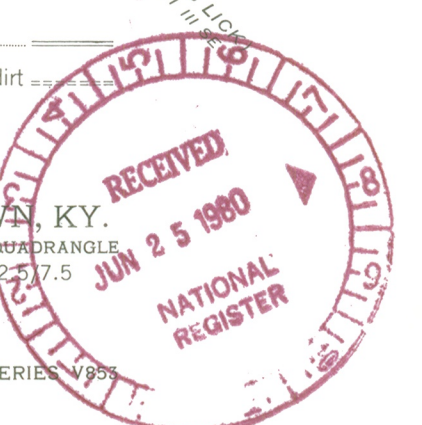
ROAD CLASSIFICATION

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

GERMANTOWN, KY.
NW 1/4 MAYSVILLE 15' QUADRANGLE
N3837.5-W8352.3

1952

AMS 4261 III NW-SERIES 1952



Glover

Buffalo Trace Area Development District, Inc.

Serving Bracken, Fleming, Lewis, Mason and Robertson Counties

606-564-6894

327 West Second Street
Maysville, Kentucky
41056

Executive Director
Terrell Ross

Officers

James W. Clark,
Chairman

Frank McCartney,
Vice-Chairman

Bernard C. Hargett,
Secretary

Roy Art Taylor,
Treasurer

May 27, 1980

RECEIVED

MAY 28 1980

**KY. HERITAGE
COMMISSION**

Mrs. Eldred W. Melton
Executive Director
Kentucky Heritage Commission
104 Bridge Street
Frankfort, KY 40601

Dear Mrs. Melton:

In reference to your letter of April 28, 1980, concerning candidates for the National Register, the staff of the Buffalo Trace Area Development District has determined the John G. Fee House is not in conflict with area plans, topography, or geology. Neither would its placement on the Register influence the above.

If I can be of any further service, please feel free to contact me at our office.

Sincerely,

Max Schamer

Max Schamer

MS/mps

Mrs. Carol Shull
June 19, 1980
Page 2
John Gregg Fee House, Bracken County, Kentucky

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form
2 Continuation Sheets
1 Map
5 Photos
Copy of letter of support



8/11/80
I'm not necessarily
opposed to listing
for historical
associations but
would like more
specifics on
How long he lived
there & possible
influences on ~~later~~
later activities

lived here
longest

RL

TELEPHONE REPORT

DATE 8/25/80
TIME OF CALL 4:30 AM

1. CALL ☒ TO: ☐ FROM (Name) Jayne Henderson
2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed) Kentucky Heritage Commission

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC. John Gregg Fee house

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

I asked how long Fee had lived in the house, what influence it had on his thought, etc. - questions that are important in determining whether listing a birthplace can be justified when other bldgs already on NR are associated with the figure's active life.

This house ~~was~~ was Fee's home until he left to attend college at c. 16/18. After 2 yrs at Augusta, he went to Lane Seminary in Cincinnati, where his antislavery convictions really took form. The house now being considered for listing therefore is not a formative environment in an easily definable way. But it is the only existing house associated with Fee; the buildings most closely connected with him at Berea ~~are~~ (a house, a church) are gone.

Jayne thought that the building at Berea had been nominated more ~~as~~ as a representative of the institution and its long-term contribution ~~rather~~ than for its connection to Fee's career. It seems to me they've thought this one through in a reasonable way, and I would feel comfortable with listing the property.

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL	TITLE	OFFICE
K. O'Connell	Arch. historian	NR

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE KENTUCKY

Date Entered AUG 26 1980

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Smith, Mitchell Baker, Company Building	Lexington Fayette County
Cleveland-Rogers House	Lexington Fayette County
Fee, John Gregg, House	Germantown vicinity Bracken County

Also Notified

Honorable Walter D. Huddleston
Honorable Wendell H. Ford
Honorable Larry J. Hopkins
Honorable Carl D. Perkins

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mrs. Eldred W. Melton
Director
Kentucky Heritage Commission
104 Bridge Street
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

NR Byers/mjd 9/9/80

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