

AL - A<sup>II</sup>-023  
Kern's Boarding School  
Frostburg

1860-1875

Between 1860 and 1875, Kern's Boarding School was built for the purpose of education of young girls whose family could afford the expense of a private school. The building is a two and one half story, five bay wide rectangular frame structure, supported by a low stone foundation. The roof is gabled, and the gables include double hung wooden sash frames with two-over-two lights while the remainder of the facade features four-over-four light windows. The structure exhibits a front and rear porch; the front being a three bay end porch, while the rear is two stories high with a shed roof.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

0103755504  
AI-VII-A-023

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Kern's Boarding School

AND/OR COMMON

Townsend House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

37 Frost Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Frostburg

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegany

**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
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Neenah Townsend

E. A. Smith

Telephone #: 689-8248  
None

STREET & NUMBER

37 Frost Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Frostburg

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21532

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #: 96

Folio #: 518

STREET & NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

AL-VII-A-023

**7 DESCRIPTION**

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<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 Kern's Boarding School is located at 37 Frost Avenue in Frostburg, Allegany County on the northeast side of the street at the intersection of Locust Street.

The old school consists of a two story, five bays wide, irregular shaped rectangular block, with another large rectangular wing extending northeast. A rear, northeastern side, two story porch, with a hip roof supported by five wooden columns abuts the wing. The wooden frame structure is covered with weatherboard and a wood belt course encircles the entire building at the top of the first story. The frame is supported by a low stone foundation and a plain water table, with a bulkhead entrance to the basement to the rear of the structure. The gable roof of the principal facade as well as the wing are covered by the original slate shingles and feature soffit and plain trim frieze. Windows in the structure all feature a double hung, wooden sash frames with four-over-four lights, and topped by cornice pediments. On the southeastern side there is a three sectional two story bay window with double hung sashes, four-over-four lights on the first story and one-over-one lights on the second story. Also on this southeastern side is a small porch with hip roof covering a side entrance. The main entrance is located on the southwest face of the principal facade, and includes a transom, transom light and side lights. The entrance is covered by a three bay end porch with a flat roof supported by four square cushion columns. One corbeled brick chimney which appears to be original is located on the interior of the structure.

The old school structurally seems to be very sound and appears to be in original condition of construction.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

<b>PERIOD</b>	<b>AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW</b>			
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input 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 1860-1875

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Kern's Boarding School was erected between 1860 and 1875 and operated until near the end of the nineteenth century. The school was originally built for the purpose of education of young girls whose family could afford the expense of a private boarding school. Sold in 1890 the school became a residence, and recently has become the property of E. A. Smith, son-in-law of former owners the Townsend family. The structure is in good condition and appears to have all the original features of the boarding school, all of which enhances the cultural and architectural heritage of Frostburg.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Allegany County Land Records, Cumberland, Maryland  
 "Kern's Boarding School", Heritage Press;  
 Volume 1, Number 8, June 1972.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 60' x 160'

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

37 Frost Avenue

Boundary Lines Southwest & Northeast 160' Lines Southeast &  
 Northwest 60'

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

John E. Nelson, Program Coordinator of All. Co. Historic Sites

ORGANIZATION

Allegany County Historic Sites Survey

DATE

4/21/76

STREET &amp; NUMBER

10 Park Lane

TELEPHONE

689-8486

CITY OR TOWN

Frostburg

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 267-1438

INVENTORY NO. A1-U11-A-023

Liber 96

Folio 518

DATE: 4/16/76

60' x 160'

REPAIRS: Drastic, moderate, minor

NAME OF PROPERTY: Kern's Boarding School

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: 37 Frost Avenue

DIRECTION DWELLING FACES: Southwest

NAME OF OWNER: Neenah Townsend

ADDRESS: 37 Frost Avenue

Frostburg, MD 21532

STORIES: 1( ) 2(✓) 3( ) 4( ) 5( ) 6( ) BAYS: 1( ) 2( ) 3( ) 4( ) 5(✓) 6( ) 7( ) ( )

WINGS, ADDITIONS: Porch Addition - Front 3 Bay End Porch

Dwelling Shape: (square, cross, rectangular) 

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

- (✓) FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard wood shingles, board & batten (type?)
- ( ) BRICK: Bond type- common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.
- ( ) STONE: Bond type- rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated
- ( ) LOG
- ( ) Other: Coverings

WALL FEATURES: BELT COURSE, PILASTERS, OTHERS Plain Wood Belt

FOUNDATIONS: HIGH, LOW BRICK, STONE

WATER TABLE: NONE, PLAIN, BEVELLED, MOULDED BRICK

WINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1( ) 2/2( ) 6/6( ) 9/6( ) 9/9( ) other( ) 4/4  
Plain Trim pegged ( ) nailed ( ) wide ( ) narrow ( ) mitred ( ) pediment (✓)  
Cornice

ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: Southwest, East + Northeast

HARDWARE: original ( ) replaced (✓)

FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN

Paneled, Verticle, Horizontal Boards 12 lights - window

CORNICE, BARGE, FLEVES: (crown, fascia, soffit bed)  
original (✓) replaced ( ) Rafter Ends, Modillions, Dentils, Frieze

Architrave

ROOF: GABLE FRONT, GABLE FLANK, HILL, SHED, MANSARD, GAMBREL, FLAT, DORMERS # \_\_\_\_\_  
MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt original (✓) replaced ( )

PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed (✓) hip (✓) gable ( ) 3 Bay End Porch front - Two Story - Rear

CHIMNEYS: NUMBER 1 BRICK (✓) STONE ( ) CORBELLED (✓) original (✓) replaced ( )  
LOCATION: Flush end ( ) Inside end ( ) Outside end ( ) Central ( ) Interior (✓)

ARCHES: Door and window: Keystone, Flat, Segmental, Semicircular

CONCEALS: Bulkhead Entrance to Cellar

Use - Residence  
Significance - Architecture - Education  
Date Constructed - 1860-1875  
Condition - Good

April 21, 1876  
10/18/89

Key points regarding interior architecture.

1. Floor plan

No through hall--How many rooms long and deep?  
Where is stairway? Straight or winding?

With through hall--Rooms on both sides? How many?  
Rooms on one side only? How many?

Is stair in through hall?

Open or enclosed? Straight--one run. Straight--landing  
How many? Curved.

If not in hall, where is stair?

2. Wall finish: plaster, paneled, board partition  
Note presence of chair rail, cornice, etc.

3. Fireplaces: How many? Parallel to walls or diagonal in  
corner?

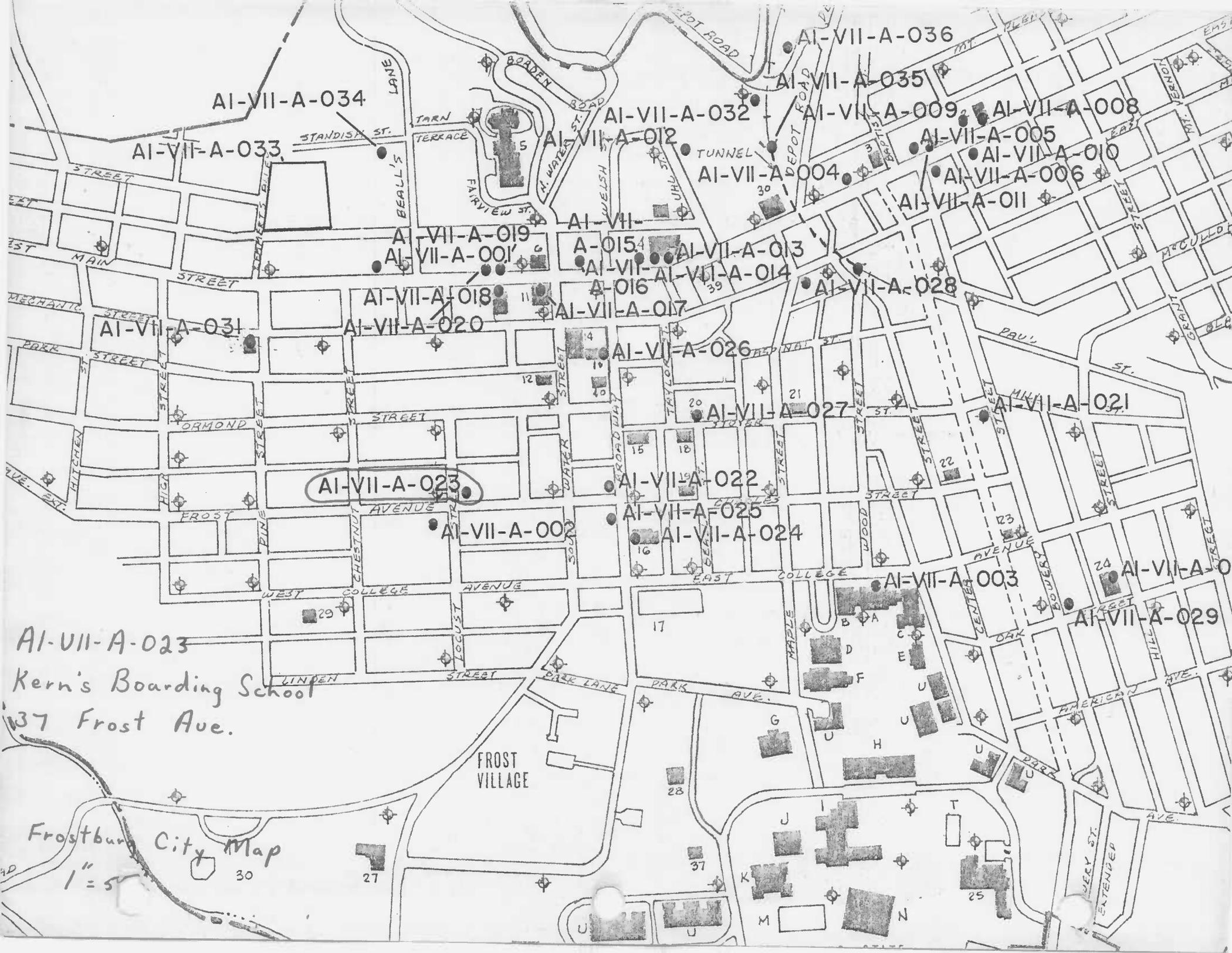
Mantels: wood--mouldings, pilasters, columns  
masonry--marble(what color? ), brick

3. Doors: on the inside of exterior doors, note the presence of  
applied flush boards and their direction (diagonal, vertical,  
horizontal). In general are doors paneled or ledge or other?

4. Door and window trim: plain, architrave; fluted, reeded;  
pilasters

5. Kitchen: Where is original if extant or known (marked by very  
large fireplace)? Separate building; wing to principal  
dwelling; within principal dwelling? On which floor of any  
of the above?

4. How particular on hand (if any) on any window ledge or porch



AI-VII-A-034

AI-VII-A-033

AI-VII-A-032

AI-VII-A-036

AI-VII-A-035

AI-VII-A-008

AI-VII-A-005

AI-VII-A-010

AI-VII-A-006

AI-VII-A-011

AI-VII-A-012

AI-VII-A-004

AI-VII-A-019

AI-VII-A-001

A-0154

AI-VII-A-013

AI-VII-A-014

A-016

AI-VII-A-028

AI-VII-A-018

AI-VII-A-017

AI-VII-A-026

AI-VII-A-031

AI-VII-A-020

AI-VII-A-027

AI-VII-A-021

AI-VII-A-023

AI-VII-A-022

AI-VII-A-025

AI-VII-A-024

AI-VII-A-002

AI-VII-A-003

AI-VII-A-029

AI-VII-A-023

Kern's Boarding School

37 Frost Ave.

Frostburg City Map

1" = 50'

FROST VILLAGE

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Kern's Boarding School

A1-VII-A-023

37 Frost Avenue Frostburg

John E. Nelson

4/16/76

North



Kern's Boarding School

A1-VII-A-023

37-Frost Avenue

John E. Nelson

4/16/76

South