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## KentuckyHistoricalSociety

### CIVIL WAR TO CIVIL RIGHTS: ROSENWALD SCHOOLS



*Kentucky Historical Society collections*

Rosenwald Foundation and with matching funds from the communities they served, 158 Rosenwald Schools were built in Kentucky. The schools, located in more than half of the state's counties, often replaced dilapidated and out-of-date community schools or former Freedman's Bureau locations and provided vital community, education and training space for African Americans during Jim Crow segregation.

The schools fell out of use after segregation in public education was found unconstitutional by the *Brown v. the Board of Education* decision in 1954 and Kentucky moved to integrate its public schooling. Pictured above is the Cadentown Rosenwald School in Lexington.

STATEWIDE — In 1912, Booker T. Washington approached philanthropist and Sears, Roebuck and Co., co-owner, Julius Rosenwald, about his concept to build desperately needed rural schools for African American children across the segregated South. That partnership sparked an initiative that eventually created more than 5,300 schools, vocational shops and teacher's homes across 15 states in the South and Southwest from 1912 to 1932.

Partially funded by the Julius

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