

KENTUCKY'S HISTORICAL MARKER PROGRAM

MARKER #2054 - UNION COLLEGE

Historical marker 2054 in **Barbourville, Knox County**, marks the location of Union College, an institution of higher learning founded in 1879 dedicated to providing educational opportunities for southeastern Kentuckians.

In 1886, the Kentucky Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church purchased the college.

In the 1920s, Union College prospered under the leadership of Ezra T. Franklin. Eventually, Union College gained accreditation and became a four-year college.

Today, Union College is a thriving institution with more than 1,200 students.

KHS is proud to manage Kentucky's historical marker program, with over 2,400 markers across the state, including **8 in Knox County**. Download the free mobile app to learn more Kentucky stories at explorehistory.ky.gov.

2022 Legislative Moments are brought to you by the Kentucky Historical Society (KHS), which is an agency of the Tourism, Arts, and Heritage Cabinet, is fully accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, and is a Smithsonian affiliate.



Union College, "Union College Postcard," image courtesy of KHS.



Knox County

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