



A History of Eastern Kentucky University: The School of Opportunity

By William E. Ellis

The University Press of Kentucky. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Hardcover. 320 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.0in. x 1.3in. Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) in Richmond, Kentucky, was originally established as a normal school in 1906 in the wake of a landmark education law passed by the Kentucky General Assembly. One hundred years later, the school has evolved into a celebrated multipurpose regional university that is national in scope. The school was built on a campus that had housed Central University, a southern Presbyterian institution. In its early years, EKU grew slowly, buffeted by cyclical economic problems and the interruptions of two world wars. During that time, however, strong leadership from early presidents Ruric Nevel Roark, John Grant Crabbe, and Herman L. Donovan laid the groundwork for later expansions. President Robert. R. Martin oversaw the rapid growth of the institution in the 1960s. He managed an increase in enrollment and he had additional facilities built to house and educate the growing student population. A savvy administrator, he was at the forefront of vocational education and initiated programs in nursing and allied health and in law enforcement education. His successor, J. C. Powell, built on Martin's work and saw EKU mature as a regional...

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