

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only  
received SEP 28 1982  
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Pleasant Run Methodist Church

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number West side of KY 663, 2 mi. south of Corinth not for publication

city, town Russellville & Corinth vicinity of ~~Congressional District~~

state Kentucky code 021 county Logan code

3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	N/A being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Trustees, Pleasant Run Methodist Church

street & number Kentucky 663, two miles south of Corinth

city, town Corinth vicinity of state Kentucky

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Logan County Courthouse

street & number Highway 68

city, town Russellville state Kentucky

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Ky. Historic Resources Inventory has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date Summer 1980  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Kentucky Heritage Council

city, town Frankfort state Kentucky

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input 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

Located between the towns of Corinth and Schochoh in Logan County, Pleasant Run Methodist Church was constructed during the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Its architectural features indicate that it was this structure which appeared in the 1877 Atlas of Logan County. (See Map 1) The original Pleasant Run Methodist Church--erected ca. 1808-13--was probably demolished shortly prior to that time. Both structures stood on the one-half acre plot deeded to the Trustees of the Church by Mr. Charles Gilbert of Logan County.

Although the architect/builder remains unknown, the architectural style of the present-day Pleasant Run Methodist Church reflects the influence of the Gothic Revival mode--a style which became extremely popular during the latter portion of the nineteenth century. Simple in both plan and detail, the modest building is of wood frame construction and originally stood upon a stone foundation. A two-stage, central tower provides entry into the small, square vestibule of the church, while slender lancet windows illuminate the rectangular nave and center aisle within.

The pointed arch--an element highly indicative of the Gothic Revival style--dominates the building's exterior. It can be found not only in the delicate lancet windows which enhance each facade, but above the main entry as well. Also evident is a strong emphasis upon the vertical. This is particularly apparent in the design of the central entrance tower, with its slender finial located atop a sharply pointed gable. Other exterior features worthy of note include the simple ornamental brackets which highlight the cornice line and cornice return, the decorative bargeboard embellishing the entry tower, and the small dentils seen above the five-panel double doors. All of these elements are found on the main (east) facade.

Like the exterior of Pleasant Run Methodist Church, the interior of this structure remains modest and unassuming. While the simple wooden pews reiterate the lancet window motif, the altar area--delineated by a wooden balustrade--includes a lecturn which exhibits both a pointed arch and quatrefoil design. The decorative wooden ceiling, with its diagonal patterning and central sunburst, conceals handhewn rafters which still support the gabled roof. According to local tradition, the rafters were cut from trees located in the surrounding area.

Both the interior and exterior of Pleasant Run Methodist Church are in excellent condition, and few alterations have been made since construction. In order to prevent structural damage, a new tin roof was recently added, and concrete block has replaced the original stone foundation. However, the remainder of the church appears virtually unchanged, retaining its original integrity, character and design.

## 8. Significance

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 checked="" 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 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 checked="" 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** ca. 1870–77 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Pleasant Run Methodist Church is being nominated for entry in the National Register because of its historic, religious, and architectural significance in this area for over a century and a half. This church was first organized in 1808, when Charles Gilbert donated one-half acre of his land as the site for a Methodist Church. Representing one of the earliest Methodist congregations in Logan County,<sup>1</sup> the original one-room building was completed by 1813. At that time, Gilbert officially deeded the property to the Trustees of the Pleasant Run Methodist Church. Since that period, it has continued to play an important role in the social and religious lives of its rural congregation. Moreover, although the original church no longer occupies the site, the structure which replaced its predecessor ca. 1870–77 has continued this tradition of service to nearby residents of Logan County. In addition, the present-day Pleasant Run Methodist Church exhibits a variety of original decorative elements. Modest in size, materials and design, it reflects quality craftsmanship and provides an outstanding example of the use of Gothic Revival motifs in this area. This structure has indeed provided a superb setting for the "long, honorable history" which Edward Coffman, author of The Story of Logan County, has attributed to the Pleasant Run Methodist Church.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Edward Coffman, The Story of Logan County. (Nashville: The Parthenon Press, 1962), Page 124.

<sup>2</sup>Ibid.



# PLEASANT RUN METHODIST CHURCH Logan County

