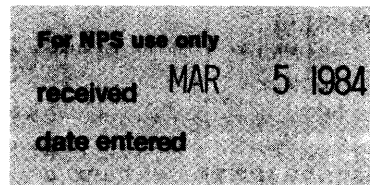


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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



## 1. Name

historic Broad Street United Methodist Church

and/or common Same

## 2. Location

street & number 263 Broad Street, N.W. N/A not for publication

city, town Cleveland N/A vicinity of

state Tennessee code 047 county Bradley code 011

## 3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" 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	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government
	<u>N/A</u> being considered	<input 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 Holston Conference, United Methodist Church

street & number P. O. Box 11869

city, town Knoxville N/A vicinity of state Tennessee 37919

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Bradley County Courthouse

street & number Public Square

city, town Cleveland state Tennessee 37311

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date N/A N/A  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state N/A

---

## 7. Description

---

**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

---

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Broad Street United Methodist Church, located in downtown Cleveland, Tennessee (pop. 26,315), is a large, red brick, Victorian Romanesque style building. The oldest portion, built in 1893, houses the sanctuary and has a large, three-story square tower with a pyramidal roof. A two-story brick building was attached to the west elevation in 1922 to house the religious school of the growing congregation. The major interior features include hammerbeam truss work, ornate woodwork and Art Nouveau style stained glass windows. Both the sanctuary and school building sections retain much of their architectural and historical integrity.

The major (east) facade, which faces Broad Street, is flanked by two towers, a two-story tower on the south corner and a three-story tower on the north corner. Both towers are capped by a pyramid-shaped roof with decorative cresting and finials. Although both have similar decorative treatment, including arched entries and decoratively corbeled cornices, the three-story tower is the focal point of the structure and therefore more highly decorated. Windows in the second story of this tower are very narrow with ashlar sills and jack arches. The third story of the tower houses the church bell. The series of arched openings were recently enclosed with louvered panels to keep out pigeons. Each corner of the third story has a chamfered pilaster capped by a finial at the roofline. The east facade has a series of three arched window openings, the central of which is a blind window. The two smaller flanking stained glass windows display typical Victorian Romanesque style tracery. The north facade holds the primary stained glass windows. A large, circular window, flanked by squat corbeled pilasters, sits in the gable end. A stone belt course and a dentiled brick string course occur at the base of the gable. The first story window arrangement is a grouping of three arched windows tied together by a continuous corbeled archivolt and carved stone springers. These windows also display typical Victorian Romanesque style tracery. The building is laid out in a Greek cross plan with a cross gable roof structure. The gable ends have a dentiled cornice and coupled louvered attic vents.

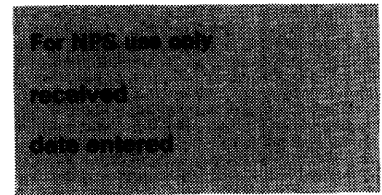
The school building is attached to the west facade. The entrance has a double flight of steps with a stone landing and cheek block and its original iron railing. The doorway is arched in a carved stone surround.

A soldier course separates the two stories of the building. The parapet is decoratively stepped over the entrance bay and capped with stone. The entrance bay has a double window on the second floor with an ashlar sill and jack arch. The fenestration for the rest of this facade is regular with one-over-one, double-hung sash windows with ashlar sills and jack arches. The west facade repeats the fenestration of the north elevation.

The most prominent feature of the sanctuary is the ceiling. The hammerbeam truss work springs from massive hexagonal pilasters at the corners of the cross vault. The dark wooden ceiling, carved pews, altar and woodwork combine to give a feeling of warmth to the room. The chancel wall was moved forward three feet to accommodate a new pipe organ which was installed in 1975. The stained glass windows display Art Nouveau style motifs including sinuous curves combined with religious motifs. The major non-contributing

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet Broad Street United Methodist Church Item number 7 Page 2

objects in the sanctuary are two large speakers which are hung from the crossbeams in the ceiling.

In 1968 a large two-story brick building was erected on the southwest corner of the property to provide more office and classroom space. The new structure does not visually interfere with the older structures which retain their architectural and historical integrity. This addition is not included in the nomination.

## 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 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 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** 1893, 1922      **Builder/Architect** Unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Broad Street United Methodist Church is being nominated under National Register criterion C for its architectural significance to Cleveland and Bradley County, Tennessee. Built in 1893, the church is an excellent example of late nineteenth-century ecclesiastical architecture displaying elements of the Victorian Romanesque style, including round arched entries and windows, large square towers and contrasting stone trim. The interior of the sanctuary, with its hammerbeam truss structure and interior woodwork exemplifies the fine quality of local craftsmanship. A two-story, brick building with simple detailing was attached to the northwest elevation of the church in 1922 to house the religious school for the growing congregation.

The first Methodist congregation in Bradley County was formed in 1836. Worship was conducted in various locations until 1849 when a brick building was constructed a few blocks east of the Court Square. This building was used and then dismantled by the Union Army in 1863. The congregation, known as the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, held services at the Cumberland Presbyterian Church during the Civil War. When the war was over, a part of the congregation split off and two church buildings were erected in town. The new group called themselves the First Methodist Episcopal Church. The original group bought a tract of land at the corner of Broad and Central Streets and erected a church building and continued to be called the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. The congregational name was later changed to the Broad Street United Methodist Church.

The present structure was completed in 1893 and is a fine example of late nineteenth century ecclesiastical architecture, employing elements of the Victorian Romanesque style. The decorative brickwork, detailed stonework, Art Nouveau style, stained-glass windows, elaborate hammerbeam truss work and interior woodwork exemplify the fine local craftsmanship available in Cleveland and Bradley County. The hammerbeam truss system and interior woodwork were executed by William Schenck and the brickwork was accredited to Cas Parks, both of Cleveland, according to a contemporary newspaper account.

In 1922, a two-story brick addition was added to the west elevation of the church building to house the religious school. It served the needs of the congregation until the late 1960s when a new office building was constructed on an adjoining piece of property. This building is not included in the nomination and does not interfere with the historical and architectural integrity of the two older structures.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .25 acres

Quadrangle name South Cleveland, Tennessee

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

1	6	6	9	3	4	8	0	3	8	9	1	8	0	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

### Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	N/A	county	N/A	code	N/A
state	N/A	code	N/A	county	N/A	code	N/A

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Nancy Word, Eugenia Rodgers, Bill and Mildred Blevins Ned Pratt, Executive Director		
organization	Broad Street United Methodist Church Landmarks Chattanooga	date	October 1983
street & number	263 Broad Street P. O. Box 614	telephone	(615) 476-5586 (615) 266-5009
city or town	Cleveland Chattanooga	state	Tennessee 37311 Tennessee 37401

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

Deputy

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Herbert E. Hoyer*

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission date 3/1/84

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

*Selma Bryan*  
Keeper of the National Register

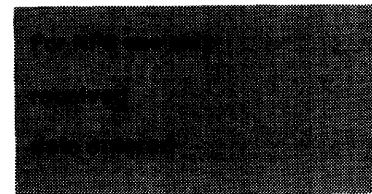
date 4/5/84

Attest:

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Broad Street United  
Continuation sheet Methodist Church

Item number 9

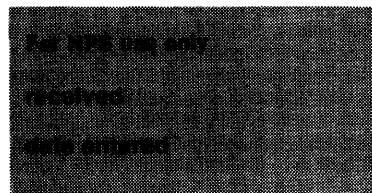
Page 2

Bibliography

1. Abel, Mrs. Pearl. Personal interview. September 1983.
2. Cleveland Weekly Herald, 1857-1893.
3. Hancock, Mrs. Mae. Personal interview. October 1983.
4. Lillard, Roy. Bradley County. Tennessee County History Series. Ed. Joy Bailey Dunn. Memphis, Tennessee: Memphis State University Press, 1980.
5. Rodgers, Mrs. Eugenia. Personal interview. October 1983.
6. Rymer, Mrs. S.B. Personal interview. June 1983.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Broad Street United  
Continuation sheet Methodist Church      Item number 10      Page 2

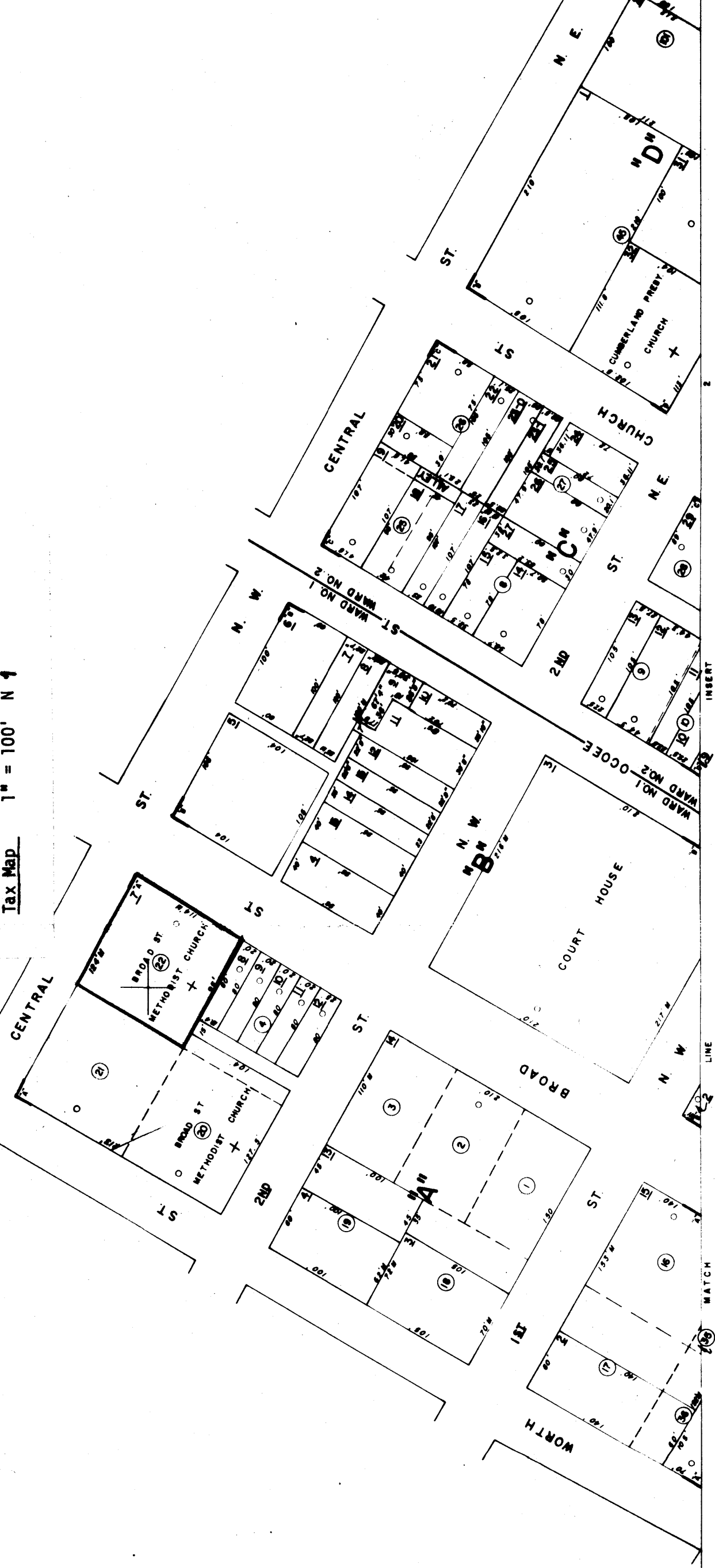
---

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property is bounded on the north by Central Street, N.W., on the east by Broad Street, N.W., on the south by adjoining property lines and the west by the former property line between the Hancock house site and the property historically associated with the Broad Street United Methodist Church. The nominated property includes the land upon which the buildings sit.

Broad Street United Methodist Church  
263 Broad Street, N.W.  
Cleveland, Bradley County, Tennessee

Tax Map 1" = 100' N 1



1" = 100'

E2396000