TITLE

DATE

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS CITY, TOWN

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

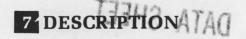
DEC 2 9 1975

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM DATE ENTERED** SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS NAME First Presbyterian Church HISTORIC AND/OR COMMON LOCATION STREET & NUMBER Corner of Second and Hempstead CITY, TOWN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT VICINITY OF Nashville Fourth STATE CODE COUNTY CODE Arkansas 05 Howard 061 CLASSIFICATION CATEGORY **OWNERSHIP** STATUS **PRESENT USE** DISTRICT _PUBLIC OCCUPIED XMUSEUM __AGRICULTURE X_PRIVATE X_BUILDING(S) X_UNOCCUPIED _PARK __COMMERCIAL _STRUCTURE _вотн _WORK IN PROGRESS _EDUCATIONAL __PRIVATE RESIDENCE _SITE **PUBLIC ACQUISITION** ACCESSIBLE _ENTERTAINMENT __RELIGIOUS _OBJECT _IN PROCESS X YES: RESTRICTED _GOVERNMENT SCIENTIFIC __BEING CONSIDERED __YES: UNRESTRICTED _TRANSPORTATION _INDUSTRIAL _NO _MILITARY _OTHER: 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY NAME Howard County Heritage Club

STREET & NUMBER 218 West Howard Street STATE CITY, TOWN Nashville Arkansas LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Circuit Clerk's Office STREET & NUMBER Howard County Courthouse CITY, TOWN STATE Nashville Arkansas REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY _

STATE



CONDITION

X_EXCELLENT
_GOOD

_FAIR

__DETERIORATED

_UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

X_UNALTERED _ALTERED

CHECK ONE

X_ORIGINAL SITE

__MOVED DATE___

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built in 1912, the wood-frame, flush-board First Presbyterian Church building is a one-storey structure arranged in what is basically an ell-shape. The ell form of the building is slightly transfigured by a three-storey bell-tower attached to the southeast corner of the church and by a low, small, rectangular addition, extending from the rear of the structure (north elevation). Only one other structure, a five-room manse, shares the terraced lot occupied by the church building. The style of architecture is actually a combination of two styles, High Victorian Gothic and Stick Style. This combination makes the First Presbyterian Church an architectural rarity in southwest Arkansas.

The most impressive feature of the structure is the square, three-storey, bell-tower positioned in the front of the church (south elevation) and enhanced with Gothic detail. Its castellelated roof-line looms over a decorative cornice, which in turn surmounts low-relief machicolation. Below the upper portions of the tower stretches a band of tall,centre-pointed, segmental windows. The Gothic nature of the windows is weakened by the presence of glass hood louvers, which occupy the largest portion of each aperture. However, the small sections of the windows lying above the transom are cut out in a Gothic, trefoil pattern.

The main entranceway dominates the lowest level of the tower. A small, high-gabled porch covers the entranceway. The exposed rafters and the solid, heavy woodworking found in the gable end of the porch-roof are characteristic of both Gothic and Stick Style architecture. Two small, chamferred posts supporting the porch roof are implanted on solid concrete, step-shaped railing, which lines the exterior entrance-stairway. The simple double-leaf doorway is surrounded by a plain architrave.

High-pitched gable roofs with overhanging eaves cover the main sections of the church. As in the porch roof, heavy, decorative woodwork, resembling framing, embellishes the gable ends of the main roof. A feature found here, but not on the porch, is the use of large, solid, single and paired brackets for decoration and support.

The south and east elevations each possess large, Gothic-tracery windows. The tracery found in each window is a wide and heavy type, common to the later phases of Gothic Revival. The window found on the south elevation of the First Presbyterian Church building is a centre-pointed arch window, divided by flamboyant, intersected tracery. The window placed on the building's east elevation is a segmental-arch window with lancet-arch tracery.

Most of the remaining church windows are set within tall, rectangular casements and feature lancet-arch tracery.

The interior of the First Presbyterian Church building is divided into an atrium (in the tower), a nave and classrooms. The original hardwood pews and pulpit remain in excellent condition. The wooden ceiling is supported

Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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DATE ENTERED MAY 4 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE 1

by an evenly spaced series of heavy, carved brackets. The amount of exposed framing found in the ceiling is a common feature of Stick Style.

No major alterations are known to have been performed on either the exterior or the interior of the structure.

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION	
1400-1499	_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE	
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE	
1600-1699	XARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER	
1800-1899	COMMERCE	_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	_TRANSPORTATION	
<u>X</u> 1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	_INDUSTRY _INVENTION	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)	
SPECIFIC DAT	ES 1912	BUILDER/ARCH	HITECT E. A. Willi	ame	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The area of significance for the First Presbyterian Church building of Nashville, Arkansas, is architectural. It is perhaps the only structure in southwest Arkansas that artistically combines High Victorian Gothic and Stick Style architecture. Perhaps an even more unusual facet of the structure is its late date of construction (1912), because both High Victorian Gothic and Stick Style architecture are said to have been most popular somewhere between 1860 and 1890. Though the building is no longer used as a church, its architectural importance has prompted the Howard County Heritage Club to acquire the structure and to plan for its continued preservation.

The First Presbyterian Church building of Nashville is a wood-frame, flush-board structure arranged in what is basically an ell shape. The ell form of the building is slightly transformed by a three-storey bell-tower, attached to the southeast corner of the church, and by a low, small, rectangular addition, extending from the rear of the structure (north elevation). Only one other structure, a five-room manse, shares the terraced lot occupied by the church building.

The most impressive part of the structure is the square, three-storey bell-tower, positioned in the front of the church (south elevation). A number of Gothic details are found on the tower. Among these are the castellated roof-line, the machicolation located beneath a decorative cornice, and the pointed-arch windows which form a band around the upper sections of the tower. Trefoil designs may be found above the transoms of the windows. A stick-style porch covers the entranceway located at the base of the tower. The high, gable porch roof features both exposed rafters and solid, heavy, woodwork, masking the gable-end (a feature also characteristic of High Victorian Gothic).

High-pitched, gable roofs with overhanging eaves cover the main sections of the building. As in the porch roof, heavy, decorative woodwork, resembling exposed framing, embellishes the gable-ends of the main roofs. A distinctive touch is the use of large, solid, Stick Style brackets for decoration and for support.

The south and east elevations each possess large, Gothic tracery windows. The tracery found in each window is a wide and heavy type, common to the later phases of Gothic Revival. The window found on the south elevation of

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ruether, John. Letter, dated November 8, 1975, in response to questionaire, located Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.

Whiffen, Marcus. American Architecture Since 1780. Cambridge, Massachusetts: The M.I.T. Press, 1969.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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DATE ENTERED MAY 4 19/6

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

the First Presbyterian Church building is a centre-pointed arch window, divided by flamboyant, intersected tracery. The window placed on the building's east elevation is formed in the shape of a segmental arch, with lancet-arch tracery separating the panes. Most of the remaining church windows are set within tall, rectangular casements and feature lancet-arch tracery.

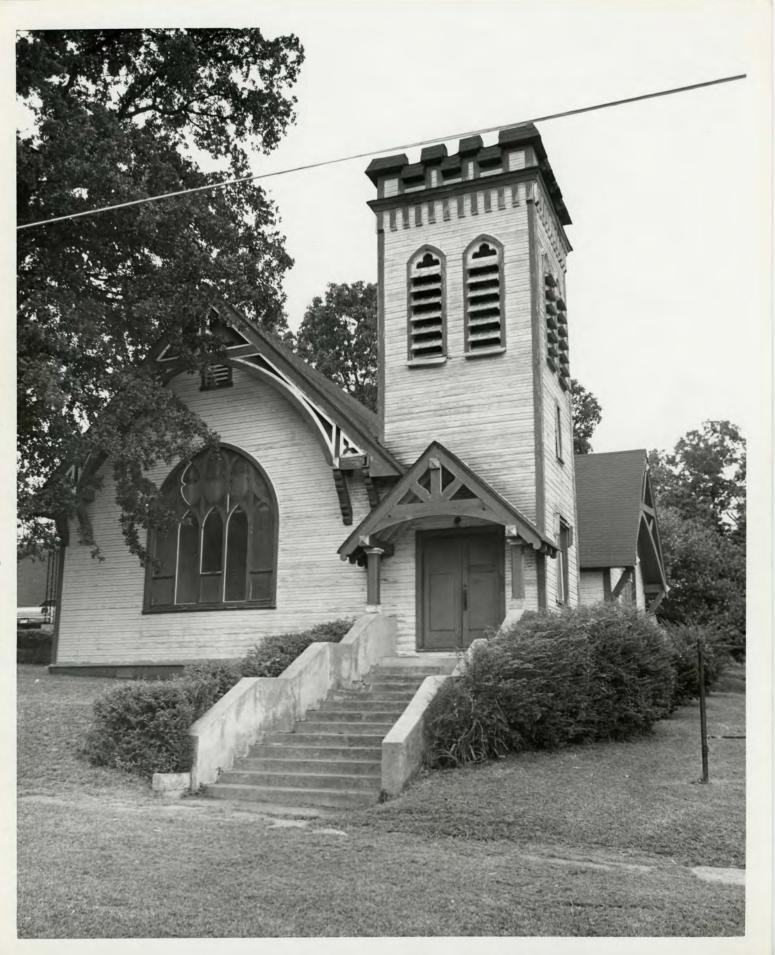
The interior of the First Presbyterian Church building is divided into an atrium (located in the tower), a nave and classrooms. The origanal hardwood pews and pulpit remain in excellent condition. The beamed, wooden ceiling is supported, in true Stick Style tradition, by heavy, carved brackets.

No major alterations are known to have been performed on either the exterior or the interior of the church.

The name of the Reverend M.M. Lawson is synonymous with the history of the church. As the first minister in the building, he settled a controversy which involved the final form which the architecture would assume. His congregation was opposed to the use of beams and brackets on the interior ceiling. The absence of these components would have been out of keeping with the overall style of the structure. However, the Reverend Lawson, who favored the inclusion of the beams and brackets, must have been an influential person, for today the brackets and beams bear mute witness to the triumph of his wishes.

Despite its relatively recent date of construction (1912), the First Presbyterian Church building of Nashville, Arkansas, combines two styles which flourished in the late nineteenth century, High Victorian Gothic and Stick Style. The combination of these styles was not unprecedented. In fact, Richard Upjohn, the famous New York architect, built a group of wooden, country churches in the 1870's which combine features of these two styles. However, their combination in the First Presbyterian Church building of Nashville, Arkansas, is perhaps the only such occurrence in southwest Arkansas.

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Form No. 10-301a (Pev. 10-7'+)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

RECEIVED DEC 2 9 1975

DATE ENTERED MAY 4 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC

First Presbyterian Church

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY TOWN Nashville

__VICINITY OF

COUNTY Howard

STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

РНОТО СПЕDIT Claudia Morrow

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET South elevation viewed from southeast

PHOTO NO.

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Presbyterian Church Howard County East classition, incided 1.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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First Presbyterian Church

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

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PHOTO CREDIT Claudia Morrow

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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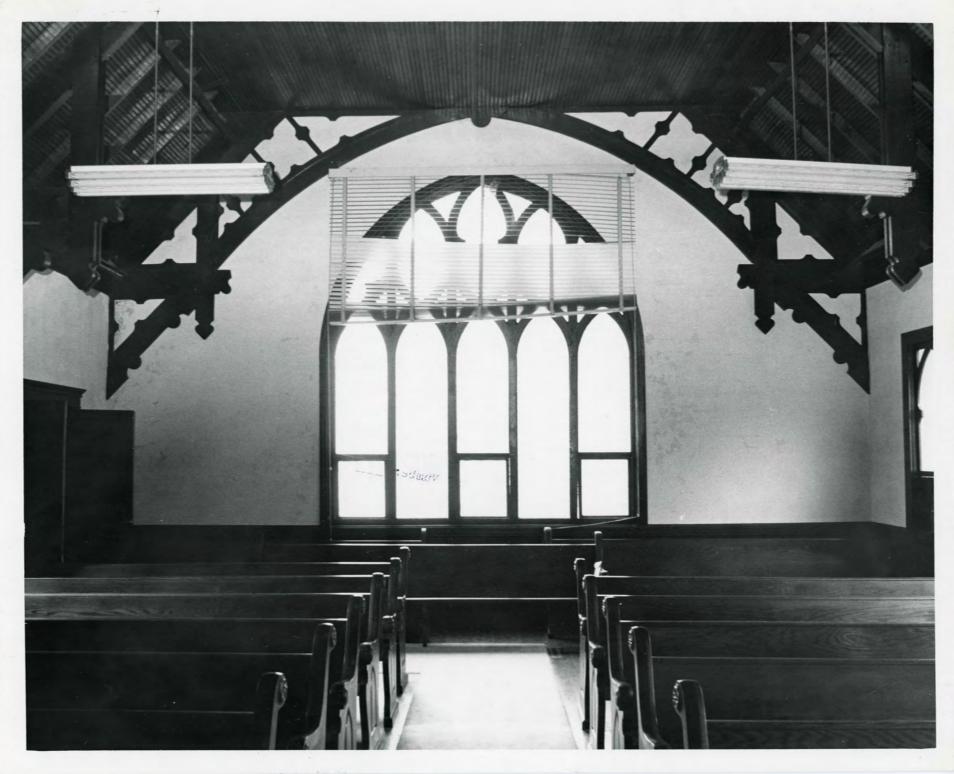
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Form No. 10-301a (Pev. 10-7+)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

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Howard COUNTY

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

STATE Arkansas

PHOTO REFERENCE

Claudia Morrow PHOTO CREDIT

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET South section of interior

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Presty teven church Nashville, Howard County North int.

Form No. 10-301a (Pev. 10-7+)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM	DATE ENTERED MAY 4 1976
SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLO	SE WITH PHOTOGRAPH
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AND/OR COMMON	
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Presbyterian church Anteria, + Form No. 10-301a

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Nashville

VICINITY OF

COUNTY Howard

STATE Arkansas

PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Claudia Morrow DATE OF PHOTO 1975

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IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

interior, typical bracket supporting the ceiling

PHOTO NO.

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Loc. Interior, typical bracket supporting the ceiling

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

RECEIVED

MAY 4 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC

First Presbyterian Church

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Nashville

__VICINITY OF

COUNTY Howard

STATE Arkansas

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE

United States Geological Survey Map, Nashville Quadrangle

SCALE

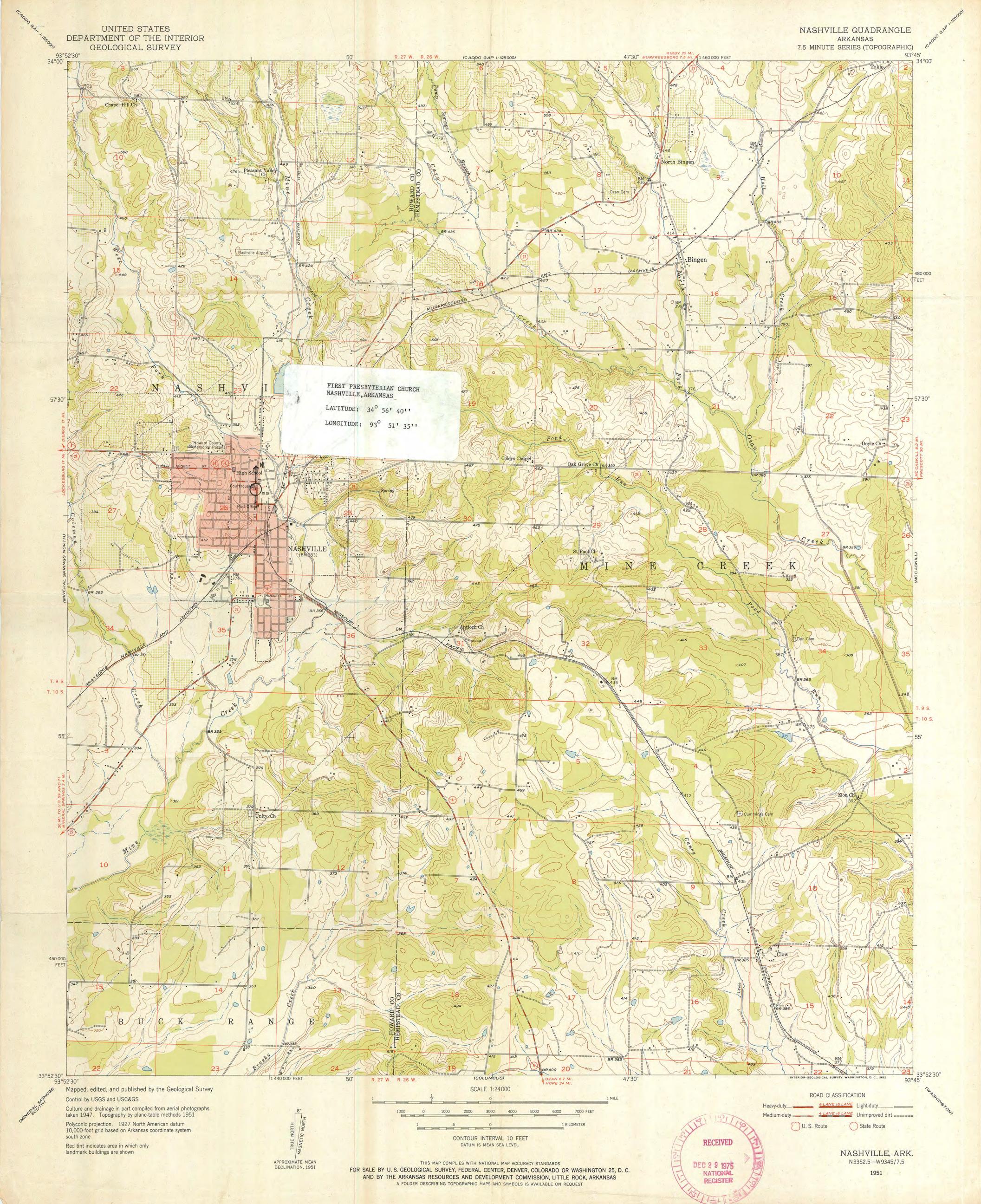
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DATE 1951

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

- 1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
- 2. NORTH ARROW
- 3. UTM REFERENCES



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ARKANSAS

Date Entered MAY 4 1976

Name

St. Joseph's Home

Palmar House

McRae, K.G., House

First Presbyterian Church

Dunn House

Elizabeth Hall

Russey House

Location

North Little Rock Pulaski County

Blackton Vicinity Monroe County

Hope Hempstead County

Nashville Howard County

Hampton Vicinity Calhoun County

New Blaine Logan County

Center Point Vicinity Howard County

Also Notified

Hon. John L. McClellan

Hon. Wilbur D. Mills

Hon. Bill Alexander

Hon. Ray Thornton

Hen. John P. Hammerschmidt

Regional Director, Southwest Region

PR:M Mott:coc 5/10/76

State Historic Preservation Officer

Ms. Anne Eartley Acting Director

Department of Natural and Culture

Heritage

The Old State House

Jud Wast Markham Little Rock, Arkansas

INT: 2950-75

NATIONA	L REGI	STER	DATA	SI	HEET
THAME as it appears on federal register First Presbyterian Chu		THER NAMES:		3	5.4.76 County code:
5 LOCATION street & number 2Nd and Hempstead Sts	Nashville	vicinity of		and	®NPS REGION:
7) OWNED PRIVATE STATE MUNICIPAL SCOUNTY SM				MINISTRATO	R:
B EXISTING SURVEYS CHARS CHARR CHILL (10) FUNDE		RICT 12 SOURCE	E of NOMINATION	,	
WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? Dyes, name	WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LA		THE MEMBERS 21	LOCAL	who prepared form?
CONDITION deteriorated dalter Sexual deteriorated dalter	red Friginal site	E O NOT	INTACT-O SCHOOL INT	NTIALLY INTACT-	
BACCESS XYES-Restricted TYES-Unrestricted	ed No Access Unknown	ADAPTIVE USE TYES THO	SAVED? XYES IS PR	OPERTY A	HISTORIC DISTRICT? Tyes
□ ARCHEOLOGY - prehistoric - 2 □ COMMERCE - 6 □ E □ ARCHEOLOGY - historic - 1 □ COMMUNICATIONS - 7 □ E AGRICULTURE - 3 □ CONSERVATION - 8 □ H MARCHITECTURE - 4 □ ECONOMICS - 9 □ I	NGINEERING - 11	- 15 POLITICS / GOVT 21 RELIGION - 22 SCIENCE - 23 SOCIAL / HUMANITARIAN SOCIAL / CULTURAL - 30 TRANSPORTATION - 25	□ SETTLEMENT-29 □ URBAN PLANNING-31 -24 □ OTHER (SPECIFY)	CLAIMS:	explain
WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: CHURCH CURRENTLY: COUNTY HERITAGE CLUT	3	dates of initial construction major alterations; historic events;	, ,,_		ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION
Barchitectural style(s): LATE GOTHIC REVINAL & STICK STYLE	@architect	:	master builder:	89°	ngineer:
alandscape architect/garden designer:	minterior decorator:	artist:	artisan:	3 builder	contractor:
NAMES give role & date PERSONAL:					
EVENTS:					
INSTITUTIONAL:			9		
cornice, paired louvered pointed - or and good gable end and pointed to pews, pulpit and hammer beam ceiling	Frame, clapboarding; 13- 3-story front corner of windows, and paneled racery windows, and paneled racery windows, and response of the state of the s	bell tower with a	crenelated paraper	t, styliz	ed denticulated
Style architecture in SW Arkans	àS .				