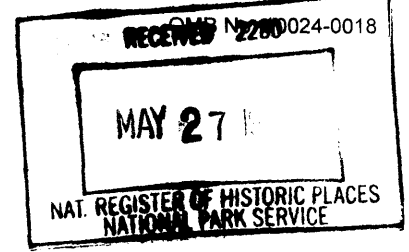


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

757



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Evans Chapel United Methodist Church

other names/site number NA

2. Location

street & number Old Clifton Turnpike

NA not for publication

city or town Waynesboro

vicinity

state Tennessee

code TN

county Wayne

code 181

zip code 38485

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Herbert L. Boyer
Signature of certifying official/Title

5/21/99
Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See Continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

entered in the National Register.

See continuation sheet

determined eligible for the National Register.

See continuation sheet

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

for Signature of the Keeper

Mary M. W.

Date of Action

7/9/99

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in count)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing

Noncontributing

1	2	buildings
		sites
	2	structures
		objects
1	2	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: religious facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Gothic Revival Influence

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Limestone; CONCRETE

walls Weatherboard

roof ASPHALT

other WOOD

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** moved from its original location.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property
- G** less than 50 year of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1898

Significant Dates

1898

Significant Person

(complete if Criterion B is marked)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- Previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

Evans Chapel United Methodist Church
Name of Property

Wayne County, Tennessee
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 3.3 acres Eagle Creek 33 SW

UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>16</u>	<u>413210</u>	<u>3912480</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carroll Van West and Tammy L. Miller
organization MTSU, Center for Historic Preservation date December 1998
street & number Box 80 telephone 615/898-2947
city or town Murfreesboro state TN zip code 37132

Additional Documentation

submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 Or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO) or FPO for any additional items

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Evans Chapel United Methodist Church, c/o Peggy Richardson
street & number 1300 Lyon Street telephone 931-380-2910
city or town Columbia state TN zip code 38401

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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National Park Service**

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Evans Chapel United Methodist Church
Wayne County, Tennessee

Architectural Description

The Evans Chapel United Methodist Church is a Gothic Revival influenced one-story weatherboard building constructed in 1898. The structure sits on a 3.3 acre lot on the Old Clifton Turnpike in Wayne County near the community of Eagle Creek, five miles east of Clifton, Tennessee. The church retains an extremely high degree of historical and architectural integrity from the period of its construction. There is an original limestone pier foundation, filled in with concrete blocks in the 1950s, and a steep, front-gable roof, finished with asphalt shingles. The eaves are accented with simple but delicate wood brackets.

The north facade has the steep, gable-front entrance to the church. The three-bay symmetrical facade is dominated by a wood steeple with bell tower that is sheathed in weatherboard. A small louver with wood slats sits in the peek of the roof. The original two-over-two double-hung sash windows are topped with triangular pedimented lintels, and the windows retain the original hardware. The windows are framed by wood shutters, added in 1983. The shutters are not original, but the building had similar shutters at the time of its construction. The original entrance was a simple double-leaf cross and bible paneled door with a triangular pedimented lintel. A two-paned rectangular transom topped the original door. The outline of the transom is still visible. The outer doors were replaced with similar doors in the 1980s after a burglary damaged the originals. However, the inner doors are still the original ones. A small portico with a triangular pediment was added to the entrance circa 1975. Small metal poles support the portico, and three concrete steps, covered by indoor/outdoor carpeting, are framed by simple, metal hand railings.

The east elevation of the original building has three symmetrical bays, with the original two-over-two double-hung sash windows topped with pedimented lintels and framed by wood shutters. A vertical, metal heating pipe is the only other feature on this facade. To the rear, a small addition with a shed roof extends the east elevation. A two-over-two double-hung sash window and a simple wood door with a metal storm door are the only features on this elevation of the addition.

The south elevation has a small louver with wood slats that sits in the peek of the steep gable roof. The elevation also has a slightly projecting solid section with a tiny, asphalt shingle roof. This projection corresponds with the slightly recessed altar platform in the interior. It is only

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National Park Service**

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Section number 7 Page 2

Evans Chapel United Methodist Church
Wayne County, Tennessee

slightly visible today due to a Sunday school addition that was completed in 1978. The small, low addition has a simple shed roof and vinyl siding. The addition covers the width of the building and has a two bay asymmetrical elevation. The two-over-two horizontal windows are covered with storm windows. A metal, heating pipe is the only other feature on this addition. To the east of this addition, a restroom was added in 1983. The restroom, with a slight gable roof extends past the width of the building and is also covered by vinyl-siding. No windows are located on this 1983 addition.

The west elevation of the original building mirrors the east elevation. It has three symmetrical bays, with the original two-over-two double-hung sash windows framed by wood shutters. The windows retain the original hardware. A vertical, metal heating pipe is the only other feature on this facade. The rear addition on this elevation is a solid, vinyl-sided wall.

The interior is dignified in its simplicity. The original beaded-board ceiling and walls, window and door casings, church furniture, poplar flooring, and richly grained wainscoting all remain intact. The height and form of the ceiling add to the distinctive architectural character of the church. The twenty-three original pews are arranged symmetrically with the north and south aisle dividing the pews into two groups. The pews retain their original graining and are excellent examples of local craftsmanship. Jesse Copeland, a local carpenter and craftsman, constructed the pews and initially finished them with a dark varnish that stuck to clothing in the hot summer months. In the 1940s, the pews were taken down to Eagle Creek where the heavy varnish was removed. John Thompson then refinished the pews with a lighter varnish that remains intact today.

Like the pews, the altar rail, constructed by James F. Dicus, is an excellent example of wood craftsmanship. The pulpit furniture retains its historic integrity. The three foot, three inch high wainscoting covers all the interior walls of the original building and is also an excellent example of local wood craftsmanship. The window and door frames are accented with bull's-eye motifs at the corners. Adjacent to the pulpit is a single-leaf door, which was added when the rear addition was constructed.

The building was wired for electricity in 1948, and six light fixtures, circa 1973, hang from the ceiling. A metal rod stretching the width of the building was added in 1983 to add support to the interior walls. The entrance hall has the same wall material and arrangement as the church

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Evans Chapel United Methodist Church
Wayne County, Tennessee

interior, and the original, interior doors retain their historical and architectural integrity. The ceiling of the foyer was lowered in 1965 to protect the entrance from birds.

The 1978 Sunday school addition has carpeted floor and three foot, eleven inch wainscoting of faux pine along the interior walls. The restroom was installed in 1983.

A metal cylinder propane tank (1948) is a noncontributing structure. (NC)

A small brick-based church bell monument (1978) is a non-contributing structure. (NC, due to date of construction).

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Section number 8 Page 4

Evans Chapel United Methodist Church
Wayne County, Tennessee

Statement of Significance

The Evans Chapel United Methodist Church in Wayne County, Tennessee, is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as a locally significant example of rural church Gothic Revival architecture and high quality craftsmanship. The craftsmanship is evident in its weatherboard construction, grained wood pews, unpretentious pulpit, and deeply-grained wainscoting, window casings and door frames. The original materials and design exhibit a high degree of integrity.

On August 11, 1897, H.O. and Annie O. Grimes sold 3.3 acres of land to James F. Dicus, George Pitts, John P. Battles, Oscar Discus, and H.A. Grimes, trustees, for the construction of Evans Chapel United Methodist Church. The Evans for whom the church is named is unclear; the best oral tradition traces the name to J.O. Evans, an early church trustee. Construction of the church began in the late summer of 1897 and was completed in early 1898. O.M. Dicus supplied the first load of lumber. The carpenters were Jess and Wayne Copeland of Waynesboro, James F. Dicus, and John and Will Barnett of Clifton. Jess Copeland carved the church pews. James F. Dicus carved the church pulpit. The congregation then purchased, from a source unknown today, the three chairs and stand of the pulpit furniture.

The high point of community involvement and attendance came from 1900 to 1930, when the rural economy of Wayne County experienced a period of general prosperity. The initial church ministers were members of the community, but in 1920 the congregation constructed a parsonage (not extant) in order to provide a residence for permanent ministers. Circa 1929 the church was placed on the Waynesboro circuit, but within a few years the church was placed in the Clifton circuit. Ministers no longer lived in the community, but were residents of Waynesboro, then Clifton. A treasured historic photo of a church picnic at nearby Boyd Spring on July 4, 1929 marks the passing of the formative era of the history of the church and surrounding rural community.

Evans Chapel United Methodist Church has sponsored different church-related activities throughout its history. Walter Shaw and J.O. Thompson, for example, taught very popular Singing Schools of gospel music, with photographs documenting the school as early as 1922. The establishment of the Singing Schools coincides with the development of the gospel music publishing empire of James D. Vaughan, which was headquartered in nearby Lawrenceburg,

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Section number 8 Page 5

Evans Chapel United Methodist Church
Wayne County, Tennessee

Tennessee. In the 1910s and 1920s, Vaughan held annual Singing Schools in Lawrenceburg “in which thousands of Tennesseans learned the rudiments of harmony, meter, and composition.” (1) The teachers at Evans Chapel were probably graduates from these pioneering efforts in the development and distribution of the white gospel music tradition.

In 1978 the congregation added a Sunday School room to the rear of the church building, the first substantial change in the building since its original construction. The carpenters were N. A. Floyd, John Thompson, Raymond Morrow, and Randy Morrow. Wayne Lineberry dug the well for the restroom installation in 1983.

Over the last sixty years, the congregation has declined as children of the original members have matured and moved away to towns and cities. But Evans Chapel still holds weekly services for its remaining devoted members. The maintenance and upkeep of the building rests largely with Jeanne Floyd and family, longtime members of the congregation, who have preserved this rare, intact example of the beauty of vernacular craftsmanship and design and the power of faith in rural Wayne County. The church exterior retains its Gothic Revival influenced bell tower, window casings and door frames while the interior retains significant local examples of craftsmanship in the pews, pulpit, and deeply-grained wainscoting.

In Wayne County, two other historic churches, both located in small towns, have been previously listed in the National Register. The Waynesboro Cumberland Presbyterian Church (NR 10/22/87) is a large Greek Revival influence brick building constructed in 1854. The First Presbyterian Church of Clifton (NR 3/08/88) is a brick building that was first constructed circa 1854 but remodeled in 1867 and 1892, when at the latter date it received a more Gothic influenced appearance. Evans Chapel United Methodist Church is located in the rural countryside of Wayne County and its undisturbed setting adds much to the Gothic Revival charm of this unpretentious frame building.

Endnote:

1. Charles Wolfe, “Music,” in Carroll V. West et al., eds., *Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture* (Nashville: Tennessee Historical Society, 1998), 663.

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Evans Chapel United Methodist Church
Wayne County, Tennessee

Bibliography

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Lay, Irene Dicus. "A History of Evans Chapel United Methodist Church." n.p., 1984.

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Richardson, Peggy F. Interviewed by Carroll Van West and Tammy Miller, October 12, 1998.

West, Carroll V., et al., eds. *Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture*. Nashville: Tennessee Historical Society, 1998.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 7

Evans Chapel United Methodist Church
Wayne County, Tennessee

Verbal Boundary Description

The Evans Chapel United Methodist Church contains approximately three and three tenths acres on the Old Clifton Turnpike and is located on Parcel 10 on the attached Wayne County Tax Map 53.

The Tax Map for this nomination has the scale 1" = 400'. This scale tax map is prepared by the Tennessee State Board of Equalization for rural areas. In the past, the Tennessee Historical Commission has used this scale map for nominations and has found that the 1" = 400' scale adequately meets our office needs. The Tennessee Historical Commission does not have the facilities to prepare maps to the scale preferred by the National Park Service.

Boundary Justification

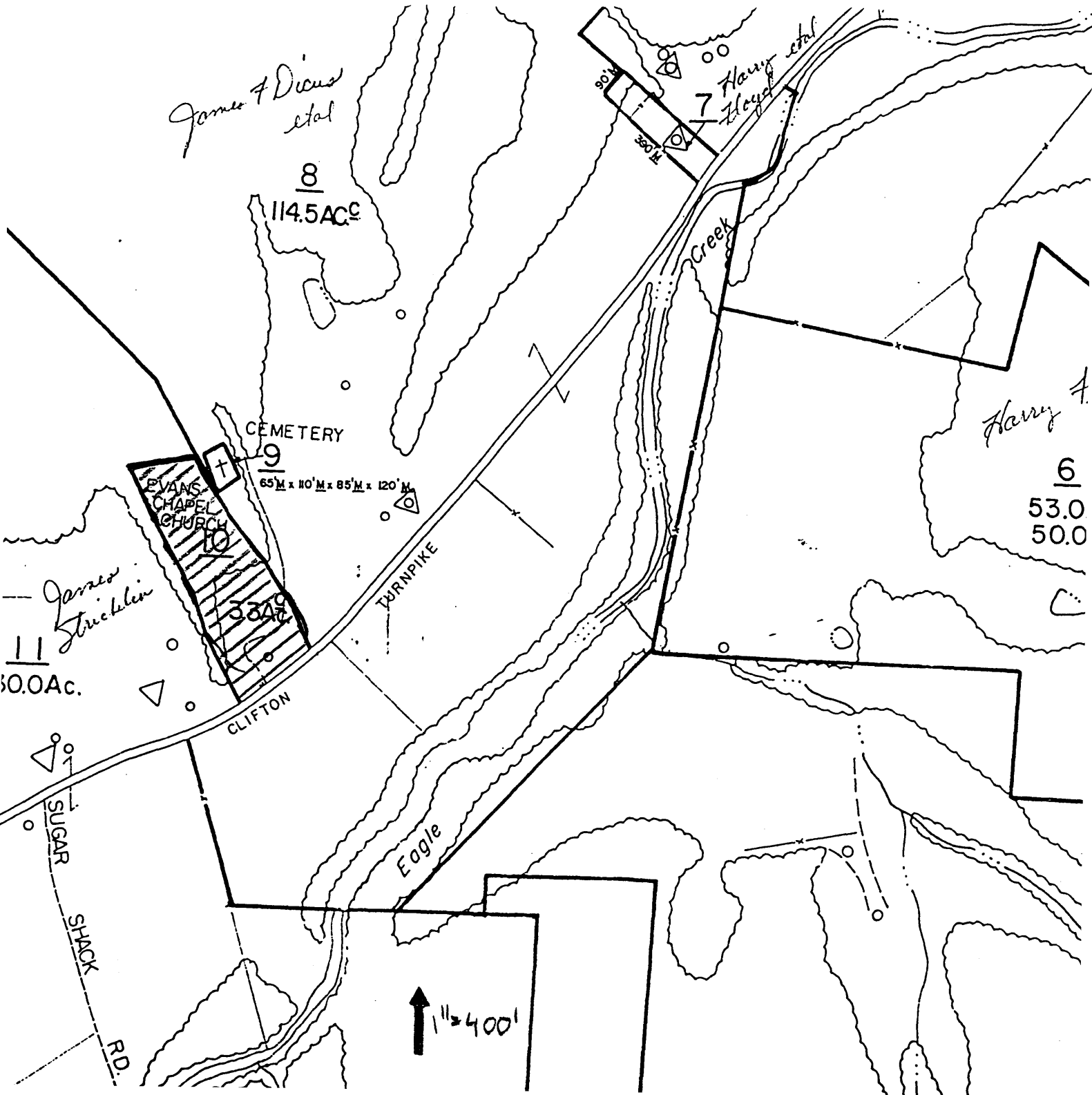
The nominated boundaries contain all the historic property associated with Evans Chapel United Methodist Church.

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Evans Chapel United Methodist Church
Wayne County, Tennessee



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Evans Chapel United Methodist Church
Wayne County, Tennessee

Photographs

Evans Chapel United Methodist Church
Wayne Co., TN

Photos by: Carroll Van West
 MTSU Center for Historic Preservation

Date: October 1998

Negatives: Tennessee Historical Commission
 2941 Lebanon Road
 Nashville, TN 37243

North façade, facing south
#1 of 18

North façade, facing south
#2 of 18

North façade and east elevation, facing southwest
#3 of 18

East elevation, facing west
#4 of 18

South elevation, facing north
#5 of 18

South and west elevations, facing northeast
#6 of 18

West elevation, facing southeast
#7 of 18

Pews and pulpit, facing southwest
#8 of 18

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Evans Chapel United Methodist Church
Wayne County, Tennessee

Pulpit, facing south
#9 of 18

Pulpit detail, facing southeast
#10 of 18

Ceiling, facing north
#11 of 18

Pews, entrance doors, facing northeast
#12 of 18

Pews and sanctuary, facing north
#13 of 18

Pews and east wall, facing northeast
#14 of 18

Pews, facing northeast
#15 of 18

Pews, rear, facing southeast
#16 of 18

Pews and piano, facing southwest
#17 of 18

Sunday School room, facing west
#18 of 18