

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received **SEP 30 1985**  
date entered

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

**1. Name**

historic First Methodist Church of Greenwood

and/or common First United Methodist Church of Greenwood

**2. Location**

street & number 310 West Washington Street

NA \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Greenwood NA vicinity of

state Mississippi code 28 county Leflore code 83

**3. Classification**

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

**4. Owner of Property**

name North Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church

street & number P. O. Drawer U

city, town Grenada NA vicinity of state Mississippi 38901

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the Chancery Clerk  
Leflore County Courthouse

street & number Courthouse Square

city, town Greenwood state Mississippi 38930

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Statewide Survey of Historic Sites has this property been determined eligible? \_\_\_ yes  no

date 1982 \_\_\_ federal  state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records Mississippi Department of Archives and History

city, town Jackson state Mississippi

## 7. Description

**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved date NA

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

Located at the northeast corner of the intersection of East Washington Street and Cotton Street, the First United Methodist Church is a Romanesque Revival church building with its principal, gable-end facade fronting Washington Street. A gabled wing of lesser height extends from the western elevation of the principal block to present a gable facade on Cotton Street. In the angle formed by the main block and the projecting gabled wing is a tall, square, dominating tower with battlemented parapet and pyramidal roof surmounted by a finial. On the Washington Street elevation, the dominating tower is somewhat balanced on the other side of the main block by a projecting wing with gable-end facade whose roof is pierced by a small tower, or minaret, at its junction with the main block. Extending across the facade of the main block, linking the large tower to the gabled projection with minaret is a flat-roof arcaded entry porch. Balancing the large tower on the Cotton Street elevation is a short square tower with pyramidal roof and finial. The building features the semi-circular arched openings with archivots that are typical of Romanesque Revival architecture. Windows, which are arranged primarily in units of three, are filled with stained glass. Numerous belt courses divide the building horizontally.

East of the main church building is a three-story brick Sunday school building that was constructed in 1924 and designed by local architect Frank R. McGeoy. The five-bay building features a shaped parapet, brickwork panels with corner blocks and central diamonds of stone of cement, projecting end bays, and windows filled paired, one-over-one double-hung sash set beneath transoms.

## 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1898 **Builder/Architect** Reuben Harris Hunt (Chattanooga)

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The First United Methodist Church is one of Mississippi's most outstanding examples of Romanesque Revival architecture. Its significance is based not only on the high quality of its architecture but also on its outstanding integrity, which is unusual for an architectural style that so often suffers from the removal of the towers and other ornamentation so characteristic of the Romanesque Revival Style. The church was constructed in 1898 during the midst of one of the city's worst yellow fever epidemics and was designed by Reuben Harris Hunt of Chattanooga, Tennessee. Hunt was the designer of the most notable buildings constructed in Greenwood, which include the First Baptist Church (being demolished), the Leflore County Courthouse, the First Methodist Church, and a Romanesque school building that burned. All of these buildings were constructed between 1898 and 1910, a boom period for the city of Greenwood. The Sunday school addition to the east was constructed in 1924 and was designed by Frank R. McGeoy, a native of Memphis, Tennessee. McGeoy designed many local landmark buildings in Greenwood, including the Beaman House, the temple for Congregation Ahavath Rayim, and the Wesley Methodist Church on Howard Street.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Miller, Mary Warren, preservation consultant with the Historic Natchez Foundation. Inspection of the First United Methodist Church of Greenwood, June 10, 1985.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than once acre

Quadrangle name Greenwood, Miss.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A	<u>15</u>	<u>7615210</u>	<u>3171122110</u>	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

Parcels 9, 10, 11, and 12 of block 15 of the Howard Part of the city of Greenwood. The property is bounded on the south by East Washington Street and on the west by Cotton St.

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

state	code	county	code
NA			
state	code	county	code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mary Warren Miller

organization Historic Natchez Foundation date June 15, 1985

street & number P. O. Box 1761 telephone (601) 442-2500

city or town Natchez state Mississippi 39120

## 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

*Kenneth H. P'Pool*

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date September 25, 1985

For NPS use only

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

*See Continuation sheet for listings* date \_\_\_\_\_

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration