

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES
Individual Inventory Form

Resource # 196
Shelby County

1. Name of Resource:
Grove Hill Cemetary Chapel

2. Original Owner:
Shelbyville Cemetary Co.

3. Other Names:

4. Prehistoric Site Building Object
Historic Site Structure Other

5. Location:
w. side KY 55, S of Shelbyville at Clear Creek

6. Owner's Name:
Shelbyville Cemetary Co. [P]

7. Owner's Address:

8. Evaluation: National Register [N]

9. Recognition & Date:
Nat.Landmark _____ Local Landmark _____
Nat.Register _____ HABS/HAER _____
Highway Marker _____ KY Inventory 8-15-80
KY Landmark Certificate _____

10. N.R.Status & Date:

11. N.R.Group:
District Name: []
Mult.Resource Area: Shelby County []
Thematic Name: []

12. Historical Theme:
Primary: Architecture [030]
Secondary: []
Other: []

13. Statement of Significance:
This property is signifigant under criterion C as the most stylistically developed religious structure in the county, designed by a recognized local builder. It is rare from the period as stone and has been carefully maintained. It was built by designer (continued) [C]

14. History:
Original land taken from farms of Josephus Wilson, Mark Hardin, and Daniel Lively for cemetary. The 68-acre property was incorporated as the Shelbyville Cemetary Co. in March 1854. Building, built in 1893 was designed and built by Lynn T. Gruber Archt. says cornerstone.

15. Source of historical information and/or contact person:
History Still Alive at Grove Hill" Shelbyville Sentinel-News, May23, 1986
"Grove Hill expands" S'ville Sentinael News Jan. 18, 1984.

16. Date:
Original Building 1893 [5]
Addition []

17. Style: "Victorian"Gothic [41]
[]

18. Architect/Builder:
Lynn T. Gruber

19. No. of Stories: 1 [1, 0]

20. Original Floor Plan:
nave [00]

21. Single Pile Double Pile N.A.

22. Roof Form & Material: Original
gable/slate Not Original

23. Structural Material:
stone [S]

24. Exterior Material:
stone [S]
[]

25. Foundation Material:
stone [S]

26. Major Alterations: None
Moved/Rebuilt Other
Additions

27. Special Features:
none

28. Outbuildings:
N/A [0]

29. Original Function:
church/religious structure [06A]

30. Present Use:
storage [99V]

31. Condition:
Excellent [E]

32. Endangered: Yes _____
No

33. Attach Photos:
Roll: Photo Nos: No. of Slides:
10 1-6

34. Prepared by: C. Worsham

35. Organization: Shelby Co. Hist. Society

36. Date: March 1986

37. New Survey _____ Resurvey

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38. UTM Point of Primary Building: Quadrant: <u>Shelbyville</u>	Zone <u>16</u>	Easting <u>6 5 6 8 4 0</u>	Northing <u>4 2 3 0 0 0 0</u>	39. G.I.S. Mod. []	40. Coordi. Accuracy []
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1. UTM Points of Boundary (for N. R. eligible sites only):

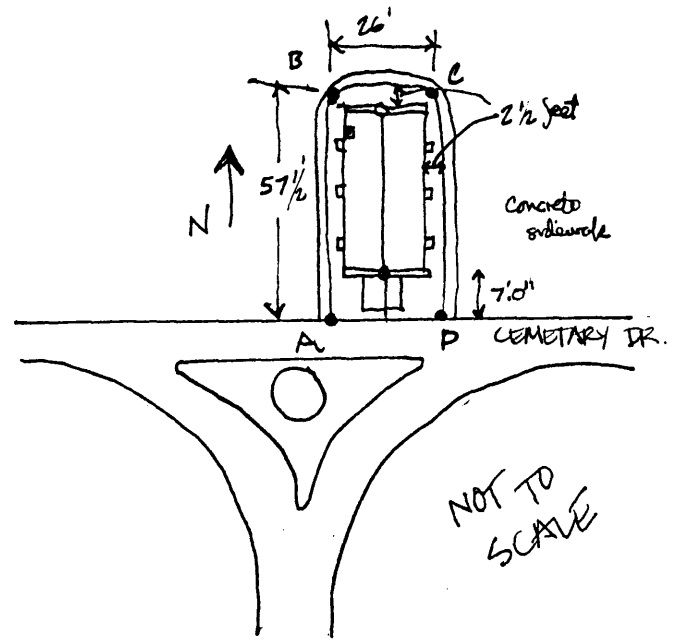
A. -----	D. -----
B. -----	E. -----
C. -----	F. -----

42. Total Acreage in Present Property: <u>unknown</u>	43. Acreage included in proposed N.R. boundary: <u>.034</u>
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14. Site Plan (and boundary description and justification for N.R. sites):

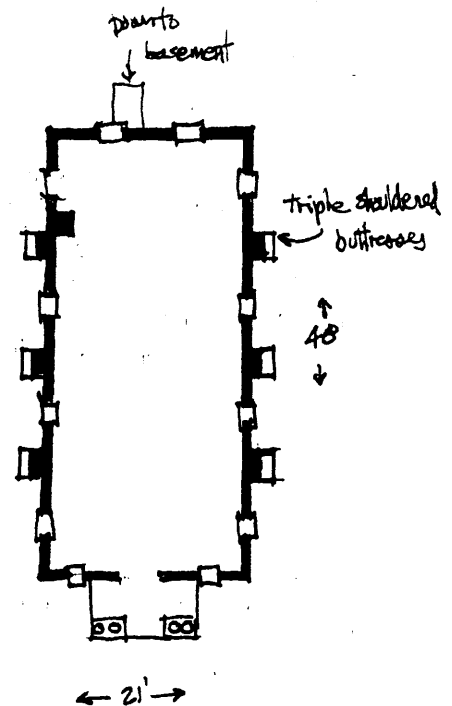
Beginning at point A on the north side of cemetery drive, proceeding north 57 1/2 feet along east side of concrete sidewalk to point B, thence east 26 feet along south of concrete sidewalk to point C, thence south 57 1/2 feet along west side of concrete sidewalk to point D, thence 26 feet west along north edge of cemetery drive to point of origin. The boundaries were drawn to encompass the chapel building alone.

Point A is located at the intersection of the northern edge of Cemetery Drive with the eastern edge of the western arm of the sidewalk surrounding the church and is 10 feet southwest of the southwestern corner of the building.



45. Description and House Plan:

The rock-faced limestone ashlar Gothic chapel at Grove Hill Cemetery was built in 1895, designed and constructed by Lynn T. Gruber, a local builder and designer responsible for many area buildings, including Undulata (N.R.) and the W.J. Thomas House (Sh-55) and houses in Shelbyville, as well as the Lincoln Institute (Sh-174). The four-bay nave-plan structure has parapet gables with molded copings and sawtooth ornament, with an urn as finial at each end of the chapel. The corners are quoined, and the 3-bay central gabled porch is supported by paired Gothic columns on separated plinths. The central bay of the porch is spanned by a pointed arch with smooth-finished voussoirs which carry the name of the cemetery naively, one letter to each stone. A round window in the gable, and a pair of narrow, tall, pointed windows flanking the porch complete the principal facade (south). The pointed arch of the porch is filled by a wrought iron ornamental screen, partially concealing the pointed top of the wide double entry doors. The side walls have four tall pointed windows spaced by triple-shouldered buttresses. The interior features wooden beamed ceiling with corbel supports and center bosses, original pump organ. (continued)



13. Statement of Significance (continued)

Lynn T. Gruber, responsible for a number of homes in the county, in the popular Gothic Style. It is also the county's only cemetery chapel, providing an architectural focus to the landscaped cemetery, laid out 40 years earlier as part of the national trend on ornamentally designed cemeteries, such as Louisville's Cave Hill Cemetery.

45. Description and House Plan (continued)

The boundaries enclose one contributing building.