

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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

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

For HCRS use only

received JUL 5 1979

date entered AUG 10 1979

1. Name

historic St. Paul Presbyterian Church

and/or common St. Paul United Presbyterian Church

2. Location

street & number RFD 3 W of Lowland not for publication

city, town Morristown Lowland Community vicinity of congressional district First

state Tennessee code 047 county Hamblen code 063

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Trustees, St. Paul Presbyterian Church, Union Presbytery, UPUSA

street & number RFD 3

city, town Morristown vicinity of state Tennessee 37814

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds

street & number Hamblen County Courthouse

city, town Morristown state Tennessee 37814

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historical and Architectural Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date April 1979 federal state county local

depository for survey records Tennessee Historical Commission

city, town 4721 Trousdale Drive, Nashville state Tennessee 37220

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

St. Paul Presbyterian Church is located on a hillock in rural Hamblen County, approximately five and one-half miles southeast of the courthouse in Morristown. Constructed in 1857, the small Greek Revival brick church stands on a foundation of similar material; the brick was laid in stretcher bond. An embossed metal shingled roof covers the building. A small belfry crowns the ridge and contains the church bell; this element was probably placed there in 1905 when the old roofing material was replaced.

The three-bay facade (northeast elevation) is distinguished by a pent eave and two louvered apertures in the tympanum. The centered paneled door, with its large transom, is flanked by eight-over-eight windows. The northwest and southeast elevations each have four bays--three windows to light the sanctuary and a door in the southwest end of both walls. In the 1940s a basement was excavated and access to this area provided by a door in the northeast end of the southeast wall. During this same remodeling project, the narrow front steps were replaced with the present wide ones. The rear (southwest) elevations is also pedimented and has similar louvered openings; a brick flue was later attached to this wall.

In plan the church is rectangular. Although the interior has been substantially modernized, the alterations are largely superficial and the building retains its basic, original configuration. The balcony and small study rooms in the northeast end of the church and the air conditioning were added in 1969.

A two or three acre cemetery is located southwest of the church on the same tract as the building. The first recorded burial was in 1859, just two years after the church was erected; an earlier cemetery, located approximately one mile east of the present church was used until the late 1850s.

A modern, brick-veneered, concrete block residence (ca.1960) has been moved on to the property recently and will be used as the manse. This stands north of the church near the northern corner of the tract and replaces an earlier building which was demolished ca. 1970.

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	1857	Builder/Architect	John Seabolt
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Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

St. Paul Presbyterian Church was organized in 1804 by the original settlers of the Bend of Chuckey section of Jefferson (now Hamblen) County. The present building replaced an earlier rock church, which is reputed to have been the first Presbyterian Church founded in Hamblen County.

The congregation formed a building committee in 1857 which selected Colonel Joseph Hamilton, a prominent member of the church, to supervise the making of brick and the construction of a new meeting house. John Seabolt, a Dandridge contractor, was awarded the contract for the project; William A. Stover did the woodwork on the church. The total cost of the building was \$2,045.30. Rev. William Harvey Smith held services for the first time in January 1858, and the building continues to serve the congregation today.

This building is an excellent example of the Greek Revival style church built in rural East Tennessee in the 1840s and 1850s. Since small congregations had limited funds available for new buildings, they interpreted the temple form without the columned porticos, that is, in the unadorned form which is characterized by St. Paul Presbyterian Church. It has been hypothesized that nineteenth-century Tennessee Presbyterians preferred the Greek Revival style for their churches, while Episcopalians in the same region favored the Gothic Revival style. St. Paul's adds evidence to this hypothesis.

It is unusual for a rural antebellum church to have survived at all, but to find one which retains its original exterior appearance is rare indeed. The congregation obviously appreciates and respects the design of this building; when it became necessary to have more floor space for a growing congregation, it was decided to excavate under the building rather than to add wings which would severely alter its appearance and historic plan.

9. Major Bibliographical References

"Historic Hamblen, 1870-1970, Hamblen County Centennial," Nashville: Tennessee State Library and Archives.
 Information provided by George S. Hale, Jr., President, Hamblen County Historical Society, Morristown, Tennessee.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 15

Quadrangle name Springvale, Tennessee

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	7	2	9	9	2	0	4	0	0	4	2	0	0
Zone			Easting				Northing						

B

1	7	2	9	9	8	2	0	4	0	0	3	7	3	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

1	7	2	9	9	6	4	0	4	0	0	3	9	8	0
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 attached sheet

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

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Barbara Hume Church, Architectural Historian
Robert E. Dalton, Director of Field Services

organization Tennessee Historical Commission

date June 21, 1979

street & number 4721 Trousdale Drive

telephone 741-2371

city or town Nashville

state Tennessee 37220

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Herbert L. Hays

Executive Director and

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 6/29/79

For HCRS use only

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

Coral Shull
 Keeper of the National Register

date 8-10-79

Attest:

Herbert L. Hays
 Chief of Registration

date Aug 9 '79

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR HCRS USE ONLY	JUL 5 1979
RECEIVED	
DATE ENTERED	AUG 10 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

Dyers, Beesley, Johnson, Morris, and Walters, St. Paul United Presbyterian Church,
(1976), Tennessee Historical Commission files.

FHR-8-300A
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 2

The property nominated is a 15-acre, triangular-shaped tract which contains the church, cemetery, and recently added manse. The boundary of the tract is outlined in red on the attached Hamblen County, Tennessee, Tax Assessor Maps (No. 51 and 58), which are drawn using the scale, 1" = 400'. This is the entire tract owned by the congregation of St. Paul United Presbyterian Church.