

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

1. Name of Property

historic name Corinth Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

other name/site number CK- 292 Corinth C.M.E. Church

2. Location

street & town 1180 L& E Junction Rd. not for publication N/A

city or town Winchester vicinity N/A

state Kentucky code KY county Clark code 049 zip code 40391

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 forth 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.)

Donna M. Neary
Signature of certifying official/Title Donna Neary, SHPO Date 05/25/2007

Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office
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:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

for
Edson H. Beall

7.11.07

Corinth Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
Name of Property

Clark County, KY
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
X private	X building	2	buildings
public-local	district		sites
public-State	site		structures
public-Federal	structure		objects
	object	2	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

(Enter only categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility

Current Function

(Enter only categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter only categories from instructions)

Gothic Revival

Materials

(Enter only categories from instructions)

foundation: dry laid limestone

Walls: wood and weatherboard

Roof: asphalt shingles

other

Narrative Description (See continuation sheets for Section No. 7 narrative)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Corinth Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
Clark County, Kentucky

Section 7 Page 1

Description:

Corinth Christian Methodist Episcopal Church (CK-292) is a wood-framed clapboard-covered building constructed in 1890, about 7 miles east of Winchester, Kentucky, in a largely abandoned area between two railroad communities, Hedges, to the southeast, and L & E Junction, to the northwest.

Historical Development of the Area

Prior to the arrival of the railroads, this part of Clark County existed as a rural community named "Fairlie," populated by people of Scotch-Irish descent. By the end of the nineteenth century, the one-and-a-half-mile stretch between the railroad towns of Hedges and L&E Junction had become an African American community, though without official city status. This African American community had a greater density than Fairlie did, and became known under various names, such as "Dodge" and "KU Junction." The Corinth CME Church served as one signpost of that community.

The Lot

The lot for the Corinth CME Church is defined much like several lots in the community. That is, lots were sandwiched in the 100'-200' margin between the railroad line and L & E Junction Road, which ran roughly parallel in a northwest-southeast direction. Before the construction of the paved road, the lot fronted on a small tributary of Stoner Creek known as George's Branch. The church occupies a lot with a 175-foot frontage on the road and runs to the railroad, 160' deep. The church sits within a partially wooded lot, surrounded by some aged and decaying water maple trees. Two hand-hewn limestone cornerstones outside of the church mark the entry walkway. The church is the sole building on the lot, with the exception of a small outhouse at the lot's rear. It is believed that since 1890, the church property's acreage has been the same.

The Church exterior

The front of the church faces to the southwest, toward L & E Junction Road. Steep wooden steps lead up to the square entryway and vestibule at the front of the building. The entryway is furnished with wooden double entry doors with a Gothic arch. The bell tower sits atop the vestibule and front entry. It has a pyramidal roof with asphalt shingles, and is encased by weatherboards that have become deteriorated on the bottom laps. The bell was removed in the early 1900s due to the deterioration of its supports and safety concerns, and the weatherboards were recently replaced with new wood siding. The new boards still await painting.

William Ambrose, a local railroad historian, hypothesizes that the church's dry laid limestone foundation is the work of Scottish stonemasons. Those workers are known to have crafted the bulwarks and bridge abutments for the nearby Kentucky Union Railroad, and the foundation and railroad stonework bear similar characteristics.

The building's Victorian-era design is straightforward and largely intact. The southeast and northwest sides of the building each have three Gothic arch windows. The windows retain only one third of their original stained glass panes. Vandalism and storms have led to the replacement of some of the historic colored-glass panes with clear glass. The other nod to Gothic styling is the doors. Beyond the doors and windows, the church details are plainly rendered.

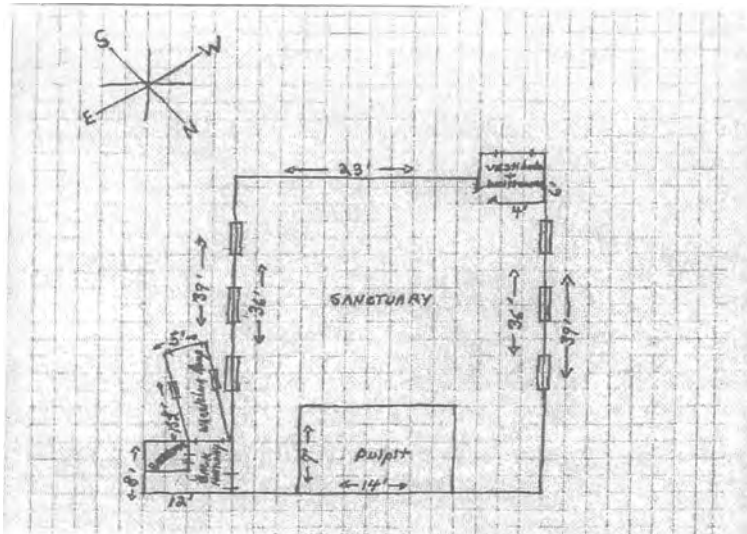
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Corinth Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
Clark County, Kentucky

Section 7 Page 2

The church interior

The interior of the building is accessed by front and back entrances. A wooden pulpit rests on a low platform inside the dark wooden altar railing. The altar is located in the center of the northeastern interior wall. A cove-like ceiling made of tongue and groove lumber follows the angle of the rafters. A brick chimney flue sits atop wooden supports in the top middle of the northwest wall. Once used for a stovepipe for a coal-burning stove, it is now furnished with a vent pipe for a propane heating stove. The original tongue and groove flooring is still intact but has been covered with red carpeting. The original oak plank pews are intact but have been painted, and modern nails have been substituted for the square cut nails that have fallen out. The interior walls have been paneled with dark wood paneling. A handhewn wooden cross in a frame, handmade by trustee Orville Davis, graces the wall above pulpit and altar.



Changes over time:

A bathroom addition with indoor plumbing was added in the late 1980s to replace the function of the outhouse at the back of the church lot. The bathroom and back hallway entrance are accessed on the inside of the building by a doorway at the back of the sanctuary, to the right of the altar.

In 2004, a covered ramp was added to the southeast side of the building to accommodate the infirmities of an aged congregation. Due to the scarcity of building funds, the project was undertaken with donated or used materials and unskilled labor. This addition angles slightly away from the main structure. Its only point of attachment is at the rear doorway, which leads to the back hallway and bathroom addition from the outside. This addition makes entry possible for those confined to wheelchairs and for those whose infirmities make the steep stairs at the front entrance difficult to negotiate.

The gable roof and square pyramidal roof on the bell tower were recovered with black asphalt shingles in 1999. Some wood deterioration is occurring, evident on the front door and some of the windowsills.

Corinth Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
Name of Property

Clark County, KY
County and State

8. Description

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.

Areas of Significance

(enter categories from instructions)

Ethnic Heritage: Black

Period of Significance

1890-1957

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person (only if Criterion B selected)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder (use last names first for individuals)

Unknown

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

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

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 8

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (See continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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:

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Corinth Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
Clark County, Kentucky

Section 8 Page 1

Statement of Significance

Corinth C.M.E. Church (CK-292), meets National Register Criterion A for the significant role it played in an African American community, variously known as KU Junction or Dodge, in Clark County, Kentucky. The continued existence of this building, despite the physical erosion of the rest of the townscape, testifies to the value this building held for the members of the community. Institutional buildings such as churches and schools had great importance in defining Kentucky's African American communities. The building is significant within the historic context, "African American Community of KU Junction, Clark County, Kentucky, 1880-1950."

Context: "African American Community of KU Junction, Clark County, Kentucky, 1880-1950."

Clark County, the 14th established in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, was named in 1793 for Revolutionary War Hero George Rogers Clark. KU Junction began as a rural village known as "Fairlie" in the early-19th century, populated by whites of Scots-Irish descent. Two events occurred in the late-19th century that helped change the identity of this town. First was the end of slavery in 1865, which gave blacks greater mobility as well as the choice to erect communities for themselves. Second, was the arrival of two railroads in the immediate area, 6-7 miles east of Winchester, seat of Clark County.

The Elizabethtown, Lexington and Big Sandy Railroad reached this part of Clark County in 1873, and the Kentucky Central and the Kentucky Union Railroads entered the county in the 1880s. These and other railroads had a profound impact in helping reshape Clark County into a transportation, commercial, and educational center in Kentucky's bluegrass (Johnson, Hood-Tucker House nomination form, 2006).

As crossroad communities would emerge where two overland roads crossed, the crossing of two railroads provided sufficient employment and commercial opportunities to support new towns at those junctions. One such town, L & E Junction, came into being less than two miles northwest from the site proposed for listing. The town's name alludes to the dominance of railroads upon local affairs.

Southeast of L & E Junction, along the tracks, were a collection of houses occupied by African Americans, some of whom undoubtedly had been slaves (see map next page, 8-2). These folks migrated from sites within Clark County. Perhaps this location simply was understood at the time as the black part of L & E Junction. These homes began to coalesce into a community in the latter part of the 19th century.

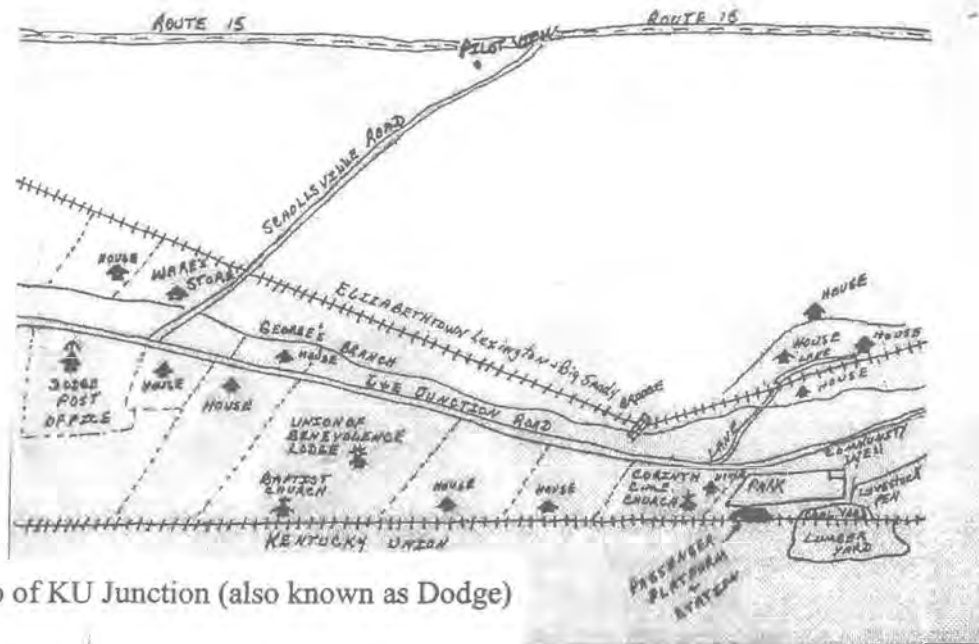
This community did not incorporate, and became known under various names "KU Junction," which acknowledged the railroad's presence, and "Dodge," the name of a Post Office that operated there from 1885 until 1923. Dodge was the name of the builder of the railroad to the southeast; that name appears to have continued in usage beyond the closure of the Post Office. Today, L & E Junction and Hedges appear on many maps of Clark County, but "Fairlie," "KU Junction," and "Dodge" are absent.

KU Junction consisted in dwellings and a few stores, buildings that served railroad work, and three structures used for worship and benevolent activities. A church for black Baptists stood approximately a thousand feet southeast of Corinth C.M.E. Church. Only a few yards beyond the Baptist Church was a meetinghouse for The Union of Benevolence, a black fraternal order. Black fraternal orders fostered community strength by providing social and educational benefits. Rural black communities have historically relied on their churches and benevolent societies for spiritual and material support.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Corinth Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
Clark County, Kentucky

Section 8 Page 2



Unofficial map of KU Junction (also known as Dodge)
1920-1940?

African American Methodists were in Clark County from the earliest days of statehood. In the first half of the 19th century, slaves were permitted to attend services, sitting in the back or consigned to the balcony of their master's church. After Emancipation, African American Methodists were given their own jurisdiction. Bishop Henry Miles organized the Lexington District in 1870.

Corinth C.M.E. Church first occupied a small dwelling house approximately 500 feet from the present building, on property conveyed by Thomas Gardener and George and Phyllis Gaitskill on November 14, 1883 to the Corinth C.M.E. Church for \$100 (Will Wilson, Harry Haggard and Calvin Vivian). The note indicated that the \$100 was to be paid in installments, at six percent interest. The first minister migrated from church to church on foot or horseback. Records from those early days of the church are sketchy and incomplete, but they suggest that there may have been several other small churches in the area that shared ministers, who participated in an informal circuit. As the KU Junction community grew, so did the Corinth C.M.E. Church's congregation. The present church building was erected in 1890.

KU Junction also contained a landscaped park for the benefit of railroad patrons, a lumber yard for offloading the lumber that came by train from the mountains, and a stockpen for loading and unloading livestock. The park covered approximately two acres and contained the community well. A photograph of the well and some of the park patrons of that era resides in the Railroad History Section of the Red River Museum in Clay City. According to a preserved train schedule in that museum, trains left from L&E Junction, both morning and evening, carrying passengers and freight to and from Clay City and Natural Bridge Resort.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Corinth Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
Clark County, Kentucky

Section 8 Page 3

Employment opportunities and the presence of a viable community explain what drew African Americans to this village. Beginning in the 1920s, railroads across America began to experience reduced demand, a result of competition with automobiles for personal travel and trucks for commercial portage. Railroad employment dwindled, leading the African-American population of KU Junction to seek new opportunities in other places.

Today, two resources remain to document the community's African American past. The well and its stone casing are extant. Corinth C.M.E. Church is the only building surviving from the community. A handful of faithful church members return to their roots on the first, second, and fourth Sundays of each month, to worship as their ancestors did beginning more than a century ago.

The current church building was erected in 1890. Current congregation member Mr. Davis recalls that his mother told of helping to plant the Maple trees in the churchyard when she was a young girl. She also told him that she remembers that some of the congregation put documents and other items in one of the cornerstones as a sort of time capsule when the church was built.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Corinth Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
Clark County, Kentucky

Section 9 Page 1

Bibliography

Print Sources

Cayson, Rev. Delmetria, compiler
2003 History of the Corinth Christian Methodist Episcopal Church. Printed in
Corinth CME Church bulletin.

Johnson, Cynthia
2006 Hood-Tucker House, National Register nomination form

Interviews

William Ambrose, Winchester Kentucky, September 14, 2006
Orville Davis, Trustee of Corinth CME Church, September 6, 2006
Morean Watts, member of Corinth CME Church congregation, October 16, 2006

Museums

- Bluegrass Heritage Museum, 217 South Main Street, Winchester, Kentucky
- Red River Museum, Railroad exhibit, Main Street, Clay City, Kentucky Heritage Council

Electronic Sources

- Map of Fairlie found in Kentucky Atlas and Gazetteer, at <http://www.uky.edu/KentuckyAtlas/kentucky-atlasc.html>
- Kentucky African American Heritage Commission, at www.kyheritage.org
- Stuart Doyle's article, "Fraternal Lodges; Developing and expanding the Rural African-American Community" found in Chicken Bones. A Journal for Literary & Artistic African-American Themes, at <http://www.nathanielturner.com>

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property

UTM References

(Place additional boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

USGS Topographic Quad name Hedges

16 758 320 4209 510
Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (See Continuation Sheet)

Boundary Justification (See Continuation Sheet)

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Barbara A. Clem	Marty Perry	
organization	N/A	Kentucky Heritage Council	date 12 December, 2006
street & number	1290 L & E Junction Rd.	300 Washington St.	telephone 859/842-6927
city or town	Winchester KY 40391	Frankfort KY 40601	
email address	clemb@kfbol.com		

Additional Documentation

The National Register requires each nomination consist of the following beyond this 4-page cover form:

- 1 Continuation Sheets for narrative
- 2 A **USGS topographic quad map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location
- 3 A **Sketch map** for historic districts or properties having large acreage or numerous resources
- 4 A **Photo identification map** for districts; one map can serve both as sketch and photo ID map.
- 5 **black and white photographs** of the property. See policy statement for acceptable use of digital photographs

The Kentucky Heritage Council requires the following for all nominations:

- 1 An **additional set of black and white photographs** that remains at the KHC
- 2 **Floor plans** of properties whose significance is based on their plans
- 3 **Color slides or PowerPoint images** and presentation of the property to the Kentucky State Review Board

Property Owner

name/title	Mr. Orville Davis	cell	859/585-4584
street & number	1642 Owingsville Rd.	telephone	home 859/498-5904
city or town	Mt. Sterling	state	KY zip code 40353
email address (if available)	_____		

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Corinth Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
Clark County, Kentucky

Section 10 and Photos Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description:

The area proposed for listing is the entire property defined by the Clark County Property Valuation Office under the account number 103-0000-005-00. This area corresponds to the former PVA mapping system as Parcel 5 on Map 103. The property on which the church stands is a less-than-one-acre lot that fronts (southwest) on the L & E Junction Road in Clark County, Kentucky. The back of the church lot (northeast) is bordered by the now abandoned bed of the Kentucky Union Railroad. The grounds are bounded on the northwest by a hay field that was once a park for the benefit of railroad patrons. The grassed, sloping lot is bounded on the southeast by a grassed lot and a small dwelling.

Boundary Justification

The area proposed for listing contains the significant resource and the historically significant site, both of which retain their historic integrity. This area is appropriate for listing because it is the same property dimensions from the date in which the church—the primary resource from which the property derives its significance—was erected.

Photograph Identification:

Same information for all photographs:

Property: Corinth Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

Location: Clark County, Kentucky

Photographer: Barbara Clem

Date of Photograph: March 19 2007

Digital media

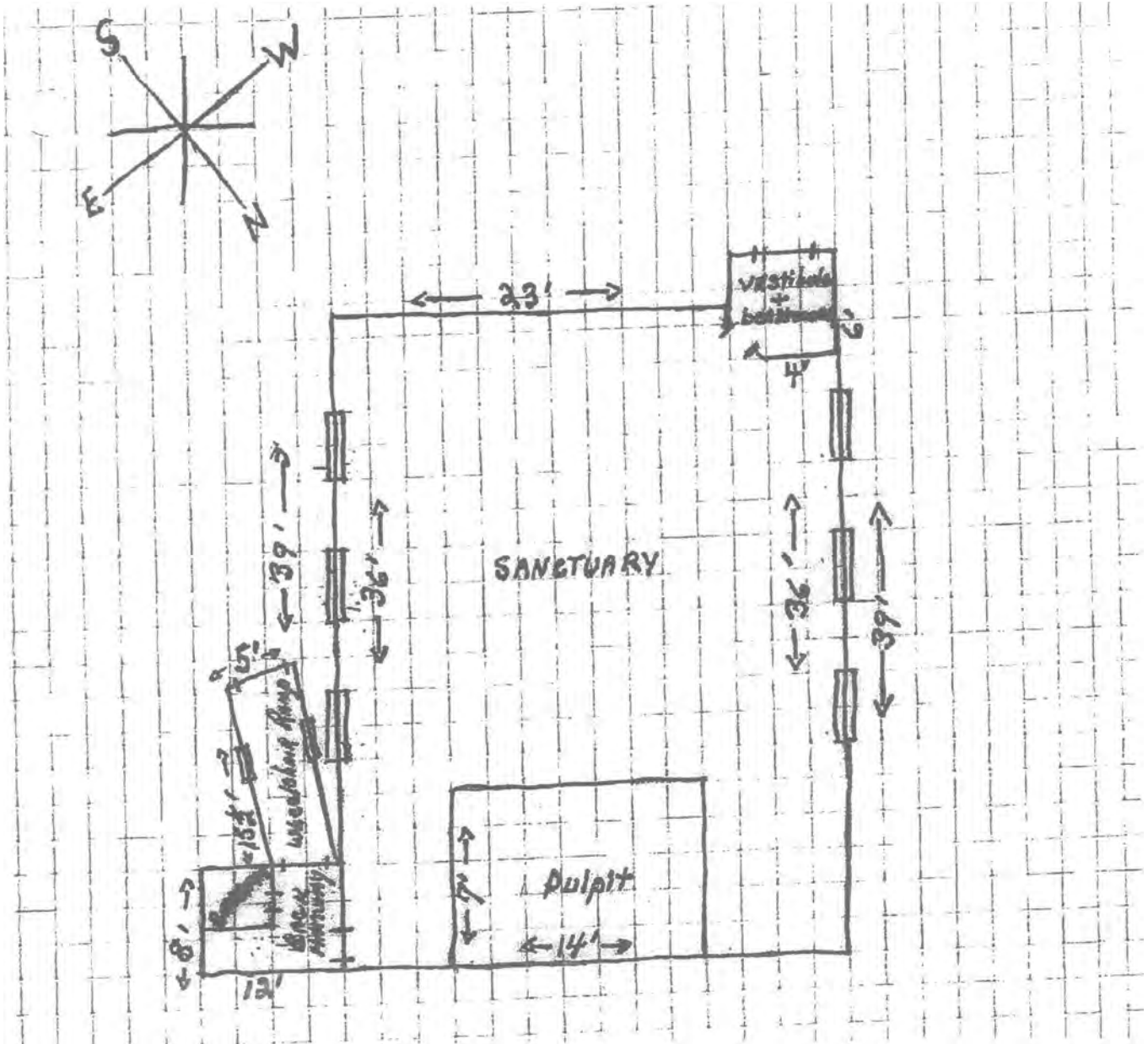
Specific photographic information:

Photo #	Title on Disc	Content of photograph
1:	KY_Clark_CorinthCMEChurch1.tif	Interior of Church, looking northeast to pulpit
2:	KY_Clark_CorinthCMEChurch2.tif	Main façade and northwest side. Photo to East.
3:	KY_Clark_CorinthCMEChurch3.tif	Northwest side and back (northeast) side. Photo to South.
4:	KY_Clark_CorinthCMEChurch4.tif	New ADA entrance and back addition. Photo to North.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET
Floor Plan

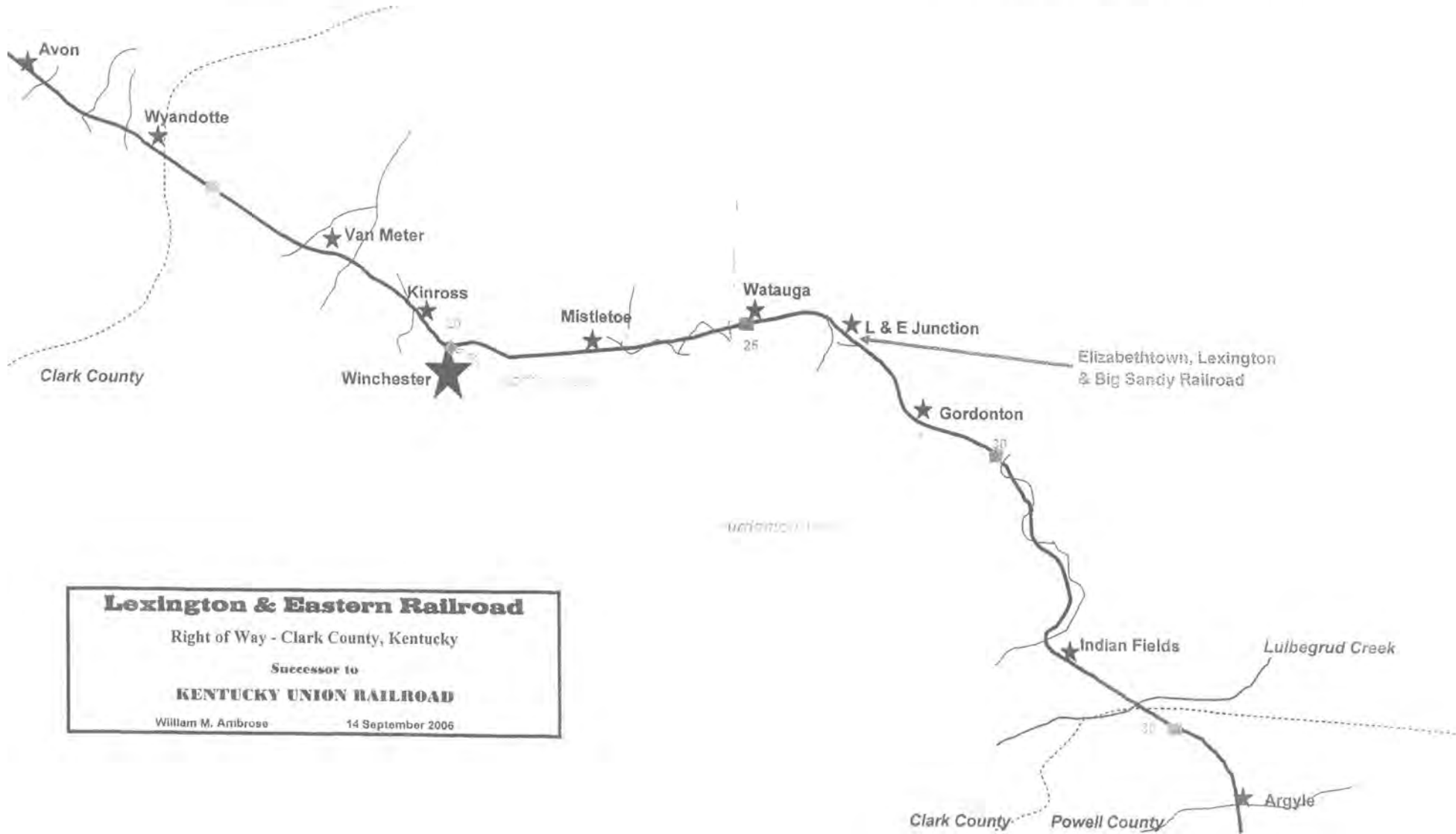
Section _____ Page _____

Corinth C.M.E. Church
Clark County, Kentucky



Section Page

Corinth C.M.E. Church
Clark County, Kentucky



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Corinth Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: KENTUCKY, Clark

DATE RECEIVED: 5/31/07 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/19/07
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/04/07 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/14/07
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 07000678

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 7.11.07 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in the
National Register**

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

...UPON THIS ROCK I BUILD MY CHURCH...





CORINTH
CME
CHURCH
1000 W. 10th St.
WABING, MISSOURI
63172
N.S. 047

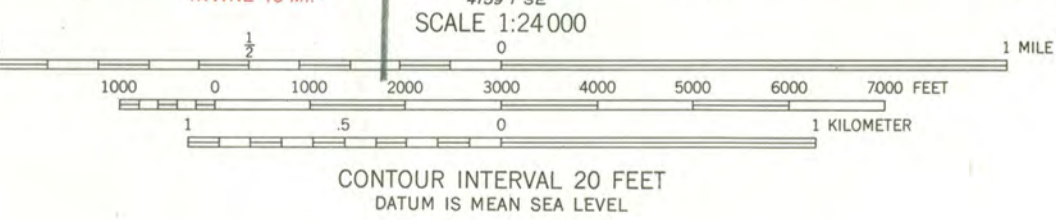
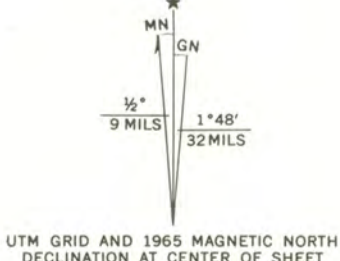




Corinth CME Church
Clark County, Kentucky
Zone 16
Easting 758 320 Northing 4209 510



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS & USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1950. Field checked 1952. Revised 1965
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Kentucky coordinate system, north zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 16, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

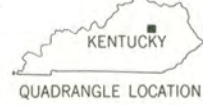


SCALE 1:24 000
CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
State Route	

THIS MAPS COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242,
KENTUCKY GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY,
AND KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



HEDGES, KY.
NE/4 WINCHESTER 15' QUADRANGLE
N3752.5-W8400/7.5



COMMERCE CABINET
KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL



Ernie Fletcher
Governor

The State Historic Preservation Office
300 Washington Street
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Phone (502) 564-7005
Fax (502) 564-5820
www.kentucky.gov

George Ward
Secretary

May 25, 2007

Jan Snyder Matthews, Ph.D., Keeper
National Park Service 2280
National Register of Historic Places
1201 "P" (Eye) Street, NW 8th Floor
Washington DC 20005

Dear Dr. Matthews:

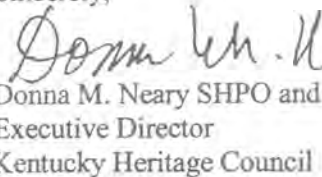
Enclosed are nominations for 7 properties approved at the April 25, 2007 Review Board meeting:

- ✓ Baker Vineyard and Wine Cellar (Name Change and Boundary Increase) Bracken County KY
- ✓ John Weber Farm Campbell County, Kentucky
- ✓ Corinth Christian Methodist Episcopal Church Clark County, Kentucky
- The Olympic Jefferson County, Kentucky
- Hindman Ben Franklin Knott County, Kentucky
- Bolen Building Knott County, Kentucky
- Gover-Hardin House Pulaski County, Kentucky

Also enclosed is documentation for two Kentucky properties. The first is for the listed **Thomas Lyne House**, in Woodford County (#80001691). The information seeks to change its date of construction in the official record, including the NRIS. Second is photographic identification information on continuation sheets that should be added to the recent nomination of the **Carson-Annis Ferry Farm**, Butler County, which is on Dan Vivian's desk. Thank you for giving him those sheets quickly, as we're hoping the listing can occur as soon as possible.

We appreciate your assistance with these actions.

Sincerely,


Donna M. Neary SHPO and
Executive Director
Kentucky Heritage Council