

Nineteenth Century Churches of South Nashville Thematic Resources  
Architectural and Historic Properties Inventory Form

IDENTIFICATION	Historic name: <u>Lindsley Avenue Church of Christ</u>	STATUS	Open to public: <u>Yes</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>No</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Restricted</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>X</u>
	Common name: <u>N/A</u>		Visible from road: <u>Yes</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>No</u> <input type="checkbox"/>
	Address: <u>3 Lindsley Avenue</u>		Occupied: <u>Yes</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>No</u> <input type="checkbox"/>
	<u>Nashville, Tennessee</u>		Present use: <u>Church</u>
	Owner's name: <u>Lindsley Avenue Church of Christ</u>		Current condition: <u>Good</u>
	Owner's address: <u>3 Lindsley Avenue</u>		Alterations: <u>recent minor interior re-modeling with paneling and removal of some glass panel walls.</u>
	Classification: <u>Building</u>		Site features: <u>the building sits on a flat lot directly next to an interstate highway on a major thoroughfare.</u>
	Tax map reference: <u>93-15-75</u>		
Acreage: <u>.32 acres</u>			
UTM reference: <u>16/520820/4000660</u>			
<u>Nashville West, TN</u>			
HISTORY	Date of construction: <u>1894</u>	SOURCES	Bibliographical data: <u>See Nomination Form</u>
	Architect/builder: <u>Robert Sharp/architect</u>		
	Original or previous owners: <u>Cumberland Presbyterian Church</u>		
	Original use: <u>Church</u>		Form prepared by: <u>Shain Dennison</u>
	Theme/s: <u>Primary Architecture</u>		Title: <u>Architectural Historian</u>
	<u>Secondary Religion</u>		Organization: <u>Metro Historical Commission</u>
	<u>Other N/A</u>	<u>Nashville</u> Date: <u>11/83</u>	
DESCRIPTION	<p>The Lindsley Avenue Church of Christ is a two-story brick Victorian Gothic building with an irregular shape, semi-circular auditorium, one-story classrooms, and a variety of architectural treatments including terra cotta tile and incised carvings and foliated and geometric patterns, corbeling, polychromatic exterior finishes, numerous gables, turrets, pinnacles, Gothic-arched stained glass and rectangular windows, brick buttresses, and a cupola. A gabled narthex at the corner of the building with a compound Gothic-arched portal leads to the sanctuary which is surrounded by classrooms. The interior, like the exterior, has a variety of architectural embellishments which remain relatively unaltered.</p>		
SIGNIFICANCE	<p>The Lindsley Avenue Church of Christ building was built by the Cumberland Presbyterian church in 1894 and sold to its present congregation of the Church of Christ in 1920. Designed by local architect Robert Sharp, the building is similar in plan to many contemporary churches, both in Nashville and elsewhere, with a semicircular auditorium ringed with classrooms which can be opened into the larger room. Its architectural significance lies in its unique decorative treatment which sets it apart from the typical. The building's irregular outline and lively silhouette are complemented by a great deal of decorative detail in stone, brick and terra cotta, both adapted from history and freely invented.**</p>		

**PHOTOGRAPHIC DATA**

Photographer: John Compton

Date: November 1983

Negatives on file: Metro Historical Commission  
Nashville, Tennessee

Photographer facing: E, SE, N, S, & interior

Photograph number 16-21 of 27 .

**CONTINUATION**

\*\* This decorative exuberance is unmatched in existing Nashville churches. The building's visual impact and appeal are strong, especially for a building of modest size, though this is difficult to convey with photographs. The building also derives significance from its association with the oldest Church of Christ congregation in Nashville. The Lindsley Avenue group traces its origins to a service held in 1855 by David Lipscomb, one of the founders of Nashville's David Lipscomb College, and one of the most important figures in the early development of this denomination which is especially strong and influential in the Nashville area.

**SITE PLAN - Include North Arrow**

See Continuation Sheet

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Site Plan

