

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in "Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms" (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name HAVEN MEMORIAL METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
other names/site number HAVEN-MUNNERLYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2. Location

street & number Barron St.
city, town Waynesboro (N/A) **vicinity of**
county Burke **code** GA 033
state Georgia **code** GA **zip code** 30830

(N/A) not for publication

3. Classification

Ownership of Property:

- private
- public-local
- public-state
- public-federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property:

	<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>
buildings	1	0
sites	2	0
structures	0	0
objects	0	0
total	3	0

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination 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 the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Mark R. Edwards

Signature of certifying official

3/04/96

Date

Mark R. Edwards
State Historic Preservation Officer,
Georgia Department of Natural Resources

In my opinion, the property () meets () does not meet the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency or bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

Chas H. Beall

4.12.96

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, explain:

see continuation sheet

[Signature]

Signature, Keeper of the National Register

Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

RELIGION/religious facility
FUNERARY/cemetery
EDUCATION/school

Current Functions:

RELIGION/religious facility
FUNERARY/cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

MID-19TH CENTURY/gothic revival

Materials:

foundation	brick
walls	wooden
roof	asphalt shingles
other	N/A

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The Haven Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church building is a very intact wood-framed, Gothic Revival-style church constructed in 1888-1891. The front-gabled main sanctuary has smaller cross gables and a corner tower with front-gabled entry. Wooden buttresses appear to support the building's corners. The church consists of a spacious, open worship area with center aisle and pews on either side, designed to hold a large group of people, with pulpit/altar area located on the western wall which features an alcove lighted by stained-glass windows. Stained-glass windows throughout the sanctuary lend an air of dignity and peace. Window and door openings have pointed-arch forms with mullions suggesting tracery. The second floor balcony provides additional seating for the congregation. A small anteroom on the southern side of the building provides space for a Sunday School class and materials storage.

Exterior walls are of wooden weatherboarding, painted white, with details such as cornices, done in a simple style with little ornamentation. There is patterned shingle work in the large front gable. More than a dozen stained-glass windows (many are original) consisting of colored blocks of glass provide dignified ornamentation appropriate for the building and its small town location.

Interior walls feature hand-grained wood paneling on the lower portion, with plaster on the upper part. Doorways are made of hand-grained wood paneling. Beautiful detailing such as altar rails,

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pulpit, balcony railings and window facings are done in hand-grained wood. The wood ceiling features raised-figure designs surrounding each of the light fixtures which hang down along the center aisle. A circular window above the archway leading to the alcove behind the pulpit area provides additional decorative detail to the front of the sanctuary. Flooring is of wood. The staircase to the balcony, located in the entrance hall, incorporates a beaded wood design set off by intricate cutouts. There is a vaulted paneled ceiling covered in beaded boards. A second-floor balcony with decorative railing is located at the entry end. Wood graining decorates the wood surfaces of the doors, wainscoting, altar rail, pulpit, balcony rail, and moldings. Original wood pews and wood floors remain intact.

The structure is constructed in the prevailing style of the period for churches, the Gothic Revival Style, featuring a high-pitched, gabled roof. Electrical wiring was added in the earlier part of the 20th century, and open space in the middle of the sanctuary accommodates a gas heater which uses the vent cut originally for the old wood stove. The building sits on brick piers.

Haven Church, located on an approximately 2 1/2-acre site, is in the southeast side of downtown Waynesboro, the county seat, outside the previously-listed National Register district, facing the railroad tracks. The church is in fair condition, a structurally sound structure which needs some cosmetic repair as well as routine maintenance. The building fits in with its surroundings, a peaceful setting of towering hardwood trees and a meandering small town roadway that literally stretches to the church doors. Property boundaries are well defined, changed little from the days when the church was first built and lying adjacent to the site of the Haven Academy, Waynesboro's first school for African-American children, which was established in the late 1860s, shortly after the Civil War. The school building is no longer extant. There is a small, historic cemetery on the property associated with the church.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

ARCHITECTURE
ETHNIC HERITAGE: BLACK
RELIGION

Period of Significance:

1888-1945

Significant Dates:

1888-1891

Significant Person(s):

N/A

Cultural Affiliation:

N/A

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

Unknown

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Significance of property, justification of criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above:

Narrative statement of significance (areas of significance)

The Haven Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church is a very intact Gothic Revival-style church constructed in 1888-1891 to serve the African-American community. The property is significant in architecture as an exceptionally intact and stylistic church building constructed for an African-American congregation in 1888-1891. The building features exceptional architectural design compared to other historic African-American church buildings of its era. Most African-American churches built in the 1880s and 1890s were simple, straightforward, unornamented structures. Haven Church, on the other hand, is architecturally elaborate. Its Gothic Revival-style features, such as the overall irregular or picturesque massing, corner tower, cross-gabled roof, pointed-arch windows and doors, and projecting entry are significant for such a building. The interior is likewise unusually elaborate with its vaulted open space, plaster walls, paneled doors, and paneled wooden ceiling. The Haven Church possesses an extremely high degree of historic architectural integrity for an over 100-year-old building of this type, giving the building statewide significance.

The property is significant in ethnic heritage: black and in religion as among the oldest extant historic African-American church buildings in Georgia. Many African-American churches were organized in Georgia following emancipation, but few congregations were wealthy enough to build substantial church buildings before the 1890s. Haven Church was a trend-setter statewide in the construction of late-19th-century African-American churches. The congregation was organized in 1866, one of Burke County's earliest African-American congregations, and named in honor and as a memorial to Bishop Gilbert Haven (1821-1880), a New England-born Methodist bishop, who was a major figure in post-Civil War religious activity especially with regard to African-American churches and schools. He was responsible for supervising the establishment of numerous Georgia church and educational institutions. After becoming Bishop in 1872 and relocating to Atlanta, he was instrumental in having Clark College relocated there. He often gave of his own money to found schools and is known to have visited this site while bishop. The church spawned Haven Academy, an African-American school founded in 1868 and supported by the Freedmen's Aid Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Haven Academy was one of but seven African-American educational institutions established in Georgia by

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northern church denominations during the Reconstruction Period (1865-1877). The school building once stood on the current church property but is no longer extant.

National Register Criteria

The Haven Church meets National Register Criterion A because it is associated with the post-Civil War establishment of African-American institutions of religion and education that prevailed throughout the South. This church was built in 1888-1891 and named in honor of Bishop Haven who had been instrumental in many of these activities and especially for the establishment of the school on this site (no longer extant). The congregation that built this church had begun and been nourished by this movement and by the Bishop. The church also meets National Register Criterion C because it is an excellent example of the Gothic Revival style being used in a small church and is especially important for the high style features found in this African-American building. It retains many of its original details including its plaster and vaulted ceiling, stained glass and original pews and floors.

Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

The Haven Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church meets Criteria Consideration A as a religious building which derives its primary significance from its architectural and historical significance.

Period of significance (justification)

The period of significance runs from the building of the current building (1888-1891) until the end of the historic period (1945).

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

The three contributing resources are the church building; the cemetery (a site); and the school site.

Developmental history/historic context (if applicable)

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A History of Haven-Munnerlyn Church
by Angie Lee-Ford

The Haven Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church (now the Haven-Munnerlyn United Methodist Church) is, perhaps, one of Waynesboro, Georgia's more apparent symbols of the continuity of life. The Gothic Revival, white clapboard church has stood on the edge of Barron Street for more than 100 years.

The church congregation was organized in 1866, a scant year after the Civil War came to a close and Burke County's slave population officially gained its freedom, when 15 people gathered in a brush arbor to organize a church they could call their own. In previous years, the African-American churchgoer attended the white master's church, a partial member relegated to a seat in the slave gallery, holding membership but not allowed to take part in the church's business matters.

They named their church Haven in honor of Bishop Gilbert Haven (1821-1880), a New Englander who was the presiding bishop of the "northern" branch of the Methodist Episcopal Church, starting in 1872. At that time, Haven was a man responsible for numerous Georgia church institutions who demonstrated interest in the Haven Church and the school it spawned, Haven Academy.

Haven Academy, founded in 1868, was supported by the Freedmen's Aid Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. It was one of but seven African-American educational institutions established in Georgia by northern church denominations during the Reconstruction Period.

Haven Church and Haven School became a multi-purpose entity. A building was erected for the two-fold purpose of a school and a church. The school's growth, however, soon made it necessary to build a separate building. So, in 1875, a two-story wooden structure was built in a grove of pine trees near the railroad depot. This became the school.

By 1888, church members recognized the need for a new structure of their own. And on August 19, ground breaking ceremonies for the new Haven Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church were held on a site not far from the school, facing the railroad track.

It was named Haven Memorial, because Bishop Gilbert Haven had died in 1880.

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The Rev. James Jackson, the first pastor, appealed to all Waynesboro and Burke County residents for contributions toward the estimated construction cost of \$1,800. Mr. C.H. Hyde was the contractor.

Deed records of September 13, 1889. show that Robert Scruggs, Jenks Mobley, Nathan Jackson, William Cole, Benjamin Robinson and John Mobley, trustees of Haven Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church, borrowed \$300 from the Board of Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. They agreed to pay \$160 each year at 6 percent interest. Three acres of church land were used as collateral. In addition, the trustees, through the Savannah Annual Conference, were granted \$200 by the same board. The same land was used as collateral.

Aid also came from other quarters. Col. W. E. Jones gave liberal donations of money and wise counsel while Haven Church was under construction. In 1891, the present church was completed.

Even after completion, though, church members continued to work diligently to keep their church and its ministry on track. On December 11, 1893, one-half acre of Haven Church land was sold by trustees Tyler Johnson, Robert Scruggs, William Cole, William Mathis and A.H. Williams for \$150 to Easter Horton.

The church soon became an important part of Georgia Methodist activities. The 19th session of the Savannah Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church convened at Haven Memorial Church on Wednesday, January 16, 1895, and adjourned the following Monday, with Bishop John M. Walden of Ohio presiding. Among the notables in attendance with 135 preachers were Dr. M. Haul of the Philadelphia Society of Church Extension; Dr. Curts, agent of North Western Publishing House; Dr. J.L. Hulburt of Fifth Avenue, New York, editor of Sunday school literature; Dr. J.C. Hartzell, secretary of the Freedmen's Aid Society; Dr. Johns, president of Clark University; and other prominent Methodists.

Church members continued efforts to better serve Waynesboro's African-American population. According to deed records dated August 19, 1898, one parcel of land was transferred from trustees W.H. Cole, Billy Matthews and Jake Johnson to Palmer L. Corker. In return, two parcels of land (one parcel providing access to Peace (Sixth) Street -- one of the town's two main thoroughfares -- was conveyed from Palmer L. Corker to the trustees. This action provided easier access to the church, then referred to as Haven Chapel Methodist Episcopal Church,

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although the cornerstone with the date of 1888 refers to the church as "Haven Memorial M. E. Church."

During the ensuing years, membership in the church increased. In the November 1, 1919 edition of **The True Citizen**, (Waynesboro's weekly newspaper), the Rev. C.W. Prothro, pastor, announced the celebration of the 54th anniversary of Haven Methodist Episcopal Church.

Also in 1919, Haven Academy was incorporated into the Burke County Schools System and became the Waynesboro High and Industrial School (changed in 1965 to Blakeney High School in honor of Principal Robert E. Blakeney and still operating as Blakeney Elementary School). The Haven Academy building burned on November 8, 1919 and the City of Waynesboro subsequently advertised the 1 1/2 acre lot for sale.

Among the ministers who have made contributions to the success of this church are the Revs. James Jackson, C.R. Buffington, Lovelace, Dr. S.D. Bankston -- who became superintendent of the Savannah District, Dr. E.D. Gibbens -- who rebuilt Haven Academy after it burned in 1901 and became treasurer of the Savannah Conference, C.W. Prothro -- who later became superintendent of the Savannah Conference, W.A. Holmes, C.G. Gissentanner -- who became superintendent in 1933, Douglas Cooper -- superintendent who became pastor, E.N. Graham, D.S. Harkness, Joshua Zeigler and Essie C. Simmons.

Individual church members, also, have contributed a great deal to the efforts of Haven Church. Among them were Mrs. Emma P. Walker and Mrs. Tweezer Williams, who served diligently and faithfully as Sunday school teachers and superintendents for more than 40 years.

In 1939, several Methodist denominations combined, including the Methodist Episcopal Church (northern branch) and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to form the Methodist Church, dropping the term Episcopal. In 1968 the name was changed to United Methodist Church, and thus Haven's name changed then too.

And church members remain willing to change to better serve their community. In 1989, members of the Asbury, Haven and Munnerlyn churches met to formulate plans for a merger. After many meetings and approval by the district superintendent of the Statesboro District, the churches united under the new name of Haven-Munnerlyn United Methodist Church on December 9, 1991. In attendance for the celebration on February 3, 1992, were the first African-American

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superintendent of the Statesboro District, Lee Jones, and Joseph Roberson, associate director of CCOM (Christian Council of Ministers).

The church is still active, using the building twice a month. The cemetery is not used for current burials.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Angie Lee-Ford, director, Burke County Museum. "Haven-Munnerlyn United Methodist Church." Historic Property Information Form, July, 1994. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Ga.

"Gilbert Haven." DICTIONARY OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY VIII (1932): 407-408.

"Gilbert Haven." DICTIONARY OF GEORGIA BIOGRAPHY I (1983): 419-421.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): (X) N/A

- () 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:

- (X) State historic preservation office
- () Other State Agency
- () Federal agency
- () Local government
- () University
- (X) Other, Specify Repository: Burke County Museum

Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre.

UTM References

A) Zone Easting Northing

NOTE: No UTM References are given because the U.S.G.S. topographic map which covers this area (Waynesboro Quadrangle, 7.5 Minute) was last revised in 1950 and does not carry the necessary coordinate references.

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is marked with a heavy black line on the enclosed tax map which is drawn to scale.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property is all that remains associated with the church. It includes the church, the small church-related cemetery, and the adjacent site of the former Haven Academy which was historically associated with the church.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., Historian
organization Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
street & number 500 The Healey Building, 57 Forsyth St. NW
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30303
telephone (404) 656-2840 **date** February 20, 1996

(HPS form version 10-29-91)

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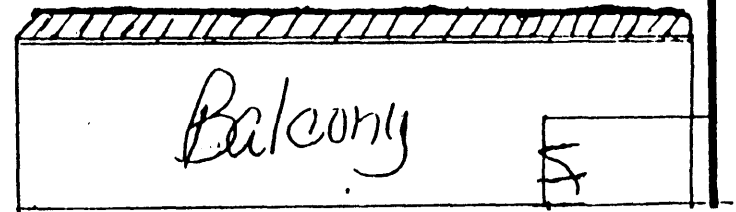
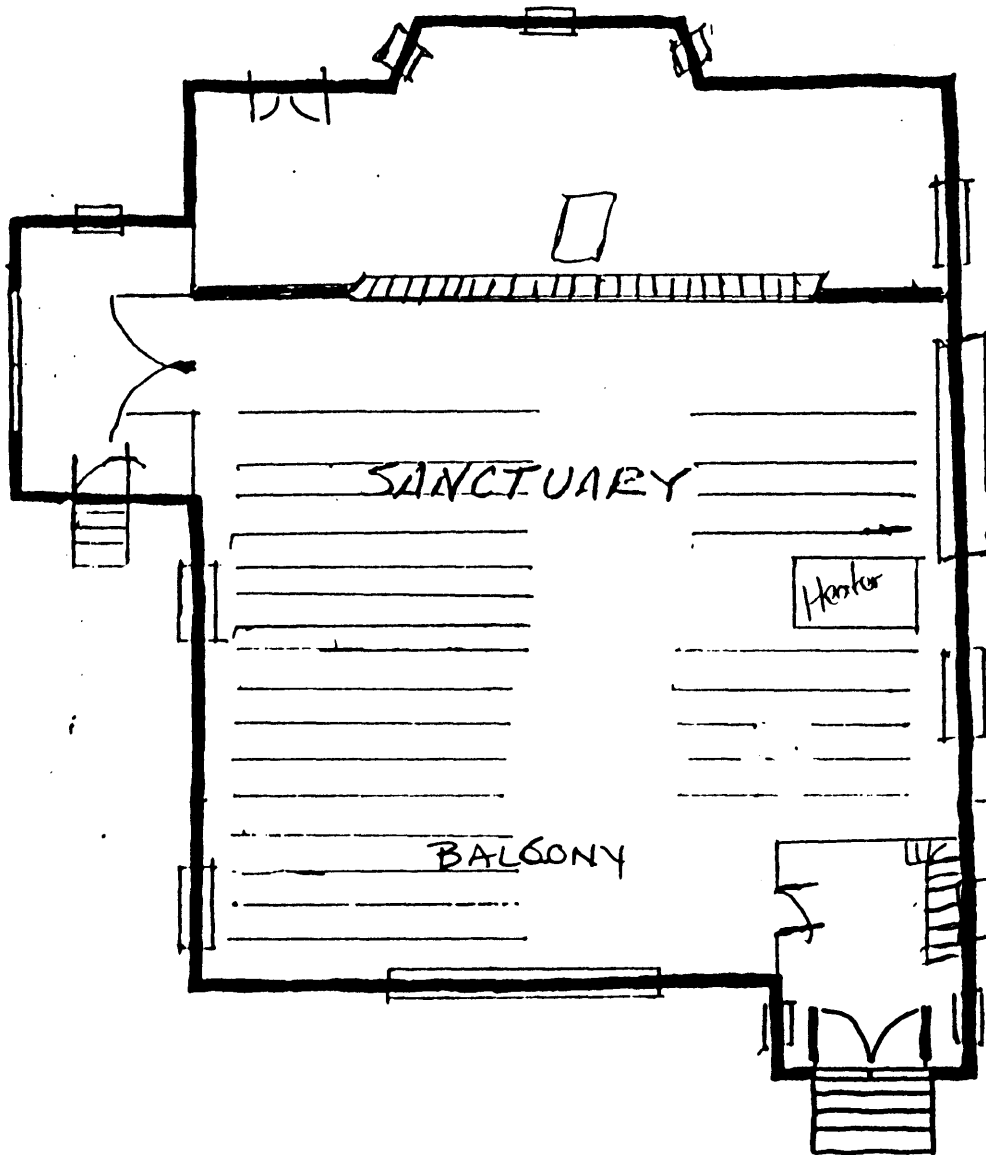
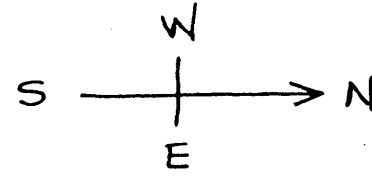
Photographs

Name of Property: Haven Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church
City or Vicinity: Waynesboro
County: Burke
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: September, 1995

Description of Photograph(s):

- 1 of 9: South and Front (East) Facade; photographer facing northwest.
- 2 of 9: Cornerstone in center of Front (East) Facade; photographer facing southwest.
- 3 of 9: Front (East) Facade and north facade; photographer facing southwest.
- 4 of 9: North facade and rear (west) facade; photographer facing east.
- 5 of 9: Rear (west) facade and south facade; photographer facing northeast.
- 6 of 9: Interior, looking toward altar; photographer facing southwest.
- 7 of 9: Interior, looking toward altar; photographer facing southwest.
- 8 of 9: Interior, doors on south wall leading to reception room; photographer facing east.
- 9 of 9: Interior, looking away from altar toward balcony and entrance; photographer facing northeast.

HAVEN - MUNNERLYN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
WAYNESBORO, GA



HAVEN MEMORIAL METHODIST EPISCOPAL
CHURCH, WAYNESBORO, BURKE COUNTY, GA,
NOT TO SCALE
DRAWN BY ANGIE LEE-FORD
1994
KEY AS MARKED ON THE PLAN.