

PHO 221511

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUL 11 1975
DATE ENTERED AUG 28 1975

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Church Hill Grange Hall
AND/OR COMMON Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 5.5 mi SW of Hopkinsville on
Kentucky Route 695 (Cox Mill Road) NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CITY, TOWN Hopkinsville vicinity CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 01
STATE Kentucky VICINITY OF CODE 021 COUNTY Christian CODE 047

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Community
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Meetings--Clubs
Church Hill Community Club, successor to Church Hill Grange No. 109
STREET & NUMBER Graham Duncan, President Route #1 (Clarksville Pike)
CITY, TOWN Hopkinsville STATE Kentucky
VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Christian County Courthouse Deed book 55, page 583
STREET & NUMBER 6th and Main Streets
CITY, TOWN Hopkinsville STATE Kentucky 42240

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky
DATE 1971 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Kentucky Heritage Commission
CITY, TOWN Frankfort STATE Kentucky

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Church Hill Grange Hall is a one-story frame building located along Route 695 in an agricultural area near Hopkinsville. Constructed of oak and poplar the structure is 45' long by 27' wide. The foundation consists of stone piers with no enveloping wall beneath the floor. The roof has asphalt shingles.

The entrance is on the northwest side with a four-pane transom above the door within a simple doorframe. A circular vent just under the cornice is the only other opening on this end. There are four windows on the northeast and southwest sides and a back door placed off-center at the rear.

The interior contains an entrance hall with an 8'-square anteroom to either side and, behind the vestibule, a 25' by 35' assembly room. There is a raised platform at the far end and a dark wood dado below window-level. Heating is by means of a coal stove.

Despite deterioration of the wood around the eaves of the roof and around the windows and outside doors, the building appears in fairly good condition. The roof was renewed in 1974 and the exterior painted in 1971.

A cistern is to the immediate north side of the hall with a parsonage and the South Union Church a few feet further north.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1878

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although discontent among farmers with prevailing economic or political conditions has long been part of the American scene, rarely have they effectively organized to voice their dissatisfaction. One such association that became an organ for protest was the Patrons of Husbandry, more commonly known as the Grange, which emerged after the Civil War. Constructed in 1878, in southwestern central Kentucky near the Tennessee border, the Church Hill Grange Hall is the last surviving grange hall in Kentucky directly connected with that movement.

First established in 1867 in boom times to serve as a social, cultural, and educational association, the movement rapidly turned into an agency of agrarian protest at the onset of the 1873 depression (Current, p. 500). Stated a Kentuckian in 1874, "For the last three years the decline in the products of our farmers has been such as to dishearten and disappoint the very bone and sinew of our country; lands--Blue Grass lands--the best on God's green earth, have, owing to the stringent contraction, declined in value by at least a third" (Connelley, p. 987). Farmers, who formerly had been slow to join the local granges, soon saw the benefits to be achieved through such a group and membership suddenly began to climb. By 1875 there were some 800,000 members and 20,000 lodges. Granges were established in almost every state in the Union, but were the strongest in the Middle West, South, and border states of Missouri and Kentucky.

Officially the Granges were described as a secret social order for "working together, buying together, selling together, and generally acting together for... mutual protection and advancement" (Blum, p. 477). The focus on economic matters led to their attempt to eliminate the middleman and resulted in the formation of co-operatives. In the political arena they urged legislatures to curb monopolistic practices of railroads and warehouses. "They became a powerful political force overnight," wrote John Garraty, "obtaining the passage of state laws regulating railroads and grain elevators and otherwise restricting the practices of businessmen engaged in marketing and transporting farm products" (Garraty, p. 52). Although improvement in the economy along with other factors caused membership to dwindle in the late 1870s, the Grangers did leave their imprint upon law and politics (Blum, p. 477).

One of the local grange halls constructed in Kentucky during this period was the one at Church Hill, which proved to be perhaps the most permanent of the locals in the State. "Its members became prominent in the State organization, one or more became Grand Master, as the highest officer was called" (Mayfield, p. 206). Two Christian County

(continued)

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Church Hill Grange Hall

farmers who were leaders in this pioneer cooperative were Winston J. Davie, first Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture (1876-79), and his brother Montgomery Davie, Master of the Kentucky Grange.

Typical of activities held at the Church Hill Grange as well as other locals was the operation of a livestock market. "The Church Hill Grange began holding annual stock sales in spring, when a hundred or more head of cattle would be brought together and sold to the highest bidders, the sales sometimes going as high as \$10,000.00. Stock pens were constructed in a grove near the Grange Hall, and buyers were attracted from far and near. The Grangers, with open-handed hospitality, spread bountiful dinners for all who attended. These sales became holiday occasions, but the changing conditions in stock-raising and marketing gradually reduced the volume of business, and the sales were finally abandoned" (Meacham, p. 207).

Despite the changing fortunes of Grangerism, the Church Hill Grange Hall has survived, both as a structure and as a community center for a still primarily agricultural area.

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Church Hill Grange Hill

- Current, Richard N.; Williams, T. Harry; Freidel, Frank. America History: A Survey, Vol. II Since 1865. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1959, p. 500.
- Garraty, John A. The New Commonwealth 1877-1890. New York: Harper & Row, 1968, p. 52.
- Meacham, Charles Mayfield. A History of Christian County, Kentucky. Nashville: Marshall & Bruce Co., 1930, pp. 206-207.
- Wooldrige, James. Gracey, Kentucky.

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Ch-159

1. Historic Name (s) Church Hill Grange Hall Original Owner		22. ADD/County Pennyrile/Christian																										
2. Present Name Church Hill Grange		23. Zoning Classification Magisterial District																										
3. Owner's Name Church Hill Community Club		24. U.S.G. S. Quadrant (15'/75') Church Hill																										
4. Owner's Address c/o James M. Wooldridge, Rt. 1, Gracey 42232		25. UTM Reference <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">1</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">6</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">4</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">4</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">8</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">7</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">6</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">0</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">4</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">0</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">7</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">2</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">5</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">8</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Zone</td> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Easting</td> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Northing</td> </tr> </table>		1	6	4	4	8	7	6	0	4	0	7	2	5	8	0	Zone		Easting				Northing			
1	6	4	4	8	7	6	0	4	0	7	2	5	8	0														
Zone		Easting				Northing																						
5. Location Hwy 695 Rt. 4, Hopkinsville		26. Prehistoric Site Historic Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building																										
6. Open to Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		27. District Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No																										
7. Visible from road <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		28. Significance Evaluation																										
8. Ownership Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/>		29. Status National Landmark <input type="checkbox"/> Date National Register <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8-28-75 Landmark Certificate <input type="checkbox"/> Kentucky Survey <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2-16-78 Local Landmark <input type="checkbox"/> HABS/HAER <input type="checkbox"/>																										
9. Local Contact/Organization		30. Theme Primary <u>Agriculture</u> Secondary <u>Community</u> Other <u>Politics</u>																										
10. Site Plan with North Arrow		31. Endangered Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																										
11. Architect		32.																										
12. Builder		ATTACH PHOTO																										
13. Date 1873-1877																												
14. Style																												
15. Original Use grange																												
16. Present Use meeting hall																												
17. Condition Interior <input type="checkbox"/> Exterior excellent																												
18. Description frame, 1-story, gable end, 4 b, single entrance structure																												
19. History Dec. 1873 grange organized; hall erected in 1877 and grange operated until 1925. Founder of chapter - Winston J. Davie. Erected in 1878.																												
20. Significance Placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1975, this grange hall represents an important historic movement and time period for Christian County. The grange helped spread important information on farming to farmers, conducted live stock markets, and bringing farmers together gave them more power over market prices and the (cont.)		Roll No. <u>22</u> Picture No. _____ Direction _____																										
21. Source of Information Historical Marker See National Register file William Turner		33. Tape No. _____ Negative No. _____ 34. Prepared by: CMT-KTG																										
		35. Organization KHC																										
		36. Date Spring 1977																										
		37. Revision Dates _____ 38. Staff Review _____																										

Significance (cont.)

political affairs of the Commonwealth. The form of the simple frame structure is symbolic of community use: gable end entrance, simple openings and traditional proportions.

