

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

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



82

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

**1. Name**

historic Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Loudon

and/or common Same

**2. Location**

street & number College Street N/A not for publication

city, town Loudon N/A vicinity of congressional district Second

state Tennessee code 047 county Loudon code 105

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Loudon

street & number College Street

city, town Loudon N/A vicinity of state Tennessee 37774

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Loudon County Courthouse (deedbook No. 4, p. 471)

street & number Corner of Grove Street and U.S. Highway 11

city, town Loudon state Tennessee 37774

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title NONE has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date N/A N/A  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state N/A

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Loudon is an 1882 Victorian Gothic period ecclesiastical building. On a stone foundation and rectangular in shape with a broad roof, the simple weatherboarded building features a central decorative tower with tall spire and double-leaf paneled entrance doors on the gable facade, narrow lancet-arched windows, and bracketed roof eaves. The church building remains in excellent condition with little alteration, and is located at the corner of College Avenue and Atlanta Street in Loudon's central business district. Surrounding the church are a railroad on the north, an older commercial area of mostly two story brick buildings and a neighborhood of primarily older frame residences to the south, and a ca. 1970s large bank building to the east. A one story brick building constructed during the 1960s (excluded from nomination) is located west of the building and houses additional church-related activities.

The facade, facing northwest, is three bays wide and has board and batten siding below the weatherboard siding at the level of the window sills. Two narrow lancet-arched stained-glass windows flank the central tower, which is divided into three sections. At the first level of the tower is a tall boxed board and batten section projecting from the facade. It contains a gabled hood over a lancet-arched entranceway. The entranceway is inset with a round stained-glass window over double-leaf doors with lancet-arched panels. Decorative brackets support the short roof of this section. The middle section contains two narrow lancet-arched louvered vents on three sides, and supports the tall bellcast spire with finial.

The northeast and southeast side elevations are each three bays wide and comprised of long, narrow lancet-arched windows with pointed-arched surrounds. The stained glass of the windows, as in all windows of the building, was added in 1929. To the building's rear and adjoining its southeast elevation is a weatherboard frame addition; its first floor and basement were built in 1912 and the second floor in 1939.

The addition is rectangular with a gable roof following the roof line of the church building. Three gabled dormers with 6/6 light windows are found on both sides of the gable roof. Doors of the addition are single-leaf with rectangular transoms. Windows are 6/6 light double hung sash and vary in placement and length.

The interior of the original church is painted white and focuses on an open altar area which is defined by a niche and a pointed-arched soffit. The pipe organ was installed in 1912, the light fixtures were added in 1929, and the simple wood pews and pulpit were installed in 1951.

# 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/ 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** 1882 **Builder/Architect** J. W. Clark, Sweetwater, Tennessee

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Loudon, nominated under National Register criterion C, was built in 1882 and is significant as a fine example of Victorian Gothic period architecture in Loudon County; further, it is the best example of architecture from the period in the town of Loudon. The wood frame building features Gothic detailing which is simple yet decorative. Lancet-arch windows set in pointed-arch frames, vertical moldings, steeply-pitched gables, and the tall tower and spire provide a vertical emphasis and picturesque quality to the building. Its construction during the Victorian Gothic period and the strong influence of the earlier Gothic Revival style, as demonstrated in the use of elements such as lancet arches, board and batten, and wood bracket eaves trim, serve to illustrate a combining and unusual vernacular interpretation of the two period influences on ecclesiastical architecture in a small rural town of Southeast Tennessee.

The Presbyterian congregation, which began in 1853, first occupied an earlier, brick building on Church Street in Loudon. This first building was abandoned as a place of worship during the Civil War when it was used as a hospital by Federal troops. After the war, the congregation resumed use of the building as a church. They used it until 1877 when the building was sold to the local school commission. The building was later sold by the school commission to the Presbyterian Church of Loudon, which occupied it until 1916-17 when it was demolished.

When the Cumberland Presbyterian congregation first sold the brick church building in 1877, they began worshipping with the Methodists in a building on Wharf Street in Loudon that is now the Masonic Hall. They continued to worship there until 1882 when they constructed the Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Loudon (subject of this nomination). The builder of the new church was J. W. "Boss" Clark, who also built the Sweetwater Methodist Church and Parsonage and the Brown House in Philadelphia in neighboring Monroe County.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Centennial Anniversary Celebration. Published Oct. 30, 1955.

Minutes of Church Session, Book 1, p. 11.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .54 acre

Quadrangle name Loudon, Tennessee

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A 

1	6	7	4	0	6	4	0	5	9	5	8	3	0	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B 

Zone			Easting				Northing						

C 

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** The boundaries are outlined in red on the accompanying property assessor's map (#44C, Group D, Parcel 17) drawn at a scale of 100 feet to the inch. The boundaries were selected to include the lot occupied by the church building. The part of the lot occupied by the ca. 1960s Sunday School building to the west is excluded; an imaginary boundary line approximately 174 feet long divides the two properties. The nominated property extends list all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code  county N/A code

state N/A code  county N/A code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Eugene E. Burr, AIA, AICP

organization Office of Eugene E. Burr, Architect-Planner

date February 23, 1981

street & number 121 W. Jackson Avenue telephone (615) 525-7731

city or town Knoxville

state Tennessee 37902

# 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.

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer signature Herbert L. Byrum

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission date 2/24/82

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register Entered in the National Register date 4/15/82

for Melona Byrum Keeper of the National Register

Attest:  date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior  
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For HCRS use only  
received  
date entered

2

Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Loudon  
Continuation sheet

Item number 10

Page 2

165' on Wharf St., 150' on Atlanta St., 140' on College St., and about 174' along the imaginary line running northwest-southeast.