

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 92000781 Date Listed: 6/29/92

Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church Coffee TN
Property Name: County: State:

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Patrick Andrus
Signature of the Keeper

6/29/92
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

National Register Criteria Consideration A (Religious Property) applies to this building, but was not indicated on the nomination form. The form is officially amended to include Criteria Consideration A.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church

other names/site number Church Street Theatre

2. Location

street & number corner of Church Street and West High Street NA not for publication

city or town Manchester NA vicinity

state Tennessee code TN county Coffee code 31 zip code 37355

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.)

Herbert E. Hays 5/13/92
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission
State of 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 Patrick Andrews Date of Action 6/29/92

Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church

Coffee Co., TN

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	-0-	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	-0-	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

NA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

NA

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: church

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: theater

WORK IN PROGRESS

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Gothic Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Brick, Concrete

roof Asphalt

other Concrete

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

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.

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is: NA

- 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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1890

Significant Dates

1890, 1935

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Scott, Thomas Nelson

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS): NA

- 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:

MTSU Center for Historic Preservation

Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church
Name of Property

Coffee Co., TN
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property .25 acres

Manchester, TN 86NE

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

I	6	5	8	2	5	0	0	3	9	2	6	9	5	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

3

Zone	Easting				Northing									

2

Zone	Easting				Northing									

4

Zone	Easting				Northing									

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title J. Michael Floyd and C. Van West

organization Center for Historic Preservation date March 11, 1992

street & number P.O. Box 80, MTSU telephone (615) 898-2947

city or town Murfreesboro state TN zip code 37132

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Manchester Arts Commission (Melissa Cartwright, contact)

street & number P.O. Box 772 telephone (615) 728-3568

city or town Manchester state TN zip code 37355

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church
Coffee County, Tennessee

Narrative Description:

The Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church is located on the southwest corner of Church Street and West High Street in Manchester, the county seat of Coffee County, Tennessee. Coffee County is located partly on the Highland Rim near the base of the Cumberland Plateau in Middle Tennessee.

The Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church, dedicated on November 2, 1890, was built by Thomas Nelson Scott, a local builder and owner of a brick yard in Manchester. The structure is a one-and-a-half story Gothic Revival brick structure, measuring approximately 40' X 70', that was constructed on a brick foundation. The structure has a steeply pitched asphalt shingled gable roof with raked molding and cornice returns which extend over the corner pilasters. The east gable end of the structure faces Church Street and consists of three recessed brick bays. Each of the bays is formed by two courses of corbeled bricks, turned on 45 degree angles across the top, which gives the illusion of pilasters at the corners and between each of the recessed bays. The central bay contains the entrance which consists of a lancet brick arch below an a large decorative herringbone pattern of corbeled brick. Above the entrance in the gable field is a decorative brick diamond. The entrance itself consists of original paired six panel doors. The lancet arch transom above the door once held a stained glass window. When the congregation abandoned this structure in 1961, they removed the stained glass transom and relocated it in their new church building. At that time the transom was covered with a plywood infill.

The north facade consists of three bays defined by corbeled bricks pilasters which match the front facade in height and detailing. Below the roof is an entablature made up of simple wooden moldings. Centered in each of the bays is a lancet arch window. Each of these windows are four over four lights set in a double hung wooden sash set on a stone sill. A concrete watertable, added at an undetermined date, runs the entire length of this facade. Centered below each of the three windows on the north facade and resting on a concrete watertable are small square ventilators.

The west facade of the structure contains no fenestrations. A wooden gable vent is located at the peak of the gable.

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Coffee County, Tennessee

The raked cornice molding is missing from the gable end, but its location is evidenced by the remaining ghost. A one story concrete block addition, built on a concrete block foundation, was added to the southern half of this elevation circa 1935, to accommodate additional Sunday school rooms. The addition is covered with a flat roof with a stepped parapet, covered with a concrete cap, above the northern wall. The west wall of the addition exposes the roof with no parapet above the roof line. Both the north and west walls of the addition contain windows, one on the north and two on the west, which have been filled in at an undetermined date.

The south facade consists of three bays and originally was identical to the north facade containing corbeled brick recesses, lancet arched four over four wood sash windows, and centered ventilation grills. The circa 1935 one story concrete block addition on the rear of the structure continues on this facade covering the last of the three lancet arched windows and a portion of the middle bay. This section of the addition is also covered with a flat roof which is hidden by a parapet wall that is protected with a concrete cap. The east facade of the addition contains a door on the southern portion and glass block window to the north of the entrance. Both the door and windows of the addition contain concrete lintels and sills. The south facade of the addition contains three glass block windows, with concrete sills and lintels and an exterior concrete block flue. Current restoration plans include painting this concrete block addition and the use of landscaping to de-emphasize the impact of the concrete block addition on the original brick structure.

The interior of the original structure consists of one large open area. The floor of the main room is the original wood flooring. The original wood ceiling is now covered in acoustical tile. A project is currently underway by the present owner, the Manchester Arts Commission, to remove the acoustical tile and expose the original ceiling. A wainscot of vertical beaded board circles the entire room. The wainscot is at window sill height and its decorative moldings form the window sill. The wainscot rises in height at the location of the original altar on the west wall opposite the doors. The location of the altar is also indicated by a raised floor section in the shape of a half

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Coffee County, Tennessee

circle connecting to a rectangle. This raised floor dates to the construction of the building. The rectangular section is fronted by a simple railing consisting of square newel post and balustrade.

At an undetermined date the front entrance was enclosed to form a vestibule. This addition has since been removed. The removal of the material covering the walls revealed the original paint colors of the walls and decorative Eastlake influenced stenciling at the ceiling and just above the wainscot. The Manchester Arts Commission plans to restore the original paint colors along with the decorative stenciling.

Three original chandeliers were donated to the church at the time of its construction in 1890 by Phillips-Buttorff Manufacturing company of Nashville through their traveling agent Captain W. Marion Bennett. These fixtures have been acquired by the present owners. Each of these chandeliers will be restored and then relocated in their original position centered in the ceiling on axis with the door and the altar.

According to Martinez's history of Coffee County a church bell, which came from an old Cumberland River steamboat and was donated by Colonel Anderson Powers, originally hung from a frame in the church yard. The bell was later placed in a cupola over the church, probably in the early twentieth century. The church later removed this cupola addition at an undetermined date, returning the building to its original appearance. Other early twentieth century additions which were removed later in the century included the vestibule and the stained glass transom over the entrance door.

The only remaining alteration to the interior of the structure occurs on the south wall. A large doorway connecting the circa 1935 addition to the main area was added. The doorway is enclosed by two bi-fold doors, each door containing three panels. The doorway is framed with a simple trim which does not match the original trim of this space. To accommodate this doorway the original window was removed below the lancet arch; the original lancet arch remains in its original location above the added doorway.

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Coffee County, Tennessee

The interior of the circa 1935 addition consists of a linoleum covered floor, exposed concrete block walls, and exposed ceiling joist. A door in the rear of the north wall of this space leads to two unfinished concrete block rooms.

To accommodate an expanding congregation, the Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church erected a new building in 1961. At that time several movable items were removed from the historic church building. Among these items were the bell, altar, pews, chandeliers, and stained glass transom. Most of these items were used in the newly constructed building while the original pews were sold at auction. Only the chandeliers were available for the Manchester Art Commission to purchase, restore, and reinstall.

Sensitive restoration plans are currently underway by the Manchester Arts Commission. A restoration architect and structural engineer have been retained to evaluate the structural condition of the building. The Arts Commission plans to restore the interior to its original appearance including the paint schemes and decorative stenciling, original floor and ceiling coverings. The group also plans on retaining the permanent historic elements like the original raised altar platform, chandeliers, and wainscot. The original raised altar will be used as the fixed stage with temporary stages built on a per production basis. There are no current plans to replace any non-permanent furnishings (pews, pulpit, and altar) of the original structure. The missing pews will not be reproduced for seating, but instead old theater seating chairs will be reused. The Manchester Arts Commission has no fixed time table for completion of the restoration, but will proceed as rapidly as possible as the funds become available, hopefully by 1993.

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Section number 8 Page 5 Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church
Coffee County, Tennessee

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church is significant under Criterion C as an excellent local example of ecclesiastical Gothic Revival architecture. The church is located on .25 acres on the corner of Church and West High Streets in Manchester, Coffee County, Tennessee.

Coffee County was established January 8, 1836, from parts of Bedford, Warren, and Franklin Counties. Manchester, the county seat, was established on 200 acres belonging to James Evans and Andrew Haynes who donated the land to the county on March 1, 1836. Manchester was centrally located within the county and stood on the Winchester/Nashville Pike. By the mid-1850s, Manchester was connected to the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railroad through the Manchester-McMinnville railroad branch.

Religion has played an important role in the community since its founding. When the town lots of Manchester were laid out the commissioners designated one street, Church Street, as the location of lots to be donated to each denomination represented in the community. All of these lots adjoined each other to form what the commissioners envisioned as a street lined with churches. Of these, lot #42 was deeded to the trustees of the separate Baptist Church. The city cemetery is now located at the site once occupied by the Baptist Church. Lot #47 was deeded to the Protestant Methodist Church, now the location of a residence. Lot #48 was deeded to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, the current location of the historic Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church building. Lot #51 was deeded to the Episcopal Methodist and is the present site of the Methodist Church. Lot #52, now a residence, was originally deeded to the Old Presbyterian Church. Lot #56, also a residence, was deeded to the Regular Baptist church.

Of the six lots along Church Street originally deeded to the trustees of the different denominations only two lots maintain their original intended use into the twentieth century: the Methodist Church, 101 Church Street, located at lot #51 and the Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church, corner of Church and West High, located at lot #48.

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Coffee, County, Tennessee

The first Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church, circa 1856, was a two story wood frame structure built on the site of the present building. The upper floor of the structure was the site of the local Masonic Lodge. Because Manchester remained a small county seat this early building served the congregation well throughout the middle decades of the nineteenth century. But during the 1880s, fueled by new railway projects, increased industrial activity in the county, and a statewide boom in agriculture, Manchester experienced considerable population growth. The congregation decided to build a new church to meet this growing demand. By June of 1883 the Cumberland Presbyterians planned to spend a year constructing a new brick building. The construction of the new brick church building was to be paid for by selling the southern part of the lot and by donations. Construction did not begin until 1889, however, when the old wooden structure was demolished. Thomas Nelson Scott, a local builder and owner of a brick yard in Manchester, was hired as the builder for the new church. By May of 1889 the actual construction of the brick structure had begun. The new brick building was dedicated on November 2, 1890 but was not occupied until March of 1891.

Not only did the Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church play an important religious function in the community, but it also served the community in other secular ways. The church bell, which hung from a frame beside the building and was later placed in an added bell tower, was an important feature in the community. There are no church records nor oral tradition, that pinpoints the date of either the construction or the removal of the cupola in the early 20th century. The bell was moved to the new church in 1961. The church bell was used for fire notices and other public occasions by the town's citizens.

According to a county history published in 1936, Coffee County in general suffered less than many other Middle Tennessee counties during the Great Depression. Indeed, due to new industrial ventures like the General Shoe Corporation factory in Tullahoma (established in 1934), the county grew in population. Although the evidence is not clear, perhaps this Depression-era growth is why the congregation added a concrete-block Sunday School room to the church in about 1935. In the late 1930s and 1940s, Coffee County

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Coffee County Tennessee

experienced additional population growth due to new industrial ventures in both Manchester and Tullahoma, the construction of US Highway 41 from Manchester to Murfreesboro, which linked the county seat directly to the urban trade center of Nashville, and the placement of military camps and projects associated with World War II within Coffee County. The once small Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian church congregation, by the late 1950s, found itself greatly confined by the old church building. In 1961, the congregation decided to build a new church in the expanding suburbs of Manchester, where most of the parishioners resided.

When the congregation moved in 1961, several elements of the older building were installed in the new church building. These elements included the bell, altar, and stained glass window. The building remained vacant from 1961 to 1965. In 1965 David King purchased the building and lot. King used the building for storage. He retained ownership of the building until 1991 when he sold it to the Manchester Arts Commission.

The Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church is the best surviving example of late nineteenth century Gothic Revival architecture in Manchester. The city has several surviving examples of Victorian period architecture, including its Italianate influenced Coffee County courthouse and Italianate influenced and Queen Anne dwellings. In Manchester, Gothic Revival appears only in three surviving church buildings. The Methodist Church on Church Street dates to 1883 and exhibits castellated Gothic Revival features in its front facade. The abandoned Church of Christ, just off the town square, combines Gothic features with a Queen Anne influenced bell tower. Neither church, however, retains their architectural integrity. Due to the enormous population growth in Coffee County in the post-World War II decades, additions were made in the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s to these buildings. Both churches have expanded in such a way that they have compromised the integrity of their original buildings by incorporating them into twentieth century structures.

Consequently, the Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church remains the only surviving and architecturally intact example of late nineteenth century Gothic Revival architecture in Manchester. Its high pitched roof, lancet

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Coffee County, Tennessee

arch windows, and decorative brickwork are its most significant Gothic Revival features along with the remaining evidence of Eastlake-influenced stenciling on the interior walls.

Nineteenth century English as well as American Romanticists hailed and promoted Gothic Revival as a celebration of the English Medieval past. Its picturesque nature and association with the flourishing of Christianity made Gothic Revival attractive to church builders in England as a pure Christian style. As Gothic Revival was imported to the United States, it offered an opportunity to break with the rigid Georgian and Greek Revival styles so prevalent in America. Further, Gothic Revival was infinitely more attractive to American church builders than the "pagan" Greek Revival. Architectural historians today distinguish an Early Gothic Revival (1840 to 1860) and a Late Gothic Revival (1870 to 1900) in American architecture. Despite its 1890 date of construction, the Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church exhibits the size and the more subdued architectural details associated with the Early Gothic Revival period, especially in the work of Richard Upjohn (1802-1878). Upjohn was an English-born and trained architect who popularized Gothic Revival for church architecture through his many designs (mostly for Episcopal churches) in the 1840s and 1850s. He also wrote the popular pattern book Rural Architecture where he advocated adjusting the Gothic style to local building materials, preferences, and craftsmanship. Built by a local brickyard owner, Thomas Nelson Scott, the Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church reflects well Upjohn's concern for simplicity and his distaste for applied decoration in small church buildings.

While the Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church has undergone alterations, its appearance today with the exception of the circa 1935 addition, reflects the original structure as conceived by Thomas Nelson Scott. Considering the amount of historic 1890 fabric left in the building, its location on an original town lot for churches, and the surviving evidence of the original interior decorative scheme, the Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church is a locally significant example of Gothic Revival architecture in Manchester.

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Coffee County, Tennessee

Bibliography:

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Tullahoma, TN: Coffee County Conservation Board, 1969.

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Section number 10 Page 10 Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church
Coffee County, Tennessee

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church property. lot number "A"-11 on the local tax map, is bounded on the north by West High Street, on the east by North Church Street, on the south by the property line, and on the west by the property line.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

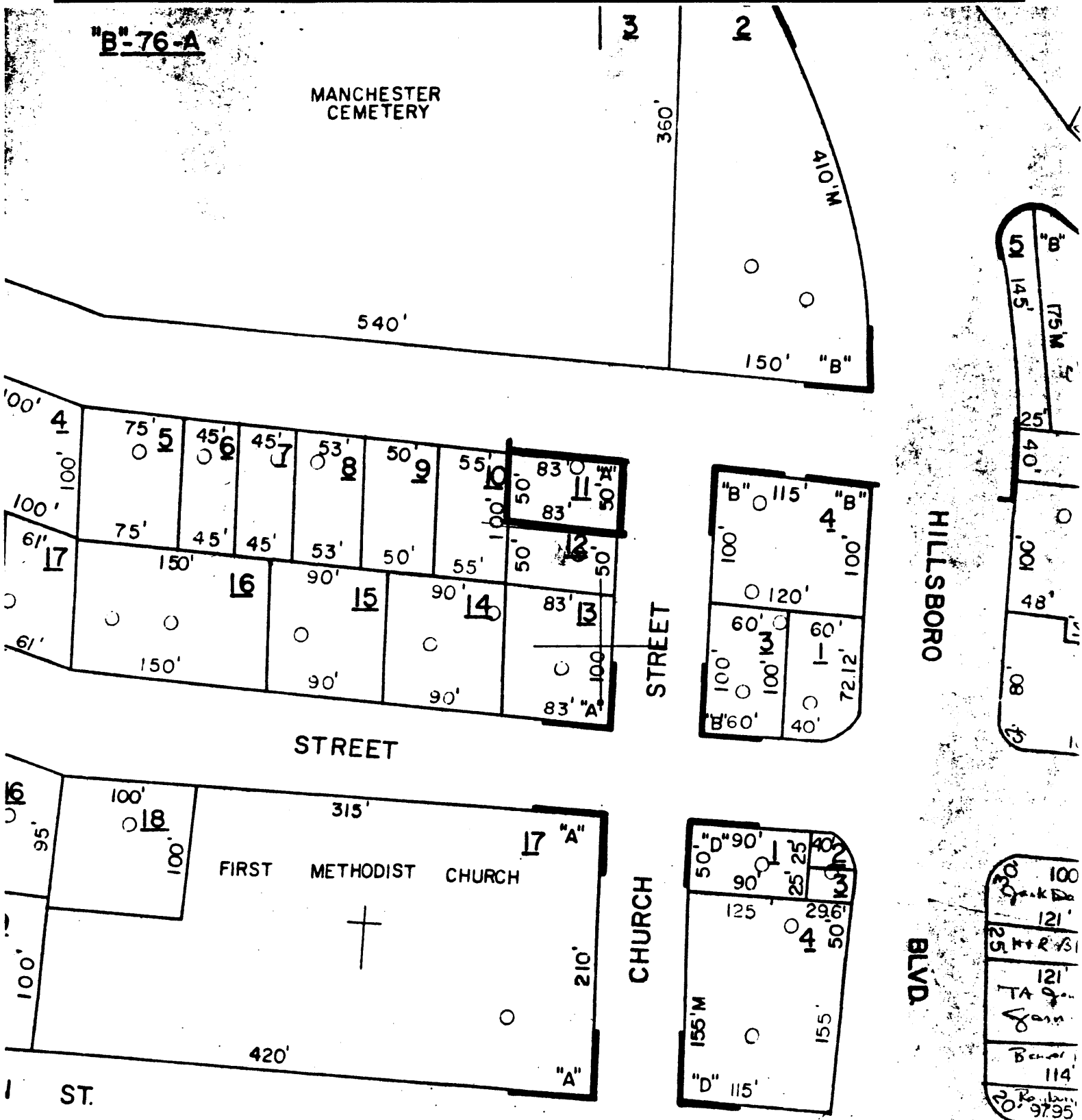
The boundaries of the Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church represent the current and historic legal property boundaries of this property.

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Manchester Dumberland Presbyterian Church
Coffee County, Tennessee



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Section number Photo Page 12 Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church
Coffee County, Tennessee

Manchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church
Manchester, Coffee County, Tennessee
Photos by: Carroll Van West
Date: January 21, 1992
Negs: Tennessee Historical Commission
Nashville, Tennessee

Exterior, east facade, facing west
#1 of 15

Exterior, east facade, facing west
#2 of 15

Detail, east facade, facing west
#3 of 15

Exterior, east and north facade, facing southwest
#4 of 15

Exterior, west facade, facing southeast
#5 of 15

Exterior, south facade, facing southwest
#6 of 15

Interior, primary chamber, facing east
#7 of 15

Interior, detail of removed vestibule, facing northeast
#8 of 15

Interior, detail of original stenciling on east wall,
facing east
#9 of 15

Interior, primary chamber, facing southwest
#10 of 15

Interior, primary chamber, facing west
#11 of 15

Interior, primary chamber, facing northeast
#12 of 15

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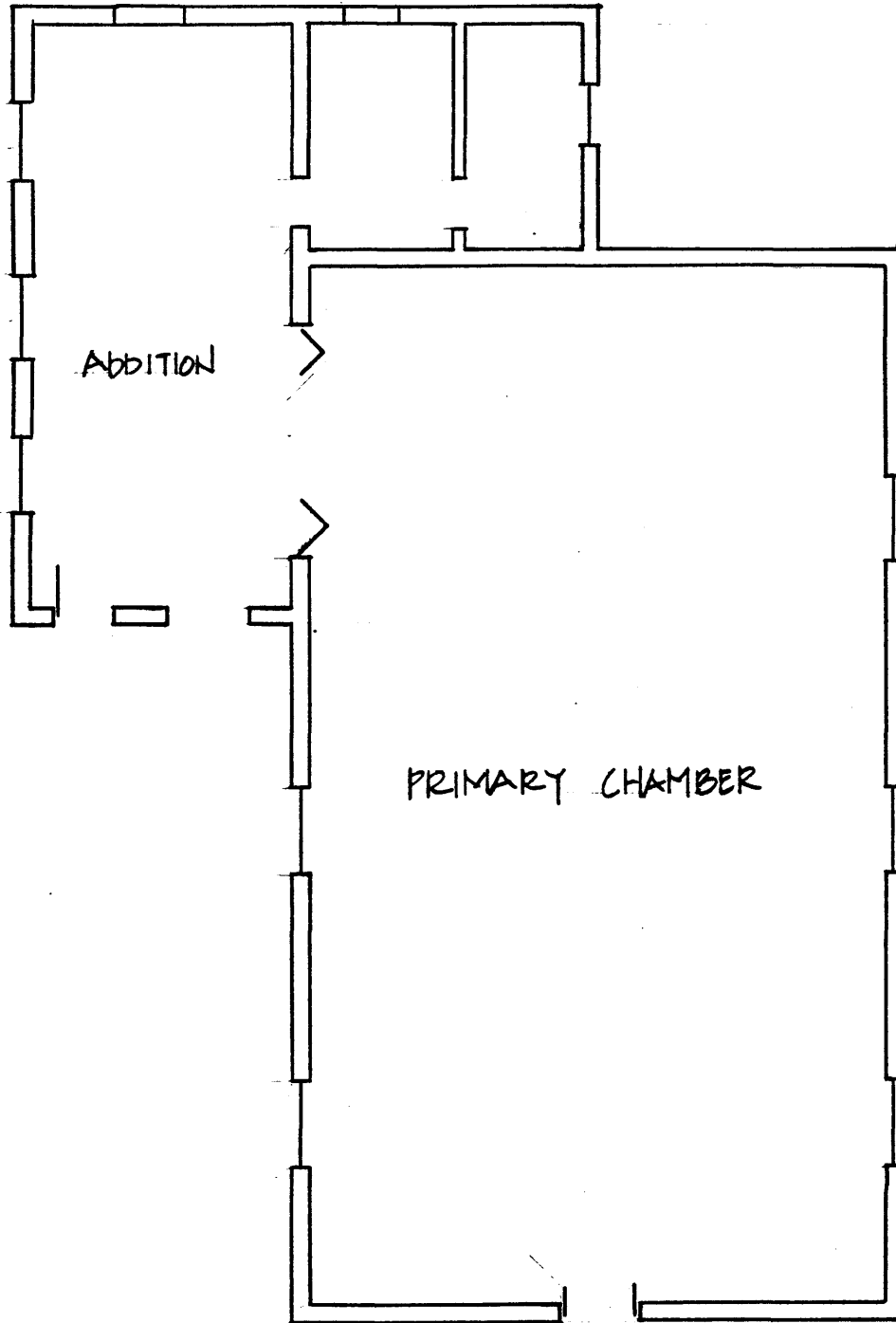
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Coffee County, Tennessee

Interior, primary chamber, facing southwest
#13 of 15

Interior, detail of added doors, facing south
#14 of 15

Interior, addition, facing southwest
#15 of 15



MANCHESTER CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MANCHESTER, COFFEE CO., TENNESSEE

NOT TO SCALE

01.24.92

N —————>