

PH0003148

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: KENTUCKY	
COUNTY: BOYD	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JUN 19 1973	

1. NAME

COMMON:
First Presbyterian Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Bethseda Church

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
1600 Winchester Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Ashland

STATE Kentucky	CODE 21	COUNTY: Boyd County	CODE 019
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
First Presbyterian Church

STREET AND NUMBER:
1600 Winchester Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Ashland

STATE: Kentucky	CODE 21
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Boyd County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:
Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Catlettsburg

STATE: Kentucky	CODE
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

DATE OF SURVEY: **1971** Federal State County

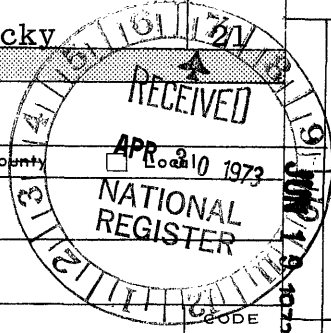
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Kentucky Heritage Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
401 Wapping Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Frankfort

STATE: Kentucky	CODE 21
---------------------------	-------------------

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated
		<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
(Check One)		(Check One)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

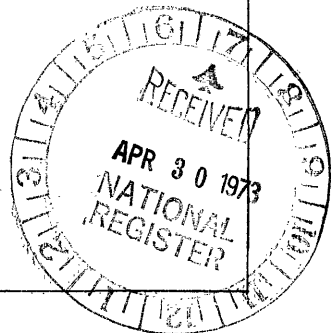
The First Presbyterian Church, completed in 1858, is the oldest structure still being used for a church in Boyd County. It has since been enlarged and is presently an impressive mid-Victorian, red brick structure with a French bell tower and large, handsome, Gothic-type stained glass windows.

The oldest portion of the church was constructed between 1857 and 1858. In A History Of The First Presbyterian Church, 1819-1954, Meyers described the original interior of the church and various additions that have been made over the years. Originally two doors opened into the vestibule and the two side aisles, "there being no central aisle but a partition running lengthwise of the central row of pews. The choir loft was placed over the vestibule and the organ was directly between the two doors. The pulpit stood at the far end and had several short rows of pews on either side which were placed at right angles to the other pews. These were popularly known as the "Amen Corner" from their position."

In 1919 in his centennial sermon, Dr. William C. Condit described additions made to the church: "In 1888 it was deemed necessary to enlarge the building. The church had been laying by a sum for repairs. The Treasurer reported this sum had amounted to about three thousand dollars. It was evident we needed more room. So plans were selected and a commodious auditorium and Sabbath School room were erected at the cost of \$15,000. In a few years the need of an organ to lead the music was felt, and ten feet more ground was bought and an addition to the auditorium erected and an organ added, all at the cost of \$8,000. This was hardly done and paid for before the increase of the Sabbath School demanded enlarged quarters, and a Sabbath School room, with a capacity to seat 800 was erected at the cost of \$16,000. They did all this without asking help from outside and built without debt. This church has had a dislike for debt and "pay as you go" has been her motto."

The "Little Helpers" (children who sold apples, presented plays and sought donations) raised the money for the stained glass windows. When the walls of the addition were completed in 1888, the building fund was exhausted, thus there was no money for a tower, so the "Little Helpers" raised the required amount.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

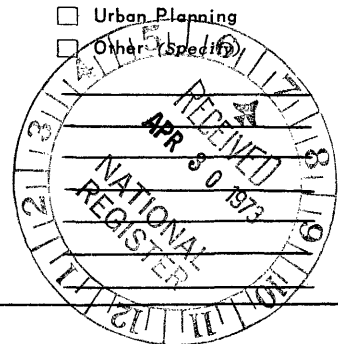
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **Built in 1858; Enlarged 1888.**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The First Presbyterian Church, built between 1857 and 1858, is the oldest structure in Boyd County still being used as a church, and has the oldest existing congregation in the County. The present building is the third church for the congregation. The first church was a log structure that was built in 1819 and used until 1828. It was founded by the Poage's who were the early settlers of this area which was then called Poage's Landing. It was located several miles from the present location of the Church. In 1828 a plot of ground containing two and one-fourth acres was given to the church by the Ruling Elder, George Poage, Jr. In the same year old Bethesda Church, a 36'x40' brick structure, was built on this site, and was used until 1858. Throughout the early history of the church it was but a small rural church serving a farming population and workers in the iron furnaces nearby. By 1854 the church had two hundred and thirty members; however, one hundred and thirty nine members asked for and received their letters, so they could either seek another church or join the westward migration. The membership further decreased by death or suspension for "habitually neglecting the ordinances of God's house," the sin of intoxication; attending a public ball at a hotel, or for "prophane swearing." By 1854 there were only twenty-two members.

When a new building was needed, the congregation accepted an offer that had been made by the Kentucky Iron and Coal Manufacturing Company of free lots to any church or school that would erect a building costing not less than \$2,500 within a reasonable length of time. They were given lots 1 and 2 in the new city of Ashland. It is believed that these lots on the southeast corner were chosen because the prevailing winds are from the northwest, thus this site offered the best protection from fire. The First Presbyterian Church was built at a cost of \$4,000 and was opened and dedicated in April, 1858. It has since been enlarged and is presently an impressive Mid-Victorian, red brick structure with a French bell tower and large, handsome, Gothic-type stained glass windows.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

A History of the First Presbyterian Church of Ashland, Kentucky 1819-1954. By Mrs. D.F. Meyers

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

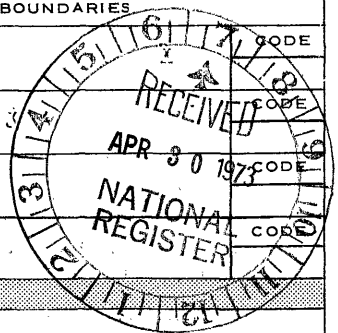
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		38° 28' 42"	82° 38' 22"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

UTM
17/356960,
4259940
CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than 10 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: _____

ORGANIZATION: Mrs. Paul Blazer, Jr. DATE: 2/14/73
Member, Kentucky Heritage Commission and
Member, First Presbyterian Church

STREET AND NUMBER: 1612 Bath Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Ashland STATE: Kentucky CODE: 21

12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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 National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Mrs. Simeon Willis

Title: State Historic Preservation Officer

Date: April 25, 1973

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert W. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 6/19/73

ATTEST: [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 6 12 73

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
KENTUCKY	
COUNTY	
BOYD	
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JUN 19 1973	

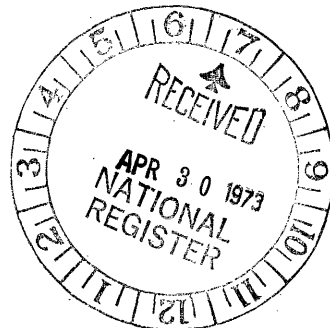
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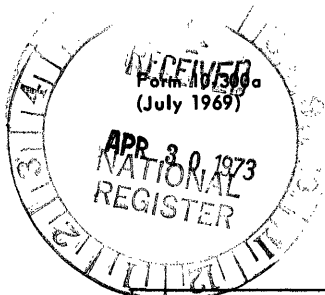
7. Description

Meyers supplied further information about the additions, "the greater part of the original church erected in 1858 was incorporated into the present church. It is that part of the building now occupied by the church offices, the Boethian and primary class rooms."

In 1900 the church's Senior Christian Endeavor Society raised the money for piping gas into the church for the first time. A Sunday School addition was built in 1910. After gas was piped into the church, a kitchen was added, occupying what is now the class room in the rear. The Memorial Chapel, which is a church within the church, was completed in 1943. In the early 1950's the auditorium was remodeled, the chancel was divided and the old pipe organ replaced. Air conditioning was installed in 1953.

Presently the First Presbyterian Church is a handsome, 115 year old, Mid-Victorian red brick structure on a high stone foundation. It has two large Gothic stained glass windows in the sanctuary with a third similar window at the rear of the sanctuary extending to the second floor. Various other smaller stained glass windows are in other parts of the church. The slate roof presents an interesting gabled roofline and the French bell tower rises majestically above the church. The arched, recessed main entrance is on Winchester Avenue with two other arched entrances on 16th Street. In the attached photograph the original structure, built in 1858, includes everything except the bell tower, three story educational wing that is to the right in the photograph, and the wing with the stained glass window to the far left in the photograph.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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8. Significance

Reverend John Clark Bayless (1819-1875) who was pastor of the First Presbyterian Church between 1854 and 1866 anticipated (according to Mrs. D.F. Meyers in A History Of The First Presbyterian Church, 1819-1954) by almost half a century certain later innovations in church programs and activities such as: the prayer meeting, Sunday School, regular quarterly communion services, and regular collections; and during his ministry the church membership increased from twenty-two to eighty-eight. He also re-opened the Academy which had been established by Bethesda, the second church. It was called the Beechgrove Academy and played an important part in the early academic history of Ashland. Even though the church was located on the border between the North and South during the Civil War, church services, Sunday School attendance, and contributions were apparently unaffected. Also according to Meyers, "The first Bible Society for the circulation of the Scriptures among the destitute in this part of the state was formed in Ashland in February, 1857. It was auxiliary to the American Bible Society and its prime movers and main supporters were connected with the Presbyterian Church. During the war its efforts were especially directed to the supply of soldiers both in northeastern Kentucky and in West Virginia

Reverend William Cutter Condit (whose father, John H. Condit had been pastor of the church from 1835-1840) became the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in 1866 and remained pastor for sixty years, during which time the membership increased from 60 to 600. He also preached regularly for a period of many years through Boyd, Greenup and part of Carter Counties, also at Sheridan and South Point, Ohio, averaging five sermons a week, and preaching in schoolhouses, private homes, and "under the spreading beech." Where churches had trouble he was sent to hold meetings and adjust differences. Dr. Condit from the first had the interest of the people of the mountains at heart and hoped to improve their lives. During the latter part of the 19th century Dr. Condit, Dr. Samuel B. Alderson, and Dr. James P. Hendricks rode on horseback exploring the Big Sandy Valley in the Appalachian Mountains for the Ebenezer Presbytery, of which the First Presbyterian Church is a member. They searched for places to establish schools and churches. Deciding that Pikeville, Ky. was the natural center of the region, they recommended that a Presbyterian school be established there. As a result Pikeville College was founded; its oldest surviving building, Pikeville College Academy Building, built in 1890, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Work was also begun at Prestonsburg and Inez. Dr. Condit also served as one of the first Trustees of Pikeville College.

- Continued -

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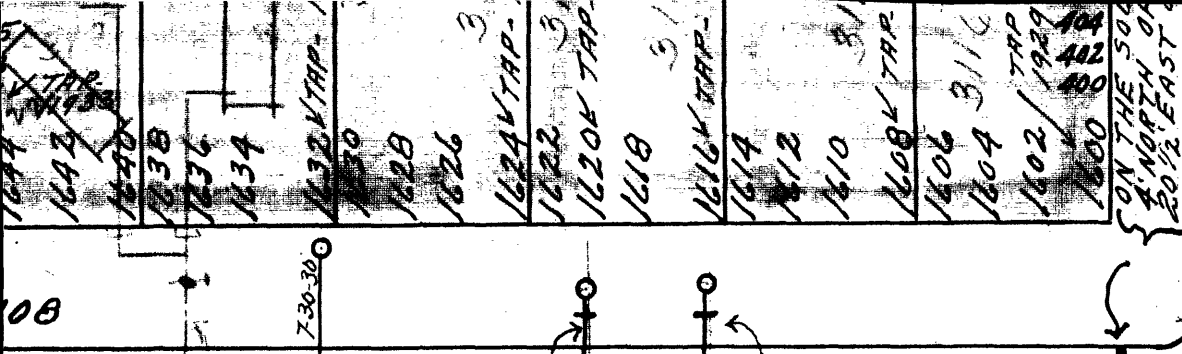
(Number all entries)

3rd Section of No. 8

During Dr. Condit's pastorate the First Presbyterian Church was extensively remodeled without incurring debts. Money for the stained glass windows on each side of the pulpit and for the French bell tower was raised by the "Little Helpers," children who solded apples, presented plays and sought donations.

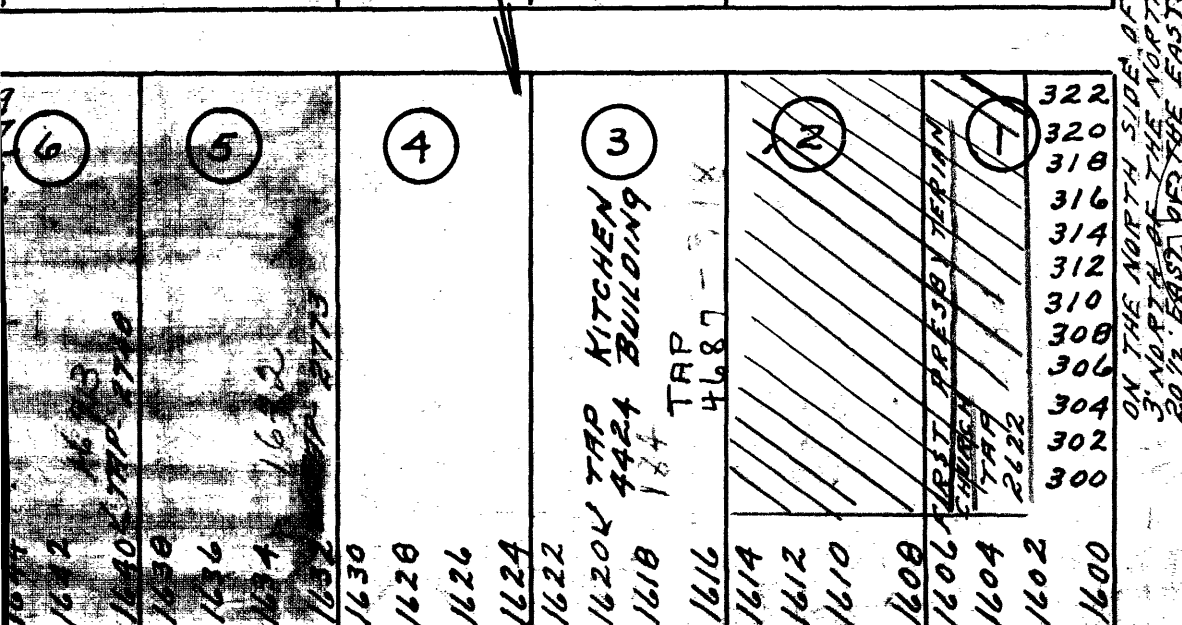
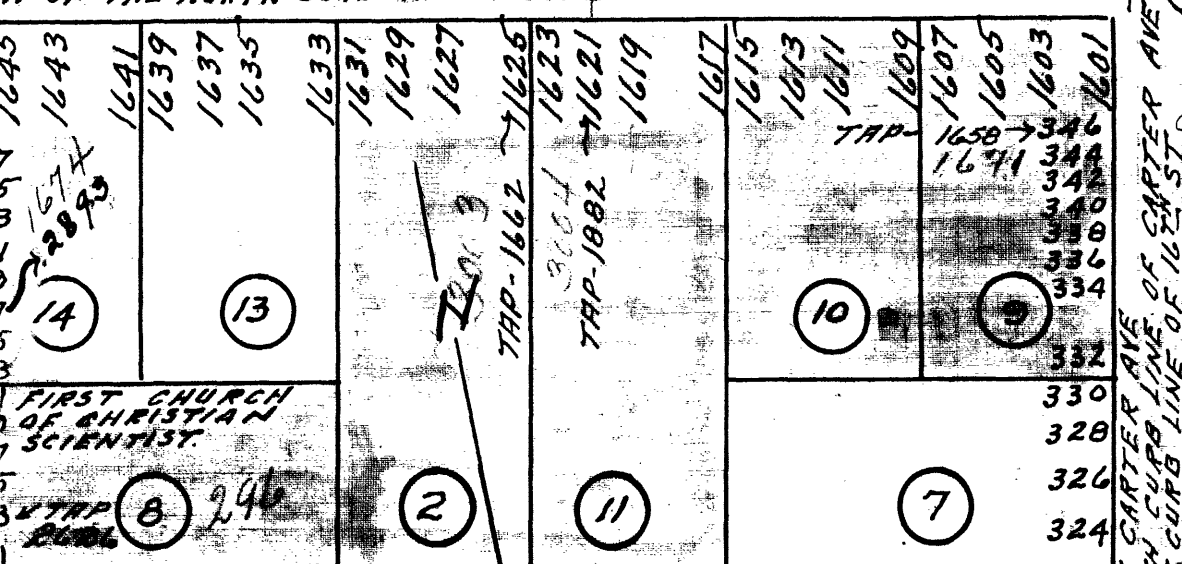
The First Presbyterian Church, built in 1858, is 115 years old and is the oldest structure still being used for a church in Boyd County. It has long been a landmark in the heart of Ashland, serving many civic as well as spiritual needs.





12" C-I MAIN
 GALV PIPE 7-12-1931
 VALVE NO 444
 VALVE NO 511
 VALVE NO 817

WEST SIDE OF 17TH ST.
 OF THE WEST CURB OF 17TH ST.
 OF THE NORTH CURB OF CARTER



WINCHESTER AVE
 VALVE NO 547
 VALVE NO 548

VAIVE NO 504

VALVE NO 817

VALVE NO 444

VALVE NO 511

VALVE NO 817

VALVE NO 450

VALVE NO 547

VALVE NO 548

16TH VALVE NO 843

109

74

RECEIVED
 APR 30 1975
 NATIONAL REGISTER

PH0003148

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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
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1. NAME

COMMON:
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AND/OR HISTORIC:
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CITY OR TOWN:
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CITY OR TOWN:
Ashland

STATE: Kentucky	CODE 21
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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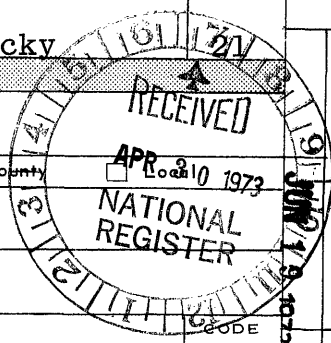
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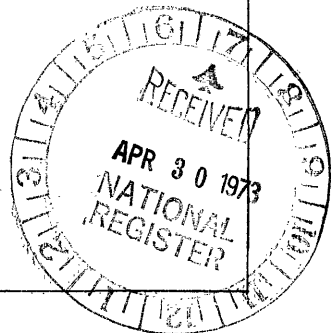
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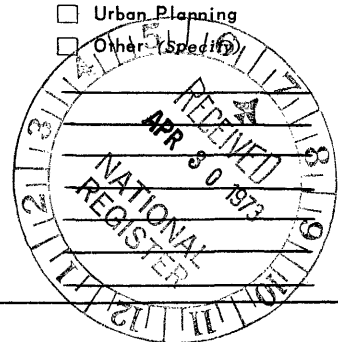
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|--|---|---|--|
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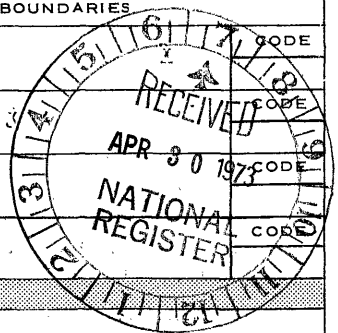
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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than 10 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: _____

ORGANIZATION: Mrs. Paul Blazer, Jr.
Member, Kentucky Heritage Commission and
Member, First Presbyterian Church

DATE: 2/14/73

STREET AND NUMBER: 1612 Bath Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Ashland STATE: Kentucky CODE: 21

12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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 National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Mrs. Simeon Willis

Title: State Historic Preservation Officer

Date: April 25, 1973

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert W. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 6/19/73

ATTEST: [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 6 12 73

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
KENTUCKY	
COUNTY	
BOYD	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JUN 19 1973	

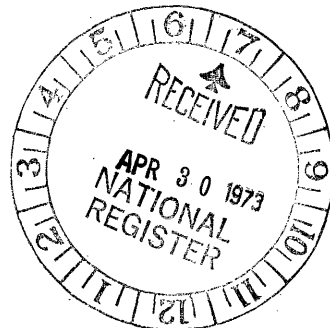
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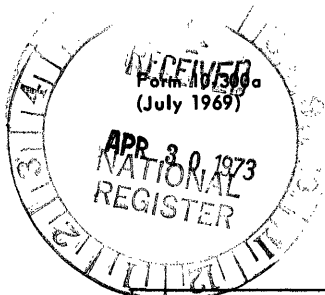
7. Description

Meyers supplied further information about the additions, "the greater part of the original church erected in 1858 was incorporated into the present church. It is that part of the building now occupied by the church offices, the Boethian and primary class rooms."

In 1900 the church's Senior Christian Endeavor Society raised the money for piping gas into the church for the first time. A Sunday School addition was built in 1910. After gas was piped into the church, a kitchen was added, occupying what is now the class room in the rear. The Memorial Chapel, which is a church within the church, was completed in 1943. In the early 1950's the auditorium was remodeled, the chancel was divided and the old pipe organ replaced. Air conditioning was installed in 1953.

Presently the First Presbyterian Church is a handsome, 115 year old, Mid-Victorian red brick structure on a high stone foundation. It has two large Gothic stained glass windows in the sanctuary with a third similar window at the rear of the sanctuary extending to the second floor. Various other smaller stained glass windows are in other parts of the church. The slate roof presents an interesting gabled roofline and the French bell tower rises majestically above the church. The arched, recessed main entrance is on Winchester Avenue with two other arched entrances on 16th Street. In the attached photograph the original structure, built in 1858, includes everything except the bell tower, three story educational wing that is to the right in the photograph, and the wing with the stained glass window to the far left in the photograph.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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8. Significance

Reverend John Clark Bayless (1819-1875) who was pastor of the First Presbyterian Church between 1854 and 1866 anticipated (according to Mrs. D.F. Meyers in A History Of The First Presbyterian Church, 1819-1954) by almost half a century certain later innovations in church programs and activities such as: the prayer meeting, Sunday School, regular quarterly communion services, and regular collections; and during his ministry the church membership increased from twenty-two to eighty-eight. He also re-opened the Academy which had been established by Bethesda, the second church. It was called the Beechgrove Academy and played an important part in the early academic history of Ashland. Even though the church was located on the border between the North and South during the Civil War, church services, Sunday School attendance, and contributions were apparently unaffected. Also according to Meyers, "The first Bible Society for the circulation of the Scriptures among the destitute in this part of the state was formed in Ashland in February, 1857. It was auxiliary to the American Bible Society and its prime movers and main supporters were connected with the Presbyterian Church. During the war its efforts were especially directed to the supply of soldiers both in northeastern Kentucky and in West Virginia

Reverend William Cutter Condit (whose father, John H. Condit had been pastor of the church from 1835-1840) became the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in 1866 and remained pastor for sixty years, during which time the membership increased from 60 to 600. He also preached regularly for a period of many years through Boyd, Greenup and part of Carter Counties, also at Sheridan and South Point, Ohio, averaging five sermons a week, and preaching in schoolhouses, private homes, and "under the spreading beech." Where churches had trouble he was sent to hold meetings and adjust differences. Dr. Condit from the first had the interest of the people of the mountains at heart and hoped to improve their lives. During the latter part of the 19th century Dr. Condit, Dr. Samuel B. Alderson, and Dr. James P. Hendricks rode on horseback exploring the Big Sandy Valley in the Appalachian Mountains for the Ebenezer Presbytery, of which the First Presbyterian Church is a member. They searched for places to establish schools and churches. Deciding that Pikeville, Ky. was the natural center of the region, they recommended that a Presbyterian school be established there. As a result Pikeville College was founded; its oldest surviving building, Pikeville College Academy Building, built in 1890, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Work was also begun at Prestonsburg and Inez. Dr. Condit also served as one of the first Trustees of Pikeville College.

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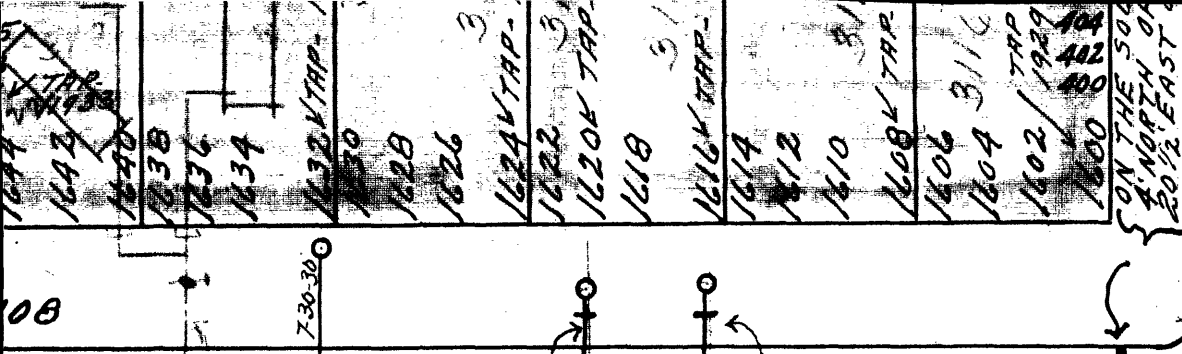
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3rd Section of No. 8

During Dr. Condit's pastorate the First Presbyterian Church was extensively remodeled without incurring debts. Money for the stained glass windows on each side of the pulpit and for the French bell tower was raised by the "Little Helpers," children who solded apples, presented plays and sought donations.

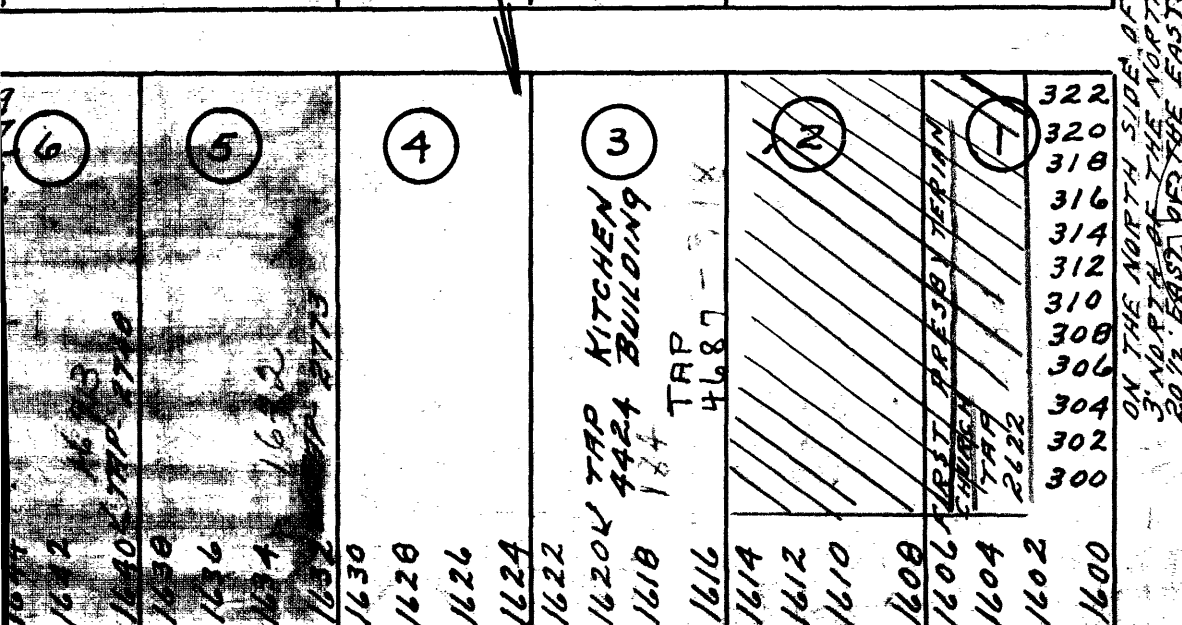
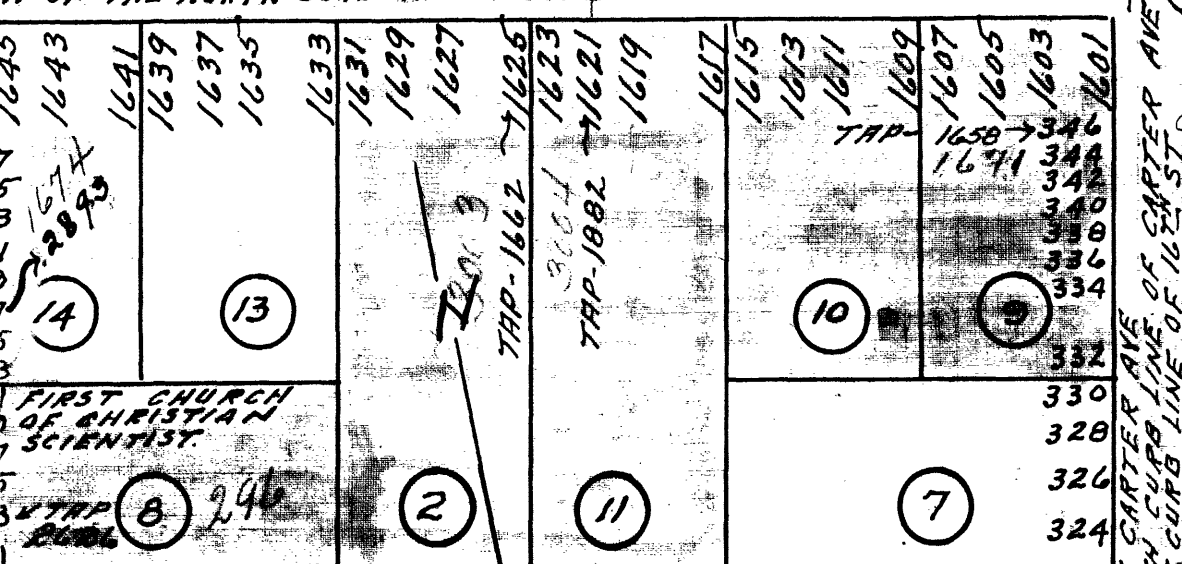
The First Presbyterian Church, built in 1858, is 115 years old and is the oldest structure still being used for a church in Boyd County. It has long been a landmark in the heart of Ashland, serving many civic as well as well as spiritual needs.



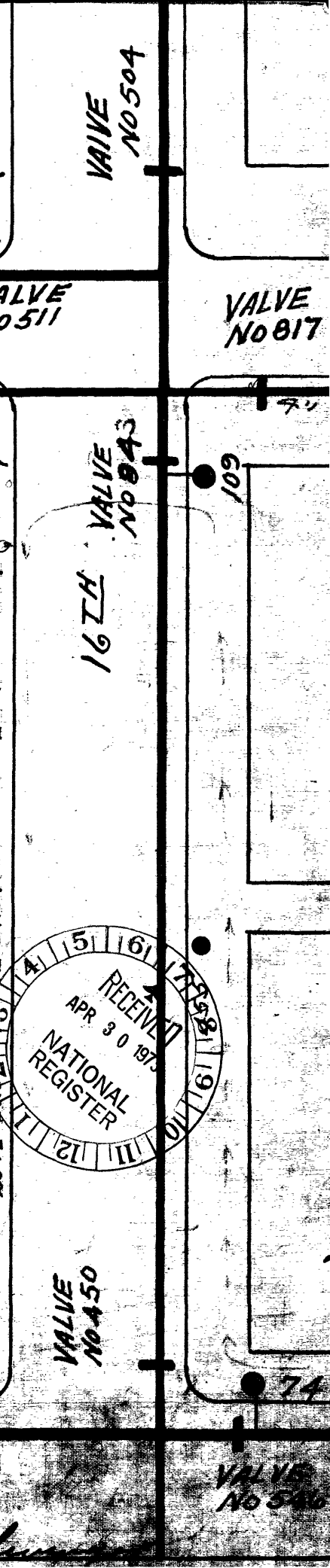


12" C-I MAIN
 GALV PIPE 7-12-1931
 VALVE NO 444
 VALVE NO 511
 VALVE NO 817

WEST SIDE OF 17TH ST.
 OF THE WEST CURB OF 17TH ST.
 OF THE NORTH CURB OF CARTER



WINCHESTER AVE
 VALVE NO 547



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