

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only

received JUN 18 1984
date entered JUL 19 1984

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

1. Name

historic The New School Presbyterian Church of Spring Hill
and/or common Spring Hill Presbyterian Church (preferred)

2. Location

street & number South Main Street N/A not for publication
city, town Spring Hill N/A vicinity of
state Tennessee code 047 county Maury code 119

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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<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:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. Neal Dean
Presbytery of Middle Tennessee
street & number P.O. Box 219
city, town Brentwood N/A vicinity of state Tennessee 37027

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Maury County Courthouse
street & number Public Square
city, town Columbia state Tennessee 38401

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maury County Comprehensive Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date August 1983 federal state county local
depository for survey records South Central Tennessee Development District
city, town Columbia state Tennessee 38401

7. Description

Condition excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved

date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Spring Hill Presbyterian Church, built in 1888, is a one-story eclectic style church building, located on the main thoroughfare in the Town of Spring Hill in northern Maury County. The frame structure faces west to Main Street, U. S. Highway 31. Historic Ferguson Hall, now a part of the Tennessee Orphans' Home bounds the church to the south and east. Turn-of-the century residences are to the west side and a few ante-bellum homes still stand to the north of the church.

The rectangular frame church building rests on a cut stone foundation. A steeply pitched gable roof is supported at the front by twin entrances with similar roof lines and three pediments featured on the facade. Three bays wide, the west or front facade has a central multipaned stained glass window, elliptical in shape, flanked by the double-leaf diagonally-paneled doors of the other two bays. The entrances are further characterized by single transom windows over each doorway. An arch just above the transom frames an electric light. White weatherboards frame the building to the pediment line; pressed tin shingles in a diagonal pattern fill the pediments of the three bays. The eaves are supported by decorated turned and chamfered brackets. Originally, the southwestern bay did not have a gable roof, but a projecting conical roof and steeple that was destroyed by a tornado in 1963.

The north and south elevations were originally four bays wide; additions to the rear account for another two bays. The sides of the original building are identical, the most interesting feature being a projecting third bay.

The sanctuary of the church retains most all of its original features including beaded tongue-and-groove paneling on the ceiling and wainscot, stained glass windows, ash flooring and the original church furniture. The newest additions to the interior have been four memorial windows in the original ball-and-target frames, electric lights, and an organ. The sanctuary is a central hall with two rows forming three section of pews. The floor is raised in the front forming a chancel area and choir stall.

The rear additions, added in 1911 and 1982, provide space for classrooms, a kitchen, and a small office.

There is a small frame bungalow located to the north of the church building which is not included in the nomination.

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 type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1888 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Spring Hill Presbyterian Church is nominated under National Register criterion C for its local significance in architecture. The Presbyterian congregation in the community dates to 1844 and remains the only one in the town. The frame building is an excellent vernacular structure in the eclectic style, with an interesting west facade and finely crafted interior.

The original Presbyterian Church of Spring Hill was organized with twenty-six members in May 1844 by the Reverends Robert Garrison and Robert Hardin. The same year three important local figures were elected ruling elders; they were Philip H. Jenkins, Absolom Thompson, and James M. Alexander. Absolom Thompson, owner of Oaklawn just outside of Spring Hill, was the father of F. A. Thompson, the first minister of Spring Hill Presbyterian Church.

The first church building is documented in the church minutes as having been built between June 15, 1847, and March 18, 1849, when it was dedicated. In that same year, F. A. Thompson became the minister of the church. Although there is no record concerning the first church's appearance, it is understood that F. A. Thompson oversaw much of the construction. The pews in the church are exactly the same as those in the First Presbyterian Church in Franklin, Tennessee, where Thompson was minister from 1873 until 1878, and it is possible that these pews were from the original church. No church records were kept for the period between 1862 and 1863, as later references state that the war "interfered much with our regular church services."

Between 1882 and 1887, the church congregation grew to over one hundred. In 1888 the old church was demolished and in its stead the present structure was erected and dedicated on December 23, 1888, at a cost of \$4,000. F. A. Thompson saw the church built and preached in it for one year. It is believed that it took over five years to raise the money for the church's construction.

The original part of the structure remains essentially unaltered except for the addition of electric lighting. The two later rear additions (1911, 1982), do not intrude on the original plan and are not visible from the street. The church has remained in continuous use and the congregation has formed an important part of the community for 130 years.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Harris, Mattie Laura. Personal Interview. July 1982, June 1983.
Prado, Mrs. G. O. Personal Interview. July 1982, June 1983.
Scoville, Mrs. G. Personal Interview. July 1982, June 1983.
Wade, Henry P. History of Spring Hill Presbyterian Church, May 27, 1844 to April, 1895.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1.92 acres

Quadrangle name Carter's Creek, Tennessee

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	6	5	0	6	2	2	0	3	9	5	5	8	9	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 nominated property is rectangular in shape and is bounded on the northeast by Ayres St., on the southeast by School St., on the southwest by Furgeson St., and on the northwest by South Main St. This comprises all the land historically associated with the Spring Hill Presbyterian Church.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Elizabeth Ann Richardson

organization N/A

date January 1984

street & number 1913 Kingsbury Drive

telephone 615/373-5495

city or town Nashville

state Tennessee

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 National Park Service.

Deputy
State Historic Preservation Officer signature Herbert L. Haynes

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

date 6/7/84

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

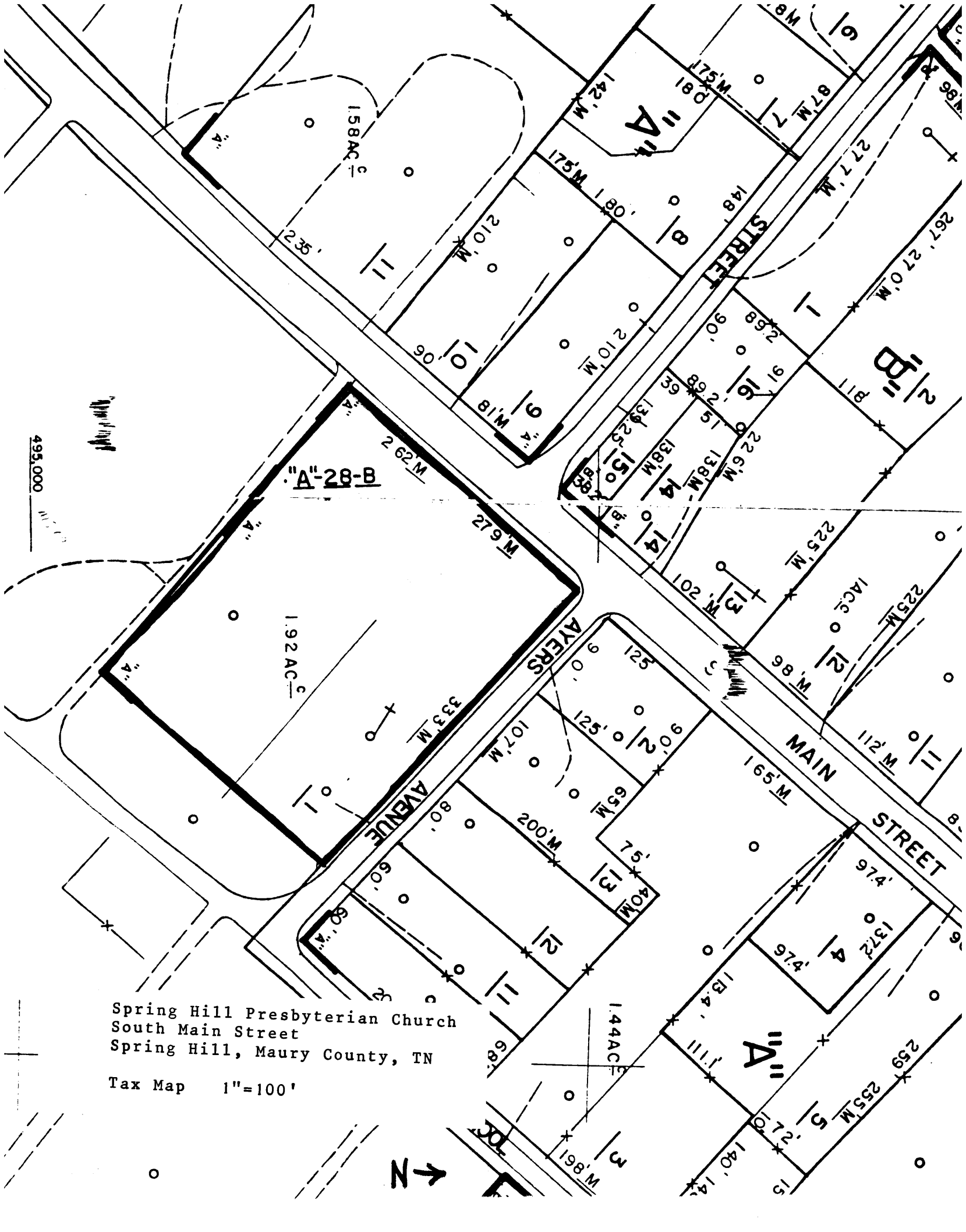
date 7/19/84

for Delores Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



Spring Hill Presbyterian Church
 South Main Street
 Spring Hill, Maury County, TN

Tax Map 1"=100'

495,000

"A-28-B"

STREET 16

MAIN STREET

AYERS AVENUE

↑ N