

PH0670669

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

DATA SHEET

RECEIVED SEP 23 1976

DEC 12 1976

DATE ENTERED

# 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

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Cane Ridge Cumberland Presbyterian Church

AND/OR COMMON

## 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

SE of antioch on

Old Hickory Boulevard

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Antioch

VICINITY OF

Fifth

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Tennessee

47

Davidson

37

## 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"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

## 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Cane Ridge Cumberland Presbyterian Church

STREET & NUMBER

Old Hickory Boulevard, Route 1

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Antioch

VICINITY OF

Tennessee

## 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Register's Office

STREET & NUMBER

Metropolitan Nashville-Davidson County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Nashville

Tennessee

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Tennessee Historical and Archaeological Survey

DATE

December 1975

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Tennessee Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

STATE  
Tennessee

Nashville

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<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		

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located on a hillock within sight of Old Hickory Boulevard, Cane Ridge Cumberland Presbyterian Church is strikingly symmetrical and spartan. The small, rectangular brick church was erected on a cut and coursed sandstone foundation which has been repaired in recent years with limestone blocks. The steeply pitched gable roof, now clad with asphalt shingles, probably originally was protected with wooden shingles. The brick in the main (south) wall was laid in stretcher bond and ornamented only with a small, glazed brick diamond and floral attic vent centered above the double doors and with plain, boxed cornices and abbreviated returns. Identical entrances, designed, according to tradition, to provide separate access for male and female members of the congregation, accent further the south elevation. Except for the lintels surmounted by a row of headers, the door surrounds are unadorned. Modern, single-leaf doors have replaced the originals, and a pair of concrete, straight stairs with stoops and iron railings have supplanted the earlier single porch which was probably wooden and had at least one stone step.

The remaining walls, laid in common bond, are highlighted with simple, boxed cornices. Four tall windows with four-over-four lights are found in the east and west walls; these have header brick sills and lintels identical to those over the doors. A small wooden panel covers the opening to the crawl space. There are no doors or windows in the northwest wall.

Although the interior has been electrified and somewhat modernized, the window frames and rudely constructed benches appear original. Two small conference rooms were added to the area on either side of the chancel at the northern end of the building.

Since the church has no indoor plumbing, a tiny, roughly constructed, frame privy stands near the rear of the building; a mate to this, located next to it, was razed some years ago. Southwest of the church is a cemetery which contains the remains of several Revolutionary War veterans from the Cane Ridge Community and those of Edwin Austin and Thomas Boaz, the men who donated the land for the church and graveyard. The cemetery is still used by church members and their families.

# 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 checked="" 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"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1859

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Edwin Austin and Thomas Boaz, a Baptist minister, donated the land for a meeting house and cemetery to the Baptists of the Cane Ridge area of Davidson County in 1826; shortly thereafter the congregation built a church on the property. About 1837 the Cumberland Presbyterians acquired the building and held services there until a fire destroyed it in 1859. A more permanent church was erected in that same year which still houses an active congregation comprised of twenty-four members and which has largely remained unchanged in appearance. Churches located on this property have been the scene of religious services for nearly a century and a half, and the present building has served the Cumberland Presbyterians well for 117 years.

Cane Ridge Cumberland Presbyterian Church is typical of the country churches built in antebellum Tennessee. Its austere simplicity satisfied the aesthetic and spiritual needs of the congregation. While a number of the early, brick, rural churches have survived, most congregations found it necessary to deviate from the utilitarian position of the nineteenth century to accommodate the desires of their members for more space and modern conveniences such as electricity, plumbing, and air conditioning. The Cane Ridge Church has retained its original appearance and few concessions have been made to the twentieth century.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Graham, Eleanor. Nashville: A Short History and Selected Buildings. Nashville Historical Commission of Metropolitan Nashville-Davidson County, 1974.
- Johnson, Mrs. Buford. Historic Cane Ridge and Its Families. Nashville: Blue and Gray Press, 1973.
- Walker, Hugh. "Old Cane Ridge Presbyterian Reminiscent of Early Times" The Tennessean. Interview with Mrs. Buford Johnson on November 20, 1975. Nov. 3, 1975.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 4

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,6	53,30,0,0	3,98,40,1,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Joyce Bickel and Tirri Taylor

ORGANIZATION

Middle Tennessee State University, Historic Preservation Program

DATE

December 1975

STREET & NUMBER

Middle Tennessee State University

TELEPHONE

(615) 741-2371

CITY OR TOWN

Murfreesboro

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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Herbert L. Hays*

DATE

9/17/76

TITLE

Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

12/12/76

ATTEST: DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

12/16/76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER