

1520

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION  
FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Hedges Chapel

other name/site number: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number: 668 Mountain Lake Road

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Hedgesville

vicinity: X

state: West Virginia-WV

county: Berkeley

code: 003

zip code: 25427

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_ statewide X locally. ( \_\_\_ See continuation sheet.)

*Susan M. Pierce*

10/29/02

Signature of Certifying Official

Date

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

Date

In my opinion, the property X 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

Date

Hedges Chapel

Berkeley

West Virginia-WV

Name of Property

County and State

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

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):

*Edson H. Beall* 12/12/07

5. Classification

Ownership of Property:

(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of property

(Check only one box)

private

public-local

public-State

public-Federal

building(s)

district

site

structure

object

Number of Resources within Property

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

Contributing

Noncontributing

1 \_\_\_\_\_

1 \_\_\_\_\_ buildings

1 \_\_\_\_\_

0 \_\_\_\_\_ sites

0 \_\_\_\_\_

0 \_\_\_\_\_ structures

0 \_\_\_\_\_

0 \_\_\_\_\_ objects

2 \_\_\_\_\_

1 \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL

Name of related multiple property listing N/A

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

Number of contributing resources previously in the listed National Register 0

Hedges Chapel \_\_\_\_\_

Berkeley \_\_\_\_\_ West Virginia-WV \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Property**

**County and State**

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

Religion: Religious Facility \_\_\_\_\_

Funerary/Cemetery \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

Religion: Religious Facility \_\_\_\_\_

Funerary/Cemetery \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

Mid-19th Century: Greek Revival \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**

Foundation Limestone \_\_\_\_\_

Walls Log; Weatherboard \_\_\_\_\_

Roof Metal \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description**

(See continuation on 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.

X **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.

Hedges Chapel \_\_\_\_\_

Berkeley \_\_\_\_\_ West Virginia-WV \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Property**

**County and State**

**Criteria Considerations**

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

Property is:

**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**

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1850

**Significant Dates**

1850

**Significant Person**

(Complete if criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(See continuation sheets.)

Hedges Chapel \_\_\_\_\_

Berkeley \_\_\_\_\_ West Virginia-WV \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Property**

**County and State**

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliographical**

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

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

\_\_\_\_\_ 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

X Other

Name of Repository Berkeley County Historic Landmarks Commission \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 1.0306 acres \_\_\_\_\_

**UTM References** (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

Quad Map Name: Big Pool MD-WV \_\_\_\_\_

A 17 749845 4382472

Zone Easting Northing

B \_\_\_\_\_

Zone Easting Northing

C \_\_\_\_\_

Zone Easting Northing

D \_\_\_\_\_

Zone Easting Northing

\_\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(See continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(See continuation sheet.)

Hedges Chapel \_\_\_\_\_ Berkeley \_\_\_\_\_ West Virginia-WV \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Property County and State

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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Name/Title: Geoffrey B. Henry and Jared N. Tuk, Architectural Historians \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: GAI Consultants, Inc. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: June 2002 \_\_\_\_\_

Street & Number: 570 Beatty Road \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: 412-856-6400 \_\_\_\_\_

City or Town: Monroeville \_\_\_\_\_ State: PA \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: 15146 \_\_\_\_\_

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**Property Owner**

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

Name: Trustees of Hedges Chapel \_\_\_\_\_

Street & Number: 668 Mountain Lake Road \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

City or Town: Hedgesville \_\_\_\_\_ State: WV \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: 25427 \_\_\_\_\_

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### Location and Setting

Hedges Chapel is located on the east side of Mountain Lake Road (CR 17) approximately 2.5 miles northwest of Hedgesville, in the Hedgesville Magisterial District, in northwestern Berkeley County, West Virginia. The chapel stands on a cleared property with an adjoining cemetery atop a small hill. The surrounding terrain is gently rolling, with a mixture of forests, open land and modern residential development. The Hedges Chapel property is bordered on the west and southwest by a golf course owned by Woods Resort, and on the east and north by woodland. A paved driveway leads to the chapel from the west, and there is a gravel parking lot located to the north of the chapel building.

### Description

The Hedges Chapel property contains one (1) contributing building (Hedges Chapel), one (1) contributing site (cemetery), and one (1) non-contributing building (church hall/assembly building).

#### **Hedges Chapel (1850)—Contributing Building**

Hedges Chapel is a one-story, three-bay-wide, two-bay-long, gable-roofed log building. It rests on a rectangular fieldstone foundation repaired in places with concrete. The original 1850 log building was covered with the present white-painted German siding in 1885. This siding graduates in width from the top to the bottom of the building. The building is trimmed with plain corner boards, a plain board fascia, and a box cornice with molded trim. The building has a gable end façade and the cornice returns at both gable ends.

The present corrugated metal roof is a ca. 1939 replacement of a ca. 1905 slate roof, which in turn replaced the original wood shingle roof. There are metal snow-birds near both eaves. Near the center of the roof is a stuccoed brick stove chimney, now painted with silver metallic paint. Modern gutters and drain pipes run along the box cornice.

The façade (east elevation) consists of a central entrance with a two-pane rectangular transom with a ramped Greek Revival-style lintel. Above this is a 20<sup>th</sup>-century metal urn light. The wooden door, dating from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, consists of two panels below and a glass pane above, along with a porcelain handle and metal lock. To the left of the door is a wooden sign painted with "Hedges Chapel est. 1850." The entrance is flanked on either side by a single window with two-over-two, double-hung sash with plain frames, ramped lintels, and louvered shutters. A concrete handicap ramp with metal railing is attached to the east façade of the chapel.

Each of the other three elevations of the Hedges Chapel has two windows with two-over-two, double-hung sash with plain frames, ramped lintels and louvered shutters.

The interior of the Hedges Chapel features a basilica plan with seven rows of wooden pews on either side of a central aisle leading to the altar and lectern in the rear. The

wooden floors, although not original, date from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and the central aisle is carpeted. The narrow-board vertical wainscot and horizontal chair rail date from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and are stained a dark color. The interior walls are plastered and cover the original logs. The window and door moldings date from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. There is a modern dropped ceiling, two brass ceiling fans, and four modern metal hanging ceiling lights.

The interior contains several other features from the early to mid 20<sup>th</sup> century, including the balustraded wooden altar rail, the mahogany altar, a paneled lectern, and the narrow high-backed wooden pews, now painted white. More modern furnishings include the upright piano and the wooden cross hanging on the west wall.

#### **Cemetery (1872-Present)—Contributing Site**

The Hedges Chapel Cemetery is located to the south and west of the chapel building. The cemetery is laid out in a uniform grid plan with both headstones and footstones. The cemetery is well maintained and the stones are in good condition, and only a few are broken or cracked. The cemetery contains approximately 100 burials with headstones/footstones. Materials used include granite, fieldstone, and marble. The Edwards family plot located to the south of the chapel, is bordered by a low stone wall. Most of the headstones are undecorated, with clearly legible inscriptions, and rounded or squared tops.

According to the inscriptions, death dates range from 1872 to the present. Common names include: Keesecker (1896, 1914, 1926, 1945), Wilson (1902, 1926), Richards (1900), Askey (1872, 1900), Jordan (1907, 1918, 1934), Edwards (1942, 1957), Kenney (1896), Hardin (1889), and Bowers (1905).

#### **Church Hall/Assembly (1996)—Non-Contributing Building**

The Church Hall/Assembly Hall building is located approximately 150 feet from the chapel. It is a one-story, gable-roofed frame building with sliding glass doors. The interior features an office, a kitchen, and a small assembly room. The roof extends forward an additional four bays to shelter an open assembly area with picnic benches. The roof is topped by a wooden cupola. On the front gable end is a sign inscribed "George Drevenak Memorial Pavillion."



### Statement of Significance

Hedges Chapel is significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture as one of two extant log religious buildings in Berkeley County, West Virginia. The period of significance is 1850. Log construction was once common for 19<sup>th</sup>-century rural chapels such as this one. Today, however, Hedges Chapel and Salem Chapel near Nollville are the only extant log churches in Berkeley County. Built in 1850, Hedges Chapel is in excellent condition and has had no exterior additions during its history. The chapel was covered with its present German siding in 1885, and the present metal roof was added in 1939. The interior of the chapel has retained its basic original form, although the log interior was altered by the addition of wainscot, chair-rail, and window trim in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Hedges Chapel retains much of its original setting, including an historic cemetery to the south and west. A non-contributing building is located a short distance from the chapel but is not connected to it.

### Historical Background

Hedges Chapel derives its name from the Hedges family, the earliest and most prominent family of settlers in this part of Berkeley County. The Hedges originally came from Frederick County, Maryland into then Orange County, Virginia (now Berkeley County). In 1738, Peter, Solomon, and Joshua Hedges acquired large tracts of land on the east side of North Mountain near present Hedgesville. In 1752, a 150-acre tract that includes the site of Hedgesville was surveyed for Charles Goff. The survey indicates a small building labeled "Meeting House." This building was originally called Hedges Chapel until 1818, when it became Mt. Zion Episcopal Church.

This was not the only church building in this part of Berkeley County standing in the early nineteenth century. According to the John Kearfott 1847 Map of Berkeley County, Virginia, a Methodist church stood near Shanghai, as well as the Ganotown Methodist Church. There were two Presbyterian Churches as well, one located at Tomahawk, the other at Riner Church, between Jones Spring and Tomahawk (Wood 2002).

Dr. John R. Hedges (1779-1852) acquired 237 acres on the headwaters of Cherry's Branch on 10 May 1802. He sold 137 acres to Joseph Hedges on 12 January 1808 and retained 100 acres near Shell Mountain. On 15 March 1850, John R. Hedges sold one acre of his 100-acre parcel to John P. Hedges, John Johnson, William Norrington, John Kerns, Joshua Norrington, Michael Kerns and Samuel Hedges, trustees. The deed stated that the acre was for the use of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States of America. A building was to be erected and known thereafter as Hedges Stony Lick Church. According to church records, construction actually began before the deed transfer, in the winter of 1849, with the chapel completed in 1850 (Hedges Chapel 1850-2000).

Log construction was the earliest and most popular building method in eighteenth- and early-nineteenth-century Berkeley County. Nearly all domestic buildings dating from before the Revolution possess an original log portion that was later encased by or added to a larger brick or stone house. Surviving free-standing log buildings are rare in Berkeley County today. The Hughes-Cunningham House (listed in the National Register), near Harlan Springs, dating from the late eighteenth-century-period, is one of the few still extant.

By the early 1800s, log construction was rarely used for larger homes and for public and religious buildings. Falling Waters Presbyterian Church in Spring Mills, for example, is a large brick Greek Revival-style building dating from 1834. By the mid-nineteenth century, log construction was utilized mostly for smaller, vernacular residences and churches in rural sections of the county. Thus, its use in the construction of Hedges Chapel in 1850 was in line with current building practices in rural Berkeley County.

Hedges Chapel is one of only two extant log churches in Berkeley County. The other, Salem Church, dates from ca. 1880 and is located on Poorhouse Road near Nollville. Unlike the Hedges Chapel, Salem Church has undergone extensive alterations, including the addition of vinyl siding, the replacement of its front door, and the alteration of its original windows.

In contrast, Hedges Chapel possesses a high degree of architectural integrity, retaining much of its mid-nineteenth-century appearance intact. The original shingle roof has been replaced twice, and the logs have been sided with weatherboard siding on the exterior and plastered on the interior. The interior was remodeled in the early 1900s and has retained much of its appearance from this period intact. This includes the wooden pews, the wainscot and chairrail, and the altar rail.

According to a church history, the membership of Hedges Chapel waxed and waned during the twentieth century, and the chapel closed several times during the 1960s and 1970s. In 1988, the Methodist Church deeded ownership of the chapel to a group of local residents. They restored and modernized the building. The chapel reopened for services on September 10, 1988 as a non-denominational house of worship. Today, the chapel hosts regular Sunday services, as well as weddings and funerals.

References

Berkeley County Deed and Will Records, Martinsburg, WV

No Author

2000 Hedges Chapel 1850-2000. In possession of Hedges Chapel, Hedgesville,  
WV

Wood, Don C.

2001 Hedges Chapel History. Martinsburg, WV.

2001 Hedges Chapel Land History. Martinsburg, WV.

2002 Hedges Family History, Martinsburg, WV

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated boundaries are the same as shown with solid black lines in the survey dated 4-27-1992 contained in Berkeley County Deed Book 500, pages 52 and 53.

Boundary Justification

The nominated boundaries comprise the original plot devised to the Methodist Church in 1850 for erection of the Chapel. The boundaries include the two contributing resources: the Hedges Chapel and the adjoining cemetery.

### Photographs

All photographs are of Hedges Chapel, Berkeley County, WV 25401

Photographer: Geoffrey B. Henry, GAI Consultants, Inc. 28 August 2001

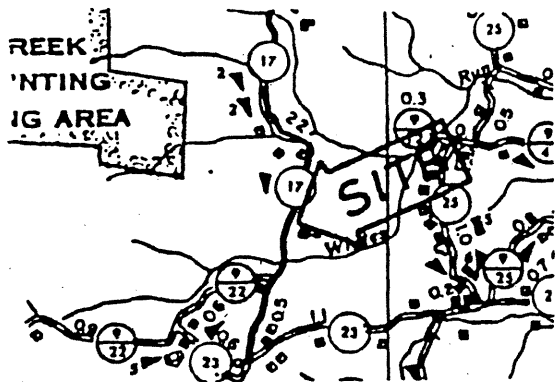
Negatives located at West Virginia Division of Culture and History (SHPO), Charleston WV

Photograph 1	South and West Elevations, Camera Facing North
Photograph 2	North and East Elevations, Camera Facing South-Southwest
Photograph 3	East Elevation, Showing Cemetery, Camera Facing West
Photograph 4	Interior, Showing Altar and Pulpit, Camera Facing North
Photograph 5	Interior, Showing Pews and Lectern, Camera Facing South
Photograph 6	Non-Contributing Church Hall/Assembly Building, Camera Facing East

Wild To: Brien  
9/2/92

VERBAL BOUNDARY  
DESCRIPTION

HEDGES CHAPEL  
BERKELEY, WV



LOCATION MAP  
1" = 1 MILE

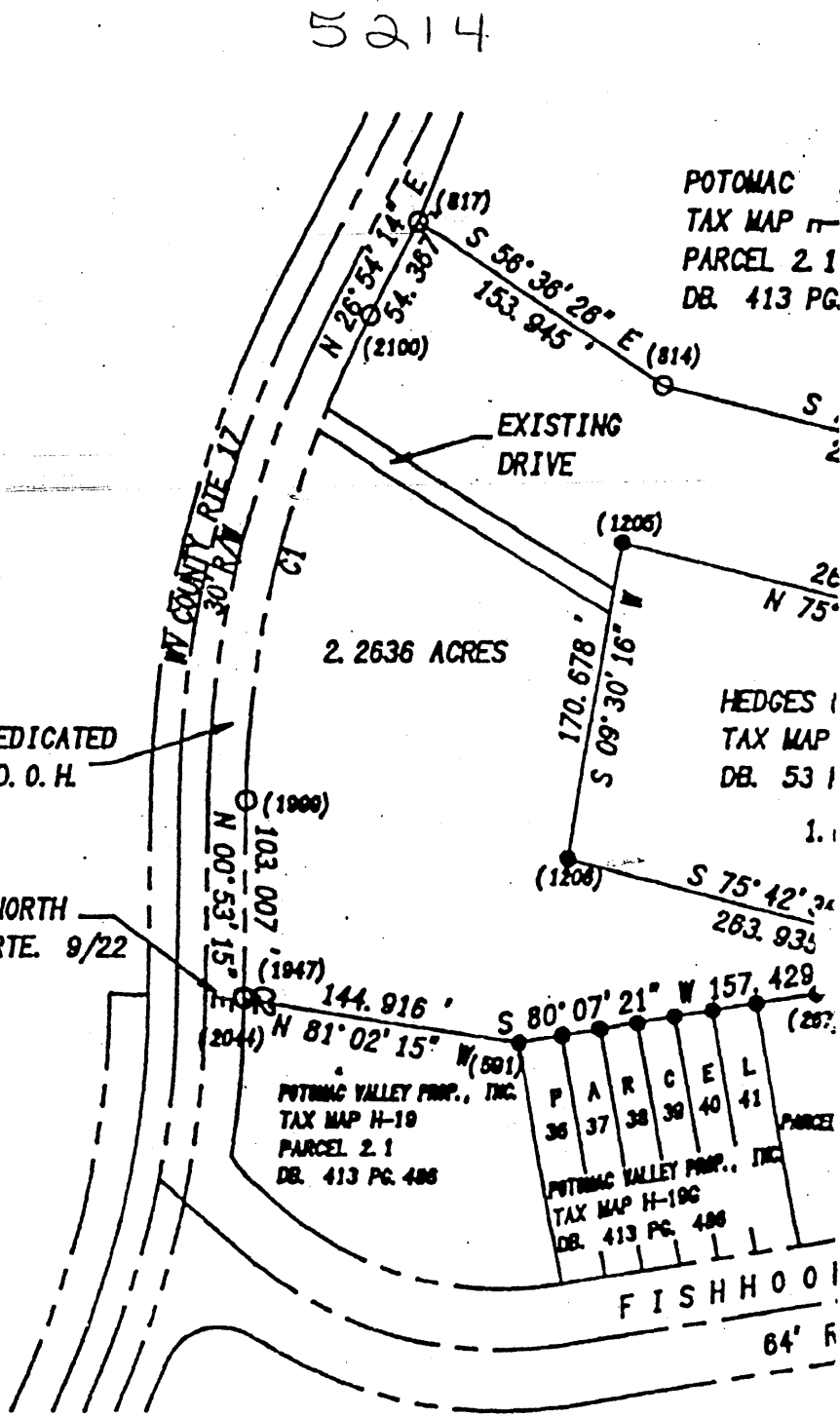
HEDGESVILLE DISTRICT  
BERKELEY CO., WV  
TAX MAP H-19  
PARCEL 2.1  
DB. 413 PG. 486

20' TO BE DEDICATED  
TO THE W. V. D. O. H.

APPROX. 800' NORTH  
OF WV COUNTY RTE. 9/22

NOTES:

THE PROPERTY HEREON DESCRIBED SHALL  
BE MERGED INTO ONE PROPERTY WITH THE  
ADJOINING 1.0306 ACRE PARCEL WHICH  
IS RECORDED IN DB. 53 PG. 198, FOR  
THE EXCLUSIVE PURPOSE OF INCREASING  
THE LAND OF SAID PARCEL.



5214

POTOMAC  
TAX MAP H-19  
PARCEL 2.1  
DB. 413 PG.

HEDGES  
TAX MAP  
DB. 53 PG.

POTOMAC VALLEY PROP., INC.  
TAX MAP H-19  
PARCEL 2.1  
DB. 413 PG. 486

POTOMAC VALLEY PROP., INC.  
TAX MAP H-19C  
DB. 413 PG. 486

FISHHOOI

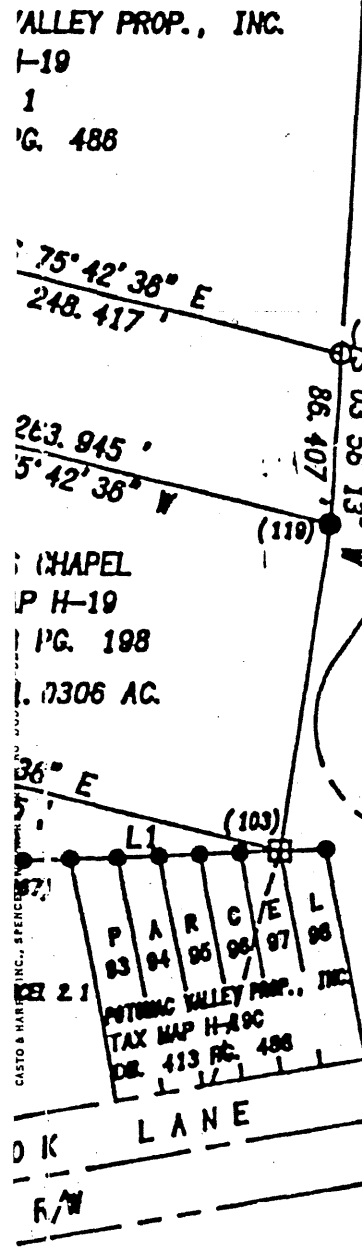
64' R

PLAT OF SURVEY

PROJECT NO.  
DRAWING NO.  
DATE  
DRAWN BY  
CHECKED BY  
SHEET

VERBAL BOUNDARY  
DESCRIPTION

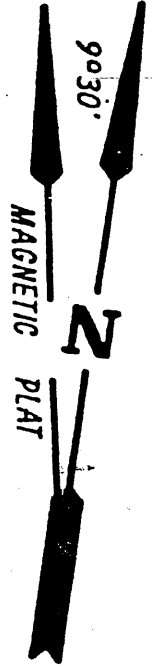
HEDGES CHAPEL  
BERKELEY COUNTY, WV



CURVE	DELTA	RADIUS	ARC	CHORD	TANGENT	CHORD BRG
C1	26° 04' 59"	588.467	267.891	265.584	136.308	N 13° 55' 45" E
C2	0° 04' 01"	607.474	0.709	0.709	0.355	N 00° 54' 46" E

LINE	BEARING	DISTANCE
L1	S 87° 46' 06" W	127.130

**APPROVED**  
THE BERKELEY COUNTY  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
*Archie Bonhart*  
PRESIDENT  
DATE *5/29/82*  
EXEMPT - ADDITION - METRO



LEGEND

- 5/8" REBAR AND CAP SET
- 5/8" REBAR AND CAP FOUND
- CONCRETE MONUMENT FOUND
- 1" IRON PIPE FOUND

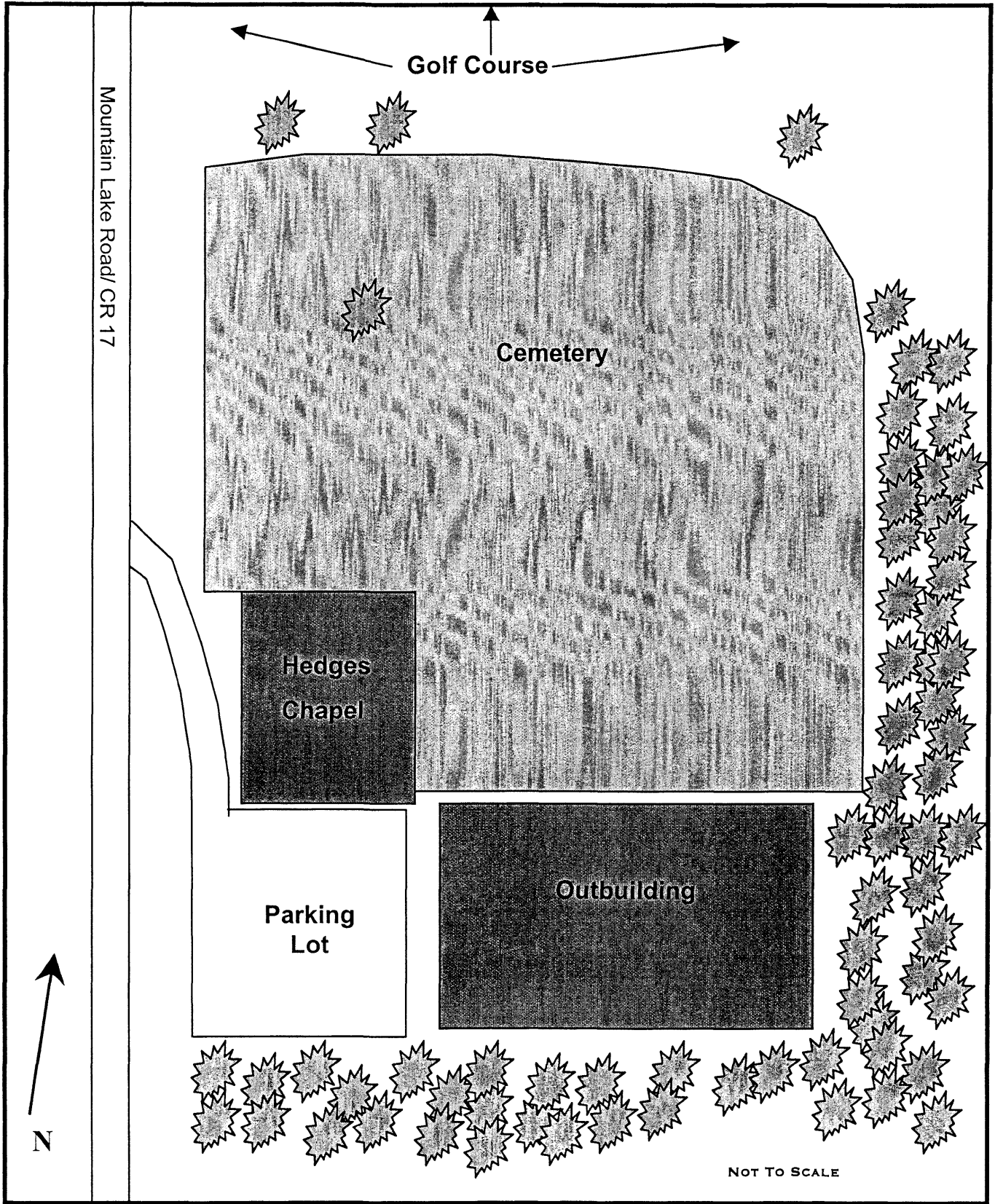


SCALE IN FEET



P C DIMAGNO



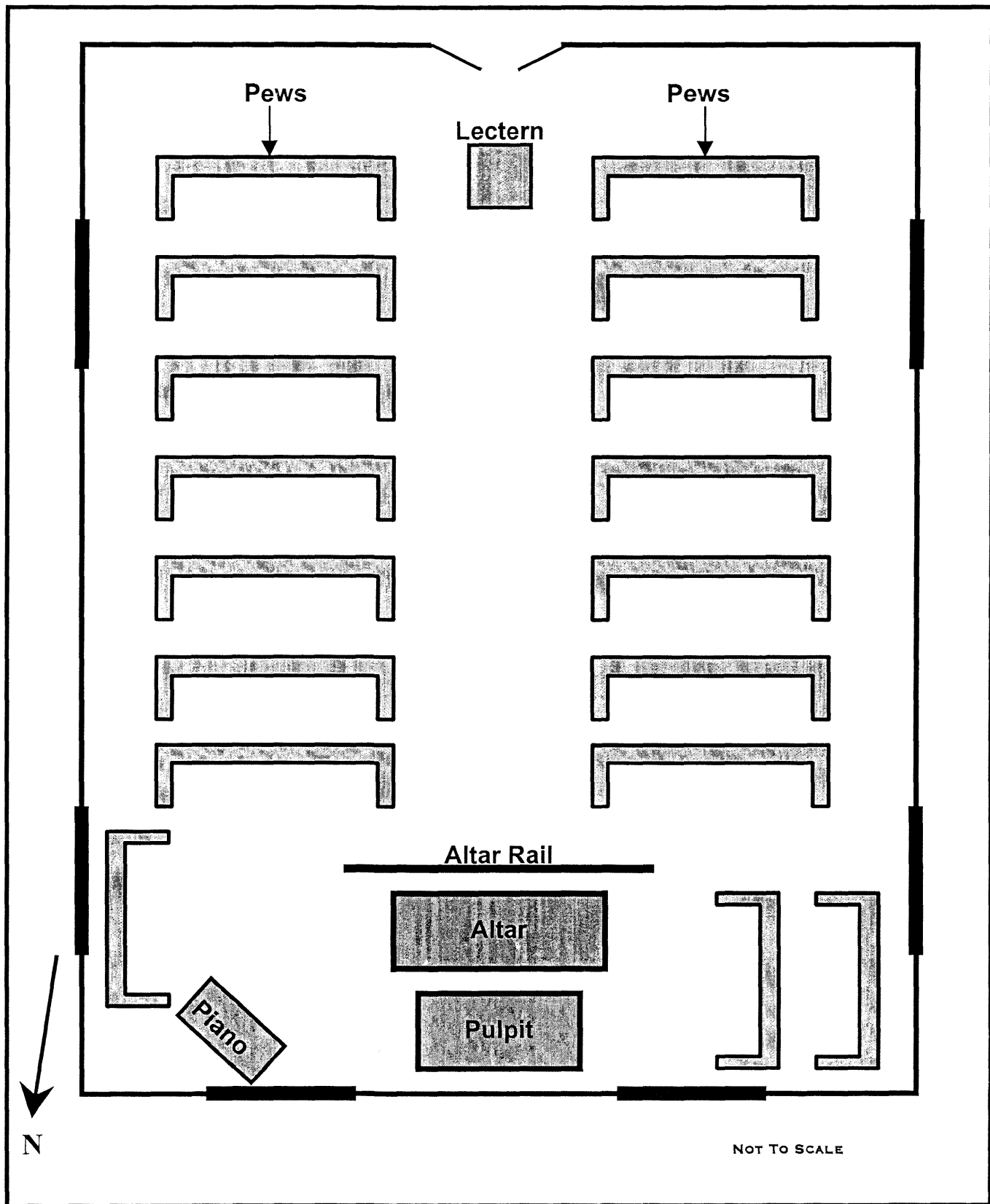


**FIGURE**

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**SKETCH PLAN, HEDGES CHAPEL,  
HEDGESVILLE, BERKELEY COUNTY, WEST  
VIRGINIA**





**FIGURE**

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**FLOOR PLAN, HEDGES CHAPEL,  
HEDGESVILLE, BERKELEY COUNTY,  
WEST VIRGINIA**