

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

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

For NPS use only

received JUL 1 - 1983

date entered JUL 28 1983

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

1. Name

historic Church of the Messiah

and/or common same

2. Location

street & number W. Madison ^{and N. 3rd Sts.} ~~Street at N. Third Streets.~~ N/A not for publication

city, town Pulaski N/A vicinity of

state Tennessee code 047 county Giles code 055

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 | N/A in process | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

4. Owner of Property

name Diocese of Tennessee

street & number 209 Regas Building

city, town Knoxville N/A vicinity of state 37917

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of Giles County Register

street & number Giles County Courthouse

city, town Pulaski state Tennessee 37917

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Giles County Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1978 federal state county local

depository for survey records Tennessee Historical Commission, 701 Broadway

city, town Nashville state Tennessee 37203

7. Description

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Condition | | Check one | Check one |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site |
| <input checked="" 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 | | |

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located in Pulaski, Tennessee (pop. 6,983), the Church of the Messiah is a one-story, brick building constructed in 1887 with a steep gable roof and a bellcote and small entrance porch at the south front of the church. The style of the building is a late nineteenth-century, eclectic interpretation of an English parish church. The east and the west exterior walls are buttressed and contain mullioned, flat-arched windows with stained glass. In addition to an open frame ceiling with simple trusses, the relatively unaltered interior has most of its original fittings, including pews, pulpit, font, altar, and reredos. The church is situated on a relatively flat site at the northwest corner of W. Madison Street and N. Third Street across from the Brown-Daly-Horne House (NR 12-6-79). The town of Pulaski is the county seat of Giles County, which is located in the southern section of Middle Tennessee bordering Alabama.

The brick church is rectangular in plan, measuring 38 by 60 feet, and has a polygonal chancel and rectangular sacristy. The three-bay east and west facades have raked buttresses between the windows and at the corners of the building. Each window has a transom and is divided by a central mullion. At the south (front) facade is an entrance porch with chamfered posts and wood-shingled gable. Above the porch on the ridge of the building's roof is a bellcote with a wood-shingled and arcaded base and a metal-shingled steeple.

The relatively unaltered interior contains a rectangular nave with plaster walls, dark woodwork, and an open frame ceiling with simple trusses. A central aisle between early, wooden pews leads to a raised chancel and altar, having an elaborately carved Gothic reredos. In the west wall of the nave are three early stained-glass windows and in the east wall are three later stained-glass windows.

The architect of the church was George W. Quintard of Chattanooga, son of Tennessee Episcopal Bishop Charles Todd Quintard. Sullivan and Woodring were the stonecutters, and S.C. Mitchell was the contractor.

The design of the church eclectically employs Gothic lancet windows in the polygonal apse, mullioned Tudor windows with flat arches in the nave, and a bellcote and small entrance porch following the English Arts and Crafts tradition of the second half of the nineteenth century.

Immediately to the north (rear) of the church is the recent parish hall (see site plan). It is a simple one-story, 3x3 bay brick building. There are also a wooden storage shed and a small garage at the rear of the property near the alley which forms the north boundary of the lot. The church's turn-of-the-century rectory formerly stood to the west of the church (see site plan).

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"/> invention | | | | |

Specific dates 1887

Builder/Architect

George W. Quintard

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Constructed in 1887, the Episcopal Church of the Messiah is being nominated under National Register criterion C as an outstanding local example of a late nineteenth-century romantic interpretation of an English parish church. The design eclectically employs Gothic lancet windows in the polygonal apse, mullioned Tudor windows with flat arches in the nave, and a bellcote and small entrance porch following the English Arts and Crafts tradition of the second half of the nineteenth century. The architect of the church was George W. Quintard of Chattanooga, the son of Episcopal Bishop Charles Todd Quintard. The money for the building was donated by Tennessee Governor John C. Brown and his wife in memory of two deceased daughters. The Church of the Messiah is the only Episcopal church in Giles County, Tennessee.

The origins of the Church of the Messiah go back to 1830 when the first Episcopal Church in Pulaski was organized under the name of St. Stephen's. In 1835 the first Episcopal Bishop of Tennessee, the Rt. Rev. James Harvey Otey visited the town and granted the church parish status. In 1887 construction was begun on the present Episcopal church, renamed the Church of the Messiah and located on land donated by Major Benjamin F. Carter and his family. The building was constructed at a cost of \$6,000.00 given by Governor John C. Brown and his wife in memory of two deceased daughters. The dedication of the church in December of 1887 was a major civic event with many prominent people attending, including Governor Brown, Bishop Quintard of Tennessee, Bishop Pierce of Arkansas, Bishop Garrett of Northern Texas, and Rev. Thomas F. Gailor, a former rector of the church and later Bishop of Tennessee and an important national figure in the Episcopal Church.

The variety of forms, textures, and materials in the church illustrates the picturesque quality of architecture in the late nineteenth century. The skillful combination of brick, stone, wood, stained glass, marble, and various metals create a rich and unusual design unique for Pulaski and Giles County.

The architect of the building, George W. Quintard, practiced architecture in Tennessee and later New York City. Beginning in 1890, he was a partner in the Chattanooga firm of Crocker, Smith, and Quintard, which specialized in church design.

His father, Episcopal Bishop Charles T. Quintard, was an amateur architect and was instrumental in the founding, erection, and design of many churches and other religious buildings in Tennessee in the late nineteenth century. A good example of his work is the 1882-84 Christ Episcopal Church of South Pittsburg, Tennessee, a late Carpenter Gothic structure (NR 8-22-77). It is not known how much influence the Bishop had on the plans for the Church of the Messiah.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Daily American, July 8, 1887.

Nashville Banner, July 6, 1887.

Noil, Arther Howard. The History of the Diocese of Tennessee. New York: James Pott and Co., 1900.

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Pulaski, Tn.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

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Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet

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 Lloyd Ostby, Coordinator of Field Services
Ada Puckett, Helen Abernathy, Richard Sickles

organization Tennessee Historical Commission
Church of the Messiah

date February 1983
January 27, 1983

street & number 701 Broadway
W. Madison at N. Third

telephone 615-742-6716
N/A

city or town Nashville
Pulaski

state Tennessee 37203
Tennessee 38478

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. Hayer

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

date 6/27/83

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

date 7/28/83

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Church of the Messiah

Item number 10

Page 1

Geographical Data

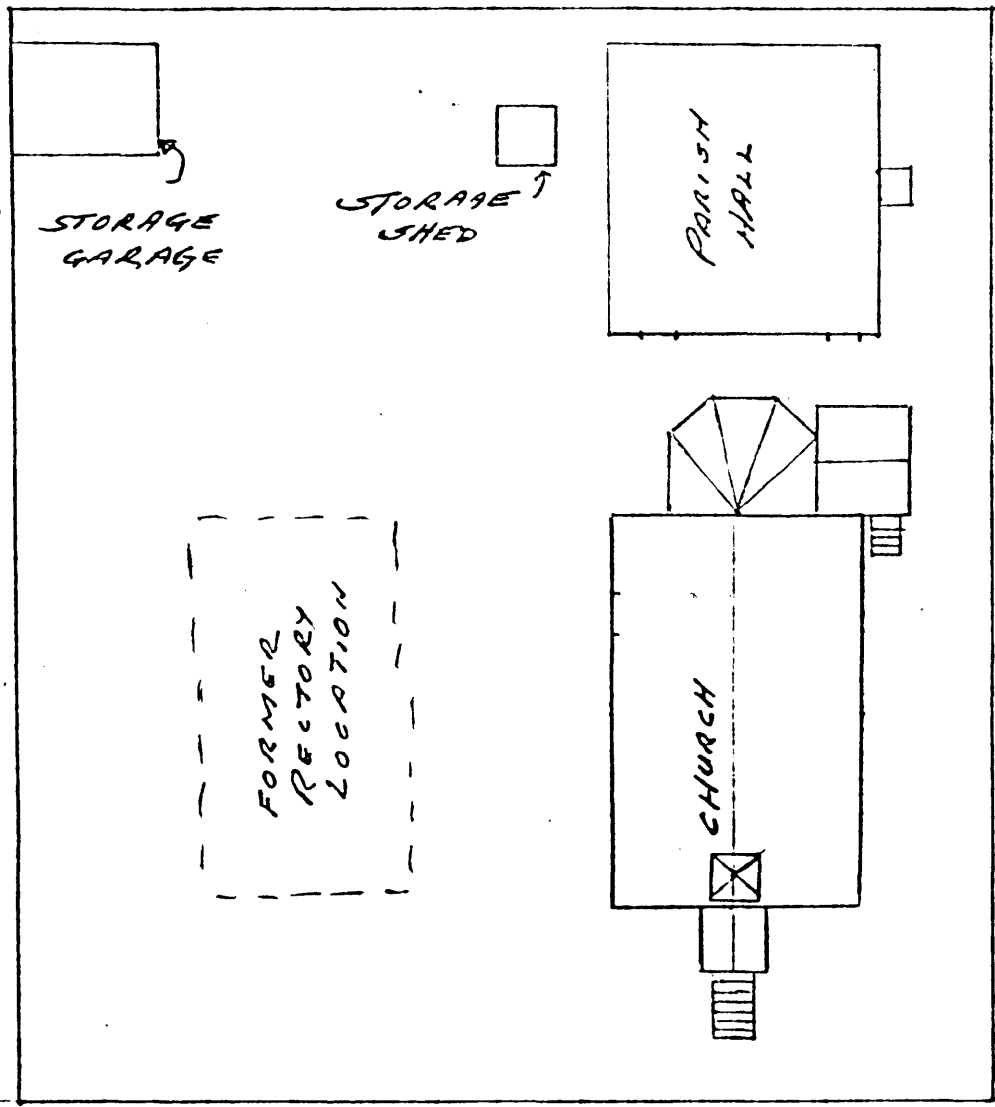
Verbal boundary description

The nominated lot is bounded on the east by Third Street, the south by Madison Avenue, the west by an adjoining property line, and the north by an alley. The nomination includes only the land historically associated with the church. The parish hall, garage, and storage shed are non-contributing structures located on the lot.

This map prepared by Richard Sickles, recent senior warden of the Church of The Messiah



ALLEY



GOV. BROWN PROPERTY

NO. THIRD ST.

UNION BANK

W. MADISON ST.

FIRST FEDERAL S&L
(FORMER HORNE HOUSE)

Church of the Messiah
W. Madison Street at N. Third Street
Pulaski, Giles County, Tennessee

Site Plan

CARLE FACRIST