

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**

**NATIONAL
REGISTER**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name New Market United Methodist Church
other names/site number NA

2. Location

street & number 310 Hurricane Road NA not for publication
city, town New Market NA vicinity
state Alabama code AL county Madison code 089 zip code 35761

3. Classification

| | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Ownership of Property | Category of Property | Number of Resources within Property | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | Contributing | Noncontributing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-local | <input type="checkbox"/> district | <u>1</u> | <u>1</u> buildings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-State | <input type="checkbox"/> site | <u> </u> | <u> </u> sites |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal | <input type="checkbox"/> structure | <u> </u> | <u> </u> structures |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> object | <u>1</u> | <u>1</u> Total |

Name of related multiple property listing:
NA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

[Signature] May 7, 1990
Signature of certifying official Date

Alabama Historical Commission (State Historic Preservation Office)
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- 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:)

**Entered in the
National Register**

[Signature] 6/14/90

[Signature] Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Religion /religious structure

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Religion /religious structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Brick

roof Shingle

other Wood

Concrete

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The view of the most-prominent north and west facades presents a simplified version of Andrea Palladio's 16th century Villa Capra, whereas the view of the southeast walls reveals the presence of the quarter-circular "Akron Plan" auditorium (photos 1 and 4, and floor plan). The floor plan is an ell consisting of two identical central tri-style pedimented Ionic raised porticos centered between classrooms at the three points of the ell. The ell is filled by a quarter-circle auditorium with the pulpit at the corner of the ell. A ring of four Sunday-School class alcoves borders the back of the auditorium.

The roof is hipped, with a flat area on the top containing a low, stepped octagonal segmented dome topped by a wood finial. The lower drum of the dome-steps contains a half-circle window in each of the eight faces. The dome and drum are presently covered with composition shingles, as are all the roof surfaces. The roof and floor are framed in wood. The cornices, sashes, doors, and columns are wood. The material of the Ionic capitals was not accessible and is unknown. The column shafts are of hollow wood stave construction. The tympanums of the pediments are presently covered in composition shingles and may originally have been painted wood or stucco. The walls are brick, with limestone window sills. The steps are concrete, bordered by brick cheek-walls capped with concrete. The steps appear to have been rebuilt, but the original steps are known by older members to have been concrete. The floor is raised about 5 feet off the ground. An iron handrail has been added at the center of the steps to assist infirm worshippers. The primary windows are quite large, with arched heads. A large central light is bordered by a row of smaller lights. A projecting brick row above two courses of 4 inch headers forms the arch above the windows. The other windows are of a simpler pattern, with the smaller and less prominent windows being rectangular. All the glass is of a moulded "frost" pattern in common use in the early 20th century.

The floor of the auditorium (but not the class alcoves) slopes about 12 inches down to the bottom of the curved pulpit platform, which is raised the same amount. The pulpit platform extends to the south to form a raised area for the choir and organ. The platform has no rail except at the choir. The altar table sits below and in front of the pulpit and is fronted by a curved wooden altar rail. The original auditorium seating was cast iron standards and moulded plywood folding seats. These were deteriorated by 1958 and were replaced by the present curved wooden pews. The auditorium ceiling is a pattern of paired, crossed wood-cased beams (which may be false) set with the diagonal center of the auditorium. The ceiling and wall-drops above the alcoves is narrow beaded stained-and-varnished wood. The original plaster walls were deteriorated by 1968 and were then covered with thin plywood panels.

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Continuation Sheet**

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In 1968 a small disconnected building was added to the southwest rear of the main structure in a manner that has minimal impact on the 1920 building. a short covered walk, which also incorporates a handicapped-access ramp, connects the two buildings.

One classroom window was converted to a door to provide access from the main building to the covered walk. The addition is rectangular, wood-frame, gable-roofed, matching brick veneer, and houses a social room and classes.

A small graveled parking strip borders the west side of the site. The remainder of the site is lawn, with a few large trees by the building.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1921

Significant Dates

1921

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Significant Person

NA

Architect/Builder

Frank Estes, Builder
Architect, NA

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

CRITERION C (ARCHITECTURE)

Significant in the area of architecture, the New Market Methodist Church embodies two major design influences: the impact of patternbooks on church architecture during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, and the "Akron Plan" developed during the 19th century by the Methodist Church in Ohio. The New Market Methodist Church follows the basic design of Andrea Palladio's 16th-century Villa Capra or Villa Rotonda in Vicenza, Italy, but it is modified to comply with the Akron plan. While Palladio's Villa displays porticos with four Ionic columns on each facade, the church has porticos with three Ionic columns on the south and east sides only. The north and west facades accommodate the quarter-circle auditorium and Sunday School alcoves that are characteristic of the Akron plan. Today, the church retains most of its original architectural features including its octagonal segmented dome, overall plan, brick veneer, Ionic columns, and fenestration.

CRITERION EXCEPTION A

Although the New Market Methodist Church is a religious property, it derives its primary significance from its architectural design.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Previous documentation on file (NPS): NA
 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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:
 State historic preservation office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other
Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 2

UTM References

A

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|---|---------|---|---|---|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 0 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 0 |
| Zone | | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | | | | |

C

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

B

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|--|---------|--|--|--|----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Zone | | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | | | | |

D

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Fronts on the south side of Hurricane Road about 150 feet east of Jacks Road in New Market, Al. (Madison Co.). Front & rear = 367 feet. Extends 230 feet along east and west sides to rear, which faces on Clivic Street, once known as College Street. Township 1, range 2E, Section 33, Madison County, Alabama

See continuation sheet (Sketch site plan)

Boundary Justification

Includes all of the site owned by the New Market Methodist Church

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Harvie P. Jones, FAIA, Architect; Melanie A. Betz/AHC Reviewer
organization Jones & Herrin, Architecture/Interior Design date _____
street & number 104 Jefferson Street telephone 539-0764
city or town Huntsville state Alabama zip code 35801

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HISTORICAL SUMMARY

Methodists have been meeting together in the New Market area since the early 1800's. In 1884, the Methodists purchased approximately two acres to build a small, white frame church and parsonage. This church was used until 1920 when it was torn down to make room for the present New Market Methodist Church. Frank Estes was selected as the builder and contractor. The brick used for the church was made at a nearby kiln. The interior walls were originally plaster although wood paneling was installed in 1968. The original theater seats were removed in 1958 and replaced with wood pews made by the Budde and Weis Manufacturing company, Jackson, Tennessee. It is believed that the church bell is probably the one that was used in the 1884 building.

Designed by Bob Sartain and built by Ed Gray the Fellowship Hall (non-contributing) was built in 1968. It is a separate building but connected to the church by a covered walkway. The original 1884 parsonage was torn down in 1988.

The congregation has gone through several changes throughout the years. From 1845, the congregation was known as the Methodist Episcopal Church South (1845-1939); from 1939 until 1968, it became the Methodist Church. From 1968 until the present, the Methodist Church and the United Brethren Church were united to form the United Methodist Church.

The plan of the New Market Methodist Church illustrates two major design influences on church architecture: the patternbooks that were popular during the 19th and early 20th centuries, and the "Akron Plan" developed in the late 19th Century by the Methodist Church. Builder Thomas Estes most likely used a plan from one of the early pattern books that was specifically illustrated with church designs. Published by most of the Protestant denominations including the Methodist Church, these pattern books had a great impact on the designs of churches across the country. Small communities without the resources to hire an architect found these books especially useful.

The prototype for the design of the New Market Church is Andrea Palladio's Villa Capra which was begun in 1567. Frequently known as "the Rotonda", the building is a square with pillared porticos on each facade, which lead to a central circular hall. Only the low dome appears externally above the tiled roof, which is hipped from the angles of the main building. This design had been an important departure, and was utilized both in Europe (including Lord Burlington's Chiswick of 1725 and by Colin Campbell's Mereworth Casle, Kent, of 1722) and in the United States (including Thomas Jefferson's Monticello, near Charlottesville, of 1770). The New Market

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Methodist Church follows the basic plan of the Villa Capra but was modified to comply with the Akron plan. While Palladio's Villa displays porticos with four Ionic columns on each facade, the church has porticos with three Ionic columns on the south and east sides only. The remaining facades accommodate the quarter-circle auditorium and Sunday School alcoves that are a characteristic of the Akron plan.

Developed in Ohio by the Methodist Church during the late 19th century, the Akron plan served several practical functions. The Sunday School Superintendent could, from the pulpit, observe the classes being conducted in the ring of class alcoves at the back curve of the auditorium. The class alcoves could also serve as overflow seating for worship services. The quarter-circle auditorium enabled worshippers to be as close as possible to the pulpit.

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Section number 9 Page 1 - MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Norris, Dr. George and Dr. Francisco Rice, "History of New Market." 1888.
Reprinted and updated by Committee of New Market Presbyterian Church
U.S.A. 1953. p19.
- Carroll, Martha J. "History of New Market United Methodist Church", 1979 and
Addenda, 1983.
- Volunteer Fire Dept. "Memories and History of New Market, Alabama." pp.43-47, 1984.
- Membership Registers, Trustee and Quarterly Conference Reports recorded from 1883 to
1988 on file at the New Market United Methodist Church.
- Interview, Feb. 18, 1989. Pickett Esslinger, Ch. of Church Trustees and Pastor
-Parrish Relations Committee and Mary Frances McCrary, Trustee, cousins
of Frank Estes, builder and contractor. Members of this church.
- Mortgage between Board of Church Extension, Methodist Episcopal Church South and
Trustees of the Church. 1 February 1886 for \$100.
- Fletcher, Banister: A History of Architecture on the Comparative Method -
Scribners, 17th Edition.

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Section number photo-
graphs Page 1

Photograph key

New Market Methodist Church, 1920
310 Hurricane Road
Mew Market, Alabama, Madison County, 35761

Photographer: Harvie P. Jones, FAIA
104 Jefferson Street, Huntsville, Al. 35801

Photograph Date: April, 1989
Negatives: Alabama Historical Commission, Montgomery, AL

| <u>KEY NUMBER</u> (see plans) | <u>DESCRIPTION</u> |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. | North front and west side |
| 2. | West side |
| 3. | S.W. corner |
| 4. | S.E. corner |
| 5. | Aerial view-date unknown, post-1968 |
| 6. | Detail at north side of west portico |
| 7. | Detail at portico column base |
| 8. | Detail at portico column capital |
| 9. | View toward pulpit |
| 10. | View toward N.E. entry |
| 11. | Typical interior doors |
| 12. | Typical interior lockset |

1968 ADDN. - SOCIAL HALL & CLASSSES
±40' x 30'

(12)
COLLEGE

(4)

(E)

1968
CLOOPY
OVER

WINDOW CONVERTED
TO DOOR IN 1968

RAMP DN.

S.W.
CLASSROOM

S.S.E.
CLASSROOM

FLUE

E.S.E.
CLASSROOM

±12' CEIL.
±16' CEIL.

12" SLOPE

CHOIR

WEST
PORCH

N.E.
CLASSROOM

CEIL.
BEAMS

PEWS

RAIL

ALTAIR

PULPIT

BENCH

NO RAIL

N.W.
CLASSROOM
+ MINISTER

12" SLOPE

UP

NORTH PORCH

DN.

(6)

310 HURRICANE RD.
NEW MARKET
MADISON CO., AL.

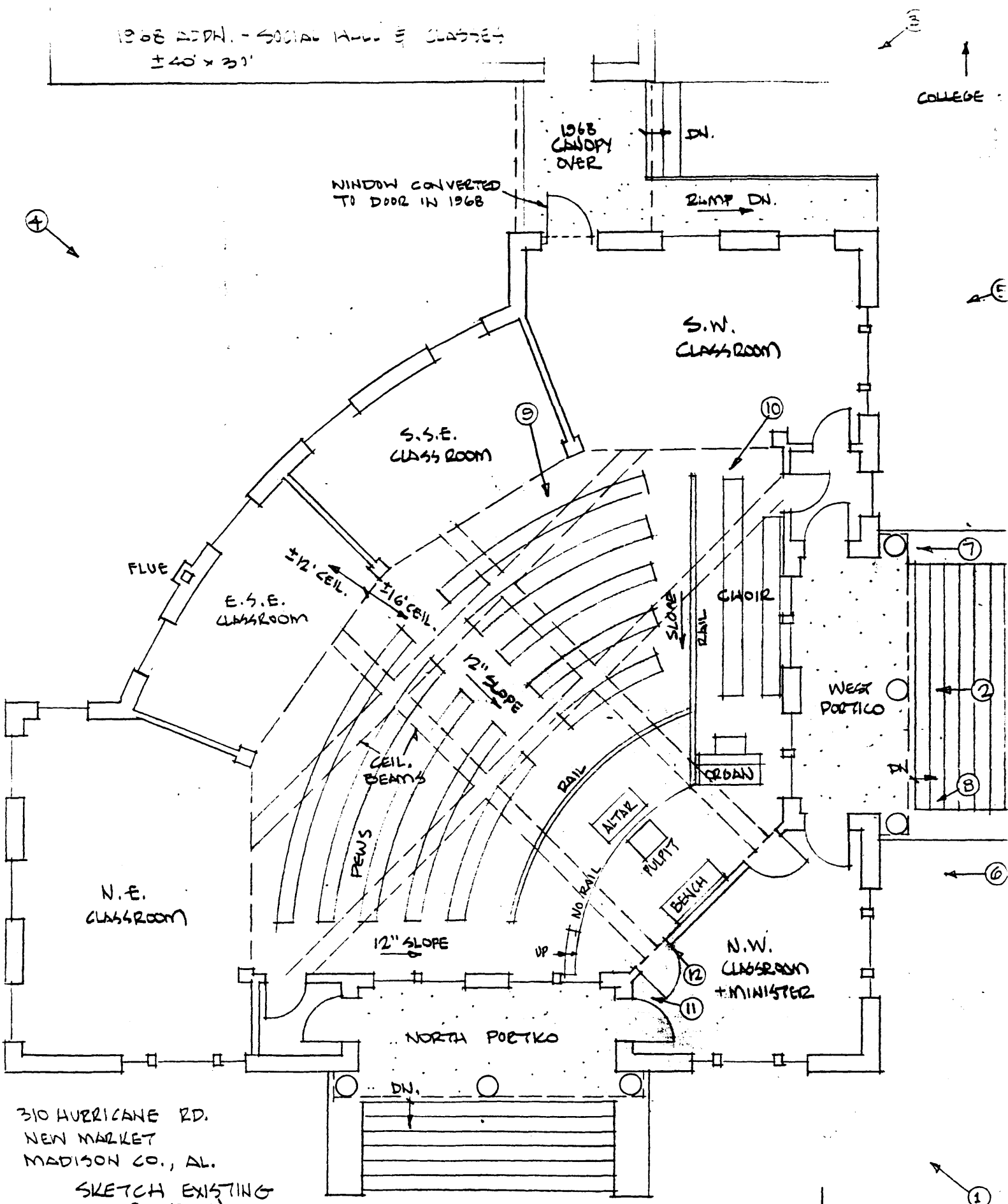
SKETCH EXISTING
FLOOR PLAN

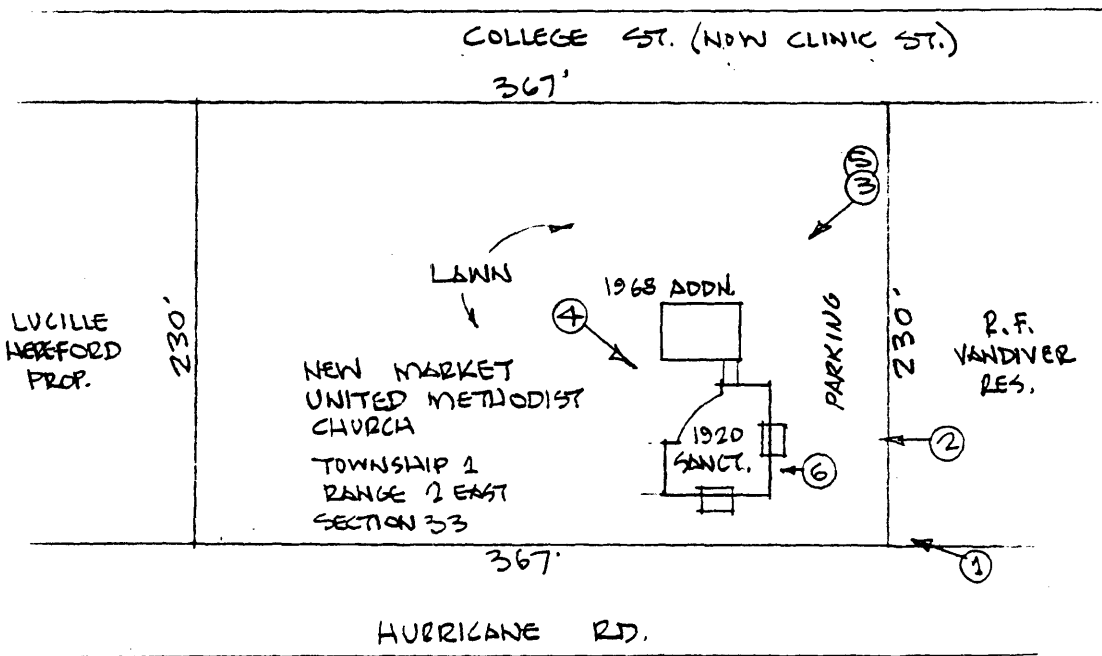
1920 NEW MARKET (AL.) UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

DEL. - HARVIE P. JONES, F.D.I.E. - APRIL 15, 1989

(1)

HURRICANE
ROAD





SITE PLAN SKETCH

NEW MARKET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

15 APRIL, 1989 - HARVIE P. JONES, DEL.

SCALE = APPROX. 1" = 100'

NEW MARKET, MADISON COUNTY, AL.

