

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 Cornersville Methodist Episcopal Church South

and/or common Cornersville United Methodist Church

## 2. Location

street & number 100 South Mulberry Street N/A not for publication

city, town Cornersville N/A vicinity of congressional district Fourth

state Tennessee code 047 county Marshall code 117

## 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input 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 Membership of the Cornersville United Methodist Church

street & number 100 South Mulberry Street

city, town Cornersville N/A vicinity of state Tennessee 37047

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Marshall County Courthouse

street & number Public Square

city, town Lewisburg state Tennessee 37091

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date N/A N/A federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state N/A

## 7. Description

### Condition

excellent       deteriorated  
 good       ruins  
 fair       unexposed

### Check one

unaltered  
 altered

### Check one

original site  
 moved      date \_\_\_\_\_

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Cornersville United Methodist Church, built in 1852, is a practically unaltered two story brick Greek Revival style church building on Mulberry Street in the rural town of Cornersville, Marshall County, Tennessee. Located on one of the two north-south thoroughfares of the town, the building faces east toward the town park which occupies the block between the church building and the other thoroughfare, U.S. Highway 31/State Highway 11. Turn-of-the-century small, mostly frame residences are north and south of the building; open farmland with scattered woods bound it on the west.

The common bond brick, two story rectangular church building rests on a stone foundation. A pediment roof supported by a full plain frieze, Doric brick pilasters, and Doric wood columns are featured on the facade. Three bays wide, the facade has a central recessed double-leaf, vertical-paneled wood door with pediment surround. Single-leaf wood doors lead to the small interior front rooms of the building from the north and south walls of the recessed entranceway. Two large square fluted Doric columns at the entranceway of the first story support two short fluted Doric pilasters on the second story. The stuccoed section infilling the second story at the central bay contains a short, wide rectangular 4/4 light window between the two pilasters.

At the right and left bays of the facade are large 12/12 light windows set between two story brick pilasters. Directly above each of these windows is a short, wide 4/4 light window. All windows of the building have stone lintels and wood surrounds with small corner blocks. Centered in the stuccoed pediment of the facade is a pointed-arched lunette; its "Y" design is inset with two pointed-arched tracery windows. A small weather-board gable-roofed belfry rests on the building's metal roof and is recessed from the pediment.

The north and south side elevations are three bays wide; both feature 12/12 light windows on the first story, 12/8 light windows on the second story, a plain frieze, and brick pilasters at the corners. The gabled rear elevation has two 12/8 light windows on the second story which flank a narrow brick flue. A one story rectangular, flat-roofed brick classroom addition of 1956 conceals the structural openings of the rear elevation's first floor.

The simple interior remains practically unaltered with pews, and window and door molding intact. The second floor of the interior contains a large, virtually unaltered Masonic Hall and several rooms, with recent partitions, used for classes.

# 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				

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**Specific dates** 1852 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

Nominated under National Register criteria C, the Cornersville United Methodist Church, built in 1852, is an excellent example of Greek Revival ecclesiastical architecture in Marshall County. Furthermore, it is the only example of the Greek Revival style in Cornersville. The two-story rectangular brick building was built jointly by the Methodist Episcopal Church South and the Masonic Lodge of Cornersville; the church congregation occupied the first floor and the Masonic Hall the second.

Typical Greek Revival details exhibited on the three bay, two-story rectangular brick building include: the pediment roof, Doric brick pilasters, fluted Doric columns, 12/12 light windows and the vertical-paneled double leaf door with pediment surround. The simple interior remains practically unaltered with pews and window and door molding still intact. The second floor, now used for classes, contains the old Masonic Hall and several rooms, with recent partitions.

The Masonic Lodge of Cornersville held their meetings on the second floor of the building from 1852 until 1939 when they merged with the Lewisburg Free and Accepted Mason's. An 1852 agreement between the Masonic Lodge of Cornersville and the church congregation stipulated that church services would not be conducted at the time of regularly scheduled lodge meetings. A deed of all claims to the building was made to the membership of the Cornersville Methodist Church when the Masonic Hall moved to Lewisburg.

The building has been practically unaltered and remains in use by the Cornersville United Methodist Church.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Spencer, Sara Head, Thelma Sweeney and Ralph D. Whitesell. "History of the Cornersville United Methodist Church," 1977.

## 10. Geographical Data

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Cornersville

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

UTM NOT VERIFIED

A 

1	6	5	1	4	4	0	0	3	9	1	2	9	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 boundaries were drawn to conform to the dimensions of the lot on which the building sits and which is owned by the church congregation. See area outlined in red on the attached tax map.

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

state N/A code county N/A code

state N/A code county N/A code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Shain Dennison, Architectural Historian  
Cynthia Cole, Coordinator of Field Services

organization Tennessee Historical Commission date December 16, 1981

street & number 4721 Trousdale Drive telephone (615) 741-2371

city or town Nashville state Tennessee 37219

## 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

Deputy.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

*Herbert E. Byers*

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

date 2/19/82

For HCRS use only

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

Entered in the  
National Register

date 4/15/82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration