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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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 Methodist Episcopal Church South  
other names/site number MM-MS-135

2. Location

street & number Northside East Main Street  not for publication  
city, town Mount Sterling  vicinity  
state Kentucky code KY county Montgomery code 173 zip code 40353

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>      </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>      </u>	<u>      </u> objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:  
Mt. Sterling, Ky. MRA

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 of certifying official David L. Morgan Date 3-6-91  
State Historic Preservation Officer, Kentucky Heritage Council  
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**  
Melona Bryan 4/23/91  
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)

Late Victorian/ Gothic

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone  
walls Brick

roof Asphalt

other \_\_\_\_\_

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetMethodist Episcopal Church South  
Mt. Sterling, Ky. MRASection number 7 Page 1

The Methodist Episcopal Church South is a two-story brick rectangular building, with a gable roof. The gable end faces the street and contains the two entrances. The entries on the east and west sides of the front facade have double-leaf doors within a gothic arch. The doorways are recessed and highlighted by brick corbelling. The east entry is located in a three-story tower ornamented by paired gothic windows and topped by a classical balustrade and garlands. Between the two doors is a three-part stained glass gothic arched windows with a smaller version beneath the upper arch.

The longer sides of the building have six bays, all but the south most on each side containing two-story gothic arched windows. There is a band of brick corbelling beneath the eaves. To the north is attached an educational building completed in the 1920's.

**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

1883  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

1883  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

See continuation sheet



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1Methodist Episcopal Church South  
Mt. Sterling, Ky. MRA

The Methodist Episcopal Church South in Mt. Sterling, Kentucky is significant under criterion C for its architectural design. The building was completed in 1883 and designed in the Gothic revival style. The building's original exterior design and detailing was altered in 1923 by an addition to the rear or north which does not detract from the building's architectural character. The building's exterior design is the most notable example of Gothic Revival design in Mt. Sterling.

There are six other churches in the city limits of Mt. Sterling listed on the National Register. The Church of the Ascension (MM-MS-62), a board and batten gothic revival building built in 1868, was listed on the National Register in 1979. The Southern Presbyterian Church built in 1884 was a contributing building in the Commercial Historic District listed in 1980. The Keats Tabernacle Methodist Episcopal Church (MM-MS-134) built in 1893 was listed in 1983. The First Baptist Church dating from 1916, the Christian Church dating from 1927 and the St. Patrick's Catholic Church built in 1882 were contributing buildings in the Northwest District in 1989.

The three late nineteenth century brick churches previously listed on the National Register in Mt. Sterling, St. Patrick's Catholic Church (1882), Southern Presbyterian (1884), and Keats Tabernacle Methodist Episcopal Church (1893) are one and one-half stories and rectangular in form with the entry on the gable end. All have modern additions for offices or classrooms attached to the rear or side. The changes to the main block of the building include replacement of the original doors and the loss of some wood ornamentation such as brackets.

The oldest extant church building, the Church of the Ascension (MM-MS-62), was built prior to the arrival of the railroad in 1872. It is a one-story, rectangular, wood board and batten building with Gothic-arched windows. Unlike the other church buildings listed above, it is more domestic in its proportions and scale with the entry on the long facade instead of the gable end.

The Southern Presbyterian Church (no site number) built in 1884 after the arrival of the railroad is more similar to the Methodist Episcopal Church South in terms of its scale and detailing. The Southern Presbyterian Church however lacks the ornamental brickwork and stained-glass windows displayed on the facades of the Methodist Episcopal Church. As a result, the Methodist Episcopal Church South stands as the best local example of the gothic revival style of architecture used on religious building in Mt. Sterling after the arrival of the railroad.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 2Methodist Episcopal Church South  
Mt. Sterling, Ky. MRA

The congregation of what became the Methodist Episcopal Church South completed their first building on this lot in 1816 when the Rev. Thomas Nelson was pastor. They did not own the lot however, and it was purchased at a Commissioner's Sale on April 12, 1827. Wilson Street was then called Strawberry Alley and a second building made of brick was dedicated in August 1827.

The building dating from 1827 was dismantled and the present building on the site completed in 1883 during the tenure of Rev. John R. Deering. Windows from the earlier church were used in the side facades and a new memorial window honoring Bishop H.H. Kavanaugh was placed in the front facade.

The educational building located on the north or rear of the church was completed in December 1923. In 1950, a second floor addition was dedicated.

There are six other churches in the city limits of Mt. Sterling listed on the National Register. The Church of the Ascension (MM-MS-62), a board and batten gothic revival building built in 1868, was listed on the National Register in 1979. The Southern Presbyterian Church built in 1884 was a contributing building in the Commercial Historic District listed in 1980. The Keats Tabernacle Methodist Episcopal Church (MM-MS-134) built in 1893 was listed in 1983. The First Baptist Church dating from 1916, the Christian Church dating from 1927 and the St. Patrick's Catholic Church built in 1882 were contributing buildings in the Northwest District in 1989.

The three late nineteenth century brick churches previously listed on the National Register in Mt. Sterling, St. Patrick's Catholic Church (1882), Southern Presbyterian (1884), and Keats Tabernacle Methodist Episcopal Church (1893) are rectangular in form with the entry on the gable end. All have modern additions for offices or classrooms attached to the rear or side. The changes to the main block of the building include replacement of the original doors and the loss of some wood ornamentation such as brackets.

The Southern Presbyterian Church is the most similar to the Methodist Episcopal Church South in terms of detailing since it is a gothic revival building. The Southern Presbyterian Church however lacks the ornamental brickwork and stained-glass windows displayed on the facades of the Methodist Episcopal Church. As a result, the Methodist Episcopal Church South stands as the best local example of the gothic revival style of architecture used on a religious building in Mt. Sterling.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 10 Page 1Methodist Episcopal Church South  
Mt. Sterling, Ky. MRAAcreage of property: .29UTM Reference

<u>Zone</u>	<u>Easting</u>	<u>Northing</u>
16	241960	4216000

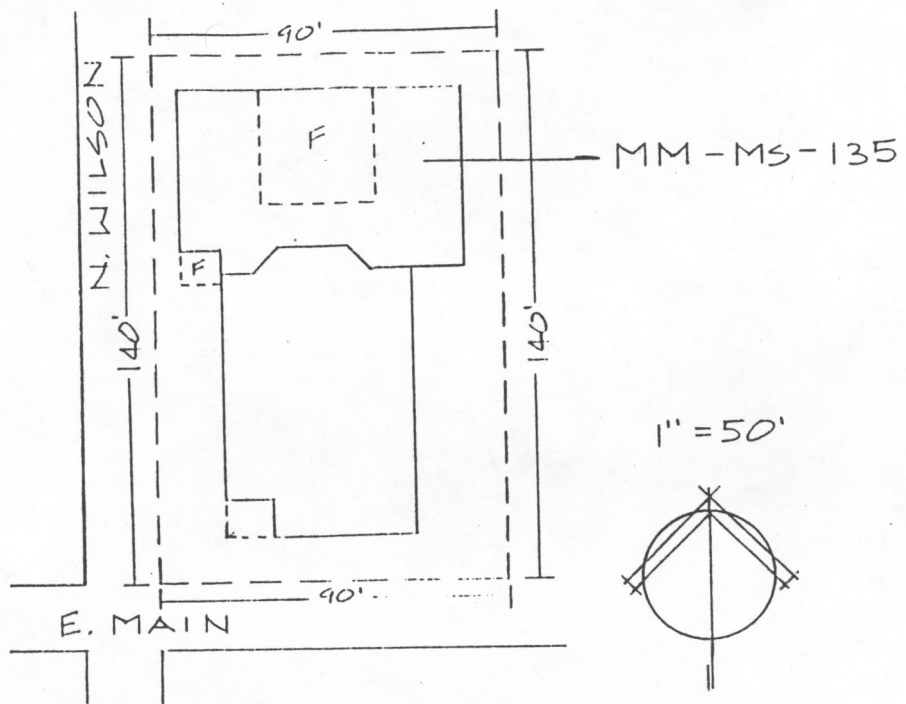
Verbal Boundary Description

From a point in the northeast corner of the intersection of East Main Street and North Wilson Street, then north 140 feet to a point; then east 90 feet to a point; then south 140 feet to a point; then west 90 feet to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

The boundary has been drawn to include all of the architecturally significant resources associated with the Methodist Episcopal Church. The boundary excludes areas which do not contribute to our understanding of the Gothic Revival style applied to religious buildings during the period of significance. For this reason, the boundary excludes the commercial development to the south and west and the modern residential development to the east and north.

The boundary contains one contributing building.



METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH  
(MM-MS-135)

Mount Sterling, Kentucky, MRA

Montgomery Co.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number PHOTOS Page 1 Methodist Episcopal Church South  
Mt. Sterling, Kentucky, MRA

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For All Photos:

Property Location: Northside East Main Street  
Mt. Sterling, Montgomery County, Kentucky  
Photographer: Helen Powell  
Negative Location: Kentucky Heritage Council  
Frankfort, Kentucky  
Date Taken: 1990

Photo Nos.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | West side and front facade, view to northeast |
| 2 | Front and east side, view to northwest        |

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Mount Sterling MPS      Montgomery County, KENTUCKY

Date Listed

- ✓ COVER ~~Substantive Review~~ Patrick Andrus 4/23/91
- ✓ 1. Apperson, Judge, House ~~Substantive Review~~ **DOE/OWNER OBJECTION** Patrick Andrus 4/23/91
- 2. Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad Passenger and  
Baggage Depots 4/23/91
- 3. Chiles, William, House 4/23/91
- 4. East Mount Sterling Historic District *sample* Patrick Andrus 4/23/91
- 5. Fitzpatrick, W. T., House 4/23/91
- 6. Hicks, Miss Emma, Bungalow 4/23/91
- ✓ 7. Machpelah Cemetery ~~Substantive Review~~ Patrick Andrus 4/23/91
- 8. Methodist Episcopal Church South 4/23/91
- 9. Monarch Milling Company 4/23/91

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Methodist Episcopal Church South

MULTIPLE NAME: Mount Sterling MPS

STATE & COUNTY: KENTUCKY, Montgomery

DATE RECEIVED: 3/11/91      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 3/27/91  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 4/12/91      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/25/91  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 91000426

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N    DATA PROBLEM: N    LANDSCAPE: N    LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N    PDIL: N    PERIOD: N    PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N    SAMPLE: N    SLR DRAFT: N    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    4/23/91 DATE    Entered in the  
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_  
REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_  
DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

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CLASSIFICATION

count       resource type

---

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

---

FUNCTION

historic       current

---

DESCRIPTION

architectural classification  
 materials  
 descriptive text

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SIGNIFICANCE

Period      Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates      Builder/Architect  
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

summary paragraph  
 completeness  
 clarity  
 applicable criteria  
 justification of areas checked  
 relating significance to the resource  
 context  
 relationship of integrity to significance  
 justification of exception  
 other

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage       verbal boundary description  
 UTM's       boundary justification

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ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps     USGS maps     photographs     presentation

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OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_





Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500239