

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Mary Greenhaw Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church South

other names/site number Site #SE0009, Marshall Church of the Nazarene

### 2. Location

street & number 115 E. Nome Street

not for publication

city or town Marshall

vicinity

state Arkansas code AR county Searcy code 129 zip code 72650

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets   
does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  
 nationally  statewide  locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Cochise Matthews  
Signature of certifying official/Title

7/23/12  
Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  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

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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:) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property (Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in count)

- private, public-local, public-State, public-Federal

- building(s), district, site, structure, object

Contributing Noncontributing

Table with 2 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing. Rows for buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total. Values: 1, 0, 0, 0, 1.

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

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility

RELIGION/religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

MID-19TH CENTURY/Gothic Revival

foundation Stone

walls Stone

roof Asphalt

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation 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.
- 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.

**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. birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance.
- 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.

**Levels of Significance** (local, state, national)\*

Local

**Areas of Significance** (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

c.1900

**Significant Dates**

c.1900

**Significant Person** (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

**Cultural Affiliation** (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

**Architect/Builder**

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(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
- Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Mary Greenhaw Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church South

Name of Property

Searcy County, Arkansas

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property Less than one acre.

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 15 533352 3974030
Zone Easting Northing

3 Zone Easting Northing

4 Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Cassie Elliott, edited by Ralph S. Wilcox, National Register & Survey Coordinator
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date April 11, 2012
street & number 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street telephone (501) 324-9787
city or town Little Rock state AR zip code 72201

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner

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

name Marshall Church of the Nazarene
street & number 115 E. Nome Street telephone (870) 448-6533
city or town Marshall state AR zip code 72650

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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### SUMMARY

Located on U.S. 65 in Marshall, the Mary Greenhaw Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church South is one of the first structures you see when coming into Marshall from the south. It is a one-story stone structure that is built in a simplified interpretation of the Gothic Revival style, which is exemplified in the tower and the lancet windows. The building is crowned by a gable roof covered in asphalt shingles and the gable ends are covered in decorative fish-scale shingles. The building also rests on a continuous stone foundation with stone water table above it.

A wave of building around the year 1900 also contributed the Searcy County Courthouse and the Old Searcy County Jail, which were both built out of similar stonework. Though the church was said to have been built mostly by church members and volunteers, it is possible that some of the same contractors that worked on the Searcy County Courthouse and Old Searcy County Jail also worked on the church. The church has been used continuously for religious purposes and continues to be utilized today.

### ELABORATION

Located on U.S. 65 in Marshall, the Mary Greenhaw Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church South a one-story stone structure that is built in a simplified interpretation of the Gothic Revival style, which is exemplified in the tower and the lancet windows. The building is crowned by a gable roof covered in asphalt shingles and the gable ends are covered in decorative fish-scale shingles.

The Mary Greenhaw Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church South has a very simple floor plan. The original structure that was built c.1900 included one room for worship and was built of sandstone, possibly quarried from a local site. (The fact that the same kind of stone was also used in the construction of the Searcy County Courthouse and the Old Searcy County Jail, also suggests that it came from a local source.) As the congregation grew, it became necessary to expand the church. Members today are not sure of when the first addition occurred to the west of the sanctuary. Care was taken with this addition to try to match the original sandstone and mortar. It is possible this addition was made to add restroom facilities to the church, as this is where the restrooms are located today. A second addition was constructed later to accommodate Sunday School rooms.

### Front/South Façade

The front of the building faces Nome Street. The front of the sanctuary portion of the building is dominated by a large lancet window with green stained-glass. The window is divided into three sections, and the bottom sashes are composed of eight square panes of glass. The upper sashes of the three parts are composed of twelve panes of glass. Three diamond-shaped panes are located above the three sections, giving the entire window unit a pyramidal top.

The main portion of the wall is built out of sandstone blocks while the gable end is sided in decorative fish-scale shingles. A horizontal frieze board separates the two parts of the wall.

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The bottom of the bell tower is also constructed out of sandstone, currently painted mint green, and has the church's main entrance in it. The entrance has a nine-panel wood door. A pentagonal stained-glass window is located above the door.

The upper part of the bell tower is wood framed and sided in wood weatherboard siding. A rectangular opening, with knee braces at the top corners, is located in the upper part of the tower. A cornice comprised of small decorative brackets is located below the tower's pyramidal roof.

To the left of the bell tower is the south façade of the church's first addition, which is partially painted mint green. The addition is topped by a west-facing shed roof. The south façade of the addition has a metal door on the right followed by a stained-glass lancet window to the left. The window has fifteen panes in the upper sash and sixteen in the lower sash.

### Side/East Façade

The east façade faces Church Street, and is fenestrated by four evenly-spaced, double-hung, wood-framed, lancet windows. The lower sashes have two panes of glass while the upper sashes have three panes of glass.

The east side of the upper part of the bell tower is wood framed and sided in wood weatherboard siding. A rectangular opening, with knee braces at the top corners, is located in the upper part of the tower. A cornice comprised of small decorative brackets is located below the tower's pyramidal roof.

### Rear/North Façade

The North side of the church faces U.S. 65. The rear of the sanctuary portion of the building is dominated by a projection for the apse with a large circular window above it. The main portion of the wall is built out of sandstone blocks while the gable end is sided in decorative fish-scale shingles. A horizontal frieze board separates the two parts of the wall.

To the right of the sanctuary is the north façade of the church's first addition. The addition is topped by a west-facing shed roof and is sheathed in weatherboard siding above the stone wall. The north façade of the addition has a boarded-up doorway on the left followed by two boarded-up lancet windows to the right.

The upper part of the bell tower is wood framed and sided in wood weatherboard siding. A rectangular opening, with knee braces at the top corners, is located in the upper part of the tower. A cornice comprised of small decorative brackets is located below the tower's pyramidal roof.

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### Side/West Facade

The West side is the only side which is not bordered by a street. This is the side which has had both additions. The second addition, which had the Sunday School rooms, was recently removed and the west façade is now comprised of the building's first addition. At the north end of the addition, is a single, wood-framed, double-hung, four-over-three window. To the south of the window is a wide doorway with two six-panel doors in it followed by a pair of window openings and a single window opening, all fenestrated with four-over-three windows.

The bottom of the bell tower is also constructed out of sandstone, currently painted mint green, and has a single lancet window with green stained-glass. The bottom sash has eight panes of glass while the upper sash has eight panes of glass as well.

The upper part of the bell tower is wood framed and sided in wood weatherboard siding. A rectangular opening, with knee braces at the top corners, is located in the upper part of the tower. A cornice comprised of small decorative brackets is located below the tower's pyramidal roof.

### Interior

The original portion of the church contains the sanctuary. The ceiling in the sanctuary is the original exposed wood. Part of the sanctuary has wood floors and part of it is carpeted. Although the church now has heat and air-conditioning, evidence still exists of the old pot belly stove that perhaps sat in the middle of the sanctuary to keep the members warm during the services.

The building's first addition has the two restrooms along with some storage and a small office area. The second addition, which was recently removed due to a leaky roof and poor construction, contained the Sunday School rooms. The interior has a mix of materials including wood wainscoting, painted textured walls and paneling. The wood floors are not original, and there is some low grade carpeting in the addition. The ceiling is original in the main part of the church and the addition has a drop ceiling for ease of utilities.

### Integrity

Overall, the building has relatively good integrity. The original part of the building still reflects its original design and displays good characteristics of a local interpretation of the Gothic Revival style, and the setting around the building still reflects the small-town setting that would have been present historically. The congregation, with recent grant funding from the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, has restored the south side of the building, improving the building's integrity.

Name of Property

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### SUMMARY

The Mary Greenhaw Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church South is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C** as an excellent example of the Gothic Revival style of architecture. Built c.1900 the church exhibits the lancet windows and the vertically-oriented nature of the style. It is also being nominated under **Criteria Consideration A: Religious Properties**.

### HISTORY OF THE PROPERTY

The Arkansas State Legislature carved present-day Searcy County from Marion County in 1838. Construction on the first county courthouse did not begin until the late 1840s at Lebanon, located on Bear Creek, five miles west of what is today Marshall. The structure, which also served as the jail, had log walls, a log floor, and even a log judge's bench.

In 1856 county officials decided to move the government to a more centrally-located site. They chose an area five miles east of Lebanon, platted it, and named it Burrowsville in honor of local citizen N.B. Burrow. Five years later, the new courthouse jail played an important role in a notable Civil War incident. Hearing of a significant population of northern sympathizers in Searcy County, the Confederate government in Little Rock ordered Colonel Sam Leslie to arrest anyone in the county loyal to the Union. Colonel Leslie placed seventy-eight suspects in the jail on charges of treason, later giving them a choice between volunteering in the Confederate army or standing trial for their crime. Most joined the army. As the Civil War came to an end, Union troops occupied the Searcy County courthouse and burned it to the ground in January 1864. They abandoned Burrowsville the following month.

The town was renamed Marshall in 1868, and was incorporated on January 13, 1884. According to an affidavit on file in the Circuit Clerk's office, the county courthouse burned at least twice during this postwar period, once in 1878, and again in 1886. In 1899 the county constructed a new courthouse of locally-quarried stone; this courthouse is still in use today.

The Methodist congregation in Marshall was established c.1871, and apparently their first building was in the vicinity of College Street. However, by the turn of the twentieth century, the congregation decided to build a second building at the corner of Nome and Church streets. The congregation decided to use locally-quarried sandstone for the building, similar to what had been used for the newly completed-courthouse and also for the jail. It is believed that the building was largely constructed by members of the congregation, including members of the Bratton, Greenhaw, Hollabaugh, Wilcox, Leslie, Daniel, Smyth, Steen, Yaggi, and Horton families, although it is also possible that some of the contractors that helped build the courthouse and jail were also involved.

The congregation chose a simplified version of the Gothic Revival style for their new building, a style that was popular throughout Arkansas for churches in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In the



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United States, the Gothic Revival style gained tremendous popularity in the nineteenth century as a reaction to the Greek Revival style. Rather than the "Self-contained, horizontal, monumental, static mass of [a] Greek temple-church" that characterized the Greek Revival, the Gothic Revival was "irregular, vertical, picturesque, and lively" (Rifkind, p. 137).

The use of the Gothic Revival style in the United States was led by the architects Richard Upjohn and James Renwick, and also backed by Episcopalian doctrine. In fact, Upjohn is credited with the design of approximately 150 churches from Maine to Alabama and Wisconsin, and his 1852 book *Rural Architecture* further popularized the style (Rifkind, p. 137).

The Mary Greenhaw Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church South is a great example of the Gothic Revival style. The style favored a picturesque treatment of materials, including board-and-batten siding or masonry, as seen here. It is believed that Jim Eatherly was the church's stonemason. (Other masons, Tom Treadwell and TJ Thomas were known to have also worked on the courthouse, and may have helped as well.) Mr. Eatherly also built several residences around Marshall at the time, and he was a Civil War veteran as well. The church also illustrates the typical Gothic Revival church plan where a complex, irregular plan results from the addition of projections, including towers and apse as seen here, to a rectangular plan. The Mary Greenhaw Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church South further illustrates the Gothic Revival style with a picturesque elevation with variety, irregularity, and contrasts. The bell tower is characteristic of the style and the Mary Greenhaw Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church South shows variety, irregularity, and contrast through its varied wall materials (Rifkind, pp. 137-138).

The building was named after Mary Greenhaw, the member of a prominent Marshall family. Although it is unknown why Greenhaw was memorialized in the name of the church, it is likely that the family contributed to the construction of the building. With respect to the Greenhaw family, *A Reminiscent History of the Ozark Region* states:

The Greenhaws are of French descent, and some of the early members of the family took part in the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. Capt. G. B. Greenhaw was but thirteen years of age when he first saw Searcy County, and after obtaining such education as could be had in the public schools of that day he, in 1860, started out to do for himself. He was married in October of that year to Miss Mary Ethridge, a daughter of William Ethridge. In 1862 Mr. Greenhaw took up arms in defense of the Confederate cause, for which he fought gallantly and well until the war closed. He was on the Price raid and commanded a company in that memorable campaign. Prior to this, however, he was located with his command on Calf Creek and was a participant in a number of pitched battles. In 1868 he took up his residence in Marshall, opened a well-

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appointed mercantile establishment and conducted the same for about twenty years, during which time he also successfully carried on farming. He has ever been a Democrat sympathizer and is a member of the Masonic order, in which he has held the office of trustee, and his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and they are highly respected citizens (pp. 162-163).

The growth of the congregation throughout the twentieth century and the need for additional space necessitated the construction of two additions on the building. The building's first addition, which was constructed in the 1930s, has the two restrooms along with some storage and a small office area. The second addition, which was recently removed due to a leaky roof and poor construction, contained the Sunday School rooms, and was added on much later.

The Methodist congregation remained in the building until 1984 when the building was sold to the Marshall Church of the Nazarene. The Nazarene Church continues to meet in the building on a regular basis, and in recent years has done some restoration work on the building. The modern second addition was removed by the congregation and with grant money from the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, they also restored the windows and doors on the south side of the building.

### SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PROPERTY

The Mary Greenhaw Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church South building is important to the architectural legacy of Searcy County as a good example of the Gothic Revival style. Even though Searcy County was relatively isolated at the beginning of the twentieth century, the design of the church illustrates how elements of high-style design filtered down even to the smallest communities. The Gothic Revival style was probably the most popular style for churches in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and the Mary Greenhaw Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church South building further illustrates the popularity of the design.

The design of the Mary Greenhaw Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church South building illustrates the "irregular, vertical, picturesque, and lively" qualities of the style. The style favored a picturesque treatment of materials, including the mixture of masonry and decorative fish-scale shingles that are seen here. The bell tower also gives the building a vertical thrust, as do the building's lancet windows. The church also illustrates the typical Gothic Revival church plan where a complex, irregular plan results from the addition of projections to a rectangular plan.

Due to the fact that it is a good example of a simplified version of the Gothic Revival style, the Mary Greenhaw Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church South is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C**. Built c.1900 the church exhibits the lancet windows and the vertically-oriented nature of the style. It is also being nominated under **Criteria**

Mary Greenhaw Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church South  
Name of Property

Searcy County, Arkansas  
County and State

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**Consideration A: Religious Properties.**

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### BIBLIOGRAPHY

Deed Records, Searcy County Circuit Clerk, Searcy County, Arkansas.

*A History of Searcy County, Arkansas and It's People*, Searcy County Retired Teacher's Association, 1987.

Interview with Dr. Barney S. Baggott, District Superintendent for the North Arkansas District Church of the Nazarene.

Interview with Debra Campbell, Church Secretary, Marshall Church of the Nazarene.

Interview with James Johnston, Searcy County Historian.

Interviews with Beth McCallister, member of the Marshall Church of the Nazarene.

*A Reminiscent History of the Ozark Region*. Chicago: Goodspeed Brothers, Publishers, 1894.

Rifkind, Carole. *A Field Guide to American Architecture*. New York: Plume Books, 1980.

*Searcy County, My Dear, A History of Searcy County*, Orville McInturff 1963.

Tax Assessors Records, Searcy County, Arkansas.

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### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Warranty Deed 156-223 Searcy County Circuit Clerk's Office

Commencing at a point 29 rods and 19 links North of the Southeast corner of Section 25, Township 15 North, Range 16 West; thence North 65 ½ degrees West 7 rods; thence North 67 degrees West 27 rods and 1 link; thence North 17 ¾ degrees East 36 rods and 12 links; thence West 36 rods and 12 links to the point of beginning; thence South 4.05 chains; thence East .8 chain; thence North 4.05 chains; thence West .8 chain to the place of beginning, being a part of the SE1/4 of the SE1/4 of Section 25, Township 15 North, Range 16 West, containing 3/10 acres and 24/100 of a chain LESS AND EXCEPT all that portion of the above described tract lying North of U.S. Highway No. 65 and LESS AND EXCEPT all highway right-of-way.

### BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

This encompasses all of the land historically associated with the Mary Greenhaw Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church South.



Mary Greenhaw Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church, South  
Marshall, Searcy County, Arkansas

35.909939  
-92.630246















