

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	
DATE ENTERED	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

FULTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER South side NC 801, 0.8 mile north of  
junction with SR 1612

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN

— VICINITY OF Advance

Eighth

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

North Carolina

37

Davie

059

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDEN
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Unusec

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Board of Directors, Fulton United Methodist Church

STREET & NUMBER

Route 2

CITY, TOWN

Advance

— VICINITY OF

STATE

NC 27006

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Davie County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Mocksville

STATE

NC

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 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 type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED slightly	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

---

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Fulton United Methodist Church is sited on a rise above a bend in the Yadkin River in rural eastern Davie County. The simple brick structure, the second building on the site, exhibits a vernacular blend of Gothic and Italianate elements typical of small country churches built throughout the state in the last decades of the nineteenth century.

The building is constructed of brick in one-to-five common bond. It is laid out on a simple rectangular plan under a steeply pitched gable roof with the front gable entrance end facing north. Each face of the church terminates in a wide cornice board under the overhanging eaves of the roof; on the north elevation the eaves are supported by paired sawn brackets with turned pendants.

The structure is four bays deep, with shallow buttresses marking the divisions. Centered on each bay is a large pointed arch window containing replacement colored glass; these memorial windows date from the late 1950s.

An engaged tower is centered on the north gable end. This tower rises in five stages, the first three of which extend to the peak of the gable and are of brick reinforced by shallow clasping buttresses. The first stage has a blank face and terminates in a stone smooth-shouldered indentation. The second stage contains a large pointed arch window and ends in a shoulder of stepped brickwork. On the third stage a decorative, plastered quatrefoil panel is incised into the brick above a stone church name plate; this stage terminates in a band of corbeled brickwork and is topped by a flat roof with deeply overhanging eaves supported by paired brackets. A wooden belfry rises above this, composed of sheathed panels within wide frames and containing a pointed arch louvered ventilator on every face. A tall broach spire covered in tin shingles completes the tower, with a weathervane attached at the peak.

The tower is flanked by double door entrances, with each leaf composed of four narrow panels with wide applied moldings. The doors are set in rectangular surrounds with paneled soffits and reveals. A transom of colored glass extends across the top of each door. The door and window sills throughout are fashioned of a locally quarried stone called leopardite. A pointed arch window is set above each door.

A shallow rectangular apse is centered on the south gable end, flanked by door frames, both of which have been permanently sealed off with sheathing.

The interior follows a simple plan with a narrow vestibule extending across the north end of the building and giving on to the large sanctuary. A stair winds up the first two stages of the tower interior to a gallery above the vestibule. A wide double door with moldings identical to those of the exterior doors is centered on the south wall of the vestibule and opens onto the sanctuary.

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The sanctuary follows a center-aisle plan with the original wooden pews with curvilinear sawn ends still in place. Walls are plastered. A molded chairrail and baseboard with plaster dado carries around all sides of the interior.

A raised platform at the south end of the sanctuary is separated from the seating area by a molded altar rail supported by heavy turned balusters. This terminates at the sides with square-in-section posts with molded caps and trefoil arch panels on all faces. The shallow apse opens behind the platform under a segmental arch cover.

The gallery is fronted by a molded handrail supported by a paneled screen with alternating rectangular and semicircular arch panels given wide applied moldings.

The most dramatic interior feature is the exposed roof truss system; the large chamfered beams are ornamented at their central point of intersection with curvilinear sawnwork and pendants having the effect of bosses. The ceiling now consists of tile put in place ca. 1960.

The church is surrounded on the east, west, and south by graves of its members; the oldest marked stone is dated 1821. A curving stone wall runs east and west on either side, marking the north boundary of the cemetery.

# 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 checked="" 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

1888

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Fulton United Methodist Church was first known as Hebron Church when it was established about 1800 by settlers in what is now eastern Davie County. The first church building for the congregation was built in 1826 on land donated by Joseph Hanes; this simple frame structure was replaced in 1888 with the brick church that stands today. The substantial building with its engaged bell tower displays vernacular Gothic and Italianate stylistic elements. It is surrounded by graves of many generations of its members; the earliest marked grave dates from the first quarter of the nineteenth century. The church was abandoned in 1969 for a large new building nearby, but it remains as a symbol of the origins of the congregation.

Criteria assessment:

- A. The church embodies the development and progress of a small rural congregation in Piedmont North Carolina in the nineteenth century, expressive of the rural communities important in this period.
- B. The simple but substantial brick structure is representative of vernacular Gothic and Italianate churches built through the later nineteenth century for rural congregations in the South. The combination of Gothic lancet arches and Italianate bracket cornices, and the interior detail including the timbered ceiling and original pews are especially notable.

Note: As an exception to the criteria exclusion of churches the church is a little-altered example of a type of rural Victorian church increasingly endangered, and is thus of local architectural significance.

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The congregation of Fulton United Methodist Church traces its origin to 1800 when it was known as Hebron Church.<sup>1</sup> Little is known of the congregation's activity until 1826 when Joseph Hanes donated a lot to the church trustees with the directive "that they shall erect and build or cause to be erected and built there on a house or place of worship for the use of the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America."<sup>2</sup> The first church building was a small, unpainted structure that faced the Yadkin River. It was unpretentious but functional and it served the congregation for more than fifty years.<sup>3</sup>

The second church on the lot, the one under consideration, was built in 1888 of locally made brick.<sup>4</sup> Its construction was financed by members of the Hanes family, and the cornerstone was laid on June 16, 1888, with the Rev. F. L. Reid leading the service.<sup>5</sup> Clear glass windows were flanked by green shutters, and the sills around the doors and windows were made of leopardite, a native rock so well known for its beauty and quality that it was exhibited at the 1904 World's Fair.<sup>6</sup> The leopardite was a gift from Fannie Caldwell Hairston of nearby Cooleemee Plantation.<sup>7</sup> With the completion of the new church, the trustees changed the name from Hebron to Fulton Methodist Episcopal Church, South,<sup>8</sup> taking its name from the township in which it is located.

An interesting feature of the church policy was the emphasis upon total segregation. Two doors adorned the front of the building, one for men and the other for women. Two separate Sunday school classes were held and children were not permitted in the same area as adults.<sup>9</sup> Presumably a similar form of separation continued through the worship service.

The 1950s and 60s were years of renovation for Fulton Church. Stained glass replaced the clear glass windows and new Sunday school rooms were completed in 1959. The sanctuary was renovated in the mid 60s including a new floor, ceiling, and light fixtures.<sup>10</sup> But the most dramatic change came in 1965. Miss Catherine Hanes, last of the Hanes descendants, bequeathed a small fortune to Fulton Church. For construction of a new building Miss Hanes designated \$286,000. A smaller sum was established for maintenance of the cemetery.<sup>11</sup>

A new structure situated to the west of the old church was completed in 1969 and the congregation moved into its new home in September of that year.<sup>12</sup> Members of the church have expressed a sincere interest in the preservation of the older building.<sup>13</sup>

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FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup> James Wall, History of Davie County in the Forks of the Yadkin (Mocksville: Davie County Historical Publications Association, 1969), 296; and Elmer T. Clark, Methodism in Western North Carolina, 16, quoted in G. David Joyner, "A History of the Fulton United Methodist Church" (undated typescript), 1, hereinafter cited as Joyner, "Fulton Church."

<sup>2</sup> Rowan County Deed Books, Office of the Register of Deeds, Rowan County Courthouse, Salisbury, Deed Book 29, p. 274.

<sup>3</sup> Joyner, "Fulton Church," 2.

<sup>4</sup> W. L. Grissom, History of Methodism in Davie County, cited in Joyner, "Fulton Church," 7.

<sup>5</sup> Joyner, "Fulton Church," 3.

<sup>6</sup> Joyner, "Fulton Church," 3.

<sup>7</sup> Joyner, "Fulton Church," 3-4.

<sup>8</sup> Joyner, "Fulton Church," 4.

<sup>9</sup> Joyner, "Fulton Church," 4.

<sup>10</sup> Joyner, "Fulton Church," 4-5.

<sup>11</sup> Joyner, "Fulton Church," 5.

<sup>12</sup> Joyner, "Fulton Church," 5.

<sup>13</sup> See G. David Joyner to Dr. Larry Tise, April 30, 1976. Letter in Fulton Church file, Survey and Planning Branch, Historic Preservation Section, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Fulton United Methodist Church File. Survey and Planning Branch Files, North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Raleigh.

Joyner, G. David. "A History of the Fulton United Methodist Church." Undated typescript.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY One

QUADRANGLE NAME Advance

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 17 552450 3971250

B         

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C         

D         

E         

F         

G         

H         

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated acreage includes the church and the cemetery which surrounds it on three sides. Not included is the related property, i.e. the 1969 church building, the parking lot, and other church land. See enclosed plat map.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE Architectural Description by Michael Southern, Survey Specialist  
Statement of Significance by Jerry Cross, Researcher

ORGANIZATION Survey and Planning Branch

DATE

N. C. Division of Archives and History

January 25, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

109 East Jones Street

919-733-6545

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Raleigh

NC 27611

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL   

STATE   

LOCAL XX

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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Lamy Cerin*

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE May 10, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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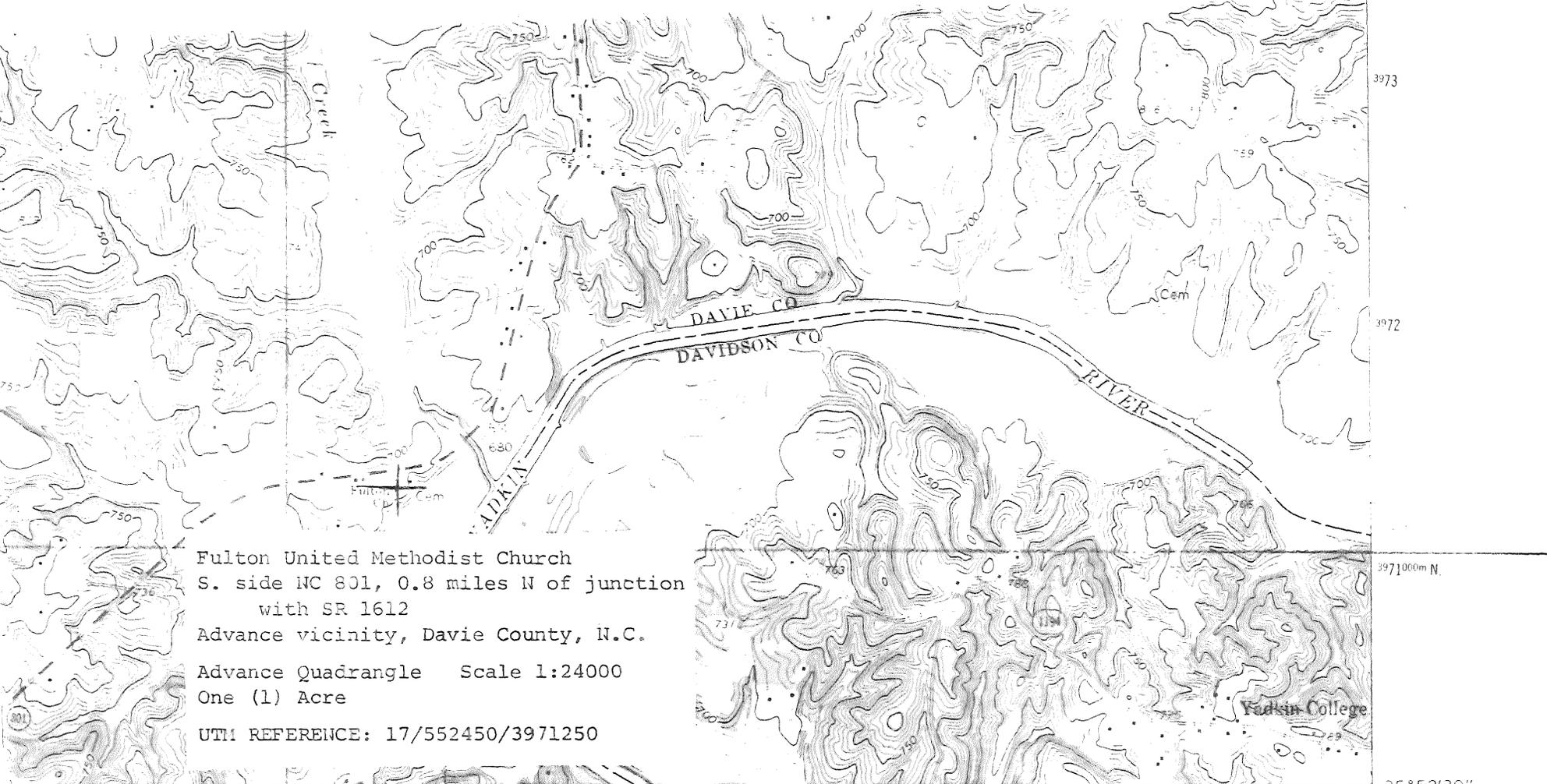
BIBLIOGRAPHICAL

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Rowan County Deed Books. Rowan County Courthouse, Salisbury, N.C.

Wall, James. History of Davie County in the Forks of the Yadkin. Mocksville, North Carolina: Davie County Historical Publications Association, 1969.



Fulton United Methodist Church  
 S. side NC 801, 0.8 miles N of junction  
 with SR 1612  
 Advance vicinity, Davie County, N.C.  
 Advance Quadrangle Scale 1:24000  
 One (1) Acre  
 UTM REFERENCE: 17/552450/3971250

LAND  
 SW  
 4 000

52 25 53 54 55 56 000m E

3971000m N  
 35° 52' 30"  
 80° 22' 30"



AL 10 FEET  
 SEA LEVEL



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Primary highway,<br>hard surface  | Light-duty road, hard or<br>improved surface |
| Secondary highway<br>hard surface | Unimproved road                              |
| Interstate Route                  | U S Route                                    |
|                                   | State Route                                  |

(LEXINGTON WEST)  
 4955 IV SE

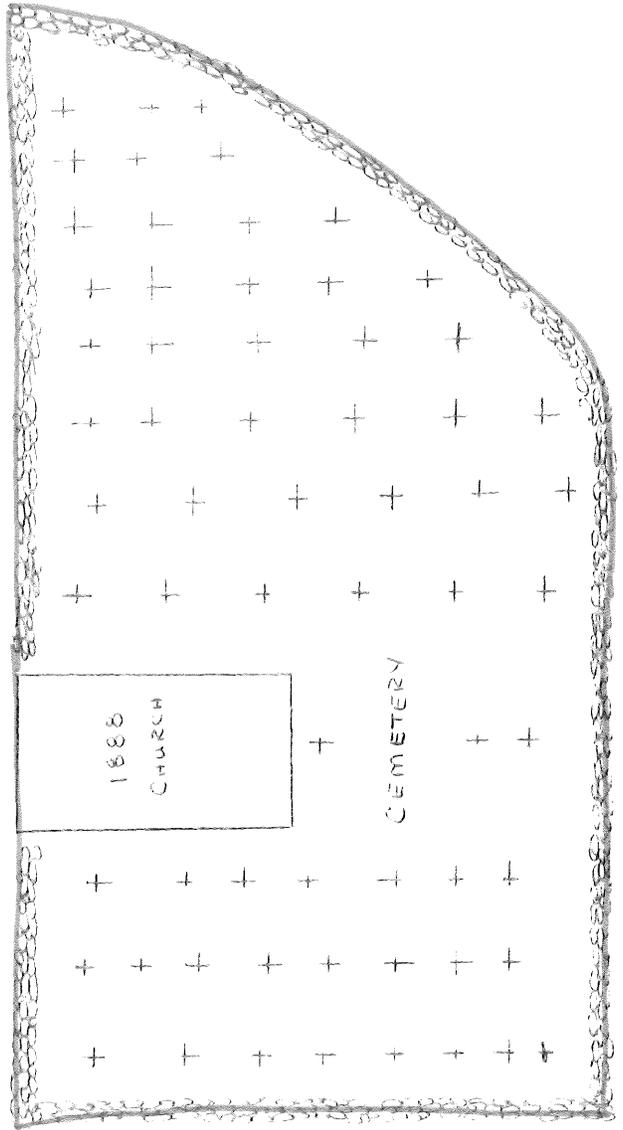
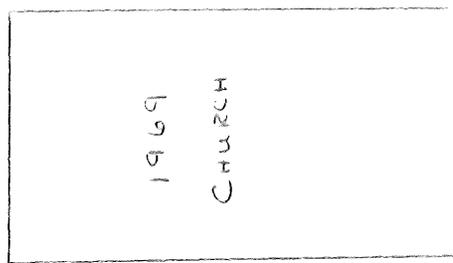
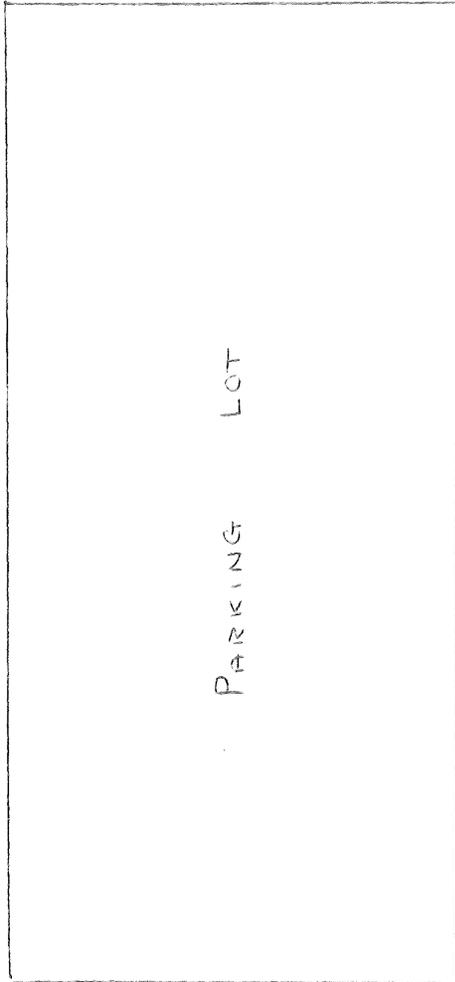
ADVANCE, N. C.  
 N352.5 — W8022.5/7 E

1969

AMS 4955 IV NW—SERIES V342

MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
 VEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242  
 D SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

N.C. 801



FULTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
DAVIE COUNTY, N.C.

AREA OUTLINED IN RED IS THE ACREAGE  
INCLUDED IN THIS NOMINATION.

