

NORTH CAROLINA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
Office of Archives and History
Department of Cultural Resources

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church

Lexington vicinity, Davidson County, DV0504, Listed 1/30/2008

Nomination by Laura A. W. Phillips

Photographs by Laura A. W. Phillips, August 2006



Façade and side view



Side and rear view

**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 any 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 Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church

other names/site number Hedrick's Grove United Church of Christ

2. Location

street & number 3840 Allred Road (SE corner, SR 2205 & SR 2248) not for publication N/A

city or town Lexington vicinity X

state North Carolina code NC county Davidson code 057 zip code 27292

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide X locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official

Date

North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

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 commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

___ 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): _____

Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church
Name of Property

Davidson Co., NC
County and State

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 the count)

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: RELIGION Sub: religious facility
FUNERARY cemetery

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: RELIGION Sub: religious facility
FUNERARY cemetery
RELIGION church school
DOMESTIC secondary structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals
Other: Romanesque Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick
roof Asphalt
walls Brick
other Granite
Concrete

Narrative Description

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

Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church
Name of Property

Davidson Co., NC
County and State

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.)

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or a grave.

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1922

Significant Dates

1922

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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: _____

Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church
Name of Property

Davidson Co., NC
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approx. 3.2

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing
1 17 574130 3958740
2 _____

Zone Easting Northing
3 _____
4 _____
____ 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 Laura A. W. Phillips, Architectural Historian

organization N/A date January 5, 2007

street & number 637 N. Spring Street telephone 336/727-1968

city or town Winston-Salem state NC zip code 36606

12. 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 the SHPO or FPO.)

name Hedrick's Grove United Church of Christ (John Roberts, Pastor)

street & number 3840 Allred Road telephone 336/746-5622

city or town Lexington state NC zip code 27292

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 listings. 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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service

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Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church
Davidson County, North Carolina

DESCRIPTION

Materials, cont'd.

Other: Terra Cotta
Copper

Summary and Setting

Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church is located in a rural section of Davidson County, North Carolina, approximately five miles southeast of Lexington, the county seat. Facing north-northeast, it is set back by a large lawn from Old Highway 64 East (SR 2205) at the southeast corner of that road and Allred Road (SR 2248). (Note: For ease of discussion, the remainder of this description will refer to the front of the church as north, the rear as south, the two sides as east and west, and the other property resources in like manner.) Old Highway 64 East forms the north line of the nominated property, Allred Road forms the west line, woods and an open playing field form the south line, and woods form the east line. A low stone retaining wall borders the property in front of the church and along the west side paralleling Allred Road. Concrete walks surround the church and the education building. Near Old Highway 64 East in front of the church and Allred Road on the west side are low brick-and-glass signs identifying the church and providing such information as the times of its services. Several large oak and maple trees are located on the sides of the church.

Built in 1921-1922, Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church is a large brick Romanesque Revival style structure distinguished, in part, by its pair of corner towers of uneven height joined by a central arcaded loggia. The church (A) is the primary resource on the nominated trapezoidal-shaped tract of approximately 3.2 acres. Attached to the rear of the church by a covered walkway is the early 1960s education building (B), a one-story, T-shaped, brick structure with a low-pitched gable roof and a porte-cochere at the south end. The cemetery (C) associated with Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church is located southeast of the education building in the southeast quadrant of the nominated property. At its center is a large magnolia tree. East of the church and south of the education building are two paved parking areas (P). Along the east edge of the east parking lot is a small metal dumpster. Nearby, two wood picnic tables sit on the grassy area between the parking lot and the east property line. Between the south parking lot and the south property line is a small concrete-block pump house (D). (See attached site plan.)

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Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church
Davidson County, North Carolina

Church (A) 1922

Contributing building

Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church is a large, red-brick building with a brick foundation, six-to-one common-bond walls with a soldier-course water table, and a gabled and hipped roof sheathed with asphalt shingles and copper flashing. All windows of the church are a milky stained glass, and all except the round windows have rusticated granite sills. The front half of the church, composed of the sanctuary, is a tall single story. Unlike most churches, this section of the church has a side-gable, rather than a front-gable, roof. The gable ends are distinguished by raised parapets with terra cotta tile coping.

The design of the façade is the most compelling architectural feature of the exterior of the church. At each corner is a square tower, the first two stages of which are identical. The outside walls of the first stage have paired rectangular windows. Beneath the window of the north wall on the northeast tower is the marble cornerstone. The outside walls of the second stage of the towers have round wheel windows with round brick borders. Both towers have brick corner buttresses that rise to the top of the second stage. Here the northwest tower ends with a simple brickwork cornice capped by terra cotta tile coping. However, the buttresses rise above the tower forming short stacks and giving the suggestion of medieval crenellation. The northeast tower rises to a third stage and features a rectangular louvered ventilator in the center of each side flanked by narrow recessed brick panels. This tower culminates with the same treatment as the shorter northwest tower. At ground level between the two towers runs a long row of seven concrete steps that rise to a three-bay arcaded loggia. Each of the three brick round arches of the loggia frames a pair of rectangular windows with lower sections that tilt open. At each end of the loggia, an oak door with six horizontal panels opens to a corner vestibule that leads into the church sanctuary. The loggia is crowned by a shaped parapet that rises one step over the center bay. It is capped by tile coping and is edged by a band of header bricks beneath a band of stretcher bricks. Set back from the loggia and rising above the front (north) wall of the church sanctuary is a steep, parapeted gable that echoes the side gables of the main roof, but is smaller. In the center of the gable is a large, round window with a banner in stained glass proclaiming this to be Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church.

The east and west elevations of the church are nearly identical. Each has a tall, parapeted gable section that corresponds with the sanctuary on the interior. The gable ends each have a round louvered ventilator. On the east side, a large, round-arched window is flanked by two pairs of rectangular windows. The west side repeats this fenestration pattern, except that the south pair of windows is replaced by a one-story room with smaller paired windows that projects outward one bay from the main wall plane to allow space on the interior for the choir loft.

Behind (south of) the sanctuary area of the church, the building becomes two stories (though not as tall as the single-story sanctuary) and the side elevations project outward one bay

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Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church
Davidson County, North Carolina

from the main body of the church. The side wings have parapeted gables. Behind the wings, the two-story section continues for another bay, covered by a truncated hipped roof. The entire two-story section of the building originally housed the Sunday school. The north bay of the east and west side wings each has a set of concrete steps leading to a glass and wood-paneled side entrance. The east wing has two windows south of the door on the first story and three windows on the second story. The west wing has a low entrance to the basement just south of the raised entry, and a window south of the basement entrance. The second story has only two windows. Windows continue along both floors of the hip-roofed, five-bay-wide, rear section of the church with two exceptions. On the first story, the second bay from the east has a five-horizontal-panel door. From this door, a concrete walk with a flat metal roof supported by slender metal posts leads to the education building. On the second story, the second bay from the west has a door that appears to have replaced an earlier window. That door opens to a rear fire escape.

Glass and wood-paneled doors in the vestibules of the two towers and just inside the east-side entrance open to a diagonally oriented sanctuary. It follows the auditorium or theater plan of church design. The floor (carpeted ca. 1970) slopes downward from northeast to the southwest corner, where three curved steps rise to the pulpit. Also in the southwest corner are the altar behind the pulpit, the choir loft, and the organ. Three sets of curving rows of oak pews oriented toward the pulpit are separated by two aisles that radiate upward and outward from the dais. This arrangement allows for the maximum number of good seats from which to see and hear the preacher. The walls of the sanctuary are plastered above a dark-stained, beaded board wainscot. The ceiling, which follows a truncated pitch, is also plastered. Additionally, it has an overlay of boxed beams with a wood pendant hanging from each crossing and a shaped bracket where each beam abuts the side wall. The beams form a series of large rectangles on the ceiling. Medieval-style brass and white-glass lanterns hang on chains from the east-west beams. The sanctuary is surrounded on three sides by stained glass windows, most of which are rectangular in shape, but with large, round-arched windows at east and west ends. The windows exhibit mostly simple, geometric designs typical of the period, with a few figurative or symbolic elements. The rectangular windows have bottom sections that tilt outward, the hardware of which is stamped "Rossbach & Sons Pat. May 10, 1910 Chicago."

A section of the south wall of the sanctuary, supported by a central boxed post, opens to the two-story Sunday school portion of the church. Here, on the first floor, the carpeting, plastered walls, beaded board wainscot, and colored-glass windows of the sanctuary continue, but the ceilings are beaded board. The second floor of the Sunday school section differs from the first in not having carpeting or wainscoting. The first floor has a central assembly room, with curved pews like those in the sanctuary. Originally the pews faced north, but when the church acquired a baby grand piano, which was placed in the northwest corner of the Sunday school section, the pews were realigned to face northwest, not only toward the piano, but also toward

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Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church
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the pulpit in the sanctuary. Now they serve as overflow seating for the sanctuary. Two boxed posts and a horizontal ceiling beam near the south end of the assembly room support a second floor balcony. On the first floor, doors with six horizontal panels open from the east and west sides of the assembly room to former Sunday school rooms that now serve as storage rooms. An additional room, the only one with a fireplace, opens from the vestibule between the east entrance to the church, the east entrance to the Sunday school assembly room, and the southeast entrance to the sanctuary. Originally a study, it now serves as the church history room. An enclosed stair with a beaded board wainscot and square newels leads to the second floor from the west side of the assembly room. On the second floor a balcony with a beaded board wainscot and a wood railing curves around the perimeter of the first floor assembly room. Former Sunday school rooms, now storage rooms, are entered from the east and west sides of the balcony. (See attached first-floor plan of sanctuary and former Sunday school.)

Education Building (B) 1962

Noncontributing building

Behind (south of) the church, a covered walkway leads to the education building. It is a one-story, T-shaped, red-brick building with a low-pitched gable roof, paired metal windows, and double doors. A vertical brick projection rises between each set of windows, not only to create more architectural interest, but also to create shadow. A gabled porte cochere supported by two brick posts extends from the south end of the building. Inside, a center hall running down each wing of the L has classrooms on either side. In the basement beneath the east-west wing are a large fellowship hall and a kitchen. Outside the education building, within the space created by the two wings of the L, is a fenced playground.

Cemetery (C) 1893-present

Contributing site

Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church Cemetery is located southeast of the education building in the southeast quadrant of the nominated property. Currently it holds approximately 375 graves, sixteen of which are unmarked. Set in north-south rows, the gravestones are primarily of the upright tablet form, although a few are obelisks. Most date from the full span of the twentieth century, although a few date from the 1890s (the earliest is 1893), and a few from the twenty-first century. Of particular interest is the Hilliard gravestone, a double marker dating from 1989. The front of this stone is incised with an image of the façade of Hedrick's Grove Church. Near the center of the cemetery is a single tall magnolia tree, and the oldest gravestones tend to be arranged in close proximity to it.

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Davidson County, North Carolina

Pump House (D) 1940s

Noncontributing structure

South of the education building and south parking lot and near the south property line stands a small concrete-block pump house with a low-pitched gable roof. Although it has been a part of the church property since 1956, the pump house has always been associated with several Hedrick family houses along Allred Road, and the family retains an easement for the pipeline to it.

Integrity Assessment

Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church possessed historic integrity in terms of its location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. That portion of the church property being nominated evolved through the twentieth century as the needs of the congregation grew. The oldest resource, the cemetery that predates the present church, also has had the greatest period of growth---from 1893 to the early twenty-first century. The property's primary resource, the church, has remained remarkably unaltered and well preserved since it was completed in 1922. Known changes have included only the addition of carpeting in the sanctuary and first floor of the Sunday school ca. 1970, and the re-covering of the roof in 1988. In the early 1960s a one-story education building was added to the campus behind the church. Parking areas were laid out to accommodate the needs of the growing congregation; these remained unpaved until the 1980s. The church property retains its rural setting and a visual emphasis on its 1922 church building.

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Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church
Davidson County, North Carolina

SIGNIFICANCE

Summary

Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church (now Hedrick's Grove United Church of Christ) is a rural church located approximately five miles southeast of Lexington, the seat of Davidson County, North Carolina. It was constructed 1921-1922 to replace the original church on the site that had served the congregation since 1892. According to church history, the design for the church was prepared by members of a committee who traveled around the area visiting churches and drawing sketches of buildings and features they liked. Once a plan was finalized and approved by the congregation, construction began, with members providing both the labor and the materials. When completed, Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church was a distinctive, rare, and late example of the Romanesque Revival style in Davidson County, which it remains. The exterior of the large brick structure is characterized by a parapeted side-gable roof with a smaller front cross gable, two corner towers of unequal height, a three-bay arcaded loggia on the façade between the towers, and a multitude of round, round-arched, and rectangular windows, all filled with decorative stained glass. On the interior, the diagonally-oriented sanctuary conforms to the auditorium or theater plan with its sloping floor, curving rows of seats, and aisles radiating out from the pulpit. This was combined with a modified Akron-plan Sunday school section. Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church is accompanied on its nominated property by a cemetery dating from the 1890s and a separate one-story education building erected behind the church in the early 1960s.

Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church meets Criterion C for listing in the National Register because of its local architectural significance. It also meets Criteria Consideration A because it derives its primary significance from its architectural distinction. The period of significance, which coincides with the church's significant date, is 1922, the year in which construction on Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church was completed.

Historical Background and Architectural Context

In the early eighteenth century, thousands of members of Protestant Reformed congregations in the Palatinate region of Germany fled oppression and persecution there and immigrated to Pennsylvania. During the next century, many made their way southward to Piedmont North Carolina, including the area that in 1822 became Davidson County. Members of the Hedrick family were among the early settlers in this area, and their descendents were prominent in the establishment and continued prosperity of Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church ("A Journey through Time").

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In the late nineteenth century, a group of residents in the rural community surrounding the intersection of what is now Old Hwy 64 E and Allred Road began to feel that their spiritual and educational needs were not being adequately met by having to travel to one of several churches in this section of Davidson County rather than having one in their midst. Thus, they organized a Sunday school, meeting at first in an old store house, and soon began planning for a sanctuary and for facilities for both religious and public education ("A Journey through Time").

On January 2, 1889, John P. and Carolina (Hedrick) Long conveyed two acres adjoining lands of George W. Hedrick and others "south from the public road" to Jefferson Hedrick, Adam Hedrick, John W. Hedrick, and Stimpson Grimes, "Trustees of a church of the lower charge of the German Reformed church of Davidson County." The land was to be held "in trust for the German Reformed Church and parsonage which is to be erected upon said tract" (Deed Book 40, p. 320).

At a joint consistory meeting of the Lower Davidson Charge of the Reformed Church held March 21, 1891, the newly developing congregation was accepted as a part of that body and was called Hedrick's Grove Church. That name was chosen in deference to the large number of Hedricks in the immediate area who were involved with the establishment of the church and because of the beautiful grove of trees at its site. Official organization followed on the first Sunday in May, 1891. Allen Hedrick, John L. Black, and R. Eli Hedrick were elected elders, while H. Frank Hedrick, Henry H. Hedrick, and Robert L. Beck were elected deacons. The charter membership numbered forty-one and included those who had transferred from Beck's Chapel Church and Emanuel Church, as well as others who were received by confirmation ("A Journey through Time"; Leonard, *Centennial History*, 474).

The first building erected on the site purchased in 1889 was a two-story frame structure, completed in 1892, that enabled Hedrick's Grove Church to become the center for the spiritual, educational, and social needs of the community. The sanctuary, which could seat around 200 people, was located on the second floor, while the first floor was divided into three rooms used for Sunday school classes and public school facilities. During the first two years, the week-day school was supervised by the church, but after that the county took over its operation. Providing facilities for public education was in keeping with the traditions of the Reformed Church. The building continued in use as a public school until 1924 ("A Journey through Time"; Leonard, *Centennial History*, 474-475; Peeler, *Story of Southern Synod*, 279).

On June 27, 1896, John P. and Carolina Long sold an additional tract of just over two acres, located southeast of the church, to the Hedrick's Grove congregation to be used for a burying ground. Isaac Rhodes, the first in the congregation to die (July 10, 1893), had already been buried on the cemetery site in 1893. Perhaps the purchase of the tract for a cemetery was prompted by the deaths in 1896 of two more members of the congregation, Cloyd Hunt and Martin T. Hunt. In the next two years Rhodes and the Hunts were followed in death by Elizabeth

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Hedrick, Philip E. Hedrick, and Minnie Young. Most of the remaining graves date from the twentieth century, with a few from the twenty-first century. Currently, the graves in Hedrick's Grove Cemetery number approximately 375. Sixteen of these are unmarked (Crotts, "History of Hedrick's Grove Church; Deed Book 133, page 60; Hilliard Memo).

During the first two decades of the twentieth century, the congregation of Hedrick's Grove Church continued to grow, and by the end of that time the need for a new facility had become apparent. In September 1920, the congregation met to discuss the possibilities for a new building. This meeting resulted in a committee being appointed to secure plans and to report back to the congregation at a later meeting. Zula Hedrick Smith recalled taking day trips on Sundays as a child with her family (Grover and Callie Hedrick) and her Uncle Ed Hedrick's family to visit other churches. When they saw a church they liked, Grover Hedrick would draw a sketch with dimensions on a large brown paper bag. Although Mrs. Smith recalled these being happy family outings, she does not recall the church or churches that influenced the design for Hedrick's Grove Church. When a rough sketch for a brick building with a sanctuary and a number of Sunday school classrooms was later presented to the congregation, a building committee with Eli F. Hedrick as chairman and a finance committee with Grover Hedrick as chairman were established. Plans were then finalized and submitted to the congregation for approval ("A Journey through Time"; Peeler, *Story of Southern Synod*, 281; Smith, "Memories," 3).

Judging from the finished church, the plan was for a large brick structure, somewhat unusual for rural Davidson County in the 1920s, with a side-gable roof and a smaller front cross gable, two corner towers of uneven height connected by a three-bay arcaded loggia, and another gabled section at the rear for Sunday school rooms. On the interior, the diagonally-oriented sanctuary made use of the popular auditorium or theater plan, so-called because it had the appearance of a theater or auditorium that offered the maximum number of good seats from which to see and hear the preacher. Such a plan had a sloping floor, curving rows of seats, and aisles radiating out from the pulpit. This was coupled with a modified Akron-plan Sunday school that had a central area with pews that could be used both for Sunday school assembly and for enlarging the seating of the sanctuary. Above the central rooms of the Sunday school was a balcony, and at east and west ends of the Sunday school on both floors were several classrooms (Bishir, *North Carolina Architecture*, 379-385).

The actual source for the design of Hedrick's Grove Church has not been determined. The church has no record of having hired an architect or builder for the project, and today's members, in fact, insist that the congregation could not have afforded to do so. Interestingly, the exterior of First United Church of Christ on Waughtown Street in Winston-Salem is remarkably similar to Hedrick's Grove Church, although the interior does not exhibit the auditorium plan. However, the cornerstone of this church is dated 1927, well after construction of Hedrick's

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Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church
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Grove Church. The architect for First Church was the Philadelphia firm of Charles W. Bolton and Son. Efforts to determine if the Bolton firm had prepared plans for the Reformed Church that could be used by various congregations who were unable to hire an architect individually were not successful. Published architectural surveys for Davidson County and for the counties surrounding Davidson were also searched for possible models. Only one church recorded appears possibly to have had an influence on the Hedrick's Grove search team. That church is First Presbyterian Church, Mocksville, in Davie County. Built in 1905, it has a full-sized (rather than smaller) front-gable roof with a round stained-glass window, two corner towers (one is truly a tower; the other suggests a tower but is stunted), and a three-bay arcaded loggia between the two. Clearly, if Mocksville's First Presbyterian Church did influence the design of Hedrick's Grove Church, it was just one of probably several influences (Mohne, *Historic Architecture of Davie County*, 23, 201).

With plans completed, work on the church began. A brick-making machine was placed on the Grover Hedrick property near the church, and members made the brick for the new building themselves. While making the brick, the machine had to be tended day and night. Members also furnished lumber for the church. Although there was a lot of work, it provided times of good fellowship for the members. Even when construction was completed, members volunteered their services to keep the church clean and otherwise maintain it. While the bricks were being prepared, the old church was placed on rollers and moved westward across Allred Road to make way for the new building. At its new location, the old church continued to serve the worship and educational needs of the congregation until construction of the new building was completed ("A Journey through Time"; Smith, "Memories," 3-4).

The Reverend John C. Peeler, the pastor of Hedrick's Grove Church, laid the first brick for the new church on August 26, 1921. The cornerstone was laid on September 16, at which time prominent minister of the Reformed Church and historian Jacob Calvin Leonard preached the sermon, repeating his role at the laying of the cornerstone of the first church building. During the fall the building was roofed, but additional work ceased during the cold winter months. With the coming of spring, work on the church resumed and was carried to completion in 1922. Although Rev. John C. Peeler had moved on to Lenoir, he returned to preach the dedication sermon for the church for which he had laid the first brick. The new pastor, the Reverend A. Samuel Peeler, performed the act of dedication ("A Journey through Time").

When Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church was completed in 1922, the Reverend J. C. Leonard, a prominent minister in the denomination and author of both *Centennial History of Davidson County* (1927) and *History of the Southern Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church* (1940), proclaimed it to be "one of the most beautiful and most modern of the rural churches of the denomination" (Leonard, *Southern Synod*, 196). Certainly within Davidson County it was an impressive country church, both in size and stylistic sophistication. As an

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example of the Romanesque Revival style, Hedrick's Grove Church was unusual in the county when it was built and remains rare. The Romanesque was the predecessor of the Gothic style in medieval architecture, and revivals of both styles were popular in America in the mid to late nineteenth century and well into the twentieth century. Salient features of the Romanesque Revival style include construction in brick or stone, or construction in one and detailing in the other; the use of round-arched windows, usually with stained or decorative milky glass; towers, arcades, and buttresses. In Davidson County, the Gothic Revival style remained prevalent for church design among congregations wishing to follow medieval ecclesiastical aesthetics. The Romanesque Revival style also found its place in the county's architecture, but it was quite rare. Only four examples were recorded in the publication of Davidson County's architectural survey that was conducted primarily in 1981. In the late nineteenth century a three-stage brick tower reflecting Romanesque Revival style influence was added to the ca. 1833 First Presbyterian Church in Lexington. It has paired and single round-arched windows and decorative brickwork. Holly Grove Lutheran Church, built near Lexington ca. 1914, provides a somewhat simple but unified reflection of the Romanesque Revival style. The brick structure features a parapeted gable roof, mostly round-arched windows, stepped buttresses at all corners and decorative brickwork. A central, three-stage tower with paired, round-arched ventilators in the top stage and a pyramidal roof dominates the façade. Abbott's Creek Missionary Baptist Church, built near Wallburg in 1926-1927, is a brick building with milky colored-glass round-arched windows that may have been influenced by the recently completed Hedrick's Grove Church in its square corner towers of unequal height. The fourth example is Hedrick's Grove Church, built near Lexington in 1921-1922. While the large structure, built of bricks with granite window sills, does not have all the salient features of the Romanesque Revival style (nor do the other examples), it has enough of these features used in a way that creates a distinct example of the style. Of particular importance on the exterior are the multi-gabled parapeted roof, the corner towers of unequal height, the three-bay arcaded façade loggia connecting the towers, and the milky glass colored windows, including the large, round-arched decorative windows and the multitude of upper-level round windows (Touart, *Building the Backcountry*, 67, 97, 133).

The Sunday school of Hedrick's Grove Church has always been an important program of the church, and attendance has often exceeded that of the worship services. For many years, another successful program has come in the form of the church's revivals or "Big Meetings." For these protracted events, an outstanding guest minister was invited to preach, and services began on Sunday, continuing through the week. These services often filled the church to capacity and resulted in the addition of many new members. Another important annual activity has been the Summer Vacation Bible School ("A Journey through Time").

During the mid twentieth century, the Hedrick's Grove Church property began to expand physically. East of the church, land was acquired for parking, which remained unpaved for some

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years. Around the same time, a hut (no longer standing) was built behind (south of) the church to provide facilities for social gatherings ("A Journey through Time"). By 1955 the educational facilities had outgrown the available space in the church building, so the congregation purchased an additional 1.1 acres in 1956 (Deed Book 279, p. 40). With this they enlarged the cemetery and began to plan for a separate religious education building. The modern one-story brick building was occupied on November 11, 1962, though it was still unfinished. The north-south wing of the building was left as a single space that could be used as an assembly room. Years later partitions were added to create rooms---including an office, a conference room, and a lounge---on either side of a center hall. When the education building was dedicated on Easter Sunday, March 29, 1964, it was debt free. In addition to the donated labor and materials and including furnishings and equipment, the building cost more than \$70,000. The dedication sermon was preached by the President of the Southern Synod, Dr. Banks J. Peeler ("A Journey through Time").

The congregation purchased two additional acres south-southeast of the church property in 1968 (Deed Book 451, p. 361). The land was cleared and developed into recreational facilities for the church, including an athletic field, a combination basketball court/tennis court, a barbeque building, and restrooms. Ultimately, however, the church intends to use the two acres as an expansion to the cemetery when that becomes necessary. These two acres of the church property are not included in the nomination. Also around this time, the church sanctuary was carpeted and carillon chimes were installed in the taller of the two church towers ("A Journey through Time").

Other changes to the physical plant of Hedrick's Grove Church came in the last quarter of the twentieth century. In 1982, the church sanctuary was air-conditioned, and the education building followed suit in 1984. In 1983 the parking lot was paved. In 1988 the church was re-roofed ("A Journey through Time").

The membership and organization of Hedrick's Grove Church has also changed through the years. When the congregation was established in 1891, there were forty-one charter members of Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church and it was yoked with several other churches as part of the Lower Davidson Charge of the Reformed Church. A single minister served this group of churches and lived in a parsonage across the road from Hedrick's Grove Church. In 1934 the Reformed Church in the United States merged with the Evangelical Synod of North America, creating the Evangelical and Reformed Church. Finally, in 1957, the Evangelical and Reformed Church merged with the Congregational Christian Church, becoming the United Church of Christ. Hedrick's Grove continued to operate as part of the Lower Davidson Charge until March 19, 1963. At that time a financial settlement was reached with the other congregations in the charge regarding the parsonage property, and the Southern Synod declared Hedrick's Grove a self-supporting church. (In 1967 the current parsonage was built across Old US 64 East from the

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church, but it is not included in the nomination.) Today, Hedrick's Grove United Church of Christ worships in its second sanctuary, built in 1921-1922, and the congregation has multiplied more than ten-fold since it was established ("A Journey through Time"; Peeler, *Story of Southern Synod*, 281).

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated portion of Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church is delineated by the heavy black line on the accompanying Site Plan/Tax Map, drawn to a scale of 1" = 200'. The nominated property is a portion of Davidson County Tax Parcel 1500300000046, also known as PIN 6753-01-07-1844.

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the nominated property forms a trapezoid of approximately 3.2 acres that encompasses the 1922 Hedrick's Grove Church, its cemetery dating from 1893, the early 1960s education building located directly behind the church, and the setting that ties these features together. Not nominated from the 8.72 acres of the church's total tract are approximately two acres located south-southeast of the cemetery that were purchased in 1968 for future cemetery expansion and are currently being used for recreational purposes, as well as the approximately 3.5 acres on the north side of Old Hwy 64 E on which stands the 1967 church parsonage.

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PHOTOGRAPHS

The following information for #1-5 applies to all nomination photographs, except as noted:

- 1) Hedrick's Grove Reformed Church
- 2) Lexington vicinity, Davidson County, North Carolina
- 3) Laura A. W. Phillips
- 4) 5, 8, 11, and 12 were photographed in October 2006. All others were photographed in August 2006.
- 5) CD: NCHPO, Raleigh
- 6-7)
 - 1: Setting, view from NW at jct. of Old US 64 E and Allred Road
 - 2: Façade, view to S from Old US 64 E
 - 3: Façade and east elevation, view to SW
 - 4: East elevation, view to W
 - 5: West elevation and rear, view to NE
 - 6: Sanctuary, view to NW
 - 7: Sanctuary to former Sunday school, view to S
 - 8: Sanctuary, east wall, view to E
 - 9: Overhead view of sanctuary from former Sunday school balcony, view to N
 - 10: Balcony, former Sunday school, view to E
 - 11: Education building, view to NE
 - 12: Cemetery, view to NW