

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL 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

Union Church Presbyterian Church

AND/OR COMMON

Union Church Presbyterian Church

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Union Church

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Fourth

STATE

Mississippi

VICINITY OF

CODE

28

COUNTY

Jefferson

CODE

63

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☒ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Union Church Presbyterian Church

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Union Church

STATE

Mississippi 39668

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.Office of the Chancery Clerk  
Jefferson County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Fayette

STATE

Mississippi 39069

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Statewide Survey of Historic Sites

DATE

1978

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

CITY, TOWN

Jackson

STATE

Mississippi 39205



# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT  
☒ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Union Church Presbyterian Church is a five-by-three-bay one-story clapboard building with a front-gable orientation. The building faces south and rests on a foundation of brick piers. A five-sided vestibule with central entrance was added to the front elevation ca. 1903. Main access is through a pair of four-panel double-leaf doors beneath a two-pane transom. Windows contain nine-over-nine sash. Shutters, concrete steps, iron railing, and asphalt roof are all replacements. Exterior enrichment includes a wide frieze embellished below by a row of V-shaped shingles.

Access from the vestibule interior, which is clad with beaded boarding, to the sanctuary is through two four-panel doors. The doors are double-leafed, with each leaf hinged to fold in half vertically. Structural evidence reveals that the entrances were originally set closer together and moved possibly to accommodate the pulpit platform, which is located against this wall and appears from the style of its lectern and decorative pedestals to be a turn-of-the-century addition. Walls and ceilings are flush boarded. Electric light fixtures are pendants with spherical globes, a type commonly in use after 1900.

A short distance northwest of the church stands a frame Sunday-school building built in 1945. The structure has a front-gable orientation and central entrance. Located across the road and south of the church is 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 <sup>3</sup>	<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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" 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

1852

## BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Union Church Presbyterian Church, the present main structure of which was built in 1852, is an important local landmark, with a history that reflects the Scottish settlement of the area and an organization that predates Mississippi statehood. The church cemetery, with headstones representative of various styles in funerary art, contains graves dating from the 1830s, and includes the grave of the Reverend Dr. C. W. Grafton, nationally prominent Presbyterian churchman and former minister of the church.

One of the oldest of its denomination in Mississippi, Union Church Presbyterian Church was organized in March, 1817, with the Reverend Joseph Bullen serving as its first minister. The congregation was composed primarily of Scottish Presbyterians from the Carolinas but included as well three or four families of Methodist settlers "related" to the Presbyterians through the marriage of their children. Too few in number to support their own church, the Methodists joined with the Presbyterians for worship, thereby originating the name Union Church. The Scottish settlement prospered so that by 1852 the congregation had outgrown two buildings, and the present church building was constructed. At the outbreak of the Civil War the people of the Union Church settlement contributed to the war effort by forming the Charley Clark Rifle Company, the first company to leave Jefferson County for service against the North. In 1873 the Reverend Dr. C. W. Grafton began his ministry, which lasted until his death in 1934. Dr. Grafton figured prominently in the government of the Presbyterian Church, U.S., on both state and national levels, serving as moderator of the Synod of Mississippi in 1896 and as moderator of the General Assembly, highest deliberative and legislative body of the church, in 1916. Dr. Grafton is buried in the church cemetery. In use since the 1830s, the cemetery contains several other monuments of interest, most notably the headstone of a lamb executed in cast iron and finished to imitate stone, and the more elaborate sculptural monuments of the 1880s period.



## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bates, George T. "The Early Years of Union Church Presbyterian Church," address on history of church, 1817-1872, delivered on occasion of the church's sesquicentennial, Nov. 12, 1967. Copy in church records, Union Church, Miss.

Cato, Mrs. Paul. "Brief History of Union Church Community," published in a Union Church High School program booklet, Jan., 1950. Copy owned by author, Union Church, Miss.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately 22 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Union Church

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:62500

UTM REFERENCES

A 15 709 300 350 740 00

B 15 709 500 350 740 00

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C 15 709 650 350 717 5

D 15 709 350 350 691 25

E                  

F                  

G                  

H                  

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

*(see attached Revision)*

The nominated property includes a ten-acre church lot north of state highway 28 and a twelve-acre cemetery lot south of highway 28 as indicated on the accompanying U.S. Department of Interior Geological Survey Map entitled Union Church, Miss., 1963, and contains twenty-two

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

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Adele Cramer, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

DATE

December 14, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 571

TELEPHONE

601-354-7326

CITY OR TOWN

Jackson

STATE

Mississippi 39205

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL   

STATE   

LOCAL X

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

*Arthur B. Hillman*

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

April 16, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 & 10 PAGE 1

9 - MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cramer, Adele, architectural historian with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson. Inspection of Union Church Presbyterian Church, Union Church, Miss., Oct. 27, 1978.

Grafton, C. W. "A Sketch of the Old Scotch Settlement at Union Church." Publications of the Mississippi Historical Society IX (1905):263-271.

Lowrey, Priscilla M. "The Introduction of Presbyterianism into Mississippi: From the Entrance of Early Presbyterian Settlers to the Formation of the Synod of Mississippi in 1835." Master's thesis, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, 1974.

Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson. Statewide Survey of Historic Sites. Jefferson County. Presbyterian Church. Union Church.

10 - GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

of the fifty-and-a-half acres owned by Union Church Presbyterian Church.

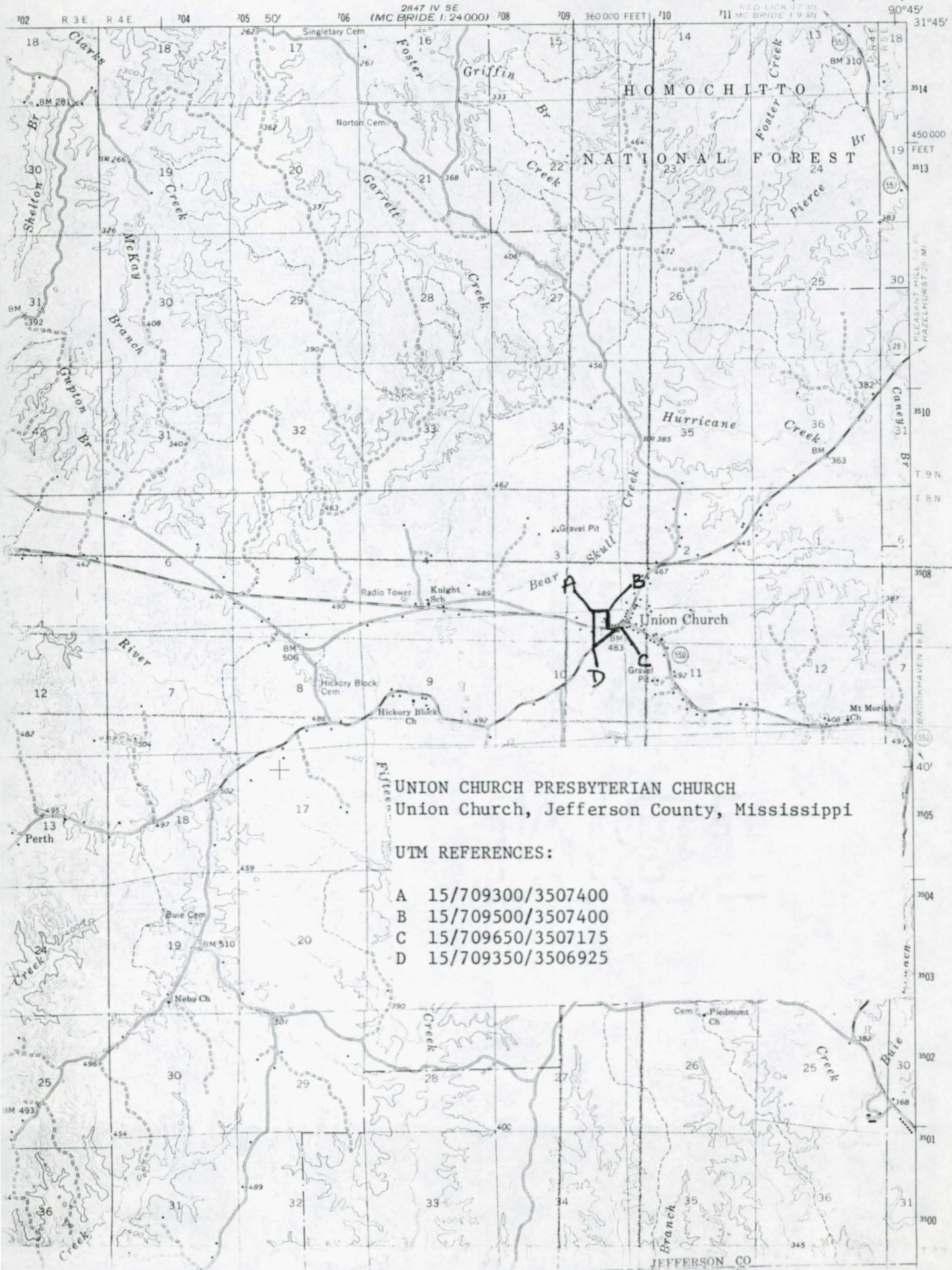
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION FOR UNION CHURCH,  
JEFFERSON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Beginning at a point on the eastern boundary of the church lot at Route 28, the boundary moves north approximately 800' then west 500' then south for 1,500' crossing Route 28 until it meets the Meadville Road. The boundary then moves northeast following the Meadville Road for approximately 400' until it meets Route 28. The line then moves west for approximately 400' along Route 28 where it returns to the starting point.



UNION CHURCH QUADRANGLE  
MISSISSIPPI  
15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

2847 1 SW  
(BARLOW 1:24 000)





VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION FOR UNION CHURCH,  
JEFFERSON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

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UNION CHURCH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Union Church, Jefferson County, Mississippi

Adele Cramer

October, 1978

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Church exterior, looking north.

Photo 1 of 6







UNION CHURCH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Union Church, Jefferson County, Mississippi

Adele Cramer

October, 1978

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Church interior, looking north.

Photo 2 of 6





UNION CHURCH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Union Church, Jefferson County, Mississippi

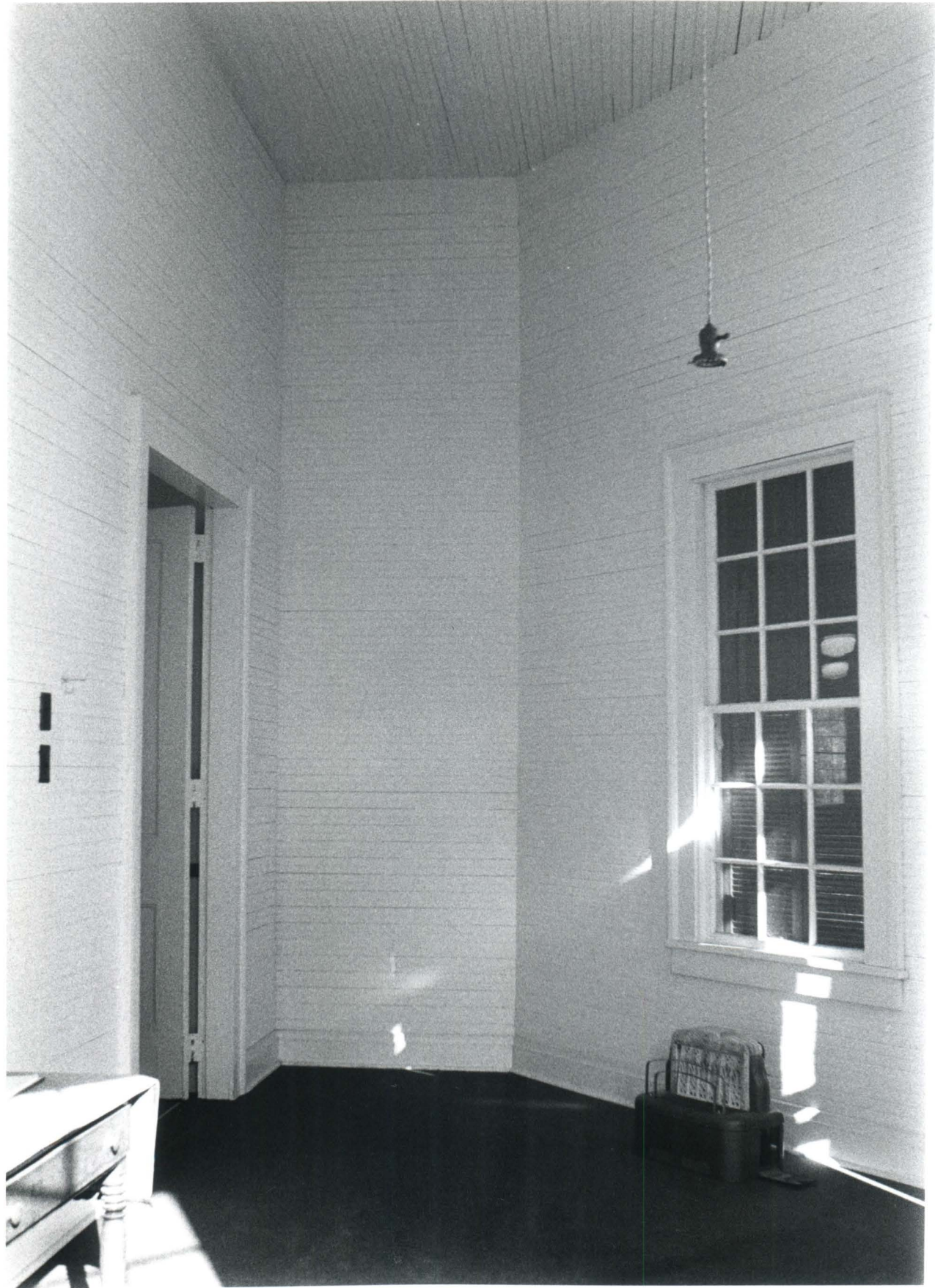
Adele Cramer

October, 1978

Mississippi Department of Archives and History  
Church interior, looking southeast.

Photo 3 of 6





UNION CHURCH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Union Church, Jefferson County, Mississippi

Adele Cramer

October, 1978

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Church vestibule interior, looking east.

Photo 4 of 6





UNION CHURCH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Union Church, Jefferson County, Mississippi

Adele Cramer

October, 1978

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Church cemetery, looking northwest.

Photo 5 of 6