Historic Sites Survey

Inventory No. 3

State of Mississippi
Department of Archives & History
P. O. Box 571, Jackson, MS. 39205

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION: Located in a residential neighborhood, the Byhalia United Methodist Church is a Gothic-influenced, gable-roofed, brick structure, featuring an asymmetrical tower and a modified cruciform plan. The double-leaf main entrance, set within a lancet-arched opening, consists of paneled doors surmounted by a transom of intersecting tracery and is sheltered by a gable-roofed porch of exposed, scissor-beam truss construction, which was a later addition. The single exposed corner of the square tower is braced by angle buttresses, and the tower is crowned by a two-stage, frame belfry with lancet-arched openings and a spire. The present belfry is a ca. 1950 replacement of the original open, balustraded belfry which consisted of four, square, paneled brick piers supporting a pented pyramidal roof with foliate finial. Although of different sizes, all windows are triangular headed (of vernacular Gothic influence) with gauged voussoirs and make use of stained glass of varying patterns. The larger windows employ interesting tracery. Molded eaves trim, shaped rafter ends, and exposed purlins complete the eclectic design of the church.

ALTERATIONS:
Original steeple replaced ca. 1950s

OUTBUILDINGS: N/A

LANDSCAPE FEATURES: N/A

NAME: Byhalia United Methodist Church

STREET NO: College Avenue

TOWN/VIC: Byhalia

COUNTY: Marshall

BLOCK/LOT: See Verbal Boundary Description

PRESENT OWNER: Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church

ADDRESS P. O. Box 931, Jackson, Mississippi 39205

PRESENT USE: Church

FORMER USE: Church

DATE: 1906

STYLE: Late Gothic Revival

ARCH/BUILDER: Andrew Johnson

SOURCE OF DATE: Tablet on building

ENVIRONMENT: Village

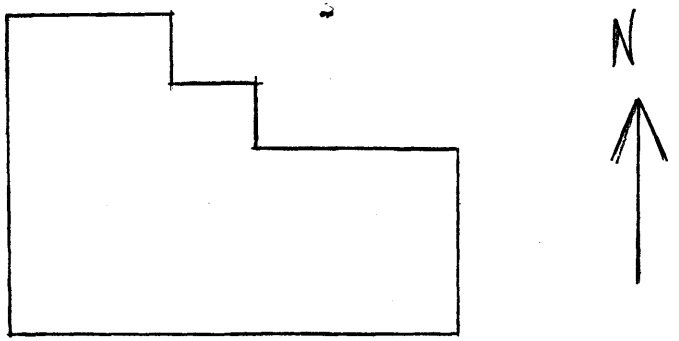
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE
NEIGHBORHOOD
LOCAL
STATE X
NATIONAL

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: The Byhalia United Methodist Church is a significant structure within the architecture of Andrew Johnson. The building is the only example of Johnson's ecclesiastical work (except for his possible design contributions to John Wright Johnson's Sardis United Methodist Church) and shows the work of his mature hand. The small, formal brick church exhibits solid Gothic features and provides a subdued contrast to Johnson's livelier picturesque residential structures.

PHOTOS

NEG. #

SITE OR AREA PLAN WITH NORTH ARROW AND SHAPE OF STRUCTURE:



CONTINUATION:

PHYSICAL CONDITION:

Excellent

THREATS:

None

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The Byhalia United Methodist Church is located on a lot measuring 257' by 173' in the corner South of Main Street and East of Senter Street located in the SE ¼ of NE ¼ of Section 35 Township 2, Range 5 in the town of Byhalia.

ACREAGE: a little over one

UTM REF:

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A	16	253940	3861750
C			
B			
D			

FORM PREPARED BY:

P. Ana Gordon, Historian
Mississippi Department of Archives and History

DATE

Jan. 1983



Byhalia United Methodist Church (#3), view to the northeast
The Architecture of Andrew Johnson in North Mississippi
Byhalia, Marshall County, Mississippi
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Pamela Guren
April, 1981
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