

FINAL

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 Brick Chapel United Methodist Church
other names/site number Montgomery Chapel 133-250-20023

2. Location

street & number 3547 North US Highway 231 N/A not for publication
city or town Greencastle vicinity
state Indiana code IN county Putnam code 133 zip code 46135

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 forth in 36CFR 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.)

J. C. Sn
Signature of certifying official/Title
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

8.8.03
Date

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)

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

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building
- district
- site
- structure
- object
- landscape

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
1	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
2	0	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

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: Religious Facility

FUNERARY: Cemetery

EDUCATION: School

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: Religious Facility

FUNERARY: Cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: Romanesque

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: Limestone

walls BRICK

roof ASPHALT

other WOOD

STONE: marble

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.)

- Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
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.
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:

- owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
removed from its original location.
a birthplace or grave.
a cemetery.
a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
a commemorative property.
less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

c.1840-1952

Significant Dates

1872

1912

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 Bibliographic 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:

DePauw University Archives, Greencastle, IN

Brick Chapel United Methodist Church
Name of Property

Putnam IN
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.5 acres

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

1

1	6	5	1	1	2	6	0	4	3	9	5	5	8	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

3

Zone	Easting				Northing									

2

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 Larry Reeves, Beth Hendrich & Paul Diebold
organization Brick Chapel United Methodist Church / DHPA date 07-08-2002
street & number 3547 North US Highway 231 telephone 765/652-2771
city or town Greencastle state IN zip code 46135

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 Trustees of Brick Chapel United Methodist Church
street & number _____ telephone _____
city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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 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 20503.

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Section number 7 Page 1 *Brick Chapel U.M.C. and Cemetery, Putnam Co., IN*

Section 7 – Description

Brick Chapel United Methodist Church and Cemetery sit atop a gentle rise overlooking a rural stretch of U.S. 231, five miles north of Greencastle. County Road 350 W marks the southern boundary of the site. The cemetery extends north and east of the chapel. Remnants of the village of Brick Chapel line a short, bypassed leg of the original Crawfordsville Road. The old roadbed crosses the cemetery and chapel site, then continues south across CR 350 W, where a few older buildings line the road. Large, mature trees line the east and north sides of the property, but the site itself is open turf.

The chapel is a one story, brick, gable-fronted building with an offset tower and rear addition from the 1950s. The foundation is of random sized coursed limestone ashlar. The original gable-fronted chapel dates to 1872. The congregation made alterations in 1912, including interior changes, some window and door modifications, and the addition of the tower. The front elevation reflects these cumulative changes (photo 3). It has three bays, defined by recessed, round arched panels, each with a single window opening. The northernmost window opening is blind, due to alterations made in 1912. The center bay has a wider window opening; before 1912 it was the main entry. It is now a large, stained glass window. The last recessed arch has the 1912 entry tower superimposed over it. Above the arches, the gable end is filled by a large recessed panel with corbel work around the edges. Signage for the church is painted on a concrete tablet centered in the panel. Toward the apex of the gable end is a small roundel vent. The fascia board and eaves are simple painted boards. The main roof is roughly a 7:1 pitch.

The tower projects about ten feet from the front exterior wall. It houses the main entry to the church, double doors spanned by a three light half-round transom set into a round brick arch with multiple courses. In 1990, the congregation replaced the front steps with a handicap ramp with one return and a flight of side steps that reach a ten foot square stoop at the main entry. The ramp and stairs have a brick veneer wall masking them, facing north. The second level of the tower has a blind round-arched window opening, the top level round arch with brick sill originally had louvers enclosing the bell tower section. This opening was bricked shut at some point, with only a small vent at the top of the arch on each side. The tower has a flat parapet with corner merlons, giving the tower roof a very modest impression of a battlement. The north and south sides of the tower are similar. The first floor of each side has a single, round arched, four-over-four double hung window with three light transom, set in a multiple coursed round arch above and stone sill below. The upper level openings are identical to those on the front elevation.

The flanks of the church were once identical. The north elevation is the most intact one (photo 6). The elevation is organized by a grid of corbelled (recessed) brick panels, forming four distinct bays divided by pilaster strips, merging with an entablature strip and a foundation strip. Each bay has a centered window opening with double coursed arch and dressed stone sill. The westernmost window is stained glass. The next window was bricked shut in 1912 to accommodate interior changes. The next is stained glass, and the last or easternmost is the sole original (1872) sash. It is a six-over-six double hung window with three part transom. The south flank (photo 4) has the same brick panel treatment and window – arch detailing.

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The first two windows are stained glass. A brick furnace flue was added over the center pilaster strip at some point. The next two windows were masked by the brick Sunday School wing addition in 1956. The eaves along both sides of the main church section are not deep and have no ornamental finish. All roofs are covered in asphalt shingle.

The 1956 Sunday School wing extends south off of the southeast corner of the church (photo 4). It has a simple, Ranch house-like style, with a stone rock-faced veneer base, brick walls, and aluminum siding in the sole exposed gable end. The west façade of the Sunday School wing has a window, an additional metal and glass door, then two windows placed high along the eaves line. The south side (gable end) has three windows, with irregular spacing between them.

The east side of the church shows both the 1956 addition and the original back of the church (photo 5). The addition has two more of the high-set windows to the south, and paired window to the north. The addition was offset enough from the original church so that a four or five foot segment of the gable end appears, facing north. A multi-paned door fills this offset. The main sanctuary gable end was originally a blank mass of brick articulated by the same system of recessed panels as the flanks, forming three panels. Two small windows were cut into the wall, one in the center bay, one in the southern bay, at some point, likely at the time of the 1956 addition. There is a small rectangular opening centered above the center panel, now boarded shut. The gable apex has an oculus vent.

Interior

The interior of the 1872 chapel originally had a traditional east-west orientation, with the altar at the east end, and a main entrance centered in the west wall. Likely inspired by the Akron Plan churches then in popularity, the congregation altered the church in 1912, giving the interior a north-south axis with the altar centered on the north wall. The tower changed the focus by shifting the entrance to a diagonal orientation behind the congregation. The net result was that more faithful were closer to the altar than in the traditional long aisle arrangement.

Finishes in the sanctuary are plaster over brick, carpeted floors, ten inch high wood baseboard, and a plaster ceiling that is angled with center ridge echoing the gable roof at a much more shallow angle.

At some point, a partition wall was built to create a small Sunday School room out of the easternmost bay of the church. The sanctuary has seven rows of pews on either side of a center aisle. The altar stands on a 17'9" by 9'1" raised platform along the north wall. There was a communion rail across the platform, but it was removed in 1973. The pews date from this remodeling campaign as well. The window then blocked by the altar because of the 1912 alterations was filled and plastered, and a specially designed dorsal curtain was created to mask the opening and focus the visitor on the altar. This was removed in 1973.

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Original stained wood window surrounds exist on many of the openings (photos 1 & 2). They are Greek Revival in inspiration, with plain skirt and vertical boards and a pedimented header with strong cornice mold. Wood inserts make the transition from round arched window to rectangular opening. There are two original windows on the south wall, and two on the north wall. All but one of the arched windows now have stained glass. The south wall windows were donated in 1949 by Herman Hendrich and J.R. South. The north wall stained glass windows were donated by Onald Hendrich's Bible class in 1953. Both sets of windows are in shades of amber with trilobed motif at the top of the arch and lineal vertical band tying to the dedication panel at the bottom of the window. The north windows bear no name in the dedication panel. Other moldings differ since they were part of the 1912 alterations. The double door entry to the sanctuary from the tower entrance is framed out in simple boards with overlapping vertical boards. On the west wall, the O'Hair Memorial, a round arched, stained glass window added in 1945, is set into an opening cased in stained boards with a keystone. The O'Hair window is the most ornamental window. It has a cartouche of lilies in the upper center and an ornamental band framing the outer edges of the window.

The 1956 Sunday School wing has simple finishes typical of Ranch homes of the era. This wing includes a kitchen, bathrooms, and multi-purpose rooms. Also at this time, the coal furnace was converted to oil burning. In 1973, carpeting, a new cross over the altar, and new pulpit were installed as were new pews. Air conditioning and new lighting were added.

Cemetery

The cemetery spreads to the north and east as the hilltop eases away from the chapel in uniform rows of stones. While USGS maps indicate dirt vehicle paths through the cemetery, there are no roads or trails, instead, there are open turf paths for pedestrian or vehicular access. Burials began in 1839 and are ongoing. The cemetery includes over 2000 burials. Early stones like those visible in photo 5 are simple marble slabs, while later stones take on typical Victorian funerary themes such as the marble obelisk; pedestal with draped urn; or limestone tree trunk with branches sawn off, with "paper" inscription "attached" to it. One early settler interred here, John Falls, Sr., was a War of 1812 veteran. There are fourteen standard Civil War markers, four from the Spanish-American War, as well as others from other conflicts. Near the north side of the church, on the edge of the cemetery, the O'Hair family placed a marker in 1930 commemorating the family's early area pioneers. This marker is a large stone with metal plaque, bearing the inscription "Elizabeth Tribett O'Hair 1768-1839 - Pioneer Mother." Adjacent to this is a relief image of a barefoot woman in 1700's dress and sunbonnet. Additional inscriptions below the image read: "Michael O'Hair 1757-1813. Husband of Elizabeth. Soldier of the Revolution. Served with General Morgan's famous Riflemen. Fought at Saratoga Cowpens. Guilford CH Yorktown." The O'Hair marker replaced a worn stone marker.

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Section 8 - Statement of Significance

The Brick Chapel United Methodist Church and Cemetery is significant under Criterion A for its connections to the settlement era in Monroe Township of Putnam County, Indiana, and as one of the most significant social institutions in its community. The cemetery is the community's most significant link to the settlement era. The church, built in 1872 and modified in 1912, is the most tangible remnant of the crossroads village of Brick Chapel. The site meets Consideration A for its historic role in the community.

Settlement in Putnam County began shortly after the New Purchase treaty of 1818. Hendricks County, located east of Putnam County, was the first area to be surveyed in the New Purchase since it lies astride a meridian. The Indiana General Assembly organized Putnam County in 1821. The southwestern and western areas of the county were settled first; the northeast townships had their first land grants in 1825. A year prior to this, the Dukes family had donated lands for the location of the county seat, soon named Greencastle. With the location of the county seat, the need for a road to the area's most significant and already thriving town – Crawfordsville – was immediately recognized. The road to Crawfordsville gave the rich farm lands of Monroe Township an easy market to either town. More significant to the lives of pioneers, the road to Crawfordsville provided access to the Land Office that the Federal government moved there from Terre Haute in 1823. The National Road reached through Indiana between 1827 and 1834, passing just four miles south of Greencastle. A four mile long road crept diagonally from Greencastle to reach the National Road, and points further south including Spencer and Bloomington. While initial land grants were made before the road came, the National Road brought subsequent settlers and provided some relief from pioneer isolation. By 1830, Putnam County had a population of 8, 262.

The first settlers in Putnam County were Upland Southerners, as even early observers noted: "...when the New York or Yankee stream neared these parts it was suddenly diverted and in its stead came a persistent and unvarying influx from Kentucky." (Weik, p. 139) One could add Scots-Irish to the description of most of the Kentucky settlers. Monroe Township reflects this heritage as well, since the earliest families were from Kentucky. James E.M. and Margaret (Montgomery) O'Hair had initially farmed in Estil County, Kentucky, but settled in Monroe Township of Putnam County in 1829. Like others in the township, James E.M. O'Hair quickly built a cabin, cleared land, and put in three acres of corn in his first growing season. With rich soil and access to markets, the township's farms were likely making surplus crops and cattle within a decade. Monroe Township's population reached 1,346 in 1840, and declined slightly by 1850 to 1,255. Census information also indicates that even by 1840, settlement had not brought many other permanent activities to the county. There were only 350 persons employed in manufacturing (most likely blacksmiths) and only forty-seven merchants (persons employed in commerce) in Putnam County in 1840.

The advent of the National Road in the 1830s began the final period of settlement in the county. Certainly, by the time investors staked out the Terre Haute and Indianapolis Railroad to Greencastle in the early 1850s, the pioneer era was over in Putnam County. Twenty-five years after the arrival of the first

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railroad, many Monroe Township farmers were replacing older homes with impressive Italianate homes, as well as replacing barns.

Identifying traces of pioneer culture is difficult in Putnam County, since structures were temporary. Within Monroe Township, buildings, sites, objects or farm clusters dating from c.1818 to c.1850 are representative of the settlement era. The Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory for Putnam County identified seven historic places that date from this time period. The most indicative, the Blackwell-Boardman Log House, was in deteriorated condition when surveyed in 1982, and does not appear to be standing today. Only three of the other examples of settlement era historic places were rated high enough to be considered potentially eligible for the National Register. One, the J.W. Carver House, was rated "notable" due to alterations. The James E.M. O'Hair House was individually listed on the National Register in 1992. The other site is the Brick Chapel Cemetery. The cemetery includes internments with legible stones from as early as 1839. Its location, placement, and early date make the cemetery a significant historic place in the context of settlement of the township. The fact that the church and cemetery were founded under the guidance of Methodism also reflects the pioneer era. As Rudolph notes in *Hoosier Faiths*, despite the early influence of Catholicism, Kentucky and the Old Northwest were heavily influenced by Methodist preaching and circuit riding (Rudolph, pp. 13-16). The Methodist preachers were following the same routes as many of the pioneers.

Brick Chapel United Methodist Church and Cemetery had its origins in 1822. In that year, George and Elizabeth Howlett had settled, cleared land and built a cabin on land just north of present day Brick Chapel. The Howletts invited friends and neighbors to their still unfinished cabin to hear Rev. Benjamin Jones preach a "Methodist sermon." Jones lived near what would become Greencastle, and was the local Methodist minister. As the group continued to meet, settlers John Mancer and a Mr. McNary led the group in worship and preaching.

Elizabeth Howlett, George and Susanna Jackson, Ann Jackson, and Joseph and Susanna Bruner formally organized a Methodist Society in 1825, using the Howlett's cabin as a meeting spot. The Society was included in the Eel River Circuit, served by Rev. Daniel Anderson as its minister. The group outgrew the Howlett place and with community effort and spirit, they built a log church at a hilltop on a crossroads facing the Crawfordsville road in 1830. James Montgomery, a well-respected pioneer, donated the site to the church. His son-in-law, James E.M. O'Hair, helped build the log church along with many others. The church was sited lower on the hill than the existing church, and it doubled as a school house in the 1830s. A school was located on the site into the 1870s, according to rural atlas maps. This could have been the old church recycled as a school. Residents of the 1890s recalled that the school was a separate building located south of the 1872 chapel.

By 1834, the log church was too small. The congregation built a thirty-one by forty-one foot brick church, closer to the crest of the hill. The members named the church Montgomery Chapel, after one of its prominent leaders, James Montgomery. The trustees were Mr. Sand Tolin, James Fisk, and James E.M. O'Hair.

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For forty years, the brick chapel stood and served the community. People came to know the small village at the base of the hill and the church as "Brick Chapel." Pioneer days wandered into decades of prosperous yields. The congregation now had the wealth to build a larger church. They chose the most prominent location for the 1872 church, the top of the hill. James E.M O'Hair was the major donor for the new church, and George Jackson was the brick mason.

The church remained the hub of social and spiritual life for many residents of the township. Even into the auto age, the church remained the most significant social institution in the area. The only other surviving social places in the township are all in the town of Bainbridge, in the northeast corner. They include a Masonic Hall and a 1923 M.E. Church. Only one drastically altered rural school appears to survive in the township.

Records dating to the 1870s document the role of the women of the congregation. They formed a committee that organized box suppers, quilting bees, and harvest meals to aid the needy families of the area. In 1903, the group formally organized under the name Ladies Aid. The group also raised funds for maintenance of the church. Revivals were social events as well as spiritual ones, and Brick Chapel hosted many through the years. Often these would go on for two weeks at a time and included guest speakers. The Epworth League was a Methodist youth club concept sanctioned by the General Conference nationally in 1890, and Brick Chapel formed its own chapter shortly thereafter. In the 1930s, Sunday School teacher Charles Hendrich formed a Sunday School softball team. Good standing in the Sunday School was required and the team played other church teams in south-central Putnam County. Vacation Bible School and Methodist Youth Fellowship activities in the 1950s to present times enriched the community. Scouting took root in Brick Chapel in the 1950s and continued through the 70s. Both Cub and Boy Scout Troops met at the church.

The ongoing vitality of the church as a social meeting place is evidenced by its alterations. The addition of the tower and rearrangement of the sanctuary were completed in 1912 and the church reopened January 12, 1913. The coming of the World Wars, Depression and low farm prices saw many people leaving the traditional family farm, creating a lull in membership at Brick Chapel. By May 1953, the problem reached such a level that twelve men, members of the Hendrich, South, Early, O'Hair, Lane, Reeves, Flint, Rutter and Blue families, pledged \$100 each to keep the church open. By 1956, the congregation had rebounded enough to build the Sunday School wing.

Brick Chapel continues to house the congregation that built it. Weddings and funerals are regularly held there, as are community dinners and church meetings. It is, and has been for years, a polling precinct. Many of its present congregants are descended from original settlers and are proud to be a part of Brick Chapel United Methodist Church.

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Section number 9 Page 7 *Brick Chapel U.M.C. and Cemetery, Putnam Co., IN*

Section 9 – Bibliography

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Section number 10&photos Page 1 *Brick Chapel U.M.C. and Cemetery, Putnam Co., IN*

Verbal Boundary Description

The original parcel is described in deeds as "SW corner of NW ¼, Section 28, Township 15 N Range 4 West" all in Putnam County, Indiana. The enclosed scaled aerial map shows the boundary in greater detail.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the original parcel deeded to the church. In the 1940s, when the old Crawfordsville Road was bypassed and US 231 swept around to the west of Brick Chapel, the old road became an access road to the church. It is included because it preserves the setting of the church. Also, if the survey township line were strictly followed as mentioned in the old deeds, possible foundations of earlier buildings might fall outside the boundaries, as might unrecorded burials.

Photographs

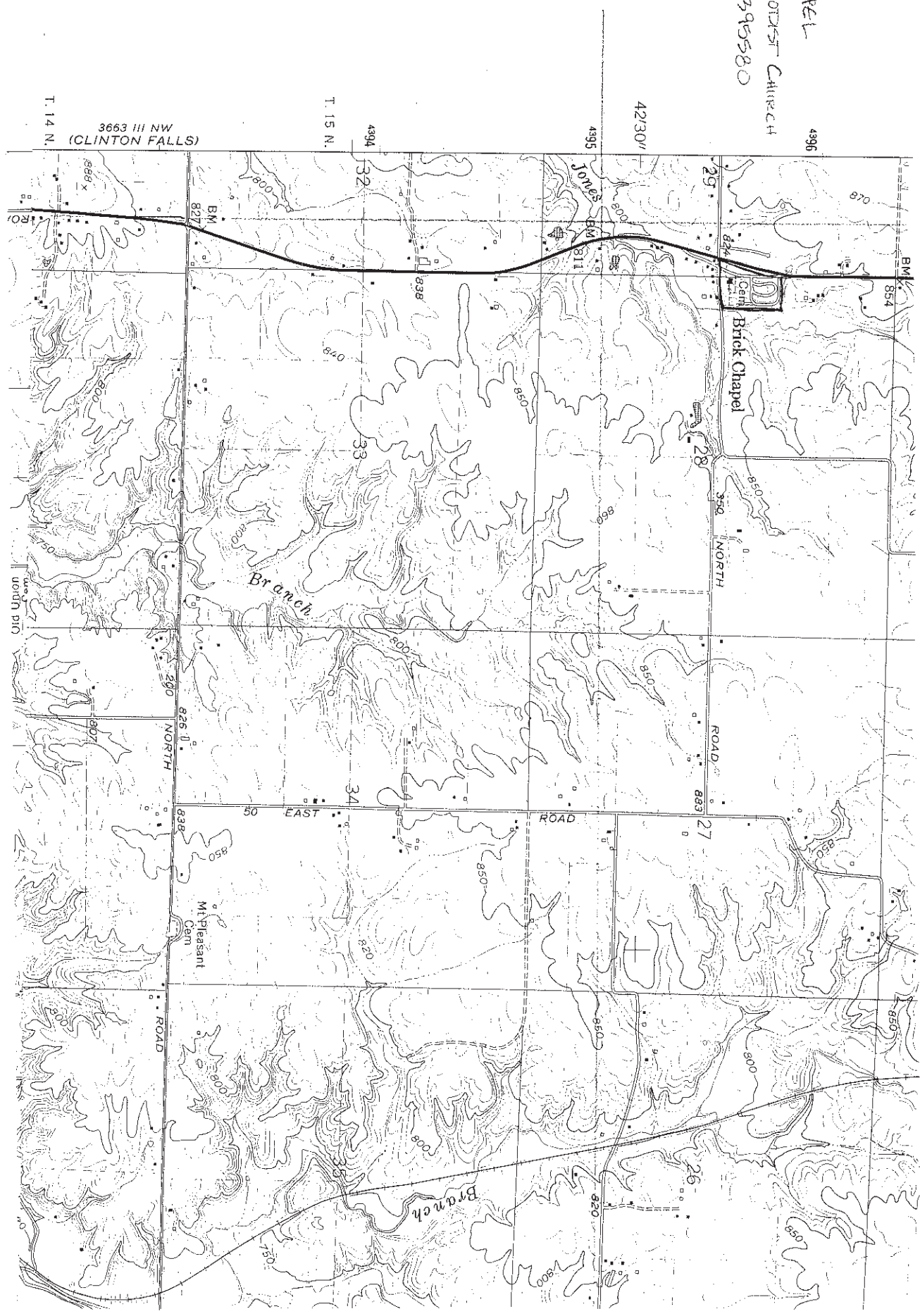
The following is the same for all photographs:

1. Brick Chapel United Methodist Church and Cemetery
2. Putnam County, Indiana
3. Larry Reeves and Beth Hendrich
4. August 24, 2002
5. 3547 N. U.S. Highway 231

Photos

- #1 – Interior, north wall of sanctuary, showing pulpit and two stained glass windows, looking south
- #2 – Interior, southwest corner of church sanctuary, showing front entrance, O’Hair Memorial window, and two stained glass windows on south wall, looking southwest.
- #3 – Façade of church, (west elevation), looking east
- #4 – South elevation, looking north
- #5 – East elevation (back of church), looking southwest
- #6 – north side of church and part of cemetery, looking south
- #7 – cemetery, looking southeast
- #8 – cemetery, looking northwest

BRICK CHAPEL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
16 511260 4395580



3663 III NW
(CLINTON FALLS)
T. 14 N.

T. 15 N.

4230'

4395