United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

See Instructions In How to Complete National Register Forms
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Church of the Good Shepherd

and/or common

2. Location

street & number W side NC 107, 0.3 mi. S jct w/SR 1118

city, town Cashiers

state North Carolina code 37 county Jackson code 99

3. Classification

Category Ownership Status Present Use

district building(s) public X occupied __ agriculture
structure private __ unoccupied commercial
site both __ work in progress educational
object Public Acquisition Accessible __ entertainment

Public Acquisition In process yes: restricted __ entertainment
N/A being considered yes: unrestricted __ transportation

X museum

X religious

X military

4. Owner of Property

name Church Wardens and Vestry of the Church of the Good Shepherd

street & number Post Office Box 32

city, town Cashiers

state North Carolina 28717

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Registry of Deeds

street & number Jackson County Courthouse

city, town Sylva

state North Carolina

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Jackson County Historic Sites Survey

has this property been determined eligible? __ yes X no

date 1979-80

_x_ federal X state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records N.C. Division of Archives and History, Western Office

city, town 13 Veterans Drive, Asheville

state North Carolina 28805
7. Description

Condition          | Check one | Check one
---                | --------- | ---------
X excellent        | --- altered | X original site
--- good           | --- unaltered | --- moved date
--- fair           | --- ruins | ---
--- deteriorated   | --- unexposed | ---
--- ruins          | --- | ---
--- unexposed      | --- | ---
---

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Church of the Good Shepherd is a weatherboarded, Gothic Revival rural church building dedicated in 1895. The present building replaces an older structure which burned in 1892. In 1985 a vestry and office wing of weatherboard and Gothic Revival style was added to the west side of the structure to serve the needs of a year-round congregation. Both building and grounds are maintained meticulously.

Cashiers is a growing resort town in southwestern North Carolina. About two miles south of the junction of US 64 and NC Highway 107, the "center of Cashiers", stands the Church of the Good Shepherd. The approaches to the church on Highway 107 from north and south are lined with tall oaks and pines and bordered by hedges of native rhododendron 20 to 30' feet tall. The golf course of the High Hampton Inn and Country Club is visible on the northern approach to the church and winds behind the church property on the west side of the highway. The stables of the Inn and Country Club border the church property to the south.

The church building sits on a knoll overlooking the entrance to High Hampton Inn and Country Club, commanding a vista remarkably similar today to the vista of 1890. The building is sited on a shady lawn surrounded by native rhododendron and flame azaleas, with a background of pines and hardwoods. A cemetery is located on the rear of the property. Five graves in two plots date from 1888; the remaining burials have taken place since 1964.

The Church of the Good Shepherd was constructed in the Gothic Revival style favored by rural Episcopal and Roman Catholic parishes in the second half of the nineteenth century. A rectangular structure with gable ends and a steeply pitched roof, the exterior is weatherboard painted white with a roof of composition shingles. The original field stone foundation piers are in place, supporting some of the charred beams of the original church. Bargeboards and corner boards are plain and painted white. The long side of the building parallels the highway and contains five bays. On the left or southern end of the building, the corners of the nave are clipped so that a three-sided chancel is formed. Four of the five bays which face the highway contain pointed arch windows; a flagstone walkway leads to the wooden steps of the enclosed entrance or vestibule which occupies the fifth bay. The entrance vestibule has a gable roof and double leaf doors set in a pointed arch doorway. The doors are of diagonal bead board. Each side of the entrance vestibule contains a pointed arch window and a wooden cross crowns the gable of the roof. On the northern gable end of the church and on the chancel or southern end are three lancet windows. Above each set of lancet windows is a rondel. About twenty feet from the northern end of the building stands the bell tower, located on the original site but reconstructed from telephone pole supports. A pyramidal roof of composition shingles covers the church bell, made in Baltimore in 1882 for the church.

A one-room wing to house the rector's office was completed in 1985. It is rectangular with steep gable roof and pointed arch windows, and stands at right angles to the nave at the southwest corner. The original sacristy was extended to join the new office space. The sacristy, its extension and the new office are finished in weatherboard, painted white, and roofs have composition shingles.

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The interior of the Church of the Good Shepherd is organized around a center aisle opening from a short cross aisle at the northern end of the nave. The entrance vestibule opens to this short aisle, which contains the baptismal font. Pews are of oak and walls are sheathed in nineteenth century bead board, set vertically and of natural color. The steep roof of the building is supported by massive oak trusses pegged together at their joints. Windows, four to a side, are set in pointed arch frames. They contain stained glass in a diamond pattern. The lancet windows, also of stained glass, contain shield and quatrefoil designs. Window frames, door frames, chair rail, picture molding, and flooring have all been stained black.

The altar was made of oak by craftsmen of St. Cyprian's Church, Franklin, N.C. shortly before the turn of the century. The altarside has three recessed panels. The altar is set in the chancel end under the lancet windows. An oak communion rail divides the chancel from the nave. The rail is a simple molded board supported by six oak columns with Doric-style capitals. A short oak pulpit with quatrefoil cut-outs and an oak lectern with oak supports stand between communion rails and pews.

A simple doorway near the chancel leads to the sacristy on the west side of the church and thence into a recently constructed vesting room and office area. This new area has interior sheathing of bead board and pointed arch windows in keeping with details found on the original structure.
### 8. Significance

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**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Church of the Good Shepherd is a weatherboarded Gothic Revival chapel in the resort town of Cashiers, N.C. Sited on a shady knoll amid native rhododendron and flame azaleas, the chapel was built in 1895 to replace an earlier structure which burned in 1892. Both buildings served a summer colony of South Carolinians, most notably the General Wade Hampton family, which contributed to their construction. The Hamptons donated the church bell, now housed in a free-standing tower northwest of the building. A small cemetery is located to the rear of the church. A one-room vestry of matching design was added in 1985.

**CRITERIA ASSESSMENT:**

A. The Church of the Good Shepherd is a product of western North Carolina's nineteenth century role as summer retreat for wealthy, largely Episcopalian families from South Carolina.

B. The small chapel is a well-crafted example of Gothic Revival style church architecture.
When the Episcopal Church of North Carolina extended its missionary efforts west of the Blue Ridge in 1877, the first missionary, Rev. John A. Deal, found in the Cashiers Valley a summer colony of South Carolinians who had maintained summer homes there. The most notable family was that of General Wade Hampton, who built the first summer home on a 450 acre tract in the 1840s. Wade Hampton, after growing up in Columbia and Cashiers, became an illustrious Civil War hero, Governor of South Carolina and United States Senator. After the Civil War, he and his family continued to spend summers in Cashiers and supported the monthly services provided by Rev. Mr. Deal.

With the help of the Hamptons and their friends, the cornerstone for an Episcopal Church in Cashiers was laid on August 14, 1884. In 1886, Col. Christopher Hampton, brother of General Hampton, deeded fifteen acres of land on the west side of the toll road south of Cashiers to the Diocese of North Carolina for use by the newly-formed Church of the Good Shepherd. The Hamptons contributed substantially to the building fund and donated the church bell, made at the McShane Bell Foundry in Baltimore in 1882 and shipped to Cashiers by covered wagon. The Hamptons also provided funds for a young clergyman who would provide services and instruct children in the Cashiers Valley during the summer months.

On August 23, 1892, a fire destroyed the original church building. Aided again by the Hampton family, especially General Hampton's sisters Caroline, Anne and Katie, and their niece and her husband, Dr. and Mrs. William Stewart Halsted, the congregation made immediate plans to erect a new building. The present structure, a larger and finer version of the original building, was dedicated on September 1, 1895. The church thrived and schooling for local children was also provided by the priest. Four months of schooling was the responsibility of the county; the Church of the Good Shepherd provided an additional three months of school during the summer, in the "Schoolhouse Cottage", still standing adjacent to the church property. Today the church maintains a Scholarship Fund which enables young people of the Cashiers area to attend institutions of higher learning.

In the first quarter of the present century a series of deaths and removals within the congregation brought the church to a standstill, and the building became a "habitat for rats, owls and squirrels."

In the mid 1920s, the fortunes of the Church of the Good Shepherd began to change again when Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lewis, managers of the High Hampton Inn (site of General Hampton's summer home), and Miss Georgia Belknap succeeded in restoring and re-opening the church building. In 1927 all but 1.6 acres of Col. Christopher Hampton's original gift were sold to help support the restoration. The foundation was reconstructed and the roof repaired. The original pews, windows, doors and church furniture were repaired and cleaned, and the chair rail and window and door frames were re-stained. A new coat of paint enlivened the exterior weatherboards.
Undaunted by the hardships brought on by World War II, the church prospered. Soon after the war the rectory was built on the property and in the early 1950s the summer program for visiting clergy was initiated. Undoubtedly the greatest force behind the continued success of the Church of the Good Shepherd from this time was Mr. Henry Conkle who held the post of Church Warden from 1948 to 1979. In 1981 the Church expanded its program to include winter services as a response to the needs of the growing year-round population, and in 1982 the Reverend Stephen Hines was called to be the first full-time vicar of the church. Today year-round communicants number approximately 88. In 1985, a vestry and office building was added to the west side of the church building.

A cemetery remains on the property, located behind the church to the southwest. Until 1964 only two plots in the cemetery were in use, one containing the graves of four small daughters of Tom and Bessie Grimshawe of Whiteside Cove, who died of diptheria in the fall of 1888, and the other containing the grave of a Canadian who died while visiting in Cashiers in 1886. Both plots are surrounded by wrought iron fences. Since 1964, burial plots have been made available to parishioners.
FOOTNOTES


2 Ibid, page 3.


4 Colmore, op. cit., page 4.

5 Brown, op. cit., page 11.

6 Colmore, op. cit., page 4.

7 Brown, op. cit., page 12.


9 Colmore, op. cit., page 7.

10 Brown, op. cit., page 8.
9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

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UMT References

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Verbal boundary description and justification

See plat of property. Boundary of nominated property outlined in red. The acre being nominated is the church lot and cemetery only.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carolyn A. Humphries, Consultant
organization N.C. Division of Archives and History
date January 9, 1986
street & number 109 E. Jones Street
telephone 919-733-6545

city or town Raleigh, state North Carolina 27611

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

- [X] local

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

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


