NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90)

**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(former) First Baptist C	hurch				
other names/site number <u>Valleytown Cu</u>	ultural Arts C	enter	·	•	
2. Location					
street & number <u>101 Chestnut Street</u>				not for public	cation <u>N/A</u> _
city or town Andrews					
state <u>North Carolina</u>					
3. State/Federal Agency Certification		•			
In my opinion, the property meets d comments.)	ets the docume onal requiremer Register Criteria_ See continual	ntation standits set forth it a. I recomme tion sheet for the last set for	lards for register n 36 CFR Part 6 and that this proper additional comments.	ing properties in the National Reg 0. In my opinion, the property perty be considered significant ments.)	ister of Historic
State or Federal agency and bureau					
4. National Park Service Certification				`,	
4. National Park Service Certification			And the same of th		
I, hereby certify that this 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	Sign	ature of the	Keeper		Date of Action
other (explain)					

(former) First Baptist Church Name of Property	Cherokee, North Carolina 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)		
_X_ privateX_ building(s) public-local district public-State site public-Federal structure object	Contributing Noncontributing  1 0 buildings  0 0 sites  0 0 structures  0 0 objects  1 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 RegisterN/A		
6. Function or Use			
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) Cat: Religion Sub: Religious facility			
Odt			
	<del></del>		
Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions) Cat: _Recreation and Culture Sub:theater			
	<del></del>		
7. Description			
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)  Classical Revival			
Materials (Enter categories from instructions) foundation <u>brick</u>			
roof <u>asphalt</u> walls <u>brick</u>			
other			

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

(former) First Baptist Church	Cherokee, North Carolina	
Name of Property	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)	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)  Architecture	
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.		
X 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.	Period of Significance1923	
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.	Significant Dates1923	
Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)		
_X A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)	
B removed from its original location.	N/A	
C a birthplace or a grave.	Cultural Affiliation	
D a cemetery.	<u>N/A</u>	
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.	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	e or more continuation sheets.)	
Previous documentation on file (NPS)  preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67)  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 _X_ State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency Federal agency Local government University _X_ Other Name of repository: _Western Office, Archives & History and F	irst Baptist Church, Andrews	

(former) First Baptist Church	Cherokee, North Carolina				
Name of Property	County and State				
10. Geographical Data					
Acreage of Property 0.32 acre					
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)					
Zone Easting Northing 1	Zone Easting Northing  3				
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.)					
44 Farms Duamanad Du					
name/title_Sybil Argintar Bowers, Preservation Consultant					
organization <u>Bowers SE Preservation</u>	date <u>March 4, 2002</u>				
street & number_166 Pearson Drive telephone_(828) 253-1392					
city or townAsheville state_NC_ zip code28801					
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 <u>Valleytown Cultural Arts and Historical Society, Inc.</u>					
street & numberP.O. Box 399	telephone_(828) 321-2255				
city or townAndrewsstateNC_ zip code _28901					

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.

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

(former) First Baptist Church Cherokee County, North Carolina

The (former) First Baptist Church is an intact Classical Revival two-story-plus-basement brick building, located on a lot approximately one-third of an acre, at the northeast corner of the intersection of Third and Chestnut streets in the center of Andrews, North Carolina. The central portion of the building rises another half-story and is capped by a belfry. The church building fills almost the entire lot, and is bounded by a vacant lot to the north, a parking lot to the rear (northeast), houses across Chestnut Street to the southwest, and a school up the hill, across Third Street to the south of the property. The church is set back on the lot from the Chestnut Street side, with flat lawns and foundation plantings along the facade of the building. Most of the remainder of the property consists of flat grassy areas. The (former) First Baptist Church, built in 1923, replaced an earlier church from 1904, which was located on the same site.

The (former) First Baptist Church of Andrews is a brick Classical Revival style building, in a modified Greek cross plan with two symmetrically placed corner entrances facing southwest onto Chestnut Street. A full height center bay projects from the front of the building. A handicap ramp has been added on the Third Street side of the building. The roofline is parapet around the perimeter, with a raised central portion being a shallow hip roof topped by the belfry. A heavy concrete cornice surrounds the building on all sides, and a concrete water table separates the basement level from the rest of the building. All first and second level windows are single one-over-one stained glass, with flat brick arches, concrete keystones and sills. A decorative brick panel with a concrete diamond tops each window. Many of the eighty-two stained glass windows were given in honor of families or Sunday school classes associated with the church and most feature geometrical patterns.<sup>1</sup> Basement windows are six-over-six with concrete keystones. The main entrance doors are double leaf set within brick arches with concrete keystones. A balcony beneath paired stained glass windows and transoms is centered above each entrance. A multi-light-over-panel door at the north corner of the building leads into the rear of the first floor. A single panel door with transom is located just below this leading into the basement. Double leaf paneled doors lead into the basement at the east and west corners of the building. A single brick chimney stack rises from the rear of the building.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Names on the windows in the church include J. S. Watkins & Family; Mrs. John Watkins; L. T. Watkins & Family; Dr. J. E. Tidwell & Family; Robert Eubanks; Nettie Whitaker; J. N. Elliot & Family: W. T. Holland & Family; V. R. Whitaker; J. L. Rowland & Family; T. H. Whitaker; Joel Hyde; C.S. Day & Family; Sam Williams & Family; Zala Adams & Family; John Swan & Wife; R. W. Rector & Family; S. D. Whitaker & Family; J. D. Robison & Wife; J. M. Parris & Family; Catherine Tatham; Mrs. W. H. McGuire; P.C. Nichols & Wife; Sargeant Charles S. Wyke July 25, 1910; Austus Williams; E. A. Wood & Famikly; H. E. Davis & Family; Baraca Class; Philathea Class; Tillitt; B.Y.P.U.; Circle 2; and Circle 3. There are eighty-two stained glass windows in the building.

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 2

(former) First Baptist Church Cherokee County, North Carolina

Inside, the main level consists primarily of the original sanctuary space which can be entered from either side of the building (see Exhibit A, floor plans). The sanctuary is a tall, lofty space with a cove tin ceiling, a decorative cornice moulding which forms a continuous band around the room just below the upper level windows, and a balcony with beaded board balustrade which surrounds the room on three sides. Square, paneled wooden columns with molded capitals support the balcony. The altar is centered at the opposite end of the sanctuary from the main entrance within a tall arched opening. An arched doorway with wooden pediment and pilasters located at the rear of the altar has been enclosed, with the choir loft behind, to create additional storage space for use by the cultural arts center. The projecting stage is the original raised altar space, with some plywood steps and ramps added by the arts center for use as a theater stage. The original baptistry and wood enclosure, formerly located in front of the altar, was removed before 1957. U-shaped staircases with simple newel posts are located at each of the two side entry areas, leading to the other levels. At the front of the building, in the bay between the two entrances, is a large open room with nine (originally ten) small classrooms radiating from it.

The second level consists primarily of the five original large classroom spaces which open onto the balcony walkway. Ceilings here are also tin and walls are plaster. The second level of the front bay mimics the arrangement of the first floor with a large room and ten small classrooms radiating from it. The basement consists of the boiler room, and what were originally additional classrooms. These rooms are currently in use as meeting space, set construction areas, and storage. There are some remnants of tin ceiling here also. There is a modern kitchen. Walls are either stuccoed or exposed brick, and many of the ceilings are suspended acoustical tiles.

Typical doors throughout the building are four-light-over-panel. Walls are plaster on the first and second levels. Some original light fixtures remain in the building. Floors on the first and second levels are narrow board tongue-and-groove maple. Basement floors are concrete, with evidence of the tile which was added in the 1950s and removed in the 1980s.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>"First Baptist Church", unpublished church history, ca. 1957, p. 29.

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 3

(former) First Baptist Church Cherokee County, North Carolina

### **Summary**

The (former) First Baptist Church in Andrews was built in 1923, on the same lot as the first building associated with this congregation, which was built in 1904 (no longer standing). As the population of Andrews grew in the early decades of the twentieth century, the church membership also grew and the need for a new building became apparent. In 1920, the congregation voted to build the current structure at a cost of over \$50,000. The building is an intact locally significant example of the Classical Revival style of architecture and is part of a trend throughout the South for the construction of more high-style church buildings in the early 1920s. The (former) First Baptist Church is eligible for listing under National Register Criterion C for architecture. The (former) First Baptist Church also meets Criterion Consideration A for religious properties since it derives its primary significance from its distinctive architecture.

### Historic Background

Cherokee County, located in the most western part of North Carolina, was formed from a portion of Macon County in 1839. Murphy was incorporated as the county seat in 1851, while the town of Andrews was not incorporated until 1905 when the railroad arrived in the region.<sup>3</sup> The county, due its remote location, remained sparsely populated for many years, with the population in 1840 being 3,427, and 9,166 by 1860.<sup>4</sup> Road improvements, including the completion of the Western Turnpike to the Georgia line via Asheville and Murphy in 1849 helped to make the county more accessible, but the geographic isolation for the most part remained a way of life in early to mid-nineteenth century Cherokee County.<sup>5</sup> Cherokee County and the State of North Carolina seceded from the Union in 1861, and the courthouse burned in 1865. In 1871, the Cheoah Turnpike Company constructed a road that opened the county to trade. In 1888, the Georgia and North Carolina Railroad extended to Murphy from Marietta, Georgia and by 1891, the Southern Railroad from Asheville to Murphy had been completed, with a stop in Andrews.

The area of the county later to be incorporated as the town of Andrews was, in 1878, nothing more than a large farming area, with no visible town.<sup>6</sup> In 1890, the land for the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Summary of important dates in Cherokee County history, Archives & History files, Western office, Asheville, North Carolina.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Williams, Michael Ann. <u>Marble and Log: The History and Architecture of Cherokee County, North Carolina.</u> Raleigh, North Carolina: North Carolina Department of Culture Resources, 1984, p. 28.

<sup>6&</sup>quot;Russell Reviews Growth f Andrews Over Four Decades", Asheville Citizen, 25 December 1921.

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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(former) First Baptist Church Cherokee County, North Carolina

town was sold for \$1200 by C. A. Colvard to Colonel A. B. Andrews, vice-president of the railroad, and the developer of the town. W. P. Walker was the first to open a mercantile business in Andrews, in 1891, with later commercial development running parallel to the railroad tracks. The town was officially incorporated in 1905, with a \$50,000 bond passed in 1906 for road improvements. The railroad had arrived, and the population began to grow. 8

The Bank of Andrews was established in 1911, but closed in 1917.9 In 1913, the Georgia and Carolina Railroad ran a line between Andrews and Hayesville, the county seat of neighboring Clay County. By the end of 1921, the population in Andrews was 1,634, one of the largest in the county. Within the town limits were three large industries, including the Andrews Manufacturing Company, the Andrews Tanning Extract Company, and the F. P. Cover & Sons tannery. The town had paved streets, many retail stores, and a road which passed through town and connected Murphy to Asheville. Tourism began to grow as an industry, and a new brick school to house 640 pupils had been constructed by 1921. Also in 1921, there was a Carnegie library, built in 1915 (now gone), a new Methodist church under construction at a cost of \$35,000, and the First Baptist church's plans to construct a new building at a cost of approximately \$40,000.10 Andrews, like most western North Carolina towns, experienced its greatest period of growth from the 1890s through the 1920s, with some development due to the hydroelectric industry helping the local economy through the 1930s and early 1940s.

The church played a key role in the everyday life of the citizens of Andrews. Not only was the building used as a place of worship, but it often was the focus of the town's social life as well. The Baptist denomination in particular was the most prevalent in western North Carolina in the late nineteenth century. 11 The First Baptist Church in Andrews was founded on March 12, 1902. Charter members included Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Crawford; Mr. James Crawford; Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Paris, Mrs. W. P. Walker; Mrs. Fannie Walker; Mr. Amos Canup; Mr. and Mrs. Cal Nichols; and Mr. and Mrs. France Potts. Charter members came from Valley River Baptist Church. 12 Before they had a permanent building, church members met at the Presbyterian Church and at the public school. Land

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>Marble and Log. p. 68.

<sup>8&</sup>quot;Site of Andrews Bought for \$1,200 in Year 1890", Asheville Citizen-Times, 19 April 1931.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>Cherokee County Historical Museum. <u>A Pictorial History of Cherokee County</u>, Asheville, North Carolina: Performance Publications, 1995.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>"Progressive Strides Taken in Cherokee's Newest Town", <u>Asheville Citizen</u>, 25 December 1921.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>Marble and Log, p. 41.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup>"First Baptist Church", unpublished church history, ca. 1957.

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 5

(former) First Baptist Church Cherokee County, North Carolina

for the church for the new congregation was donated by Colonel A. B. Andrews, Captain J. W. Cooper, and John H. Stewart who owned all of Andrews at the time, to the Valley River Baptist Church, on July 10, 1891. This was Lot 6 of Block G of the original town plat, located at the corner of Third and Chestnut Streets.<sup>13</sup> S. D. Whitaker and the Trustees of the Valley River Baptist Church held the land which was donated to them, and deeded the parcel for the building to First Baptist Church of Andrews on September 13, 1902.<sup>14</sup> A. B. Smith was pastor for the new congregation from 1902 until 1904. Additional pastors through the early 1950s have included H. H. Hyde (1904-1905); Thad F. Deitz (1905-1912 and 1915-1917); A. C. Sherwood (1912-1913); A. A. McClelland (1914-1915); J. E. Hoyle (1917-1918); J. P. Bennett (1919-1920); L. P. Smith (1920-1926 and 1943-1945); W. H. Ford (1926-1929); J. Edwin Hoyle (1929-1930); R. W. Prevost (1930-1935); C. F. Rogers (1935-1938); E. F. Baker (1938-1943); T. Earl Ogg (1945-1950); and John A. Richardson, Jr. (1950-1952).<sup>15</sup>

The first church building, completed in 1904, was a simple frame one-room building. In later years, another wing was added, creating a cross gable roof building with two towers and Gothic arch windows. Membership in the church continued to grow in the first decades of the twentieth century, with fifteen initial members in 1902; forty-eight by 1905, when the first church building was finished; 140 by 1908; and 362 by 1919. The state of the twentieth century with fifteen initial members in 1902; forty-eight by 1905, when the first church building was finished; 140 by 1908; and 362 by 1919.

By 1920, the church membership had begun to outgrow the building, and, under the leadership of Reverend L. P. Smith, voted to spend \$50,000 to build a new one on the same site. <sup>18</sup> In order to pay for the new church, representatives went to Atlanta to borrow money from the Home Mission Board, which required that the church use one of their architects to design the building. <sup>19</sup> In 1921, there were 415 members. Then, on July 23, 1923, the Trustees of Valley River Baptist Church, apparently at the time once again holding the land in trust, transferred the land to the Trustees of Andrews Baptist Church, perhaps due to the construction of the new building. <sup>20</sup> Two denominations in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>Cherokee County Deed Book 25, p. 376.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup>Cherokee County Deed Book 37, p. 399.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup>First Baptist Church records, unpublished documents.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup>White, Alice D. <u>The Heritage of Cherokee County, North Carolina</u>, Volume I. Winston-Salem, North Carolina: Hunter Publishing Company, 1987, p. 521.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup>First Baptist Church records.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup>"First Baptist Church", pp. 25-29.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup>Wood, Eva. Long-time church member. Interview by Sybil A. Bowers 29 June 2001. The Home Mission Board does not have records back this far, however, so the architect's name is not known at the present time.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup>Cherokee County Deed Book 81, p. 559.

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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(former) First Baptist Church Cherokee County, North Carolina

Andrews, the Methodists and the Baptists, built new churches in the early 1920s. By 1924, there were 532 members of the First Baptist Church of Andrews, with membership continuing to grow once the new building was complete.<sup>21</sup> Membership fluctuated some in the 1920s, but by 1930, total members numbered 607.<sup>22</sup> The numbers grew some during the 1930s and 1940s, with a membership of 767 by 1950. On March 31, 1940 the debt on the new building was paid.<sup>23</sup> By the 1970s, the church congregation had again outgrown its building, with a membership of over 875, and began considering building a new church. Land for this new structure was purchased in 1973. Construction of the present modern church building in East Andrews was begun in 1985.<sup>24</sup>

On January 7, 1987, Trustees for the First Baptist Church deeded the building and land to Valleytown Cultural Arts and Historical Society, Inc., who own the building and currently use it as a theater and cultural arts center.

#### **Architectural Context**

Building trends throughout Cherokee County from the nineteenth to the early twentieth centuries, as in other parts of western North Carolina, included log construction, and later simple frame buildings. Most churches at the end of the nineteenth century were simple one-room frame buildings with or without a belfry.<sup>25</sup> While not one of the oldest church buildings in the county, the former First Baptist Church in Andrews is certainly representative of the trend among church congregations in the 1910s and 1920s towards the construction of more substantial, high-style architecture, built to last. Throughout the southern states, over \$25,000,000 had been spent on church construction alone from late 1921 to early 1922.<sup>26</sup> Over 360 churches were built, with average construction costs ranging from \$10,000 to over \$30,000. Many of these buildings were "...so costly and of such an imposing architectural nature that they have been in course of construction for eighteen months or more...embodying all the newest ideas in church equipment and facilities...".<sup>27</sup> Many of these more grand buildings were fireproof, and finished with brick, stone, stucco, terra cotta, limestone, and slate. In North Carolina alone, in this

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup>First Baptist Church records.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup>Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup>Cherokee County Heritage, p. 521.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup>Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup>Ibid, p. 38.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup>"Remarkable Church Building Activity Throughout the South Involving Over \$25,000,000", <u>Manufacturers Record</u>, 25 May 1922, p. 60.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup>Ibid, p. 66.

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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(former) First Baptist Church Cherokee County, North Carolina

time period, forty-three new churches were built, at a cost of \$2,934,000. Some of these in western North Carolina included First Baptist, Trinity Episcopal, Chestnut Street Methodist, and West Asheville Presbyterian in Asheville; the Methodist Church in Hendersonville; the First Presbyterian Church in Lenoir; the First Presbyterian Church in Marion; the Methodist Church in Waynesville; and the First Baptist Church in Rutherfordton.<sup>28</sup>

In comparison to other churches in Andrews, the (former) First Baptist Church is one of the most elaborate architecturally. The Andrews Presbyterian Church, at the corner of Third and Cherry streets, built in 1898, is a vernacular interpretation of the Queen Anne style with a gable roof, T-plan, and a belfry and vestibule at one corner. The oldest church in Andrews, it is more representative of the wood frame vernacular building styles for churches of the late nineteenth century.

The Andrews United Methodist Church, located on Third Street, built ca. 1922, is also a two-story frame building, with a pyramidal roof, central brick chimney, and a monumental portico. It contains an octagonal sanctuary, triple stained glass windows, and two belfries with polygonal roofs. It is likely, though not documented at the present time, that both the Baptist and Methodist churches in Andrews constructed in the 1920s were architect designed. The Methodist church archives only notes that the architect was based in Anderson, South Carolina.

Other churches in Cherokee County are either post-1960 buildings that replaced earlier buildings, or small and simple structures. For example the Valley River Baptist Church near Andrews dates from 1965; the Valley Town Chapel in the Andrews vicinity, built in 1904, is a simple frame building with a gable roof, belfry under a pyramidal roof, and a standing seam roof; Reids Chapel Methodist Church in the Bear Paw vicinity, built in 1897, is also a frame building with multi-light windows, a small belfry, and an interesting vertical herringbone pattern under the front gable; and the Old Martin's Creek Methodist Church in the Martin's Creek vicinity (late nineteenth century), is frame with a gable roof. An additional frame church building, representative of the late nineteenth century building styles, is the 1895 Ogreeta Baptist Church in the Ogreeta Community. It is possibly the only extant Baptist church from the nineteenth century that still stands in the county.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup>Ibid.

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 8

(former) First Baptist Church Cherokee County, North Carolina

The First Baptist Church in Andrews is more in keeping with the more elaborate churches in the county seat of Murphy, in particular the Murphy United Methodist Church on Valley River Avenue. This building, built ca. 1922, is a two-story Neoclassical Revival brick building with a triple entrance under a central dome. Similar to the First Baptist Church in Andrews, Murphy United Methodist contains one-over-one stained glass windows, an arch at the altar, balcony, and a great deal of notable woodworking. Church records indicate it was designed by someone from Atlanta. Other notable churches in Murphy include the Church of the Messiah, an excellent example of the Carpenter Gothic, built in 1896; and the Harshaw Chapel, the oldest church in Cherokee County, dating from 1869, in the Greek Revival style.

The Classical Revival style also appears in the Cherokee County courthouse, built 1926-27. Designed by James J. Baldwin, it is monumental in scale and is faced in Regal blue marble, making it a notable landmark in western North Carolina. Notable, prominent buildings such as the courthouse and churches in the two major towns in the county followed were built in the classical revival styles. In particular, similar to the Andrews First Baptist Church, other large churches such as the Andrews United Methodist Church, and Murphy United Methodist Church were built as monumental buildings showcasing the continuing importance of the church in the community in the early decades of the twentieth century. In comparison to other more plain, typical Commercial Style buildings in downtown Andrews, the churches in particular stand out due to their more massive scale and unusual use of the classical revival styles. Residences in Andrews that date to the early twentieth century are more typically wood frame Queen Anne or bungalows, again in contrast to the massive brick church structures which are so prominent in the town's landscape.

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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(former) First Baptist Church Cherokee County, North Carolina

#### MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cherokee County Deed Records.

Cherokee County Historical Museum. <u>A Pictorial History of Cherokee County.</u> Asheville, North Carolina: Performance Publications, 1995.

"First Baptist Church, Andrews, North Carolina". Unpublished church booklet, ca. 1957.

First Baptist Church archival records, Andrews, North Carolina.

"Progressive Strides Taken in Cherokee's Newest Town". <u>Asheville Citizen.</u> 25 December 1921.

"Remarkable Church Building Activity Throughout the South Involving Over \$25,000,000". Manufacturers Record. 25 May 1922, pp. 60-67.

"Russell Reviews Growth of Andrews Over Four Decades". <u>Asheville Citizen.</u> 25 December 1921.

White, Alice D. The Heritage of Cherokee County, North Carolina, Volume I. Winston-Salem, North Carolina: Hunter Publishing Company, 1987.

Wood, Eva. Long-time church member, First Baptist Church, Andrews. Interview by Sybil A. Bowers, 29 June 2001.

Williams, Michael Ann. <u>Marble and Log: The History and Architecture of Cherokee County, North Carolina</u>. Raleigh, North Carolina: North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, 1984.

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 10

(former) First Baptist Church Cherokee County, North Carolina

**Boundary Description** 

The boundaries of the nomination are indicated on the accompanying county tax map.

**Boundary Justification** 

The boundary includes all of the land historically associated with the nominated property.

(8-86)

### **United States Department of the Interior**

National Park Service

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **CONTINUATION SHEET**

Photos: Page

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(former) First Baptist Church Cherokee County, North Carolina

### First Baptist Church Photographs

The following information applies to all of the photographs, except where noted.

Name of Property:

First Baptist Church

101 Chestnut Street

Andrews

Cherokee County North Carolina

Photographer:

Sybil Argintar Bowers

Date of photos:

May 2001

Location of negatives:

Division of Archives and History

One Village Lane

Asheville, North Carolina 28803

- 1. Exterior, view north.
- 2. Front of building, view northeast.
- 3. Exterior, view south.
- Typical one-over-one stained glass window. 4.
- 5. Stair details.
- 6. Former sanctuary space, view northeast.
- 7. Pedimented door frame, former sanctuary space.
- 8. Typical first floor moulding.
- 9. Balcony, view southwest.
- 10. Second floor stair hall, view west.





