

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK NOMINATION

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

historic name: Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church

other name/site number: International Mother's Day Shrine

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number: 11 East Main Street

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Grafton

vicinity: N/A

state: WV

county: Taylor

code: 091

zip code: 26354

=====

3. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property: private

Category of Property: building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u> 1 </u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 1

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

=====

6. Function or Use

=====

Historic: RELIGION Sub: church

Current: RELIGION Sub: church

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification:

LATE VICTORIAN
 Romanesque Revival

Other Description: N/A

Materials: foundation- cut stone roof- asphalt shingle
 walls- brick other-

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

=====

8. Statement of Significance

=====

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: National

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, B
Applicable National Historic Landmark Criteria: 1, 2

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): A
NHL Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): 1

Areas of Significance: Social History
 Other- History of Women

NHL Theme: XXX. American Ways of Life

Period(s) of Significance: 1907

Significant Dates: 1907, 1908

Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet.

Beginning at a point where the northerly right-of-way line of East Boyd Street intersects the westerly right-of-way of Luzadder Street; thence westerly along the northerly right-of-way line of east Boyd Street to a point where it intersects the easterly right-of-way of St. John Street; thence southerly along the said easterly right-of-way of St. John Street to a point where it intersects with the northerly line of Main Street to a point where it intersects with the westerly right-of-way line of Luzadder Street; thence northerly along the westerly right-of-way line of Luzadder Street to the point of beginning. As detailed in Deed Book No. 156 p. 572. Taylor County Courthouse, County Clerks Office.

Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.

These boundaries are based on the existing Grafton city lot numbers 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, and 18 which are owned by the city of Grafton. The boundaries also include Grafton city lot number 16 which is owned by the International Mother's Day Shrine. The boundaries are those that have historically been associated with the property.

=====
11. Form Prepared By
=====

Name/Title: Dr. Page Putnam Miller, Director
 Jill S. Mesirrow

Organization: National Coordinating Committee Date: April 20, 1992
 for the Promotion of History

Street & Number: 400 A St., SE Telephone: (202) 544-2422

City or Town: Washington State: DC Zip Code: 20003

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Andrews Methodist Church Page #1
=====

second floor windows are very large and feature rounded arches and stone sills. These windows match the second floor windows which flank the tower on the southern elevation. The northern edge of the west elevation of the church is below grade. There is a door in the back addition with a concrete ramp leading to East Boyd Street.

The north elevation is plain, lacking any windows or architectural features, except for a bay created by the pilasters on each side of the original back wall. The main features of this side are the two brick additions. The larger addition is symmetrical along the centerline of the gable, but is proportionally smaller in size.

The east elevation of the original building has six bays; this detail is mirrored with six bays on the addition. There are two more recent additions at the north edge of the elevation.

The red brick one story shed roof addition on the east side of the church was built in 1928-29 and mimics the architectural details of the front of the church. The foundation for the addition is poured concrete. The front part of the addition was a parlor and the back portion classrooms and a boiler room. In 1952 the classrooms were converted to a kitchen. The parlor now houses the Mother's Day Shrine. The Mother's Day Shrine features stained glass windows of Anna Marie Reeves Jarvis and Anna Jarvis these windows were also given as memorials. Two later brick additions were made on the north elevation of the church. Both serve as fire escapes and while undated, probably were added during the late fifties or early sixties.

Each bay of both structures is flanked by pilasters. The original building has dentil details at the top of each bay, just below the eaves. The pilasters on either end form a parapet and are above the eave line. Each bay of the main structure has a large stained glass window of the same size and configuration as on the west elevation. The two southern most bays of the addition have small stained glass windows. The next three bays once had larger windows, but these have been replaced with 4/5 glass block windows with the remaining area bricked in. The northern most bay has a much smaller stained glass window, because this corner of the building is below grade.

The larger addition on the northern end of the northern elevation has a small 2/2 window and the small addition has a door. The roof of the main structure has a chimney aligned with the pilaster to the left of the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Andrews Methodist Church Page #1
=====

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

The Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church is historically significant as the site of the first Mother's Day service, held on May 10, 1908. The result of the effort of Anna M. Jarvis in the early part of the twentieth century, the observance of Mother's Day is internationally celebrated. Despite today's popular notion that Mother's Day is nothing more than an excuse to support the flower and greeting card industry, current scholarship demonstrates the importance of the Mother's Day movement within the context of American cultural history; the evolution of Mother's Day as a national and international holiday had roots in the American Sunday school movement, and evolved out of an idealized view of the American family. Mother's Day was never intended to be a commercial holiday, rather it was intended to be a serious and religious tribute to American motherhood. According to the National Park Service Thematic Framework, the Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church falls under theme: XXX. American Ways of Life.

The nomination of the Andrews Methodist Church as a National Historic Landmark nomination to recognize Mother's Day is broader than the activities of one woman. Anna M. Jarvis pushed for and insured the establishment of Mother's Day as a national and international event, but the growth of the entire movement and the philosophy behind the establishment of Mother's Day is equally important. Only the Andrews Methodist Church reflects all of these facets of the Mother's Day movement. Other properties, such as residences associated with Anna Jarvis and the Wanamaker department store building, are not as appropriate for designation as the Andrews Methodist Church. Located in Grafton, West Virginia, home of Anna Jarvis, the church building also exemplifies the important role Sunday Schools around the country played in the adoption of Mother's Day as a national holiday. Furthermore, the Wanamaker department store, despite the support of John Wanamaker for the Mother's Day concept and despite the fact that it also held a Mother's Day service on May 10, 1908, represents the commercial interest of retailers in the adoption of the holiday. Anna Jarvis proposed and fought for the national adoption of Mother's Day, but was horrified when it developed into a major retail event. She spent the rest of her life trying to instill a sense of integrity and purpose into what she believed to be a religious and moral tribute to mothers across the nation.

Both Anna M. Jarvis and her mother resided in several places in Taylor County, West Virginia. Anna M. Jarvis was born in Webster, West Virginia,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Andrews Methodist Church Page #2
=====

but she only lived in this home for about one year. This house is extant and is on the National Register of Historic Places. The better part of Anna M. Jarvis' life was spent in Grafton, West Virginia, at at least two addresses: one located on Latrobe Street, known as the Commercial Hotel or Central Hotel. The Jarvis family moved from here in about 1880, and this building was destroyed in the "Great Grafton Fire" of 1887. It is unclear where the family moved to in 1880; however, the family was living on Wilford Street at the time of the death of her father, Granville E. Jarvis. Following Granville's death, Anna and her mother moved to Philadelphia and lived with her brother, Claude S. Jarvis.

Although others had conceived of the Mother's Day idea, only Anna Jarvis saw the concept through. As early as 1870, Julia Ward Howe advocated Mothers' Peace Day Celebrations, an annual mid-June day when mothers would commit themselves to peace activities. Even before Howe, there was the old world custom of Mothering Sunday, falling sometime during Lent, where children return home to pay homage to their mothers.¹ Yet none of these earlier Mothers Days ever became institutions. Only with Anna Jarvis' activism, would Mother's Day become a national and international holiday.

Anna Jarvis' inspiration in her fight for the adoption of Mother's Day was her own mother, Anna Reeves Jarvis. Mother Jarvis was born in Culpepper (sic), Virginia in 1832 and her family moved to Philippi, Barbour County, Virginia (now West Virginia) in 1844. She married Granville E. Jarvis in 1852, and they moved to Webster in about 1854. It was following the move to Webster that she organized the "Mother's Day Work Clubs" in the Taylor and Barbour County area, which sought to eliminate unsanitary and unhealthy living conditions. The clubs' motto was "Mothers work - for better mothers, better homes, better children, better men and women." Mother Jarvis was very concerned with these health issues, and she represents thousands of women across the country in a grassroots effort to improve public health conditions.

The "Mothers Day Work Clubs" also played an important role in the Civil War. During the federal occupation of Fetterman (now part of Grafton) in 1861, a typhoid fever and measles epidemic broke out. The "Mothers Day Work Clubs" took an active part in attending to and caring for

¹Leigh E. Schmidt, "Piety, Commercialism, Activism: The Uses of Mother's Day" Christian Century 108 (May 8, 1991): 522-24.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8

Andrews Methodist Church

Page #4

service was held in Philadelphia at Wanamaker's Auditorium in the afternoon, which Anna M. Jarvis attended.

This was the first national thrust for the movement. By the next year, all forty-six States, Puerto Rico, Hawaii, Canada, and Mexico celebrated Mother's Day. The support for Mother's Day continued to grow, largely due to Jarvis' letter writing campaigns. In 1910, West Virginia Governor William E. Glasscock read the first state Mother's Day address. The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1912 designated the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day and deemed Anna M. Jarvis as its originator. True national recognition of Mother's Day occurred in 1914, when Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation that the second Sunday in May be known as Mother's Day.

Although she championed a congressional resolution to give national recognition to the holiday which then prompted President Wilson to issue the Mother's Day proclamation, Anna Jarvis' extensive lobbying efforts were not able to insure national acceptance of Mother's Day. Initially, the U.S. Senate and many women's organizations such as the Women's Committee of the American Socialist Party and the National Congress of Mothers rejected Jarvis' new holiday. Only the support of the Sunday School Association insured the adoption of Mother's Day. Anna Jarvis approached George W. Bailey, chairman of the Executive Committee of the World's Sunday School Association, to support her commemoration of motherhood. By 1910 a national Sunday School convention endorsed the celebration of Mother's Day, and according to historian Kathleen W. Jones, this virtually insured that the celebration of Mother's Day would continue.

Sunday schools proved to be the perfect place to perpetuate Mother's Day. In the 1900s, church schools and religious education were structured programs. Religious presses distributed educational materials corresponding to weekly inspirational themes. Mother's Day was the perfect opportunity to instill in children a sense of moral and familial responsibility. It was hoped that children would learn to respect the "wisdom and power of adults" which in turn would impress upon parents the importance of Sunday school attendance.⁴

⁴Kathleen W. Jones, "Mother's Day: The Creation, Promotion and Meaning of a New Holiday in the Progressive Era" Texas Studies in Literature and Language 22 (Summer 1980), 81-82.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

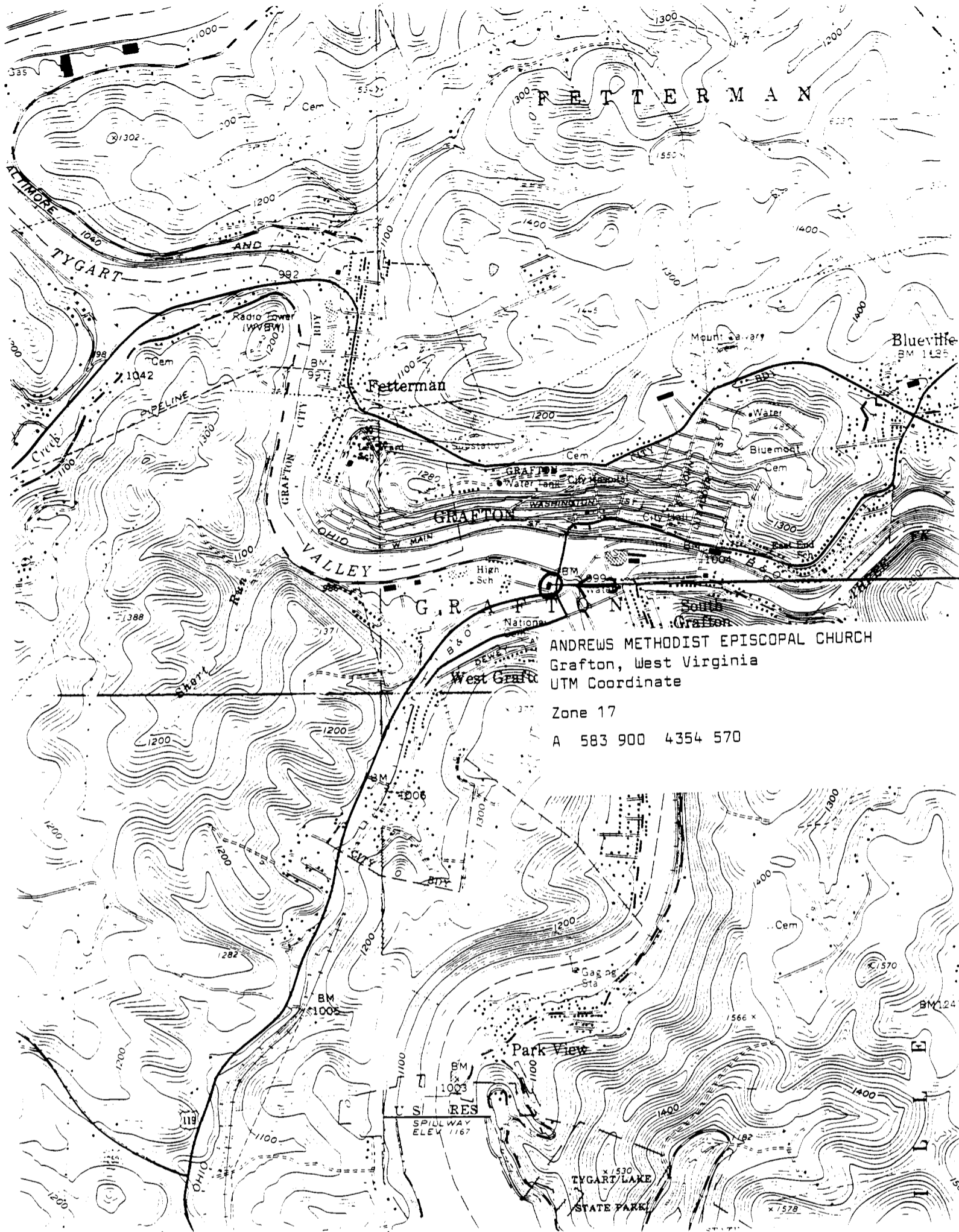
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Andrews Methodist Church Page #6
=====

much of its original emotional drive. It appealed to millions of sons across the country who "longed for home ties," and the feelings it instilled within the hearts of Americans allowed Mother's Day to become a holiday of national and international scope.⁸

In 1952, the General Conference of the Methodist Church of the United States proclaimed the Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church, a Methodist Shrine.

⁸Schmidt, 902.



ANDREWS METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Grafton, West Virginia
UTM Coordinate
Zone 17
A 583 900 4354 570



NO PARKING
IN THIS ZONE
EXCEPT
FOR HOV 2+