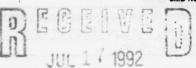
United States Department of the Interior National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines* for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

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eet & number	7150 Angle Ro			A not for publication
y, town	Salem Townshi	p		/A vicinity
ate Michigan	code MI	county Washten	aw code 1	61 zip code 48175
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public-Federal	struc	ture		structures
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me of related multiple p	roperty listing: N/A			ributing resources previously ional Register0
State/Federal Agend	v Certification			
Signature of certifying office State Historic	Preservation 0	fficer		7-1-92 Date
State or Federal agency ar	nd bureau			
In my oninion the name	erty meets does			
in my opinion, the prope	ertymeetsdoet	not meet the National	Register criteria. See	continuation sheet.
Signature of commenting of		not meet the National	Register criteria. See	continuation sheet.
	or other official	s not meet the National	Register criteria. See	
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7 7

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	 Page	1	

Description

The former Salem Methodist Episcopal Church and the adjacent Salem Walker Cemetery occupy a two-and-one-half-acre tract at the southeast corner of Angle and Tower roads in Salem Township, a formerly rural area at the western edge of the Detroit metropolitan area that is now seeing substantial suburban development. The church, a clapboarded, gable-roof building with a simple, square-plan, spireless belfry, has remained virtually unaltered since its construction in 1864. The Salem Walker Cemetery, fronted on the street sides by an ornamental iron fence dating from 1909, contains graves dating back to 1834.

Now generally known as the Salem Walker Church, the former Salem Methodist Episcopal Church faces north on Angle Road, just east of Tower Road in Salem Township. The church is a frame, front-gable, Greek Revival building whose pedimented facade displays a central, enframed entrance flanked on either side by a tall window with blinds. The gabled tympanum displays a seven-sided blind oculus. An anta-like treatment of the building's corners supports broad architrave and frieze bands and a heavy classical cornice that extend around the building's front and sides. The side walls each contain three sixteen-over-twelve-light, sash windows. Surmounting the facade is a louvered, square belfry topped by a shallow hip roof. The belfry's classical finish is similar to that of the body of the building. The belfry stands on a low, square-plan tower treated in similar fashion, but with paired antae on each facade at the corners. The church stands on a fieldstone foundation.

The church's interior is probably the least altered of any Greek Revival church interior in Michigan. Two aisles extend from the vestibule to a cross-aisle before a rectangular, one-step high chancel area set against the center of the church's south or rear wall. The auditorium contains four tiers of pews of the mid-nineteenth-century sofa seat type with scroll ends -- one against each wall and two side-by-side in the center. Flanking the chancel on either side against the rear wall is a small block of pews set facing the chancel. The chancel platform is fronted by a railing having a rectangular-section cap and turned, columnar balusters. No pulpit is now present.

The auditorium retains its original, flat, plastered ceiling. In 1987, because of continuing problems with the plaster detaching from the wood lath, four sets of two-by-six-inch wood beams cased in boarding were installed beneath the ceiling and bolted to the roof trusses to support the ceiling. In the center of the ceiling is a round plaster centerpiece, which displays elaborate, curvilinear foliage and vines.

8. Statement of Significance	t. The second se	antibilities autem
Certifying official has considered the significance of this	s property in relation to other properties:	
Applicable National Register Criteria A B	XC □D	
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)	C D E F G	
Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions Architecture	1004	Significant Dates N/A
	Cultural Affiliation N/A	
Significant Person N/A	Architect/Builder Unknown	rstrempoob audiver
State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteri	a considerations, and areas and periods of significant	ce noted above

4.T			
		See continuation sheet	
revious documentation on file (NPS)	: None		
preliminary determination of indivi-	dual listing (36 CFR 67)	Primary location of additional data:	
has been requested		X State historic preservation office	
previously listed in the National R	egister	Other State agency	
previously determined eligible by	the National Register	Federal agency	
designated a National Historic Lar	ndmark	Local government	
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9. Major Bibliographical References

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number8 Page	
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A gallery for the choir stands directly above the vestibule, its panelled breastwork forming the top of the auditorium's north wall. An unusual feature of the choir gallery is a small, rectangular-plan projection of the breastwork's central portion that housed the choir director. The interior woodwork, including wainscotting, door and window trim, gallery breastwork, chancel railing and pews all retain old grained finishes.

Adjacent to the church lies the Salem Walker Cemetery, which occupies over two acres of land. The cemetery contains approximately 665 graves, of which 220 date from the nineteenth century. It contains a variety of standard-type nineteenth and early twentieth-century monuments and memorials, including a simple marker commemorating the service of Salem's Civil War veterans. An iron fence with arched entrance gateways bearing the legend "Salem Walker Cemetery" encloses the cemetery grounds on the street side. The cemetery grounds also contain a small one-story, hip-roof maintenance shed constructed with walls of rock-face concrete block.

Significance

The Salem Methodist Episcopal Church, built in 1864, may be Michigan's least altered example of Greek Revival church architecture.

Methodist circuit preachers began visiting Salem as early as 1834. Elder C. M. Anderson, who also ministered to South Lyon, Oakland County, established a Methodist class in Salem in 1863. On February 15, 1864, James B. Van Atta, Anthony M. Farley, Lorenzo D. Perkins, William Hollingshead, Ashley Root, John V. King, and John C. Ingalls, acting as trustees, purchased a half-acre of land for a church site from Carlisle and Mary A. Ham for five dollars. The 1881 History of Washtenaw County noted that "In 1864 the M. E. church, in Salem, was dedicated, and the Church organization was perfected, with a membership of about 25. ... Previous to that time there had been a temporary Church organization and preaching at different points in the township...." Services continued at what was later known as the "West Salem Church" until 1912.

The Salem Walker Cemetery, adjacent to which the church stands, predates the church building. Otis Walker entered the west half of the southwest quarter section of Section 9 of Salem Township, which includes the property on which the church and cemetery stand, in 1831. Part of it came into use as a burial ground during the earliest days of white settlement. The earliest burial listed in the cemetery records was that of Amina Bennett,

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	88	Page	2
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who died on September 15, 1834 at the age of eight years. In 1843, Otis Walker's wife, Sarah, died and was buried in what has become Salem Walker Cemetery. The next year, Otis Walker himself died and was buried in the cemetery in the northeast corner of his property. The 1850 plat map of Washtenaw County showed I. Ham as the property owner and depicted a "grave yard" at the northeast corner of the property.

The Salem Walker Cemetery Association was organized on June 6, 1908 when Mr. E. T. Walker called a meeting at the church for the purpose of organizing a rural cemetery association under the state enabling law. On August 22, 1908, the association bought an additional one-half acre adjoining the south side of the cemetery from Mrs. E. T. Walker, a relative of Isadore Ham. On March 1, 1909, the board of directors approved the purchase of the present iron fence from a Detroit firm identified in the association records as the "Bardum Fence Company" -- probably E. T. Barnum & Co., a firm which did a big business in ornamental fencing as well as jail cells -- at a cost of \$413.94.

The cemetery association voted in May, 1930 to contact the Methodist conference concerning purchase of the long unused former Methodist church. The conference agreed in May, 1931 to quitclaim the church and contents to the association for \$200. The association has continued to maintain the building since then. The roof was reshingled in 1939, the belfry repaired in 1944, the roof and damaged plaster repaired in 1954, and the roofing again replaced in 1959. More recently, in 1966, 1974, and 1975, thefts of furnishings and vandalism were reported. In all cases the damage was quickly repaired, but the original church furnishings stolen in 1974 have never been recovered. The building is used for local gatherings and rented for weddings to help generate income for maintenance.

About sixty-five Greek Revival church buildings (that is, churches having at least some Greek Revival design elements such as Classical doorway or belfry detailing) are known to survive of the 200-300 which we estimate were built in Michigan. Nearly all these churches thus far identified were located in the southern four tiers of counties in the Lower Peninsula. In its antae-decorated main body, full front pediment, classical front entrance enframing, square-plan belfry with antae at the corners, and tall, square-head windows, the Salem church is typical of the more modestly scaled Greek Revival churches built for Protestant bodies in Michigan and the northern states from Maine to Minnesota. The (now pulpit-less) raised platform or chancel area with its communion rail around the perimeter on three sides was characteristic of Methodist church buildings during the period during which the church was constructed.

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Section number 9,10 Page 1

The Salem Methodist Episcopal Church's importance is that it -- alone, as far as we know, of Michigan's Greek Revival churches -- has survived virtually unaltered in the interior as well as exterior. The building continues to stand by itself, with none of the usual parish house or other more modern additions which these church buildings typically have. Even more notable for its survival intact than the exterior is the interior, with its original raised chancel, pews, gallery, grained woodwork.

Bibliography

Atchison, Myron E. "People and Activities of Salem-Walker Church." Paper read August 17, 1941 at Salem-Walker Church. Copy in site file, State Historic Preservation Office, Bureau of History.

Chapman, Chas. C., & Co. History of Washtenaw County, Michigan. Chicago, IL, 1881.

Deed for church property dated 2/18/1864. Copy in site file, State Historic Preservation Office, Bureau of History.

Salem Walker Cemetery Association. Notes from early minutes. Copy in site file, State Historic Preservation Office, Bureau of History.

State Register of Historic Sites application for Salem Methodist Episcopal Church/Salem-Walker Cemetery. State Historic Preservation Office, Bureau of History.

Verbal Boundary Description

Beg. at SE cr of W Frl 1/2 of NW frl 1/4, th W 4.00 chns in the E&W 1/4 line, th S 3.61 chns, th W 2.73 chns, th N 486.30 ft, th SE'ly along the hwy to a pt in E ln of W frl 1/2 of NW frl 1/4, th S 44.80 ft to POB exc Com at W 1/4 post of sec, th E 922.10 ft in E&W 1/4 ln, th defl 90 deg left 49.5 ft for POB, th defl 90 deg right 132.0 ft, th defl 90 deg left 129.1 ft, th defl 65 deg 30' left 152.84 ft, th sly in cent of Tower Rd to POB being pt of W frl 1/2 of SW frl 1/4. Sec 9, T1S-R7E. 2.47 acres.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Photos Page 1

Salem Methodist Episcopal Church and Salem Walker Cemetery Photograph List

Photographer: Fred Hanert Date: 6/92 (#1), 11/90 (others) Negatives: Michigan SHPO

- 1. Church exterior from N
- 2. Church exterior from E
- 3. Cemetery grounds from NW
- 4. Cemetery and church from SW
- 5. Church auditorium from S
- 6. Church auditorium from NNW
- 7. Chancel detail from NE
- 8. Gallery detail from SE
- 9. Centerpiece in ceiling, church auditorium
- 10. Chancel and pews from NW

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

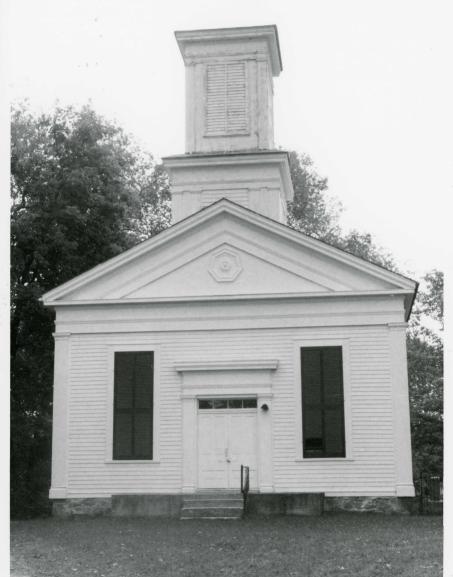
REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATI	ION			
PROPERTY Salem Methodist NAME:	Episcopa	l Church	n and Salem Wal	lker Cemetery
MULTIPLE NAME:				
STATE & COUNTY: MICHIGAN,	Washtena	W		
DATE RECEIVED: 7/17/9 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/13/9 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:				
REFERENCE NUMBER: 92001054	4			
NOMINATOR: STATE REASONS FOR REVIEW:				
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ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA
REVIEWER
DISCIPLINE
DATE

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

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SIGNIFICANCE	
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Specific dates Builder/Architect Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)	
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Phone	
Signed Date	



SALEM-WALKER Church/CEMETERY, SALEM, WAShtenaw, Mich. #





SALEM-WALKER Church/CEMETERY, SALEM TWOSHP, WAShTENAW CTY. #2





SALEMWALKER Church/CEMETERY, SALEMTWSLP., WAShTENAW CTY., Michigan #3



SALEM-WALKER CEMETERY/Church, SALEM TWAShp, WAShTENAW CTY. Michigan #4



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SALEM-WALKER Church/CEMETERY, SALEM TOWNSP., WAShTENAW COUNTY, Michigan #7

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SALEM-WALKER Church/CEMETERY, SALEM, WAShire Aw, Mich #8



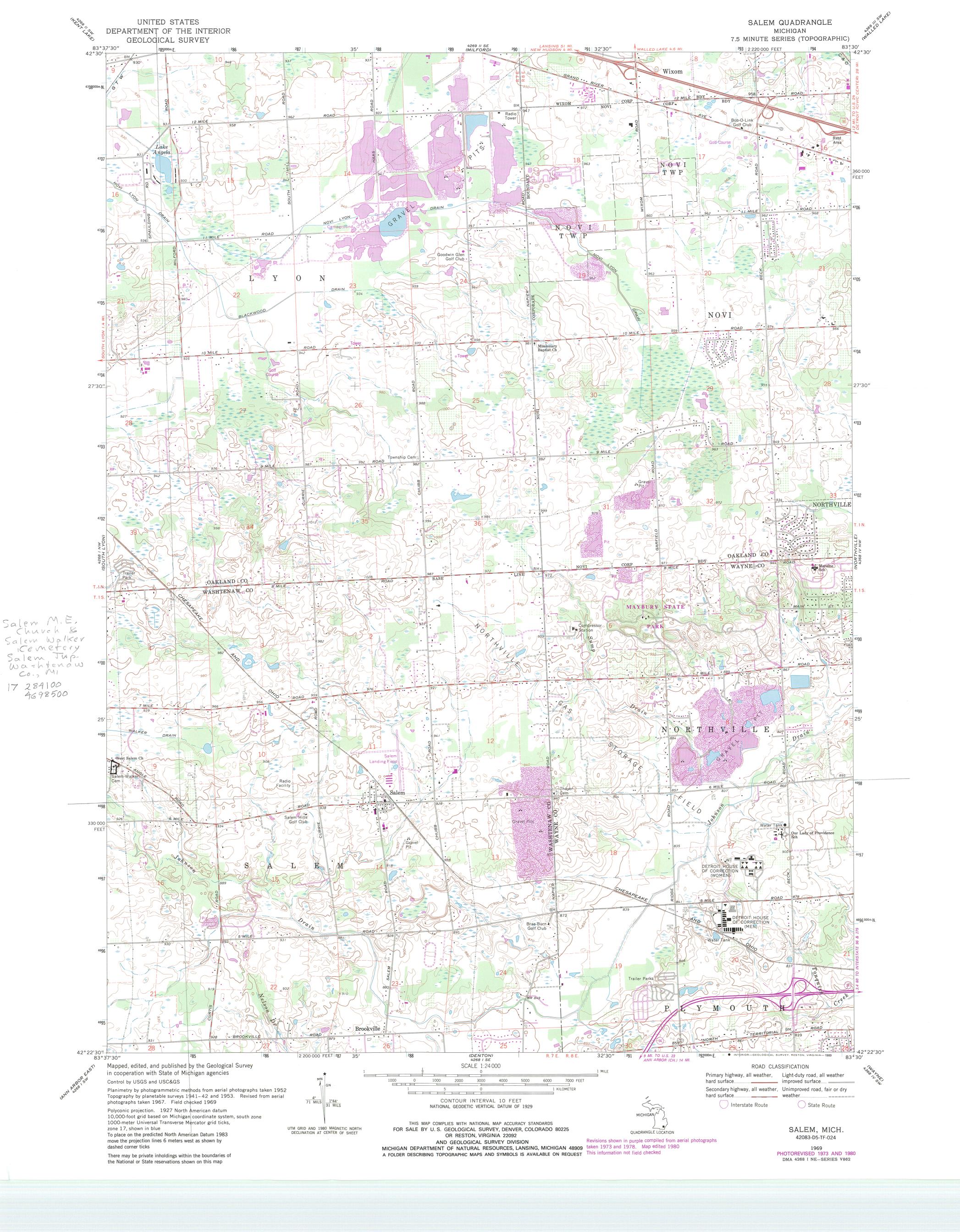
SALEM-WALKER Church/CENETERY, SALENTEP, WASLTENAWCTY., Michigan #9





SALEM-WALKER Church/CEMETERY, SALEM TSP., WAShTENAN CTY, Mich. #10







WASHTENAW COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION

305 COUNTY BUILDING

MAIN AND HURON STREETS

P.O. BOX 8645

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48107

(313) 994-2435

DIRECTOR Thomas J. Fegan

MEMORANDUM

To: The Washtenaw County Historic District Commission

From: Mark McFadden, Deputy Director MMM

Date: May 18, 1992

Re:

Nomination of Salem Methodist Episcopal Church and Salem-Walker Cemetery to the National Register of

Historic Places.

The State Bureau of History has asked that The Historic District Commission (HDC) review the National Register Nomination for the Salem Methodist Episcopal Church and the Salem-Walker Cemetery. A State review board meeting will occur on June 5th, the day after the June 4th HDC meeting. I have visited the site and took several slides which will be shown at the June 4th HDC meeting. In addition, I have included information that should prove useful in your formal review.

An on-site inspection revealed that the church and cemetery are of obvious historic significance and both are in very good condition. The site is surrounded by single family residences and farmsteads (see the enclosed Land Use map and Aerial Photograph. The site and surrounding area is zoned AR Agricultural- Residential. The Church and Cemetery were once the center of a small agricultural community. The National Register Description is included in the following pages.

RICHARD H. AUSTIN . SECRETARY OF STATE



NATIONAL

REGISTER

Bureau of History State Historic Preservation Office Michigan Library and Historical Center 717 West Allegan Street Lansing, Michigan 48918-1800

July 2, 1992

Ms. Carol D. Shull, Chief of Registration National Register of Historic Places National Park Service U. S. Department of the Interior P. O. Box 37127 Washington, D. C. 20013-7127

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed are National Register nomination materials for the Salem Methodist Episcopal Church and Salem Walker Cemetery in Salem Township, Washtenaw County, Michigan. This property is being submitted for <u>listing</u> in the National Register. Washtenaw County is a certified local government and a copy of the National Register Final Review Report for this property is enclosed as evidence of review and approval of the nomination by the Washtenaw County Historic District Commission and chief elected local official. No notarized statements of objection or other written comments concerning this nomination were submitted to us prior to the submission of this nomination to you.

Please direct all questions concerning this nomination to Robert O. Christensen, National Register Coordinator (517/335-2719).

Sincerely,

Kathryn B. Eckert

State Historic Preservation Officer

KBE:roc

Bureau of History Historic Preservation Section

Certified Local Government - National Register Final Review Report

WASH COUNTY

Michigan Department of State Bureau of History Historic Preservation Section

Name of Property: Salem Methodist Episcopal Church and Salem-Walker Cemetery Address: Angle Road at Tower Road, Salem Township, Michigan 48175 Owner: Salem-Walker Cemetery Association
Date Nomination Received: NR Coordinator 5/1/92 CLG Coordinator 5/6/92 Date SHPO notified CLG: 5/15/92 Date Owner Notified of Hearing: 6/2/92 Date of Final Review by CLG Commission: 6/4/92
The CLG agreed with the SHPO to expedite the review period for this nomination.
YES X (date of agreement) NO
Months & Then There San Thursday
Signature of CLG Commission Signature of Chief Elected Chairperson Local Official
Chair person
The CLG provided the following opportunities for public participation in the review of
this nomination:
The 6/4/92 CLG meeting was published in the local venispapers. The Rubirs was invited to participate in this veriew.
Were any written comments received by the CLG? YES NO X
(Please submit copies with this report.)
Did the CLG seek the assistance of the Bureau of History in evaluating the eligibility of this property for the National Register? YESNO _X
Recommendation of CLG Commission:
APPROVAL X
DENIAL (specify reasons on a separate piece of paper)
Martha L. Lern 6/3/92
Signature of CLG Commission Chairperson Date
Recommendation of Chief Elected Local Official: APPROVAL X
ALLOVAL

WASH COUNTY

Bureau of History Historic Preservation Section

06/05/92

DENIAL (specify reasons on a separate piece of	paper)
Mere Law Physical	6/3/92
Signature of Chief elected Local Official	Date
Date of transmittal of this report to BOH/SHPO 6/5/9	7
Date of receipt of this report by BOH/SHPO	
Was the nomination form distributed to CLG Commission of YES X NO	nembers?
Was a site visit made to the property by CLG Commission 1 YES NO X (viole) If Yes, when	Members?
VERIFICATION of Professional Qualifications of Commiss 36 CFR 61, Appendix A.	ion in accordance with
Commission Members	Expertise
1 Martha L. Kern President	Government
2 John Sidder Secretary	Baulang/Fmance
3. Nancy Snyder Transuver	Historian
4. Rochelle Balkam	Historian
5. Beverly Fish	Historiau
6. Jean King	Attorney
7. Denis C. Schmiedeke, AIA/SAH	Avdnitect
Was an outside consultant used? Yes No _X	
If yes, who and what 36 CFR 61, Appendix A, qualifications	•
	-

Note: An ansite Visit was made by Mark-Metaden, Depoly Director of Planning on Hay 18, 1992.