

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 18 1976

DATE ENTERED DEC 13 1976

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 Trinity Lutheran Church

AND/OR COMMON
(First German Lutheran Church of Wittenburg)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 7.2 mi S of ATKINS off AR154 at Petit Jean Mt.

1/4 mile north of Highway 154

CITY, TOWN Petit Jean Mountain ATKINS vic.

STATE Arkansas

CODE 05

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Second

COUNTY Conway

CODE 029

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Henry L. Westphal, Chairman

STREET & NUMBER Trinity Lutheran Church

CITY, TOWN Petit Jean Mountain VICINITY OF

STATE Arkansas

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Clerk's Office

STREET & NUMBER Conway County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN Morrilton

STATE Arkansas

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Trinity Lutheran Church is a quaint frame building constructed in 1886. Measuring approximately 21 feet by 30 feet, the small church is almost as tall as it is long. Its dimensions give it an unusual and very interesting appearance.

The foundation of the church is of native stone, cut and mortared. The pine walls are three layers thick with clapboard and cornerboards on the outside, rough sawed planks in the middle, and flush board on the inside. A high-pitch gable roof, now with composition shingles, covers the structures and is surmounted by a small wooden cross at the south end.

The main entry is centered under the gable end on the south facade of the church. Opening onto circular stone steps added in the 1940's, this entry is set in a simple rectangular frame and is uncovered. A second entry is located on the west end of the north elevation. The windows on both the east and west elevations, three per side, are double-hung, four-over-four-light sash with simple trim.

The extremely simple style is continued on the interior of Trinity Church. The original hand-planed pews are quite unusual in that one end abuts the wall while the other end terminates in a scroll-cut piece along the center aisle. Though the floors were covered with tile about 1960, the horizontal flush-board walls retain their original appearance. The 15 foot ceiling and the wall space above the picture mold were covered with accoustical tile about 1960. Though the original pulpit was situated about seven feet above the floor, this was removed in the 1930's and replaced with a small pulpit at floor level.

Alterations to the church have been minimal, leaving the building little changed from its 1886 construction. The church rests on its original location, atop Petit Jean Mountain, one of Arkansas' most scenic spots.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

PREHISTORIC
 1400-1499
 1500-1599
 1600-1699
 1700-1799
 1800-1899
 1900-

ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
 ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
 AGRICULTURE
 ARCHITECTURE
 ART
 COMMERCE
 COMMUNICATIONS

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

COMMUNITY PLANNING
 CONSERVATION
 ECONOMICS
 EDUCATION
 ENGINEERING
 EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
 INDUSTRY
 INVENTION

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
 LAW
 LITERATURE
 MILITARY
 MUSIC
 PHILOSOPHY
 POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

RELIGION
 SCIENCE
 SCULPTURE
 SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
 THEATER
 TRANSPORTATION
 OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES April 21, 1887

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Trinity Lutheran Church on Petit Jean Mountain is one of Arkansas' oldest Lutheran churches. This quaint white frame structure is still used for worship services by a small congregation.

Traditionally, Trinity Lutheran Church is believed to have been built in 1886; however, the deed transferring the land from the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railway to the church trustees is dated April 21, 1887. Present church officials believe that the frame building was constructed immediately after the 1886 organization of the congregation, but before the official land conveyance in 1887.

Like a number of settlements in west central Arkansas, this small community on Petit Jean Mountain was settled by German immigrants who came to take advantage of the railroad's offers of inexpensive land. (A similar group of German immigrants built St. Mary's Church at Altus, added to the National Register on May 3, 1976.) This farming community was originally named Wittenburg, an indication of its German and Lutheran origins. For the token sum of one dollar, the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railway conveyed a twenty-acre church and cemetery site atop Petit Jean Mountain to "H. Schnake and H. Jones, Trustees of First German Lutheran Trinity Church of Wittenburg, Arkansas."*

The church erected by these German Lutheran's is a one-storey white frame structure with a high-pitch gable roof. Both the exterior and the interior, which features the original hand-planed pews, are in a very plain style and devoid of ornamentation. This simple clapboard church has remained basically unaltered since its 1880's construction.

Though the congregation of Trinity Lutheran has never been large, it has always been active. Weekly services are still held by the present members, most of whom are descendants of Petit Jean's early German settlers.

Architecturally interesting for its simple, unadorned style, the church is representative of rural Arkansas churches built in the late 19th century. Trinity Lutheran Church is also significant as the last structure surviving from the Wittenburg community.

* Warranty Deed. Little Rock and Fort Smith Railway to Trinity Lutheran Church, April 21, 1887.

Property

Trinity Lutheran Church

State

Ark

Working Number

10.18. 76.4317

TECHNICAL

Photos 1

Maps 1

Entry record

CONTROL

KP

OK-10.19.76

HISTORIAN

Accept
E. Smith
11-11-76

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

I see this property's only significance being that it is the only ^{extant} structure of the Wittenberg (German) community.

I don't consider it architecturally significant

Accept
L. Devel
11.29.76

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory

Review

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Atley
BRANCH CHIEF

Accept
Cole
12-9-76

KEEPER

Wms
12/10/76

National Register Write-up

Send-back

Entered

DEC 13 1976

Federal Register Entry 2-1-77

Re-submit



Trinity Lutheran Church
Petit Jean Mt. +

Form No. 10-301a
(Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 18 1976

DATE ENTERED DEC 13 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES --ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC Trinity Lutheran Church

AND/OR COMMON

First German Lutheran Church of Wittenburg

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Petit Jean Mountain VICINITY OF COUNTY Conway STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Dianna Kirk

DATE OF PHOTO 1976

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET
viewed from the southwest

PHOTO NO.
1

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

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RECEIVED OCT 18 1976

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC Trinity Lutheran Church

AND/OR COMMON

First German Lutheran Church of Wittenburg

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Petit Jean Mountain VICINITY OF COUNTY Conway STATE Arkansas

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE U.S.G.S. Atkins Quadrangle

SCALE 1:24,000

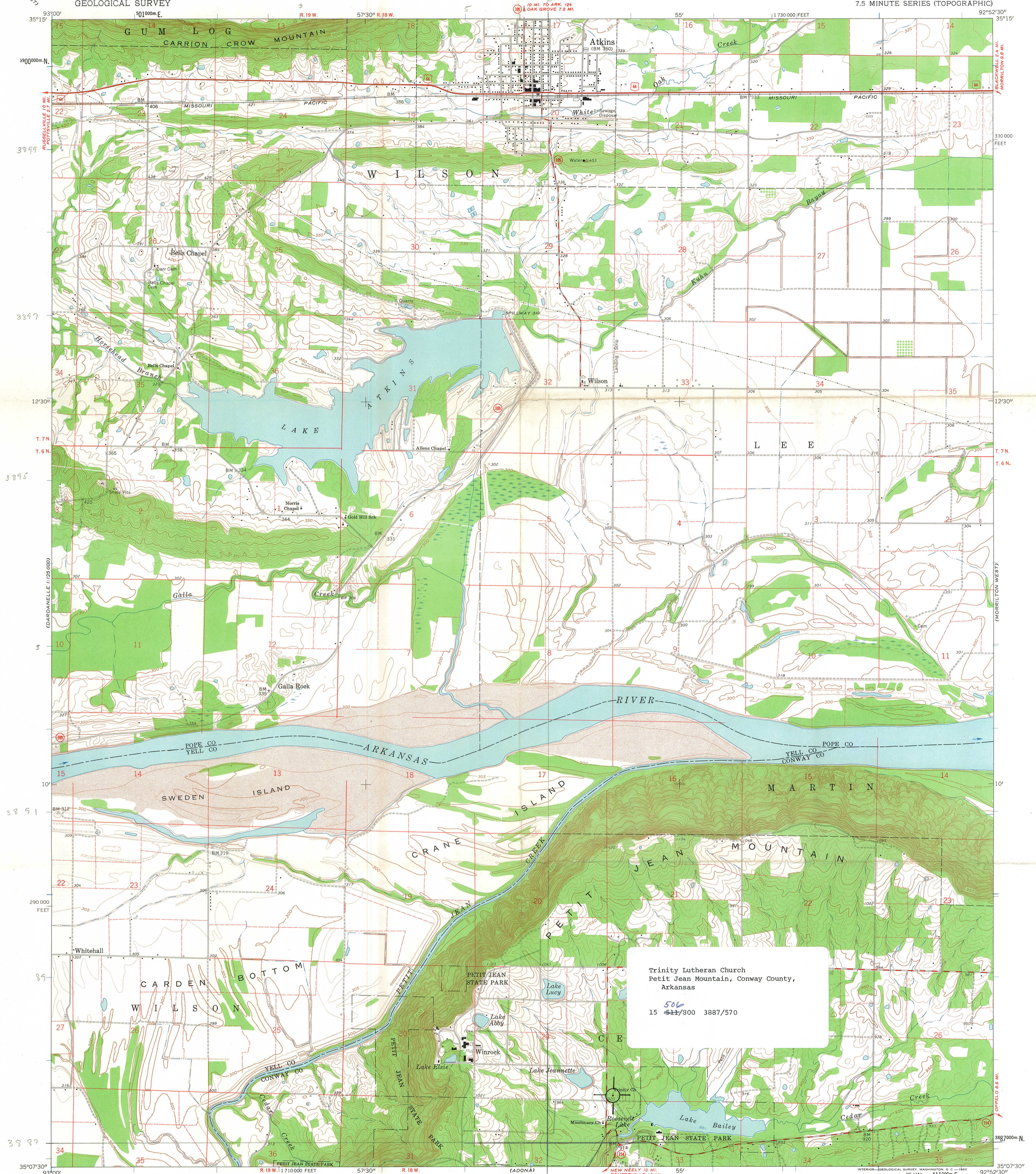
DATE 1961

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

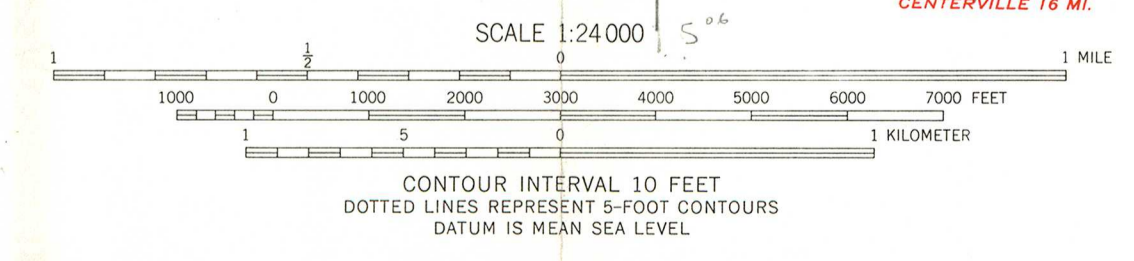
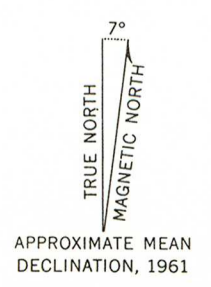
1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES

Trinity Church



Trinity Lutheran Church
Petit Jean Mountain, Conway County,
Arkansas
506
15 511/800 3887/570

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1958. Field checked 1961
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas coordinate system, north zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER 25, COLORADO OR WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
AND BY THE ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ATKINS, ARK.
N 3507.5 - W 9252.5/7.5
1961

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE **ARKANSAS**

Date Entered **DEC 13 1976**

Name

Location

Trinity Lutheran Church

**Atkins vicinity
Conway County**

Also Notified

Hon. John L. McClellan

Hon. Dale Bumpers

Hon. Jim G. Tucker

Regional Director, Southwest Region

880 Mott 1/6/77

**State Historic Preservation Officer
Ms. Anne Bartley
Acting Director, Arkansas Historic
Preservation Program
Suite 500, Continental Building
Marble and Main Streets
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201**

December 16, 1980

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
Suite 500, Continental Building
Markham and Main
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Gentlemen:

I must object to the obvious prejudice of the guidelines for the National Register of Historic Buildings against religious properties, and object to your participation and support of such guidelines. A recent letter from your office requesting the help of religious leaders in locating historic properties states that the "National Register criteria developed by the federal government specifically exclude religious properties unless they derive primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance." This is not a valid interpretation of the principle of separation of church and state, it is outright discrimination against a significant part of our culture and social structure.

The idea that a religious property can be of historical importance only if its primary significance stems from a non-religious function or characteristic, is to deny the importance of religion in our past. Why not just ignore religion, religious buildings and religious people of our past? Why do you bother to ask religious leaders for help if the only thing important is the non-religious aspects of our properties. It saddens me to see fine people as you are, pursuing a noble cause as you are, fail to stand for the very important principles that have made our nation great, just for the sake of getting federal funds.

We don't need federal funds if it means we must accept the discrimination of their guidelines. Let me urge you to do your job by finding and preserving properties of significance to all aspects of our heritage. And do it without federal funds and without our properties being listed in the National Register if necessary. Religious properties should be recognized on their own merits, just like every other type of property. It should not be necessary for them to be of such character as to merit being an "exception" to the rule. There should be no such rule.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Peacock, Pastor



ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Suite 500, Continental Building · Markham and Main · Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Phone: (501) 371-2763

January 20, 1981

Robert H. Peacock, Pastor
First Assembly of God
20th & Lyon Streets
Batesville, AR 72504

Dear Mr. Peacock:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter of December 16, 1980 regarding the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program's survey of religious properties in our state. I appreciate your taking the time to articulate your ideas about this study and its ramifications.

Many of your concerns focus on the letter and intent of the National Register of Historic Places. Perhaps a further explanation of the National Register program will put the issue of the listing of religious properties on the National Register into clearer perspective. The National Register of Historic Places is the official listing of the cultural resources in the United States which are of special architectural, historical or archeological significance. The National Register is kept by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service of The United States Department of the Interior. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program is charged with the responsibility of administering the National Register at the state level subject to federal review. Interested citizens as well as state agencies are given the opportunity to comment on regulations, guidelines and criteria as they are being developed, but the ultimate responsibility for determining and interpreting their content rests strictly with the United States Department of the Interior.

The National Register staff of the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, Department of the Interior, maintains that National Register criteria stipulating, "...properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes...shall not be considered for the National Register" was promulgated to support the constitutional provisions regarding the separation of church and state. The criteria was not formulated to excluded churches and other buildings owned by religious institutions from listing on the National Register but to assure that such buildings are evaluated in the broader context of the architectural, historical, archeological and cultural development of the local community and the state. To protect the integrity of the separation of church and state, compelling evidence of the historicity of any religious property nominated to the National Register must be clearly and thoroughly documented.

The continued existence of the National Register was recently assured by amendment to and revision of the federal legislation that created it. Consequently, the National Register eligibility criteria will be reviewed and possibly altered. I have taken the liberty of forwarding a copy of your letter to Washington so that your comments can be considered in the

Robert H. Peacock, Pastor
Page 2
January 20, 1981

upcoming review of the National Register criteria. I also encourage you to write directly to Jerry Rogers, Acting Keeper of the National Register to voice your opinions. His address is: Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, Department of the Interior, 440 G Street, Washington, D. C. 20243.

Please allow me to explain the origins of the religious properties study that this office is conducting in hopes of bringing still another perspective to this effort. Many, many Arkansans contact this office every year seeking historic designation for their churches. Certainly every church is of great significance to its congregation and its ambient community. Compiling a comprehensive inventory of religious properties with the goal of historic designation for at least some of them seemed to me to be a better response to the inquiries we receive than merely denying registration for religious properties across the board. In this regard, it is our hope that the survey will establish a broad, accurate and equitable context for considering religious properties for listing on the National Register in accordance with the federally dictated guidelines. Listing on the National Register is the only form of historic designation that this office is authorized to provide; however, in providing it we are bound by the regulations that govern National Register listings all over the country.

I regret that this project has displeased you. I appreciate your candor and hope that my comments will prove useful to you.

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,



Joan M. Baldrige
State Historic Preservation Officer

JWB/EG/s1

First Assembly of God

20th and Lyon Streets, P. O. Box 2758

Batesville, Arkansas 72501



January 27, 1981

Mr. Jerry Rogers
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
440 G. Street
Washington, D. C. 20243

Dear Mr. Rogers:

As you can see from the copies of letters I have enclosed, I feel the guidelines for the inclusion of religious properties in the National Register of Historic Places discriminate against the religious aspects of our culture and heritage. Joan Baldrige in her letter to me (copy enclosed) states that the guidelines were formulated "to insure that such buildings are evaluated in the broader context of the architectural, historical, archeological and cultural development of the local community and the state." I agree with this philosophy. But let me call to your attention that religious movements and churches make up a significant part of our culture and are a part of the history of every community in our land. An accurate history or an accurate description of our culture could not be written without including something on the influence of religion, especially, Christianity.

Archeologists and anthropologists know that no culture can be understood without understanding their religion. This is because religion is the single greatest factor in shaping all societies, primitive or highly advanced. It is primarily Christianity that has shaped our society in the past and continues to be a great significance today. Other religions are also of importance in understanding America.

It may be that the religions of atheism and humanism will shape our society in the future. By misuse of the doctrine of separation of church and state they are certainly making a strong effort to do that. But even if they are successful in shaping our future society they cannot change our past. The truth is that our churches are a part of a fact of, our history. If we are intimidated by an overzealous and misguided application of the principle of "separation of church and state" so that the religious aspects of our past are ignored, we reflect an inaccurate view of our history and distort our culture.

Mr. Jerry Rogers
Page 2
January 27, 1981

I understand the reasons for the position your agency has taken but, it is my feeling that guidelines formulated by your agency should recognize that our churches, their activities, and their buildings have been a significant aspect of our culture and history.

Mr. Rogers, let me assure you that I appreciate what you are doing. I feel that I appreciate more than the average person the importance of history. A strong sense of our history gives us perspective and helps us be better equipped to deal with the problems of the present and better prepare for the future. But history is of no value to us unless it is accurate. This is why I appeal to you to make every attempt to recognize all aspects of our history.

I thank you sir for any consideration of my ideas.

Sincerely,



Robert H. Peacock, Pastor

Encl. - 2

RHP:rp



THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

JAN 30 1981

RESPONSE (ATTACHED)

MATERIAL SENT

TELEPHONE CALL (ATTACHED)

DATE ACTION TAKEN

INITIALS

1981 - 2

1981 - 2

1981 - 2

1981 - 2

I thank you very much for the consideration of my request.

I am sure that the information provided will be of great value to you and your staff.

I am sure that the information provided will be of great value to you and your staff.

I am sure that the information provided will be of great value to you and your staff.

1981 - 2

1981 - 2

1981 - 2

Harrison 3/18

MAR 23 1981

The Reverend Robert H. Peacock
First Assembly of God
20th and Lyon Streets
P.O. Box 2758
Batesville, Arkansas 72501

Dear Mr. Peacock:

Thank you for your letter of January 27, 1981, expressing your thoughts on the inclusion of religious properties in the National Register of Historic Places. We apologize for not responding sooner.

The criteria for evaluating potential entries for the National Register state that ordinarily properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes are not considered eligible for the National Register. However, a religious property which derives primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance does qualify for listing in the National Register. The impact on society of religion and religious institutions is recognized by the National Register criteria and provides a basis for the listing of many religious properties. There are a number of religious institutions in Arkansas which are listed in the National Register, including

- Trinity Lutheran Church, Conway County.
- Mount Olive United Methodist Church, Crawford County.
- Selma Methodist Church, Drew County.
- Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Franklin County.
- Old Bethel Methodist Church, Green County.

Enclosed are copies of the "Federal Register", which list all properties entered in the National Register prior to December 1980 and information on the National Register program.

Once again we appreciate your taking the time to share your thoughts with us. If we can be of further assistance to you, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Carol D. Shull (Sgd.)

Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration

Enclosures

The Reverend Richard H. Peacock

2

cc: Ms. Joan Baldrige
Director, Historic Preservation
Suite 500, Continental Building
Markham and Main Streets
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

bcc: South Central Regional Office
NR

FHR:S Harrison:pad:03-19-81:x6401

d-16-0229

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN NR

NR Data Sheet

DATE: 11-11-76
Reviewer INITIALS: ELL

NR DOE

DEC 13 1976

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: Trinity Lutheran Church

OTHER NAMES: First German Lutheran Church of Wittenburg - secondary

LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER 7.2 mi. S of Atkins off AR 154 at PETIT Jean Mtn.

CITY, TOWN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2nd

STATE Arkansas 05 VICINITY OF Atkins COUNTY code

Conway 029

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER

ADMINISTRATOR (underline) FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):

NPS REGION: (CIRCLE) N. ATLANTIC MID ATLANTIC SOUTHEAST MIDWEST
SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

FEATURES:

INTERIOR Substantially intact-1
- unknown - 4
- not applicable - 7

EXTERIOR Substantially intact-2
- unknown - 5
- not applicable - 8

ENVIRONS Substantially intact-3
- unknown - 6
- Not applicable-9

- Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0

CONDITION - EXCELLENT - DETERIORATED - UNALTERED ORIGINAL SITE
- GOOD - RUINS - ALTERED - MOVED
- FAIR - UNEXPOSED - Reconstructed - Unknown
- Unexcavated - Excavated

ACCESS - Yes-restricted Yes-unrestricted No access Unknown

historic district? YES NO

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO
IF YES, NAME:

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES NO
IF YES, NAME:

ADAPTIVE USE: YES NO Saved? YES NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then- Church

now- Church

SIGNIFICANCE:

- ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
- ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
- AGRICULTURE
- ARCHITECTURE - 4
- ART
- COMMERCE
- COMMUNICATIONS
- CONSERVATION
- ECONOMICS
- EDUCATION
- ENGINEERING
- EXPLORATION
- INDUSTRY
- INVENTION
- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- LAW/Gov't/politics
- LITERATURE
- MILITARY
- MUSIC
- PHILOSOPHY
- POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
- RELIGION - 22
- SCIENCE
- SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER (SPECIFY)
- entertainment
- health
- recreation
- settlement - 29
- socio/cultural
- urban & commun planning

Claims

"first" YES NO "oldest" YES NO "only" YES NO

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:

architect/m.builder:

landscape/garden designer:

interior decorator:

engineer:

artist/artisan:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP: German

NAMES:

personal

(label role & appropriate date)

events

institutional

Wittenburg was the name of the original German settlement at Petit Jean mountain. Like a number of settlements in West Arkansas this community was settled by Germans who came to take advantage of the railroad's offer of inexpensive land. The Lutheran church is the last structure surviving from the Wittenburg community.

DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): 1886

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS:

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S): 1886 - Present

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE: (to nearest tenth of an acre) .1-.9

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

1 story, ^{1 story} frame, clapboarding; ^{gabled roof} rectangular, ^{AR} shopped structure with gabled roof. One of the oldest Lutheran churches in Arkansas; only surviving structure from the original German settlement of Wittenburg.

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)

The Trinity Lutheran Church is significant historically as one of the oldest Lutheran churches in Arkansas and as the only surviving structure from the original German settlement of Wittenburg.