

HISTORIC RESOURCES OF DALLAS COUNTY
DALLAS COUNTY, ARKANSAS

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Survey Number DA-19

Owner Reverend J. Robert Irbin

Property Name Mt. Zion Methodist Church
NE of Carthage

Address 1205 Cado

Location near Carthage vic.

Arkadelphia, AR 71923

Significant Date/s c. 1910

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Mt. Zion Methodist Church, located approximately 2½ miles northeast of Carthage, sits picturesquely on a tree shaded lot next to a county road. The 30' x 45' dimensions of this rectangular weatherboarded structure give it squarer proportions than what is common for rural churches of this form. The expansive front gable facade which is unadorned and penetrated only by two four-panelled doors accentuate the box-like character of the structure. This solid white mass which offers a pleasant contrast to its natural surroundings is intensified by the white tones of the extensive roof sheathed in corrugated sheet metal. Striking in its austerity, the church's simplistic facades are gracefully framed by frieze, corner and skirt boards. The side (north and south) elevations are penetrated by four four-over-four windows. As is common for rural churches of this type, a second entry exists on the west side of the north elevation. All windows and doors have simple surrounds.

The interior of the church exhibits the same outstanding austerity as does the exterior. All walls are covered with beaded pine panelling, laid horizontally. The ceiling, also of beaded panelling, is supported by a central beam composed of five boards layered in decreasing widths on five square posts. At the west end of the structure is a platform on which was constructed a simple pulpit with flanking pedestals. All coverings, including the floor, support members, and furnishings are of unpainted pine. Even the pews which are constructed of pine 2" x 4"'s add to the intense repetition of wood and of horizontal lines as exhibited in the beaded panelling. These features are offset by the vertical lines of the window openings and the gray painted doors.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Mt. Zion Methodist Church is an excellent example of a church type which was once quite common in rural Arkansas. While constructed c. 1910, this traditional plan with its double entry in the gable end is one which existed in abundance in Dallas County in the 19th Century. The simple interior of the church, with its beaded walls and ceiling, served quite well the functional liturgy of the early 20th century Methodist Church. While there are numerous Methodist Churches in Dallas County, Mt. Zion is significant in its retention of notable interior fabric.

Acreage: less than 1

Quadrangle Name: Carthage

Quadrangle Scale: 1:24000

UTM Reference: 15 554200/3774160

Verbal Boundary Description:

The nominated property, located with the SW¼ of the SW¼ of section 15,

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Property Name Mt. Zion Methodist Church

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Verbal Boundary Description cont.:

T7S R14W, is bounded on the east by a county toad, on the south by the cemetery and on the north and west by lines running parallel to and 100' from the north and west facades of the church.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received 9/14/83

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 2 of 3

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Dallas County Multiple Resource Area
State Arkansas

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

11. Garrison Place

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melvin Byers 10/28/83

12. Goodgame, Capt., House

Entered in the
National Register

Attest
for Keeper

Melvin Byers 10/28/83

13. Hampton Springs Cemetery
(Black Section)

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melvin Byers 10/28/83

14. Knight, Ed, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melvin Byers 10/28/83

15. Koonce Building

Substantive Review

Keeper

Beth Grosvenor 10/28/83

16. Mallett, George W., House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melvin Byers 10/28/83

17. Mt. Carmel Methodist Church

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melvin Byers 10/28/83

18. Mt. Zion Methodist Church

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melvin Byers 10/28/83

19. Old Fordyce Post Office

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melvin Byers 10/28/83

20. Princeton Cemetery

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melvin Byers 3/27/84

Attest

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Mt. Zion Methodist Church (Dallas County
MRA)
Dallas County
ARKANSAS

Working No. SEP 14 1983

Fed. Reg. Date: 2-5-85

Date Due: 10/13/83 - 10/24/83

Action: ☒ ACCEPT 10/28/83

☐ RETURN

☐ REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

Entered in the
National Register

- ☐ resubmission
☐ nomination by person or local government
☐ owner objection
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____

Reviewer _____

Discipline _____

Date _____

_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name _____

2. Location _____

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property _____

5. Location of Legal Description _____

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
		<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ alterations/integrity
☐ dates
☐ boundary selection

8. Significance

Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- ☐ summary paragraph
- ☐ completeness
- ☐ clarity
- ☐ applicable criteria
- ☐ justification of areas checked
- ☐ relating significance to the resource
- ☐ context
- ☐ relationship of integrity to significance
- ☐ justification of exception
- ☐ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title

date

13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____



DA-19
Mount Zion Methodist Church
Sarah Brown, photographer
April 28, 1982
Negative on file at the AHPP
View from the southeast

