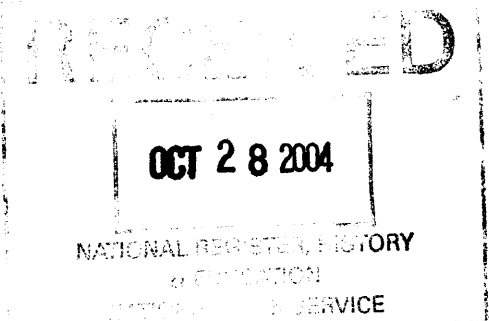


1314

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**



FINAL

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 an 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 Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church
other names/site number Cross Roads Lutheran Church 035-618-55034

2. Location

street & number 9700 West County Road 700 South N/A not for publication
city or town Middletown N/A vicinity
state Indiana code IN county Delaware code 035 zip code 47356

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
Signature of certifying official/Title [Signature] Date 10-26-04
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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
 other, (explain:)

[Signature] Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 12/6/04
Edmund K. Beall

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)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building
- district
- site
- structure
- object
- landscape

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| 3 | 0 | buildings |
| 0 | 0 | sites |
| 0 | 0 | structures |
| 0 | 1 | objects |
| 3 | 1 | Total |

Name of related multiple property listing
 (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed
 in the National Register**

N/A

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: Religious Facility

RECREATION/CULTURE: Museum
 SOCIAL: Meeting Hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification
 (Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
 (Enter categories from instructions)

MID-19th c.: Gothic Revival
 OTHER: T-plan cottage

foundation: STONE
 walls: BRICK
 roof: ASPHALT
 other: WOOD
 SYNTHETICS

Narrative Description

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

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.)

- 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.
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.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or grave.
D a cemetery.
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.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1868-c.1940

Significant Dates

1868

1915

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Shoemaker, Joe (brickmason)

Hopper, Garret (brickmason)

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
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:

- State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

Delaware County Historical Alliance

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than 1 acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 16 627920 4438820 3 Zone Easting Northing

2 4 Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

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.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dixie Price organization Cross Roads Lutheran Church Historical Preservation date 06-02-2004 street & number 13417 W. SR 32 telephone 765/ 378-3511 city or town Yorktown state IN zip code 47396

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 SHPO or FPO.)

name Dave Howell, Director of Cross Roads Lutheran Church Historical Preservation Society street & number 12261 S Cr 600 W telephone 765/ 759-7432 city or town Middletown state IN zip code 47356

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 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 Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Property name: Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church
County/State: Delaware Co., IN

Narrative Description:

The *Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church* occupies the northeast corner of the intersection of County Roads 700S and 600W in Delaware County, Indiana. It is rated "outstanding" in the *Delaware County Interim Report: Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory*. This brick, Gothic Revival style church was constructed in 1868 to serve an existing congregation. The location, historically known as Cross Roads, situated the church at an active intersection, near the other buildings that composed the town, including the post office, store, school, and a few houses. First known as the Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church, the building is the only one remaining from this time period in Cross Roads.

The church is located at the intersection of the two county roads in Salem Township in the southwest corner of Delaware County, thus the setting for the church is rural. Agricultural fields are located immediately to the north of the church and diagonally across the intersection. The lot immediate to the west of the church includes the parsonage, dating to the late 19th century. Mid to late twentieth century housing is found across each of the roads (east and south) from the church, with additional fields surrounding these lots. Two paths, one parallel and one perpendicular to the entry, connect the parking lot to the church. Another path connects the south door of the church with the south door of the eastern portion of the addition. Vegetation on the lot consists of three trees along the west elevation, two trees in the south west corner, one tree on the east side, and bushes along the original portion of the church. The historical preservation society has planted period appropriate flowers around the church and parsonage yards with labels telling about the plant and time.

The *Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church* is a one-story brick building with a southern gable entry and bell tower. The current "L" plan consists of two rectangles, a large one for the sanctuary and a small one for the addition. The original plan was a basic rectangle with front and rear gables. The brick was laid in common bond with headers every ninth course. In 1915, the brick rear (north) addition, brick entry vestibule, and stained glass within the existing windows were added. The addition is a combination of a hip roof and a gable roof to the east. The foundation is stone. The square bell tower above the entry has been recently covered with vinyl siding, and the roof is covered with composite shingles.

The primary façade of the building is the south side, facing County Road 700 S. The original gabled wall has a central entryway with a tall pointed arch window, typical of the Gothic Revival style, on each side. The windows are double-hung with brick pointed arch rowlock surrounds and wood sills, sashes and casements. The stained glass was installed in 1915. This wood trimmed rake of this original wall includes gable returns and has a noticeable overhang. A circular stone plaque is located within the gable, reading "Richwood E Lutheran Church 1868" and there is a stone marker on the ground outside the front east corner that reads "St. Johns Evangelical Lutheran Church

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2
Narrative Cont.

Property name: Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church
County/State: Delaware Co., IN

1880." These markers commemorate the different congregations that shared the building during that time period. The sides of the vestibule have double hung stained glass windows with wood casements, sashes and cement sills. The square bell tower is set onto a larger square base. On each side of the tower is found rounded openings with pointed tops that were designed to reflect the Christian symbol of a fish. These openings are decorative with a beaded edge and slightly inset into rectangular openings. The roof of the bell tower is nearly flat.

The west and east facades of the original church are symmetrically identical. Each side has three evenly spaced tall pointed arch windows. The windows are as described in the vestibule. The stained glass was installed at the same time as the vestibule windows. There are small rectangular openings, providing access to the old coal chutes, along the foot of the wall aligning with the north edge of the northernmost windows. The opening on the east is covered with a metal plate, and the opening on the west has a window consisting of two panes. Contemporary aluminum gutters have been added to both sides. Under the middle window of the east façade is a bulkhead providing access to the basement of the church. Along the south edge of the east façade is a circular metal plate reading "U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey Bench Mark - Elev. Feet Above Mean Sea Level - E248-1947-\$250 Fine or imprisonment for disturbing this mark. " Also at this southeast corner, the old cornerstone of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church (1880) is embedded in the ground. The north (rear) façade of the original church is almost completely hidden by the 1915 addition. The portion of the gable that is visible reveals the same projected rake and gable turns as on the south elevation. Two plain square chimneys are placed within the rake but on the outside of the wall on either side of the peak.

The addition to the north of the original church was built in 1915, at the same time the entry vestibule was added and the stained glass installed. It is rectangular plan, flush with the west elevation and projection a few feet beyond the east elevation. In this small south façade created by this projection is a single door with a paneled transom window. Three cement steps lead up to the door with a metal rail along the left side. A modern screen door has been installed. The east elevation of the addition has a gable line with gable returns that mimics the main gable form. This gable roof meets the hip roof covering the rest of the addition. Two windows with wood casements, sashes and cement sills and vertical brick lintels are evenly spaced on the façade. Near the ground, between these windows is a small metal vent. The north elevation of the addition has three of the same style of windows evenly spaced. The west façade of the addition has a window and a door. The window, to the left of the door, follows the same style seen on the other facades. The door matches the one in the corner of the "L" or the south elevation except that there is decorative glass in the transom window. Four steps leading to the door have metal rails on both sides. There is a small metal vent in the middle along the bottom of the wall on this side also. The original and addition elevations meet with a notched line consisting of five courses per notch. Metal gutters and drain spouts appear to be original with the addition.

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3
Narrative Cont.

Property name: Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church
County/State: Delaware Co., IN

The current interior orientation and layout dates to the 1915 alterations. Upon entering into the nave (original church) from the south entry vestibule, nine pews line each side of the central aisle, sloping down to the chancel. The chancel consists of a raised area at the north end of the nave with a recessed center section under an arched opening for the altar. A wooden turned corner guard marks the two corners of this section. The memorial altar constructed of wood from the original pews was installed in 1936. On either side of the altar is a small door placed at a 45 degree angle leading to each of the rooms of the addition. Within this area, stained glass is found in the doors' transom windows and in a rounded rectangular opening above the altar, a "window" dedicated to Rev. Samuel Sayford, the Founding Minister in 1848. Two chairs, a lectern, a pulpit, and various other church furnishings are located in the chancel. The six side and two south pointed arch stained glass windows of the nave were made by the Anderson Art Class Company. The eighteen pews composing the nave are from the Manitowac Church Furniture Company of Waukesha, Wisconsin.¹ The center and side aisles are covered with red carpet and the flooring under the pews is wood. The woodwork around the windows and wood of the chair rail, around the original rectangle of the church, dates to 1868.

The darker wood of the entry double doors, vestibule area, baseboard, chancel baseboard, and all the interior doors all dates to 1915. The walls and ceiling are plastered. Five hanging ceiling lights with decorative globes illuminate the sanctuary and are arranged in the pattern of the five dots on a dice. The center light is the largest and most decorative with the most elaborate globe and cast iron medallion. There are also two ceiling fans above the center aisle on either side of this light. In the center of the ceiling along the south wall is a trap door leading to the bell tower. Along the south wall, between the two windows are double doors with a pointed arch stained glass window leading to the vestibule. The small vestibule has the interior double doors on the north, exterior double doors with stained glass transom on the south, and a double - hung stained rectangular window on the east and west. In 1937, a partial basement was dug under the center section of the church to accommodate a new heating system. Three vents for the system are located in the center of the each aisle and are covered by metal grills. The only access to the basement is from the exterior, under the center window of the east elevation.

The original 1868 interior layout of the church differed considerably from this current organization. At this time, there were two aisles with long center pews and short side seats. The raised pulpit was located within a smaller recessed section on the north wall between the two stoves. Seats were also placed on both sides of the pulpit facing the pulpit. In 1900, a furnace was installed, replacing the stoves. The floor in these areas was raised to level of the pulpit floor, extending the

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4
Narrative Cont.

Property name: Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church
County/State: Delaware Co., IN

raised floor to incorporate the entire chancel area. Chairs were placed on each edge. The original double door entry on the south wall had a pointed arch stained glass transom window, which is still visible from the interior. The pointed arch windows at this time were double hung with clear divided lights and a transom window section in the pointed arch. Then, in 1915, the interior was remodeled to the current layout with two sets of pews, expanded chancel area, sloping floor, entry vestibule, and two rooms in the addition. In the late 1930's, the basement was added with a new furnace, new altar and baptismal font were installed, new drainspouts were added, cement walks around the church were poured. Since this time, changes to the interior of the church have included periodic redecorating, updating the heating system, and new speaker system.² Presently, sound system does not work.

The 1915 addition consists of two rooms, each accessed by exterior doors and the flanking doors of the altar. An additional door along the north wall provides access to the east room from the nave also. The room of the west was referred to as the kitchen though it has no plumbing and is the smaller of the two addition rooms. The west wall of this room is flush with the west wall of the original church. Along this wall is a partially paneled door with a decorative glass transom window. The double-hung window on this wall to the north of the door and window on the north wall also have decorative glass. Wood floor to ceiling cabinets are installed in the angle of the south west corner and along the west portion of the north wall. There is a small door with stained glass transom window leading to the chancel angles across the southeast corner of the room. The east wall has a paneled door and rectangular serving counter space opening to the other room of the addition. The wooden serving counter is about four feet by one foot, approximately three foot from the floor, with a retractable door, molding surround, and one foot of counter space on each side of the wall. A single bulb light is located in the center of the ceiling. The walls are covered with plaster, and the floor is covered with linoleum. The larger room on the east is the classroom space. The east wall projects about five feet beyond the east wall of the original building, creating the "L" plan. Within the corner of the "L" is the partially paneled door with a decorative glass window and transom window. The two double hung windows on the east wall and two double hung windows on north wall also have decorative glass. Two doors access the nave from this room, one on the south wall next to the exterior door, and a smaller one with a stained glass transom window at an angle just west of center on the south wall. To the west of this door is the back sides of the recessed altar space. A fluorescent light has been added to illuminate the stained glass above the altar. The west wall has a paneled door and rectangular serving counter space opening to the other room of the addition. Two sets of fluorescent lights are found end to end along the center of the ceiling. The walls are covered with plaster, and the floor is covered with white and gray linoleum tiles, arranged in a checkerboard patten.

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5
Narrative Cont.

Property name: Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church
County/State: Delaware Co., IN

In 1902 the parsonage home was built for the minister and his family in a "T" shape plan. It is a gable-roofed, wood-framed, one and one-half / scant two story house, sided with 1940s style shingles of asbestos or masonite. The eaves are open and have scroll tailed rafters. Bottom of the "T" is to the south side with the arms of the "T" reaching east and west. The entry doors are on the east side of the building. The first entry door is in the middle of the first sun porch. This south sun porch is enclosed with six sets of one over one double-hung windows and has hipped roof. The inside of this sun porch exposes the original bead Board tongue and groove wood siding. This entry has a walkway leading in two directions. The first leads to the front entry doors of the church and the second walkway parallels the house to the second entry door and then splits to the garage and the back entry door of the church.

Walking around the exterior of the building, one would see the three step molding above most windows. The south face has two exterior double-hung windows. The second story window is narrower than the main floor window. The west side of the lower "T" has two windows similar to the south face. In the arm of the "T" on the west side includes two more similar windows with the three step molding. In the top northwest corner of the arm of the "T" appears to have an addition of a small bathroom area. The roof is a small slanted extension connected to the building but not at the roof elevation. Out side the bathroom area is located the original oil tank and cistern. The cistern has a round iron cover plate and has brick laid at the mouth in a horizon circular pattern. There has been a large stone placed on the plate. The west side of the upper "T" is one lower double-hung window. The well is located outside the north face of the building. It is square in shape and made from cement with a cement cover with two metal handles for lifting. The north face of the building only has vent for attic air and an entry door that leads to the basement. The northwest corner of the upper "T" is the north sun porch entry facing the east. This entry has a walkway leading to the garage and the backdoor of the church and right to the first entry door of the parsonage. This sun porch again exposes the original wood siding and the tongue and groove bead board on the ceiling. The entrance door is facing east and is on the far south corner of the sun porch area. It is enclosed the rest of the way around with five windows with a two over two divided pain glass. These windows are hedged top and latched at the bottom which open inward. There is a centralized chimney.

The downstairs rooms were built with high ceilings while the upstairs rooms were built with the normal height ceiling. The entry doors face the east. The entry doors have decorative wood moldings attached. There are two entry doors on the south sun porch. One faces east and enters into the large family room. The family room is located in the lower (south side) of the "T" plan. The second entry in the south sun porch faces south and enters into the parlor area. This room is located in the east arm of the "T" plan. Both of these rooms have working transom windows above the doors with original hardware. The original lights are available and presently stored in an upstairs closet. In the parlor there is a built in pantry closet with two upper four-panel doors and two lower two-panel doors. Inside these doors are shelves for storage.

8/26/2004

App. By D. Price

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6
Narrative Cont.

Property name: *Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church*
County/State: *Delaware Co., IN*

From the parlor there are three openings or doorways. The room opens to the family room to the southwest corner. In the northwest corner it has two openings - west to the stairway and bathroom/office entrances and north to the kitchen. The stairway is centrally located in the middle of the arms of the "T." The stairway had a banister on the left side of its three feet opening rising southward. At the top of the stairwell there are three bedroom areas. The first straight ahead which as a slanted interior closet that is shared by the adjacent bedroom to the northeast. The northeast bedroom is the smallest of the three bedrooms. All bedrooms have slanted ceilings. The northwest bedroom is the largest of the bedrooms. The closet is a complete square with shelves on one side and rod on the opposite side.

From the base of the stairway, east leads to the parlor and west leads to two doors. Straight west will lead into the small restroom that turns north after entering. The south door in this direction leads to the office area which has a second door that leads into the family room. The office area is the smallest of the rooms in the parsonage.

The kitchen occupies the north center of the "T" plan. It is built in a "L" shape with leg of the "L" in the northwest corner. In that corner there are built in shelves facing west. The stove was in the northeast corner next to the opening into the parlor. There is a unique cubby area in the northwest corner of the room. The original wood table with 4 chairs is painted white and sits center of this room.

The garage is a one room building with a loft for storage. The building was made out of scrap barn tongue and groove wood in the late 1930s. Dan Mowrey and Bob Mingle, congregation members, covered the original tongue and groove wood with siding when they were teenagers in the late 1940s. The floor is packed dirt. On the west side there is a long narrow window made from a door frame. On the north face there is a two over two pane window in the upper side of the building that lights the loft area. The south face has the entry door that is made from wood planks and a modern 1950s garage door with the four rows by six division style with the upper row being window panels. Open eaves are on the east and west sides on this hip roof with asphalt shingles.

The wooden fence and historical marker placed on an upright boulder are recent additions to the property. The fence is considered too impermanent to count, but the boulder marker, placed about one year ago (2003) is a non-contributing object. The church, parsonage, and garage are contributing buildings.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

Property name: Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church
County/State: Delaware Co., IN

Section 8 - Statement of Significance:

Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church is locally significant for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The church meets criterion C for architecture as one of the few remaining examples of early Gothic Revival architecture in Delaware County. As a religious property significant for its architecture and associations with local history, Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church meets criteria Consideration A. The period of significance of 1868-c.1940 includes all the historic buildings and significant additions associated with this historic church complex. The parsonage and garage contribute to the understanding and evolution of use of this rural church.

Historical Background

Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church is the only remaining historic structure of a 19th century town known as Cross Roads, located in Salem Township in the southwest corner of Delaware County, Indiana. As the settlers began to build permanent roads, two of the first roads, apparently the Muncie-Middletown Pike and Yorktown-Honey Creek Pike, crossed here at the current intersection of county roads 700S and 600W, thus the town was named "Cross Roads."³ The first permanent settlers in Salem Township arrived beginning in 1824, and Cross Roads became firmly established by the end of the 1830's. John Gustin opened the first store at Cross Roads in 1833 at the northeast corner of the intersection. Though it closed shortly there after, William and Erasmus Moffett opened a more successful store at the same location in 1838. At this time, Cross Roads had "become a locality of some note, and had been made the voting precinct of the township." As standard in government platting, section 16 had been reserved for the school, but classes were held on the farm of David Van Matre beginning in 1828, and "Schoolhouse No. 7" found a permanent site on a parcel of land in section 15 donated by Henry Miller in 1833. Thus, section 16, the northwest corner of the intersection, was sold in 1836 to a group of men. This was the last available land in the township and future site of Cross Roads Lutheran Church.⁴

These early settlers of Cross Roads worshipped at a congregation in nearby Henry County named Richwoods Presbyterian-Lutheran Church began in 1841 by Rev. Robert Irwin. In 1848, a Lutheran minister, Samuel Sayford, moved to Delaware County and bought all the land in section 16 at Cross Roads, clearing this heavily timbered land to farm. Due to the extent of Lutherans at Richwood Church and the expanding church circuit of Rev. Irwin, he took over the congregation shortly after his move, officially establishing Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church in 1848. Since many people attended from Cross Roads, he organized a Sunday School at Schoolhouse No. 7 in the 1850's, which had a higher attendance record than the church in Henry County. When Rev. Sayford died in 1865, Rev. P.G. Bell took over the congregation, and they met to discuss the church's future. With the popularity of the Sunday School, the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

Property name: Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church
County/State: Delaware Co., IN

growth of Cross Roads, and the willingness of Rev. Sayford's widow to donate a parcel of land, the church decided to move and construct a permanent building on the southeast corner of section 16, at the northwest corner of the intersection.⁵

Ground for the church was broke in 1868, and Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church (Cross Roads Lutheran Church) was dedicated on June 20, 1869. This 36' x 48' brick church was constructed by Joe Shoemaker and Garret Hopper at a cost of \$2,900. Throughout the 1870s and 1880s, there was a great deal of growth, reflecting the boom of the general area.⁶ As Cross Roads continued to prosper through the end of the 19th century; Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church became a prominent landmark of the community. In 1887, Cross Roads consisted of the church, school, store, post office, and half dozen houses.⁷ Reportedly at one point, Cross Roads also included a blacksmith shop, wagon shop, and copper shop.⁸ For many years, a toll booth sat diagonally across the intersection from the church, servicing the Muncie-Middletown Pike.⁹ Of these early structures, Cross Roads Lutheran Church is the only one remaining to reflect this early history of settlement in this section of Delaware County.

The congregation, consisting of the majority of residents in the vicinity, played an active role in community life around the turn of the century as the only large establishment in Cross Roads. The first women's society of Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized in 1883, followed by the Ladies Aid Society in 1905. In the late 1910s, these two organizations merged. The "Young People's Band" was organized in 1897, and by 1910 the church had its own orchestra.¹⁰ With this increase of activity and membership, the church decided to undergo a remodeling and expansion at a cost of \$3,300. These modifications included the installation of new carpet and pews, the addition of an entry vestibule to accommodate the raised floor, the installation of nine stained glass windows from Anderson Art Glass Company of Anderson, Indiana, and additions of the classroom and kitchen to the north of the sanctuary.¹¹ These are the major modifications to the original structure during its period of significance. In 1919, St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, located a few miles to the south, closed and its members became part of the congregation at Cross Roads. As Cross Roads began to decline, the church underwent several organizational changes. The church was part of Middletown Lutheran parish from 1925-1960, and in June of 1925 officially changed its name to First Lutheran Church of Middletown Lutheran Parish.¹²

As Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church existed to serve the vicinity of Cross Roads and as the population shifted the church also began to shrink, though it continued to serve this section of Delaware County throughout the 20th century. Around 1940, the blacksmith, grocery store, and filling station that were located on the northeast corner of the intersection closed and were soon demolished.¹³ Several interior changes were made to the church in the 1930s and 1940s. In 1967, the church's constitution was officially amended to change the

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National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 9

Property name: Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church
County/State: Delaware Co., IN

name to First Lutheran Church of Cross Roads. For the centennial in 1968, the interior was redecorated, replacing the carpet. ¹⁴ Beginning in 1977, the church called a pastor engaged in a full-time secular job in order to continue to operate. The church continued to serve the families of the area, shrinking as these families moved away and died. Many of the remaining couple dozen members could trace their family's association with the church back to the 19th century.¹⁵ With the celebration of the sesquicentennial in 1998, the church had the distinction of the "oldest church in Delaware County" to be continually served by ministers.¹⁶ The following year, when their pastor decided to completely retire, they determined that they could not call another pastor and Cross Roads Church closed their doors after 131 years in this structure.

Architectural Significance

Gothic Revival was a popular architecture style in America from 1840-1870. Richard Upjohn is credited with spreading this style across America with his highly influential book *Rural Architecture*. Upjohn and A. J. Downing were influenced by the flourish of interest in Gothic art forms in England during the mid to late 18th and early 19th centuries. Specifically, in England, Parliament passed the Church Building Act in 1818. The act provided for construction of hundreds of new churches, and the commission in charge of approving the designs recommended Gothic architecture for the overwhelming majority of the churches. During the early years of this trend in the United States, the Gothic Revival replaced the classical forms as a more "religious" style of architecture for churches. The bell tower is a particularly important feature of this style, though it may follow a variety of designs. Pointed arch windows are also specifically associated with this style. Other elements of high style Gothic Revival architecture include the quatrefoil, stepped buttresses, recessed openings, wooden doors with heavy strap hinges, and in later examples, highly picturesque features, such as polychromy.

The pattern books published in the middle of the 19th century helped spread the latest architecture styles to new areas of settlement. These regions, like Indiana in the 1860s, were striving to reflect culture at the same time as meeting the hardships of pioneer life. As the styles were interpreted and built in vernacular construction, the basic elements remained without the extent of detail often associated with the style in more populated centers. The surfaces of these buildings tended to be simpler, reflecting the functional focus on the pioneer life.

Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church is an excellent example of this religious vernacular Gothic Revival style. This brick church, made with bricks locally made by the founders, has a prominent bell tower over the small entrance addition on the south façade. The openings of

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the bell tower reflect the shape of a fish, an early Christian symbol.¹⁷ As typical with functional rural architectural forms, a limited number of elements reflect the Gothic Revival style without any additional detailing. Though the church was expanded in 1915 by the addition of an entry vestibule and north wing, these modification do not intrude upon the original form and are distinguished from this original design by differences in brick color and stylistic details. As one of the three oldest churches in Delaware County, Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church is the only example of Gothic Revival architecture dating to this period.

The closest church with this style is Yorktown Christian Church built in 1908. The Yorktown church is over 20 miles away from the Crossroads Lutheran Church and has been altered from its original structure with modern material. The only house with the Gothic Revival style is the Stewart House located on 350 south. Both the Yorktown Christian Church and the Stewart House was only given a "Notable" rating in the Delaware County Interim Report. The Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church was rated "Outstanding." The parsonage and garage was not rated though the age of the structure and building style is very typical of the early 1900 period. The garage was built shortly after the parsonage though there is little documentation. Individuals in their 80s have reported that it was present all of their life. Early pictures of the church and parsonage include the garage.

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End Notes

¹ Lois Hamilton. *First Lutheran Church of Cross Roads, Sesquicentennial 1998*. (Indiana, 1998), p. 21.

² James Mowrey. Personal interview. February 15, 2000.

Lois Hamilton, *First Lutheran Church of Cross Roads, Sesquicentennial 1998*. (Indiana, 1998), p. 20, 25-7.

³ Thomas B. Helm. *History of Delaware County, Indiana*. (Chicago, IL: Kingman Brothers, 1881), p. 284. also, March Sayford. *Early History of Salem Township, Delaware County, Indiana*. (Sept. 1968. Delaware County Historical Alliance.), p. 3.

⁴ Helm. *History of Delaware County, Indiana*, p. 282-5.

⁵ Helm. *History of Delaware County, Indiana*, p. 286.

G. W. H Kemper, ed. *A Twentieth Century History of Delaware County Indiana*. (Chicago, IL: Lewis Publishing Company, 1908), Volume 1, p. 478.

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Dianne Courtney. "Original Sayford a traveling Minister," *Muncie Star Press*. January 7, 1976

⁶ Lois Hamilton. *First Lutheran Church of Cross Roads, Sesquicentennial 1998*. (Indiana, 1998), p. 12-13.

⁷ *Atlas of Delaware County*. (Philadelphia, PN: Griffing, Gordon, and Company, 1887).

⁸ Sayford. *Early History of Salem Township, Delaware County, Indiana*, p. 3.

⁹ James Mowrey. Personal interview. February 15, 2000.

¹⁰ Lois Hamilton. *First Lutheran Church of Cross Roads, Sesquicentennial 1998*. (Indiana, 1998), p. 14-16.

¹¹ Lois Hamilton. *First Lutheran Church of Cross Roads, Sesquicentennial 1998*. (Indiana, 1998), p. 20-1.

¹² Henry G Waltmann, ed. *History of the Indiana-Kentucky Synod of the Lutheran Church I America*. (Indianapolis, IN: Central Publishing Company, 1971), p. 251.

¹³ James Mowrey. Personal interview. February 15, 2000.

¹⁴ Lois Hamilton. *First Lutheran Church of Cross Roads, Sesquicentennial 1998*. (Indiana, 1998), p. 24-7.

¹⁵ Lois Hamilton. *First Lutheran Church of Cross Roads, Sesquicentennial 1998*. (Indiana, 1998), p. 28.

¹⁶ Greg Maynard. "At the Cross Road," *Muncie Star Press*. Sept. 12, 1998.

¹⁷ Dick Greene. "Our Neighborhood," *Muncie Star*. Nov. 1, 1968.

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Verbal Boundary Description:

Starting at the junction of the north edge of the pavement of CR 700 S and the west edge of the pavement of CR 600 W, proceed north along said edge of 600 W, 167' then turn west and proceed 178.5', then turn south and proceed to the north edge of the pavement of CR 700 S, then turn east along said north edge and proceed to the point of origin.

Boundary Justification:

The boundary includes the buildings and lot historically associated with the Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church and that maintains its historic integrity.

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Photographs

The following information is common to all photographs:

- 1. Richwood Evangelical Lutheran Church*
- 2. Delaware County, Indiana*
- 3. Dixie Price*
- 4. June, 2002*
- 5. Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology*

Photo number and view

- 1. Standing at the intersection of 600 W and 700 S Delaware County facing northwest, showing front and east elevations of church, non-contributing marker in front.*
- 2. Rear addition of church, standing between the structures facing east.*
- 3. Back elevation (north) of the church, facing south.*
- 4. East elevation of the church (clearly one can see where the church was added on in 1915), facing west.*
- 5. Back view of the parsonage (notice the sun porch on both entrances to the home.) The very back door went straight to the basement steps. Facing southwest.*
- 6. The parsonage, built in 1902. Front elevation. Photographer was facing north.*
- 7. Facing north, the garage was built by two of the teenage congregation members in the early 1900's out of scrap barn material. Parsonage to left, church to right.*
- 8. Interior of addition to church, Dining room became the Sunday school room and is presently used for document display area. Opened door leads outside. Facing east.*
- 9. Standing middle of the sanctuary looking south toward the entry doors. If you look close you will see the bell rope draped down the right side of the doors.*
- 10. Standing southeast corner of the sanctuary looking northwest.*
- 11. Standing southwest corner of the sanctuary looking northeast.*
- 12. Parsonage interior, Standing in the southeast corner of the parlor looking at the kitchen door and the other door leads to the bathroom and stairway that leads to the upstairs.*

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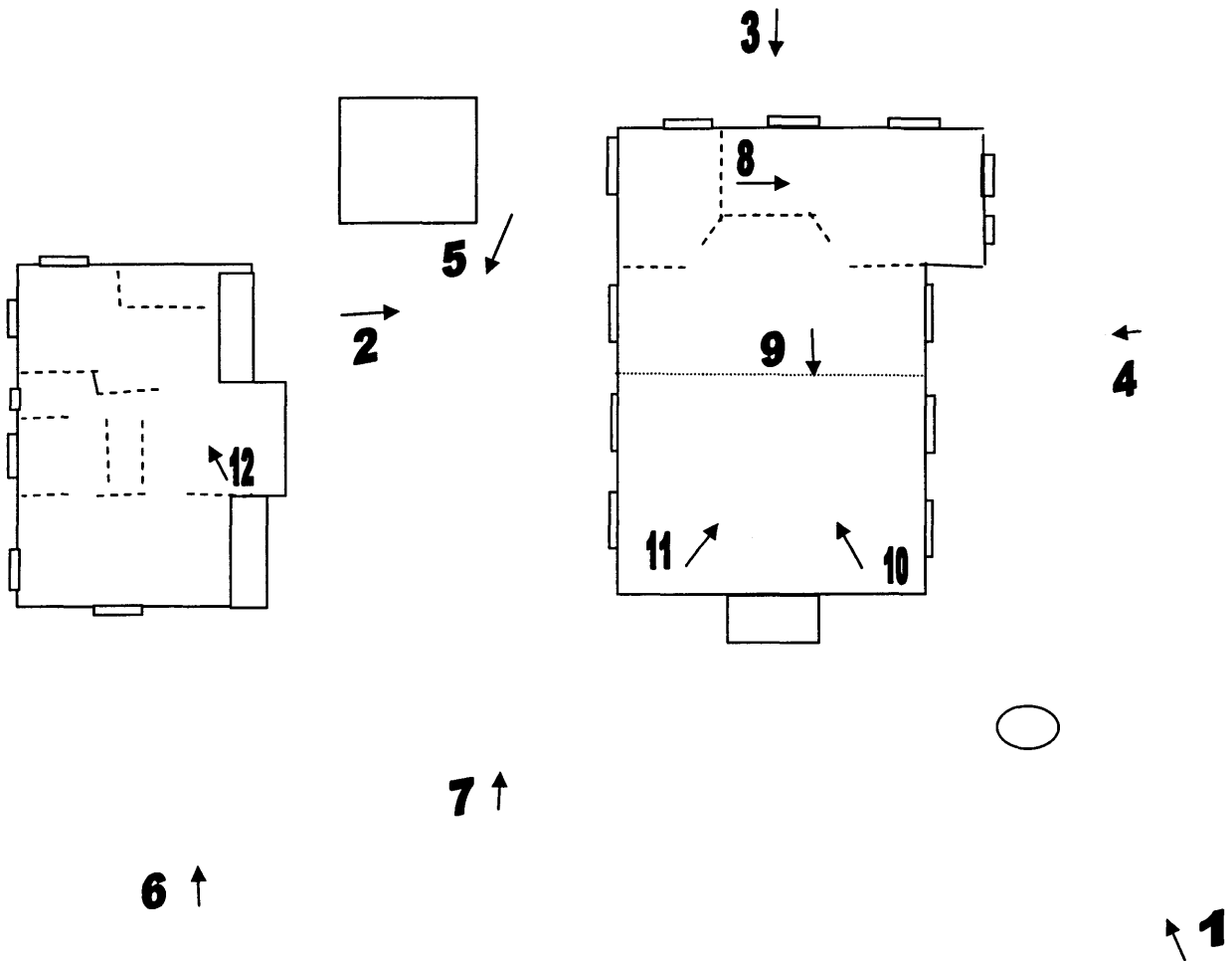
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Photo Layout by Number



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Current Sketch plan of Cross Roads

