

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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 Lemmon's Church and Cemetery

other names/site number Lemmon's Presbyterian Church

2. Location

street & number Portersville Road near CR 750W N/A not for publication

city or town Portersville vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Dubois code 037 zip code 47546

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 36 CFR 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.)

Patrick R. Roberts

4-28-92

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

State of 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 of the Keeper

**Entered in the
National Register**

Date of Action

Melanie Byers

6/4/92

Lemmon's Church
Name of Property

Dubois County, Indiana
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
1	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
2	1	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: Religious Facility

FUNERARY: Cemetery

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

FUNERARY: Cemetery

WORK IN PROGRESS

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

GREEK REVIVAL

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: Sandstone

walls WOOD: Weatherboard

roof METAL: Tin

other CONCRETE

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.)

9. Major Bibliographical 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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION

ETHNIC HERITAGE: European

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1860-1906

Significant Dates

1860

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Baugh, Samuel

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

National Register Files

Lemmon's Church
Name of Property

Dubois County, Indiana
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 3

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	6	4	9	6	3	8	0	4	2	6	0	0	9	0
Zone		Easting						Northing						

2

Zone		Easting						Northing						

3

Zone		Easting						Northing						

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 John J. Fierst, Lemmon's Church Historical Committee

organization Lemmon's Church and Cemetery Assoc., Inc. date 7 December 1991

street & number 737 W. 8th Street telephone (812) 482-3074

city or town Jasper state IN zip code 47546

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 Lemmon's Church and Cemetery Association, Inc.

street & number 7154 W 150N telephone (812) 482-3074

city or town Jasper state IN zip code 47546

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.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1 Lemmon's Church, Dubois County, Indiana

Lemmon's Church sits amid a rural setting of farmland and narrow country roads in the relatively flat western part of Boone Township, Dubois County, Indiana.

The church is a one story, rectangular shaped frame structure with a simple gable roof. It is best described as a Greek Revival style building having a traditional, one room, gable-front plan.

The building is supported on sandstone blocks at the corners and at intervals of ten to twelve feet. Solid 10" x 10" poplar timber beams were placed from bearing point to bearing point. Over the years these timbers rotted, which necessitated the erection of a continuous infill foundation wall of concrete block (Photo 2).

The primary floor framing of 8" x 8" popular timbers at 24" o.c. are mortise-and-tenon into these 10" x 10" perimeter sill plates. The intermediate joists are merely radially split rails of white oak whose top edges have been planed with an adze and shimmed to create a level surface for the floor. The bottom edge of the floor joists still exhibit the original bark (Photo 3).

The floor framing supports two layers of tongue-and-groove wood floor decking. The exterior walls are framed of 3" x 4" hand hewn white oak studs at 24" o.c. The studs support 9" x 9" wall plates at the top of the side walls, onto which bear the 3" x 4" rafters.

One of the most intriguing aspects of the building is the roof structure. Three massive wood trusses of an unusual modified Queen Post design are the principal means of support for the expansive ceiling (see sketch). This design has allowed the meeting room below to be of a considerable size without interruption by intermediate columns (Photo 4).

The trusses consist of a 9" x 9" poplar timber tie beam, which is notched into the side wall timbers. A few feet inward from the sidewalls are struts that support 9" x 9" purlins.

The truss is further made up of diagonal 9" x 9" members that span from each sidewall, are notched (not pinned) into each strut at half its height, and are pinned into another pair of struts, spaced 6' to 8' apart at the center of the truss. These vertical

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struts are notched and pinned into the tie beam and are tied together at the top by a 9" by 9" horizontal timber, forming a rectangular void at the center of the truss (Photo 6). The rafters span uninterrupted to the ridge, which has no ridge beam. The rafters from each side are gusseted together. Split board spaced 2-3 inches apart serve as the roof decking (Photo 5).

Between these three trusses and between the trusses and the endwalls, span the ceiling rafters, which are 2" x 7" at 18" o.c.

The exterior's primary facade, facing south, is a rectangular elevation with a gable and that takes on the character of a grand pediment. This facade, as are the other three, is clad in beveled clapboard wood siding, 4 1/2" exposure. The facade is symmetrically balanced with two large 4' x 8' doors with transoms above. At the center is a 3'8" x 8'6", double hung, 12-over-12 window. Limestone slab steps lead up to the doors. At the base of the wall, a wood skirt with drip edge molding above covers the timber floor structure. Above the window and door openings, the beveled siding corbels to a second larger drip edge molding. This detail forms the bottom of the pediment. Above each opening the horizontal corbeling forms large dentils. Between the window and the vertical detail was, until recently, a decades old sign that read, "Lemmon Presbyterian Church 1860" (Photo 7).

The pediment features an 18" wood fascia board with raking decorative Gothic-styled brackets at 16" to 18" o.c. The overhanging eaves with coved moulding edge trim has gable returns. The tympanum features only the beveled siding and lone light fixture. Originally, however, there was found a half circle louvered window at the center of the pediment (Photos 2 and 7).

The two side elevations are identical. Each features the beveled wood siding, four 12-over-12 wood windows, the wood skirt and cornice boards, and the decorative brackets. At the corners, on this side only, are found 12" x 4" wood edge trim (Photos 8 and 9).

One brick chimney on each side pops through the roof at the center of the elevation. The roof which is evident from these two elevations is clad in standing seam tin. Originally the roof was

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Lemmon's Church, Dubois County, Indiana

clad in wood shakes; the nails of which are still evident in the roof decking (Photo 8).

The rear elevation is understandably less detailed. The wall is a simple gable composition with no expressed pediment. No brackets are found at the raking fascia boards. Only two brackets are found at the returns. The facade has only two of the same styled windows (Photo 10).

The interior has one large room. The floor mentioned earlier is made of two layers of tongue-and-groove decking, the top layer of which is 3 1/2" wide. The walls are plaster on wood lath with multiple layers of wallpaper evident. The wood baseboard is 10" high, and in some places is made of two 5" sections. A beaded car siding wainscot, with chair rail above, wraps the four walls. This wainscot was an obvious later addition, because of the relationship it has with the baseboard (Photo 11).

The ceiling is finished in stained, 3 1/2" wide, tongue-and-groove wood decking. Some areas of the ceiling are severely damaged. At the center of each of the side walls is a protruding brick flue covered in the respective wall finishes. At one time, wood stoves were connected to those flues. Now they serve the furnace system found in the crawlspace below. Supply air registers have been cut into the floor to provide conditioned air.

Lighting, other than the natural lighting let in by the massive windows, was provided by six school house pendants installed sometime in the 1940s when the rural area was electrified. Five inch wood casings, which have a beaded edge, wrap the windows.

The interior is highlighted by a 10" raised wood platform at the front of the room (Photo 11). This was not original to the building. The platform is sheathed in the beaded car siding and topped with the wood floor decking. A unique feature of the platform is its semi-circular, 5" high, cut-out section which flips out to form a complete circle, one-half level below the remaining platform. The wall behind the platform at one time featured a beautifully painted and crisply executed theater proscenium scene with grand flanking Doric columns (Photo 12).

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Section number 7 Page 4 Lemmon's Church, Dubois County, IN

The grounds surrounding the church, as mentioned earlier, feature the church cemetery, a lawn area, some trees, and shrubbery, and a relatively recent concrete block shed (Photo 13). The cemetery includes both 1800s and 1900s grave sites. Many stone obelisk type markers can be found in the cemetery.

The church counts as a contributing building, the shed is a non-contributing building, and the cemetery is a contributing site.

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Section number 8 Page 5 Lemmon's Church, Dubois County, Indiana

Lemmon's Church and Cemetery meets Criteria A and C. In the area of religion, the church is locally significant for its association with the revival movement and as an example of a circuit rider congregation. In the area of ethnic heritage, Lemmon's Church was an important center for the Scotch-Irish community of the area. Architecturally, the church is a fine example of a gable front Greek Revival building. Because of its local importance, Lemmon's Church and Cemetery meets Criterion Consideration A.

Lemmon's Church has significance in the area of religion because of its association with the revival movement and the circuit rider phenomenon. The Cumberland Presbyterian Church was in part an outgrowth of the Great Awakening Revival movement. The Great Western Revival swept the Northwest Territory from 1797 to 1805. Scotch-Irish Presbyterians from North Carolina, Tennessee, and Kentucky founded the movement.

Following disputes between strict Calvinists and those who rejected predestination, damnation of unbaptised infants, and strict requirements for ministers, the Cumberland Presbyterian Church was formed in 1810 in Tennessee. The Cumberland Presbyterians embraced the ideas of the reformers and stressed evangelism.

Scotch-Irish settlers from these Upland South areas brought the Cumberland Church with them to north Dubois County. It was the first denomination to appear in Dubois County. Just south of Ireland, Indiana (in Dubois County), the Shiloh congregation was established in c.1817. Camp revival meetings were held there, and eventually, a permanent church was erected in 1849 (Shiloh Meeting House and Cemetery, NRHP, 7-29-82). With the settlement of many more Scotch-Irish in the immediate area and county, each "Community" established their own congregation. Since trained ministers remained few, however, such groups depended on circuit riders well beyond the settlement era.

Instrumental in this process was Rev. Andrew Jackson Strain (1821-1873) of Dubois County. Strain was ordained at Shiloh in 1847. He was placed in charge of all congregations in the county. By "Circuit Riding" he was able to establish congregations throughout the county, including Jasper, Hillsboro, Lebanon,

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Ireland, Gray's, Hopkin's, and McMahan's. Strain founded Lemmon's Church in 1860. He remained in charge of all congregations until his death in 1873. Of these churches, three have been demolished, one (besides Lemmon's) is still standing, while the fate of two is unknown. Within Boone Township, a former Presbyterian Church stands at Portersville (this church may have been Gray's or Lebanon originally, one of the two previously mentioned unlocated churches). Lemmon's Church, therefore, is one of only two properties reflecting these significant religious phenomena and the spread of Cumberland Presbyterianism in Boone Township.

It should be noted that the founder and minister of Lemmon's Church was a noted community leader and proponent of public education. Strain was appointed one of three county school examiners in 1853. In 1861, he became the sole school examiner under new regulations. He held this post until his death. Strain is often credited with organizing the county's public school system.

The design of the church reflects the Cumberland Presbyterian faith. Since men sat to the right and women to the left, their churches had to be wide enough for two rows of pews and had separate entrances for each sex.

In 1906, the schizm between several Presbyterian groups was healed. This marks the end of the period of significance. From 1906 until 1923 the congregations of Lemmon's and Portersville churches were combined as part of the United Presbyterian Church. In 1958, the United Presbyterian and Presbyterian Church of the United States combined into their current form. In 1966, the Presbytery disbanded Lemmon's congregation and the site and buildings were deeded to Lemmon's Church and Cemetery Association. Services were discontinued, but the church is still used for social gatherings.

The historic themes of religion, settlement, and ethnic heritage are closely related in Dubois County. Settlement in Dubois County occurred prior to statehood (1816) thanks to several important trails. These trails were partly formed by migrating buffalo, hence the name of the Vincennes-Falls of the Ohio route, the

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Buffalo Trace. A north-south route, the Yellow Banks Trace, also crossed Dubois County, starting at a point across the Ohio from Owensboro, Kentucky. Both trails met near Portersville on the White River. The Treaty of Fort Wayne (1803) opened up the county to settlement. Fort McDonald, named for a Scottish early pioneer family, was built near Portersville about this time. The Buckingham Baseline was established through southern Indiana (including Boone Township of Dubois County) in 1804 to facilitate land surveys and sales. Pioneers from the Upland South came to the county in sizable numbers after the War of 1812.

Lemmon's Church is significant in the area of ethnic heritage for its close association with the Scotch-Irish community of Boone Township. Scotch-Irish comprised the initial wave of settlers in the county, particularly in Boone Township. They were the dominant cultural group in the county until substantial numbers of German immigrants settled in Dubois County during the mid 1800s. While initial settlers were "bought out" by Germans, Boone Township and the area around Ireland remained largely Scotch-Irish in population. Lemmon's Church reflects the religious faith most settlers to the area held. More importantly, it was the focal point of the Scotch-Irish community for most of the township.

The church served the rural community known as Lemmon's Community. Jacob Lemmon from Harrison County, Kentucky came to what would be Boone Township of Dubois County in 1812. In 1814, Jacob donated land toward the founding of Portersville as the county seat (later, Jasper became the county seat). Jacob's sons David, Abraham, Elijah, Jacob, Jr., and John were land owners and farmers in what came to be known as Lemmon's Community. John Lemmon donated land for a school immediately south of the nominated site in 1854. The school was soon inadequate for community activities, and in 1860, Lemmon sold land across the road for the construction of the nominated church.

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Lemmon's Church also has architectural significance as a fine example of a vernacular, gable-front rural church with well-refined Greek Revival ornamentation. The gable-front vernacular was commonly used for schools, churches, and other semi-public buildings. The one-room church or school type is likely a simple variation on one room folk houses. The main variation from simple folk houses was the shifting of the entrance to the gable end, recalling the form of Medieval rural chapels. By introducing new details or changing the roof pitch, builders could cloak the gable-front chapel in fashionable styles of the day. The practicality of the gable-front type, and the reluctance to change familiar symbolic types made the type popular until the early 1900s in Indiana.

Other significant buildings of this type in Dubois County still exist. Shiloh Meeting House (1849, NRHP, 7-29-82) is a very basic example. Another church at Porterville is also of this type (date of construction unknown). The former Presbyterian Church at Ireland (c.1890) features Gothic Revival pointed arch windows. Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church (1901, NRHP, 2-23-90) is a late example with Victorian Gothic details. Lemmon's Church is significant within this group because of its integrity and its refined Greek Revival detail.

Lemmon's Church also has structural details which may be unusual for its type. Three heavy-timber trusses supporting the roof are of a modified Queen Post type (see diagram). These trusses support the ceiling without need for posts or columns. No survey of one room churches has been conducted to determine the rarity of this design.

Samuel Baugh was the builder of Lemmon's Church. He lived near Hindostan (Martin County), and was a carpenter and flat boat builder. Baugh came to know many land owners on White River, since they depended on his flat boats to transport their goods to market, often going as far as New Orleans. John Lemmon met Baugh in this way, and in 1860, he was hired to build the church. Lemmon's is the only church that Baugh is known to have built.

Acknowledgement: Much of the religious history background in the Statement of Significance was derived from the National Register nomination for Shiloh Meeting House and Cemetery, listed 7-29-82, Judge S. Hugh Dillin, Author.

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Section number 9 Page 9 Lemmon's Church, Dubois County, IN

Bibliography

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Lemmon's Church. Various records. Copies at Dubois County Historical Society.

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Shiloh Meeting House and Cemetery, 7-29-82, Judge S. Hugh Dillin, Author.

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Section number 10 Page 10 Lemmon's Church, Dubois County, IN

Verbal Boundary Description

Part of the west half of the northeast quarter of Section 26, Township 1 North, Range 6 West, to wit:

Commencing at a point 20 rods and 4 links west of the southwest corner of the northeast quarter of the above section, town, and range; running thence north 6 rods and 2 links to a stone; thence west 15 rods and 3 1/2 links to a stone; thence south 39 rods and 10 links to the middle of the Otwell and Portersville Road; thence with said road north 71 degrees, east 2 rods and 4 1/2 links; thence north 33 rods and 1 link; thence east to the place of beginning, containing one (1) acre more or less; also,

Commencing on the north side of the Portersville and Petersburg Road in the west tract of land belonging to the heirs of Wilson Lemmon; thence south 84 degrees 30 minutes, west 16 rods; thence north 5 degrees 30 west, 20 rods; thence north 84 degrees 30 minutes, east 16 rods; thence south 5 degrees 30 minutes, east 20 rods to the place of beginning, containing two (2) acres, being part of the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 26 in Township 1 north of range 6 west.

Boundary Justification

This is the historic property boundary.

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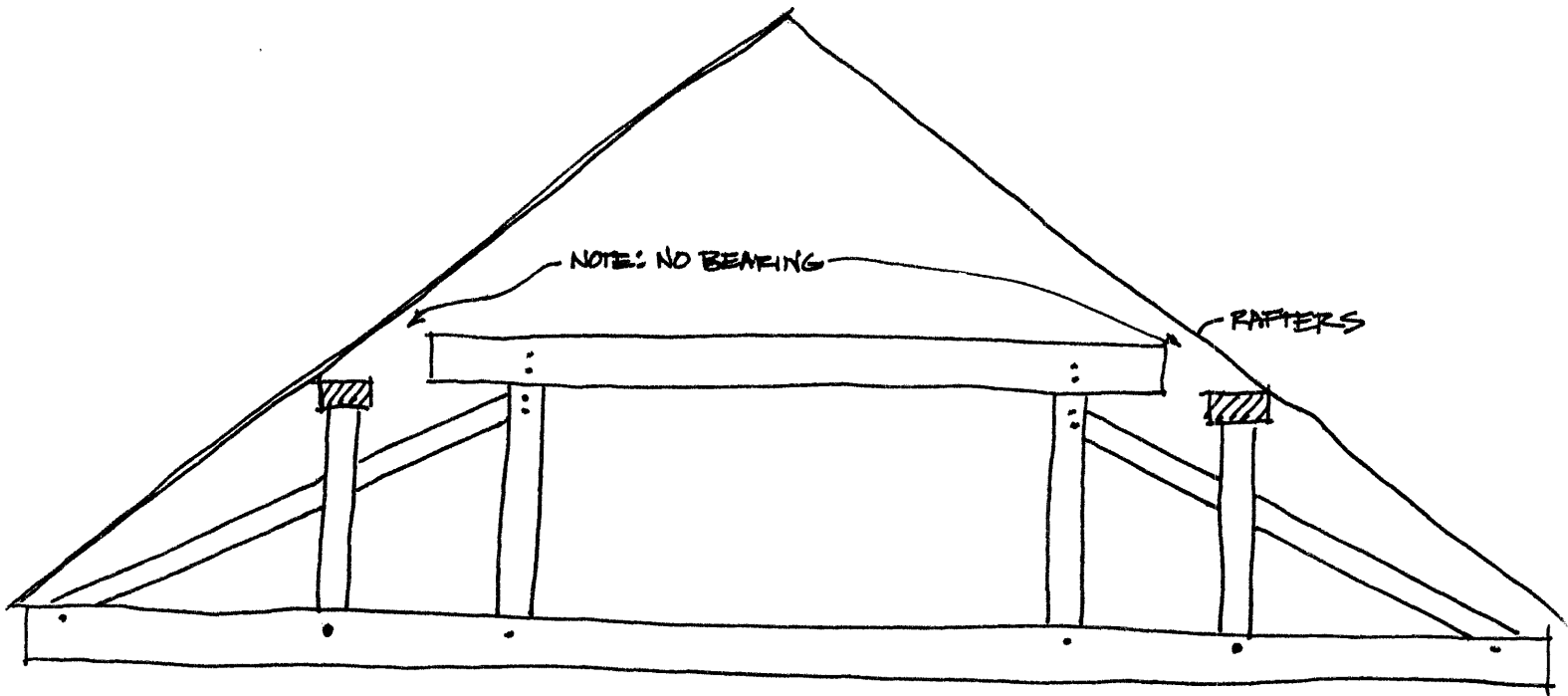
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Key to Photographs

Note: Information is the same for all photographs*

1. Lemmon's Church*
 2. Portersville, Indiana*
 3. John J. Fierst*
 4. #1,2,8,9,11,12 taken August 11, 1991; 3,4,5,6,7,10, and 13 taken November 1991.
 5. 737 W. 8th St.; Jasper, Indiana 47546
-
- #1 Camera pointing north toward church.
 - #2 Camera pointing north toward church.
 - #3 Camera pointing west.
 - #4 Camera pointing southeast - interior view.
 - #5 Camera pointing north - interior view.
 - #6 Camera pointing north - interior view.
 - #7 Camera pointing south - interior view.
 - #8 Camera pointing southeast.
 - #9 Camera pointing north towards church.
 - #10 Camera pointing southeast toward church.
 - #11 Camera pointing northeast - interior view.
 - #12 Camera pointing northwest - interior view.
 - #13 Camera pointing northeast toward shed.



LEMMON'S PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH DUBOIS CO., IN
ROOF TRUSSES
NO SCALE
1-92