

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH 01829 DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAY 21 1975
DATE ENTERED	AUG 6 1975

**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

Clear Creek Church

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

3.5 mi SE of Camp Verde

STREET & NUMBER

T 13 N, R 5 E, Sec. 16, N2

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Camp Verde

VICINITY OF

4

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Arizona

04

Yavapai

025

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: none

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Camp Verde Historical Society

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Camp Verde

VICINITY OF

STATE

Arizona

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Yavapai County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Prescott

STATE  
Arizona

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

### CONDITION

EXCELLENT                       DETERIORATED  
 GOOD                                 RUINS  
 FAIR                                   UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Clear Creek Church-School was built of handhewn limestone blocks between 1898 and 1903. The stone was brought in from Hayfield Wash on the Middle Verde and shaped by a local mason.

The building is 40' x 25' and the block size varies from 10" to 12" x 13" to 18". The high gabled roof is of cedar shingles. The floor is of 3" tongue and groove boards. The inside walls are plastered.

There are six windows on the east side and none on the west. The north entrance is flanked by windows and sheltered by a partially enclosed wooden porch with gabled shingled roof. The south side has a door and a small window above. North and south ends each have an attic window. The brick chimney is in the northeast corner.

The walls of the building are of coursed stone. The windows have radiating voussoirs and lugsills.

The roof needs some repairs, and the walls need to be stabilized at the corners.

The Camp Verde Historical Society will soon begin restoration of the building. The floor is sound and will be sanded. No difficulties are anticipated in the restoration of the ceiling and windows.

The wooden porch was attached to the building by the WPA and will be removed during the restoration.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Clear Creek Church-School was built between 1898 and 1903 and continued to serve the community in some capacity until the mid 1940s.

The lower Clear Creek area is an alluvial plain long occupied by prehistoric people and historic Indians before being settled by Anglos in the 19th Century. The first settlers found the Yavapai Indians raising maize, beans, tobacco, and cotton without irrigation.

The first permanent Anglo settlers established themselves at the mouth of Clear Creek in the winter of 1865. The spot was chosen for the ease with which it could be irrigated from the creek, for its good defensive location, and for the plenitude of stone from the local prehistoric ruins. By February the settlers had cleared and planted 200 acres and dug irrigation ditches. They planted a variety of grains and vegetables. In August they hauled the first load of barley to Prescott.

Raids from the displaced Indians led to the establishment of Camp Lincoln in 1865. This post was soon moved to Fort Verde, and the settlers prospered by supplying the garrison there and at Fort Whipple.

In 1875 cattle were driven in from Texas. The range was soon overgrazed almost to the point of destruction until the Forest Service took charge of it in 1907 in order to protect the watershed. For many years there was also much destruction of vegetation by smoke from the nearby smelters for the mines at Jerome.

Construction on the Clear Creek church began in 1898 and was completed in 1903. The building was used as a church until 1915 when it became a school until the late 1930s. During the second World War the building served as a cannery for the community.

### 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

J. P. Schreiber, Ft. Verde State Historic Park  
 Ida Smith, "Clear Creek" Arizona Days & Ways, 25 Sept. 1960  
 Earl H. Morris, "Aboriginal Salt Mine" Am. Museum of Natural History 1928  
 Agnes Morgan Allen, "Sequence of Human Occupancy in the Middle Verde Valley, Az." Ph.D. dissertation, Clark University, 1938  
 Mary Richards Interview July 1975

### 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/4 acre

UTM OK  
HL

UTM REFERENCES

A 12 | 424000 | 382090  
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B [ ] | [ ] | [ ]  
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C [ ] | [ ] | [ ]  
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D [ ] | [ ] | [ ]  
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

### 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marjorie Wilson, Historian

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Arizona State Parks Board

April 9, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

1688 West Adams

(602) 271-4174

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Phoenix

Arizona

### 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ SIGNATURE

*Dennis McCarthy*  
 DENNIS MCCARTHY

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

April 9, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*AP [Signature]*  
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
 ATTEST: *[Signature]*  
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

8/6/75

DATE

AUG 4 1975

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The church and sufficient land for parking have been given to the Camp Verde Historical Society by R. G. Burgbacher. The Society will restore it for use as a chapel. This is the Society's main Bicentennial project.

The Clear Creek Church was the first church building in the Verde Valley. Before that time services were held in the school. The only earlier stone building in the Valley was the Wm. Head House built in 1875.

The stone was quarried about a mile north of the site by the young men and boys of the community. The older men built the church and the women fed the workers.