

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 St. Mark's Episcopal Church

and/or common Zion United Pentecostal Church

**2. Location**

street & number 130 East Maple Street \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Beaver Dam \_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district Second

state Wisconsin code 55 county Dodge code 027

**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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input 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 Zion United Pentecostal Church, Rev. David Meyer, Pastor

street & number 130 East Maple Avenue

city, town Beaver Dam \_\_\_ vicinity of state Wisconsin 53916

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dodge County Courthouse

street & number 127 East Oak Street

city, town Juneau state Wisconsin 53039

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Wis. Inventory of Historic Places has this property been determined eligible? \_\_\_ yes  no

date 1973 \_\_\_ federal  state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records State Historical Society of Wisconsin

city, town Madison state Wisconsin 53706

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>1865</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The former St. Mark's Church is situated at the corner of East Maple and North Lincoln Streets in a shaded, mixed residential-commercial neighborhood two blocks north of the central business district in the small city of Beaver Dam. The one-story board-and-batten Gothic Revival structure is covered by an asbestos-shingled roof, crowned by a louvred steeple and polygonal, shingled spire. Small, pointed turrets rise from the corners of the building and tower. The building is raised on a low stone and concrete foundation. The projecting covered narthex is cut by a pointed-arch double door. To the rear (north), a small board-and-batten extension with single windows and flared gable roof provides office space for the church. Paired, leaded stained glass windows topped by triangular overlights fill the pointed wood frames along the east and west walls.

The continuous interior space is composed of an open narthex with choir loft above, "separated" from the nave by two thin square wood columns with squared capitals; a simple wood balustrade fills the width of the interior above. Access to the choir loft is gained via a turned stairway to the east of the inside door. Three thin wood ribs with simple wood corbels span the beveled ceiling; at the north end, additional applied wood struts suggest trussing. Altar furniture has been removed from the square apse at the north end, revealing the simple latches. A pipe organ to the left of the apse and two rows of hanging lanterns are among the few more recent appointments. It may be that the low wood pews are original. The tufted, straw-filled cushions were donated to the church in 1892.<sup>1</sup> Warm, low-level light enters the interior through the slim, wood-framed windows.

Alterations, on the interior only, have been minimal. The original altar is no longer in place. In the basement, a heating system was installed in 1941; subsequently a guild-hall was made of the basement, and a church kitchen and rest rooms were added.

The church was moved to its present site in 1865.<sup>2</sup>

1. Records of St. Mark's Church
2. Ibid.

## 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 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 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** 1858<sup>1</sup> **Builder/Architect** Unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

One of only a handful of "Carpenter's Gothic" churches still in existence in Wisconsin, St. Mark's Episcopal Church retains its board-and-batten exterior and naive Gothic details. Church records note that the simple structure was completed only after a fund-raising tour of the East and South in the 1850's, suggesting the frontier status of the community at the time.<sup>2</sup>

Small in scale, stark in design, and unsophisticated in construction, the building is indicative of the size of its original congregation and of the village of Beaver Dam in 1858. Its primitive "Gothic" windows, created by stacking triangles on leaded panels, light the original interior with its "trussed" ceiling.

The church was used by St. Mark's Episcopal Congregation, organized in 1846, until 1978. Plans to demolish the building were overturned when a new owner proposed to rent out the facility as a small concert and reception hall. Recently the Zion United Pentecostal Church acquired the building and has maintained the church in its historical state.

1. Cornerstone
2. Souvenir Program., 1941

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Beaver Dam Daily Citizen, 1978.  
 Souvenir Program and Centennial History, Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, Historical Committee,  
 Beaver Dam Centennial, Inc., 1941.  
 St. Mark's Episcopal Church Records.

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

# 10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property Less than 1.0

Quadrangle name Beaver Dam, Wisc.

Quadrangle scale 1:62,500

### UMT References

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3	5	1	5	7	5
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4	8	1	3	1	0	0
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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Outlot 64 of the original Third Ward of Beaver Dam, Dodge County, Wisconsin

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Reverend David Meyer

organization Zion United Pentecostal Church date January 1980

street & number 504 North University Avenue telephone 414/887-8661

city or town Beaver Dam state Wisconsin 53916

# 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Richard Mearcy

title Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin date 10/14/80

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>Carol D. Shell</u>	date <u>11-28-80</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest: <u>Judith Flint McClelland</u>	date <u>11-28-80</u>
Chief of Registration	

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St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Beaver Dam, Wisconsin

Continuation sheet

Item number

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Diane H. Filipowicz, Architectural Historian, Historic Preservation Division

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

June, 1980

816 State Street

608/262-2970

Madison

Wisconsin 53706