

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Oregon</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Linn</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	<b>JAN 24 1974</b>

**1. NAME**

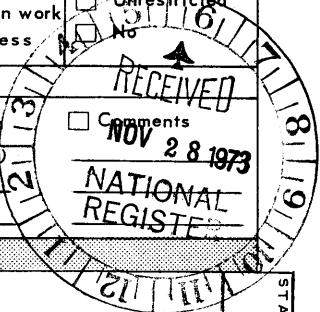
COMMON: <b>MT. Pleasant Presbyterian Church</b>
AND/OR HISTORIC: <b>CHRISTIAN Church AT Mount Pleasant Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church</b>

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: <b>Stayton-Jordan Road</b>		Oregon 2nd Congressional District	
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Stayton vicinity</b>		Representative Al Ullman	
STATE <b>Oregon</b>	CODE <b>41</b>	COUNTY: <b>Linn</b>	CODE <b>043</b>

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)



**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME: <b>Trustees of the Presbytery of Willamette</b>	
STREET AND NUMBER: <b>c/o Presbyterian Synod Office</b>	
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Portland</b>	
STATE: <b>Oregon</b>	CODE: <b>41</b>

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: <b>Linn County Courthouse</b>	
STREET AND NUMBER:	
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Albany</b>	STATE: <b>Oregon</b>
CODE: <b>41</b>	CODE: <b>97321</b>

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY: <b>Statewide Inventory of Historic Sites and Buildings</b>	
DATE OF SURVEY: <b>1970</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: <b>Parks and Recreation Section</b>	
STREET AND NUMBER: <b>Oregon State Highway Building</b>	
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Salem</b>	STATE: <b>Oregon</b>
CODE: <b>41</b>	CODE: <b>97310</b>

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Oregon  
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**7. DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church is located in pleasant rural countryside in Linn County, about four miles southeast of Stayton on the Stayton-Jordan Road. Assumed by the local congregation to have been built in 1854, the church has served as a place of worship since its construction.

The small, one-story meeting house is of box construction measuring about 18 by 26 feet. The structure was originally placed on stone piers. Recently, cinder blocks have been added to support sagging sills. The gable roof is shingled, and a brick stove flue straddles the ridge of the roof at the center. Clapboard siding, plain corner boards, boxed cornice and plain frieze are other exterior details. There are two window openings on each side of the meeting hall which have plain surrounds and double-hung sash with six lights over six. A small oil stove now heats the church, although the building is wired for electric lighting. There had been no source of water on the property until 1972 when a well was drilled.

In repair work carried out in 1958 and 1959, the roof was reshingled and damaged weather boarding on the south and east sides was replaced with material from a building of similar vintage. The interior walls were braced with 6 by 6 inch timbers. Rotted porch steps were replaced by concrete, and the porch shelter was added. The repair and stabilization work was made possible by contributions and a Sears Roebuck Foundation cash award given through the Oregon Council of Churches during Oregon Statehood centennial year. The church is still in use by the small but active congregation which is planning for long-range maintenance of the local landmark.



*[Faint, mostly illegible text and markings, possibly including a signature and date.]*

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

X

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Oregon	
COUNTY Linn	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

JAN 24 1974

(Number all entries)

MT. PLEASANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2. Location

The church is located in Sec. 36, T. 9 S., R. 1 W., of the Willamette Meridian, in Linn County, Oregon

9. Major Bibliographical References

Sommer, Josephine, "Old Mt. Pleasant Church Shows Vitality," Oregon Statesman (April 6, 1969), Sec. IV, pg. 35.



**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
 15th Century |  17th Century |  19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **ca. 1854**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |   |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education    | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry     | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention    | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                      | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape    | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian            | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature   | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military     |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music        |   |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church is one of an important group of small churches in the meeting house tradition dating from the 1850's still standing in the Willamette Valley. No more than half dozen examples of the type have been identified to date, whereas they are believed to have been plentiful in pre-Territorial days. Mt. Pleasant Church is a rare example of a single space (without benefit of stabilizing partitions) enclosed by slab or box construction.

The earliest Presbyterian congregations in the Mid-Willamette Valley were organized in 1854 and 1855. Local tradition, based upon church records, ascribes the date of 1854 to the Mt. Pleasant Church. This is likely to have been the date the congregation was organized, however.

The church was built by residents of the rural community on school land donated by Washington Crabtree. The land was designated by Crabtree in his deed of 1877 "to be used for church purposes from now on." In its early years, the church served alternately as a meeting place for the Cumberland Presbyterian and Christian groups. Benjamin Franklin Irvine belonged to the former sect and Crabtree to the latter. The church's denomination depended upon which of the men secured the minister. Services also were held in the building whenever a circuit rider or evangelist traveled through the neighborhood. At one time a division between the "sprinkling" and "total immersion" groups became so heated that Crabtree, on whose land the building stood, is reported to have kept the church filled with hay for two years. A reconciliation was finally reached and the church reopened. The baptismal font, the issue which had caused the difference, was repaired. The building was used not only for church meetings and Sunday School, but for various other community affairs. At one time during the early 20th century, the building served as a ninth grade school room. The Reverend J. Y. Stewart, a Yale graduate, filled the pulpit from about 1922 to his death on February 20, 1943.

Electrical wiring for lighting was installed in the church's centenary year, 1954. At a time when the congregation dwindled to one member, serious thought was given to discontinuing the church entirely. The membership of Mt. Pleasant Church has fluctuated over the years. At present, it numbers about fifteen. The pastor travels from Mill City.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Corning, Howard McKinley, ed., Dictionary of Oregon History (Portland; Binford and Mort, 1956), 204.

"Entry of Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church in the 1958-1959 Town and Country Church Improvement Contest of the Oregon Council of Churches." Typescript of church history and photo album.

"Mt. Pleasant Folks to Restore Old Church," The Stayton Mail (August 21, 1958), 13  
(continued)

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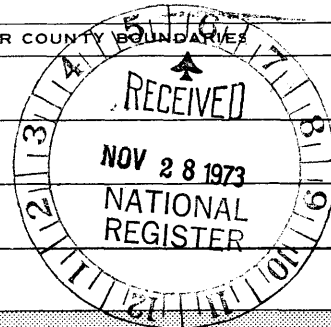
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 0 0	0 0 0		44 44 59	122 44 33	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: one acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Paul Hartwig, Assistant Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: Oregon State Highway Division DATE: February, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER: State Highway Building

CITY OR TOWN: Salem STATE: Oregon 97310 CODE: 41

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION** NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name George M. Baldwin

Title Director of Transportation

Date 11/20/73

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

AR Martensen  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 1/24/74

ATTEST: George J. Emery  
Keeper of The National Register

Date Jan 21, 1974