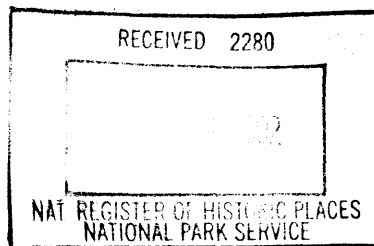


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



1278

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 Evangelical Church of Lafayette

other names/site number Poling Memorial Church (preferred)

2. Location

street & number 605 Market Street [ ] not for publication

city or town Lafayette [X] vicinity

state Oregon code OR county Yamhill code 071 zip code 97127

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.)

James H. Smith September 10, 2002  
Signature of certifying official/Title/Deputy SHPO Date

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:)

Edson R. Beall Signature of Keeper Date of Action 10/31/02

**Evangelical Church of Lafayette**

Name of Property

**Lafayette, Yamhill County**

County and State

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

Contributing	Non contributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	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**

None

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: Religious facility (church)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

RECREATION & CULTURE: Museum

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Physical Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: Queen Anne

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

foundation Stone; Concrete

walls Wood; shingle siding

\_\_\_\_\_

roof Composition shingle

other Wood shingle

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description**

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

Please see Continuation Sheet

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Evangelical Church of Lafayette, Yamhill County, Oregon

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## THE SETTING

The Evangelical Church of Lafayette is a rectangular building with a steeply pitched gable roof and a very slender bell tower on its front elevation. The building is of the late Queen Anne Style, and other than a circa 1940s kitchen-social hall addition on the northwest corner, the Church appears to have had few other alterations since its construction in 1892.

The church is situated at the southeast corner of 6th and Market Streets. It is located on a rectangular 70 x 90' tax lot. There are two other buildings that are part of this complex but are not on the same tax lot, and are not included in the nominated portion. Like the church, these two buildings are also used by the Yamhill County Historical Society. The nominated portion is Tax Lot 3400 and includes the church and its north yard, which includes two stately trees aligned with the front and back of the church. The siting of the church within the village of Lafayette was determined by the presence of the Lafayette Academy across the street with which it was affiliated. As time passed conservative private residences were built around the church, many of which still remain.

The church fronts east, and is set back 7' from Market Street. A chain-link fence separates it from the residence in the rear with a 5' setback. Today the Yamhill County Historical Society utilizes the building to display collections depicting pioneer Yamhill County life.

There are two trees of significant historical background on this site. One is a Douglas fir located on the front or east side of the above mentioned property. It was planted by the Reverend C.C. Poling following the construction of the Church and is therefore estimated to be over 100 years old. It is approximately 83' tall and is 77" in diameter. Also of interest is the Dawn redwood located on the southwest corner of the property. Some historically appropriate plantings have been installed near the north side of the building.

Records do not show when or by whom the 18x18 x34' wrap-around addition was constructed on the west and north sides of the original church building. It is divided into three rooms, including a kitchen and meeting rooms, and has two exterior doors. The existence of an old chimney suggests that it may have been added in the 1940s. The ridge height of the addition is only 18', much lower than the main roof ridge. The windows are of a non-descript make and quality. The construction does not equal the quality of the original church building and is in need of structural repair, removal or replacement.

## THE BUILDING

The building was designed and built by Rev. C.C. Poling with the help of his parishioners and associates, and is of a conventional type. It measures 36x60', plus the addition, and has a tower and spire on its front elevation. The side elevations are each divided by four arched windows. The building is of the late Queen Anne Style with extensive use of imbricated shingles.

## Foundation and Structure

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Evangelical Church of Lafayette, Yamhill County, Oregon

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The foundation wall and footing consist of individually placed flat stones commonly used in late 19<sup>th</sup> century building construction. The footings and the lower portions of the walls are of uncut, rough-dressed stones, 4 to 6" in height and 6 to 8" in width, reinforced by some form of concrete, and appears to be 18" thick. The interior of the foundation remains natural but the outside has been plastered with a water-resistant mixture and painted. The church framing utilized rough sawn lumber. The building rests on 2x10" sills, and has a 10x10" solid wood beam located in the center and running the full length of the church. Supporting this beam are huge boulders. The floor joists are 16" on center with cross-bracing. Wall studs and roof rafters are 2x6", and the major roof supports are 2x10" placed 24" on center.

Exterior Elevations

This section of the document is organized by exterior elevation. The elevation descriptions are preceded by a discussion of elements common to all elevations of the building

Common to all elevations of the building is the beveled wood shiplap with a 5" reveal. The corner boards vary in width. Eave details are similar throughout the building, and include an 18" frieze board, 12" soffit with molded fascia boards, and wide overhang with bed molding under the eave. The steeple is finished in bands of various shaped shingles and when it was painted each band of shingles was a different color than the one below.

Several articles mention one stained glass window that was a gift of Grace Church in Naperville, Illinois that was shipped to Oregon around the Horn. This window has not been located. The existing windows are essentially identical in design, shape and color. The wood framed arched windows measure 4x10' and have protective hooded dormers and weighted sashes. Completely outlining the sides and top of the glazing are 6x7" strips of violet, green, and yellow, alternating lights of colored glass. The center panels are frosted glass. There are four windows on each side (north and south) of the church, one on the rear (west) elevation and a pair centered on the front (east) facade. The belfry contains three smaller windows of like design with four amber panes, and a center of frosted glass. There is currently no information as to where or by whom these windows were manufactured.

The front (east) elevation of the church faces Market Street. Here are located the double entry doors and the paired arched windows. The front entry contains paneled double portal doors with a stained glass transom. The transom is fan shaped with a total of six violet, green and yellow lights circling the top. The doors were replaced in 2001 with doors made by a local county carpenter using material and design similar to the original. Rising above this is a 14' gable with eave returns, and an 18" diameter roundel located high in the peak. The 20' lower portion of this façade is clad in shiplap, and the gable end is clad in 46 rows of fish scale shingles. Of the 46 rows, 16 are of curved design and 30 are blunt edge. The elevation is offset with the bell tower rising from the lower front edge of the southeast corner of the roof.

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Evangelical Church of Lafayette, Yamhill County, Oregon

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The slender square bell tower rises 35 feet from the southeast corner of the main building volume, and is clad in shingles on its upper portion. In the extreme upper portion of the tower the shingles are of an unknown design but resemble the Flying Geese quilt pattern. The bell tower consists of six separate levels, the first being a shiplap triangle roof support.

The second is approximately 10' tall and includes the windows on each of the east, south and west sides. There is no window on the north side facing the upper church roof. These windows are wood framed, double hung and are weighted. They have the same arched design of the large windows in the main part of the church but with only amber lights and frosted center panels.

The exterior is covered with twenty rows of fish scale shingles, curved and blunt edge design as repeated in the front top of the church. Shingled-covered flared eaves separate extension one and two. The third consists of a shingled 3' section that acts as an extension above the window. The fourth level is 8' tall, with 2x6' louvered panels on three sides. This gives the belfry ventilation and easy access for the resident bat population. The exterior is clad in shingles identical to those on the second level. Again there is a small extension above the insets. The fifth level includes of a sharply peaked or gabled hood on each side. Each peak appears to be approximately 5' tall at the center point. Each peak has a roundel centered toward the upper portion of the peak. The sixth level is the shingled, steeple tower that rises approximately 10' and is topped with a finial of unknown maker or meaning.

The finial has four hooks pointing in the four directions with a round pointed upright in the center aiming toward the sky. The church's spire peaks at about 80' above ground level. There is not easy access to the church bell and no records of the company that cast the bell, though it is still in use and the pull rope hangs in the vestibule.

The building's south (side) elevation faces 6th Street. The 60' length has four evenly spaced arched windows. The west elevation of the L-shaped addition is visible from this perspective. It projects 18' from the west end of the main body of the church. Here the kitchen is located with a 4x5' covered entry. The crawlspace to the addition is accessed here.

The west (rear) side of the building is only 5' from the property line. The 38' span of the L-shaped addition provided extra space for use during social events and meetings. An old external chimney still stands where a wood burning stove was once used for heat, rising above the eave line about 5' with a 2' metal cap. On this side, one of the arched windows is located on the back of the southwest corner of the main building. A second outside entrance was added for safety. This single door is identical in detail to the front door with a colored glass transom above. A recently added sidewalk runs the full length of this elevation.

A space of 25' separates the church from the adjacent building along the north side. Along the north elevation, one of the original arched windows was obscured by the addition, but three others remain visible. A small, 18" square window was added at the northeast corner when the restroom was installed in the church. A chimney is located along this wall, and was built when a partial basement was dug and a sawdust-burning furnace installed. The stack intersects rises approximately 5' above

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Evangelical Church of Lafayette, Yamhill County, Oregon

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the eave line. During use this chimney had an attached 12' metal pipe which elevated it above the pitch of the roof to allow better draft.

### Interior

The interior or nave of the Church is a simple 60x36' rectangular floor plan. There are three distinct interior spaces: the vestibule and office, the choir loft, and main sanctuary. Passing through the front doors of the building, one immediately enters the entrance or vestibule area with an office to the right. This office area is divided from the major part of the church by a series of six bi-fold doors on tracks. A restroom and stairs to the upstairs choir loft and young people's room is also in this space. The choir loft has an ornamental railing at the top of the stairs. Access to the belfry reached from this area. The 34x35' main part of the church, or sanctuary, still contains the 7x22' chancel, or raised platform at the west end. The chancel has an 18" railing consisting of newel posts and horizontal panels. The original pulpit is still in place, its tilt-top edge worn smooth by so many gripping palms of the ministers delivering Sunday messages.

Interior ornamentation in the church is simple. Encircling the room is 4' wood board wainscot with a 5" wide horizontal molding cap. The corners are butt jointed with no other decoration. The 12" baseboard is capped with horizontal molding. Other ornamental details include the choir loft railing, the chancel railing, the pulpit, and the stained glass windows.

The eleven arched windows illuminate the interior with a pleasant view of frosted central panes surrounded by 26 colored panes in shades of green, amber, and violet. All interior woodwork retains the patina of age and use and has medium dark stain that has not been altered.

The circa 1940s annex was added several years ago to provide social rooms and a kitchen.

### Ornaments

There are few ornamental elements in the design of this building. The elegance and ambiance of this Church lies in its simplicity and the grand manner in which it has stood and serviced the community for over 100 years.

There were essentially two means of manufacturing the decorations of the building at the time of construction. Elements such as the ornate shingles and the interior wainscot and moldings were shaped using a hand-held molding plane. Mechanized millworking equipment had come into popular use by the 1850s. While populations elsewhere were able to buy their ornaments from the lumber yard or order it from a catalogue, the Evangelical Church builders designed and hand-planed their own moldings.

**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 is 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**

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Religion

**Period of Significance**

1892

**Significant Dates**

1892

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Reverend Charles Cupp Poling

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

Name of repository:

Yamhill County Historical Museum

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**Evangelical Church of Lafayette, Yamhill County, Oregon**

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**INTRODUCTION**

The Evangelical Church of Lafayette was built in 1892-1893 by the Reverend Charles Cupp Poling and his congregation in Lafayette, Yamhill County, Oregon. Lafayette is a historic business and trading center located on the north bank of the Yamhill River, in mid-Willamette Valley of western Oregon.

The gable-roofed church has a rectangular volume accented by a spire and bell tower on the southeast corner. Clad in horizontal wood board siding and decorative shingling, the church exhibits subtle details including multi-colored glass arched windows and the pair of paneled entry doors topped with an arched stained-glass transom. The church stands close to its front lot line at the southeast corner of the intersection of Sixth and Market Streets in Lafayette. It shares Tax Lot 3400 and the adjacent 3300 with a more recently constructed two story log building and a metal pole-barn, both of which are also owned by the Yamhill County Historical Society. The church is currently used as a museum to exhibit pioneer life in Yamhill County under the auspices of the Yamhill County Historical Society. It is the only church building from the 1890s remaining in the town of Lafayette, and as approached from any direction, the church belfry and spire are prominent in the skyline.

In about 1892, Reverend Charles Cupp Poling obtained the property for the church that was adjacent to an old courthouse that was being used as the Lafayette Seminary. The Reverend Poling had been responsible for establishing the Seminary and was now intent on founding a local congregation of the Evangelical church. The building was designed by the Reverend Poling and according to tradition, carpentry was carried out by church members and associates under his close supervision. As was quoted, "He built the church with his own hands, stone on stone, board on board." The church building was dedicated May 28, 1893, and was active for many years.

The church in Lafayette has seen the name of the denomination change four times in its history. In the beginning, the denomination was known as the Evangelical Church, then the United Evangelical Church, the Evangelical Church and finally the Evangelical United Brethren Church. The church eventually became a memorial to Reverend Poling and his wife Savilla, and in later years it was commonly known as the Poling Memorial Church.

Minister-carpenter and building Reverend Poling and his wife Savilla A. Kring Poling were both members of families with extensive religious training. Savilla was a singing evangelist and was the first woman in the Evangelical Church to be ordained a preacher. Reverend Poling devoted his entire life to the active work of ministry.

The Evangelical Church of Lafayette is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C as an excellent example of simple, turn-of-the-century carpenter Queen Anne architecture. The nominated area includes only this church building, and not either of the other associated but non-historic buildings on the property.



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**Evangelical Church of Lafayette, Yamhill County, Oregon**

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**BRIEF HISTORY OF LAFAYETTE, OREGON**

The city of Lafayette was the early county seat of Yamhill County. It is the oldest town in Yamhill County, and was founded on the north bank of the Willamette River at a point that had been known for years as the Fords of the Yamhill or the Yamhill Falls. The main Indian trail that traversed the Willamette Valley from north to south crossed the Yamhill at this point. Later during the 1820s and 1830s, when the Hudson Bay Company sent its fur expeditions to the Umpqua and California, they followed this route and crossed the river at the present day Lafayette. This was also the Overland Trail to California that the cattle companies and the gold-seekers of the late 1840s and early 1850s followed. Its location on the Yamhill River for trade in the Willamette Valley created a need for this bustling city. In 1845 Joel Perkins, a 24 year old bachelor recently arrived from Indiana provided the dynamics required to convert his holdings and surrounding settlement into a viable commercial and cultural center. Soon after purchasing his land claim, Joel Perkins divided it into town lots, naming the community "Lafayette" in honor of his earlier home in Indiana. Not only did he soon realize success in selling his lots, but by the end of 1846 Perkins had managed to have the Provisional Government in Oregon City declare his town the official seat of the "Yam Hill District" with himself named as county clerk. The town grew slowly at first. When gold was discovered in California Lafayette suddenly grew by leaps and bounds. Lafayette's position on the great Overland Trail and near the head of navigation on the Yamhill River made it a favorite starting place for miners and pack trains headed for the southern gold mines, which explains why in 1850 it was busier than Portland.

In the early 1850s Lafayette had more than 30 stores and was socially, commercially, and politically an important community. During this time some of the most influential men of Oregon lived in or near Lafayette – Matthew Deady, David Logan, the McBrides, the Adams, and Anson Henry to mention a few. It was because of these men and others like them that Lafayette became known as the "Athens of Old Oregon." Later writers and orators recalled with pride the "thundering eloquence" of Matthew Deady and David Logan as they held sway in early courts of Yamhill County's first county seat. By 1853 there was regular stagecoach service between Lafayette and Portland.

As other towns in Oregon grew in prominence most of Lafayette's great men moved away. A fire in 1857 destroyed the courthouse, but in 1859 a new one costing \$14,000 (a tidy sum for those days) was built. It was considered an outstanding building in its day and was the pride of all Oregon. But Lafayette's influence continued to decline and the removal of the county seat in 1888 was the final blow. The Courthouse became the new home of the Lafayette Seminary, established in 1889 by the Evangelical Church and Reverend Poling.

**REVEREND CHARLES CUPP POLING**

The Reverend Charles Cupp Poling, PhD. was born near Martinsburg, W. Virginia on February 2, 1859, the third child of eight born to a family of Scotch-Irish lineage. His parents Rev. Daniel and Susan Pownall Poling were also born in Virginia. They were active in the church, advocating the abolition cause, and did much to raise a feeling of indignation toward slavery.

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Section number 8 Page 3

**Evangelical Church of Lafayette, Yamhill County, Oregon**

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Charles Poling began his education in Virginia and continued his studies in Ohio and afterwards entered the Greensburg Seminary at Greensburg. Having determined to devote his life to the active work of ministry, he was licensed to preach in 1880. He was pastor for two years at the church at Brookville, Pa. He was ordained a deacon in 1882 and for two years was pastor of Trinity Church at Johnstown Pa. After entering the ministry he continued his educational work as opportunity afforded, until he completed his philosophical course, graduating and receiving a degree of Ph. B. (Bachelor of Philosophy) from the LaFayette Seminary.

In 1882 Dr. Poling was married in Greensburg, Ohio to Miss Savilla A. Kring, who was born in that state, a daughter of the Rev. S.B. Kring, a minister of the Evangelical Association. Mrs. Poling was a graduate of the high school of Van Wert, Ohio. She had a wonderful singing voice. As a young girl Savilla was a singing evangelist and a soprano soloist. She sang one Sunday morning in 1881 at the dedication of Ocean Grove, New Jersey's first pavilion. President James A. Garfield lay mortally wounded at Long Branch, only a few miles away. In the afternoon, Savilla was taken by carriage to the little seaside village, and the dying president, propped against his pillows listened to the golden music of the eager girl. Savilla was the first woman in the Evangelical Church to be ordained a preacher. She was always a most able assistant to her husband in promoting the cause of Christianity and religious education. Their marriage was blessed with seven children.

In the spring of 1884 Rev. Poling and his wife were appointed to active service by the Board of Missions and assigned to duty in the Willamette Valley, Oregon, and April 1 of that year arrived in Portland. Dr. Poling established the first English mission of Evangelical Association in the city of Portland, where he continued his labors for three years. In 1888 he was elected presiding elder of the Oregon Conference of the Willamette District and served seven years in that important office.

The beginning of the Evangelical United Brethren Church in Lafayette, Oregon dates back to 1887 when Rev. Poling, then pastor of the Evangelical Church in nearby Dayton, Oregon, organized a Sunday school in Lafayette. In 1889, Lafayette and a number of nearby locations were made mission stations with regular services held and a pastor assigned. In 1889, the denomination established a seminary in Lafayette, which was closely associated with the church there, many of the professors of the seminary also served as pastor of the church at various times. The Lafayette Seminary was located in the courthouse building that once housed the Yamhill county seat. This seminary continued until 1900 when it was merged with LaCreole Academy and Dallas College was established at Dallas, Oregon, continuing until about 1913.

Along with the Seminary, Rev. Poling founded a local congregation of the Evangelical Church, meeting first in the Seminary building. About 1892 he obtained the property across the street to the north from the seminary for the purpose of building a church. He was responsible for the design of the building using ideas from churches he had previously been associated with. It was due to Rev. Poling's unflinching energy and willing assistance from local parishoners, friends and associates that the building was completed. As his son stated, "C.C. Poling built the church stone on stone, board on board". The building was painted "white for the body, the tower in several colors." Bishop R. Dubs, of the United

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**Evangelical Church of Lafayette, Yamhill County, Oregon**

Evangelical Church dedicated the new church building on May 28, and it was active for many years, performing a needed service to the community.

The church served as the chapel for the Lafayette seminary, as a lecture hall and as the home of the local Evangelical congregation. It remained essentially unchanged through the years, and the man who built it came back often for more than 60 years to fill its pulpit. The elder Polings lived in Dayton and Lafayette at various times, and when they were Lafayette residents they lived on what their son referred to as "Piety Hill" for at one time three ministers and their families were living there. Their remaining years were spent in the Portland area. Savilla preceded her husband in death in 1937. Rev. Poling was almost 90 when he passed away in 1947. Both are buried in the Dayton Brookside Cemetery, Dayton, Oregon and the church in Lafayette later became a memorial to him and his wife. It was later commonly known as the Poling Memorial Church. Their story is that of a remarkable couple and a remarkable family. It was said that Rev. Poling was a man of broad intelligence and genuine public spirit. Strong in his individuality, he never lacked the courage of his convictions and there are dominating elements in this individuality: a lively human sympathy and an abiding charity, which, combined with his sterling integrity, have naturally gained for him the respect and confidence of men.

The Poling family has a wonderful history of generations of ministers. Rev. Poling's father was an ordained minister when he was 21 years of age. His brother Rev D. V. Poling was a pastor in The Dalles, Oregon. Rev. Poling and his wife Savilla Kring Poling had 7 children, of these Dr. Daniel Poling, Dr. Charles S. Poling and the Rev Paul N. Poling were all ministers. A grandson, Chaplain Clark V. Poling was one of the 4 Chaplains who gave their life jackets to others and went down with the transport ship Dorchester after it was torpedoed on Feb 3, 1943. Savilla's father was an Evangelical pastor. Savilla was thought to be the first ordained woman preacher in the Evangelical church.

**THE EVANGELICAL CHURCH OF LAFAYETTE**

As a very good example of a simple, turn-of-the-century Queen Anne style church, the Evangelical Church of Lafayette meets National Register criterion C for architectural significance. This is the last of the old churches in Lafayette, and is a particularly good example in the area. The building has undergone few significant changes, and its integrity allows it to clearly convey its original style, design, and function.

The Queen Anne style has been described as colorful and exuberant. It was introduced to America at the 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, where the British government constructed several buildings in the style. Used for houses, churches and other public buildings, and commercial blocks, the Queen Anne style caught on quickly. Typical features include an irregular form or footprint; hip, gable or clipped gable roofs; bay windows, towers and dormer windows; diversity of exterior siding types including wood board and shingles; and elaborate turned and carved decorative features. Windows vary in type, and often include stained glass panels. Multi-colored paint schemes were common.

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**Evangelical Church of Lafayette, Yamhill County, Oregon**

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Though a very simplified example, the church in Lafayette displays many of the elements of the Queen Anne style in its use of gables, multiple siding types, the asymmetrical placement of the bell tower, original multi-colored paint scheme, and use of stained glass in the arched windows.

The church in Lafayette has seen the name of the denomination change four times in its history. In the beginning, the denomination was known as the Evangelical Church. Later, after the denomination split over personalities in the board of bishops, the group divided into the Evangelical Association and the United Evangelical Church. The Lafayette church was associated with the latter group. The two groups merged again in 1923, to become the Evangelical Church. In 1946, the Evangelical Church merged with Church of the United Brethren in Christ and became the final denomination, the Evangelical United Brethren Church.

The church in Lafayette is the only surviving one out of four Protestant churches that have had congregations in Lafayette. The church membership was never very large, the final membership standing at 75, with Sunday school enrollment at 105.

From 1965 to 1969 the congregation grew smaller as people moved away or older ones died and soon there were few salaried persons left to contribute to the church's support. Finally and painfully it was decided to discontinue services at Lafayette and merge with Dayton sister church.

In 1969, the Yamhill County Historical Society purchased the church for use as a meeting place and museum. The Yamhill County Historical Society is solely responsible for the care and maintenance of the Evangelical Church of Lafayette. Monetary support for the society is based on memberships, contributions, fundraisers, grants and other forms of private funding.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 6

**Evangelical Church of Lafayette, Yamhill County, Oregon**

The following ministers were assigned to the church over the years or have served as supply patrons:

C.C. Poling  
J.G. Coleman  
T.L. Weaver  
F.S. Locke  
H.L. Pratt  
J. Bowersox  
H.I. Bittner  
M. Burlingame  
R.W. Hastings  
D.V. Poling  
G.J. Coleman  
W.V. Wall  
C.A. Hoyt  
C.W. Kantner  
D.M. Metzger  
M.B. Young  
A.A. Winter  
C.T. Hurd  
Ed Launer  
O.O. Arnold  
M.J. Ballantyne

L.H. Wood  
Ed Singleton  
E.E. McVicker  
V.E. Willings  
W.S. Plowman  
V.A. Ballantyne  
C.P. Gates  
G.E. Erskine  
Guy Phelps  
V. Urbino  
F.E. Fisher  
F.M. Fisher  
W.A. Gueffroy  
W.L. Strange  
F.R. Sartwell  
E.C. Hicks  
Lyle Leach  
R.H. Tusant, Jr.  
A.L. Lonsberry  
George Hayes

**DEED SEQUENCE FOR EVANGELICAL CHURCH OF LAFAYETTE**

From unknown party to Evangelical United Brethren Church

Dated approximately 1892

Lot 4 and lot 5, Block 40 of the Original Town of Lafayette  
County of Yamhill, State of Oregon

There are no written records available showing the exact transaction date and from whom this property was purchased. Court records were searched but no information was found. It is the opinion of court officials that when the Courthouse in Lafayette burned in 1857, records were lost and therefore research does not yield the 1892 transaction.

From Tom Hedgecoke, Ray Carter, W.C. Kennedy and Wendellen Christenson, Trustees of Lafayette Poling Memorial Church of the Evangelical Church of North America, to Yamhill County Historical Society, an Oregon Corporation.

Deed dated April 1, 1969, recorded April 4, 1969

Lot 4 and lot 5, Block 40 of the Original Town of Lafayette  
County of Yamhill, State of Oregon

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number   9   Page 1

Evangelical Church of Lafayette, Yamhill County, Oregon

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McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1990.

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Poling, Daniel A. *Mine Eyes Have Seen*. New York: McGraw Hill Book Company Inc. 1959.

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office. *Historic Sites and Buildings Inventory*. Salem, Oregon.

Yamhill County Historical Museum. *Family and City files*. Lafayette, Oregon.

Yamhill County Heritage Tree Commission. *Museum Trees*. Lafayette, Oregon, 2001.

Yamhill County Courthouse. *County Clerk's Records*. McMinnville, Oregon.

**Evangelical Church of Lafayette**

**Lafayette, Yamhill County**

Name of Property

County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreege of Property** Less than one

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1   1   1   0	4   9   1   2	1   7   1   0	5   0   1   1   0   1   1   0   1   0	3															
Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing													
2																			

4 [ ] 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 Shirley Venhaus – President, with assistance of Marjorie Owens

organization Yamhill County Historical Society

street & number PO Box 484/605 Market Street telephone 503-864-2308 / 503-434-0567

city or town Lafayette state Oregon zip code 97127

**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 Yamhill County Historical Society

street & number PO Box 484/605 Market Street telephone 503-864-2308 / 503-434-0567

city or town Lafayette state OR zip code 97127

**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 D.C. 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington D.C. 20503.

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

# **National Register of Historic Places**

## **Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 1

**Evangelical Church of Lafayette, Yamhill County, Oregon**

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### **VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The nominated property is located in Township 4 South, Range 3 West, Section 6, Willamette Meridian, on Tax Lot 3400 in the Town of Lafayette, Yamhill County, Oregon. It is identified as the 70 x 90' south parcel of Lot 4 Block 40 of the Original Town of Lafayette.

### **BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The nominated area of 0.16 acres is drawn to include the historic Evangelical Church of Lafayette, its north yard, and two trees that stand close to the northwest and northeast corners of the building. The nominated area encompasses the entire tax lot 3400, at the southeast corner of the intersection of Market Street and 6th Street in Lafayette, Yamhill County, Oregon.

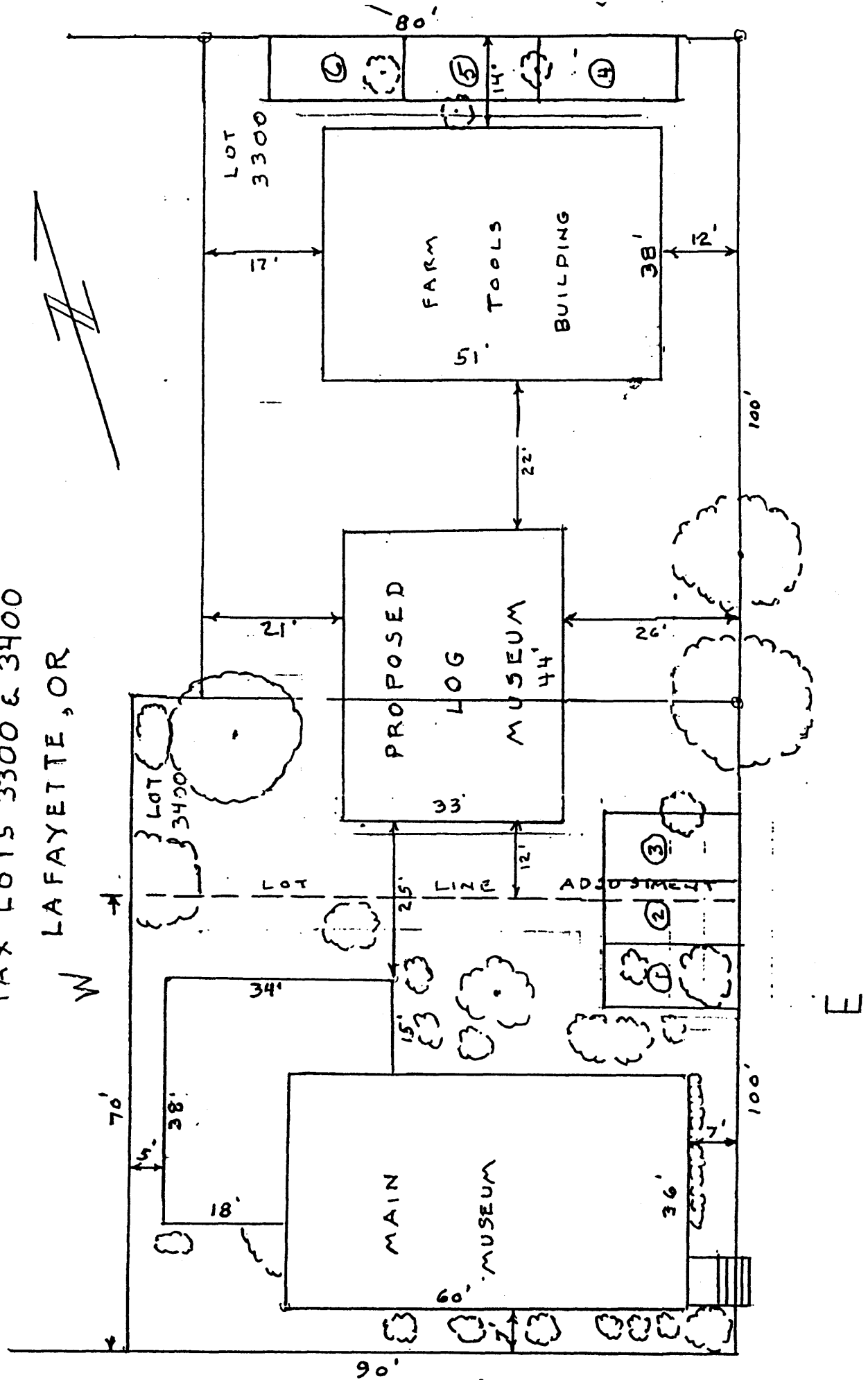




YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

TAX LOTS 3300 & 3400

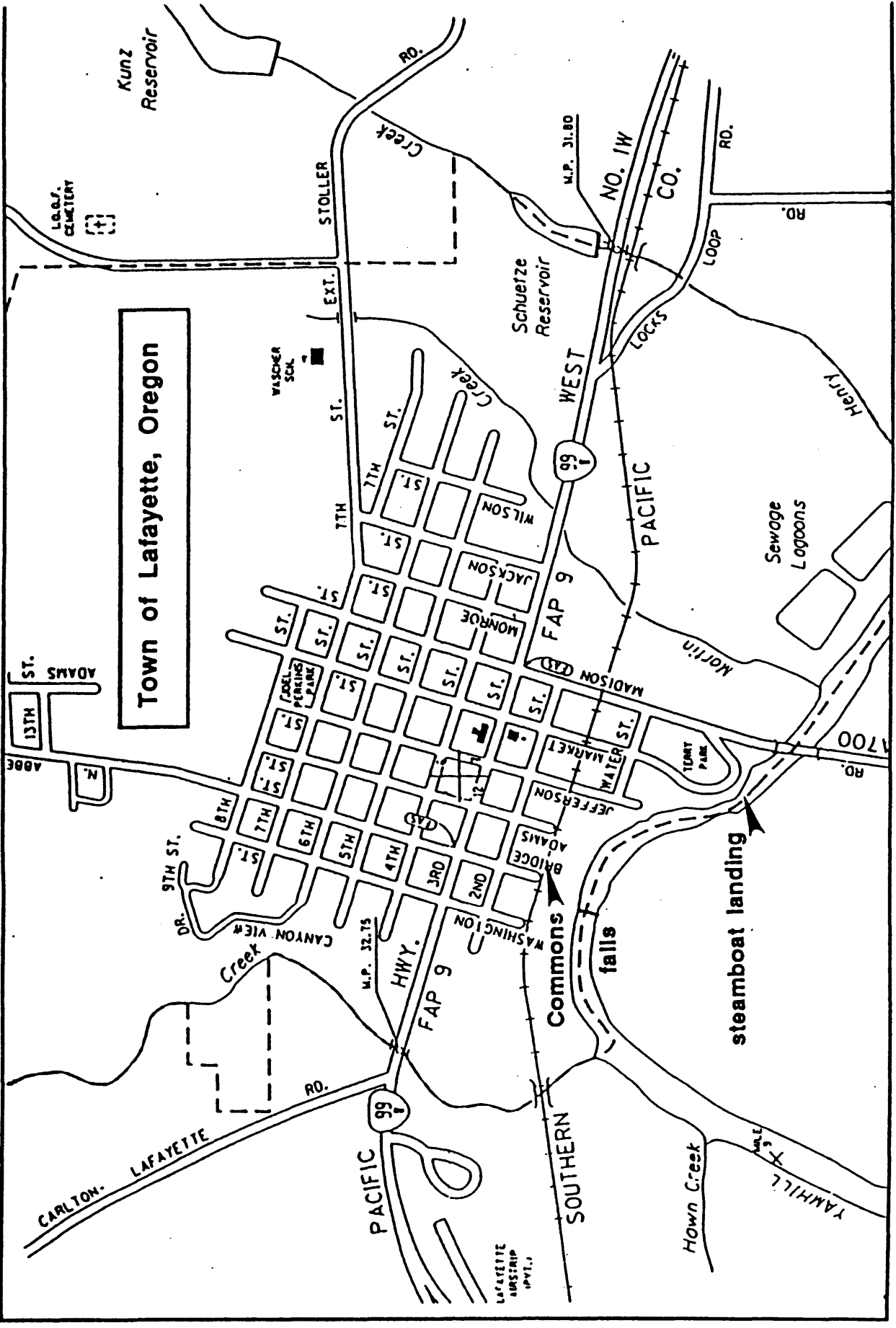
LAFAYETTE, OR



60'

ST.

MARKET



**Town of Lafayette, Oregon**

Kunz Reservoir

Schuetze Reservoir

Commons falls

steamboat landing

Sewage Lagoons

CANYON VIEW Creek

Creek

Creek

falls

Horn Creek

TERRY PARK

WASCHER SCH.

L.O.O.F. CEMETERY

LAFAYETTE SURSTRIP IMPV. DIST.

SOUTHERN

PACIFIC

HWY. 99

FAP 9

WASHINGTON

JEFFERSON

MARKET

WATER

MADISON (CROSS)

FAP 9 WEST

PACIFIC

NO. 1W

M.P. 31.90

LOCKS

LOOP

HENRY

RD. 1700

RD.

RD.

CARLTON-LAFAYETTE

ADAMS ST.

13TH

ADBE

DR. 9TH ST.

CANYON VIEW

HWY. 99

PACIFIC

HWY. 99

FAP 9

JEFFERSON

MARKET

WATER

MADISON (CROSS)

FAP 9 WEST

PACIFIC

NO. 1W

M.P. 31.90

LOCKS

LOOP

HENRY

RD. 1700

RD.

RD.

CARLTON-LAFAYETTE

ADAMS ST.

13TH

ADBE

DR. 9TH ST.

CANYON VIEW

HWY. 99

PACIFIC

HWY. 99

FAP 9

JEFFERSON

MARKET

WATER

MADISON (CROSS)

FAP 9 WEST

PACIFIC

NO. 1W

M.P. 31.90

LOCKS

LOOP

HENRY

RD. 1700

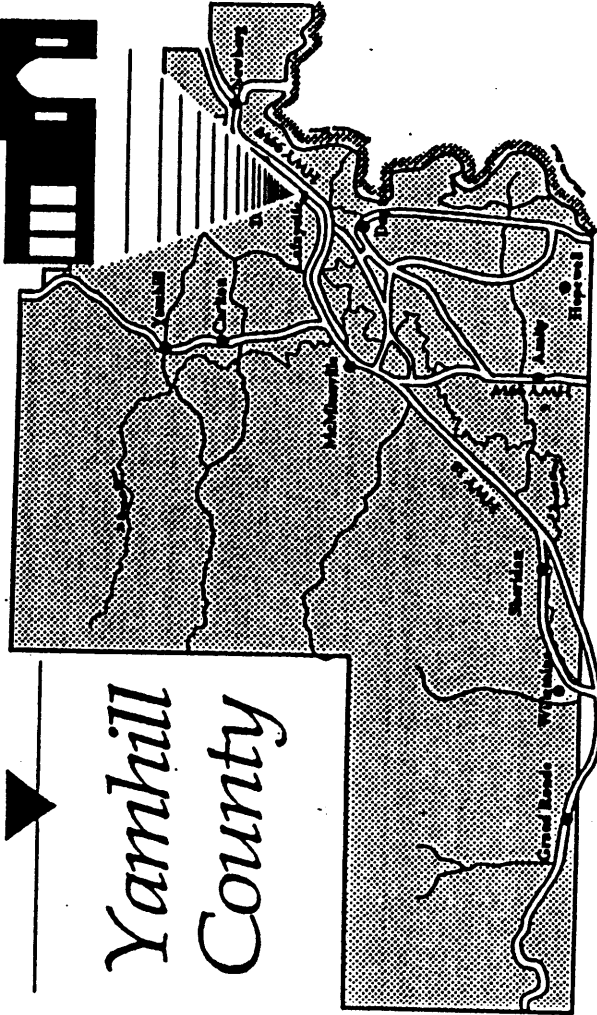
RD.

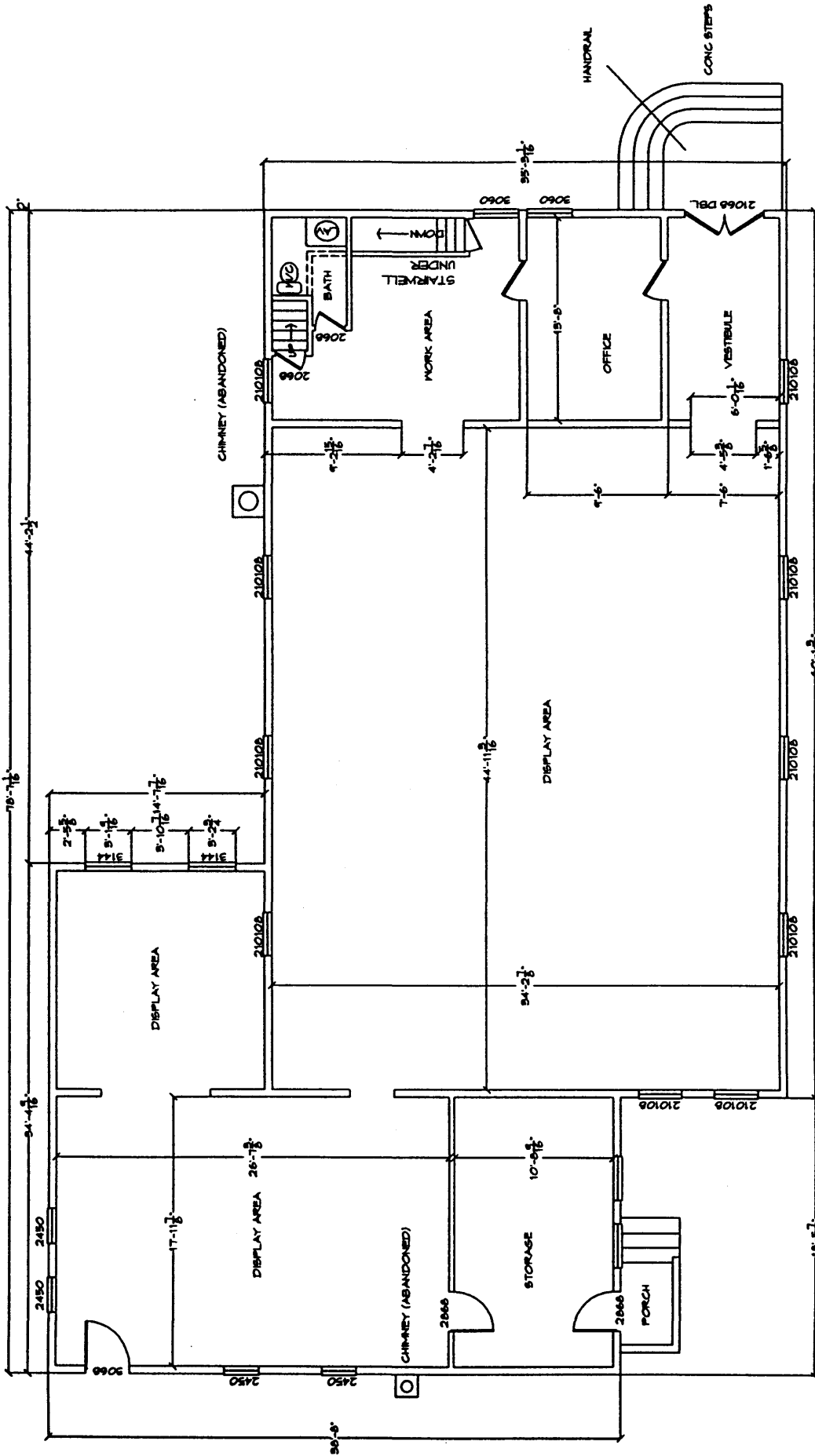
RD.

# Yamhill County Historical Museum

605 Market St. ▼ Lafayette, OR

For Info call: Ruth Stoller 864-2589

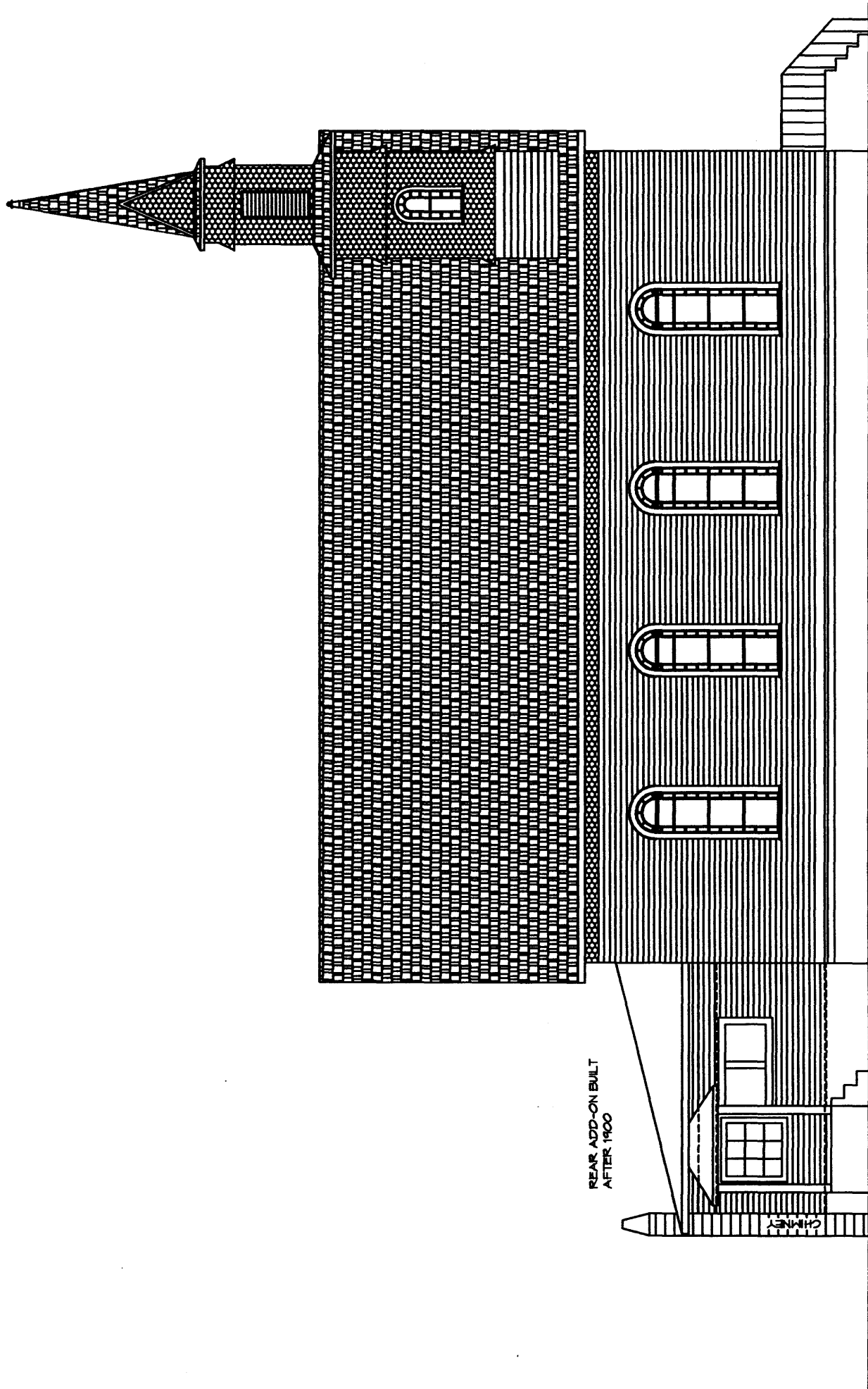




**POLING CHURCH STRUCTURE**

YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

EXISTING FLOOR PLAN  
 DATE: 11/24/2001 DWG: D.E.L.  
 SCALE: 1"=8'-0"



REAR ADD-ON BUILT  
AFTER 1900

CHIMNEY

YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY - CHURCH MUSEUM STRUCTURE

PROPOSED REMODELING  
DATE: 12/10/2000 DWG: D.E.L.  
NOT TO SCALE

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number PHOTO Page 1

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POLING MEMORIAL CHURCH (1893)  
605 Market Street  
Lafayette, Yamhill County, Oregon

Yamhill County Historical Museum Photographs (2001)  
605 Market Street  
Lafayette, Oregon 97127

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| 1 of 43  | The Poling Memorial Church.                            |
| 2 of 43  | Douglas Fir planted by Rev. C. C. Poling.              |
| 3 of 43  | Douglas Fir with Church.                               |
| 4 of 43  | Dawn Redwood on north side of Church.                  |
| 5 of 43  | Addition on rear of Church.                            |
| 6 of 43  | Stone Foundation.                                      |
| 7 of 43  | Stone foundation with sill.                            |
| 8 of 43  | View in the attic.                                     |
| 9 of 43  | Lath and plaster from inside attic.                    |
| 10 of 43 | Soffit on east end.                                    |
| 11 of 43 | Arched window.   |
| 12 of 43 | Gable on east end.                                     |
| 13 of 43 | Front view facing east.                                |
| 14 of 43 | Double arch windows and double hung door with transom. |
| 15 of 43 | Bell tower facing south.                               |

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number PHOTO Page 2

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- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| 16 of 43 | Bell tower southeast corner.                                    |
| 17 of 43 | Bell tower southwest corner.                                    |
| 18 of 43 | Southwest view with back porch.                                 |
| 19 of 43 | Southwest view of porch and addition.                           |
| 20 of 43 | North side with addition.                                       |
| 21 of 43 | Brick chimney.  |
| 22 of 43 | Open front door into the vestibule.                             |
| 23 of 43 | Closed front door with transom, note rope to the church bell.   |
| 24 of 43 | View from vestibule into main room.                             |
| 25 of 43 | Office area, note part of bi-fold door near the flag.           |
| 26 of 43 | View of bi-fold doors from second office space                  |
| 27 of 43 | Loft with ornamental railing.                                   |
| 28 of 43 | Pair of chairs original to the Church.                          |
| 29 to 43 | Pulpit built and used by Rev. Poling                            |
| 30 of 43 | Cancel with painting of Rev. Poling, note wainscot and molding. |
| 31 of 43 | Inside view of window with 26 lights.                           |
| 32 of 43 | Oak floor in main room and vestibule.                           |
| 33 of 43 | Interior door to annex area.                                    |



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**National Register of Historic Places  
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Section number PHOTO Page 3

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- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| 34 of 43 | Annex side of door.                                 |
| 35 of 43 | View of annex as used today.                        |
| 36 of 43 | Photo of Rev. Poling.                               |
| 37 of 43 | Photo of Rev. Poling.                               |
| 38 of 43 | Lafayette Seminary founded by Rev. Poling.          |
| 39 of 43 | Rev. and Mrs. Poling in front of their home. (1933) |
| 40 of 43 | Attendance record.                                  |
| 41 of 43 | Interior looking east, used for museum displays.    |
| 42 of 43 | View from pulpit, museum displays.                  |
| 43 of 43 | View of old Church                                  |