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82-196-0144

STATE OF INDIANA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
INDIANA HISTORIC SITES AND STRUCTURES INVENTORY

South	o	INDIANA HISTORIC SITES AND STRUCTURES INVENTORY				
	1 1 50	1. HISTORIC NAME SALEMS KIRCHE DER EVRNGELISCHEN 2. OMNERSHIP: PUBLIC X PRIVATE GEMEINSCHAFT				
Evansville	777		ĐEN T			
SHEET E	# 0 0 0	3. LOCATION NOTES STOCKWELL'S ENL Block 19;	DENTIFICATION			
OUAD 9	A S	4. VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC PIGHT OF WAY: _X_YESNO COURT ST.	ž 			
9	TRANSPORTER	5. USE PRESENT PAST 6. CATEGORY 8. ENDANGERED Residential (sing.)	CLASSIFICATION/DATE			
Evansvill	Reference	Unknown	N DA T			
Evar	5	Other <u>CHURCH</u>				
E. TOWN/CITY	HAER	12. AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE Archaelony-Prohistoric Consequation law Society as	SIGNIFICANCE			
	HABS	Art Exploration/Settlement Philosophy Other (Specify) Commerce Industry Politica/Government Communications Invention X Religion Community Planning Landscape Architecture Science	ANCE			
	X.	13. STYLE 14. CONDITION 16. SITE INTEGRITY Federal EXCELLENT X ORIGINAL SITE Greek Revival GOOD MOVED DATE Gothic Revival FAIR				
	¥	Gothic Revival FAIR Italianete DETERIORATED 17. OUTBUILDINGS/SECONDARY STRUCTURES Second Empire RUINS NO Stick Style/Eastlake UNEXPOSED X YES ADDITION 1925 Queen Anne				
	Ĭ	X Romanesque Revival Colonial Revival Neo-Classical 15. ALTERATIONS 18. IN ESTABLISHED HISTORIC DISTRICT	DESCRI			
S Court Street	X STRUCTURE	Vernacular X MINOR YES/NAME X Other (Specify) SPHOOL (ADDITION) MAJOR 19. DESCRIPTION OF ENVIRONMENT (NATURAL AND MAN-MADE) COMMERCIAL & LIGHT INDUSTRIAL AREA STAINED GLASS WINDOWS ON ALLEY-SIDE OF ADDITION APPEAR TO	PTION			
725		HAVE COME FROM ORIGINAL STRUCTURE				
ADDRESS	SITE	20. INFORMATION SOURCES TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR				
Ö.	Ö	21. PREPARED BY NANCY J LONG 22. DATE 8/16/77				

1.	6 RECTANGLE
2.	A ONE STORY (TALL)
3.	A ONE BAY
4.	C-5 COMMON BOND
5.	B ENTABLATURE ON ADDITION, ROUNDELS, ORNATE WINDOW HEADS
6.	A-1 RECESSEPRINGS B-4 CORBELLING B-7 INSCRIPTION STONE B-10 STAINED GLASS WINDS
7.	A STOOP W OVERHANG
8.	I ASPHALT SHINGLE
9.	A-5 HIPPED GABLE ADDITION HAS FLAT ROOF W/ PARAPET
10.	B EXTERIOR CHIMNEY
11.	B BRICK
12.	B PLAIN PRZIECTING EAVES
13.	B PLAIN PROJECTING EAVES
14.	A WOOD
15.	E BOXED CORNICE
16.	A WOOD
17.	A CROSS
18.	B-3 ARCHED WINDOWS (ADDITION; B-1 & B-3)
19.	E-1 RADIATING, 280WS HENDER COURSING (ADDITION: RADIATING W/ KEY
2 0.	A PLAIN SIDES (ADDITION: CONTINUATION OF HEADTRIM)
21.	6. BRICK
22.	A STONE SILLS
23.	E FIXED W/ BOTTOM PANELS THAT TILT OUT (ADDITION: CASEMENT WINDOWS
24.	MULTI-PANED STAINED GLASS
25.	C NO 2nd FLOOR
26.	A-1 CENTRAL ENTRANCE (ADDITION: B-3 LEFT ENTRANCE)
2 7.	B-3 ROUND OPENING (ADDITION: FLAT)
28.	E-1 RADIATING, 2 ROWS HEADER COURSING (ADDITION: F-1 ENTABLWY BRAC
29.	A. PLAIN SIDES (ADDITION: PANELS)
30.	6 BRICK (ADDITION: CONCRETE)
31.	A-1 PLAIN NO REVEAL (ADDITION: REVEAL WY STEPS)
32.	A NO SIDE PANELS
33.	B ROUND STAINED GLASS ABOVE DOOR (ADDITION: B-3 MULTI-LIGHTED)
34.	B-2 POUBLE-LEAF PANELED W/ SINGLE LIGHT
35.	A YES

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
excellent good fair	deteriorated unexposed	X unaltered altered	X original site moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Salem Church is located approximately three blocks from the city's Main Street commercial core in an area of light industrial use and expansion. Situated on the northeast corner of Eighth and Court streets, the building occupies a small site without open space or setback from the right-of-way. The principal sanctuary and a parish hall addition are the only two improvements on the property. In the last several years, the buildings have been used sporadically by church organizations and commercial ventures.

The sanctuary is a simple one story brick building. Constructed originally in 1854, the Salem Church was expanded to its present size and appearance in 1873. The church building is one bay in width and four bays in length. A jerkin-headed gable faces the principal facade on Court Street. Asphalt shingles—the only major alteration to the building—now clad the gabled roof. A steeple once rose above the entrance. The side windows are round—arched and contain art glass in a Prairie School mode corresponding with the date of the church addition in 1923. The red, common bond walls of the church are largely undecorated; recessed panels and an inscription stone are located on the facade, and brick corbelling underscores the eaves along the rake of the gable. An Eastlake style canopy covers the single, central entrance on the symmetrical Court Street elevation.

The parish hall addition was built in 1923 in a Prairie School style. Red rugby brick was used in the addition. The building complements the original sanctuary in terms of scale and detail, although it is effectively a two-and-one-half story building. A flat parapet roof surmounts the principal elevation on Eighth Street. Arched openings at either end of the facade provide doors at street level, whereas three centralized arched openings at a slightly higher level are windows. A stone course runs above the openings at the parapet, and stone medalions decorate the parapet where it pitches above the entraces. The non-street elevations are in a plainer brick and do not contain the same decorative program as the Eighth Street facade.

8. Significance

1500-1599 1600-1699 1700-1799 1800-1899	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric agriculture architecture art commerce communications	community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement	literature military music	science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation X other (specify)
Specific dates	1854 (rebuilt 1873)	Builder/Architect		ethnicity

addition 1923

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The sanctuary and parish hall of the Salem Church are significant evidences of the establishment of the German community in Evansville. By 1900, the census of population indicated that Evansville was half-German. This German community was the product of two waves of immigration, the first in the years around 1850 and the second in the late-1880s. Salem Church was established and constructed as part of the first wave, one of few institutions which reflect this mid-century ethnic phenonenon.

Evansville's status as a mid-western river city promoted immigration. Industrialization and commerce associated with river and later rail trade attracted industrious Germans beginning in the late 1840s. These Germans, fleeing the Revolution of 1848, settled in several Ohio River communities such as Cincinnati and Louisville. They tended to be progressive and Republican in politics, business owners or artisans, and Protestant.

In the late forties and early fifties, German immigration rose in Evansville. The city was still small in 1850 (5,105), and the German immigrants settled in or close to what is now the Evansville central business district. These Protestant Germans founded a handful of Lutheran, Reformed, and Evangelical churches between 1845 and 1860. Salem and two other Evangelical churches were built at about the same time within a few blocks of one another on the northwest side of the city.

Efforts to establish Salem began in 1844. These first attempts came to fruition in 1852, when a class was organized through the Evangelical Association. A year later, the national conference established a mission in Evansville. In 1854, work on the original sanctuary began under the pastorage of Rev. Frederick Weinhaup, and the new building was dedicated on April 2nd.

The growth of the congregation was rapid. In 1857, the members of the congregation numbered 33. Only six years later, in 1863, the number had grown to 70. By 1872, it was decided that a larger sanctuary was in order. A year later, the present building was completed and dedicated. By the close of the 1880s, the congregation exceeded 100 members.

Salem is one of the few remaining buildings associated with this first wave of German immigration. The German community made major contributions to the development and character of the city. It was through institutions such as Salem Church that life in the German community centered. The parish hall served the congregation's expanded social and educational programs after the turn of the century. Both buildings remain in a largely unaltered state.