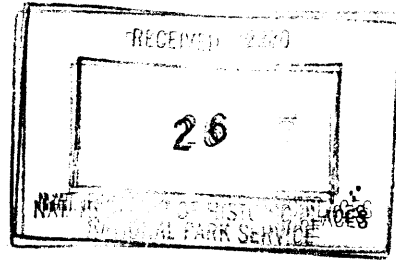


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

201



1. Name of Property

historic name Rose Hill Methodist Episcopal Church

other names/site number Rose Hill Community Church; 62-02904

2. Location

street & number 304 Main Street not for publication N/A

City or town Rose Hill vicinity N/A

state Iowa code 123 county Mahaska

zip code 52586

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that thi property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Amelby. Sirke

Signature of certifying official

February 18, 2003
Date

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

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 commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Religion Sub: Religious facility

=====
7. Description
=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian/Gothic

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Other

roof Asphalt

walls Wood: Weatherboard

other _____

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

=====
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.)

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

- ___ C a birthplace or a 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.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture _____

Period of Significance 1879-1928

Significant Dates 1879
1882
1928

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Unknown

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

=====

9. Major Bibliographical References

=====

(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 # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data
 State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other

Name of repository: _____

=====
10. Geographical Data
=====

Acreage of Property Less than one

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>15</u>	<u>544760</u>	<u>4574280</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

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 Marie L. Robbins

organization Rose Hill Methodist Episcopal Church date 02-10-03

street & number 3218-230th Street telephone (641)-632-8402

city or town Rose Hill state IA zip code 52586

=====
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 the SHPO or FPO.)

name Rose Hill Methodist Episcopal Church

street & number 304 Main Street telephone (641)-632-8480

city or town Rose Hill state IA zip code 52586

=====
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 the 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, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

NPS Form 10-900-a

OMB No. 1024-0018

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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section_ 7 _ Page _1_

Rose Hill Methodist Episcopal Church
Mahaska County, IA.

Description:

The Rose Hill Methodist Episcopal Church built in the late 1800's shows Late Victorian/Gothic architectural style through-out the large one story wooden framed religious facility located in a small rural residential setting on the corner of Main and Williams Street. The church was built in 1879. The Rev. Alexander Kershaw was appointed to Rose Hill in September, 1876, with services held in the homes of the church members The Rev. I.O. Kemble came in 1878 and the church was organized and completed in April 1879. The church was dedicated by Rev. E.L. Schreiner, the presiding elder. The church continues to have Sunday School, Morning and Evening Services, Mid-Week Bible Studies.

In response to a need for more space, a basement was put under the church in 1928. An addition was added to the south of the church for bathrooms, a pastor's study, and mid-week Bible Studies in 1982. A handicap ramp was added to the church in 1997. The church still has the original appearance and continues to serve the town and surrounding area as a place for worship.

The church has a rectangular plan, approximately 70 by 30 feet. The original foundation is visible on all sides except the south and consists of tile and cement blocks. The wood framed building has horizontal weatherboard siding, metal and wood doors, tall pointed Gothic style operable windows with frosted and etched glass, surrounded with plain milled wooden moldings, a steep, shingled gable roof, a bell tower with vertical slot cut-outs, supported by four wooden porch columns with paired wooden brackets on each column, and a tall brick chimney. A glass clerestory window in front which has been replaced with wood. A wooden clerestory opening in back of the church is used for entrance to the attic. There is a handicap ramp on the north and west side of the church.

The church basement added in 1928 is approximately 50 by 30 feet. This addition provided more room for Children's School, Ladies Aid, meetings, and church fellowship dinners. An addition approximately 20 feet long and 30 feet wide was added in 1982. This addition provided space for bathrooms, pastor's study, and mid-week Bible Studies. The interior walls are covered with sheet rock. The doors are metal and the windows are wood sash.

The church has a small pointed front entrance that leads to a 50x30 sanctuary seating for 150. A unique 14' Colonial style ceiling is made of pressed tin panels with wreath design, egg dart moldings, wreath and torch filler, wreath and torch cornice, with eagle design corner panels. The light fixtures are white globes. The windows are tall pointed Gothic style with frosted and etched glass that are operable. A tall pointed Gothic window is

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Section_ 7,8 _ Page _2_

Rose Hill Methodist Episcopal Church
Mahaska County, IA.

Description (continued)

above the entrance doors of the sanctuary. The bottom 3' side walls are 7" tongue and grooved which is painted. The walls are lath and plaster then wallpapered. The flooring is yellow pine 3" tongue and groove, isle and stage are carpeted. The oak pew benches have upholstered seats. The southwest corner of the sanctuary leads to stairs leading to the back 20 by 30 addition of pastor's office, meeting room, and bathrooms. Also the stairs lead to the basement where there are classrooms, nursery, and kitchen facilities. When traveling east on Highway 92 the bell tower can be distinguished when looking southeast before coming to the Rose Hill Exit. The graveled area on two sides of the church is used for parking and has a small lawn which is surrounded with older residential houses. The church is on the corner lot of Main and Williams Street with the front facing north to Main Street. The property is in good condition and has had very little alteration since it's construction. Since the other two churches are no longer here it's the only Late Victorian/Gothic style building of it's kind in the surrounding community.

Summary Paragraph Statement of Significance:

The Rose Hill Methodist Episcopal Church, constructed in 1879 and the only extant 19th century ecclesiastical building remaining on its original site in this once flourishing Mahaska County Community, is locally significant under criterion C as a very good example of Gothic Revival design influence. The Gothic Revival influence is most evident in the use of the pointed arch for window and door openings. The fact that these arched openings are all at 45 degrees is a likely indication that the building's design and construction were undertaken by church members with limited experience in carpentry beyond erecting their own homes and outbuildings. What they may have lacked in experience in terms of providing elaborate detailing was more than compensated for in their remarkable sense of symmetry. The overall symmetry of the original building would be maintained and enhanced in 1882 when a bell and belfry were added and in 1928 when a basement was placed underneath the building, steps were constructed, and a projecting entryway added. Although a more recent rear addition and a wooden ramp on the front of the church are not very sympathetic to the original design, the church retains a high level of integrity in terms of its overall scale, massing, and survival of original architectural details and materials.

Statement of Significance:

When the Rose Hill Methodist Episcopal Church was built in 1879 it was one

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section_ 8 _ Page _3_

Rose Hill Methodist Episcopal Church
Mahaska County, IA.

Statement of Significance (continued)

of three churches in the town of Rose Hill. The Free Methodist were the first congregation to construct a church in the town. Their church was constructed in the early summer of 1876. Fire destroyed the church in the winter of 1877-1878. In the spring of 1879 a new church was built. Decreasing in attendance in the late 1920's led to the closing of the church and sometime around the later part of 1937 the building was torn down. The Christian Church was built in 1885. The church continue to grow for sometime, and services were held on a bi-weekly basis. The turn of the century brought a gradual decline in attendance, and services were held occasionally for several years. It eventually closed and the building was later moved to Main Street where it became part of Hugh Moore Grain Company. This building was later purchased by Steve's Feed Service. Because of the closing of the two other churches the congregations united with the Rose Hill Methodist Episcopal Church and held a Union Sunday Service. Since then till present the church has been serving the community.

Historical background and significance:

Rose Hill Community Church is located in Mahaska County, IA. White Oak Township. White Oak Township got it's name from the timber that runs along the South Skunk River. Several hundred acres are not tillable, but there is value for timber and pasture WM. Bond built a crude sawmill in the beginning years to help settlers make better use of the timber. The dense wooded area was a favorite resort for the pioneer hunter and could have been why the Indians settled in a village called (Kish-ke-kosh)> Rose Hill is located on Sections 3 and 10 formerly owned by James Ornbaum and was laid out on the completion of the Oskaloosa branch of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad to Oskaloosa in 1875. Also in 1875 Ornbaum became known as Rose Hill. The new name came from wild prairie roses that covered a hill West of town. The Town became a busy rail center with four passenger and two freight trains passing through each day. Rose Hill grew very fast and building began with houses, general stores, post-office, bank, school, and the three churches. Rose Hill was incorporated in 1877. After 1877 the town had financial problems, wet years for the farmers, muddy roads that limited travel to the town Still businesses came and went. In the 1900's the town had several hundred people and continued to change until The Depression came. The town was hit hard and the paving of the Great White Way (Hyway 92) thru the town in the Spring of 1930 was an improvement but it took people beyond Rose Hill. In 1959-1960 the rerouting of Highway 92 to the North of Rose Hill moved the traffic from going through the town. The businesses were competing against chain stores in larger cities which

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Rose Hill Methodist Episcopal Church
Mahaska County, IA.

Historical background and significance: (continued)

caused many of them to gradually close. Today we have three businesses: Steve's Feed Store, The Royal Auto Frame Straightening, and the O.K. Body Shop. The Rose Hill Ruritan Club is located on Main Street and has several local members. The 1999 Census for the town has a count of 171. In 1999 the Rev's Bill and Jan Kolb came to minister the Rose Hill Community Church.

Bibliography:

Mahaska County, Iowa
Portrait and Biographical Album of Mahaska County, Iowa
Published by: Chapman Brothers, Chicago, 1887
Iowa Historical Library

Mahaska County, Iowa
Past and Present of Mahaska County, Iowa
By Manoah Hedge
Published by: The S.J. Clarke Co. Chicago 1906
Iowa Historical Library

History of Mahaska Co, Iowa
By: Manoah Hedge
Iowa Historical Library

Ten Towns in Mahaska County
Text by: Conrad Wesselhoeft
Iowa Historical Library

History of Mahaska County, Iowa
1984 Volume I
Owner: Marie L. Robbins

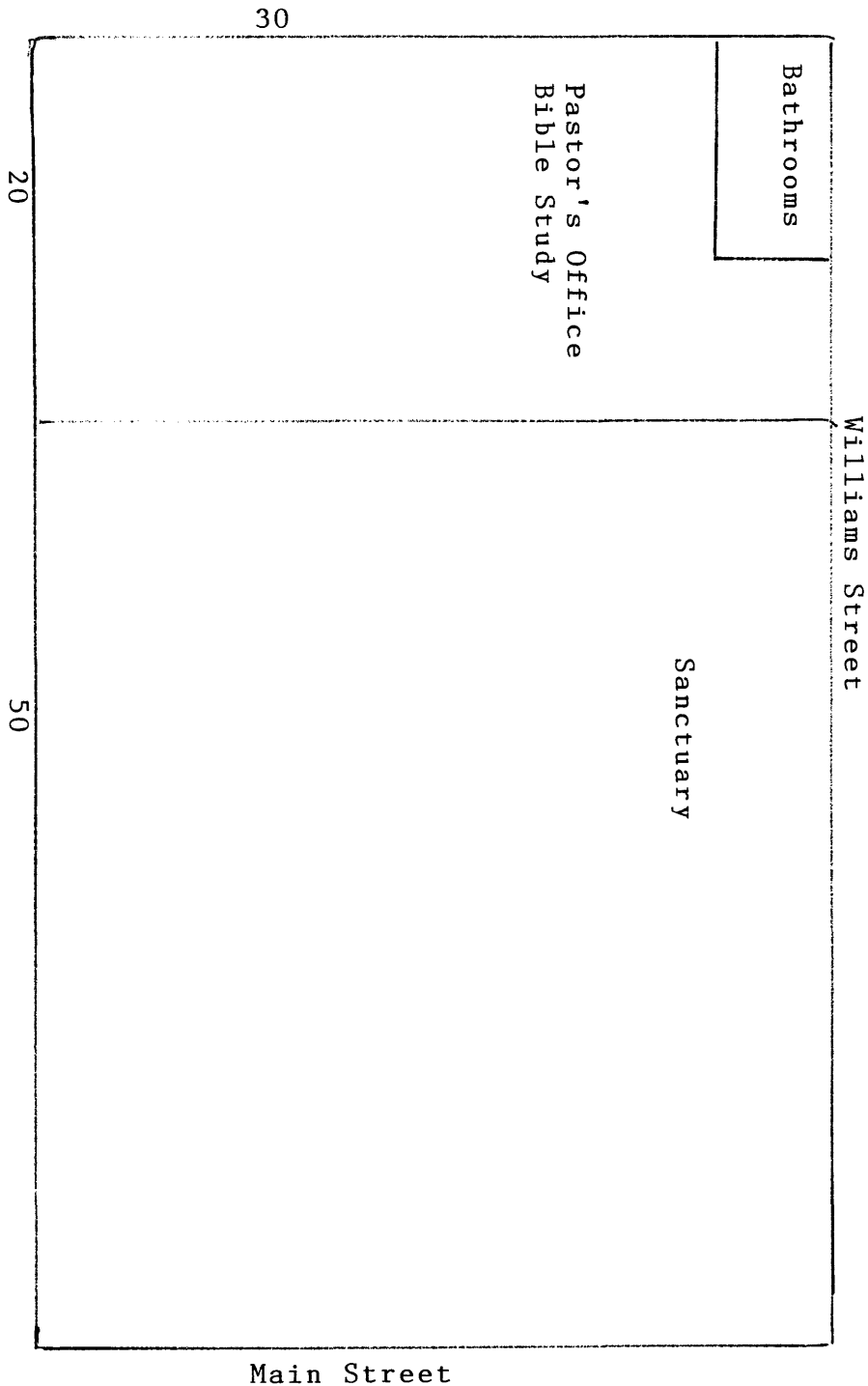
The Heritage of Mahaska County, Iowa
2000
Owner: Marie L. Robbins

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section_ Floor Plan _ Page _6_

Rose Hill Methodist Episcopal Church
Mahaska County, IA.



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Section_9,10 _ Page _5_

Rose Hill Methodist Episcopal Church
Mahaska County, IA.

Bibliography (continued)

The Weekly Oskaloosa Herald
Thursday, February 6, 1879
Volume 29 Number 23
Owner: John Jacobs

Rose Hill Methodist Episcopal Church Minutes

Mahaska County Recorder's Office
Oskaloosa, Iowa

Mahaska County Auditor's Office
Oskaloosa, Iowa

Mahaska County Assessor's Office
Oskaloosa, Iowa

Geographical Data:

Verbal Boundary Description:

Lots One Hundred Thirteen (113) and One Hundred (114) of Original Plat of the
Town of Ornbaum, now called Rose Hill, Iowa

Boundary Justification:

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with
the Rose Hill Methodist Episcopal Church

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section_ Photos _ Page _7_

Rose Hill Methodist Episopal Church
Mahaska County, IA.

Photographs

Black and white photo's:

1. North side of church
2. North-East side of church
3. South-East side of church
4. South side of church
5. South-West side of church
6. North-West side of church
7. Windows
8. Interior of church
9. Addition of church