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

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACE REGISTRATION FORM

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REGISTRA	TION FC	PRM		NAT. REGISTER OF NATIONAL PA	9 1998   Historia
1. Name of Property				and the same of th	11 2/ 30 JE 10C2
historic name: Zion Swe	edish Evangelical	Lutheran Church			
other name/site number:	First Christian C	hurch of Anaconda			
2. Location					
street & number: 524 Co	edar Street				not for publication: n
city/town: Anaconda					vicinity: n
state: Montana	code: MT	county: Deer Lodge	code: 023	zip code: 59711	
3. State/Federal Age	ncy Certification				.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
	d significant national			n sheet for additional commen	
In my opinion, the proper	ty do	es not meet the National Register co	riteria.		
Signature of commenting	or other official		Date		···
State or Federal agency ar	nd bureau				
4. National Park Serv	vice Certification	7			
I, he eby certify that this pro	perty is:	Regarding of the K	eeper	Date of Action	n ) a c/
entered in the National see continuatio	n sheet	_/NAO	n yr, h	2111 JULY	7/44
determined eligible for National Register					

5. Classification			
Ownership of Property: Private	Number of Resources within Property Contributing Noncontributing		
Category of Property: Building	Contributing	Noncontributing	
outegory of respective names	1	building(s)	
Number of contributing resources previously	<u> </u>	sites	
listed in the National Register: 0	<u> </u>	structures	
		objects	
Name of related multiple property listing:			
Historic and Architectural Properties of Anaconda, Montana		TOTAL	
6. Function or Use			
Historic Functions:	Current Functions:		
RELIGION/Religious Facility	RELIGION/Religious Facility		
7. Description			
Architectural Classification:	Materials:	Materials:	
LATE 19th & EARLY 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Late Gothic Revival	foundation: CT	foundation: STONE/Granite	
ENTE 17 & EMELT 20 CENTORT RESTANDS/Earc Goulle Revival			
	walls: BRICK		
	roof: WOOD/S	_	
	other: GLASS/	'Stained	

### **Narrative Description**

The original Zion Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church is a one-story, brick gable-front church with a common rectangular plan and a central tower and steeple. The church is three-bays wide and five-bays long. There is a granite foundation that has been parged with concrete, and a daylight basement appears; brick composes the walls of the church, while wood shingles cover the roof and gable end. The windows and doors in this building are predominantly original.

The east facade features a central, three-stage rectangular tower and steeple. A tented roof forms the steeple, projecting from the pinnacle of which is a ball-shaped finial. The lower two stages of the steeple are sheathed in wood shingle siding. The first stage features three gothic-arched, double hung original windows, the central one of which is larger than the flanking two. The central window is composed of stained glass and the three units are arranged in a palladian-like formation. The lantern features pairs of gothic-arched, louver openings with screens, located on each face of the tower. The main level of the central tower houses the main entrance to the church. This entrance is accessed by concrete stairs and is recessed within a gothic-arched entry. A pair of historic, 5-panel wood doors form the entrance. A projecting, gothic-arched pediment composed of square wood panels appears above the doorway. Flanking the tower and steeple are single pent-roofed bays. The northeast and southeast faces of these bays each retain a 1-over-1 double-hung gothic-arched, stained glass window with wood sills. Header courses line the upper portion. Corbeled brick pilasters crown all corners of the church.

The south elevation features five 1-over-1 double-hung, lancet-shaped, stained glass windows covered by wood storms. A double brick header course surrounds the upper portion of the window. Corbeled brick pilasters separate each section of the wall, housing a window. A 1-over-1 double-hung square window appears below each lancet-shaped window, giving light to the basement of the church. The west end of the south facade featuresa historic wood door, slightly below the level of the windows.

The west elevation displays a semi-circular window in the gable end, which is closed by a pent roof and is sheathed in wood shingle siding. There is a 3-panel, single-light (frosted glass) wood door on the south end accessed by concrete stairs. There are two central, half-lancet windows with stained glass and wood sills. On the north end, just above the water table is a corbeled brick ledge that does not appear on the south end.

### See Continuation Sheet

### 8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, C

Areas of Significance: Ethnic Heritage, Architecture

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): A Period(s) of Significance: 1904 - ca. 1935

Significant Person(s): n/a Significant Dates: 1904

Cultural Affiliation: n/a Architect/Builder: Unknown

### Narrative Statement of Significance

The Zion Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church was constructed in 1904 and is the only ethnic-associated religious facility in Anaconda that is not located within the Goosetown Historic District, the primary immigrant neighborhood in Anaconda. The church has a long history that mirrors the history of the town. It qualifies for individual listing under Criterion A of the National Register of historic places for its associations with ethnic heritage and social history. The church is also an excellent example of the Late Gothic Revival style. Although the builder remains unidentified, the building expresses the popularity of this style in religious constructions in Anaconda during the 1890s and early 1900s. The church also meets Criteria Consideration A for religious properties, since its significance is anchored by its architectural integrity and historical associations.

### **Background History**

The Zion Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church was one of the many ethnic-affiliated houses of worship constructed in Anaconda. Unlike many others, however, it was one of the longest lasting congregations in the city. The church was organized on March 4, 1898 by Reverend A. C. Gustafson and a small group of Swedish Lutheran immigrants. During the historic period, Anaconda's Swedish immigrants composed the third-largest segment of the foreign-born, white population. Approximately ten percent of all foreign-born whites in Anaconda between 1890 and 1930 had emigrated from Sweden. Consequently, Anaconda Swedes played a large role in the cultural community, forming social groups and three significant religious communities: the Free Swedish Mission Congregation (Swedish Lutheran dissenters at 501 Alder), the Swedish Baptist Congregation at 501 Cedar, and the Zion Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church at 524 Cedar.

When originally organized, the Swedish Lutherans did not have a church. Consequently, the group joined the Scandinavian Union, a federation of three congregations in Anaconda: the Swedish Baptists and the Norwegian Lutherans, in addition to the Swedish Lutherans. This federation held services in the Scandinavian Union Church, which had been constructed at 501 Cedar (the present site of the Grace Baptist Church) in 1894.

In 1904, the Scandinavian Union disintegrated and the Swedish Baptist congregation purchased the Scandinavian Union Church for \$1,300. This development left Anaconda's Swedish Lutherans without a house of worship. Soon after, the congregation decided to build a church for their congregation on a lot donated by the Anaconda Company at 524 Cedar.

With the help and support of the Augustana Synod, the present church building was constructed during the winter of 1904 and 1905. The church opened in 1905 and services were held in the building for over fifty years. Pastor Joseph Lonnquist took over the congregation in 1928, a time during which many changes occurred in the church. The congregation became more diverse in the late 1920s and during the 1930s, a majority of parishioners who were not of Swedish descent joined the church. Thus, during the 1930s, services in the Swedish language were phased out. In addition, as the congregation grew, a need for a new parsonage arose. On June 5, 1933, the old parsonage at 312 East Sixth was demolished and a new parish house was completed by Theodore Eck and Sons on the site. By Labor Day, 1933, the new parsonage was completed.

Continued expansion occurred during the 1940s and 1950s. In 1953, a committee was assembled to identify an expansion plan for the congregation, which had been renamed the First Lutheran Church. In early 1955, the committee decided to abandon the old facility and construct a new facility in Washoe Park.

### See continuation sheet

name/title: Kimberly Morrison, Historian/Community Surveyor

organization: MT SHPO date: March, 1996

street & number: P.O. Box 201202, 1410 8th Ave. telephone: (406)444-7715 state: MT zip code: 59620-1202 city or town: Helena

### **Property Owner**

name/title: Malcolm Scott Hill

street & number: 524 Cedar Street telephone: (406) 563-7569 city or town: Anaconda state: MT zip code: 59711 **United States Department of the Interior National Park Service** 

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### **Architectural Integrity**

The Zion Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church retainsa high level of architectural integrity. The only element marring the original design of the building is an apron of concrete parging the original stone foundation. This alteration, however, detracts little from the ability of the church to reflect its historic design and purpose. The church is an excellent example of the Late Gothic Revival style used in Anaconda's religious and church-related facilitiesafter the turn of the century.

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In approximately 1958, 524 Cedar was purchased by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. A reorganized branch of this

faith began holding worship services in the church by 1970. In the late 1980s, the church was sold to the First Christian congregation of Anaconda.

The Zion Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church has been an integral part of the Anaconda landscape and environment for almost a century. While many historic religious and church-related facilities in Anaconda have been altered, demolished, or replaced, this church survives as a tribute to Anaconda's early ethnic sects and the diverse, yet closeknit community that they formed.

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Anaconda-Deer Lodge County Property Ownership Records.

Anaconda Leader. 3/2/73.

Anaconda Standard. 6/30/04.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. 1907, 1930, 1938.

Seventy-fifth Anniversary of First Lutheran Church, Anaconda, Montana. 1973 Diamond Jubilee Booklet.

