

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED **MAR 6 1975**
DATE ENTERED **AUG 28 1975**

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

C. H. Cook Memorial Church

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Church Street

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sacaton

__ VICINITY OF

4

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Arizona

04

Pinal

021

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

First Presbyterian Church of Sacaton

STREET & NUMBER

Church Street

CITY, TOWN

Sacaton

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Arizona

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Pinal County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Florence

STATE

Arizona

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__ FEDERAL __ STATE __ COUNTY __ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The C. H. Cook Memorial Church is a large (6,000 square feet) Mission Revival building of adobe and cement. The unusual height (for an adobe building) can be explained by the fact that the walls to a height of 7 or 8 feet are of 2 ft. thick concrete, rather than of adobe. The pilasters, moreover, are concrete except for the top 3 feet. The load of the roof rests on the pilasters and not on the walls. The concrete capping is both decorative and protective. In addition, there is lime between the adobe bricks. The concrete foundation may have steel reinforcement. The arches over the windows are not adobe but red brick. The original roof was shingle, but the present one is asbestos tile. The interior of the building is also sturdily built. The main floor is supported by 60 bridge timbers 60' x 8" x 16". The sanctuary can accommodate about 400 people and is often filled to overflowing for funerals and weddings.

The chancel has been altered considerably. Originally there was a small high choir loft and raised pulpit, both well placed to take advantage of the acoustics. However, in the 1940s, the choir expanded so that the loft was remodeled to accommodate the additional numbers, and it was thus necessary to lower the pulpit to its present level about two feet above the floor. The small room to the right of the chancel was originally the pastor's study.

When the church was constructed there was no artificial lighting. Night meetings were not held, and the numerous large windows made lighting unnecessary. Electricity was added under the Rural Electrification program. A furnace has been added plus two gas heaters which hang from the ceiling in the sanctuary.

The full basement was originally two long rooms but is now divided into several rooms and is used for Sunday School classes and social affairs. There is also a chapel in the basement, which contains the original pulpit and altar from the chancel. There is a kitchen in the basement which now has a gas stove. The original wood stove is still in use at the Sacaton Flat Church.

Most of the original pews are in use upstairs, but some are in the basement chapel and some are at the Lower San Tan Church.

The church is rectangular with a projection for the choir loft in the back and a covered porch in the front. There is no spire or bell tower.

The building is tan plastered concrete and adobe with a medium gable roof edged with decorative concrete cappings. The windows are arched,

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1918

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The two-story adobe C. H. Cook Memorial Church was constructed in 1918 to serve the large congregation of Pima converted by missionary Charles H. Cook.

Charles H. Cook arrived in Sacaton in December 1870 with the intention of acting as a missionary to the Pima while maintaining himself by teaching for the Bureau of Indian Affairs. He learned the Pima language and compiled a dictionary.

Cook preached in the Sacaton area for 12 years before he gained his first Pima convert, and it was 19 years before he had sufficient adherents to organize a church. This first church was at Sacaton, and it began in April of 1889. Later, other congregations were established in various communities on the Reservation.

As the Sacaton congregation expanded it became necessary to build a new church, and this was accomplished in 1918 with the construction of the present church dedicated to Missionary Cook. The old church was torn down at that time. It had been a one-story adobe with a bell tower.

Until the 1950s when the practice was challenged in the courts, the children from the Indian boarding school across the street were required to attend church services each Sunday. The center row of pews was reserved for them.

The church stands on patent land which may be used by the church as long as it continues to be a church.

There are plans at present to build a new, smaller, one-story church where the original church stood in the front of the churchyard. Presbyterian Regulations require the old building to be destroyed if a new one is built, but it is possible that an exception might be made in the case of a building which still has extremely strong sentimental ties for many Pima people.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interview with Rev. Wayne, Pastor.
 "First Presbyterian Church, Sacaton, Az.: 1889-1964"
 75th Anniversary Pamphlet

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1

UTM REFERENCES

A 12 480800 3660080
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

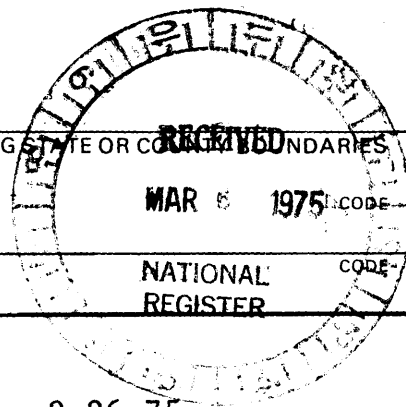
D
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE CODE COUNTY

STATE CODE COUNTY



11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marjorie Wilson, Historian

2-26-75

ORGANIZATION

Arizona State Parks

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

1688 West Adams

TELEPHONE

(602) 271-4174

CITY OR TOWN

Phoenix

STATE

Arizona

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

Dennis McCarthy

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DENNIS MCCARTHY
State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

2-26-75

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Ernest A. Connally

DATE

AUG 28 1975

ATTEST:

Christine [Signature]

DATE

2-26-75

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

acting

Asst. Director, Professional Services

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but the radiating brick voussoirs are plastered over.

The front entrance is reached by cement stairs with solid railings leading to an enclosed porch with open window and entry arches.

The building is subject to some petty vandalism, particularly the breaking of windows.

There is a small cemetery in the churchyard which includes the graves of the son and first wife of Dr. Cook, who died in 1884 and 1889 respectively.



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Although the old building is sound, it is hard to heat, maintenance is expensive, and the steep stairs prevent many older people from attending.

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Arizona	
COUNTY Pinal	
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	AUG 28 1975

(Number all entries)

Significance 8. C. H. Cook Memorial Church

The C. H. Cook Memorial Church is one of the few two-story adobe buildings in the state. Its durability and present good condition make it a rarity among such structures. The building is named for the first Presbyterian missionary to the Pima, C. H. Cook, and was the mother church for the Presbyterian chapels on the reservation.

