

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Tennessee	
COUNTY: Sullivan	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	OCT 2 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Old Kingsport Presbyterian Church

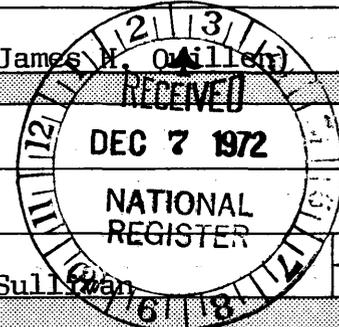
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Boatyard Presbyterian Church (Rep. James H. O'Neil)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Stone Drive (Highway 11W) and Afton

CITY OR TOWN:
Kingsport

STATE: **Tennessee** CODE: **47** COUNTY: **Sullivan** CODE: **163**



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Old Kingsport Presbyterian Church

STREET AND NUMBER:
Stone Drive and Afton

CITY OR TOWN: **Kingsport** STATE: **Tennessee** CODE: **47**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Sullivan County Register's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:
Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: **Kingsport** STATE: **Tennessee** CODE: **47**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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COUNTY: **Sullivan**

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DATE: **OCT 2 1973**

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Several years ago, the Old Kingsport or Boatyard Presbyterian Church was moved from its original location to a ridge overlooking the old Boatyard area of Kingsport and the Holston River. The church had been built in the area of Rossville, a town which had been organized in 1818, and which, along with the town of Christianville, was incorporated in 1822 to become Kingsport.

The church building is a rectangular white clapboard structure with a pitched roof, surmounted by a simple spire. Details of the bell tower and the main doorway, as well as in the interior, suggest a Greek Revival influence. All openings are original; the windows have dark green shutters.

A small foyer, with steps to the slave gallery, separates the entrance from the sanctuary. The sanctuary, which was restored by the local chapter of the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities, is painted white. To the front is a simple raised altar platform. Beyond the santucary are small rooms used for Sunday school classes. When the building was moved, a concrete basement was built to provide additional space.



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7. DESCRIPTION (Cont.)

The church building was moved in 1953 about 1,000^{feet} east from its original site in Rossville to its present site. It was moved "intact" without the loss of a single pane of glass. The structure was moved to escape the noise from passing trains. The only major alteration to the building occurred when the building was moved, at which time a basement was built to contain a social hall and Sunday School rooms.



9. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1845-1851**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

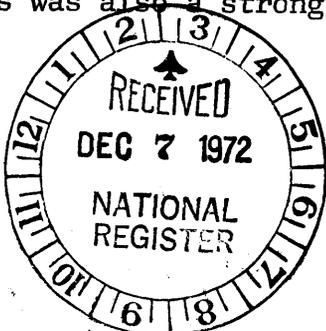
The Old Kingsport or Boatyard Presbyterian Church represents one of the earliest churches organized in Kingsport. The present building, although not on its original site, is the oldest church still standing in the city.

On May 20, 1820, the Presbyterian congregation was formed with fourteen members present. Their first church building was a log structure located in the still existing Boatyard Presbyterian Church Cemetery. The log church was replaced by the clapboard structure, which, though partially built by April, 1845, was not completed until 1851.

Frederick Augustus Ross not only gave both the land and the money needed to build the new church, but also served as its rector free of charge. Ross had inherited vast estates in the Kingsport area from his father, David Ross, who had built the "Great Iron Furnace," an iron forge, and numerous other businesses. The son, F.A. Ross, made his own contributions to the Kingsport area. He had laid out Rossville, the town which was to merge with Christianville in 1822 to become Kingsport. He built the first bridge over the North Fork of the Holston River on the Great Stage Road and a large mill factory. Of his many contributions, the Presbyterian Church is the only building left standing.

Ross and William G. Brownlow were the main orators in the bitter feud between the New Presbyterian Church and the Methodist Church in the mid-nineteenth century. Much of Brownlow's book, The Great Iron Wheel Examined, published in 1856, was an attack on Ross's earlier writings which were published in "The Calvinistic Magazine." Ross was also a strong and vocal opponent to slavery.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ross, Charles Coffin. The Story of Rotherwood from the Auto-biography of Rev. Frederick A. Ross. (Knoxville: Bean, Warters and Co., 1923.)

Spoden, Muriel, Sullivan County Historian (Interview).

Taylor, Oliver. Historic Sullivan. (Bristol: The King Printing Co. 1909.)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

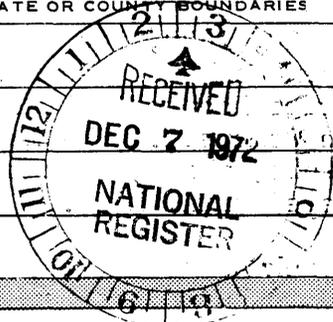
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		36° 33' 21"	82° 35' 30"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

UTM
17/3575
404660
CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 3

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Ellen Beasley

ORGANIZATION: Tennessee Historical Commission DATE: 11-17-72

STREET AND NUMBER:
403 7th Avenue, North

CITY OR TOWN: Nashville STATE: Tennessee CODE: 47

12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Michael J. Smith
Michael J. Smith

Title Executive Director
Tennessee Historical Commission

Date 11-17-72

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert M. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 10/2/73

ATTEST: Cornelia [Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date 9-28-73

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8. SIGNIFICANCE (Cont.)

Although the building has been moved from its original location, it is significant not only for its architectural value, but also because it is the only remaining structure ^{at} contributed to Frederick Ross, a very important early settler of what is now Kingsport.

