

DEC 28 1998

3318

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES  
Individual Inventory Form

Resource # Ma-92  
Madison County

1. Name of Resource: Mt. Zion Christian Church

2. Original Owner: Mt. Zion Church

3. Other Names: Mt. Zion Church

4. Prehistoric Site  Building  Object   
Historic Site  Structure  Other

5. Location: on US 421 just south of its intersection with US 25

6. Owner's Name: Congregation of Mt. Zion Christian Church [ N ]

7. Owner's Address: c/o J. Randolph Osborne Rt. 3 Richmond, Kentucky 40475

8. Evaluation: [ N ]

9. Recognition & Date:  
Nat.Landmark  Local Landmark   
Nat.Register  HABS/HAER   
Highway Marker  KY Inventory 1979  
KY Landmark Certificate

10. N.R.Status & Date:

11. N.R.Group:  
District Name: [ ]  
Mult.Resource Area: Madison Co MRA [ ]  
Thematic Name: [ ]

12. Historical Theme:  
Primary: Military (Civil War) [220]  
Secondary: Architecture [030]  
Other: Religion [260]

13. Statement of Significance:  
  
See attached.

14. History:  
  
See attached.

15. Source of historical information and/or contact person: KHC Survey: JGW, CMT, 1979 Walter W. Moores, "Historical Sketch of Mt. Zion Christian Church", unpublished, undated.

16. Date:  
Original Building 1852 [ 6 ]  
Addition 1952 [ 2 ]

17. Style:  
Greek Revival [ 31 ]

18. Architect/Builder:  
Unknown

19. No. of Stories: 1 1/2 [ 1.5 ]

20. Original Floor Plan:  
NA [ ]

21. Single Pile  Double Pile  N.A.  X

22. Roof Form & Material: Original  
gable/shingle Not Original  X

23. Structural Material:  
Brick [ B ]

24. Exterior Material:  
Brick [ B ]

25. Foundation Material:  
Stone [ S ]

26. Major Alterations: None  
Moved/Rebuilt Other a rear door  
Additions basement has been cut

27. Special Features:  
Civil War cannonballs embedded in wall

28. Outbuildings:  
None [ ]

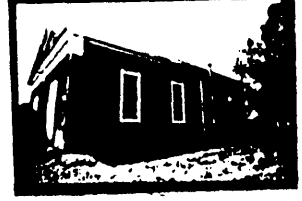
29. Original Function:  
church [ 06A ]

30. Present Use:  
church [ 06A ]

31. Condition:  
Excellent [ E ]

32. Endangered: Yes   
No  X

33. Attach Photos:  
Roll: Photo Nos: No. of Slides:  
6 27, 28  
7 9 - 13



34. Prepared by: S. Willis/H. Powell

35. Organization: EKU

36. Date: 1986

37. New Survey  Resurvey  X

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES  
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38. UTM Point of Primary Building: Zone Easting Northing 39. G.I.S. Mod. [ ]  
Quadrant: Richmond South 16 742190 4172940 40. Coordi.Accuracy [ ]

41. UTM Points of Boundary (for N. R. eligible sites only):

A.	---	---	D.	---	---
B.	---	---	E.	---	---
C.	---	---	F.	---	---

42. Total Acreage in Present Property: 43. Acreage included in proposed N.R. boundary:

44. Site Plan (and boundary description and justification for N.R. sites):

See attached

45. Description and House Plan:

The Mt. Zion Christian Church is a rectangular brick structure on a stone foundation with two entrances in the gable end. The front facade is laid in double-stretcher Flemish bond and its bays are separated by three raised pilasters. The pilasters support a plain wide entablature which gives the gable a pedimented appearance. The axial facades each contain 9/6 double-hung windows with jack arches. The brick work of the axial facades is five-course American bond. The rear facade has a window and a door. The double-leaf front entrances are framed by shouldered architraves. The interior contains the original pews which were built with shoulder-height dividers down the center of the pews. Cannonballs from the Civil War battle near Richmond are visible at several spots in the brick walls.

Ma-92

Mt. Zion Christian Church

#### 14. History

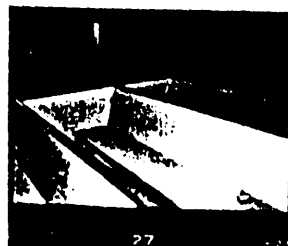
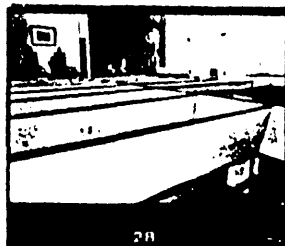
Mt. Zion Christian Church's congregation derives from the Viney Fork Baptist Church, established in nearby Speedwell in 1797. They were assisted in their organization by Andrew Tribble and Christopher Harris, prominent Baptist pioneer ministers, as well as by Peter Woods.

Another Baptist Church, Bethel, was also formulated from and with the help of the Viney Fork Church in 1813. It is probable that Mt. Zion's congregation also drew from this group for its members since the deed conveying the property on which the church now stands identifies "Bethel Church of God" as the recipient. The two acres were given by William D. McCord and Thomas Palmer on March 25, 1853. The congregation had constructed the building previously, and the new church was dedicated on June 7, 1852.

Mt. Zion was a late arrival to the Campbellite fold in Madison County. Viney Fork had sponsored a debate between Baptists and Campbellites in the 1820's and White Oak Pond Church and Flatwoods Church had changed their denominational affiliation from Baptist to Christian at that time. In an unpublished history of Mt. Zion by Walter W. Moores, the increasing missionary activity of both the Bethel and the Viney Fork churches by 1845 is mentioned. It may be that the anti-missionary factions in each Baptist congregation withdrew to form Mt. Zion.

The Mt. Zion Christian Church was, from its founding, located in a very prosperous section of the county and numerous slaves attended services and took communion with their masters. The Mt. Zion sympathies were entirely with the South in the coming Civil War.

The Battle of Richmond on August 29 and 30, 1862 caught Mt. Zion between the approaching armies. The church building was utilized for the care of the wounded and women from the congregation served as nurses. Mt. Zion men and their slaves buried the dead, forty of whom are still interred across from the church on what was Washington Maupin's farm. The south side of the church bears marks of repairs from cannonballs lodged there during the battle.



KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCE INVENTORY SUPPLEMENT  
BOUNDARY AND LOCATION INFORMATION

Historic Property Name Mt. Zion Christian Church Site # Ma 92

Multiple Resource/Thematic Nomination Title TWO DOOR CHURCHES OF  
19TH CENTURY KENTUCKY

U.T.M. Coordinates - List multiple UTM's if property is ten or more acres.

A. \_\_\_\_\_ D. \_\_\_\_\_

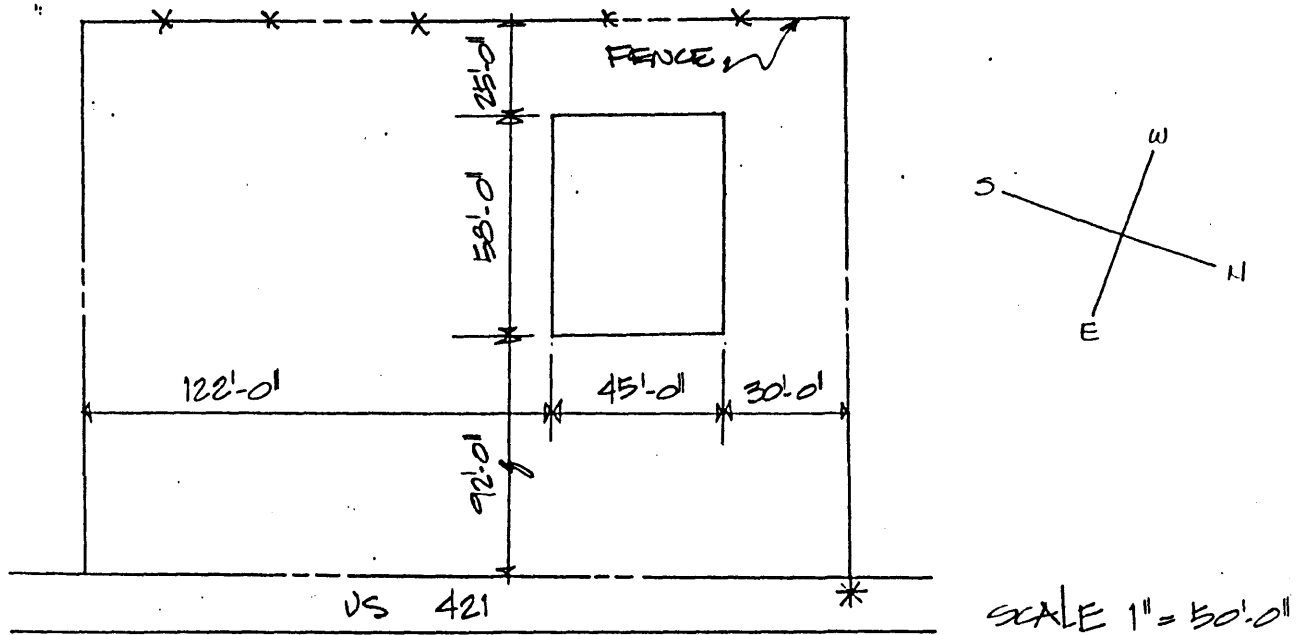
B. \_\_\_\_\_ E. \_\_\_\_\_

C. \_\_\_\_\_ F. \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal Boundary Description \_\_\_\_\_ Acreage .79

From a point in the west right of way of US 421, then south 197 feet to a point; then west 175 feet to a point; then north 197 feet to a point; then east 175 feet to the point of beginning. The point of beginning is 30 feet north and 92 feet east of the northeast corner of the church.

Sketch of Site Plan (Showing outbuildings, structures, landscape features and the site boundary as described above.)



Official Courthouse Property Reference:

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Ma-92

Mt. Zion Christian Church

**Statement of Significance**

The Mt. Zion Christian Church is significant under criteria A and C for its use as a hospital on the battlefield during the Civil War battle of Richmond in 1862. It is also an example of how Madison County builders interpreted the Greek Revival style using a low-pitched roof and pilasters to separate the facade into bays, but retained the jack arches from the Federal style (significant dates: 1852, 1862).

**Verbal Boundary Justification**

The boundary was chosen arbitrarily to provide a minimal setting for the building and to preserve its setback from US 421. The road forms the east boundary and a fence line forms the west boundary.

The boundary includes one contributing building.