

WASHINGTON

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

For HCRS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic First Methodist Church of Batavia

and/or common McWayne School Annex

2. Location

street & number 355 First Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Batavia

N/A vicinity of

congressional district 15

state Illinois ⁶⁰⁵¹⁰ code

031

county

Kane

code 089

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<u>N/A</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Buttrey-Wulff-Mammaing Agency, Inc. (Alfred J. Wulff)

street & number 355 First Street

city, town Batavia

N/A vicinity of

state Illinois 60510

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder's Office, Kane County Government Center

street & number 719 S. Batavia Ave.

city, town Geneva

state Illinois 60134

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Inventory of Historic Structures in Kane County
title (Ill. Historic Structures Survey) is this property been determined eligible? yes no

date October 1972 federal state county local

depository for survey records Illinois Department of Conservation-Division of Historic Sites

city, town Springfield

state Illinois

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	(original tower removed)	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Originally built in 1852 as the First Methodist Church of Batavia, the building's style is Greek Revival. The two story structure is built of native limestone in the bold, strong and simple, yet impressive Greek Revival style. The stone is cut in rectangular shapes with approximately 6 inch to 10 inch high courses laid in a random but ordered pattern. The gable roof originally had wood shingles which remain under the asphalt shingles which were added for modern day economic reasons. Originally the structure had a squat 18 foot high by 8 foot square tower atop the gable roof. This tower was removed after 1887 when a new Methodist church was built in Batavia and the structure became a school building. A continuous entablature beneath the eaves provides a four foot band around the entire building. The north and south ends of the building have classic Greek pediments in a simple Doric style.

The basic plan consists of a rectangular shape, three bays in width and four bays in length (60' x 40'), without a projection for an entry. Corner and intermediate pilasters starting at the second floor level are the chief embellishments of the structure.

An entrance portico was added in the 1890's when the building became a school building. Also, at that time, the second floor windows were changed to 4 over 4 windows from the 8 over 8 originally provided. The window sills and heads are of cut stone. On the west elevation, one first floor window was modified by providing a steel header and adding a window to obtain a larger opening for moving in the heavy machinery required for the building's use as a school for the "manual arts."

Significant interior features include an entry hall with an original oak newel post with a carved design. Six, eight sided interior wood columns exist as they were originally.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input 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	1852 church 1887 school	Builder/Architect	unknown
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Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The history of the First Methodist Church starts with the settlement of Batavia. The first Methodists who came to Batavia were the families of Henry Lyon and Allison Speer, who arrived in the spring of 1834. They were joined in 1835 by William VanNortwick who provided his home for worship services. The Methodist congregation grew and, in 1851, a committee was appointed to arrange for the construction of a church building in Batavia. The building was erected in 1852 at a cost of \$6,000. In 1854, Rev. E.H. Gammon became the church's first permanent minister. Gammon later left the ministry to go into the farm machinery business and became wealthy. In 1887 he and his brother-in-law, Don Carlos Newton from the Newton Wagon Co. in Batavia, contributed the funds necessary to construct another church building and sold the 1852 building to the local school system. The 1852 building was used as a school until 1978 when the Buttrey-Wulff-Mammaing Agency, Inc. saved it from destruction and are now using it for their offices. Community awareness of historic values and support for the owner's adaptive reuse of the structure have been important to a zoning change which made survival possible. The building was owned by the Batavia Community School District 101 until the Buttrey-Wulff-Mammaing Agency purchased it. It was offered for sale in 1978 when two new schools were opened in Batavia. This structure is a prime example of an architectural vernacular which is important to the Fox River Valley area of Illinois. The native limestone quarried in Batavia was the construction material used for many Greek Revival buildings in the mid 1800's. The First Methodist Church of Batavia has survived as one of the few remaining stone buildings of that era which have not been greatly altered, stuccoed over or demolished.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Kane County History/1888

Batavia Herald (March 30, 1961) reporting a paper presented by Malcolm R. Derby to the Batavia Historical Society on November 6, 1960.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 1/3 acre

Quadrangle name Aurora North

Quadrangle scale 1:24 000

UMT References

A 16 390930 4633560
Zone Easting Northing

B
Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet, page 1.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Michael A. Dixon, AIA (architect)

organization Dixon Associates, AIA/Architects date January 30, 1981

street & number 37W222 Route 64 telephone (312) 377-9399

city or town St. Charles state Illinois 60174

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature [Signature]

title Director, Ill. Dept. of Conservation date 8/5/81

For HCRS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet

Item number 10

Page 1

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

355 First Street
Batavia, Illinois

That part of Lots 5 and 6, Block 3, John Van Nortwick's Addition to the Town of Batavia described by beginning at the southwesterly corner of said Lot 5; thence northerly along the westerly line of said Lots 5 and 6, 224.77 feet to the southerly line of the northerly 151.0 feet of said Lot 6 (as measured along the westerly line of said Lot); thence easterly along said southerly line 90.47 feet to the easterly line of said Lot 5, extended northerly; thence southerly along said extended easterly line and said easterly line 224.99 feet to the southeasterly corner of said Lot 5; thence westerly along the southerly line of said Lot 5, 90.47 feet to the point of beginning in the City of Batavia, Kane County, Illinois.

ILLINOIS HISTORIC SITES SURVEY INVENTORY

201307

1. Name of Site:

Common Congregational Church
Historic

2.. Location:

Street and Number Township Section
NE cor Lincoln & 1st St.
City or Town Zip Code Range 1/4 Section
Batavia
County
Kane

3. Classification:

Category (check one) Integrity (check one)
() District (X) Building () Altered (X) Unaltered
() Site () Structure () Moved (X) Original Site

4. Ownership:

(X) Private Status (check one)
() Public (X) Occupied
() Unoccupied
() Preservation work in progress

Access to Public

() Yes () Restricted () Unrestricted (X) No

Present Use (check one or more)

() Agricultural () Industrial () Religious
() Commercial () Military () Scientific
(X) Educational () Museum () Transportation
() Entertainment () Park () Other (specify)
() Government () Private Residence

5. Ownership of Property:

Owner's Name Board of Education Phone Number
Street and Number
City or Town
State County Zip Code

6. Description: Small limestone church

() Excellent () Good (X) Fair () Deteriorated () Ruins () Unexposed

Is there a program of preservation underway? () Yes (X) No

RELIGION

7. Historical Themes : (check one or more of the following)

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archeological Site | (Pre-Columbian) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archeological Site | (Post-Columbian to 1673) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> French Influence | (1673-1780) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Frontier | (1780-1818) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Early | (1818-1850) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Illinois Middle | (1850-1900) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Late | (1900-present) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Famous People | (give names & dates) |

8. Specific Date: 1852 or 1856

Areas of significance (check one or more of the following)

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

Brief statement of significance: (include all names and dates) Use additional sheets if necessary. Early church

9. Form prepared by:

T.H.

Name and Title: _____ Date: _____

Organization: _____ Phone: _____

Street and number: _____

City or Town: _____ County: _____ Zip Code _____

During the course of the Survey we often find it necessary to search for references for a particular site. When filling out the Survey form, please list according to the following example, published references to the site for which forms are being completed. If a bibliography can be compiled, it will greatly deduct from the Survey's task.

Bibliography

Robertson, Robert, Of Whales and Men. New York, Alfred K. Knopf, Inc., 1954.

