

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name St. Peter's Episcopal Church

other names/site number St. Peter's Church

Name of Multiple Property Listing N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

street & number 8225 South Main Street ☐ not for publication

city or town Grand Detour ☐ vicinity

state Illinois county Ogle zip code 61021

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this ___ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance: ___ national ___ statewide ___ local

Applicable National Register Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D

Signature of certifying official/Title: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date

Illinois Department of Natural Resources - SHPO
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register ___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register ___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | private |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | public - Local |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | public - State |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | public - Federal |

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | building(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | district |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | structure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | object |

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
		site
		structure
	1	object
1	2	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION/Religious facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL/Meeting Hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MID NINETEENTH CENTURY/

Gothic Revival

OTHER/meetinghouse

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE

walls: STONE/Limestone

roof: WOOD/Shake

other: WOOD

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity).

Summary Paragraph

St. Peter's Episcopal Church is a mid-nineteenth century locally quarried limestone church building located on the southeast corner of Main and Rock Streets in the center of the small village of Grand Detour, Illinois. The rectangular, one-story structure was built in 1850 and modeled after the typical New England meetinghouse in the Gothic Revival style. The church measures 45 feet in length and 24 feet in width. The main room is 15 feet high. It has a wood belfry and a spire measuring 14 feet high; hand-split milled cedar wood shakes cover the roof. There are six pointed-arch windows, three on each side, and two doors; the main front door is double-paneled, and there is a single door at the back. The 1990 restoration brought the interior of the church to be as near as possible to its appearance as it was in 1850. The appearance of the exterior has remained the same since the building's original completion. A modern restroom building located apart from the church building) was erected on the property in the 1990s and is a non-contributing building. A small altar located near the restroom and constructed in 1934 is a non-contributing object.

Narrative Description

SETTING

The property is located at 8225 South Main Street in Grand Detour, a small village of approximately 300 inhabitants located about 10 miles south of Oregon, Illinois (Ogle County seat), on Illinois Route 2. The church property occupies Lots 11 and 12 in Block 9 of the village. The Lots are 66 feet wide and 132 feet deep. The neighborhood is residential. The locally quarried limestone church is set back from South Main Street approximately 66 feet, and the north elevation is about 54 feet from Rock Street. There are no public sidewalks on the property, but there is the 1990 church sidewalk that leads from South Main Street to the front entrance. There is also a sidewalk from the back door of the church that leads north to Rock Street and south to the restroom building. The property is bound on the south by a row of trees on the property line next to Lot 10 of Block 9; the west boundary is with Lots 1 and 2 of Block 9. There are mature trees on the property. A small modern restroom building is located at the southeast corner of the lots, and there is a small altar marking the burial plot (1934) of the last interim rector of St. Peter's Church located a few feet in front of the restroom building. There is a church sign on the west side of the church lawn. There is no cemetery on or connected to the church property.

EXTERIOR

Front Elevation

The church, which faces west on South Main Street, is a one story, rectangular building with a wood steeple in the center of the west facade. This elevation is 24 feet in width from out-to-out foundation walls. The high-pitched roof has returns on the eaves and a wide cornice. It has a 14-foot center spire with four smaller spires on each corner. The belfry has Gothic-arched louvered windows on every side and a small spire on each corner. It rests on a wood base. In the gable end beneath the roof's peak is a Gothic-shaped window opening covered with plank boards and decorated with intersecting tracery. The Gothic-arched main entrance is directly below the opening. The transom is identical to the window opening – it is covered with plank boards and intersecting tracery. The double doors each have three panels. There are four stone steps with a middle metal handrail that lead to a small slate platform in front of the doors.

Side Elevations

The south and north elevations are identical. Each measure 45 feet in length and is 14'-4" high to the eaves. Each side is stone and has three proportionally spaced, 3'-4" by 8'-7" pointed-arch windows. The windows

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have 10/10 lights and are topped with Gothic transoms with lights in diamond pattern. A small chimney on the roof's ridge is visible from the east elevation. There is a paneled wooden door on the southeast corner of the building that leads to the altar of the church.

INTERIOR

Nave

The front doors open into the nave. To the left of the doors there is a small under-the-stairway closet that houses cleaning supplies. There is one center aisle with wooden pews on each side of the aisle. The pews are the original pews from the time the church was built and are fastened to the walls and the floor. The south and north walls have the original wainscot reaching from the floor to the bottom of the windows. The chancel area is a platform that is one step higher than the nave; there are two lecterns and a small altar table on the raised platform. To the south of the altar area is a small one-panel door leading to the rear of the property.

Gallery and Belfry

A simple stairway on the west wall leads to the gallery. The gallery is not accessible to the public because it is there that the electric lighting, heating, and air conditioning units are housed. The gallery is supported by two square columns. Access to the belfry is provided in the gallery.

INTEGRITY

St. Peter's Episcopal Church is eligible for listing in the National Register as an example of a mid-nineteenth century rural church in the Gothic Revival style. It retains all seven aspects of integrity as defined by the National Park Service: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. While the church has good integrity, it had experienced deterioration during periods of vacancy in 175-year history where it was not being used. After the railroads bypassed the village for Dixon and other communities in the 1870s, commerce and the population had slowly left Grand Detour. Regular services at St. Peter's became sporadic and ultimately non-existent resulting in the slow deterioration of the structure.

In 1907, William Cone Andrus, son of the founder of Grand Detour Leonard Andrus, led an effort to put the church back into usable condition. At that time, Father Albert B. Whitcombe, the priest at St. Luke's Episcopal Church of Dixon, Illinois, began holding afternoon services in the summer months. He was appointed Priest-in-Charge of St. Peter's in 1931 and subsequently persevered in keeping the doors open until his death in 1934.

In 1936, the property was recorded by the Historic American Building Survey. The documentation confirms that the altar, pews, and concrete steps leading to the entrance are not original to the structure, and the gallery had since been removed. The record includes historic photographs that show the new altar, which was done during Andrus's remodeling.

After the death of Father Whitcombe, the church building once again experienced a slow decay with infrequent use. During the winter of 1947, the entire ceiling of St. Peter's fell in, and it was necessary to make extensive repairs to the structure. The well-known Grand Detour artist Fred Garner saved the church for future generations by donating a partial restoration of the interior. Offerings made by the churchmen made it possible to have public worship and weddings in the summer months. The church was re-opened for public worship during the summer months of 1948. Mrs. Butterworth of Moline, Illinois, the granddaughter of John Deere (partner of Leonard Andrus at the original John Deere Plow Factory in Grand Detour) gave generously to help restore the church and reconstruct the steps leading to the front doors.

1990s Restoration

The following account of the restoration is slightly modified and was provided in Grand Detour, Illinois; 1835 – 2002; Historic Village in the Big Bend of the Rock River by Duane Paulsen, Grand Detour historian.

The church was in a state of disrepair due to neglect over time, and by the end of the 1980s, it was in danger of collapsing. It underwent an extensive restoration that was completed in the 1990s, with the goal of bringing

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the church back to how it would have looked when it was originally constructed. The sandstone walls were tuck-pointed to strengthen them. All the exterior wood surfaces were chemically stripped, primed, and given two coats of paint. The steeple and bell tower were removed, and it was determined that they could not be restored. A new bell tower and steeple, both replicas of the original, were constructed. Two posts were added under the horizontal beam supporting the bell tower before it could be put back in place. The roof sheathing was replaced, copper flashing installed, and wood shingles were put down. An old photograph was used to replicate the chimney. It was enlarged and examined with a magnifying glass to determine the courses of bricks.

On the interior, the pews were removed, the paint was stripped off, and they were rebuilt to their original appearance. The windows were removed, the panes were taken from each window, numbered, and their position noted. The original glass panes that were salvageable were reinstalled. Historic glass was used to replace broken windowpanes. The Celotex ceiling, which was installed in the 1940s, was removed and replaced with electric radiant ceiling panels. A four feet wide section of flooring the length of the building was taken up on both sides to gain access to the crawl space. Wiring was put in under the floor and floor outlets were installed. The floor was then insulated. Many of the floor joists had rotted and new joists and flooring had been installed in much of the building sometime in the 1960s or 1970s. A new northern white pine floor that replicated the original was then put down on top of the old, using square-cut 8 penny nails manufactured by the Tremont Nail Company on equipment dating back to 1818. The original floor had boards of random widths ranging from 3 and 3/4 up to 9 inches wide, tongue and groove. There were eighteen different widths in the original, the new has six different widths. There were no known photographs of the balcony, but it had left impressions in the plaster and beam pockets in the walls, which were used to determine the appearance of the original balcony and replicate it.

Most of the interior plaster was removed, a binding agent that provided a moisture barrier was applied to the stone interior wall, the cracks were filled in, and the walls were plastered.

A computer analysis was made of scrapings taken from the original paint and an exact color match was achieved. The interior woodwork was sanded prior to being painted.

The altar, which was not original but part of an early twentieth century renovation, was removed. The raised platform, communion rail, and lecterns were put back in their original locations as determined by impressions in the floor. Based on the wainscoting and impressions on the wall, there had been some sort of modesty screen in front of the first pews. They were not put back in place, and the first pew on the north side was removed to create more space in front for performances.

The bronze bell, cast in 1854 by the Meneely Foundry of Troy New York, was sandblasted and put back in the new bell tower.

All utilities on the church property are underground. Inside, the only noticeable difference from the original building is the two thermostats on the wall. The lighting is concealed in the balcony.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☐ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☒ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☒ A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1850

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation (if applicable)

N/A

Architect/Builder

The Rev. Abraham George Warner

George Cushing

William Kennedy

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations).

St. Peter's Episcopal Church is eligible for being listed on the National Register under Criterion C for Architecture as a locally important example of mid-nineteenth century rural church architecture in the Gothic Revival style. The church, which was documented by the Historic American Building Survey (HABS) in 1936, meets Criterion Consideration A for a religious property since it derives its significance from architecture. The period of its significance is 1850, the year it was constructed.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Rural Church Architecture

Early Protestant churches in the United States were largely modeled on the New England Puritan meetinghouses of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. These meetinghouses were modest buildings devoid of decorative features or religious symbology and were used for both ecclesiastical and secular purposes. (Williams: 1997, p. 212-213) Simple and box-like, these buildings lacked any projections such as steeples, porches, or towers. The interiors were equally sparse and did not include traditional sanctuary spaces. The pulpit was the focus, located at the opposite end of the main entry. Galleries were located over the entrance door. (Dexter: 1859, 186-214.)

The sparseness and secular nature of the meetinghouses reflected the Puritanical rejection of the Church of England, which they believed to be immoral and "Popish." Instead of looking to cathedrals and parishes for inspiration, the Puritans based the design of their gathering spaces upon England's Medieval guild halls. (Williams: 1997, p.5)

As the Puritan denomination, or Congregationalists as they became known, began to fracture and New Englanders became more affluent, their austere spaces fell out favor. Instead, they sought "an elegance and dignity of architectural expression which the simple meetinghouse could not provide." Towers and spires were added to the boxy edifices to resemble the Anglican churches in the cities of the southern and Mid-Atlantic states. There, Protestant churches had influences of classical architecture inspired by the work of prominent English architects Sir Christopher Wren and James Gibbs. (Loveland and Wheeler, pp. 9-10).

During the early to mid-1800s, the Second Great Awakening, a Protestant-based, religious revival movement in the United States led to the expansion of Protestantism in the county, particularly in the rural parts of the United States. This, combined other factors such as schisms within religious sects and formation of new denominations, resulted in a dramatic increase in rural churches. While the meetinghouse building form remained prevalent among these churches throughout the mid-nineteenth century, the characteristics became predominantly Greek Revival. This style was based upon the buildings of ancient Greece and Rome, and featured symmetry and proportion, low-pitched gabled roofs at times resembling temple fronts, and classical details. (Caravan: 1996, p. 24) It was widely popular in the United States from the 1830s through the 1860s, in part because it offered an alternative to English-based styles and represented the democratic ideals of the newly established republic.

Gothic Revival Architecture

Gothic Revival architecture was inspired by a movement in England to encourage Medieval Gothic architecture as an alternative to classically derived styles. Perhaps the most identifiable feature of Gothic Revival architecture is the lancet or pointed arch window. Lancet arches are also commonly used for entrances. Other characteristics include high-pitched gabled roofs, tracery windows, parapets, and towers. Its popularity in the United States occurred between 1840 -1860 and was widely attributed to several house plan books authored

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by architect A.J. Jackson and landscape architect A.J. Downing. Jackson and Downing promoted Gothic Revival as a style that, due to its irregular form and compound plan, was better suited for the wide open spaces of the countryside. (Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission: 2015) The style was also seen by some as a suitable replacement for Greek Revival as applied to religious properties as it lacked the association with polytheism that classical architecture had. (Koeper: 1968, p. n10.)

While it never reached the widespread popularity of the Greek Revival or Italianate architecture, it became a favored style for religious buildings through World War II, largely because of its roots in European religious architecture. (Architectural Styles of America and Europe, 2011.)

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St. Peter's Episcopal Church has characteristics of a rural meetinghouse with Gothic Revival details. Since the church was built by New England settlers it is understandable that they would construct their new place of worship that resembled a meetinghouse. Its identifying features include its rectangular footprint, floor plan and plain interior, eschewing religious adornments such as stained-glass windows and religious symbols in the sanctuary. The wide cornice and returns on the eaves are characteristic of Greek Revival, but also commonly found on many early rural churches. The original members of the Episcopal church also preferred that the church be "low church" in its use of decorative elements so as to not be considered "popish." The gallery was never used as a choir loft because St. Peter's was constructed as a "low church" sanctuary, meaning that a choir would be considered part of "high church" practice. While the church has a plain interior, it displays common identifiable features of Gothic Revival rural churches including pointed arches for windows and doors, tracery, a steeply pitched roof, and spire with Gothic-arched louver windows.

Comparable Churches

St. Peter's Episcopal Church is perhaps the best example of an early Gothic Revival church in the vicinity. In *Illinois Architecture from Territorial Times to the Present: A Selective Guide*, architectural historian Frederick Koeper used it and Jubilee College in Peoria County as examples of the Gothic Revival style, in which he described St. Peter's as a "pleasant and diminutive example." (Koeper: 1968, p. 150) Statewide surveys of historic and architecturally significant properties conducted in the early 1970s were used to compare the church with other similar properties in Grand Detour and Ogle County. Only one other church in Grand Detour – the Methodist Episcopal Church in the 3600 block of Broad Street -- was identified. It appears to originally have been constructed as a meetinghouse type church, but it has been heavily altered. The state survey identified additional churches in Adeline, Forreston, Mt. Morris, and Polo that had either Gothic characteristics or the meetinghouse form. The Zion Evangelical Church of Adeline had characteristics of both but was heavily altered, with what appeared to be additions on the front and side elevations and was clad with non-historic siding. The Adeline United Brethren Church is a stone structure and appears to have been originally built as a meetinghouse with Greek Revival features with the center steeple that has a Gothic transom window being a later, historic addition. In Forreston, the Faith Evangelical Lutheran church also has a similar form but is brick has Italianate characteristics. The same is true of the First Presbyterian Church in Polo. A Gothic Revival frame church in Mt. Morris was demolished. It was a later example of the style with towers and complex massing. The Illinois Landmarks Survey, also conducted during the 1970s, identified additional churches in the vicinities of Adeline and Mt. Morris, as well as Flagg Center, Leaf River, and Lightsville. While these churches were included for their historical significance, all had the basic meetinghouse form. Of those, Zion United Church in Adeline was the only one to have Gothic Revival characteristics. It had a steeple, single entrance, and Gothic-arched windows and front entrance. The church in Lighthouse was demolished and the one in Flagg Center was completely altered. Both the Brethren Church and the Church of the Brethren, which were in the Mt. Morris vicinity lacked steeples or any stylistic references. The North Grove Church in Leaf River had a steeple, but resembled a Greek temple, with its prominent triangular pediment.

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History of St. Peter's Episcopal Church

The following excerpt is from Saint Peter's Episcopal Church, Grand Detour, Illinois Early and Contemporary History by Gorman and Nelson

Saint Peter's Episcopal Church on Main Street in Grand Detour is often cited as one of the earliest Episcopal churches of Illinois. There is a report in Recollections of the Pioneers of Lee County, published by Inez A. Kennedy in 1893, that the first Episcopal service had been held at the residence of E. H. Shaw on an evening in June of 1837, Bishop Philander Chase presiding.

"The pulpit was a three-legged stool set upon a table and covered with a towel. Tallow candles were used for light."

Philander Chase, Episcopal clergyman, had already retired when he was elected the first Episcopal Bishop of Illinois. In 1838 he established Jubilee College near Peoria as a seminary to train young men to establish churches in the rapidly growing state. One of Bishop Chase's graduates was a young man from Connecticut named Abraham Joseph Warner. Reverend Warner was sent by Bishop Chase and the Domestic Board of Missions in 1845 to "the Rock River territory" to assemble a congregation and establish a church. After a very difficult time of dedicated labor, Warner found Grand Detour a receptive location for a congregation. Frustration, sickness, poverty, severe weather, and physical hardships were his daily bread.

The parish of Saint Peter's Church was organized on May 15, 1847. Elected to the vestry were Salmon Cotton, Solon Cumins, Leonard Andrus, Horace H. Paine, Carlton Bayley, and George Cushing. Elected as wardens were S. M. Harris and Willard House. The meeting was presided over by The Rev. Abraham Joseph Warner. Forty-four names were subscribed to the list of parishioners, and subscriptions were taken for the erection of a building. An excerpt from the journal of Reverend Abraham Joseph Warner reads:

October 23, 1847

Removed from Sterling to Grand Detour, in accordance with recommendation of my Bishop. Through the extreme kindness of Mr. and Mrs. House I am more comfortably and pleasantly situated here than I ever have been in Illinois. The parish here is organized, and over 40 persons have placed their names in the list of membership, 7 of whom are communicants. Nearly \$700 has been subscribed towards the building of a church and I have the promise of \$100 more from my native town in Connecticut.

The church and its furnishing were designed by Reverend Warner, who served as the first rector. A contract for construction of the building was signed on June 4, 1849, and ground was broken on June 9, 1849 on land donated by Leonard Andrus, the founder of the village and the original partner of John Deere. Saint Peter's was constructed of locally quarried limestone from the same quarry that supplied the stones for the Chamberlin house (also known as the Weatherstone Farm) located on Flag Road in Ogle County. The church building is 45 feet in length by 24 feet in width from out-to-out foundation walls. The main room is 15 feet high. There are six windows and two doors. The roof was originally shingled with pine shingles. The spire on top measures 14 feet high.

The cornerstone was laid on July 17, 1849, and contains the following items:

A Bible

A prayer book

A copy of the Constitution of the United States

A copy of the Declaration of Independence

A copy of the Constitution of the State of Illinois

The names of the priest, wardens and vestrymen

The names of the subscribers to the church fund

The names of all communicants

The names of the founders of the town

Gold and silver coins of the United States totaling \$19.35.

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The church was completed on May 17, 1850, at a cost of \$1800.00. It was the second Episcopal church to be built in Northern Illinois, and on the following Sunday, Bishop Chase preached and confirmed two adults.

Rivalries arose among the three local denominations in Grand Detour, and money for any purpose was very scarce. Not long after signing the charter, many members changed their denominational allegiance or moved away from Grand Detour. On June 2, 1850, the builder, Mr. George Cushing, demanded the key to the church because he had not been fully paid. Reverend Warner headed east to raise funds to pay the debt. He undertook a year-long trip to New England to attempt to raise money for the church building and its construction debt. He did not meet with great success, but the debt was finally paid. Now the church could be consecrated, which occurred on October 22, 1852, by Bishop Henry Whitehouse. It was the first church building he consecrated; he gave it the name of Saint Peter. (Bishop Chase had died a month before the consecration.)

Commerce and population slowly left Grand Detour after the railroads bypassed the village for Dixon and other communities. Regular services at Saint Peter's became sporadic and ultimately non-existent resulting in the slow deterioration of the structure. In the early 1900's, Leonard Andrus' son William put the church back into usable condition again, and in 1907 Reverend Albert Whitcombe, Rector of Saint Luke's Episcopal Church in Dixon, began holding afternoon services in the summer months. In 1910, St. Peter's church building was deeded to the Diocese of Chicago. In 1931 Whitcombe was appointed Priest-in-Charge and held services here occasionally until his death in 1934. Father Whitcombe is buried at the outdoor altar in the church yard.

Because Saint Peter's had never had a lasting nor affluent congregation, the church escaped Victorian remodelings and renovations. This made [the 1990s] restoration much easier since the windows, pews, lecterns, and communion rail were all original. Any non-original furnishings were removed, including an altar installed in the early 1900's and gates attached to the aisle end of pews from the 1950's. Saint Peter's is an example of early "low church" Episcopalian church architecture which eschewed crosses, stained glass, and anything that might resemble the "high church" look of Roman Catholic church architecture. Instead of an altar, a communion table was used. Because there is no record of the original communion table design, the present communion table was constructed to compliment the design of the pews. The paschal candle stand is also not original and was constructed for contemporary church services. The gallery (not a choir loft because choirs were "high church") had long disappeared; however, its outline survived on the walls. Beam pockets in the stone walls were discovered, and a suitable replacement gallery was constructed which now contains lighting and ductwork and also provides access to the attic. The air conditioning unit is hidden in the attic, and the heat is concealed in the ceiling in the form of electric radiant panels. Scrapings were done on all wood surfaces, and the original paint colors were matched. The walls and ceilings are bare plaster. The flooring is random-width pine left unfinished, as it most likely was originally. In all likelihood a boardwalk led from the street to the front doors, but the congregation probably still tracked in a lot of mud, manure, and dirt. There is no evidence of original lighting (there most likely was none) nor of an organ. The organ in the church is a restored Victorian parlor pump organ donated to provide music for services. The crucifix on the altar was the property of Anna Knobloch of Ashton, Illinois, and formerly of Germantown, Wisconsin. It was given to St. Peter's in her honor by her great-grandson Wayne Williamson of Dixon, Illinois during Epiphany 2004. The crucifix is of German heritage and dates from the mid-late 1800's. A rail fence originally wrapped around the perimeter of the church yard which was probably mowed by scythes two or three times a year, or animals may have been allowed to graze there.

The latest chapter of serious historical restoration of the church began in 1989, when, under the leadership of James and Jeanne Gorman and Matt Ostergrant, an architect specializing in historic restoration, the Grand Detour community, as well as supporters from near and far, contributed volunteer time and raised over \$80,000 in a wide-ranging preservation project lasting ten years. As an important ingredient of that initiative, the Episcopal Church's Diocese of Chicago gave title to the church property to an Illinois not-for-profit corporation, the St. Peter's Church Preservation Committee of Grand Detour. The Committee was founded in

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1989 for the purpose of restoring, preserving, and maintaining the church for future generations, serving historical, cultural, and ecumenical purposes. The re-dedication and sesquicentennial celebration of the completion of St. Peter's Episcopal Church took place on May 14, 2000."

Conclusion

St. Peter's Episcopal Church of Grand Detour, Illinois, is eligible for listing in the National Register. It is an important local example of Gothic Revival architecture with a simple meetinghouse form and retains sufficient integrity for listing on the National Register. It continues to serve the local and surrounding community as a venue for occasional worship services, weddings, funerals, and cultural events. The church has been a prominent landmark in the village of Grand Detour from its completion in 1850 until the present, making it a valuable contribution to the community's sense of place.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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Dexter, Rev. H. M., "Meeting-houses: Considered Historically and Suggestively." The Congregational Quarterly Vol. 1 (1859): 186-214.

Historic American Building Survey, 1936. "St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Rock & Main Streets, Grand Detour, Ogle County, IL." Historic American Building Survey HABS IL-174

Koeper, Frederick. Illinois architecture from territorial times to the present: a selective guide. Chicago, Illinois: University of Chicago Press, 1968.

Loveland, Anne C. and Wheeler, Otis B. From Meetinghouse to Megachurch: A Material and Cultural History. Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 2003.

National Register of Historic Places, Bristol Congregational Church, Yorkville, Kendall County, Illinois, Reference # 16000580

National Register of Historic Places, Zion Episcopal Church, Brimfield, Peoria County, Illinois, Reference # 16000580

Paradis, Tom. "Gothic Revival." Architectural Styles of America and Europe, 2011.
<https://architecturestyles.org/gothic-revival/>

Paulsen, Duane *Grand Detour, Illinois 1835 – 2002: Historic Village in the Big Bend of the Rock River*, 2003.

Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission. "Gothic Revival." Pennsylvania Architectural Field Guide, 2015. (<https://www.phmc.state.pa.us/portal/communities/architecture/styles/gothic-revival.html>)

History of Ogle County: A History of Grand Detour Township. Kett, H. F., & Co., Chicago, pub, 1878.

The original Church Ledger of St. Peter's Church, hand-written by Andrew W. Warner, first clergyman of the church.

Williams, Peter W. *Houses of God – Region, Religion, and Architecture in the United States.* Urbana and Chicago, University of Illinois Press, 1997.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
☐ previously listed in the National Register
☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
☒ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # HABS IL-174
☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

☒ State Historic Preservation Office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☐ Other

Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

St. Peter's Episcopal Church
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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage; enter "Less than one" if the acreage is .99 or less)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	<u>41.897798°</u> Latitude	<u>-89.414626°</u> Longitude	3	_____ Latitude	_____ Longitude
2	_____ Latitude	_____ Longitude		_____ Latitude	_____ Longitude

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

RNG/BLK: TWP:0 SECT/LOT: LOTS 11 & 12 BLK 9 CHURCH ST PETERS VIL GRAND DETOUR EXEMPT
98-71-17

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes the property historically associated with the church.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	<u>Luke Nelson, Committee Member</u>	date	<u>5/20/25</u>
organization	<u>Saint Peter's Church Preservation Committee</u>	telephone	<u>815 973 4756</u>
street & number	<u>1871 N Brinton Ave.</u>	email	<u>Inelson@willetthofmann.com</u>
city or town	<u>Dixon</u>	state	<u>IL</u> zip code <u>61021</u>

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **GIS Location Map (Google Earth or BING)**
- **Local Location Map**
- **Site Plan**
- **Floor Plans (As Applicable)**
- **Photo Location Map** (Include for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map and insert immediately after the photo log and before the list of figures).

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Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 pixels, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property:	<u>St. Peter's Episcopal Church</u>		
City or Vicinity:	<u>Grand Detour</u>		
County:	<u>Ogle</u>	State:	<u>IL</u>
Photographer:	<u>John McLane</u>		
Date Photographed:	<u>February 1, 2025</u>		

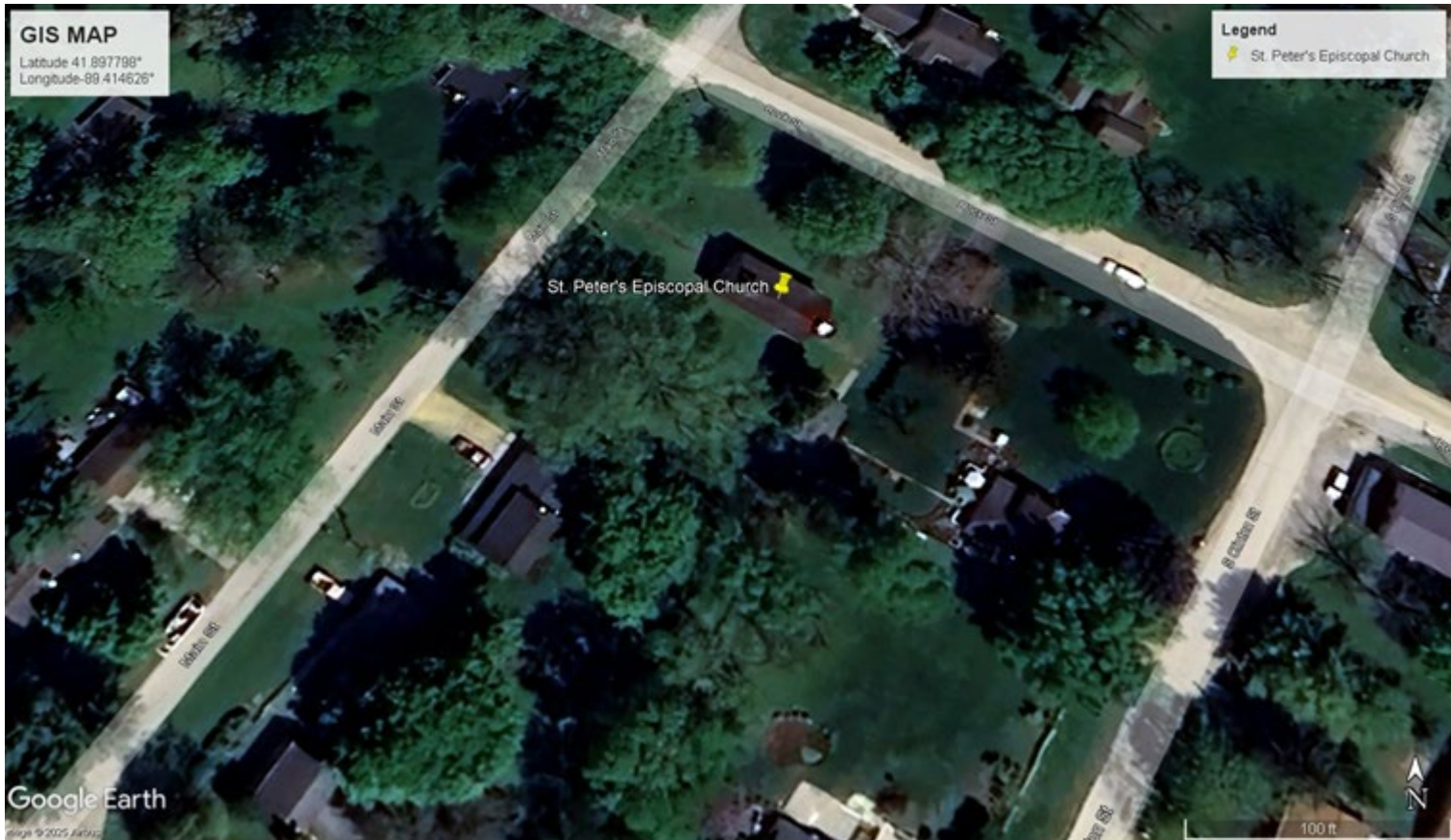
Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo 1 of 8: Exterior Looking East
Photo 2 of 8: Exterior Looking West
Photo 3 of 8: Exterior Looking North
Photo 4 of 8: Exterior Looking South
Photo 5 of 8: Interior Looking East
Photo 6 of 8: Interior Looking West
Photo 7 of 8: Altar and Back Door

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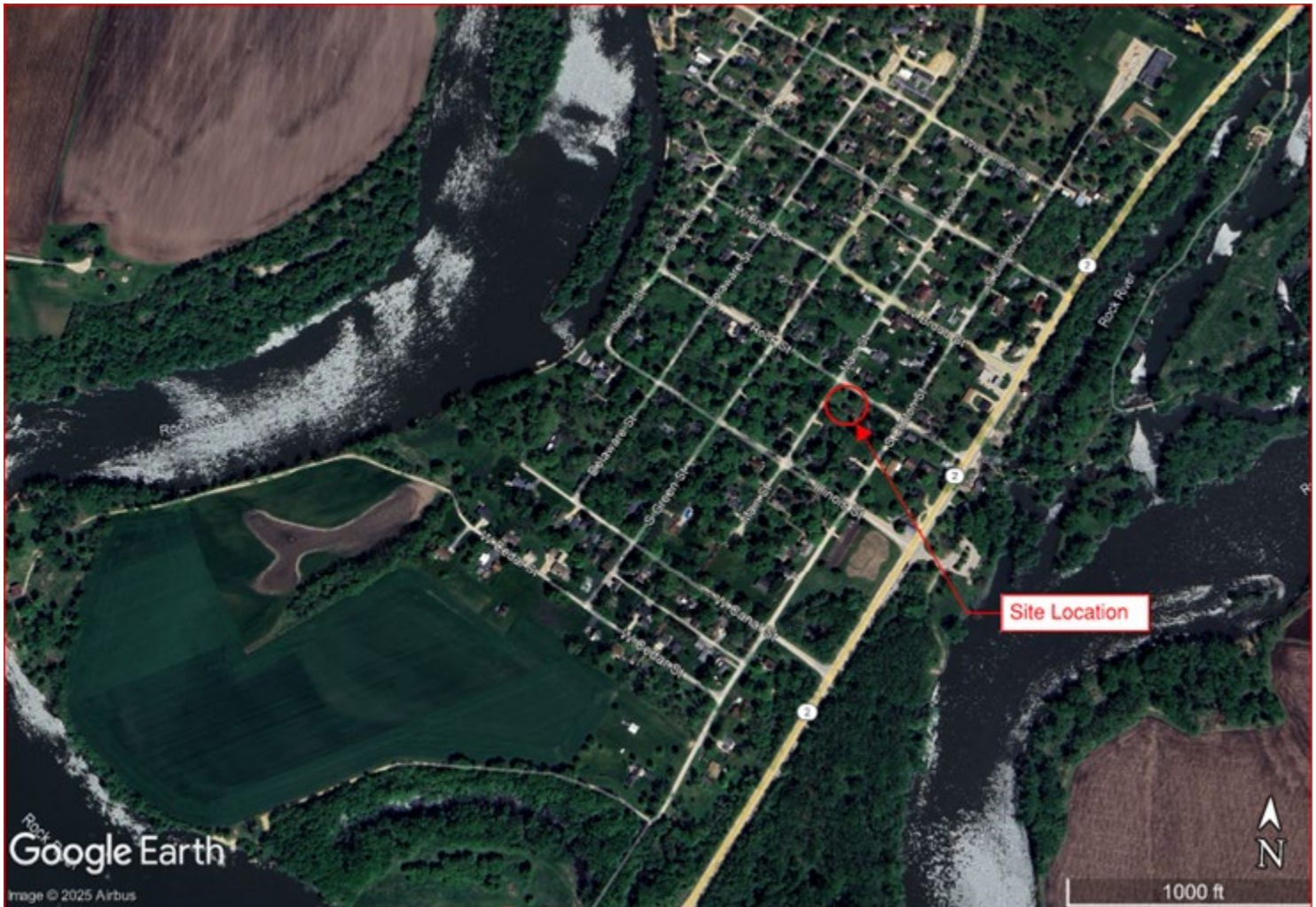
GIS Location Map



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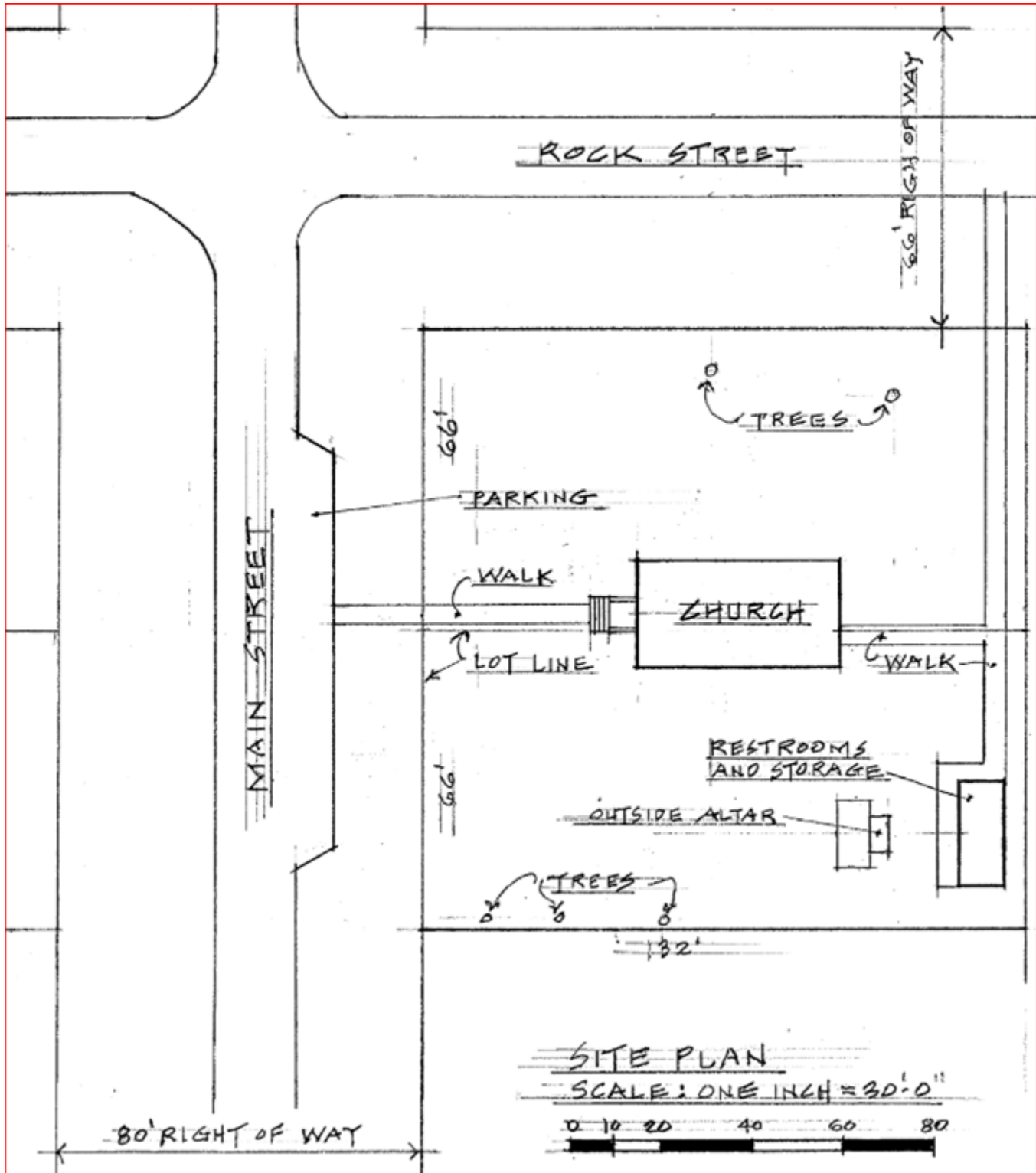
Local Location Map



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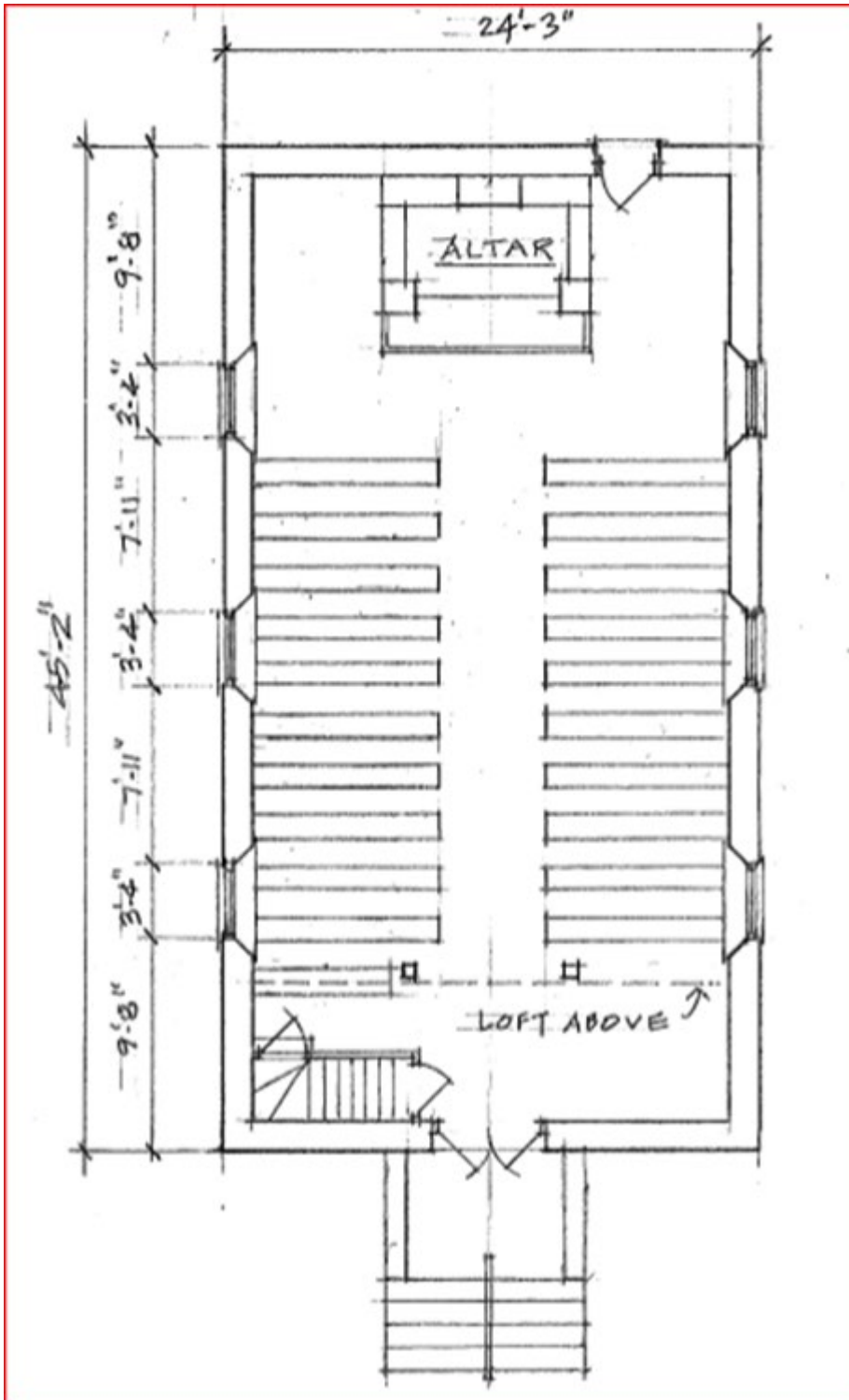
Site Plan



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Floor Plans



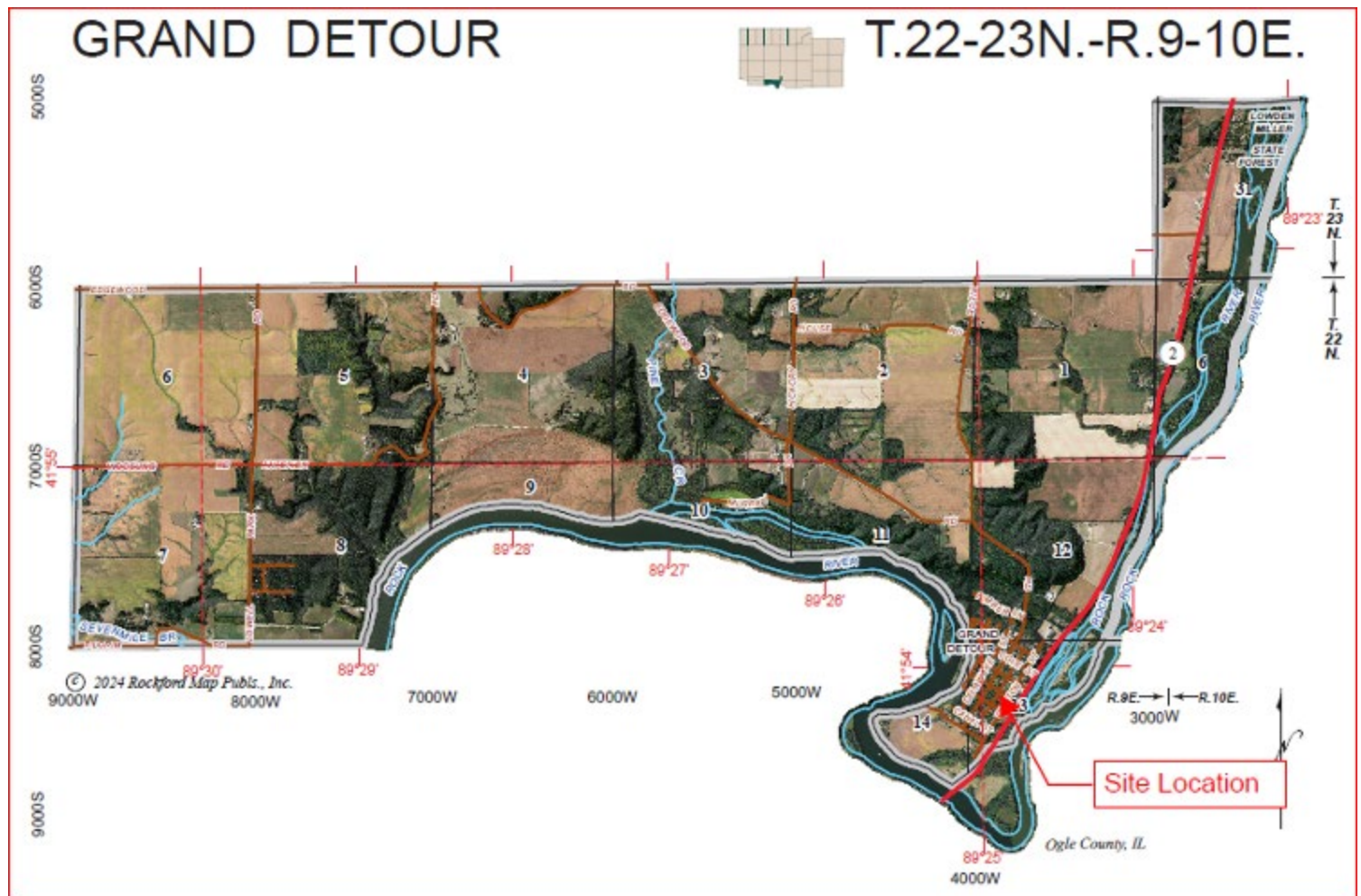
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List of Figures

(Resize, compact, and paste images of maps and historic documents in this section. Place captions, with figure numbers above each image. Orient maps so that north is at the top of the page, all document should be inserted with the top toward the top of the page.

Figure 1 – Plat Book Page



Ogle County, Illinois
County and State

[illegible]

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Figure 3 – HABS Photo Front Elevation, Facing East



Figure 4 – HABS Photo Rear and Side Elevation, Facing Northwest



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Figure 5 – HABS Photo Front Entrance



Figure 6 – HABS Photo Exterior Window



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Figure 7 – HABS Photo Altar, Facing East



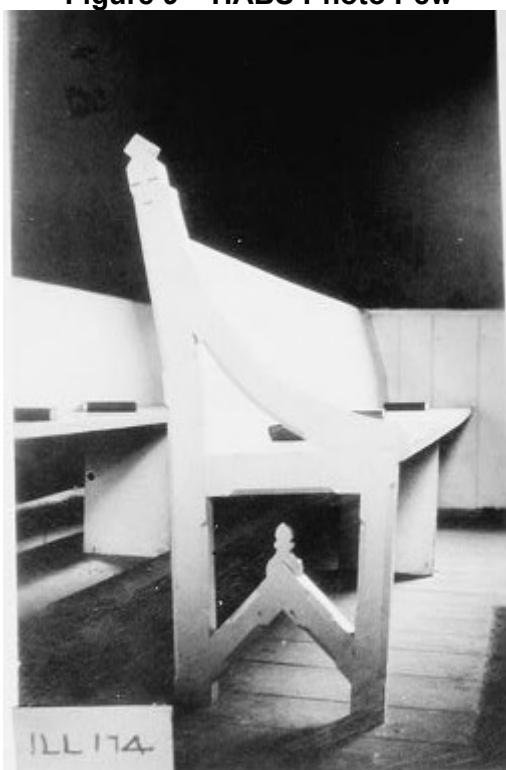
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Figure 8 – HABS Photo Interior Window



Figure 9 – HABS Photo Pew



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Regional Churches

Former Methodist Church, Grand Detour



United Brethren Church, Adeline



Zion United Church, Adeline

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Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, Forresteron



First Presbyterian Church, Polo

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Zion Evangelical Church , Adeline



Flagg Center Community Church, Flagg Center

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Brethren Church & cemetery (Silver Creek Church), Mt. Morris



Church of the Brethren (West Branch Church), Mt. Morris

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North Grove Church, Leaf River



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Photo 1 of 8: Exterior Looking East



Photo 2 of 8: Exterior Looking West



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Photo 3 of 8: Exterior Looking North



Photo 4 of 8: Exterior Looking South



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Photo 5 of 8: Interior Looking East



Photo 6 of 8: Interior Looking West



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Photo 7 of 8: Altar and Back Door



Photo 8 of 8: Front Entrance



Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Owner and Local Elected Official Notification Information

The State Historic Preservation Office is federally required to notify the property owner(s), as well as the chief elected officials of the county and municipal political jurisdiction in which the property is located. Please make sure the information is current.

Name & Address of Property Owner. If there are multiple owners, you may need to send a separate spreadsheet:

St. Peter's Church Preservation Committee
Claudia Nelson, Chairperson
8225 S Main Street
Dixon, IL 61021

Name & Address of Chief Elected Official of Municipality (Mayor/ Village President):

Grand Detour Township
Debbie Lowry, Township Supervisor
4642 W House Rd
Oregon, IL 61061

Name & Address of County Board Chairperson:

Ogle County Board
Bruce Larson, Board Chairman
5186 N Cox Rd
Stillman Valley, IL 61084