



North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
State Historic Preservation Office

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Pat McCrory
Secretary Susan Kluttz

Office of Archives and History
Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

May 16, 2016

MEMORANDUM

TO: Kate Husband
Office of Human Environment
NCDOT Division of Highways

FROM: Renee Gledhill-Earley 
Environmental Review Coordinator

SUBJECT: Historic Structures Survey Report for SR 1468 (Sweetwater Road) Improvements,
U-5510, PA 15-09-0012, Catawba County, ER 16-0760

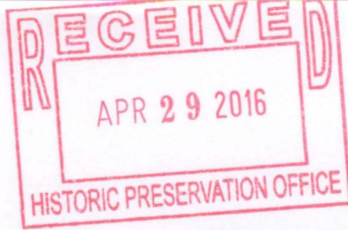
Thank you for your April 28, 2016, memorandum transmitting the above-referenced report for the proposed undertaking. We have reviewed the report and **concur** that **the New Jerusalem Lutheran Church is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places** due to the large 2001 additions to the sides of the 1948 church and the interior plan. The parsonage is also not individually eligible. It is a substantial brick Period Cottage with good exterior integrity, however, it is a common house type found throughout the Hickory area.

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919-807-6579 or environmental.review@ncdcr.gov. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

cc: Mary Pope Furr, NCDOT

mfurr@ncdot.gov



PAT McCRORY
Governor
NICHOLAS J. TENNYSON
Secretary

TR 16- 0760

April 28, 2016

MEMORANDUM

TO: Renee Gledhill-Earley
Environmental Review Coordinator
State Historic Preservation Office

#

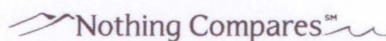
Ann Due 5/20

FROM: Kate Husband
Office of Human Environment
NCDOT Division of Highways

DW 5/23/16
ek letters
5/11/16

SUBJECT: U-5510, 15-09-0012, SR 1468 (Sweetwater Road) Improvements,
Catawba County

Attached is the Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report, and survey site forms and photographs, for the above-referenced project. Please review and provide comments, and I thank you for your continued assistance. If you have any questions, I can be reached at (919) 707-6075 or at klhusband@ncdot.gov.



**EVALUATION OF THE NEW JERUSALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH (CT1573)
SR 1468 (SWEETWATER ROAD) IMPROVEMENTS
CATAWBA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

**TIP# U-5510
WBS# 45532.1.1**

Prepared by:

Patricia Davenport, MFA

Prepared for and Funded by:

**North Carolina Department of Transportation
Project Development and Environmental Analysis Unit
Human Environment Section**

ESI Project Number AR15030.01



March 2016

**Environmental Services, Inc.
4901 Trademark Drive
Raleigh, NC 27610**

**EVALUATION OF THE NEW JERUSALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH (CT1573)
SR 1468 (SWEETWATER ROAD) IMPROVEMENTS
CATAWBA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

**TIP# U-5510
WBS# 45532.1.1**

Prepared by:

**Environmental Services, Inc.
4901 Trademark Drive
Raleigh, NC 27610**

Prepared for and Funded by:

**North Carolina Department of Transportation
Project Development and Environmental Analysis Unit
Human Environment Section**

patricia davenport

**Patricia Davenport, Architectural Historian
Environmental Services, Inc.**

15 April 2016

Date

**Mary Pope Furr, Supervisor
Historic Architecture Group
North Carolina Department of Transportation**

Date

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is proposing to extend State Road (SR) 1468 (Sweetwater Road) from US 70 to SR 1148 (Robinwood Road) in Catawba County (U-5510) and intersecting with SR 1005 (Startown Road). In February 2016, NCDOT requested Environmental Services Inc. (ESI) complete an assessment of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility for New Jerusalem Lutheran Church (CT1573). Our investigation and this report was prepared in response to that request and in compliance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended), NCDOT's current *Historic Architecture Group Procedures and Work Products*, and the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office's (HPO) *Report Standards for Historic Structure Survey Reports/Determinations of Eligibility/ Section 106/110 Compliance Reports in North Carolina*.

As a result of our investigation, following the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) criteria for eligibility, New Jerusalem Lutheran Church was found **Not Eligible** for the NRHP. Field investigations occurred on February 29 and March 1, 2016 and were conducted by ESI Architectural Historian Patricia Davenport.

Resource	NRHP Eligibility	Criteria
New Jerusalem Lutheran Church	Not Eligible	

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
MANAGEMENT SUMMARY	i
TABLE OF CONTENTS	ii
1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND METHODOLOGY.....	1
2. NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION OF THE NEW JERUSALEM CHURCH	4
DESCRIPTION.....	4
HISTORY	30
ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT	33
INTEGRITY.....	40
EVALUATION	41
3. REFERENCES.....	43

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND METHODOLOGY

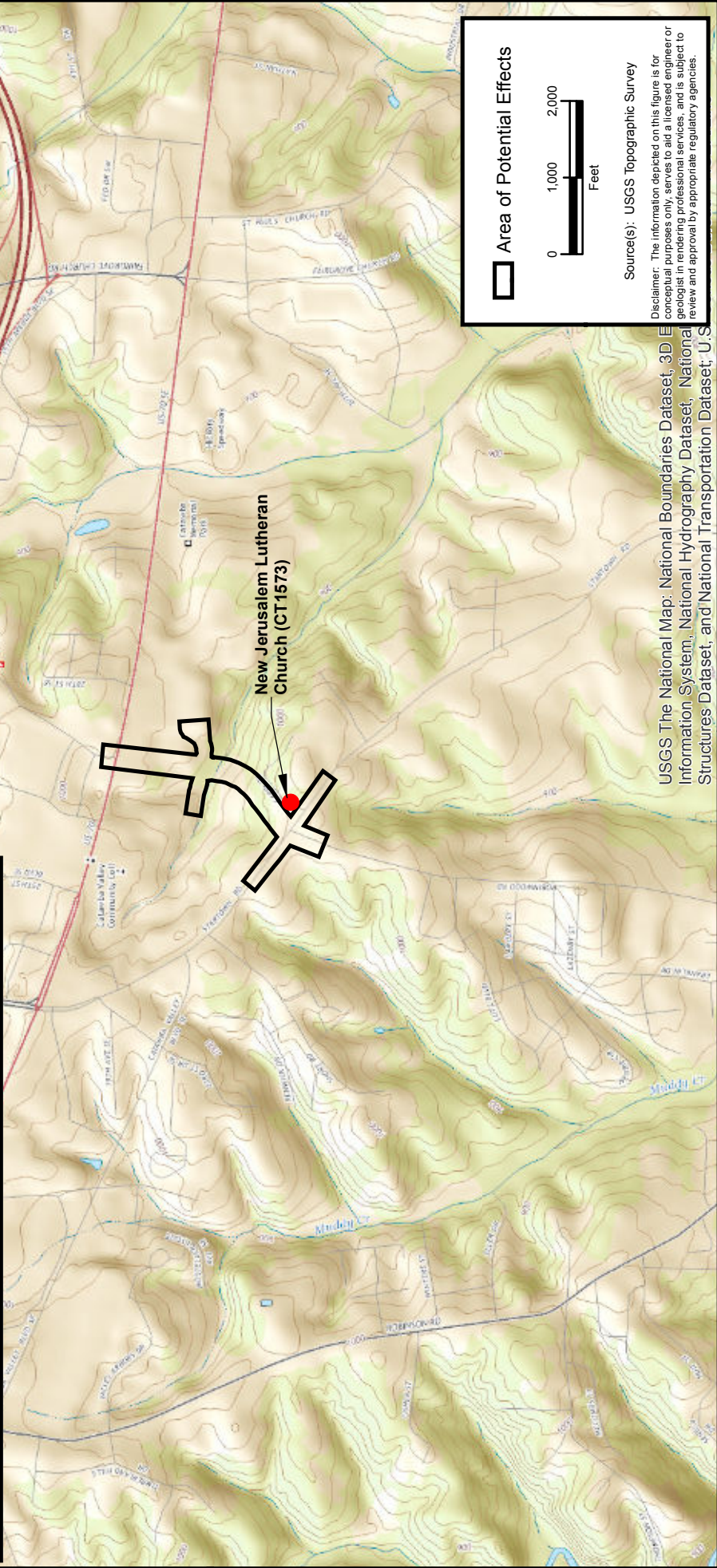
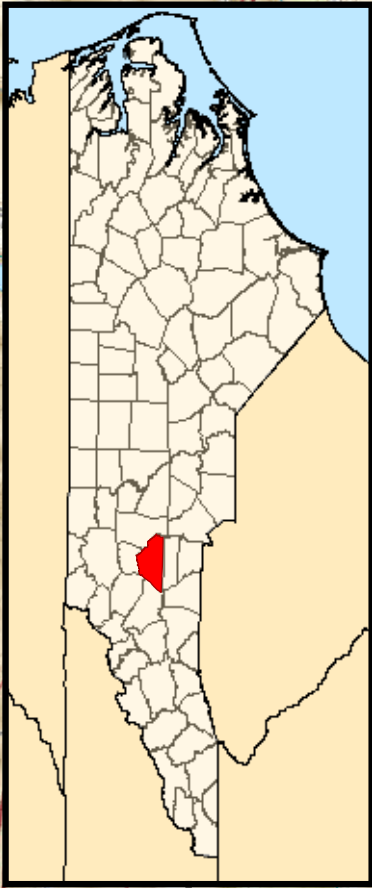
The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is proposing to extend State Road (SR) 1468 (Sweetwater Road) from US 70 to SR 1005 (Startown Road) in Catawba County (TIP# U-5510; WBS# 45532.1.1). The project location is approximately one mile south of US 70 SE on SR 1005 (Startown Road) between Hickory and Startown, in the western portion of Catawba County, North Carolina. **(Figures 1 and 2)** In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (36 CFR 800.4 *Identification of historic properties*), the NCDOT identified one building and associated ancillary features as an architectural resource that may be affected by the undertaking.

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church (CT1573), parsonage, cemetery, and secondary structures are located to the northeast and directly adjacent to the proposed road extension and intersection. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) encompasses about one half of the 17.34-acre church property.

At the request of the NCDOT, Environmental Services Inc. performed an intensive level survey to identify, analyze and evaluate the New Jerusalem Lutheran Church located at 2120 Startown Road, Hickory, NC 28602. This resource has not been previously evaluated during other surveys.

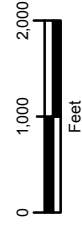
ESI Architectural Historian Patricia Davenport conducted background research on the church and interviewed the Church secretary, pastor, and several members of the congregation who perform work on the church and grounds. A site visit was made on February 29 and March 1, 2016 to document the structure through photographs as well as study the construction alterations. The interior and exterior of the church were inspected and compared with other Lutheran Churches of the same style and period within a five mile radius.

The architectural and cultural significance of the church was evaluated using the NRHP criteria. The results of our investigation, analysis, and evaluation are contained in this report. This report was prepared in compliance with the Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (1966, as amended); Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) regulations and procedures (23 CFR 771) and NCDOT's Historic Architectural Resources, Survey Procedures and Report Guidelines.



New Jerusalem Lutheran Church (CT1573)

Area of Potential Effects



Source(s): USGS Topographic Survey

Disclaimer: The information depicted on this figure is for conceptual purposes only, serves to aid a licensed engineer or geologist in rendering professional services, and is subject to review and approval by appropriate regulatory agencies.

USGS The National Map: National Boundaries Dataset, 3D Information System, National Hydrography Dataset, National Structures Dataset, and National Transportation Dataset; U.S.

Project:	AR15030.01
Date:	Apr. 2016
Drawn By:	AVL
Checked By:	JRN
Approved By:	PD
Figure:	1

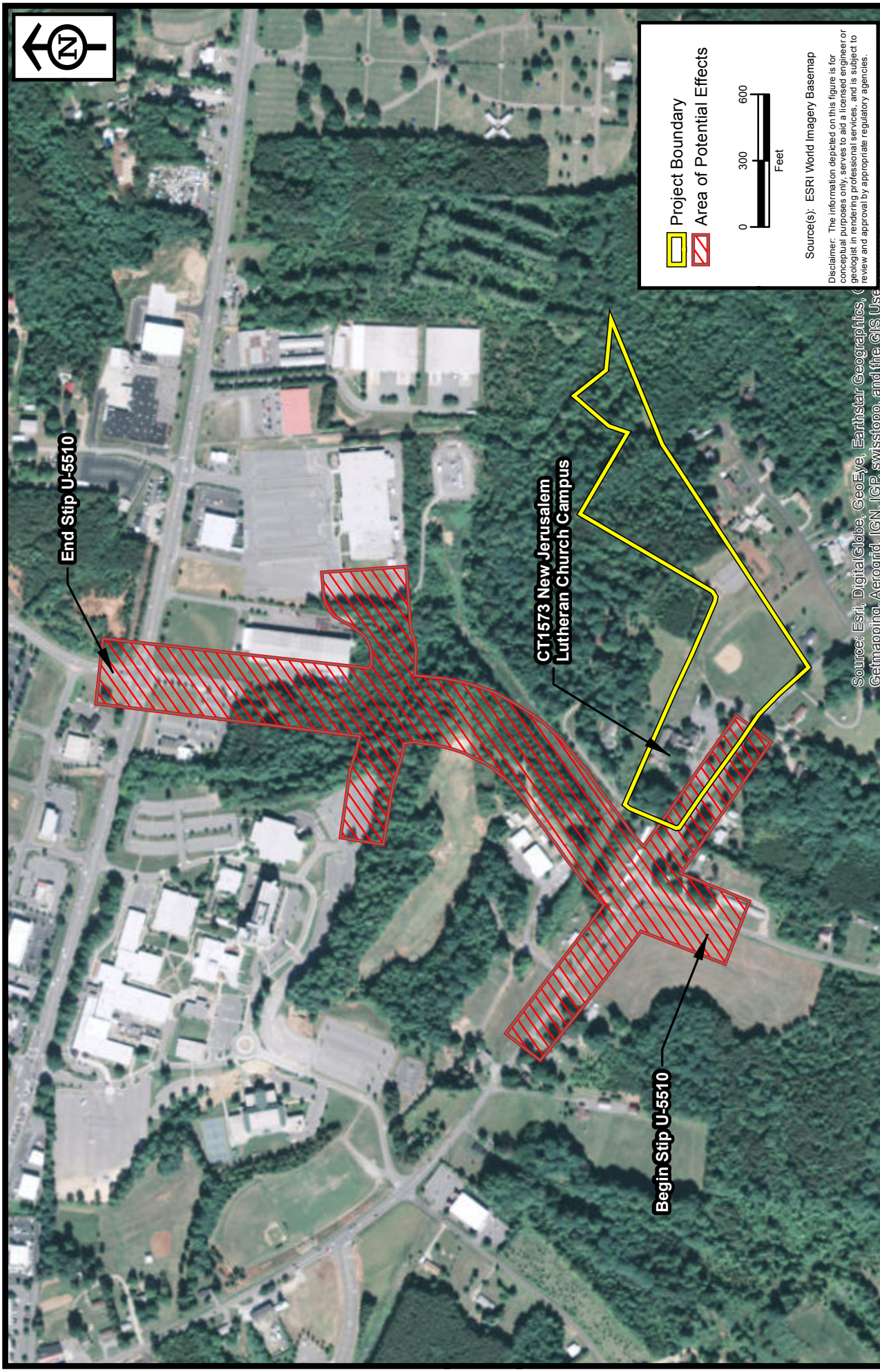
Project Location

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

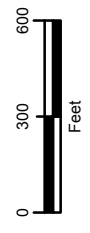
Catawba County, North Carolina



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.
 7220 Financial Way, Suite 100
 Jacksonville, Florida 32256
 (904) 470-2200
 (904) 470-2112 Fax
www.environmentalservicesinc.com



Project Boundary
 Area of Potential Effects



Source(s): ESRI World Imagery Basemap

Disclaimer: The information depicted on this figure is for conceptual purposes only, serves to aid a licensed engineer or geologist in rendering professional services, and is subject to review and approval by appropriate regulatory agencies.

End Stip U-5510

CT1573 New Jerusalem Lutheran Church Campus

Begin Stip U-5510

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User

Project:	AR15030.01
Date:	Apr. 2016
Drawn By:	AVL
Checked By:	JRN
Approved By:	PD
Figure:	2

Study Area

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

Catawba County, North Carolina

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.
 7220 Financial Way, Suite 100
 Jacksonville, Florida 32256
 (904) 470-2200
 (904) 470-2112 Fax
www.environmentalservicesinc.com

2. NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION OF THE NEW JERUSALEM CHURCH

Resource Name	New Jerusalem Lutheran Church
HPO Survey Site #	CT1573
Location	2120 Startown Road, Hickory, North Carolina (Catawba County)
PIN	372113240772
Date(s) of Construction	1936, 1948, 2001
Recommendation	Not Eligible

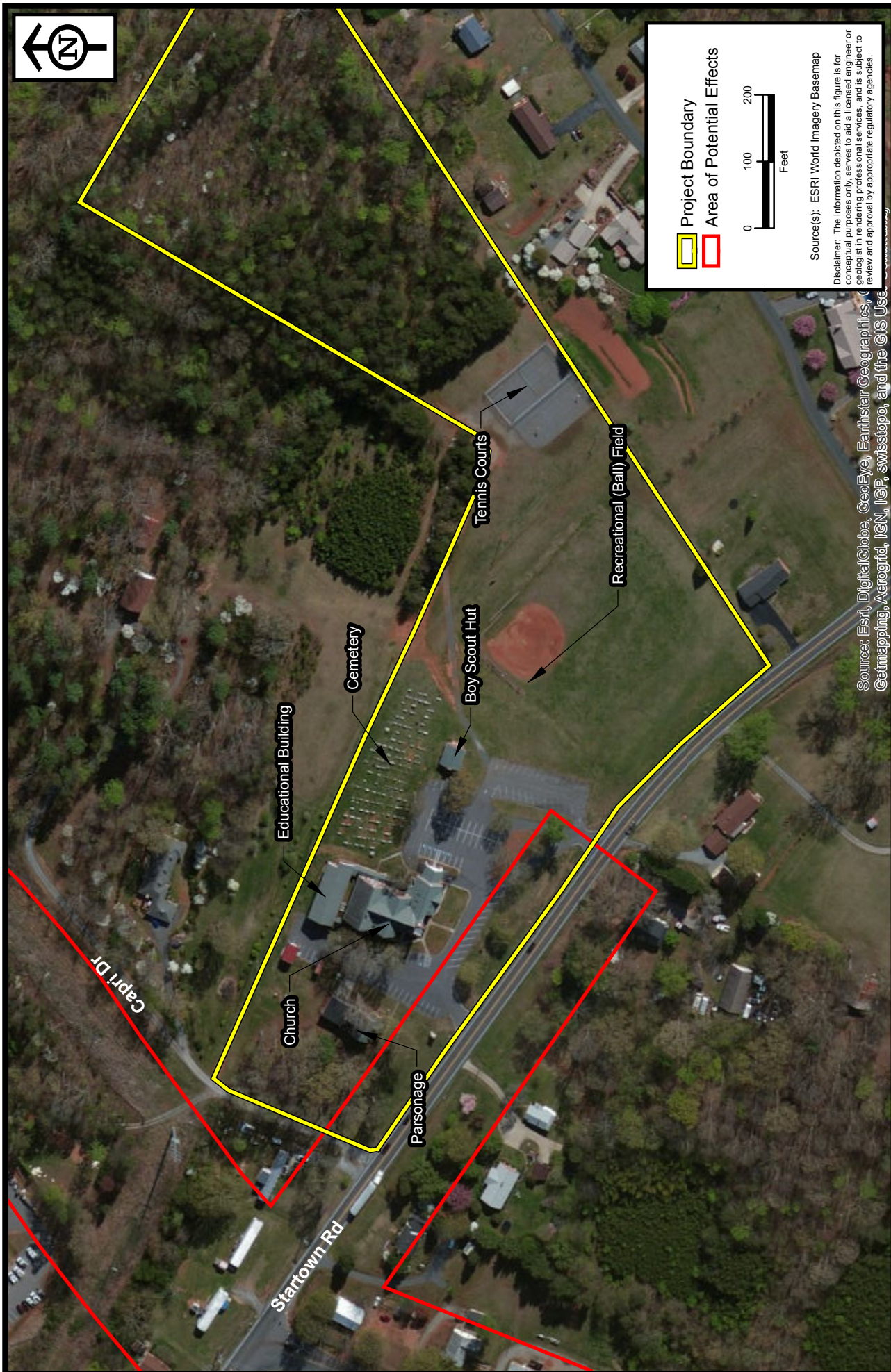


DESCRIPTION

SETTING

The New Jerusalem Lutheran Church faces southwest towards Startown Road (SR 1005) and is situated on an irregularly shaped approximately 18-acre parcel of land that has been pieced together since 1905 from land donations and purchases. Located between Hickory and Startown, North Carolina in a rural setting, the church building sits on a gently sloping hill about 150 feet from Startown Road. It is centrally located within the campus and has a paved drive and two designated parking areas. The parsonage (c. 1949) is located to the west of the church building under a mature tree canopy, and the associated cemetery is to the northeast of the church and behind the Boy Scout hut (c. 1983). A recreational ball field and tennis courts are the easternmost features on the property, and an outdoor chapel is on the northeastern portion of the site next to a waterfall and stream. Approximately half of the parcel is undeveloped and contains a dense canopy of pines and hardwoods while the southern portion of the property is well manicured amidst the church building, parsonage, cemetery, and secondary features.¹ (Figure 3)

¹ Catawba County GIS. The property boundary was measured using tools within the GIS program for the Catawba County Geospatial Information Services. March 10, 2016.



Project Boundary
 Area of Potential Effects

0 100 200
Feet

Source(s): ESRI World Imagery Basemap

Disclaimer: The information depicted on this figure is for conceptual purposes only, serves to aid a licensed engineer or geologist in rendering professional services, and is subject to review and approval by appropriate regulatory agencies.

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, AeroGRID, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

Project:	AR15030.01
Date:	Mar. 2016
Drawn By:	AVL
Checked By:	JRN
Approved By:	PD
Figure:	3

Site Plan

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

Catawba County, North Carolina

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.
 7220 Financial Way, Suite 100
 Jacksonville, Florida 32256
 (904) 470-2200
 (904) 470-2112 Fax
www.environmentalservicesinc.com



Startown Road looking northwest from front of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church



Startown Road looking south from front of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church



Startown Road looking southeast from front of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

INVENTORY LIST

Church; 1948; 2001

Exterior

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church is a Gothic Revival style brick building constructed in 1948 and dedicated in 1949.² Characterized by its pointed arches and pinnacles atop the central tower, the church also has concrete capped buttresses. Designed by Abee Architects of Hickory, North Carolina, the building also features custom operable wood, single-hung sash, stained glass windows created by Laws Stained Glass Studios, Inc. in Statesville, North Carolina. When the church expanded in 2001 with the addition of the alcoves for the sanctuary, the original windows were salvaged and reused in the exterior walls. Two new windows were made to match the existing ones and installed on the facade of the addition.³

² Information found in the One Hundredth Anniversary Celebration Booklet. *Through the Decades: A Historical Review of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church 1906-2006* by W. R. Lutz Jr., Rusty Lutz, Sandra Bollinger, Dorothy Johnson, and Rev. Randall A. Cauble, Pastor.

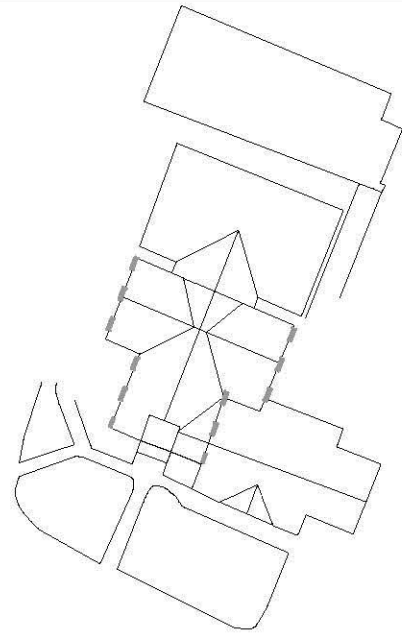
³ Personal communication with Ms. Dorothy Johnson, Church Administrative Assistant, during the site visit on March 1, 2016.

A medium pitch, cross-gabled roofline is interrupted by a square bell tower with louvered openings and parapet with corner pinnacles. Rusticated brick is utilized for the exterior fabric and was consistently used in all additions. The most recent addition to the church included alcoves, a greeting space and porte cochere on the east wing which has a gabled roof supported by robust round fluted columns. The roof was recently recovered with asphalt shingles. A semi-detached mid-century modern educational building was added to the rear of the main building in 1968, the structures are connected by a covered walkway with aluminum posts and flat roof (Figure 4).

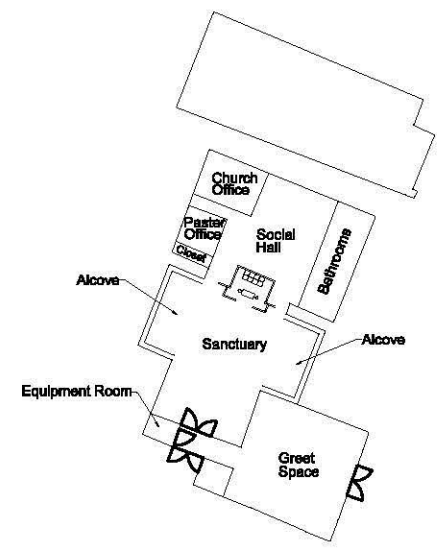


New Jerusalem Lutheran Church, (CT1573) façade and signage looking north

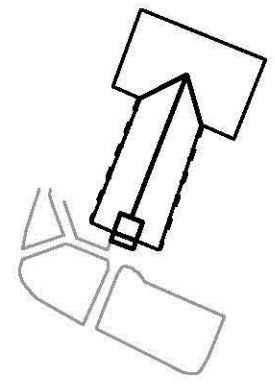
P:\GIS\Projects\AR\2015\030\data\cod\Church_Plan.dwg Plotted: Apr. 15, 2016 - 9:46am, By: nesser



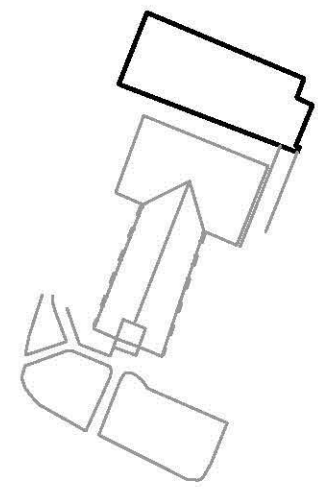
Current Building



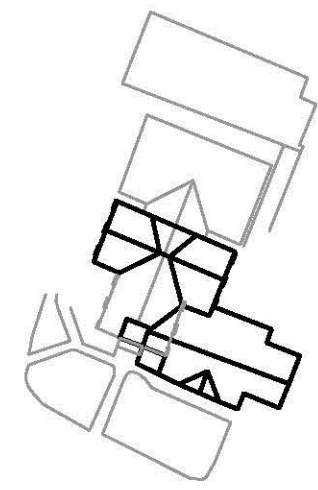
Floor Plan



1948



1968



2001



Church Alterations
New Jerusalem Lutheran Church
Catawba County, North Carolina

Disclaimer: The Information depicted on this figure is for conceptual purposes only, serves to aid a licensed engineer or geologist in rendering professional services, and is subject to review and approval by appropriate regulatory agencies.

Project:	AJ16111
Date:	Apr. 2016
Drwn/Chkd:	NEE/PD
Figure:	4



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.
7220 Financial Way, Suite 100
Jacksonville, Florida 32256
(904) 470-2200
(904) 470-2112 FAX
www.environmentalservicesinc.com



New Jerusalem Lutheran Church, oblique view looking northeast



New Jerusalem Lutheran Church, west elevation looking east



New Jerusalem Lutheran Church, west elevation looking southeast



New Jerusalem Lutheran Church, 2001 addition with porte cochere looking northwest



New Jerusalem Lutheran Church, 1948 educational building east elevation and covered walkway looking northwest



New Jerusalem Lutheran Church, 2001 alcove addition east elevation looking west



New Jerusalem Lutheran Church, east elevation looking west



New Jerusalem Lutheran Church, 1968 educational building looking west



New Jerusalem Lutheran Church, 1968 educational building north elevation looking south



Buttressing between windows on 1948 building



Concrete caps on buttresses



Lancet-arched windows with stained glass and wood frame



Wood frame six over six windows in 1948 educational building



Pinnacles on tower of 1948 building



Front entry with modern doors framed by pointed arch and buttresses



1984 ramp addition at front entrance

Interior

The main building has an irregular shape due to multiple additions over time; the 1948 cross or T-shape is no longer discernable. The 2001 additions consists of a shallow narthex which transitions into a lobby and greeting space with modern fixtures, skylights and tile flooring. Modern paired wood doors open into the nave and which has wood floors with a central aisle and original wood pews. Red carpeting installed in the late 1960s has been removed exposing white oak floors. All interior walls are of a modern sheetrock material with little to no detailing. Alcoves extend the seating capacity towards the front of the nave. A hand-carved oak communion rail frames the pulpit, choir loft and organ.

The pipe organ was made by M. P. Moeller Company of Hagerstown, Maryland and installed in 1981. The inset chancel is surrounded with carved white oak paneling with individual seating and is framed by a lancet-arch opening. Decorative detailing on all wood work harmonizes with its counterpart. The main source of lighting for the interior is provided by the large stained glass windows on either side of the sanctuary with recessed can-lights and four original hanging Gothic lanterns as ancillary lighting sources. Beyond the choir loft is a social hall, church offices and restrooms downstairs and educational rooms upstairs. Windows in this portion of the building are single, six-over-six, wood, single-hung sashes and are original to the building.



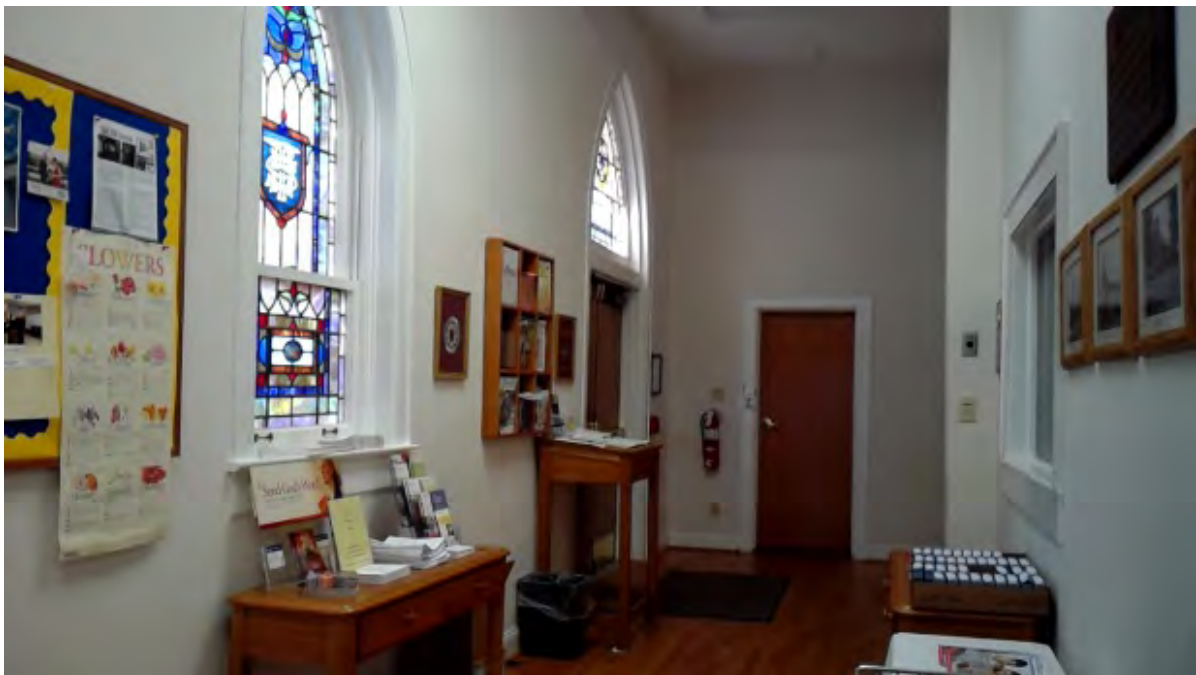
Interior view of nave looking toward chancel from front entry



Interior of nave looking toward front entry from chancel



View of shallow narthex and modern doors leading to nave



Narthex looking back toward front entry



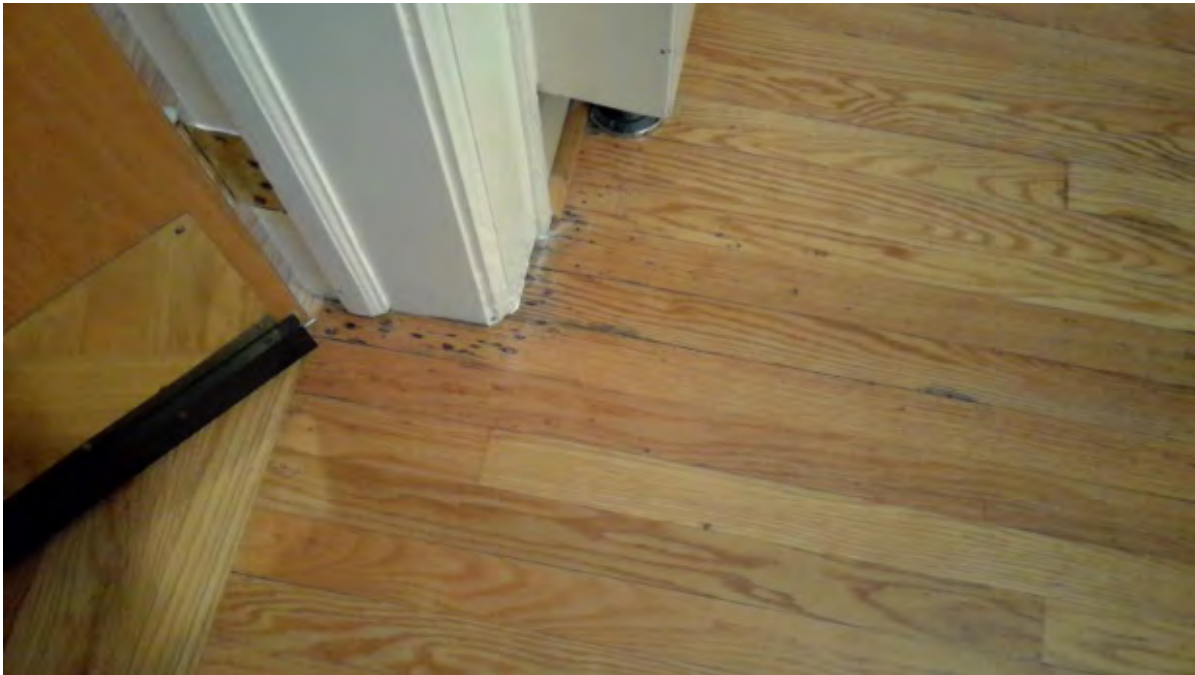
Interior of 2001 greeting space addition



Oblique view interior of nave from entry way looking towards chancel east alcove



West alcove from chancel



Wood floor detail with ghost line of carpet tacks

Parsonage; 1952

The two-story, wood frame, brick-clad, Tudor revival house with a continuous poured concrete foundation⁴ and asphalt shingle roof was originally used as the home for the first full-time pastor of New Jerusalem Church, Pastor Wessinger.⁵ Asymmetrical in plan, the multi-face gabled roof has a small gable nested inside a larger gable and protrudes outward forming a recessed front entry. Two brick chimneys pierce the roofline, one is on the front of the home and is tapered towards the top with decorative brick work; the second chimney is square and is located at the back of the house. Single and paired six-over-six wood double hung sash windows with raised muntins and storm windows are located on each elevation and a single wood door with storm door is used as the primary entrance. Prior to the arrival of a new Reverend in 1962, the interior was painted and floors refinished. In 1969, the parsonage received a new roof and the bathroom was renovated, and in 1970 the kitchen was updated and a rear carport was added.⁶ In order to help with heating and cooling, new storm windows and doors were installed in 1974. Small decorative brick accents can be found in the gables and chimneys; otherwise, brick is laid in a running bond pattern with soldier course above windows, doors and framing arched openings for the porch. The parsonage is currently rented; therefore, the interior was not available for inspection.



Façade of parsonage looking north

⁴ Personal communication with Mr. Dallas Abee of Abee Architects (architect for the church) on April 6, 2016.

⁵ Lutz Jr. 2006.

⁶ Ibid.



Oblique view of parsonage looking northeast



West elevation of parsonage



East elevation of parsonage with carport addition



Oblique view of parsonage carport addition looking west

Boy Scout Hut; 1983

This two-story brick clad building was constructed in 1983 into the hillside, creating a split level plan on sloping topography. The front of the building faces south with a side gable roof and very little overhang. A single six-panel door offset to the left serves as the primary entrance and is accessible by a metal stair and landing. Single, wood one-over-one windows light the upper floor, and there is a single car garage door and pedestrian door for access to the lower east elevation. There is a brick chimney on the west side of the building. The interior of this building was not available for inspection.



Boy Scout Hut façade looking north



Boy Scout hut west elevation and chimney looking east with recreational field in background



Boy Scout hut north elevation looking south with cemetery markers in foreground



Boy Scout hut east elevation looking west

Cemetery; 1908 to Present

Only ten burials are recorded at the church cemetery prior to 1920. To date, approximately 250 individuals are interred at the cemetery.⁷ The cemetery has approximately 21 rows oriented north and south as the 326 plots face east. The majority of markers are simply marked, commercially produced vertical tablets and footstones. All markers are located on a positive slope and most offer a family marker with smaller individual inscriptions for the interred. Funerary objects include urns, wreath holders and name plates. The majority of the markers are manufactured from granite; a few vertical marble tablet-in-base headstones mark older graves. Most of the Charter Members of the church are interred here.



Overall view of cemetery in relation to Boy Scout hut and church looking west

Recreational fields; 1982

In 1982 an athletic field and tennis courts were added to the complex.⁸ The tennis courts are contained within a ten-foot chain link fence, and the ball field has a chain link back stop and fence along the first and third base lines.

⁷ New Jerusalem Lutheran Church website. 2016.

⁸ Lutz Jr. 2006.

HISTORY

The New Jerusalem Lutheran Church was originally organized as a community Sunday school and Preaching Mission in 1880. Services were held in a little school house called the Killian School, which was built on land donated by Samuel E. Killian. For approximately 26 years the Lutheran Church was active in the community through the school. New Jerusalem was officially chartered in 1905; efforts to build a new church building commenced shortly thereafter. According to church personnel, the school house that once served multiple purposes continued to be used as a school and was eventually converted to a residence. The building sits across Startown Road (SR 1005) just southeast of New Jerusalem Church.⁹



Old Killian School House now a residence located across Startown Road from church

During the early years (c.1880-1905) the congregation was sustained by using a single building for secular and religious purposes. In 1901, Charles B. Aycock won the governorship for the state of North Carolina and enacted legislation to fund public schools for every county. This effort shifted operating costs shared by the school and church to a government funded educational system. Prior to the state taking over the educational system in 1901, many congregations joined together in a single gathering place in order for their parishes to survive. Once funds could be used solely for the development of the church, many new facilities were constructed. Samuel Killian, who had donated the land for the Killian School, also donated the original acreage for the construction of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church. In 1905 the

⁹ Personal communication with Ms. Dorothy Johnson, the church secretary, provided much information that is not recorded in the church history. Ms. Johnson provided edited information, and not all dates and name were provided.

congregation officially joined the Tennessee Lutheran Synod, and in 1906 erected the first church building.¹⁰

The first church building was wood frame with white painted wood siding. It was similar to other churches in the area and looked much like the nearby St. Paul's Reformed Church.

Members contributed materials and labor to build the small church that was referred to as the "prettiest little church around", mainly due to its location atop a gently rolling hill surrounded by mature tree canopy.¹¹ Scanned copies of old photographs show three pointed arch stained glass operable windows on the south and east elevation and a central bell tower tucked into the corner between the wings.

In 1931, the Reverend Cy E. Lutz became the pastor and served until 1940. In 1936, under his leadership, the old white church was removed and a new brick clad church building constructed. The new building could hold up to 300 members in the sanctuary and housed 17 Sunday school rooms and two assembly rooms. Much of the material for construction was donated. This first brick church burned in 1948, destroying everything except the outer shell.¹² The church congregation quickly rebuilt, and constructed a second brick church within a year of the fire. The 1948-49 building is the original piece of the present New Jerusalem Lutheran Church building on Startown Road.

Until 1949, New Jerusalem was part of a multiple parish which shared a pastor. The original parish was formed in 1906 and called the Zion Pastorate which included Beth Eden, Newton, Zion, and New Jerusalem congregations. In 1917, New Jerusalem entered a new pastorate with Zion and Bethlehem, all of which shared a parsonage until Zion Church became self-supporting in 1940. In 1948, Bethlehem and New Jerusalem congregations voted to become self-supporting, necessitating New Jerusalem's construction of a new parsonage for a full-time pastor. The parsonage was completed in 1949 on 1.7 acres of land purchased from Mrs. Frances Deal in 1940.¹³ A 30 foot right-of-way (ROW) was established between Hillary Propes and the church property in 1940.¹⁴ In November of 1955, the church purchased .43 acre from Amos and Vertis Kanupp, which included the old Killian School property.¹⁵

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Lutz Jr. 2006.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Deed 311-601.

¹⁴ Deed 317-92.

¹⁵ Information taken from the Lutz Jr. publication and is recorded under Deed 522-546.



***White Church (1st Church)
Built and Dedicated 1906, Removed 1936***



***First Brick Church
built and dedicated in 1936***



First Brick Church burned Jan. 19, 1948



***Second Brick Church built 1948
dedicated June 5, 1949***

Historic photos courtesy of New Jerusalem Church from *Through the Decades: A historical review of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church 1906-2006*, by W. R. Lutz, Jr. 2006.

In 1958, Rev. L. E. Cumbee Jr. became pastor of New Jerusalem; under his leadership a new building program was initiated. Abee and Biggs architecture firm in Hickory was commissioned to draw plans for the church's expansion; however, it was not until 1968 that the new two story educational building was added to the church campus. The new facility consisted of classrooms on the upper level and a kitchen and fellowship hall on the lower level. In 1981, the church became a participant in the Parish Life and Ministry Development Program. During this time, the ball field and tennis courts were constructed and plans were made for a new building, the Boy Scout Hut, to be built. Although the first Boy Scout Charter was issued to New Jerusalem Lutheran Church in 1950, it was not until 1983 that the Boy Scout Hut was constructed.¹⁶

In order to provide better access to the main entrance, in 1984 the church widened the front steps and added a ramp that wraps around the southwest corner of the church. Only minor improvements were conducted from the mid-1980s until 2001 when the church approved renovation and addition plans for the main building.

The 2001 renovation of the sanctuary included the construction of two alcoves for additional seating, refinishing the wood floors, re-organizing the pews, refurbishing the pipe organ, and extending the narthex (providing a new greeting space with attached porte cochere). Graham Furniture in Catawba, North Carolina refinished the chancel furniture. The pipe organ was refurbished by Randall Dyer and Associates of Jefferson City, Tennessee. Abee Architects was commissioned to design the addition and Laws Stained Glass Studios, Inc. in Statesville, North Carolina was contacted to produce two replica stained glass windows for the new façade.¹⁷

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

The Gothic Revival was popular in the United States from 1840 to 1870; however, the style endured well into the twentieth century and was used predominantly in religious and educational buildings. The form is characterized by steeply pitched cross-gabled roofs, pointed arch openings, and buttressing. The style was typically rectangular and cruciform in plan with intricate detail in interior woodwork. Used widely among Episcopalians, the Gothic Revival gained popularity with other denominations by the late 1850s.

Alexander Jackson Davis and Richard Upjohn were among the professional architects to provide more notable building designs in the Piedmont; however, many carpenters and masons in the region adapted architectural plans from popular builder's guides to produce complimentary structures.¹⁸ This more fashionable style of architecture grew as railroads expanded, bringing other artisans, tradesmen and architects to the region.

Although more simple buildings were commonly found hosting small congregations, Gothic Revival, once ushered in by Upjohn, became the favorable style among all denominations during the late nineteenth century. The era produced symmetrical gable facades with a central tower or flanking towers on the exterior and ornate millwork (commonly created by members) found on trim, pews, and chancel furniture.

¹⁶ Lutz Jr. 2006.

¹⁷ Personal communication with Dorothy Johnson and other members while performing site inspection.

¹⁸ Bishir, Catherine. North Carolina Architecture. Portable Edition. 2005. pp. 282-289, 370-379, 459-464.

Just as the pioneers of the German Reformed and Lutheran faiths trickled down to North Carolina from Pennsylvania, so did more eclectic and picturesque styles of architecture. Elements of the style were first introduced for Episcopal Churches in Fayetteville (1817) and New Bern (c. 1821);¹⁹ however, the first well-documented example of a high style Gothic Revival church in North Carolina is the St. James Parish in Wilmington (c. 1840). Church leaders and ecclesiologists of the time thought the more romantic and picturesque churches would enlighten the spiritual senses and bring one closer to God. The style is still widely used today in various religious buildings.²⁰

Comparable Churches

Following a review of the HPOWEB GIS site and field survey, three Gothic Revival Lutheran churches were identified and chosen as a comparison to New Jerusalem Lutheran Church based on their close proximity, dates of construction, and overall appearance.

A growing population in the early to mid-twentieth century spurred religious facilities to expand or build new buildings to accommodate a larger congregation. Some of the comparable churches listed below left their smaller simpler worship spaces for larger and more modern versions.

Old St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (2135 Startown/Conover Road) was constructed in 1952. This structure replaced the earlier Old St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (CT0007, NRHP-Listed 1971), a wood frame structure built in 1818 (presumably by Henry Cline) and located on the opposite side of Startown/Conover Road.²¹ The c. 1818 structure still stands with the associated cemetery and is used by the congregation for special events. Like the New Jerusalem Lutheran Church, the 1952 Old St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church is constructed in the Gothic Revival style. It has a gabled façade with extended faux bell tower and recessed front entry framed by a pointed stone archway. The brick clad building has an L-shaped footprint and steeply pitched roof with no overhang. Like New Jerusalem, Old St. Paul's is oriented with a rectangular nave and perpendicular educational building at the back. The windows are square framed cut-outs with brick sills that house a pattern of triple lancet arches in stained glass. Flat buttresses or tiered pilasters adorn the sides. This is the most modern of the four structures and presents cleaner lines with minimal detailing. The 1952 structure is significant in comparison to New Jerusalem Church in that they were constructed in the same style, approximately three miles and three years apart. However, New Jerusalem Church contains detailing and characteristics that are more pronounced in early to mid-twentieth century Gothic Revival Churches where as Old St. Paul's Church is more closely related to a Modern structure with minor Gothic detailing for example the squared off window openings with glass elements containing lancet-arches and tracery work as opposed to a lancet-arched opening with framed stained glass sashes.

¹⁹ Other Architectural guides used for reference include *A Guide to Historic Architecture of Piedmont North Carolina* and *North Carolina Architecture*. The guides were used for specific information related to the style as well as general information about pioneers to Catawba County.

²⁰ Stanton, Phoebe B. *The Gothic Revival and American Church Architecture: An Episode in Taste 1840-1856* was cross referenced for detail information on characteristics of Gothic Revival architecture and ecclesiology in the United States. 1997.

²¹ The website for North Carolina Lutheran Synod (<http://www.nclutheran.org/>) was referenced for individual church and congregation histories.



Old St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (CT0007) c. 1818 frame building



Old St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church c. 1952 brick building

St. Paul's Lutheran Church was constructed in 1923 to replace an earlier (c.1904) frame structure (CT0403, NRHP-Listed 1995).The c. 1923 church building was constructed in the Gothic Revival style. A single rectangular structure with gabled façade is interrupted by a short square bell tower. The fellowship hall or educational building is situated perpendicular and in the back of the building. It is extremely well-defined with operable stained glass, lancet arched windows and flat buttresses. The front entry has a set of vertical wood plank doors framed by a pointed arch and stained glass transom. The parsonage was constructed in the adjacent lot in 1947. St. Paul's Church is approximately 3.5 miles away from New Jerusalem and was constructed 26 years earlier. This structure has not been altered with the exception of a handicap accessible ramp to the front entry. It maintains a high degree of integrity in all seven aspects and exemplifies strong characteristics of the Gothic Revival Style, such as lancet-arched openings, gable façade with central crenelated tower; stone capped buttresses and horizontal banding. The 1948 structure originally constructed by New Jerusalem Church contained similar detailing and form.



St. Paul's Reformed Lutheran Church (CT0403) c. 1904 frame building



St. Paul's Lutheran Church c. 1923 brick building

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church (CT1368, NC Study List 2015) was constructed in 1950. The church is the only comparable church of the three located in an urban setting and is associated with the campus for Lenoir-Rhyne College. It is a high style example of Gothic Revival architecture and provides a high level of detail in characterizing features. The gabled façade is accentuated by a two-story lancet arch with robust tracery and stained glass windows set above an arched doorway. The elaborate windows are carried throughout the building and are complimented by stained glass. According to interviews, this level of tracery was more traditionally found on historic Lutheran churches. St. Andrew's Church was part of a recent historic structures survey in Hickory and is identified in the report as being,

“...the striking, well-detailed Collegiate Gothic brick building with cast-stone accents, pointed-arch stained-glass windows, and buttressed bell tower. The three-story education wing at the rear displays similar cast-stone accents and buttresses, as well as metal-frame casement windows.”²²

St. Andrew’s retains a high degree of integrity with robust detailing and embodies the Collegiate Gothic movement during the mid-twentieth century. It is similar to the 1948 portion of New Jerusalem Church in that there is a long rectangular nave and perpendicular educational wing in the rear of the building.



St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church c. 1950-51

Christ Episcopal Church (RW0804, NRHP-Listed 2011) is located in Cleveland, Rowan County, North Carolina if the most recent listing of a Gothic Revival Church. It was constructed in c.1826-1827 with exterior alterations in 1926 when the Parsonage was built. The 1826 building began as a “simple weatherboard chapel”. When the Craftsman style parish house was built 100 years later, the exterior of the chapel was covered with brick and possesses both Gothic Revival and Craftsman detailing; however, the interior represents the Gothic Revival ecclesiastic style.²³ Christ Episcopal Church contains lancet-arched stained glass windows and is oriented in rectangular form. The church is accessed by way of a long driveway off Old U.S. Hwy 70. The significance of this structure lies within its architectural detailing. According to the report and associated photographs minimal Gothic Revival characteristics are present on the exterior, many

²² Acme Preservation Services. Hickory Survey Update Summary Report, October 2015, authored by Clay Griffith and Alex Cole. This report was provided to the author by the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office as a reference for buildings recently surveyed in Hickory, Catawba County, NC.

²³ National Register of Historic Places, nomination form, provided by the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office as a reference for recent Gothic Revival buildings listed on the National Register and for comparative purposes. The nomination was prepared by Jennifer Martin Mitchell in November of 2010.

of these details are found on the interior. The churches form and overall massing of the nave is very similar to New Jerusalem. Other similar features are the associated resources such as the parish house and cemetery found on the same property.



Image of Christ Episcopal Church from National Register Nomination Form,
by Jennifer Martin Mitchell, 2011.

All five churches display elements of Gothic Revival architecture such as a gabled façade with lancet arch framework around doors and windows, some with buttressing and rectangular nave and possess integrity of materials and workmanship (see **Table 1** for a summary of architectural elements for each). Each church is set in a location that is original to the congregations' establishment with respect to rural or urban settings; however, New Jerusalem and Christ Episcopal are the only churches that sit back off of the right-of-way a significant distance. All of the rural churches have associated parsonages and cemeteries within the same relative parcel except for Old St. Paul's Lutheran Church, which is located across the road.

Table 1: Comparison of Gothic Revival Lutheran Churches in Catawba County

Features	New Jerusalem Lutheran Church (1948)	Old St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (1952)	St. Paul's Lutheran Church Startown (1923)	St. Andrew's Lutheran Church (1950)	Christ Episcopal Church
Roof line (gabled, castellated parapet)	Interrupted front gable; castellated parapet on tower	Front gable; false tower	Interrupted front gable; parapet and castellated parapet on tower	Front gable; dominant lancet windows framed by buttresses that pierce the parapet roofline	Front gable; lancet-arched window above entry
Windows (lancet, tracery, stained glass)	Lancet, stained glass in regular pattern	Square windows with decorative insert	Lancet, stained glass with some tracery in regular pattern	Lancet, stained glass with robust tracery in regular pattern	Lancet, stained glass in regular pattern along side-elevations and in rear
Buttresses (stepped flat, columnar)	Present but minimal	Present but minimal	Present	Present	Absent
Pinnacles	Present on tower	Absent	Absent	Present on tower and buttressing	Absent
Bell Tower	Present, louvered openings	Absent	Present, pointed arched openings	Present in rear of building; louvered pointed arches	Absent
Ext. Alterations/ Additions	Alcoves, reception wing w/ porte cochere (2001); wheelchair accessible ramp; semi-detached educational building (1968)	Rear addition for educational wing creates L-shape	Wheel chair accessible ramp; rear addition, educational building (1955) creates L-shape	Rear addition for educational wing (c.1951)	Enclosed portico and brick cladding with craftsman detailing
Setting	Rural; sits off road on hillside	Rural; sits close to road	Rural; sits close to road	Urban; associated with Lenoir-Rhyne College	Rural; sits off road with landscaped drive
Parsonage	Yes; adjacent to church (1949)	Yes; adjacent to church	Yes; adjacent to church (1947)	None known	Yes; joined by a breezeway
Cemetery	Yes; on property	Yes; across road	No	No	Yes

INTEGRITY

Historical photographs and recorded church history illustrate the alterations and additions the New Jerusalem Lutheran Church over time. The original 1948 structure with its cruciform plan, including the rectangular nave and perpendicular educational building, is still present. All of the original windows are present with two reinstalled after the alcove addition in 2001. The new addition is accented by the two new stained glass windows which are comparable in materials and design as well as the brick cladding used on the exterior surface. However, the original footprint was changed with the addition of the alcoves, handicap accessible ramp, extended lobby and porte cochere. Over the years, several additions were made to accommodate the growing congregation. While the structural alterations and additions possess general characteristics of the Gothic Revival style such as pointed-arched, stained glass windows, ornately carved woodwork, and basic plan, there is an overall loss of integrity as a result. While

some resources of the New Jerusalem Lutheran Church campus retain integrity of location and association, recent alterations and additions compromise the integrity of design, workmanship, materials and setting of the 1948 church.

EVALUATION

The New Jerusalem Lutheran Church and campus were evaluated using criteria set forth by the National Park Service (NPS) who governs the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). In order for a site, building, etc. to be considered a significant historic property, it must meet one or more of four specific criteria established in 36 CFR Part 60, National Register, and 36 CFR Part 800, Protection of Historic Properties. The National Register criteria for evaluation are stated as follows:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and;

Criterion A: Properties that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to broad patterns of our history;

Criterion B: Properties that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;

Criterion C: Properties that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; and

Criterion D: Properties that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, important information in prehistory or history.

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church and its associated resources are important to the local community. New Jerusalem, collectively with other local Lutheran Churches, has an established role in the area's history; however, none of the individual church members achieved a level of significance required for the property to be NRHP-eligible under Criterion B nor has the church engaged in significant historical events that would qualify it for listing under Criterion A.

Properties may be eligible if they embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. The church still exhibits Gothic Revival characteristics with its lancet-arch stained glass openings, gabled façade with a central tower and interior woodwork; however, the 1948 church has been altered and enlarged from its original form and is no longer contained within a simple cruciform plan. The associated 1949 parsonage is no longer used for the pastor's home and has had additions to the rear as well as interior renovations over time. The early twentieth

century cemetery does retain good integrity and is the resting place for most of the church's charter members; however, cemeteries typically are not considered eligible for the NRHP solely for their association with events (Criterion A) or individuals (Criterion B) unless they meet also meet other specific requirements, such as association with a National Register-eligible main resource (i.e., church) or artistic or architectural significance of landscape or funerary monument design.²⁴ This cemetery meets none of these requirements. Alterations and additions to New Jerusalem Lutheran Church and surrounding property have altered many of the church's character-defining features. Unlike the comparable churches listed above, the property no longer maintains its original 1948 plan, which diminishes the picturesque qualities of the Gothic Revival style. Therefore, the New Jerusalem Lutheran Church and is recommended not eligible under Criterion C.

A thorough investigation of the property and its history was performed during the survey. It is unlikely that further investigation will yield more information important to local or regional history. Therefore, the New Jerusalem Lutheran Church is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In summary, New Jerusalem Lutheran Church has had alterations and additions since originally constructed in 1948. That history is well documented in the 100 year anniversary publication as well as the church website. Most of the materials used in the additions are very similar or replicas of the original materials and Gothic Revival characteristics have been incorporated in the design. However the basic form of the church is unrecognizable due to the alterations and additions, and therefore diminishes the design, feeling and setting. As a result of this investigation and evaluation, the New Jerusalem Lutheran Church does not appear to be eligible for the National Register under any criteria.

²⁴ Potter and Boland 1992.

REFERENCES

Bishir, Catherine W.

2005 *North Carolina Architecture, Portable Edition*. The University of North Carolina Chapel Hill Press. Chapel Hill.

Bishir, Catherine W. and Michael T. Southern

2003 *A Guide to the Historic Architecture of Piedmont North Carolina*. The University of North Carolina Chapel Hill Press. Chapel Hill.

Catawba County Government

2015 Catawba County Geospatial Information Services accessed 7 December 2015
Parcel Record.
Deed History Report.

Lutz, W.R. Jr., Rusty Lutz, Sandra Bollinger, Dorothy Johnson, and Rev. Randall A. Cauble

2006 *Through the Decades: A Historical Review of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church 1906-2006*. One Hundredth Anniversary Celebration Booklet.

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

2015 *Church History 1905–1996*. <http://www.newjerusalemlutheranchurch.org/>
accessed 25 February 2016.

North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office

2015 Hickory Survey Update, Summary Report October 2015. Report by Acme Preservation Services, Asheville, North Carolina.

2011 National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form: Christ Episcopal Church, Cleveland, Rowan County, North Carolina. Listed 12/5/2011. Authored by Jennifer Martin Mitchell, MdM Historical Consulting, Inc.

North Carolina Synod: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

2009 *Congregation Histories*. <http://www.nclutheran.org/> accessed 15 March 2016.

Potter, Elisabeth Walton and Beth M. Boland

1992 *Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places*. National Register Bulletin. U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service. Washington, D.C.

Stanton, Phoebe B.

1997 *The Gothic Revival & American Church Architecture: An Episode in Taste 1840-1856*. The Johns Hopkins University Press. Baltimore and London.