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.

1. Name of Property
Historic name: Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery
Other names/site number: Cass Township #9, Zoar United Methodist Church
Name of related multiple property listing:
Indiana's Public Common and High Schools
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing
2. Location
Street & number: 8818 West Old State Road 64 and Zoar Church Road
City or town: Zoar State Indiana County: Dubois, Pike
Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: N/A
N/A
3. State/Federal Agency Certification
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this $\underline{\mathbf{x}}$ nomination $\underline{}$ 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 _x_ meets does not meet the National Register Criteria.
I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following
level(s) of significance:
nationalstatewide <u>x</u> local
Applicable National Register Criteria:
<u>x</u> A <u>B x</u> C <u>D</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title: Date
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government
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Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery	Dubois County, IN Pike County, IN
Name of Property	County and State
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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
5. Classification	
Ownership of Property	
(Check as many boxes as apply.) Private:	
Public – Local	
Public – State	
Public – Federal	

ar Cemetery	Methodist Church,	Dubois County, IN Pike County, IN
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(Check only one bo	x.)	
Building(s)	X	
District		
Site		
Structure		
Object		
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(Do not include pre-	viously listed resources in the count)	
		buildings
(Do not include pre-	viously listed resources in the count)	buildings sites
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(Do not include pre-	viously listed resources in the count)	sites

Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church,
Zoar Cemetery
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6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION: Schoolhouse RELIGION: Religious Facility

FUNERARY: Cemetery

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL: Civic

RELIGION: Religious Facility

FUNERARY: Cemetery WORK IN PROGRESS

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN:

Other: gable front

GOTHIC REVIVAL

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Foundation:	STONE: Sandstone
Walls:	WOOD: Weatherboard
	BRICK
	STONE: Limestone
Roof:	METAL: Tin
	METAL: Steel
Other:	STONE: Marble
	STONE: Granite
	<u>CONCRETE</u>

Narrative Description

Zoar Public School, Zoa	ar Methodist Church,
Zoar Cemetery	
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(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.)

The National Register boundary collectively includes all of the parcels described below:

Summary Paragraph

Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, and Zoar Cemetery stand at the center of the small rural community of Zoar, Cass Township, Dubois County, Indiana (Photo 1 of 50). The community is bisected by the Dubois-Pike County, Indiana, county line. The 1897 Zoar Public School and 1949 Zoar Methodist Church are in Dubois County. Zoar Cemetery is divided by the county line with burial locations in Dubois and Pike Counties. Zoar Public School, closely following the 1875 Indiana State Superintendent's one room schoolhouse design recommendations, was constructed in August-September 1897 in a late Victorian style. After the school's 1933 closure, the Zoar Methodist Church purchased and maintains the building. In 1946, the congregation added a "kitchen" addition to the school's south side so the building may be utilized as the church's fellowship hall. The school's appearance has maintained its authentic look; thus, retaining its architectural integrity. The 1949 Zoar Methodist Church (the congregation's third church building) is built in the Gothic Revival style. In 1961, an Education Annex was added the church's southside. The annex committee made great effort to blend the church and annex designs. The 175 plus member congregation of the Zoar United Methodist Church, Inc., utilizes and maintains the structure and it retains architectural integrity. Zoar Cemetery is situated atop a rolling hill behind the original site of the 1848 (Zoar) German Methodist Church (Pike County, Indiana), and the 1897 Zoar Public School (Dubois County, Indiana). The earliest legible marked grave in 1852, that of a child, is engraved in German. Zoar Cemetery is the only cemetery in the Zoar community and it is methodically maintained by the Zoar Cemetery Association, Inc. The three contributing sites maintain significant features underscoring the historic periods they represent in a rural mid-western setting.

Narrative Description

The village of Zoar is bisected by the Dubois and Pike Counties, Indiana county line and its intersection with Old State Road 64 in Cass Township, Dubois County, Indiana. Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, and Zoar Cemetery are the three most significant buildings/sites remaining in the unincorporated community.

Originally settled in the 1830s by mainly upland southerners, during the late1830s-1860s northern Europeans from northwest Prussia (Germany) and the Kingdom of Hanover settled southwest Dubois County. As young families arrive from Germany the population expanded. Until 1871, Zoar was part of Patoka Township – including the towns of Huntingburg and

Zoar Public Schoo	I, Zoar	Methodist	Church
Zoar Cemetery			

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Holland. In 1871, Cass Township, including Holland and Zoar, is separated from Patoka Township.

Zoar sits among the rolling hills, deep slopes, and some nearly level topography. "The soil is classified Zanesville-Gilpin-Tilsit – Deep and moderately deep, nearly level to moderately steep, well drained and moderately well drained soils; on uplands." In the 1930s, the United States Geological Survey placed a sea level marker 35' northwest of the school. The marker lists the site as 563 feet above sea level. Early German immigrants tell of the land reminding them of the topography they knew in northern Germany. The ample supply of timber appealed to woodworking craftsmen; and the increasingly cleared fields allowed for successful hay crops and useful pasture land. Experiences in the flax fields and peat bogs of northwestern Prussia and in the Netherlands help in developing productive farms around Zoar³. Initially, family farms were small and productive. Today, surrounding agribusinesses crop much of the farm land and also raise poultry in nearby large-scale operations. Agriculture remains the community's financial base.

This base led to significant resources at Zoar – all three contributing and within adjoining properties. The significant buildings included in this nomination are: the 1897 Zoar Public School (Zoar Church Road); 1949 Zoar Methodist Church (8818 West Old State Road 64); and Zoar Cemetery (Zoar Cemetery Lane). The school, church, and cemetery retain a high level of historic integrity. Nomination of the school, church and cemetery together reflect the role the structures play in the mid-American village life. In the late 1800s, Zoar includes its public school, Methodist Church, United States Post Office, general store, barbershop, horse stables, brickyard, approximately ten residences, and cemetery. The school, church, and east part of the cemetery are in Dubois County. The post office, general store, barbershop, horse stables and brickyard are in Pike County. Residences are found on both sides of the county line. In 1930 Indiana constructed a highway bypassing the church and school.

Zoar Public School 1897, Late Victorian, Contributing

Zoar School (Photo 2 of 50) resulted from a population increase in far western Cass Township, Dubois County, Indiana, in the late 1800s. As subsequent generations of German immigrants of the 1830s and 1860s expanded the area population, local rural schools faced overcrowding. Overbeck School (Cass School #7), located 2.5 miles east of Zoar, was the primary school most Zoar children attend prior to 1897. That school became overcrowded – even after a second room was added. With the population increase of the Zoar community, Cass Township Trustee John Steinkamp and County Superintendent George R. Wilson, agreed to construct a public school adjacent to the Zoar Methodist Church. Steinkamp purchased a 1/2-acre corner plot from Fred and Mary Hemmer on August 15, 1897. The location stands at the intersection of the east-west running Huntingburg-Stendal Road (now Zoar Church Road) and the north-south running 900 W. From a corner once raising wheat would rise Cass Township's ninth public

¹ Soil Survey of Dubois County, Indiana. (1980). USDA. P. 41.

² Beumer, L. (1980). Zoar Public School Remembrance.

³ Bilderback, L. (2015.) From the Roots. Dubois County Historical Society, Jasper, IN. P. 9

⁴ Bartelt, W. (1971). A Historical Survey of Zoar United Methodist Church Land Transactions.

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school. Built by H. Lammers of Holland, Indiana for \$348.88,⁵ construction took just over a one-month period. Originally set for opening day on September 27, 1897, Zoar School opened on October 4, 1897.⁶

Schoolhouse Exterior

Zoar School is a 24' w. by 33.5' l. rectangular building. The school faces north toward the Huntingburg-Stendal Road (currently Zoar Church Road); which at the time of school construction was a busy road connecting the towns of Huntingburg (Dubois County, Indiana), and Stendal (Pike County, Indiana). The center of a rural community settled of German immigrants, some of these settlers assisted in cutting the structure's sandstone foundation blocks from the steep embankments of nearby creek beds. In addition to the original foundation blocks, three of four original cellar grilles remain. Native lumber from local forests remains solid to this day. With the frame building's alternating 3" w. and 4" w. original tongue and groove flooring, double hung windows with surrounds, chair rail height wainscotting, front door with transom, tin roof, and cupola bell, and a majority if its 5-inch-wide lap siding, Zoar School remains one of the few "country" schools in Dubois and Pike Counties retaining its authentic school integrity.

The school's principal north gabled front elevation is 23' 11" high (Photo 6 of 50). Including the cupola pyramidal tin seam roof point, the framed lap siding exterior gabled front is 28'8" to the point.8 Currently painted white, the school's past exterior colors include a cream or tan with white trim. Plain 5" wide corner trim boards rise 11' 3 ½" h. from the foundation cornerstone to roof's eave. The school's main roof, believed to be original, is a seam tin roof. The roof is currently painted "Schoolhouse red," but at other times has been painted green and silver. Zoar School's symmetrical northside includes a 4' w. recessed entrance completes with the original four panel wood door and single-lite clear glass transom. The door includes the original mortise lock set and handle. The current stoop at the school's recessed entrance is the top rubbed sandstone platform step removed from the 1871 Zoar Kirche. The stone replaced a small wood platform front (dimensions unknown). Centered in each 10' w. side of the recessed entrance, are 32" w. x 88" original two over two double hung windows with original sashes and surrounds. Each window includes plain 4 1/2" w. trim surrounds with a decorative top cornice. The building's eight windows retain most of the original glass panes. Perched atop the gable is the 7' h. wooden cupola with a pyramidal roof point. The cupola houses the original school bell. Each side of the four-sided bell house includes a six-slat vent - all original. The cupola's roof has a different seem style of tin roof as the school's main roof.

The school's original 33.5' w. east elevation is symmetrical and includes three 32" w. x 88" h. original two over two double hung windows (Photo 3 of 50). Matching the front windows, each side window includes simple 4" w. surrounds trim and a cornice top. Eighty inches separate each window. A 10" w. trim board caps the wall at its juncture with the roof's eave. Most of the original 5" w. weatherboard remains. The current aluminum gutters, added around 2000, replaced locally crafted trough style tin gutters.

⁵ Argus, The. "County News - Holland," Aug. 13,1897, p.2.

⁶ Argus, The. "County News - Holland," Sep. 27,1897, p.2.

⁷ Beumer, L. (1980). Zoar Public School Remembrance.

⁸ Hoerstman, N. (2021). Zoar Schoolhouse Building Assessment. Hoerstman Design Shop, Indianapolis, IN.

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The school's east elevation includes the profile of the 14'. addition added in 1946. Locally referred to as "the kitchen," the addition shows the pitched "lean-to" style roof line. A four-panel wood door and a "half" window (one of the school's original south windows removed for the kitchen addition) are asymmetrically placed for functionality. The 33" w. door is 14" south of the corner of the original school. In the 1940s and 50s, church parishioners used this window, 32" south of the door, at "Memorial Day Picnic time" as a pass through. Dishes – washed in "dish pans" outside the window - are "passed" back through the window and into the kitchen to be readied for use. The measurement from the edge of the window to the southeast corner of the addition is 57 inches.

The 14' I. x 33.5' w. 1946 "kitchen" addition to the original Zoar School is visible on the south side (Photo 4 of 50). The addition's two windows are an original window "halved." The halved windows – 66" w. total - are placed side by side and centered on the 24' w. south wall. A basic surrounds trim wrap around the windows. The pitched tin roof – painted dark red - angles down from the schoolhouse's gabled south wall. The visible original south gabled wall maintains the original wood rap trim. The addition's weatherboard side includes 5" w. weatherboard removed from the original building, and additional board cut to match.

The school's west elevation of the addition – at Zoar School's southwest corner - includes a single asymmetrically placed wooden door. The 33" w. four paned door is 69" from the school's original corner and 66" from the addition's corner. The lean-to continues into the school's original west elevation.

The west elevation is symmetrical - 33.5' wide and including three 32" w. x 88" h. original two over two double hung windows (Photos 5,7 of 50). From the sandstone foundation to the roof line, the side, with three windows, mirrors the dimensions of the eastside. Windows on the east, west (and originally south sides), provide natural light for students. In the 1950s, electrical connection boxes are added at the northwest corner of the structure.

The only exterior modifications to the school are the removal of the wood front stoop with the 1871 Zoar Kirche front hand cut sandstone landing/stoop and the 1946 addition of a kitchen to be used for the annual Memorial Picnic). (NOTE: The Zoar School Restoration Task Force is removing the "kitchen addition" to return the schoolhouse to its original footprint. The task force is collaborating with Indiana Landmarks.)

Schoolhouse Interior

Zoar School's interior basically appears as it did on opening day October 4, 1897. The floor plan, from north to south, consists of a vestibule, main classroom, and, after 1946, a "kitchen." The northside, facing the "main road," is the building's front and includes the school's main entrance (Photo 8 of 50). At the time of construction, this entrance is the school only entrance. The main entrance doorway is in the vestibule's center.

⁹ Bartelt, W. 1973. It Is a Little Place. Self-published. Page numbers unlisted.

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The vestibule's 36" w. corridor – going east to west – runs the entire building's width (Photo 9 of 42). To the east side of the walkway are the original student lunch "bucket" shelves in each corner. The boy's shelf in the northeast corner and the "girl's" in the opposite. The vestibule's original coat hooks remain on the interior of the east, north, and west walls. The 10.5' w. x 11' h. dividing wall separating the vestibule from the classroom is plastered with and surrounding 36" h. wainscot. The 11' high ceiling is pressed tin with a hammer imprint design. At the east and west end of the dividing wall are original four panel wood doors. The doors lead into the main classroom. Hanging above the girl's shelf is a rope leading up to the bell placed in its carrier at the time of construction (Photo 10 of 50). The rope enters a small circular cut in a "trap door." The door leads to an "attic" used for storage when the school was in operation. On the north wall of the attic is a basic wall ladder leading up into the cupola.

The interior plastered walls are painted forest green. In a 1987 restoration project, the current interior paint was matched to the original color. The original wood planked alternating 3" w and 4" w. tongue and groove floor, while worn, is sturdy. Original milled wood accents include 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " w. door and window surrounds, shoe-molding, and 36" h. vertical alternating 3" w and 4" w original tongue and grove wainscot around the vestibule and main classroom. The 11' h. ceiling includes original punched tin tile with an oval design. The tin ceiling is trimmed with imprinted square tin tiles.

Inside the main classroom – on the opposite side the vestibule dividing wall –are a 10' w. x 4' h. wooden covered liquid slate chalkboard and full-length chalk tray (Photos 11, 13 of 50). Also in the main classroom are a slate chalkboard mounted between two east side windows; and two "liquid slate" chalkboards the west side. Originally, an American flag hung above the board and Washington's portrait displayed to the left. The wooden tongue and grove floored teacher's platform, seven inches higher than the classroom floor, originally extended "almost" from "door to door." According to teacher Lilly Beumer, the platform had been reduced in width due to too many injuries from students, teachers, and guests, tripping over the corners. ¹⁰ The platform is 11'4" w. x 4'10" d.

Centered on the platform is an original wooden 30" d. x 48" w. teacher's desk (Photo 12 of 50). The desk includes top drawers and circular wood drawer pulls. A 6" h. wooden reveal is on each end and approach side of the desk. Fourteen school desks, some reportedly original, line the main classroom (Photos 14,15 of 50).

Three double hung windows line the east and west sides of the classroom. The east windows look into Dubois County while the west set look into Pike County. The ornate schoolhouse clock shelf remains centered on the east wall between two of the school windows.

Two coal oil lamp hooks suspend from the tin ceiling where the lamp fixtures once lit the classroom (Photo 16 of 50). Electric lines did not reach Zoar until 1934, just after the school closed. With electricity added to the school about 1946, four light fixtures were added. Today, 1930s reproduction period lighting hangs from the ceiling.

¹⁰ Beumer, L. (1980). Zoar Public School Remembrance.

¹¹ Bartelt, W. 1973. It Is a Little Place. Page numbers unlisted.

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A period appropriate library table and work table (sources unknown) are in the classroom. The original brick chimney retains the stove pipe outlet, but the pot belly stove has been removed. The school library, a four high book shelf, goes to Holland Public School when Zoar closed. Miss Lilly Beumer, Zoar's last teacher, used the shelf in her elementary classroom at Holland Public School until her retirement in 1976.¹²

Zoar School maintains the authentic look of midwestern rural school in an ethnically assimilating American community of the late 1800s and early 1900s. One of Dubois County, Indiana's 137 township schools in 1900, ¹³ Zoar is among the last standing as originally constructed.

Zoar School, sponsored by the Zoar UMC Trustees and Committee of History and Records, is looking toward a restoration program for the school.

Zoar Methodist Church 1949, Gothic Revival, Contributing

Zoar Church, founded in 1844 as Deutsche Methodische Gemeinde (German Methodist Congregation), and officially Zoar United Methodist Church in 2022, towers on a hill overlooking the countryside at the Dubois-Pike County line. The 1949 Zoar Church building is a significant example of Gothic Revival rural church architecture (Photos 16, 17 of 50). "[Gothic Revival] influenced a popular style for churches nationally right up through the 1940s (WWII), due primarily to its association with European ecclesiastical architecture. It is most abundant in the northeastern U.S." Secondly, the congregation housed by the church played a unique role as the center not only of worship, but of assimilation, of a large transplanted German community (from Ladbergen, County Tecklenburg, Westphalia, Prussia) into American culture. This community is one of the most complete German Protestant groups established in Dubois County, Indiana during the 1840s.

After meeting in member homes for four years, in 1848 the congregation agreed to construct a log church on property on the Pike County side of the Dubois-Pike Counties, Indiana line. On September 30, 1848, Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church purchased two acres from Herman and Christina Katterjohn for a church and cemetery. A one room log structure with two symetrical windows on each side and a wood double door front entrance was built on the property. The building served the congregation until 1870.

Due to membershp growth, the congregation decided to construct a second church home in 1871. The congregation chooses a site across the county line in Dubois County. Built atop the tallest hill in the neighborhood, the Trustees of the German Methodist Episcopal Church purchased one acre from Henry and Fredericka Finke on January 6, 1871. Like the 1848 structure, the congregational members were instrumental in the 1871 building's construction. Above the main entrance of the structure is a half circle sandstone engraved with "Zoar Kirche – 1871 A.D." In addition to providing labor, each family hauled 7000 bricks, seven loads of stone

¹² Beumer, L. (1980). Zoar Public School Remembrance.

¹³ Wilson, G. R. (1910). Wilson's History of Dubois County. p 280.

¹⁴ Architectural Styles of America and Europe.

www.https://architecturestyles.org/gothic-revival/. Accessed 01 January 2022.

¹⁵ Pike County Deed Record H, pg. 6.

¹⁶ Dubois County Deed Record 17, pg. 366.

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for the foundation and five loads of sand." The 40' x 60' building, included a 86 foot high tower and a new Vanduzen & Tift Bell from Cincinnati, Ohio's Buckeye Bell Foundry. (The bell was later transferred to the 1949 Zoar Church). The 1871 "Kirche," valued at \$4,158.20, was dedicated on November 12, 1871.¹⁷

In 1923, a severe storm, alledgedly a tornado, hits the community and damages the structural integrity of the church. As a result, steel rods are added to support the church walls. By the 1940s, major renovation or replacement was noted by church trustees. In 1947 the congregation voted to replace the 1871 church. The 1949 church is built on the site of the 1871 church, but faced north instead of south. In the early 1930s, Indiana State Highway 64 was built "bypassing" the Zoar Church and school. The new church is built facing north so the entrance overlooks the highway – Indiana State Highway 64 (in 2022 - Old State Road 64).

Church Exterior

The 1949 Zoar Church is a 34' w. x 45' l. Gothic Revial building designed by A.J. Alpers. The church was constructed in 1949 by Huntingburg Lumber Company of Huntingburg, Dubois County, Indiana. Building committee member Melvin Weitkamp later tells Mr. Alpers became fond of the architectural style while serving in Europe during World War I. Zoar's building committee, composing of Wesley Hilsmeyer, Frank Hemmer, and Melvin Weitkamp (note the common Ladbergen, Germany surnames) approved the Gothic Revival style after viewing one of Alper's recently completed designs - Prairie Chapel Church near Bloomfield, Indiana. (In 2022, this church still stands along Highway 57 in Greene County, Indiana). "The most characteristic element of the Gothic style is the pointed arch." The 1949 Zoar Church is built with over 25 Gothic Revival arches in the buildig. The committee liked the overall appearance of the "sample" building; and they also specified the addition of a bell tower to house the 1871 Kirche's Vanduzen & Tift Bell.

Final specifications for the 1949 Zoar Church were agreed upon in March, 1949 with a preliminary cost of \$18,549.32. The specs. include utilizing any "usable" wood from the 1871 church "whenever it can be used...." All exterior walls are constructed by 8" x 8" x 16" concrete block "veneered with face brixk [sic]. Window sills, 8" w., and accent limestone used on the perimeter of the exterior, are Indiana limestone. Wood framing is constructed from "yellow pine or fir." Contractors did use wood beams and other lumber components from the 1871 church. This wood is found in the construction in the roof support and framing of the building. Dark red Huntingburg Brick, made in nearby Huntingburg, Indiana, and a matching red mortar are used throughout the church's exterior. The north to south gabled roof was orginally a gray slate tiled roof. About 2007, following a damaging hail storm, the slate tile was removed and a charcoal grey/brown metallic tile roof – selected to match the Gothic Revival style of architecture – is placed down. The wood soffits, rakes, and eaves were originally painted white. Over time, some the the exterior wooden features are replaced with white aluminum or vinyl siding.

 $^{^{17}}$ Bartelt, W. 1973. It Is a Little Place. Page numbers unlisted.

Dubois County Interim Report, Indiana Historic Sites and Structures
Inventory (1998). Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana. P. xxix.

¹⁹ Zoar Methodist Church Bid Specifications. (1948). Zoar United Methodist Church Congregation Archives.

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In 1960 an education annex is added to the 1949 church building. For reference, the current building proper is divided into - Zoar Church (the 1949 building) and the Education Annex (the 1960 addition).

A visible feature of the Gothic Revival design is the 50-foot-tall symetrical bell tower housing the 1871 Kirche Vanduzen & Tift Bell (Photos 22, 23 of 50). At the tower's base, and up a three step concrete platform is the church's narthex. The tower front includes the 7' w. x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 'h.' high double door pointed arch main entrance (facing north). A limestone keystone is at the Gothic "point" of the door brick surround. (Original wooden front doors were replaced with glass doors in 1972.). The vestible windows are a 30" w. x 115" h. stain glass Gothic arch window on the east and west sides (Photo 23 of 50). The windows are 66" above ground level.

Retangular limestone placards, 42" w. x 13" h., to the left and right of the main entrance state (as viewing) "ZOAR METHODIST CHURCH, FOUNDED 1848;" and "ZOAR METHODIST CHURCH, REBUILT 1949." (Note: The Zoar Methodist congregration organized in 1844, but the first church was constructed in 1848.)

The 14' w. x 14' d. bell tower includes Gothic Revival arch windows and openings – each with a limestone sill and keystone. One set of windows, 24' from the base of the tower, are 30" w x 60" h recessed pointed arched blind windows. The blind windows are on the east, north, and west sides of the tower. The bell housing includes two 30" w. x 60" h. Gothic arch open windows on each of the four sides. The open windows provide maximum volume as the bell rings. The tower's flat roof perimeter includes an approximate 24" h. frieze with brick parapets, approximately 24" w. x 15" h., at each corner. Topping the tower and parapets is an apporximately 4" h. limestone reveal. The tower fronts the main sanctuary's bricked gabled north elevation.

The symetrical 30' h. gabled north elevation, with the tower at center, includes 40" w. x 88" h. stained glass Gothic arch windows, with a 4" limestone window sill and keystone, on the east and west tower elevations. A 10" w. limestone reveal, 32" h. from ground level, encircles the perimeter of the entire church (including the Education Annex). The 12" w. x 17 ½" h. limestone cornerstone at the north west corner reads: "JESUS SAID, 'ON THIS ROCK I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH. *MATTHEW 16-18*."

The 1949 church's brick east symmetrical elevation is 12 1/2' h. with five 40" w. x 88" h. pointed arch stained glass windows (Photo 19 of 50). Each window includes a limestone keystone at each point and a 5" h. limestone window silll. The windows are 70" apart from the other and the end windows are 70" from the north and south corners. The windows are 20" above the limestone reveal. The Gothic point is 10" below the eave. Each window is recessed 3". As previously noted, the original windows were replaced in 1973. Thirty inches below each sanctuary window is a basement window with a limestone sill.

The 1949 church's gabled south elevation is partially hidden with the 1961 construction of the 34' w. x 66' l. Education Annex (Photo 20 of 50). The 1961 Education Annex begins at the southwest corner of the 1949 church. Brick and mortar for the annex are selected to color match the church's. The hip roof is originally covered in asbestos siding, but in 2012 a charcoal grey/brown metallic tile roof, matching the 1949 Zoar Church replacement tile design was put

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down. The annex extends 16' east the church's southeast corner. The 12' high elevation includes one 4' w. x 4' h. window.

The annex's east elevation is 36' w. x 12' h. and asymetrical. Six feet left (as viewing) from the northeast corner of the annex is a 4' w. x 4' h. window. Eight feet to the left of the window is a 3' w. x 7' h. metal door with paned glass window. Two feet left of the door is a 2' w. x 4' h. restroom window; and 2' left of the restroom window is a second 4' w. x 4' h window. From the last window is 5' to the southeast corner of the annex.

The annex's south elevation is 68' w. x 12' h. and symetrical. Four windows, each 4' w. x 4' h. are separated by 8'. As facing, there is 12' for the southeast corner to the first window; and 12' from the last window to the southwest corner.

The annex's west elevation is 36' w. with heights from 12' at the northwest corner to 18' at the southwest due to lay of the land and a walk-in basement entrance. The elevation is asymetrical. Six feet left (as viewing) from the southwest corner of the annex is a 4' w. x 4' h. window. Eleven feet to the left of the window is another 4' w. x 4' h. window. From the last window is 5' to the northwest corner of the annex. The walk-in basement entrance is 14' w. and includes a 6' w. two door entrance. The doors are metal with paned windows.

The annex's north elevation extends 16' west the 1949 church's southwest corner. The 12' h. elevation includes one 3'w x 7' h. metal door with paned windows. The annex's elevation ends at the southwest corner/west elevation of the 1949 church.

The 1949 church's brick west symmetrical elevation is 12 1/2' h. with five 40" w. x 88" h. Gothic Revival arch stained glass windows (Photo 21 of 50). Each window includes a limestone keystone at each point and a 5" h. limestone window silll. The windows are 70" apart from the other and the end windows are 70" from the north and south corners. The windows are 20" above the limestone reveal. The Gothic point is 10" below the eave. Each window is recessed 3". As previously noted, the original windows were replaced in 1973. Thirty inches below each sanctuary window is a 4' w. x 2' h. basement window with limestone sill.

Church Interior

Inside the towered entrance is a 14' w. narthex. The 14' w. x 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ ' l. x 14' h. entrance level includes – on the eastside - the bell ringing and tolling ropes, locally crafted original oak coat rack, and guestbook podium; and - on the westside - stairway to the basement. The tiled ceiling is original. The cream colored walls are plaster. At the landing level's south end are 5 steps up to the sanctuary level (and out of the bell tower) (Photo 24 of 50). An oak railing leads up each stairway. At the top of the stairway is the 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ 'w. x 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ ' l x 12' h. pastor's and usher's greeting area. Two original 36" w. x 84" h. fir six panel doors, with the top four panels creating a "cross" design, lead into the sanctuary (Photo 28 of 50). The entrance doors include original brass hardware and a 4" w oak trim surround. Above the entrace doors is a print of Warner Sallman's painting of Christ. The gold painted framed print was presented to the church for its 1949 opening.

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To the northeast and northwest of the entrance doors of the entrance are "overflow" rooms. The 13' w. x 10" l. x 12' h. rooms originally include three oak pews. In the late 1990s, the northeast room becomes the sound/technology center and one pew was removed.

The 36' w. x 60' l. x 18' h. sanctuary receives natural light through five 40" w. x 88" h. Gothic style stained glass windows on the east and the west elevations (Photo 26, 27 of 50). Originally, 10' tall basic stain glass windows were used. In 1973, a stain glass window similar to the ones originally specified were purchased. The windows with various shades of greens and blues, surround a bold red cross in the middle. The overflow rooms include an additional north facing Gothic window in each. The vestibule windows also match the sanctuary windows in design.

The 75" w. center aisle leads to the sanctuary's front – refered to as "the stage" (Photo 25 of 50). Originally an arch front, with the addition of the annex in 1960, the arch is upgraded to follow the contours of the more basic "angle to flat" vaulted ceiling style. On the east and west side of the main aisle are twelve oak pews (10 sets are original, and 2 sets are added in 1960).

Leading up to the 22" w. x 16" l. stage are three platform levels. Each level, or step, is 8" higher than the previous one. The symbolism of the three levels is the Trinity. The walls of the stage are a white plaster. With the configuration of the stage upgraded, new natural oak altar furnishings (communion rails, pulpit, lecturn, alter, and choir modesty panels) —to match the trim and the original pews — are crafted by local craftsmen at nearby Holland Planing Mill in Holland, Indiana. The altar front includes the Greek symbols, surrounding a cross, of alpha and omega. The pulpit and lectern include a Gothic pointed arch design on the front. The south (back) wall of the stage inlcudes the speaker. The speaker is fronted by natural oak Gothic pointed arches. To the east and west (as viewing, left and right) of the speaker are faux Gothic Revial arched windows. Added in 1998, the windows include inserts of Christ. To the left is the "Good Shepherd" and to the right is "Christ in the Garden." The window theme are selected due to the community's agricultural ties.

The sanctuary's floor, originally a ¼" panel and asphalt tile – brown in color and accented with cream specks is now covered in dark tan patterned carpeting. The original interior oak trim remains at the window and door surrounds. All doors - with the exception of the main front door - are original. The trim reveal accenting the ceiling line is also oak.

Original 1949 Gothic Revival wrought iron pendant light fixtures remain (Photo 29 of 50). Four "chain hung" lantern style lights hang in the sanctuary, and one in the narthex. Four matching wall mounted fixtures (two on the east and west walls) provide light above the side aisles (Photo 25 of 50). Each overflow room has original matching Gothic Revival style ceiling mounted light fixtures. The northwest room includes a 4' x 10' framed signed original oil painting by local artist Elta C. Kahle (1901-1986). Mounted on the room's east elevation, the painting depicts Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane. Painted about 1950, the painting originally hung in the Velpen United Methodist Church (Velpen, Pike County, Indiana) until it closed in 2010. The Velpen congregation gifted the painting to the Zoar United Methodist Congregation.

The full concrete blocked basement/fellowship area is an open concept space. The blocked walls were paneled about 1972. The ceiling is a simple fiberboard tiled ceiling. Foldable

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dividers are used to create "rooms" if needed. The area does includes a kitchen, three enclosed restrooms, four small storage areas and the boiler room.

The 1961 education annex basically wraps around the east, south, and west sides of the church stage. To the east and west side of the stage are 35" w. x 84" h. doors leading in the annex wing. The fir six panel doors, with the top four panels creating a "cross" design, are identical in style to the sanctuary entrance doors.

The east door lead into a 20' w. x 14 ½' I. chapel/classroom. A stage right door also enters into this room. On the southwest corner of the room is door into the annex's main east-west hallway. The hallway is 4' 8" w. and 45' I. At the hallway's east end is an entrance door.

Entering the annex from the eastside entrance door, there is a 4' 7" incline. This incline included added in the 1960 construction to aid persons entering the building. At the end (top) of the incline "ramp" is the chapel/classroom entrance on the right and the nursery classroom entrance on the left. The nursery is 20' 3" w. x 14' 2" I. A family restroom is in the nursery.

West of the nursery are three additional nearly identical classrooms (moving east to west): 12'10" w. x 14' 2" l.; 12' 7" w. x 14' 2" l.; and 20' 3" w x 14' 2" l. Each plastered walled classroom includes one window as noted in the exterior description. Along the hallway, opposite the classrooms, are three built-in $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. storage/wardrobe closets. (Note: the storage/wardrobe closets are opposite of the santuary stage's south wall.) Each shelved storage area is fronted with two sliding doors.

The hallway's west end makes a 90 degree turn and continues 12' 9" north. At this point is the entrance door into the west side of the church sanctuary. Along this hallway, on the right side 2 1/2' from the 90 degree turn, is the "stage left" door onto the sanctuary stage. On the left side of the hallway, also 2 1/2' from the 90 degree turn, is a door into the fourth classroom. This 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' x 15 $\frac{1}{4}$ ' classroom, includes a window as noted in the exterior description.

At the end of this hallway, to the left of the sanctuary entrance, is a 4'11" w. steel stairway to the basesment. The stairway was carpeted in the 1980s.

Zoar Methodist Church has, for over 175 years, played a significant role in the religious, ethnic, and architecture identity of southwest Dubois County, Indiana.

Zoar Cemetery 1848, Contributing

Zoar Cemetery lies on the community's southside (Photo 30 of 50). All of its elements, its stones, brick entry piers, and WW II memorial are counted as one resource (site). Early congregational members selected a small hill directly south of the 1848 log Zoar Church. As of 2021, over 325 graves are located in the cemetery with approximately the same number of graves on each side of the Dubois-Pike County, Indiana county line. The cemetery is connected to Zoar Church Road by a private lane. The north-south running lane extends approximately 700 feet into the cemetery proper and makes an elongated "U" within the cemetery. The western track exits the cemetery proper and then rejoins the original lane northeast of the cemetery and southwest of the Zoar School.

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The entrance to Zoar Cemetery is marked by two 5' h. red brick and mortared limestone capped columns – one each on the east and west side of Zoar Cemetery Lane (Photo 31 of 50). The columns, added in 1970, (in memory of Mabel Langebrake Bartelt), include a limestone placard with "ZOAR CEMETERY" engraved on the front (north side). The brick is selected to match the brick of the Zoar Methodist Church.

One hundred feet northwest of the west column is a memorial to a World War 2 casualty. The memorial includes a memorial stone in front of a 20' h. aluminum flagpole. The memorial reads:

IN MEMORY OF P.F.C. FLOYD D. HILDEBRAND 743 TANK BATTN. BORN NOV. 29, 1908 – KILLED JUNE 6, 1944 AT NORMANDY BEACH, FRANCE. ERECTED IN HONOR OF THOSE FROM THE ZOAR COMMUNITY WHO SERVED IN THE ARMED FORCES. Dedicated Memorial Day 1979 Through the Efforts of the Zoar United Methodist Youth Fellowship²⁰.

Hildebrand was born at Zoar; a member of Zoar Methodist Church; and attended Zoar Public School. Killed on D-Day, he never returned home. The monument also memorializes all servicemen and women from Zoar.

Between the memorial and the cemetery proper are two flowering dogwoods. Under the east dogwood is a rectangular limestone bench erected in 1997.

The oldest grave documented – by headstone – is that of a child of Heinrich and Sophia Katterjohn. The child died on September 21, 1852. The oldest known adult headstone is the 1854 stone of Chrestina Feldwisch.

Each row in the cemetery runs north to south. Graves face east. Burial locations follow chronological placement with adjoining plots reserved for spouses, siblings, or significants.

There are numerous unmarked graves and illegible stones. Some small stones only include initials. Traditionally, the earliest internments are unmarked. A majority of stones erected prior to 1910s are engraved in German (some in *fraktur* typeface). Earlier stones are made of sandstone and limestone. Around 1900, granite and marble stones become more common.

The west 1/3 of the cemetery is wooded. Due to the rolling topography, this section of the cemetery is not used for burial.

Zoar Cemetery continues as a burial location, (Photos 40, 41 of 50) and is the only cemetery in the Zoar Community. Fourth and fifth generations of immigrant "Zoarites" are buried at the site.

 $^{^{20}}$ Zoar United Methodist Church and It's People, (1991). Self-published. Pg.56.

Zoar Pub Zoar Cen	ic School, Zoar Methodist Church, netery	Dubois County, IN Pike County, IN
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8. 8	tatement of Significance	
	cable National Register Criteria "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the propeg.)	rty for National Register
X	A. Property is associated with events that have made a sign broad patterns of our history.	nificant contribution to the
	B. Property is associated with the lives of persons signification	ant in our past.
X	C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a ty- construction or represents the work of a master, or poss- or represents a significant and distinguishable entity wh individual distinction.	esses high artistic values,
	D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information in history.	mportant in prehistory or
	ria Considerations a "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	
X	A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious pu	rposes
	B. Removed from its original location	
	C. A birthplace or grave	
X	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

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Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions.) ETHNIC HERITAGE: German EDUCATION RELIGION ARCHITECTURE
Period of Significance 1852-1949
Significant Dates 1852 1897 1949
Significant Person (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)
Cultural Affiliation
Architect/Builder John Steinkamp/ H. Lammers A.J. Elpers

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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.)

Zoar Public School, Methodist Church, and cemetery meet Criterion A in the significance areas of ethnic heritage: European (German); education; and religion. Criterion C applies to schoolhouse and church. Dubois County, Indiana, is located in southwest Indiana. The county was organized from Pike County in 1818. Originally, settled by upland southerners, by the late 1830s Germans began arriving into the area from Northern Europe. By 1860, over 20% of Dubois County's population of 10,394 was "foreign born." Patoka Township, of which the Zoar Community a part of in 1860, has a 28+% foreign born population.²¹ The significance of Zoar Public School – officially Cass Township #9 – lies in its educational and social impact on the community and the manner in which the school embodies building design as promulgated by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction's office. The significance of Zoar Methodist Church's (a.k.a German Methodist Church, Zoar Methodist Episcopal Church, Zoar United Methodist Church) is as a locally significant post World War I Gothic Revival design, and in its influence, spiritually and socially, on northern European immigrants assimilating from one nation to another. For the Prussian settlers of the Zoar community, German Protestantism was an expression of their particular German ethnicity; the two areas of significance are inseparable. Zoar Cemetery augments the Criterion A – ethnic heritage significance of the property. The traditional forms of the stones and markers, a number engraved in *fraktur* typeface or otherwise in German, point clearly to the homeland of the community's founders. Geographically, the German-Americans clustered in communities of similar ethnic heritage. The period of significance includes the establishment of a Prussian (German) community in rural southwest Dubois County, Indiana (Zoar - east to Huntingburg, and southeast to Holland, Indiana) and its connection to Ladbergen and Schledehausen (neighboring towns), County Tecklenburg, Westphalia, Prussia. With the completion of the new church in 1949, the community had reached a high point in its development. The practice of using German for some readings during services had ceased a few years prior. Though many traditions continued in Zoar, the year 1949 culminates the period of significance.

Criterion Consideration A

The property is now wholly owned by a church congregation. Historically, the congregation owned the church and cemetery; the school was publicly held. The property meets Consideration A because of its overriding significance regarding ethnic heritage for the community. Additionally, the ethnic heritage and Protestantism are closely intertwined, as explained in the nomination. Therefore, the property is not being listed solely as a Protestant or Methodist church alone, but is being listed since religion is a marker of ethnicity in this case. Additionally, the school building has significance for the community aside from its current ownership.

Indiana's Public Common and High Schools MPDF

The Zoar School (Cass Township School #3) meets the registration requirements of the multiple property form. It conforms to property type #1, The One Room Schoolhouse. Zoar School was built as a public school (though it is owned by a religious group now).

²¹ 1860 United States Federal Census, Dubois County, Indiana, 1860.

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It served in this capacity until 1933. The building has a high degree of integrity; the only non-historic feature is the rear addition.

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

Zoar Public School - 1897, Late Victorian, Contributing

Zoar Public School's areas of significance include ethnic heritage: European; education, and architecture. Like many rural communities of European born middle American settlers, church and school emerged as the heart of the area. From its beginning in 1897, Zoar School - in the southwest corner of Dubois County, Indiana's German community – stands as a social and educational center of a nearly self-sufficient area. In 1897, Cass Township supported one public graded school in the town of Holland, and nine one room public schools in the rural areas.²² In 2022, two of these schools remain; Bruner School – Cass School #3²³ - is now a residence; the other, Zoar Public School Cass #9 - stands on its original site and retains its original interior and exterior authenticity. Zoar School, influenced by the Zoar German Methodist Church, symbolizes the impact of rural public education on an ethnic people and their evolving American story.

Zoar Public School accentuates challenges and opportunities of these German-Americans. What became Zoar was settled in the 1830s – 1860s. The farming community was a center for Prussian (German) immigrants. They cleared surrounding forests and "open" fields along the Dubois-Pike County, Indiana line. In 1844, the settlers established a German Methodist congregation -which became the center of a growing community. A majority of the German settlers arrived from Ladbergen, Tecklenburg, Prussia (Germany). This part of Germany borders the Netherlands and the citizens were primarily farmers, not wearing lederhosen, but linen clothing and wooden shoes. A large number of Zoar's first generations use the German language (Platte Deutsch) as their primary means of spoken and written communication.²⁴

By the 1890s, the population surrounding Zoar Church grew. With the growth, township and county officials recognized the need for an additional township school. *Indiana's Public Common and High Schools*, notes"...land near the highest number of intended pupils was essential.²⁵" In the summer of 1897, Zoar received word that a school is to be built in their community.

How the Zoar community received its name is a complex series of events involving the community's ethnic origin and its church. Prior to leaving northern Germany, the emigrants

²² Holland Kiwanis. (1950). *History of Holland (School and City)*. Self-published. Page number unlisted.

Wilson, G. R. (1896) History and Art Souvenir of Dubois County. Self-Published. Map Insert.

 $^{^{24}}$ Bilderback, L. (2015.) From the Roots. P. 9.

Indiana's Public Common, and High Schools. United States Department of the Interior. www.in.gov/dnr/historic-presentation/files/schoolsmdf.pdf. Accessed 22 December 2021.

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worked in Holland the Netherlands to raise the funds to pay for their passage to "Amerika." The jobs available are not the most advantageous, but they helped the eager Germans save the necessary money. ²⁶ Upon settlement in rural southwest Dubois County, Indiana, neighboring inhabitants originating from more affluent areas of Germany refer to those in the rural area as "Dutchmen." For this reason, early western Patoka (now Cass) Township is generally referred to as "Holland." The name stuck.

Methodist circuit riders of the late 1830s and early 1840s refer to the first German Methodist congregation –organized in 1844 – as Holland. The community's name becomes more confusing when Henry Kunz, a member of the German Methodist Church in 1856, platted a town three miles southeast of present day Zoar. He named his town "Holland." This creates confusion of the place names...especially when he supported organizing a German Methodist congregation in his "new town." As a result, when the original German Methodist Church constructs a new brick church in 1871, the congregation selects a new church name...Zoar Kirche (German for Zoar Church). From that period, the community is known as Zoar. The name Zoar, referenced in *the Bible*'s book of Genesis, means "a little place."

As Zoar *Kirche* notes, Zoar community inhabitants openly retained many northern European traits...especially written and spoken language. The ethnicity of Zoar Public School's early students reveals this detail.

A majority of first graders arriving to Zoar Public School on the first days of school – according to teachers Elmo Langebrake and Lilly Beumer – spoke little English. They spoke German...specifically a dialect referred to as "Platte Deutsch" (Low German). It was up to the teachers and older students of the one room school to teach and model the "new" English language to the younger pupils. Many students attending Zoar through the 1910s recall arriving at school speaking one language fluently and that was German. Over time, students acquired their knowledge at this school and took it home where they helped their parents, and even grandparents, "master" the language; thus, impacting the social and professional life of the entire area. The new school was an important feature of the transitioning community.

Alberta "Bert" (Weitkamp) Hemmer – Zoar School student from 1911-1921, and whose all four grandparents immigrate to Zoar from Ladbergen, tells of entering first grade speaking only German. "Ach, all the Zoar kids were like that," Bert stated in a 1980 conversation. "We spoke German at home, at church, and with our friends. I didn't know hardly anything about English until I got to [Zoar School]." Mrs. Hemmer also mentions schoolteacher Emil Hemmer (Zoar School teacher in 1907-09, 1914-16, and 1920-22) and Zoar minister L.H.F. Ackerman (1929-46) who promoted local citizens to change the pronunciation of the "Germanic" surnames to a more "American" sounding names.²⁷

German maintained its popularity in the community through World War I, but following the Great War the school's influence is noted on the area's inhabitants. Mr. Emil Hemmer, a teacher of the school – teaching four years before his service in World War I and two after - encouraged

²⁶ Lang. E. (1946) "Some Characteristics of German Immigrants In Dubois County, Indiana," Indiana Magazine of History, Volume XLII, Number 1. March, 1946. Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana. Pp 29-46.
²⁷ Hemmer, A. Conversation with Alberta "Bert" Hemmer. 1980.

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German-Americans to end using the language of their parent's "Vaterland" and begin using English. His influence convinced many locals of the importance of learning and using English.²⁸

To further "Americanize" residents of the Zoar area, Hemmer encouraged students in modifying their Germanic surname pronunciation. He introduced students to phonetically pronounce their last names more "American." Names like Langebrake, originally pronounced "Lang – ga – brocka" became "Lan-ger-brake." "Katterjohann" emerged as "Katterjohn." Former students tell of their teacher's lessons influencing them in upgrading their names.²⁹ Zoar School's impact on the community's cultural shift was shared by…The Zoar Methodist Church.

Zoar School illustrates the significance of education to rural citizens by its construction and maintenance. Zoar School was built by local craftsmen within two months of its contractor's bid being accepted. The building's late Victorian architecture is evident in its original design and appearance. The school was erected across the road from the 1871 "Zoar Kirche." In 1871 the church members replaced their original 1848 log structure with a church standing atop the community's tallest hill. (In 1949, the congregation builds its current church building – The Zoar United Methodist Church.) At the western edge of Dubois County, the 1871 church, faces south and overlooks the north facing the "new" school. Around the time of school construction, a general store, post office, and horse stables stood on the Pike County side of the county line (west of the church and school). From 1897-1933, a large percentage of the public school's students also attended the local church, walked to the store, and played in the horse stables.

On the school's hand cut foundation, the gable-front building maintains its "one room schoolhouse" construction plan. The "plan" follows the 1875 Indiana State Superintendent report, which recommended a vestibule entrance/ cloak area, and main classroom.³¹ Zoar School retains the one room schoolhouse footprint.

Like the exterior, Zoar School's interior remains basically intact.³² The school is a text book example of the "simple box with ante rooms for the entrance and cloakrooms." The entrance includes a "cloak area" with original coat hooks and separate boys and girls "dinner bucket" shelves crafted 124 years ago. A water bucket with common tin cup, also stands in the vestibule. Older students draw water from the church's cistern.³³ The state superintendent also encourages pot belly stoves, which the Zoar School initially had, to heat the main school room...the classroom.

Zoar School's interior includes original plastered walls, original double hung windows, wood wainscoting, floor boards, and pressed tin ceiling. One slate chalkboard from 1897 remains as does two home fashioned oil lantern hooks hanging from the ceiling. The teacher's original

²⁸ Bilderback, L. (2015.) From the Roots. P. 54.

²⁹ Bilderback, L. (2015.) From the Roots. P. 51.

³⁰ Bartelt, W. 1973. It Is a Little Place. Page numbers unlisted.

Indiana's Public Common, and High Schools. United States Department of the Interior. www.in.gov/dnr/historic-presentation/files/schoolsmdf.pdf. Accessed 22 December 2021.

³² Indiana's Public Common, and High Schools. United States Department of the Interior. www.in.gov/dnr/historic-presentation/files/schoolsmdf.pdf. Accessed 22 December 2021.

³³ Beumer, L. (1980). Zoar Public School Remembrance.

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desk stands on the "teacher's platform." The platform was cut down in length due to students tripping over the corners. Period student desks remain, but their authenticity to the school cannot be verified. At Zoar, written records note the desks facing toward front of the room. A "recitation bench" was the front row. The school library, a "library bookshelf" stood in the back southeast corner of the room The potbellied stove, removed in the 1940s, generated heat created by readily available wood cut in adjoining forests and coal dug from nearby hillsides. A "homemade jacket" around the stove help students from getting "scorched" or over heated. A Blackboards, however remain on the front and east and west sides of the interior. The plaster covered brick chimney remains at the center of the main rooms south side). Together, the planning and craftsmanship of such a building recall the important and practical position of education found in Indiana's rural community.

In a unique agreement, the trustees of Cass Township in Dubois County and Lockhart Township in Pike County permitted students from Dubois and adjoining Pike County to attend the school. The school's original west property line is literally the Dubois-Pike County line. Upon "graduation" of eighth grade, students living in Dubois County could attend Holland Public School. Many Zoar students residing in Pike County also choose to attend Holland School for more "educational opportunities." Stendal Public School, in Lockhart Township, Pike County, is the option for ninth grade students choosing to attend secondary school in Pike County.

Zoar teacher Miss Lilly Beumer recalls "[Students entering the building after walking] "as a crow flies...Most students walk through forests, across pastures and fields; and many students cross the county line from Pike County [Indiana]..." 35

Zoar School's significant role education not only includes a role in the immediate bi-county area, but an intertwined connection with Zoar German Methodist Congregation (later Zoar Methodist Church and currently Zoar United Methodist Church). The public-school partners with the church to support community growth. Like many small rural communities in Indiana and the Midwest, the school and church together are a social center of inhabitants' lives. This historic feature of American growth is witnessed through the Zoar School story.

Assimilating the young Zoar students to become more "American" in spoken and written language became an important goal of local teachers and the older students of the school. Students acquired knowledge gained at this building and took it home where they help their parents, and even grandparents, "master" English; thus, impacting the social and professional life of the entire community.³⁶

The school also acclimated students socially. For recreation students used the playground and "baseball field" on the building's south side. They play on the church grounds and in the church stables. Favorite games include "Hide & Seek," "Prison Base," and "Handy Over." The playground remains, but equipment was updated in the 1960s. Trees, primarily red and sugar maple, stand on the east, west, and north sides. A vine, hanging from a large Poplar tree,

³⁴ Beumer, L. (1980). Zoar Public School Remembrance.

³⁵ Beumer, L. (1980). Zoar Public School Remembrance.

³⁶ Beumer, L. (1980). Zoar Public School Remembrance.

³⁷ Beumer, L. (1980). Zoar Public School Remembrance.

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served as a swing used by generations of students. A wood/coal shed and 4' w. x 4' l. outhouse also stood south of the school building but were removed prior to 1973.

Over its thirty-six-year school run, the late Victorian styled school held class for a total of 140 students - from grades 1-8³⁸. Zoar School retains a social aspect of the community throughout the year. Highlights include public Spelling Matches, usually held at night by the light of kerosene lamps; and community plays - especially popular immediately following WWI; and Box, pie, and cake socials. These socials would be held on Friday night and, according to a 1980 writing by former Zoar teacher Lily Beumer, "The girl's best boyfriend was expected to buy her box, and after the selling was over, the boy opened the box and invited the girl "preparer" over to eat the contents there in the school together."39 Proceeds from such events would support school improvements, new books, or maps.

The early 1930 construction of Indiana State Road 64 literally by-passed the school and adjacent Zoar Methodist Church. 40 With easy access to Holland, and nearby Holland Public School, the need for the rural school at Zoar is negated. With improved transportation throughout Dubois County, in 1933, the county superintendent promoted consolidation of township schools. 41 In Cass Township, Cooper School and Zoar School close and students are transferred to the "town" school at Holland. Per the original agreement made in 1897, after the school ceased being a public school, the building and property reverted back to the original land owner. In 1933, original owner, Mr. Fred Hemmer, regains his property.

The Trustees of The Zoar Methodist Church recognized the potential of the vacated school for a church fellowship hall and purchased the ¼ acre of land and building for \$1.00 on September 2. 1943.⁴² The school continued being a center of the community as it now becomes the site of the "Picnic Supper" of the Zoar Memorial Day Picnic from 1944 until 1961. The church also used the structure for socials, Sunday School classrooms, and community vacation Bible school. Since 1973, the school is annually transformed to a two day "Country Store" as part of the Zoar Mosquito Fest. Homegrown vegetables, and homemade foods, jams, jellies, and kuchen (German coffee cake) are sold to fest visitors.

Typical of many small rural ethnic communities, the church and school literally, and figuratively, stand at Zoar's center. Zoar School symbolizes an important tool in the ethnic transition Indiana's rural communities encounter at the turn of the nineteenth century. The events occurring at, and symbolized by, this building underscore the true meaning of the American "melting pot." Perhaps nowhere is the community's assimilation more evident than the nickname of the Zoar School baseball team. They are not nicknamed the "Germans," or the "Barons" ...they are the "Clodhoppers."

³⁸ Zoar United Methodist Church And It's People, (1991). Self-published. Pq.

³⁹ Beumer, Zoar Public School Remembrance, 1980.

⁴⁰ Bartelt, W. 1973. It Is a Little Place. Page numbers unlisted.

⁴¹ Teder, J. (1964). Teder's History of Dubois County. Self-published. Jasper, IN. Pp. 51-52.

⁴² Dubois County Deed Record 105, page 242.

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Zoar Methodist Church - 1949, Gothic Revival, Contributing

Zoar Methodist Church's (a.k.a German Methodist Church, Zoar Methodist Episcopal Church, Zoar United Methodist Church) significance is found in three primary facts: architecture, ethnic heritage, and religious influences.

Towering from a hilltop and overlooking surrounding fields of corn and soybeans is a church cut from Gothic designs of northern Europe. The 1949 Zoar Methodist Church on Dubois County's far western edge is an example of post-World War I European influences on rural houses of worship. The church sanctuary has changed little in its 73-year history, and remains the religious center of Zoar's agricultural community. The Gothic Revival design (see Description) displays 1940s church architecture influenced by previous movements.

Zoar Methodist Church's other significant highlights include ethnic and religous patterns repeated throught mid American ethnic settlement. True to Methodist tradition, two German Methodist circuit riding ministers – H. Koenke and Konrad Muth - taking a trail in 1838 from Boonville in Warrick County, Indiana to Huntingburg, in Dubois County, Indiana, "stumble" upon a complete German Protestant community in the forests straddling the Dubois-Pike County, Indiana line. Originally preaching in "campmeetings," "converts" – including entire families - join the Methodist denomination. This was one of the earliest German language congregations established in the Dubois County area⁴³. It was established about the same time as area German Catholic congregations in Jasper and Ferdinand, Indiana). Preaching continued in area homes and In 1844 the group established the Deutsche Methodische Gemeinde (German Methodist Congregation - now Zoar United Methodist Church). The Zoar Church is the first of three German Methodist Congregations established in Dubois County, Indiana by 1859.

Zoar Church's physical history begins with the Methodist Circuit riders and centers around the congregation's three church structures following. In 1843, the Methodist Circuit Riders Henry Koeneke and Konrad Muth, missionaries of the Evansville Mission of the Indiana District of the Methodist Episcopal Church, preached at the homes of H. H. Fenneman, northeast of present day Holland Indiana, and Herman Wilhelm Katterjohn, at today's Zoar community⁴⁴. During special revival meetings held in 1844 forty-one persons accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior. A majority of these converts organized the German Methodist congregation and met in area homes that straddled the Dubois – Pike County, Indiana line.

With Zoar's establishment in 1844, a large majority of the congregational members were of German descent. From the 1840s-60s, entire families relocate from Prussia⁴⁵ to the opening American west...then, Indiana. The early groups settling in southwest Dubois County follow protestant religious denominations similar to their "home" church in the Fatherland. They maintained much of their culture – language (written and spoken), religious traditions (Star Drill Teams, Christmas Eve programs), and social beliefs (chivalries) through World War I. The Zoar congregation also adapted "American" traditions such as revivals/campmeetings, campgrounds, and church picnics.

⁴³ Bartelt, W. 1973. It Is a Little Place. Page numbers unlisted.

⁴⁴ Bilderback, L. From the Roots (2015). Dubois County Historical Society. pp. 40-41.

^{45 1860} Federal Census, Dubois County, Indiana.

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The close-knit community maintained a Germanic influence well into the 1940s. Zoar maintained the German language as part of their church services until 1946. ⁴⁶ "Platte" Deutsch (Low German) is heard in Zoar homes and on party phone lines – by older generations – well in to the 1960s. In this way, language, ethnicity, and religion were one and the same for congregations such as Zoar.

While the Zoar congregation, the county's first German Methodist congregation or "Deutsche Methodische Kirche," organized in September 1844, historian Willam E. Bartelt writes "We find no land records for the church until 1848." That is when Herman W. and Christina Katterjohn, and Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church - William Katterjohn, William Espell, William Storg (Stork) recorded the land transaction of land for the Zoar congregation's first church. ⁴⁷ Bartelt notes, "This deed is for two acres in the Northeast corner of the Southeast quarter of section nine, township three South, Range six West." The land purchase price was \$1.00. The purchase purpose is to "erect and build or cause to be erected and built thereon a house or place of worship... to preach and expound God's holy word therein."

The "founding" class of the Zoar Church consisted almost exclusively of members from the German town of Ladbergen, County Tecklenberg, Westphalia, Prussia. These German settlers began arriving to the area in the late 1830s. Their German enclave loosely included an area from Huntingburg, Dubois County, Indiana in the east to Holland, Dubois County, Indiana in the south, to just inside Pike County in the west (near today's Stendal, Pike County, Indiana). Bringing their "Prussian," or northern German, traditions with them, their religious affiliation is Evangelical or Protestant. Roman Catholics of the southern German States – settled in what becomes Jasper and Ferdinand, Indiana).⁴⁹

In 1848 the congregation led by H.W. Katterjohn, Adolph Katterjohn, and William Katterjohn, constructed a log church on two acres of land at the county line. Costing \$27.50 to build, the most expensive item of the church was the windows. The windows were hauled by ox cart from Evansville, Indiana (45 miles from Zoar) to church. Along with the Katterjohns, the Reverened C.F. Heitmeyer and other church members "provided much of the materials and labor." The members construct their first church approximately 50' west of the Dubois-Pike Counties, Indiana, county line (in Pike County).

The earliest recorded Zoar Church Membership listing in 1858 lists 38 members of the [Zoar] German Methodist Congregation. Of those 38 members, 100% immigrated from Germany. Of those 38 members, 24 originated in Ladbergen, Prussia; 8 list Prussia; and 6 note Kingdom of Hanover.⁵¹ The surnames on the list include: Katterjohn, Hildebrand, Hilsmeyer, Stork (Photo 34 of 39), Hemmer, Langebrake, Deerhake, Brockriede, Holtkamp, Weitkamp, and Saatkamp

48 Bartelt, W. 1973. It Is a Little Place. Page numbers unlisted.

⁴⁶ Bartelt, W. 1973. It Is a Little Place. Page numbers unlisted.

⁴⁷ Pike County, Indiana's Deed Record H, p. 6

⁴⁹ Lang, E. (1946). German Influence in the Churches and Schools of Dubois County, Indiana, Indiana Magazine of History. Volume XLII, Number 2, June, 1946. Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana. Pp. 151-172.

⁵⁰ Bartelt, W. 1973. It Is a Little Place. Page numbers unlisted.

⁵¹ Zoar United Methodist Church and Its People, Volume 2. Self- published. 1998.

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families – all from Ladbergen, Prussia⁵²; while families from the Kingdom of Hanover include the Sakel and Finke families.

The congregation added a "campground" adjacent to the log church in 1862. Families constructed wooden "tents" in the grove to the church's west. tell of the annual camp meetings held at this location. On June 9, 1866, additional land is purchased due to the campground's growth. This deed is between Frederick and Johanna Wellemeyer, and H.H. Venneman (Fenneman), Henry Kunz (founder of the town of Holland, Indiana in 1859), John Brandenstein, Henry E. Finkle (Finke), and William Stork, Trustees of the German Methodist Episcopal Church. This campground served the area's now three German Methodist Churches – the original (now Zoar), and congregations in Huntingburg and "die Mitte" (the Central) near Holland.

The original church grew and in 1871 the congregation voted to build a new structure on top of a hill "200 paces" of northeast of the original. The new location, adjacent to the Dubois-Pike County line, is in Dubois County. The deed was between Henry and Fredericka Finke and Henry Deerhake, Henry Chsitopher, William Langebrake, William Weitkamp, and Henry Hemmer (all Ladbergen, Germany surnames), Trustrees of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The trustees purchased one acre (for \$35.00) in the Southwest corner of the West half of the Northwest quarter of section ten, township three South, Range six West. 55 Bartelt notes "This land is located directly adjacent to the Northeast of the 1848 two acres 66." A hill stands on the northern edge of the property and this is where the congregation constructed its second sanctuary.

Zoar's second church building - "Zoar Kirche" (German for Zoar Church) was built in 1871. The growing congregation selected a site on a hill – "across the line" in Dubois County, Indiana - "one hundred paces" northeast of the 1848 log church. With the building of this church, the congregation officially used the name "Zoar." While this structure was being built, the log church was burnt due to an arsonist⁵⁷.

In 1980s, Melvin Weitkamp, local historian, wrote that the arsonist burning the church and campground, remains unknown until he revealed his offense on his "deathbed." According to Weitkamp, the arson burnt the structures as he believed the word of God should not be preached in any language other than English. The campground was not rebuilt

The cornerstone laying for the new church was held on April 23, 1871. Bricks for the church were crafted on the "Tellejohn farm" west of the church site. Each family was charged with providing labor and hauling 7,000 brick, seven loads of stone, and five loads of sand. Above the main entrance door of the church was a keystone stating "Zoar Kirche, A.D. 1871." This is the

⁵² Berlemann, H. (1995). Gemeinde Ladbergen, Auswanderer der Gemeinde, 1830-1930. Gemeinde Ladbergen, Germany. pp. 8-42.

⁵³ Pike County, Indiana, Deed Record Q. P 277.

⁵⁴ Bartelt, W. 1973. It Is a Little Place. Page numbers unlisted.

⁵⁵ Dubois County, Indiana, Deed Record 17. P. 366.

⁵⁶ Bartelt, W. 1973. It Is a Little Place. Page numbers unlisted.

⁵⁷ Bartelt, W. 1973. It Is a Little Place. Page numbers unlisted.

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first official acknowledgement of the name "Zoar" for the congregation. Zoar is found in *The Bible*, Genesis 19:23. It is the locale in which Lot flees for safety. It also means "little place." ⁵⁸

The completed 1871 Zoar Kirche was 40' w. x 60' l. and faced south on the bank of the Huntingburg – Stendal Road. The bell tower rose 86' h. and included a bell cast at, and purchased from, Buckeye Bell. The Vanduzen & Tift, bell was cast in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1871. (This data is engraved on the bell). The bell was removed from the 1871 church and placed in the 1949 church bell tower and is used to this day. The congregation dedicated the church on November 12, 1871. (The 1871 cornerstone is displayed in the current church's landscaping.)

Zoar's congregation grew and maintained many traditions. Perhaps coinciding with the 1897 construction of Zoar School (Cass School #9) across the road from the church, in February 1904, the congregation voted to purchase its first English Bible. The altar Bible, however, remained the 1868 German language text until World War I. Still a member of the German Methodist Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the official language of the congregation remained German...high German for Church services and Platte Deutsch (low German) for conversation. Members also continued using the German language for the entire church services through World War I.

The Reverend Theodore Rudin recalled in his journal receiving "notice" from Dubois County officials that his congregations should be less German. Perhaps as a result of the "notice," Rudin began occasionally preaching a Sunday night service in English. During the 1920s, the Reverend D.E. Dangle began preaching his sermons in English every other Sunday. When the Reverend L.H.F. Ackerman ministered at Zoar from 1929, he preached only in English, but retained the reading of the Scripture lesson in German until 1946.⁵⁹ Also, during Ackerman's tenure, The German Methodist Church was absorbed with the Methodist Episcopal Church Conference in 1933. The Reverend Ackerman encouraged his parishioners to anglicize their surname pronunciation. Kammann becomes Kamman; Brockriede – originally "Brock-reed-a" is later pronounced "Broke-ry." The name "Katterjohann" becomes "Katterjohn." The minister, always an important leader in the Zoar community, is influential in ending German ties.

The World Wars may have been the most influential factors changing this German-American community at Zoar. Many Zoar Church members serving the United States in World War I and World War II, impacted the area and expedited change. Following World War II, the Zoar congregation grows in number. By 1947, the church trustees called for a vote on the upgrade of the 1871 Kirche or a construction of a new church. The congregation members voted for a new building. The last major event held in the "old church" is the 1948 Zoar Church Centennial. On April 25, 1949, dismantling of the church began. One artifact from the 1871 Kirche was saved for the "new" 1949 church…the congregation's bell.

Construction of the "new" Zoar Church began as soon as the 1871 Kirche was razed. The Zoar School served as the temporary sanctuary while the new church was under construction. The

⁵⁸ Bartelt, W. 1973. It Is a Little Place. Page numbers unlisted.

⁵⁹ Bilderback, L. (2015). From the Roots. Dubois County Historical Society. P.
51

⁶⁰ Hemmer, A. Conversation with Alberta "Bert" Hemmer. 1980.

⁶¹ Bartelt, W. (1973). It Is a Little Place. Page numbers unlisted.

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congregation laid the cornerstone of the new church on June 12, 1949. Three coins from the cornerstone of the 1871 Zoar Kirche were placed in the new building's cornerstone. The 1949 church's architecture style, Gothic Revival, is the third significance of Zoar Methodist Church. The new towering church, similar to sancturaries seen in northern Europe, including Tecklenburg, Germany, is true to its European influenced desgin. The congregation first worshiped in the its building on December 11, 1949. Bishop Richard C. Raines preached at the new Zoar Methodist Church on December 31, 1949.

The congregation continued to grow and in 1960 the Education Annex was added to include more classroom space. The annex wraps aroud the church south elevation and adds six classrooms and a fellowship area to the church. Structurally, little has changed since the 1960 upgrade except the replacement of the windows and front door, and a covered drive through at the east annex door.

Zoar Cemetery – 1848 Contributing

Atop a small hill south of the original 1848 Zoar Church site and southwest of the 1949 Zoar Church site is Zoar Cemetery (Photos 33, 34 of 50). The oldest grave documented – a limestone headstone engraved in the German language and in Germanic script – is that of a child of Heinrich and Sophia Katterjohn (Photo 35 of 50). The child died on September 21, 1852. The oldest known "adult" headstone and grave is that of Chrestina Feldwisch – who died in 1854 (Photo 36 of 50). With 27 headstones listing only initials (Photo 40 of 50), numerous illegible headstones, and unmarked graves, the possibility of earlier internments exists.

Zoar Cemetery memorializes many members of the Zoar Church's founders. Of the 38 members on the Zoar Church's first recorded membership listing of 1858, 26 are known to be interned in Zoar Cemetery (Photo 37 of 50).

True to the Northern European origins of its founding church members, a majority of stones erected prior to 1910s are engraved in German and include religious and folk style symbols such as clasping hands (at the same level), open books, lambs, birds, urns, ivy, crosses (Photo 36, 42, 43, 44 of 50). Bible verses are common on many stones. Two headstones note the ethnic origin and state of the deceased - Ladbergen, Germany (Photo 38 of 50). Some stones were engraved in *fraktur* script. Though its initial association was with Reformation literature of the 1500s, *fraktur* was eventually used by both Catholic and Protestant Germans for religious writings and inscriptions.

Obelisk style headstones of various heights are found throughout the cemetery (Photo 45 of 50). Early stones are made of sandstone and limestone. Around 1900, just as "English" becomes the primary language of the community, granite and marble headstones become more common.

⁶² Bartelt, W. (1973). It Is a Little Place. Page numbers unlisted.

⁶³ Bartelt, W. (1973). It Is a Little Place. Page numbers unlisted.

⁶⁴ Zoar United Methodist Church and Its People, Volume 2. Self-published.1998

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Reviewing the stones illustrate how many of the Germanic surnames have been "Americanized" in the mid-1910s. Examples visibly noted in the cemetery include: Kammann to Kamman; Mangels to Mangel; Katterjohann to Katterjohn; Hulsmeier to Hilsmeyer; Wellemeier to Wellemeyer; and Saatkamp to Satkamp. Most of these names are found in cemeteries in and near Ladbergen, Westphalia, Germany⁶⁵.

Zoar Cemetery follows traditions of many cemeteries. All rows are north to south and all graves face east. In most cases, men are buried to the right of their wives. Also, reviewing the tombstones illustrate burial rows are planned for certain age groups. Row 8 is originally the location of internments of young children ages 1 to 10. Row 3 consists primarily of graves for infants⁶⁶ (Photo 39 of 50). A unique headstone in the infant's row is that of the sons of Edward and Elizabeth Weitkamp. Besides being one of the earliest stones engraved in English, the marker memorializes one month old Roy who died in 1902. Four years later, in 1906), an infant brother to Roy died. He is interned next to Roy and his birth/death date is noted on the gabled side of the 1902 stone (Photo 46 of 50).

For generations, Easter Monday was the traditional cleaning day at Zoar Cemetery. The grounds are prepared for the upcoming summer. This tradition ends in the mid-1950s. Other early traditions at Zoar Cemetery included the Victorian practice of placing sea shells over the burial sites. Family members also built limestone "barriers" around the plots of more "affluent" families - with the advent of motorized mowers, the barriers are removed in the mid-1950s. Graveyard Myrtle (periwinkle), "Easter flowers" (daffodils), peonies, and "Adam and Eve" plants (Yuccas) are planted on the graveyard. Again, mowing prompted the removal of many of these plants. From 1897-1933, when Zoar School is in session, all activities cease. Students are excused to be "flower bearers" if needed.

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A tradition continuing to this day is the tolling of the Zoar Church bell at a community funeral. The 1871 bell tolls as the casket is removed from the church and is taken, via hearse (once horse drawn, but now motorized), to the Zoar Cemetery. The bell tolls until pall bearers remove the casket and place it at the gravesite.

There are no Civil War graves at Zoar. A traditional explanation is many of Zoar's early German-Americans left their "Vaterland" in part to escape Prussian military conscription. By World War I, many Zoar citizens had served and are now buried in Zoar. A monument to World War II D-Day casualty Floyd Hildebrand stands at the cemetery's entrance (Photo 32 of 50).

A Woodman of the World gravestone of John Kemper is found in the cemetery. Other graves/gravestones of interest include a handmade sandstone gravestone with "W.T." and a cross carved it (Photo 41 of 50). The grave is for William Todrank. Another stone memorializes eighteen-year-old Wesley Sakel (Photo 47 of 50). Sakel died in 1916, while working in a shaft being dug two miles west of Zoar. The "miners" were searching for buried gold based on an account of a Native American visiting the area. After Sakel's death, the excavation was abandoned.

⁶⁵ Berlemann, H. (1995). *Gemeinde Ladbergen, Auswanderer der Gemeinde, 1830–1930*. Pp. 8-42.

⁶⁶ Zoar United Methodist Church and It's People, (1991). Self-published. Pg.56.

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With the county line running through the property, there are family members buried in the same cemetery; but in different counties. An example is Barbara Bilderback and her son Michael Bilderback. Both are buried in Zoar Cemetery, but Barbara is interred in Dubois County, Indiana; and her infant son Michael is buried in Pike County.

Reviewing the headstones of Zoar Cemetery reveals numerous generations are buried there. Fourth and fifth generations are noted for families such as the Langebrake, Weitkamp, Kamman, Hemmer, Brockriede, Hildebrand, and Hilsmeyer families (Photos 48 and 49 of 50).

In 1980, underscoring the significance of the cemetery's importance to the community, the Zoar Cemetery Association, Inc. is established by the Zoar United Methodist Church Trustees to maintain the cemetery. The trustees transferred the cemetery property to the association for perpetuity.

Zoar Cemetery continues as the only burial location in the community. Church members and community inhabitants continue selecting the cemetery as their burial site (Photo 50 of 50).

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property <u>3.62 acres</u>

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or X NAD 1983

Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery

Name of Property

1. Zone: 16 Easting: 493682 Northing: 4235689

2. Zone: Easting: Northing:

3. Zone: Easting: Northing:

4. Zone: Easting: Northing:

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

The National Register boundary collectively includes all of the parcels described below:

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Zoar Public School

Verbal Boundary Description - Located at the southeast corner of the intersection of Zoar Church Road (Dubois County) and County Road 900 W/Zoar Cemetery Lane (private), in Zoar, Dubois County, Indiana. The front of the school is 45' south of Zoar Church Road; and 20' east of County Road 900 W/Zoar Cemetery Lane. The northern boundary runs 60 along Zoar Church Road to the intersection. From this point, the boundary turns 90 degrees left and goes south – down the middle of County Road 900 W/Zoar Cemetery Lane for 180 feet. This portion of the boundary is also the Dubois-Pike County (Indiana) line. The boundary then turns 90 degrees left and proceeds east for 60 feet. Then, again turning 90 degrees left, the line runs north for 180' to the place of the boundary's beginning at Zoar Church Road.⁶⁷

Legal Boundary Description - Part of the W ½ of the SW1/4 of Section 10,T 3S, R 6W described as follows:

Beginning at point 180 feet South of the North West Corner of said quarter section, thence South 390 feet, thence east 60 feet, thence North 390 feet, thence West 60 feet to the place of beginning and contained .53 of an acre, more or less. ⁶⁸

Zoar Methodist Church

Verbal Boundary Description - Located at 8818 West Old State Road 64, Zoar, Dubois County, Indiana, the church stands 65' south of Old State Road 64. The church faces north toward the Old State Road. The northern property line runs 297' parallel to the old state road, east to west, to the intersection of County Road 900 W. Turning 90 degrees, the boundary goes 148' south to the intersection of County Road 900 W. and Zoar Church Road. Turning 90 degrees, the boundary proceeds 297' east (the center of Zoar Church Road); and then turn 90 degrees north

⁶⁷ Bartelt, W. (1971). A Historical Survey of Zoar United Methodist Church Land Transactions.

⁶⁸ Dubois County, Indiana, Warranty Book 144. P. 5.

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and go 148' north to the beginning. The plot includes the church on the east end of the property and a grove of trees on the west end.⁶⁹

Legal Boundary Description - Commencing at the S.W. Corner of the West half of the N.W. quarter of Section No. (10) ten in T. 3 S. R.6 W. thence East Eighteen (18) Rods thus thence North (9) Nine Rods, thence West (18) Eighteen Rods, thence South (9) Nine Rods to the Place of Beginning containing one acre more of less....⁷⁰

Zoar Cemetery

Verbal Boundary Description - Zoar Cemetery is bisected by the Dubois-Pike County, Indiana county line. The cemetery property is 390 feet north of the intersection of Zoar Church Road and County Road 900 W (Dubois County) Zoar Cemetery Lane (a private road). The county line, running north and south, lies in the middle of the private Zoar Cemetery Lane and continues north onto County Road 900 W. County Road 900 W (maintained by Dubois County) begins in the intersection and goes north. ⁷¹ Zoar Cemetery Lane (maintained by the Zoar United Methodist Church and Zoar Cemetery Association) begins in the intersection and goes south. The lane continues into the cemetery. The Zoar Cemetery and Zoar School property share 60' adjoining property line.

Legal Boundary Description -

Tract No. 1 (Lockhart Township, Pike County, Indiana) – Beginning 325 ft. south of the north east corner of the south east quarter of section number 9 in town 3 south of range number 6 west measuring thence south 250 ft. to a stake thence west 261.525 to a stake thence north 260 ft. to a stake thence east 261.525 ft. to place of beginning 1.56 acre, more or less.⁷²

Tract No. 2 (Cass Township, Dubois County, Indiana) Part of the W1/2 of the SW1/4 of section 10, T 3S R 6 W described as follows. Beginning at a point 180 feet south of the northwest corner of said quarter section, thence south 390 ft. thence east 60 ft. thence north 390 ft. thence west 60 ft. to the place of beginning and containing .53. of an acre, more or less.⁷³

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries selected reflect both visual and the legal boundaries of each entity – Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, and Zoar Cemetery.

⁶⁹ Bartelt, W. (1971). A Historical Survey of Zoar United Methodist Church Land Transactions.

⁷⁰ Dubois County, Indiana Deed Record 1. P. 366.

 $^{^{71}}$ Bartelt, W. (1971). A Historical Survey of Zoar United Methodist Church Land Transactions.

⁷² Pike County Record Book 117. Pp. 270-271.

⁷³ Dubois County Book 209. P. 394.

Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church,	
Zoar Cemetery	
Name of Property	

Dubois County, IN
Pike County, IN
County and State

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Lee Bilderback / Historia	n	
organization: Zoar United Methodist Ch	urch	
street & number: 8750 West 950 South		
city or town: Holland	state: Indiana	zip code: 47541
e-mail <u>leebee@psci.net</u>		
telephone: 812.686.9437		
date: January 18, 2022		
-		

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- Maps: A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery

Dubois County, IN
Pike County, IN
County and State

Name of Property

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, 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: ZOAR PUBLIC SCHOOL, ZOAR METHODIST CHURCH, ZOAR

CEMETERY

City of Vicinity: Zoar

County: Dubois State: Indiana

Photographer: Lee Bilderback

Date Photographed: September 19, 2021; December 31, 2021; January 7, 2022

- 1 of 50 Looking south across Old State Road 64 at Zoar Methodist Church (left) and Zoar Public School (right).
 IN DuboisCounty ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0001
- 2 of 50 Zoar Public School Entrance Looking south from Zoar Church Road IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0002
- 3 of 50 Zoar Public School Looking west IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0003
- 4 of 50 Zoar Public School Looking north
 IN DuboisCounty ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0004
- 5 of 50 Zoar Public School Looking east from Zoar Cemetery Lane (Standing in Pike County, IN)
 IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0005
- 6 of 50 Zoar Public School Entrance with Cupola Looking southwest from Zoar Church Road
 IN DuboisCounty ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0006
- 7 of 50 Zoar Public School Westside and double hung window Looking northeast IN DuboisCounty ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0007

Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery

Dubois County, IN Pike County, IN

County and State

Name of Property

- 8 of 50 Zoar Public School Recessed entrance with transom capped door Looking south IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0008
- 9 of 50 Zoar Public School Interior Entrance/Vestibule east side Looking east IN DuboisCounty ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0009
- 10 of 50 Zoar Public School Interior Entrance/Vestibule east side showing lunch bucket shelf and bell rope - Looking west IN DuboisCounty ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0010
- 11 of 50 Zoar Public School Interior Main classroom showing chalkboard Looking north IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0011
- 12 of 50 Zoar Public School Interior Main classroom showing original teacher's desk and teacher's desk platform Looking north
 IN DuboisCounty ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0012
- 13 of 50 Zoar Public School Interior Main classroom showing chalkboard chalk tray Looking west IN DuboisCounty ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0013
- 14 of 50 Zoar Public School Interior Main classroom Looking north IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0014
- 15 of 50 Zoar Public School Interior Main classroom Looking south IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0015
- 16 of 50 Zoar Public School Interior ceiling "homemade" coal oil lantern hooks Looking east
 IN DuboisCounty ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0016

ZOAR METHODIST CHURCH

- 17 of 50 Zoar Methodist Church Rebuilt in 1949, the current Gothic Revival Church is the congregation's third church home.

 IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0017
- 18 of 50 Zoar Methodist Church (Includes 1960 Education Annex) Northside with main entrance and bell tower - Looking south across Old State Road 64 IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0018
- 19 of 50 Zoar Church eastside (Includes 1960 Education Annex) Looking southwest IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0019
- 20 of 50 Zoar Church southside (Includes 1960 Education Annex) Looking northeast IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0020
- 21 of 50 Zoar Church westside (Includes 1960 Education Annex) Looking east

Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery

Dubois County, IN
Pike County, IN
County and State

Name of Property

IN DuboisCounty ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0021

- 22 of 50 Zoar Church bell tower/northside Looking south
 IN DuboisCounty ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0022
- 23 of 50 Zoar Church bell tower interior with 1871 Vanduzen & Tift Bell (from 1871 Zoar Kirche) Looking southwest
 IN DuboisCounty ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0023
- 24 of 50 Zoar Church Interior Vestibule/main entrance Looking south IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0024
- 25 of 50 Zoar Church Interior Sanctuary interior Looking south
 IN DuboisCounty ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0025
- 26 of 50 Zoar Church Interior Sanctuary interior Looking north (from stage)
 IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0026
- 27 of 50 Zoar Church Gothic style stain glass window Looking west
 IN DuboisCounty ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0027
- 28 of 50 Zoar Church original sanctuary door with cross design Looking southwest IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0028
- 29 of 50 Zoar Church original sanctuary wrought iron Gothic light fixture Looking south IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0029

ZOAR CEMETERY

- 30 of 50 Zoar Cemetery Approach/Entrance Zoar Cemetery Lane Looking south from Zoar Public School
 IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0030
- 31 of 50 Zoar Cemetery Entrance One of two Zoar Cemetery Columns (built in 1970 in memory of Mabel Langebrake Bartelt) East of the cemetery lane.

 IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0031
- 32 of 50 Zoar Cemetery Entrance Zoar Community Memorial to P.F.C Floyd D. Hildebrand. The memorial also acknowledges all servicemen and women from the Zoar Community. Looking west at entrance (from Dubois County)

 IN DuboisCounty ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0032
- 33 of 50 Zoar Cemetery Looking southwest IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0033

Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery Name of Property

- 34 of 50 Zoar Cemetery Looking northwest IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0034
- 35 of 50 Zoar Cemetery Child of Heinrich and Sophia Katterjohn (1852). This is the oldest Dated grave/headstone in the cemetery.

 IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0035
- 36 of 50 Zoar Cemetery Chrestina Feldwisch limestone headstone with German engraving and weeping willow design (1854). Looking west.

 IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0036
- 37 of 50 Zoar Cemetery H.W. and Christina Katterjohn headstone topped with an urn and The common German engraving of "Vater und Mutter" (Father and Mother). The writing at front tells of the Katterjohn immigrating from Ladbergen, Germany. The Katterjohns are instrumental in organizing the Zoar Methodist Church in 1844. IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0037
- 38 of 50 Zoar Cemetery Maria (Wallman) Stork headstone stating (in German) she was born in Ladbergen, Germany and came to America in 1847. Looking west IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0038
- 39 of 50 Zoar Cemetery Row 3 or "Infants Row" of burials. Young children under age 2 are traditionally buried in this row. To date, there are thirty-five children buried in this row. The earliest grave is from 1880, and the most recent is from 1992. IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0039
- 40 of 50 Zoar Cemetery There are 27 headstones marked only with initials in Zoar Cemetery. Looking west IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0040
- 41 of 50 Zoar Cemetery Johan Friedrick Wilhelm Todrank headstone "Handmade" sandstone headstone with initials "W.T. and a cross engravings (1860).
 Looking west IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0041
- 42 of 50 Zoar Cemetery Herman Wilhelm Weitkamp limestone headstone with German engraving, including scripture, and shaking hands design (1888). Looking west IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0042
- 43 of 50 Zoar Cemetery H. Wilhelm Hemmer limestone headstone with German engraving and hand holding book design (1880) First generation German-American.
 Looking west
 IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0043
- 44 of 50 Zoar Cemetery Sakel headstone Only arched headstone (limestone) in Zoar Cemetery (1893). The headstone includes with German engraving, carved urn, and shaking hands design. Looking west

Zoar Public School, Zoar Metho	dist Church,
Zoar Cemetery	

Dubois County, IN
Pike County, IN
County and State

Name of Property

IN DuboisCounty ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0044

- 45 of 50 Zoar Cemetery H.H. and Sophia Hildebrand headstone (abt. 1899) Obelisk stone Includes German font engraving with open book design. Looking west IN DuboisCounty ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0045
- 46 of 50 Zoar Cemetery Brothers buried utilizing the same headstone. The sons of Edward and Elizabeth Langebrake both died in infancy. Looking west/southwest IN DuboisCounty ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0046
- 47 of 50 Zoar Cemetery Wesley Sakel headstone (1916) Looking west IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0047
- 48 of 50 Zoar Cemetery Langebrake granite headstone (abt. 1899) German language still used in early 1900s. Heinrich and Sophia (Essmeier) Langebrake both immigrate family from Ladbergen, Germany) Looking west IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0048
- 49 of 50 Zoar Cemetery Langebrake gravestone Langebrake gravestone Example of fourth generation of family members buried in Zoar Cemetery Looking west IN DuboisCounty ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0049
- 50 of 50 Zoar Cemetery View of Zoar School and Zoar Methodist Church from Zoar Cemetery Looking northeast from a section of the cemetery in Pike County, Indiana IN_DuboisCounty_ZoarPublicSchoolZoarMethodistChurchZoarCemetery0050

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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations 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.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

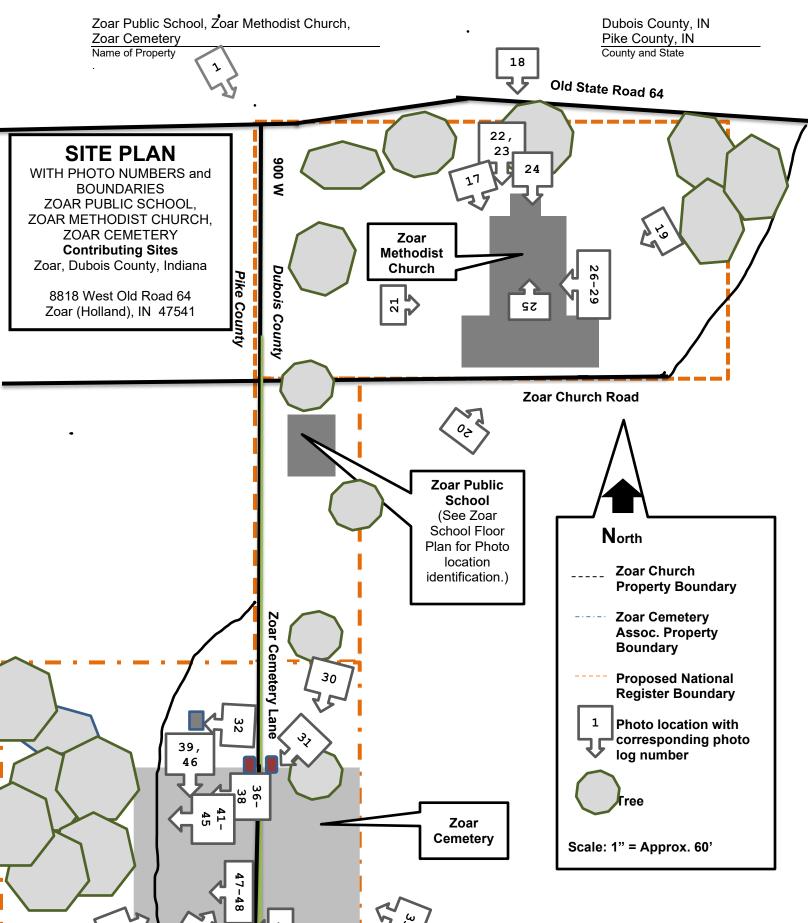
Tier 1 – 60-100 hours

Tier 2 – 120 hours

Tier 3 - 230 hours

Tier 4 - 280 hours

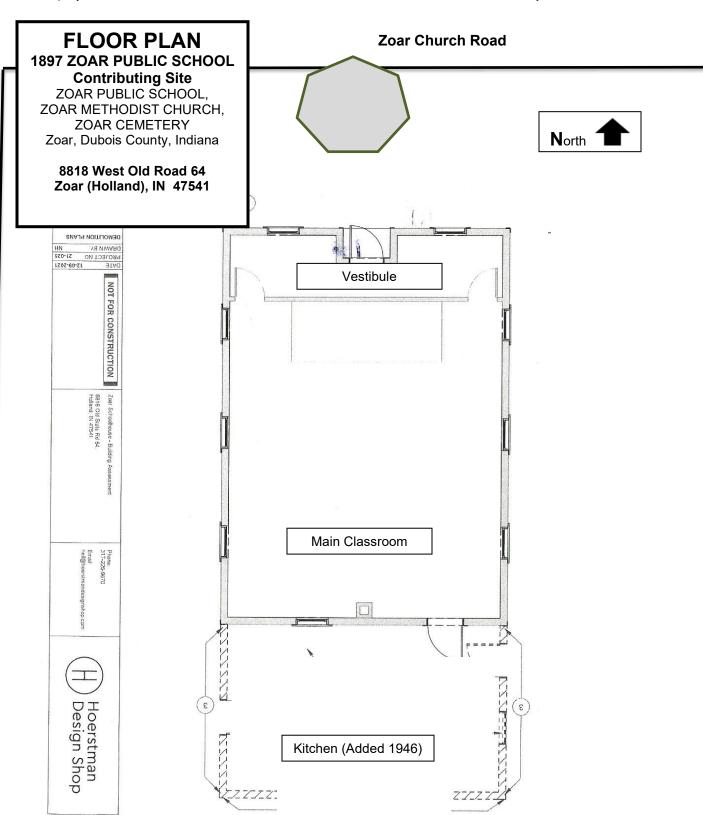
he above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525

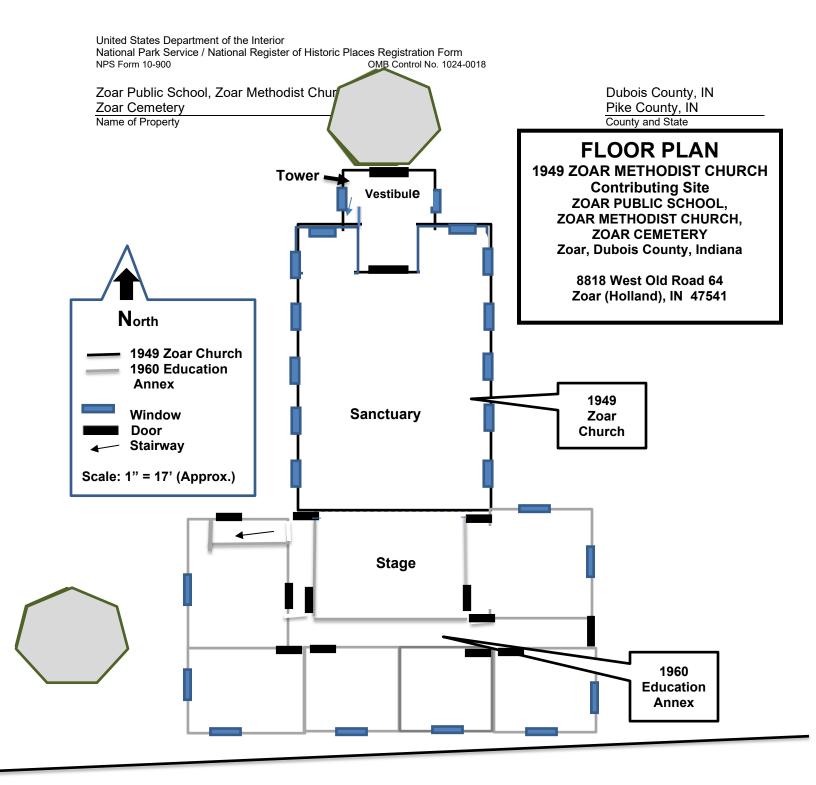


Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery

Name of Property

Zoar Cemetery Lane (Private)



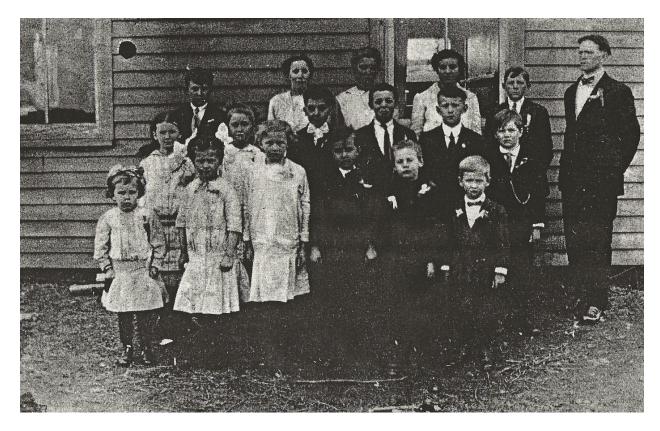


Zoar Church Road

Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery Name of Property

1897 Zoar Public School

1915 Zoar students with teacher Mr. Emil Hemmer (taken on building's eastside) Photographer unknown Submitted by Lee Bilderback



Dubois County, IN

Pike County, IN County and State

Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery Name of Property

1897 Zoar Public School

Dubois County, IN Pike County, IN County and State

Boys at recess (with Zoar Public School and 1871 Zoar Kirche in background) about 1926 Photo by Irene D. Bartelt Submitted by Lee Bilderback



Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery Name of Property

1897 Zoar Public School

About 1926

Photo by Irene D. Bartelt

Submitted by Lee Bilderback, Holland, IN



Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery Name of Property

1949 Zoar Methodist Church under construction

December 1949

Photographer unknown

Source: Zoar United Methodist Church Archives, Zoar, IN



Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery

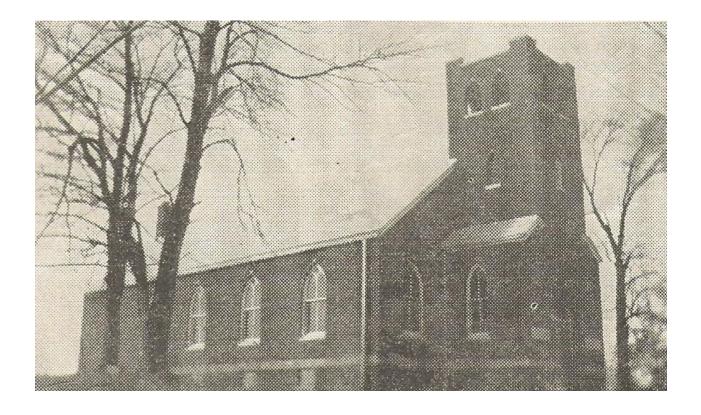
Name of Property

1949 Zoar Methodist Church on Dedication Day

December 1949

Photographer unknown

Source: Zoar United Methodist Church Archives, Zoar, IN



Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery

Name of Property

Zoar Cemetery

About 1905

Earliest known photo of Zoar Cemetery – Weitkamp Family grave.

Photographer unknown

Original Source: Melvin Weitkamp

Submitted by Lee Bilderback, Holland, IN



Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery

Name of Property

Zoar Cemetery

About 1910

Photo shows limestone grave borders and "Adam and Eve" plants, peony bushes, and shells placed on graves.

Dubois County, IN
Pike County, IN
County and State

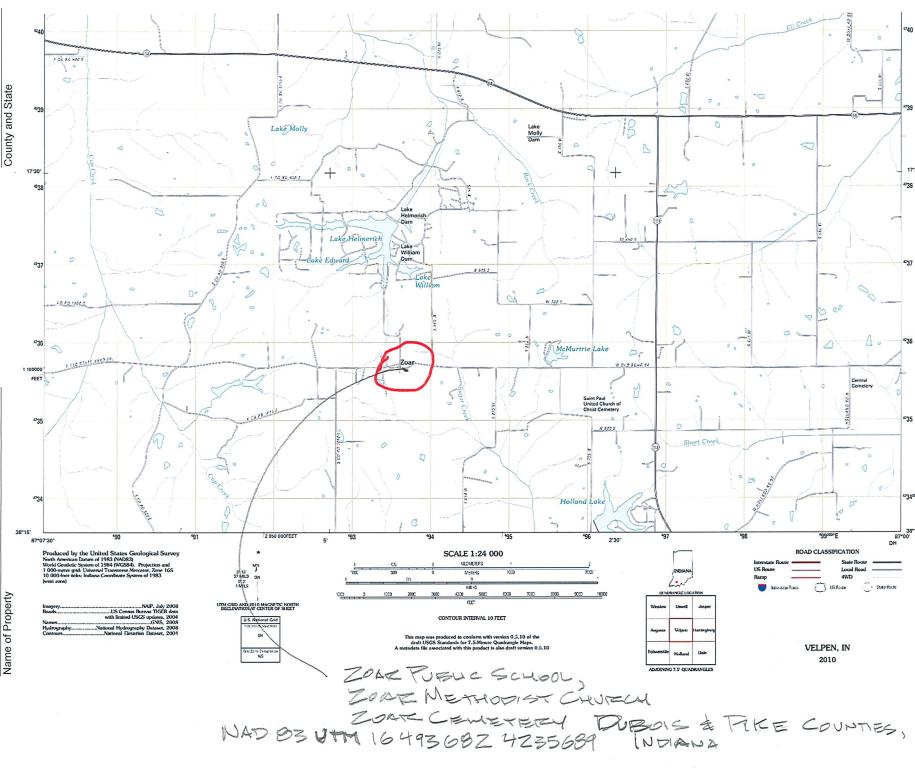
Photographer unknown

Source: Anna Kemper Bartelt

Submitted by Lee Bilderback, Holland, IN



United States Department of the Interior National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form NPS Form 10-900 CO 20 1000 S E OLG STATE 1042 04 4735 38"15" 87°07'30" Produced by the United States Geological Survey North American Datum of 1983 (NADS3) World Geodetic System of 1984 (WCSS4). Projection and 1000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, Zone 16S 10 000-foot ticks: Indiana Coordinate System of 1983 of Property ...National Hydrography Dataset, 2008 National Elevation Dataset, 2004 Name (





Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery, Dubois & Pike counties, IN #0001



Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery, Dubois & Pike counties, IN #0002



Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery, Dubois & Pike counties, IN #0005



Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery, Dubois & Pike counties, IN #0009



Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery, Dubois & Pike counties, IN #0014



Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery, Dubois & Pike counties, IN #0018



Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery, Dubois & Pike counties, IN #0019



Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery, Dubois & Pike counties, IN #0020



Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery, Dubois & Pike counties, IN #0025



Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery, Dubois & Pike counties, IN #0026



Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery, Dubois & Pike counties, IN #0033



Zoar Public School, Zoar Methodist Church, Zoar Cemetery, Dubois & Pike counties, IN #0037