

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET PH0681547

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

AUG 9 1978

DATE ENTERED

DEC

6 1979

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Bethany Memorial Chapel

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Kendrick-Deary Highway

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Kendrick

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

First

STATE

Idaho

CODE

16

COUNTY

Latah

CODE

057

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

__DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

__STRUCTURE

__SITE

__OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

__PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

__BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

__IN PROCESS

__BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

__UNOCCUPIED

__WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

__YES: RESTRICTED

☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED

__NO

PRESENT USE

__AGRICULTURE

__COMMERCIAL

__EDUCATIONAL

__ENTERTAINMENT

__GOVERNMENT

__INDUSTRIAL

__MILITARY

__MUSEUM

__PARK

__PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☒ RELIGIOUS

__SCIENTIFIC

__TRANSPORTATION

__OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

United Lutheran Church

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Kendrick

VICINITY OF

STATE

Idaho

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Latah County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Moscow

STATE

Idaho

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Idaho State Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1972

__FEDERAL ☒ STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Idaho State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Boise

STATE

Idaho

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Bethany Memorial Chapel is a frame Gothic revival style country church. Situated on the crest of Big Bear Ridge and surrounded by mature evergreens amidst open farm land, it embodies the stereotypical image of a rural church.

An outset, central tower, which terminates with an open belfry and a steeple, is the major feature of the building. A Gothic arched double doorway with an ornate transom serves as an entry. A round window with a spiral like ornamentation is halfway up the tower. Gingerbread enhances the belfry's framed square openings and a finial surmounts the steeple.

The gabled nave has four bays, each of which includes a lancet window. The building has shiplap siding. A small one story gabled anteroom is to the rear.

The modest wainscotted interior with its wooden altar remains intact. A painting of Christ beautifies the altar.

There are no additions or alterations.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
☐ PREHISTORIC	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING	☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	☐ RELIGION
☐ 1400-1499	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	☐ CONSERVATION	☐ LAW	☐ SCIENCE
☐ 1500-1599	☐ AGRICULTURE	☐ ECONOMICS	☐ LITERATURE	☐ SCULPTURE
☐ 1600-1699	☒ ARCHITECTURE	☐ EDUCATION	☐ MILITARY	☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
☐ 1700-1799	☐ ART	☐ ENGINEERING	☐ MUSIC	☐ THEATER
☐ 1800-1899	☐ COMMERCE	☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	☐ PHILOSOPHY	☐ TRANSPORTATION
☒ 1900-	☐ COMMUNICATIONS	☐ INDUSTRY	☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)
		☐ INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1908

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Bethany Memorial Chapel is architecturally significant as a picturesque and well preserved country church. Its setting, modest details, and intact interior all contribute to make this house of worship one of the best surviving examples of a rural church in Idaho. As such it is a local landmark and a reminder of the values of an earlier generation.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interview with Ruth Slind March 10, 1978.
Kendrick Gazette, April 30, 1909, p. 4, c. 2.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA *See continuation sheet = sheet 10 2, 9 A (see site map)*

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre.

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	1
---	---

5	2	8	8	6	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

5	1	6	7	7	2	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This nomination includes the Bethany Memorial Church and all the land owned by the Lutheran Church on Big Bear Ridge, exclusive of the cemetery.

TO STATE OF COUNTY

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
-------	------	--------	------

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
-------	------	--------	------

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Don Hibbard, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Idaho State Historical Society

DATE

4 August 1978

STREET & NUMBER

610 North Julia Davis Drive

TELEPHONE

384-2120

CITY OR TOWN

Boise

STATE

Idaho

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ☐

STATE ☒

LOCAL ☐

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Merle Wells

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

4 August 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Sally G. Oldham

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

Dec 6, 1979

ATTEST:

W. Ray Luce

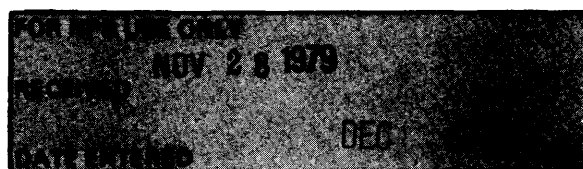
DATE

Dec 4, 1979

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 1

The Bethany Memorial Chapel is a one-and-one-half-story gabled and ship-lapped structure, built in 1905, which stands facing west on an undisturbed site ringed by trees in the midst of North Idaho farmland. Its simple plan consists of a rectangular nave block four bays deep, a square, central, outset tower with open belfry and steeple, and an apparently original one-story section at the rear which contains a kitchen and dining room and has a side entrance to the south. The main roof is tin and the rear roof is shingled. The foundation of the church is rock with a wooden sill.

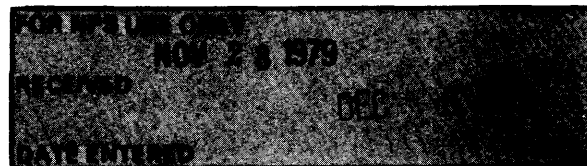
The overall character of the building suggests a Gothic Revival mode, but pattern-book classicizing elements and vernacular decorative treatments are also present and combine to form a pleasing hybrid of forms. The nave walls feature a double-hung, lancet-arched, clear-glass window in each bay, and the light above the double-door front entrance is pointed, with wooden tracery. There is also a circular window with mullions in a pinwheel pattern further up the tower. The nave block and tower are framed in simple molding and there are more elaborate molding strips on the ends of the nave eaves and on the overhanging, shingled skirt eave at the top of the tower.

The ornamental qualities of the exterior are focused at the belfry. It is slightly narrower than the tower and has crossed gables with bed molding above its four rectangular openings. These openings are headed with entablature-like molding and contain various kinds of millwork: ornate cut-out brackets at the corners and two sizes of spindle balusters in separate rows. The siding from the body of the church continues of the belfrey up to the center of each gable, which is filled with shaped shingles. The tent-roofed steeple crowns this ensemble with a display of rounded and pointed shingles arranged in alternating bands. A spherical finial on a thin stem is at the peak.

The nave of the church is 24x36x14 feet and is arranged typically with central aisle, two tiers of pews and slightly raised altar. This space retains its original handcrafted furniture and ornament and is in excellent condition. Most of the woodwork is stained fir, including the 38" high wainscoting which circles the room, interrupted only by the nave windows and a rear door with molded frame. The pointed window frames are also stained and stand out nicely against the light walls. The floor and ceiling are of painted fir: the boards of the shallow vaulted ceiling are narrow and run the length of the nave. The eight-foot pews are moveable; the body of each was made of a single piece of Douglas fir, with no laminations. They were handcarved by a member of the original congregation.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 2

The altar area is enclosed by a semi-circular rail with newel posts at the ends and twenty turned fir balusters. A three-by-five foot closed oaken table with applied wooden quatrefoil ornaments on the face holds the liturgical equipment. On this base sits a spiny, pinnacled frame in the form of a triptych, also of oak, which surrounds a religious painting, and which dominates the view from the vestibule.

There is an elegant pulpit to the right of the altar. To the left is a manually-operated organ, which is known to date from the construction of the church and is a piece of ornament in itself. Since there is no choir loft as such, space for singers in the Lutheran service is provided by a six-foot pew next to the organ.

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1 SIGNIFICANCE

The Bethany Memorial Chapel is architecturally significant as one of the handsomest and best preserved of Idaho's many small churches. Few buildings in Idaho exhibit such richness of design at this modest scale. Far fewer can claim to have been virtually unchanged and to have maintained such strong site integrity as does Bethany. The magnificent site opens in all directions to wheatfields and provides a clear view across the Potlatch River valley to the eastern mountains. The present-day Chapel is an enduring example of the relationship of architectural form to its accompanying landscape that is unsurpassed, even among rural churches, in a state largely settled during a century of change. The existence and present state of good repair of this building and site is also graphic illustration of the Chapel's continued significance to the congregation, Norwegian Lutherans, some of whom descend directly from the builders of the church.

This area, known as Big Bear Ridge, was homesteaded in 1895-1900 by ten to twelve Norwegian families of Lutheran background who came to the West directly from Scandinavia. They settled close together near the site of the Chapel; in 1902, they united themselves as a community and formed a constitution. By 1903, the group had designated a church building committee and had agreed on details of design and financing. Each member of the congregation was to work

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 2

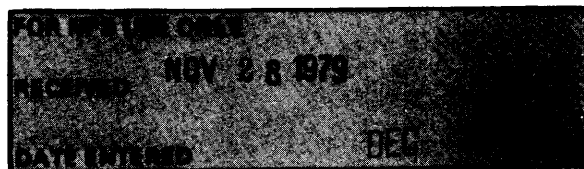
four days of the church--and absentee was required to hire a replacement and pay the wages. A site was eventually chosen and a committee of three was elected to oversee construction, which probably began in the summer of 1904. The one-half acre of land for the cemetery was given by a Mr. Jones with others offering as well. By 1905, the building was finished and the furniture carved by Mr. Eric Lein; the altar base is believed to have been copied from a catalogue of chancel furniture published by Klagstad Studios in Minneapolis. The triptych frame was not acquired until 1916 when it was purchased from Mr. Harold O. Fjeld of Moscow, Idaho, who carved and sold chancel pieces.

The architect of the church is not known, but the variety of detail and grace of the overall structure would tend to indicate some aesthetic guidance. However, it is clear that the members of the congregation participated in producing a building in keeping with their heritage. The evidence of Scandinavian influence is not conclusive in the floor plan, since the central outset tower form could be found in many European rural church types as well as, by 1900, in countless examples in the United States. The belfry, with its vertical emphasis and particularly its use of shingles and crossed gables has the "flavor" of examples in Scandinavian architecture, and appears to have been duplicated on a Lutheran church in nearby Deary. The most convincing link to native prototypes visible on the church is the arrangement of the altar specifically the semi-circular rail separating the dais from the congregation, since this is a form commonly found in Scandinavian Lutheran churches. It is likely that the settlers felt that the interior environment for performance of the worship was the most important traditional element to replicate.

The church is now used primarily for Christmas services and an occasional funeral or wedding. The congregation still meets as a whole once a year. The Bethany Memorial Chapel, in some specific ways, portrays the transmission of artistic forms from one culture to another. In more general terms, the church continues to represent a close-knit group of immigrants, just as the site they chose to build on typified the land into which they had come.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**



Bethany Memorial Chapel
Supplemental Information

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

^{1,2,7,8}
9

PAGE /

1. Bethany Lutheran Church
Bethany Memorial Chapel

2. Kendrick X vicinity of

7. X Excellent (see text)

8. X Exploration/settlement
Date: 1905
(see text)

9. Personal conversation with Marion C. Donnelly, Professor of Scandinavian architecture, University of Oregon

Kavli, Guthorm. Norwegian Architecture, Past and Present. London:
B. T. Batsford, 1958.

Correspondence with Mr. Stan Cox, providing information on the settlement from the original church ledger.

10. approximately three acres.

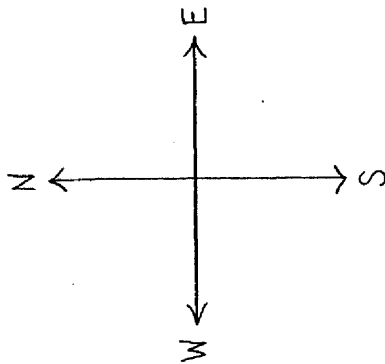
This nomination includes the Bethany Memorial Chapel and the western portion of the triangular plot on which it stands, six miles northeast of Kendrick. The property is located by commencing from the eastern apex of the plot, at the fork in the road labeled "BM 2631" on the attached USGS map, one-quarter mile west of the "Lutheran Church" marker on Idaho Route 3. The plot continues 637 feet southwest from this point, thence 745 feet due north, thence 550 feet southeast; the nomination excludes the cemetery found at the eastern portion of the plot, 320 feet on each side from the point of departure.

11. Supplemental information by
Lisa B. Reitzes, Architectural Historian
Idaho State Historical Society
610 North Julia Davis Drive
Boise, ID 83702 384-2120

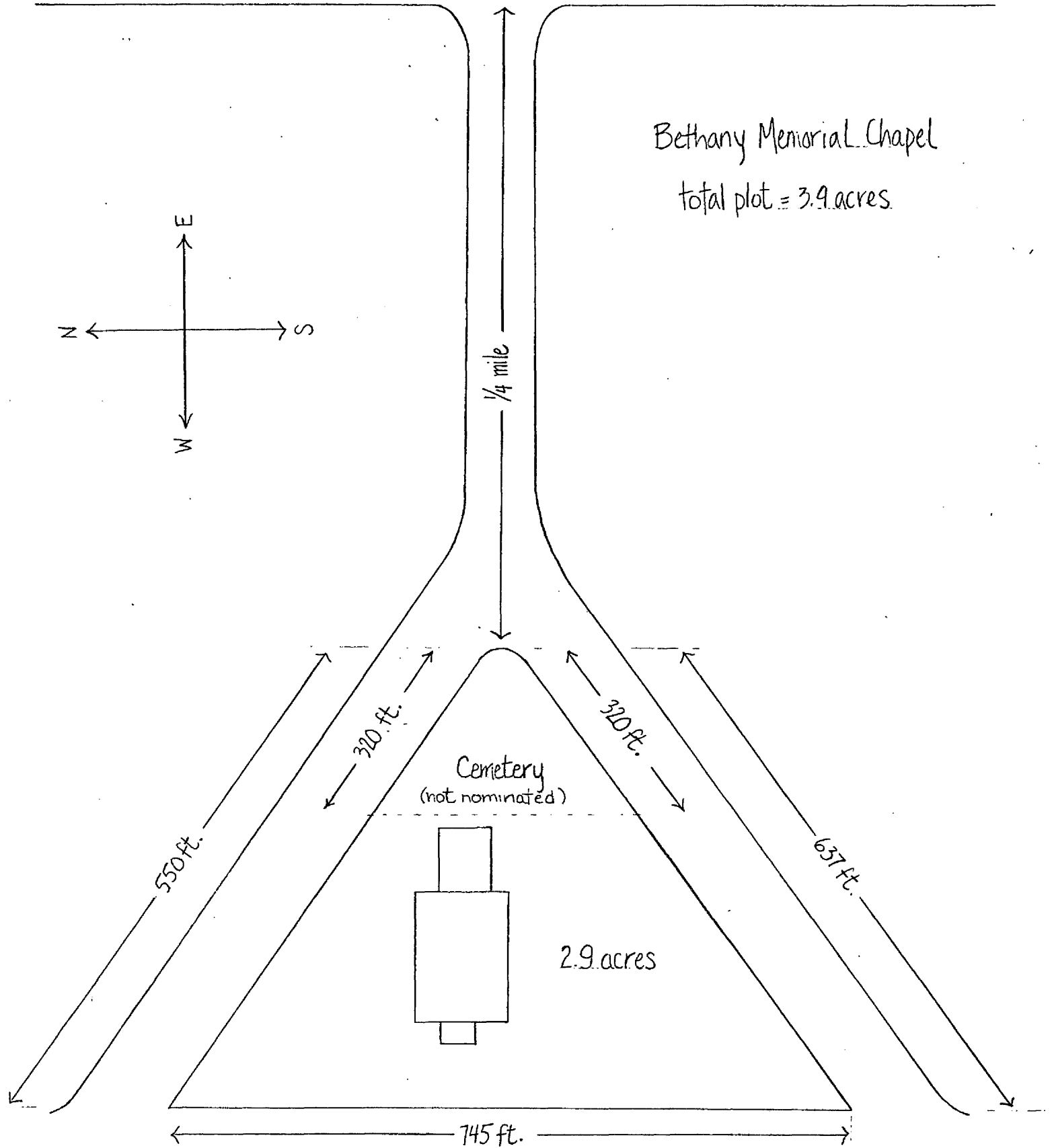
Idaho Route 3

Kendrick →

Bethany Memorial Chapel
total plot = 3.9 acres.



1/4 mile





Bethany Memorial Chapel

Kendrick, Idaho, *Latah County, Idaho*

Photographer: Duane Garret

1978

View of the front and side
from the Northwest

Idaho State Historical
Society

Site Survey File

AUG 9 1978

#141

DEC

DOE
6 1979



Bethany Memorial Chapel
1/4 mile west of Route 3, vicinity of
Kendrick, Latah County, Idaho

Photographer: Unknown
1979

Negative in private collection,
duplicate print on file at
Idaho State Historical Society
Boise, Idaho

View from southwest

Supplemental photograph 1 of 2

DOE
DEC

6 1979

NOV 28 1979



HYMNS
214
181
150
315
586

NOV 28 1979

Bethany Memorial Chapel
1/4 mile west of Route 3, vicinity of
Kendrick, Latah County, Idaho

Photographer: Unknown
1979

DEC 6 1979

Negative in private collection,
duplicate print on file at
Idaho State Historical Society
Boise, Idaho

View of nave from vestibule,
looking east.

Supplemental photograph 2 of 2