

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Christian Day School
St. Peters Lutheran Church (1860-1868)

and/or common St. Paul's Church

2. Location

street & number Missouri Route D, Box 70 ___ not for publication

city, town New Melle ___ vicinity of congressional district #9-Hon. Harold L. Volkmer

state Missouri code 029 county St. Charles code 183

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name St. Paul's Lutheran Church

street & number Missouri State Road D, Box 70

city, town New Melle ___ vicinity of state Missouri 63365

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder of Deeds
St. Charles County Administration Building

street & number 118 N. Second Street

city, town St. Charles state Missouri 63301

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic Sites in St. Charles County, ^{Missouri} has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1976 (published work) ___ federal ___ state county ___ local

depository for survey records Harland Bartholomew and Associates and the
St. Charles Historical Society

city, town St. Charles state Missouri 63301

**United States Department of the Interior
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	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> other:
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	

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name St. Paul's Lutheran Church

street & number Missouri State Road D, Box 70

city, town New Melle vicinity of state Missouri 63365

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder of Deeds
St. Charles County Administration Building

street & number 118 N. Second Street

city, town St. Charles state Missouri 63301

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic Sites in St. Charles County, Missouri has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1976 (published work) federal state county local

depository for survey records Harland Bartholomew and Associates and the
St. Charles Historical Society

city, town St. Charles state Missouri 63301

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Christian Day School are located in a wooded and hilly residential area on the western edge of the small rural town of New Melle, Missouri. The church is a simple rectangular building, without attic and with only a partial basement, constructed of buff, squared and coursed limestone rubble blocks on a quarry-faced limestone rubble foundation. It measures 68' from east to west and 35'3" from north to south and it is capped by a gabled roof with return which is covered with green asphalt shingles. On each of the building's north and south sides lancet windows of stained glass, set within wooden frames, are featured. The frame bell tower and entry on the west side is faced with vertical siding and embellished with a heavy bracketed cornice, Classical moldings and a pyramidal shingled roof topped with a floral finial. Modern additions faced with horizontal siding to the north and south of the entry complete this side. In addition to these features, an examination of the stonework of the exterior east wall reveals evidence that the roof pitch of the building was increased at an unknown date (see photo #3).

The church was originally constructed with a cupola on its western end which was removed in 1872 due to a suspected structural instability within the north wall of the building which it was thought to be aggravating. Until 1880 the bell was hung in a skeleton tower separate from the church building. In 1881 the present tower was constructed. Within it, a narrow wooded staircase rises to several levels which are currently used for storage. From its first level above the front entry, large cast iron numerals bolted to the former primary facade of the church which announce its date of completion (1860) are visible.

Inside St. Paul's the decor is simple. The walls are pale aqua bordered with colorful stencil designs. The floors are covered by vinyl parquet flooring with blue carpeting in the aisles, stairs and in the chancel, and the ceiling is faced with acoustical tile. The present stained glass windows were added only three years ago replacing the originals of individual varicolored glass panes. Each of the new ones was donated by a different member family and each name is recorded on a brass plaque on each interior sill.

The altar-pulpit stands at the east end of the sanctuary. Originally this large piece of furniture was twice its present height with its sounding board above (photo #9). In 1923 the altar-pulpit was cut to half its size and the sounding board was removed. The oak pews in the church date to the early twentieth century and are decorated with carved Gothic arches on their ends. The church was originally constructed without a balcony. The present one was built in 1869 especially for the Pfeffer organ which occupies its center today.

The building which formerly was the location of the Christian Day School sits south of the church and is today attached to the Parish Hall by a short passage (photos #4, 5 and 6). It is a rectangular frame building faced with clapboards, adorned with entablature window heads and capped with a gabled roof which is hipped to the north and south and covered with asphalt shingles. The interior of the school has been partitioned into two rooms which currently serve as the church and pastoral offices.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1860-church	<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1869-organ			
Specific dates	1881-tower	Builder/Architect	A. Carl Schlottmann - church	
	1965-addition		John G. Pfeffer - organ	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church in New Melle, Missouri is significant as the finest example in its locale of 19th century ecclesiastical vernacular stone architecture constructed by German immigrants. Moreover, its significance is enhanced through the history of its congregation and its association with Rev. Carl Herman Fick, poet, hymn writer and author of Das Lutherbuch, a text for young students on the life of Martin Luther. In addition, St. Paul's is significant for its ownership of a Pfeffer tracker action pipe organ, the only one of its type known to be operable today.

Stone construction became popular in 19th century Missouri in all German settlement areas and especially in rural locales bordering the Missouri River where a sandstone and limestone outcroppings are numerous and easily quarried. Since the stone was so readily available, many of the immigrant farmers, many of whom were actually trained in their homeland as masons, constructed unsophisticated vernacular architecture for practical purposes. Farm buildings, homes and churches were often constructed in this medium. St. Paul's is an especially fine example because it was built by settlers from the town of Melle in German Hanover from where it is acknowledged that some of our finest immigrant stonemasons originated.¹

German settlement began in New Melle in about 1839. By 1844 St. Paul's congregation was organized and by 1847 its first permanent pastor Rev. Carl Hermann Fick of German Hanover, had arrived. Rev. Fick studied at Goettingen and had reached America in only 1846. He served first at New Melle and later at St. Louis, Detroit, Collinsville (Illinois) and Boston, where he died in 1885. Pastor Fick became widely known in Lutheran circles for his poetry, which was often printed in publications of the Missouri Synod, and for his authorship of the hymn, "Gehe auf, du Trost der Heiden", and the book, Das Lutherbuch oder leben und thaten des theuren Mannes Gottes, Dr. Martin Luther, which became a basic text in Lutheran schools across the country.²

At first the congregation worshipped in a primitive log church on land in the same general location as the present complex of buildings which make up St. Paul's. In 1852 the congregation split over doctrinal differences. Most members of St. Paul's quit and formed the St. Peter's congregation, taking over the church building as they did so. The few remaining St. Paul faithful bought a little land to the east, in the area of the old cemetery, on which to build a new church. After severe trials including a cholera epidemic and the complete destruction of their new building by vandals and a subsequent rebuilding, the congregation of St. Paul's succeeded in dedicating their new frame church in 1855. Three years later the St. Peter's congregation began construction of their new church, the present church of St. Paul's, which was completed in 1860. In 1868, the two congregations reunited and all property, including the stone church, reverted to St. Paul's congregation.³

9. Major Bibliographical References

1. Asen, Rev. Bernard. Draft National Register Inventory-Nomination Form, 1973.
2. Centennial of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Warrenton, MO: Bilmac Press, 1958.
3. Fick, Rev. Carl Hermann. Das Lutherbuch oder leben und thaten des theuren Mannes Gottes, Dr. Martin Luther. St. Louis: Concordia Publishing Co., 1906

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property Approximately 3.1 acres

Quadrangle name "New Melle, MO."

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A	1 5	6 8 4 1 4 0	4 2 3 6 3 6 0	B							
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing				
C				D							
E				F							
G				H							

Verbal boundary description and justification A trapezoidal plot of land, bordered on the north by a 550' frontage on Missouri Route D, on the east by a 280' jogged property line at eastern edge of old St. Paul's graveyard, on the south by a 490' length of fence and on the west by 287' straight line 50' west of the west wall of St. Paul's parsonage in New Melle, St. Charles

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries County, Missouri.

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title 1. Noelle Soren/Historic Architecture Specialist

organization Department of Natural Resources
Historic Preservation Program

date August 3, 1981

street & number P.O. Box 176

telephone 314/751-4096

city or town Jefferson City

state Missouri 65102

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Director, Department of Natural Resources and
State Historic Preservation Program

date

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

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DATE ENTERED

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

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 1

[Historical information has been taken from William Schiermeier, "From the Cracker Barrel News", Wentzville [Missouri] Union, March 19, 1975; Draft Inventory-Nomination Form by Rev. Bernard Asen, 1973; St. Paul's Memorial Booklet, 1844-1944 (New Melle, 1944).]

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

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH^c

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

Included in the church property is a frame building constructed in 1919 as the Christian Day School, replacing an earlier frame building. Day school had been taught at St. Paul's from the beginning, but a separate building for this purpose was not constructed until 1866.⁴

In 1870, a Pfeffer tracker action pipe organ, built by John G. Pfeffer Organ Company of St. Louis, was installed in a balcony especially constructed for it in St. Paul's. This company was established in St. Louis in 1860 by John G. Pfeffer of Sigmaringen, Germany (1823-1910). The New Melle organ is still used today and is the only one of two such organs known to be extant which remains operable out of the 600 produced by this company. It consists of 54 notes and 569 wood and metal pipes and features such accessories as a pedal coppel, a calcant, and forte and piano pedals. The square stop shanks, vertical stop jams and hinged front doors are additional unusual features. This organ is well known by the Organ Historical Society, Inc. of Wilmington, Ohio and has been the subject of publications by them.⁵

Footnotes

1. Charles Van Ravenswaay, The Arts and Architecture of German Settlements in Missouri (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1977), pp. 179-181. In 1923, during remodeling at the church, a board was found bearing the following inscription: "A. Carl Schlottman, a native of Oldesloe in Holstein, Germany, did all the work in this church. And if anyone should ever loosen this board, let him think of me. Begun in the spring of 1858; finished Easter, 1860".
2. L. Fuerbringer, D.D., Th. Engelder, D.D. and P.E. Kretzmann, Ph.D., D.D., Eds., Concordia Cyclopedia (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1927), p. 255, Centennial of St. Paul's Lutheran Church (Warrenton, Mo.: Bilmac Press, 1958), p. 21 and Rev. Carl Hermann Fick, Das Lutherbuch oder leben und thaten des theuren Mannes Gottes, Dr. Martin Luther (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing Co., 1906 edition).
3. William Schiermeier, "From the Cracker Barrel News", Wentzville [Missouri] Union, October 25, 1978.
4. Centennial of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, p. 17.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

5. William Schiermeier, "From the Cracker Barrel News", Wentzville [Missouri] Union, March 19, 1975, Robert I. Thomas, "John G. Pfeffer's Organ Centennial Celebration", The Tracker XIV (No. 4 - Summer, 1970), pp. 6-8. The organ has also been mentioned in articles in The Tracker Vol. XXIII, American Organist XIII, #9 (Sept. 1979) and Diapason (August, 1979)

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DATE ENTERED

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

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

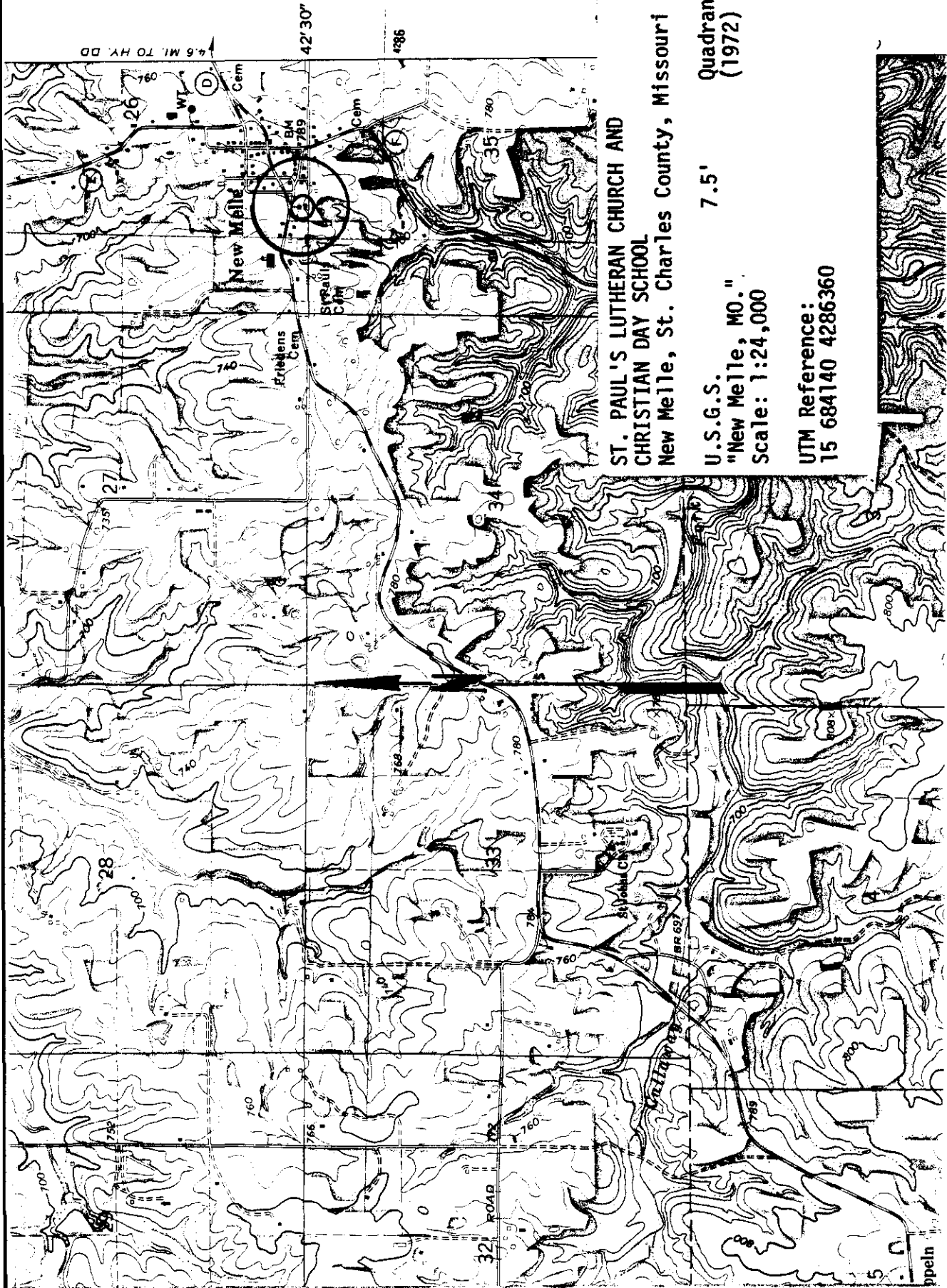
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

4. Fuerbringer, L., D.D.; Th. Engelder, D.D. and P.E. Kretzmann, D.D., Ph.D.,
Eds. Concordia Cyclopedia. St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1927, p. 255.
5. St. Paul's Memorial Booklet, 1844-1944. New Melle: 1944.
6. Schiermeier, William, "From the Cracker Barrel News", Wentzville [Missouri]
Union, October 25, 1978 and March 19, 1975.
7. Thomas, Robert I., "John G. Pfeffer's Organ Centennial Celebration", The
Tracker XIV (No. 4-Summer, 1970), pp. 6-8.
8. Van Ravenswaay, Charles. Art and Architecture of German Settlements in Missouri.
Columbia, Mo.: University of Missouri Press, 1977.

ITEM NUMBER 11 PAGE 1

2. Mr. William Schiermeier
P.O. Box 116 314/828-5887
New Melle, Missouri 63365



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND
CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL
New Melle, St. Charles County, Missouri

U.S.G.S. 7.5' Quadrangle
(1972)

"New Melle, MO."
Scale: 1:24,000

UTM Reference:
15 684140 4286360

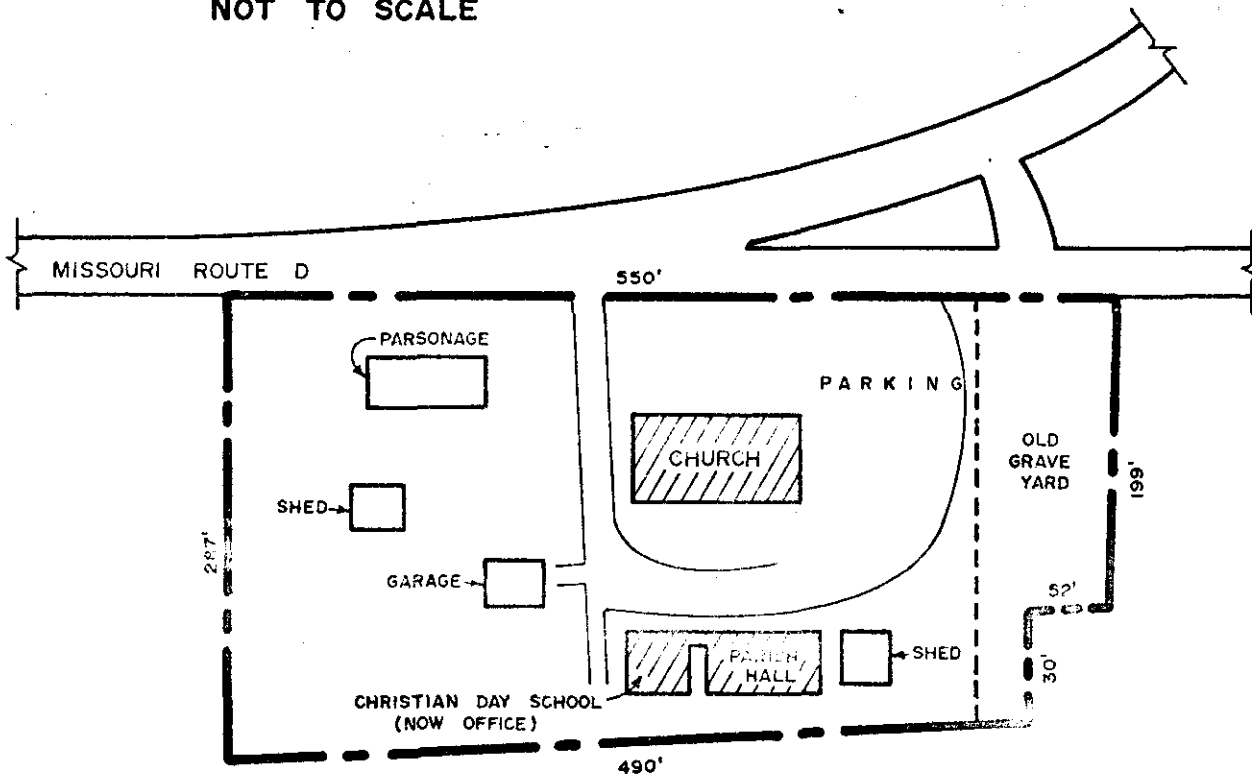
SITE PLAN MAP

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND
CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL

NEW MELLE, ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MISSOURI



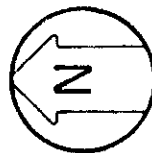
NOT TO SCALE



FLOOR PLAN

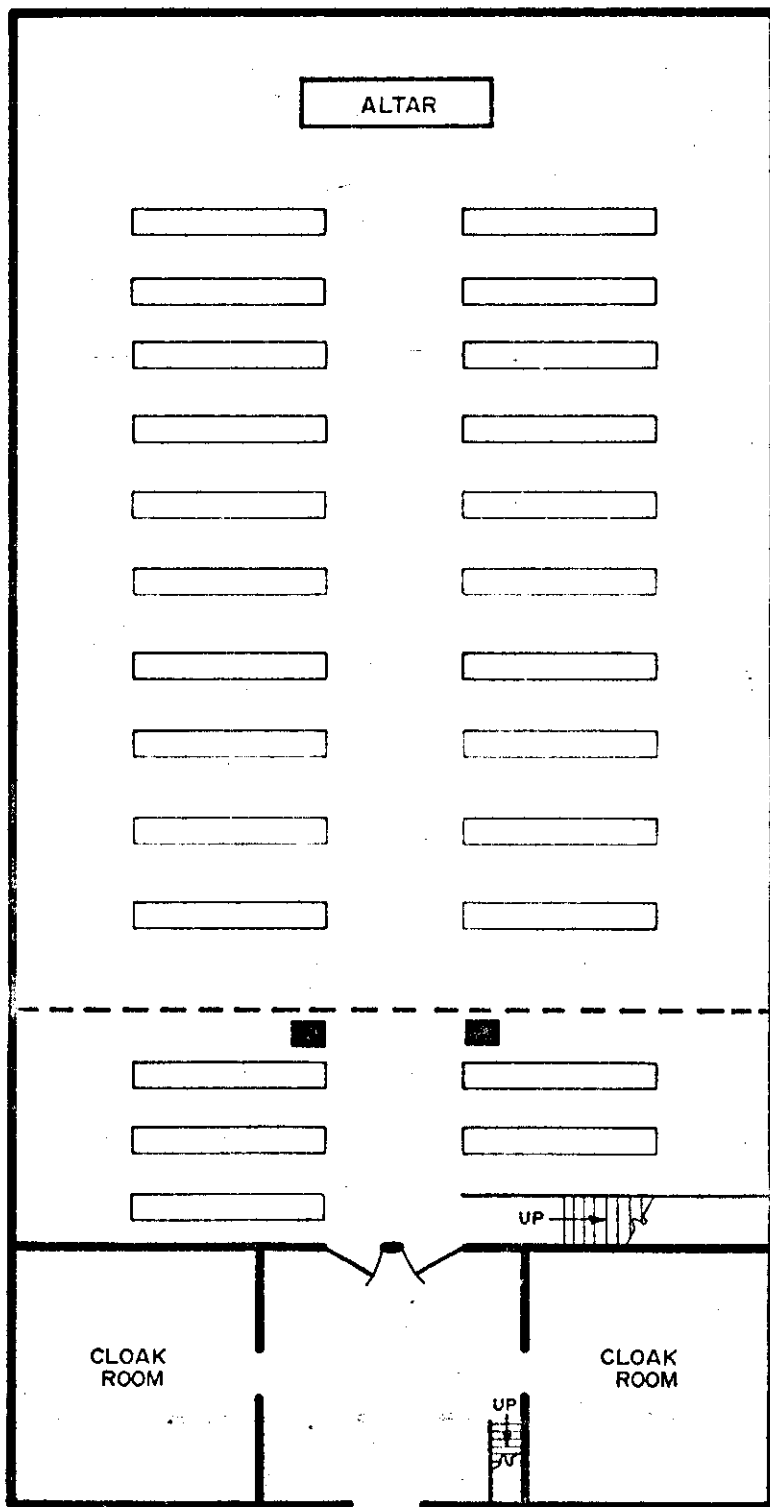
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEW MELLE, ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MISSOURI



NOT TO SCALE

35'-3"



68'-0"

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND #1 of 9
CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL

Route D, Box 70, New Melle, St. Charles
County, MO. 63365

Photographer: Noelle Soren

September, 1980

Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176,
Jefferson City, MO. 65101

View to northeast of primary facade and
south side.



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND #2 of 9

CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL

Route D, Box 70, New Melle, St. Charles

County, MO. 63305.

Photographer: Noelle Soren

September, 1980

Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176,

Jefferson City, MO. 65101

View to northwest of south side.



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND #3 of 9
CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL

Route D, Box 70, New Melle, St. Charles
County, MO. 63365

Photographer: Noelle Soren

September, 1980

Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO. 65101

East side. Note difference in stonework near
gable peak where roof pitch was increased at
an unknown date.



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND #4 of 9
CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL
Route D, Box 70, New Melle, St. Charles County,
MO. 63365

Photographer: Noelle Soren
September, 1980
Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176,
Jefferson City, MO. 65101
Christian Day School, view to southeast of
primary facade. Note passage attaching it to
the Parish Hall.



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND #5 of 9
CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL
Route D, Box 70, New Melle, St. Charles County,
MO. 63365

Photographer: Noelle Soren
September, 1980

Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176,
Jefferson City, MO. 65101

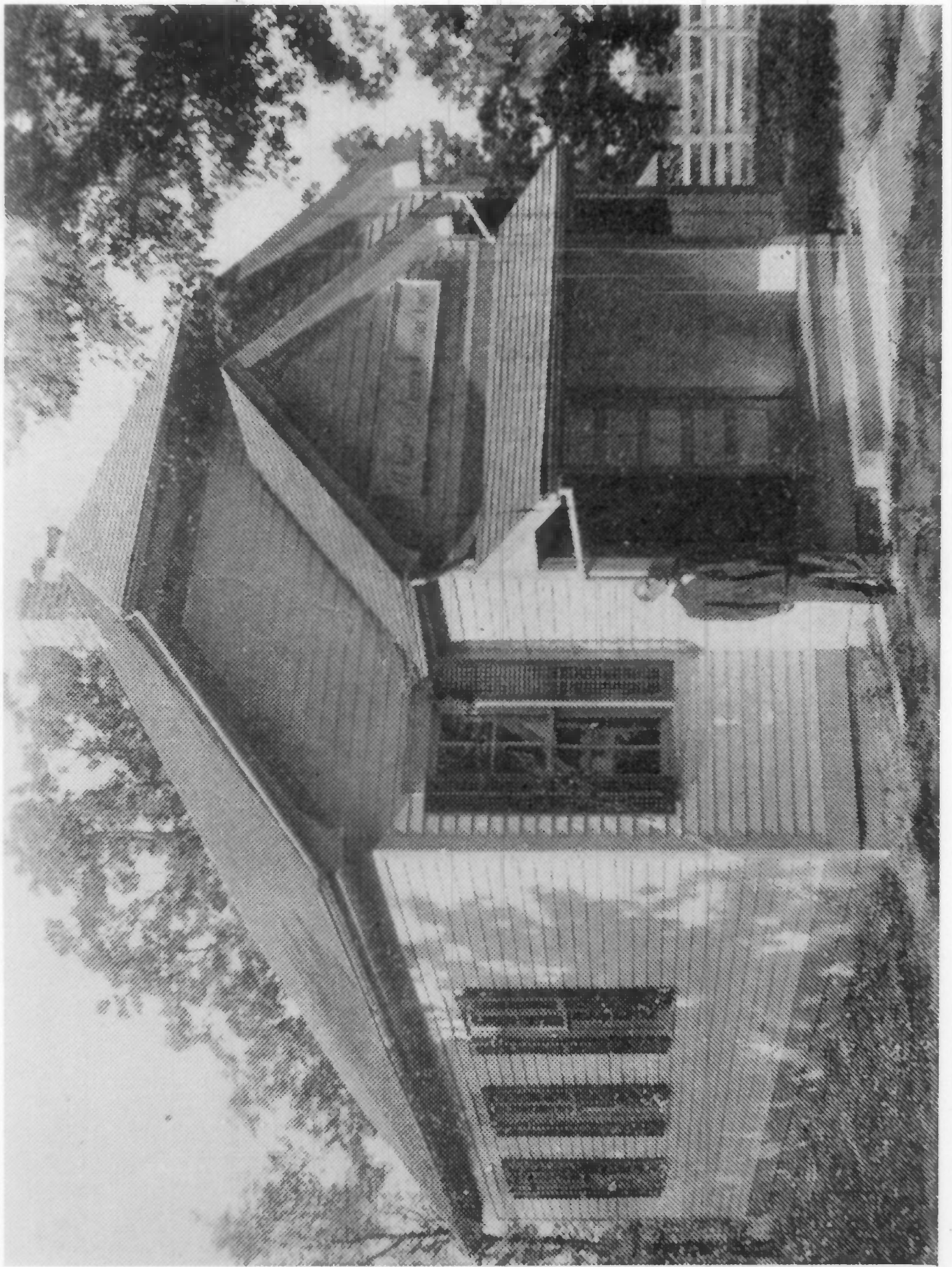
View to north with south (rear) of school
to the left clearly showing the join between
the old school building and the Parish Hall.



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND #6 of 9
CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL
Route D, Box 70, New Melle, St. Charles County,
MO. 63365

Photographer: Unknown
circa 1919

Neg. Loc.: Department of Natural Resources, P.
O. Box, 176, Jefferson City, MO. 65101
Christian Day School, view to southwest.



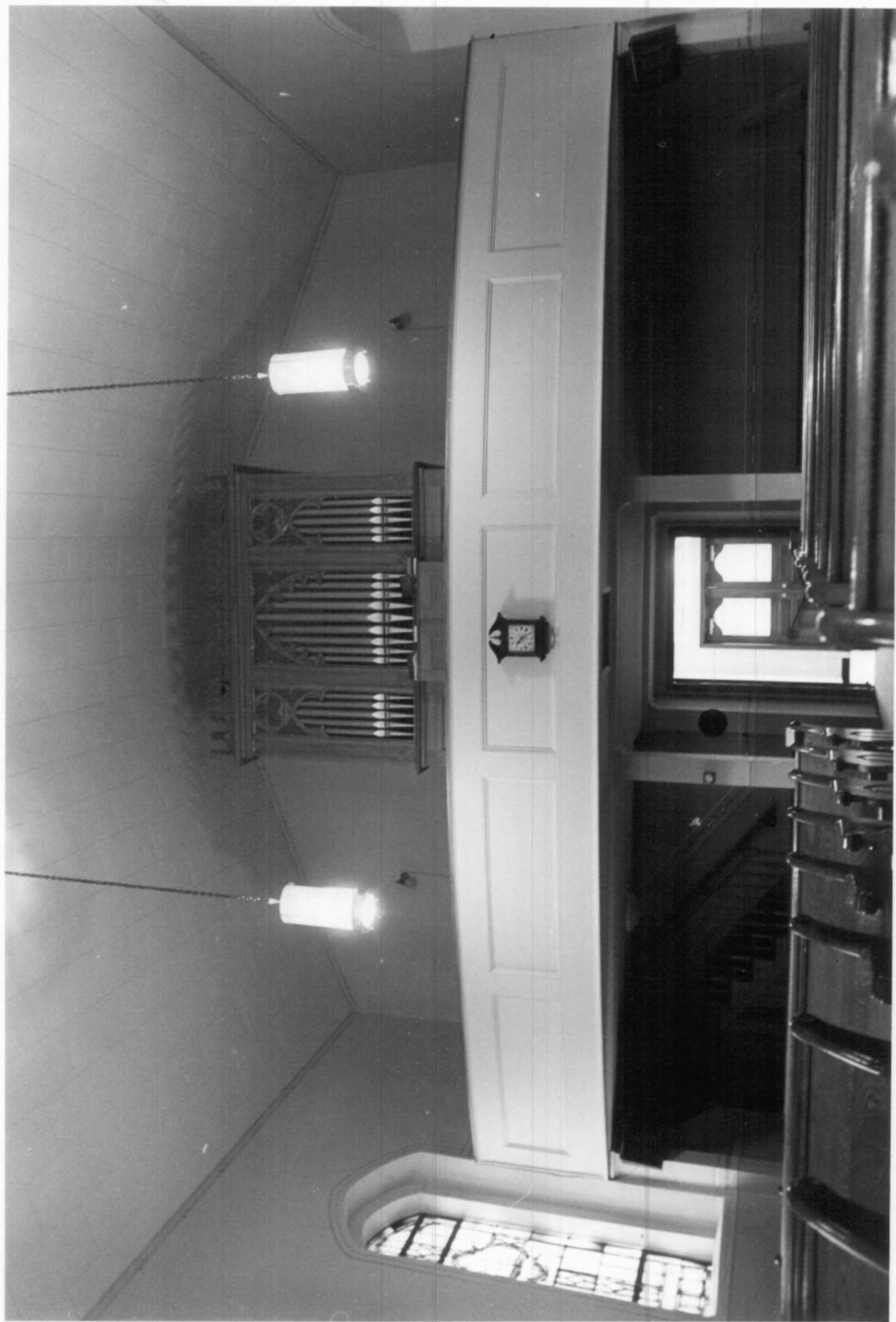
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND #7 of 9
CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL
Route D, Box 70, New Melle, St. Charles County,
MO. 63365

Photographer: Noelle Soren

September, 1980

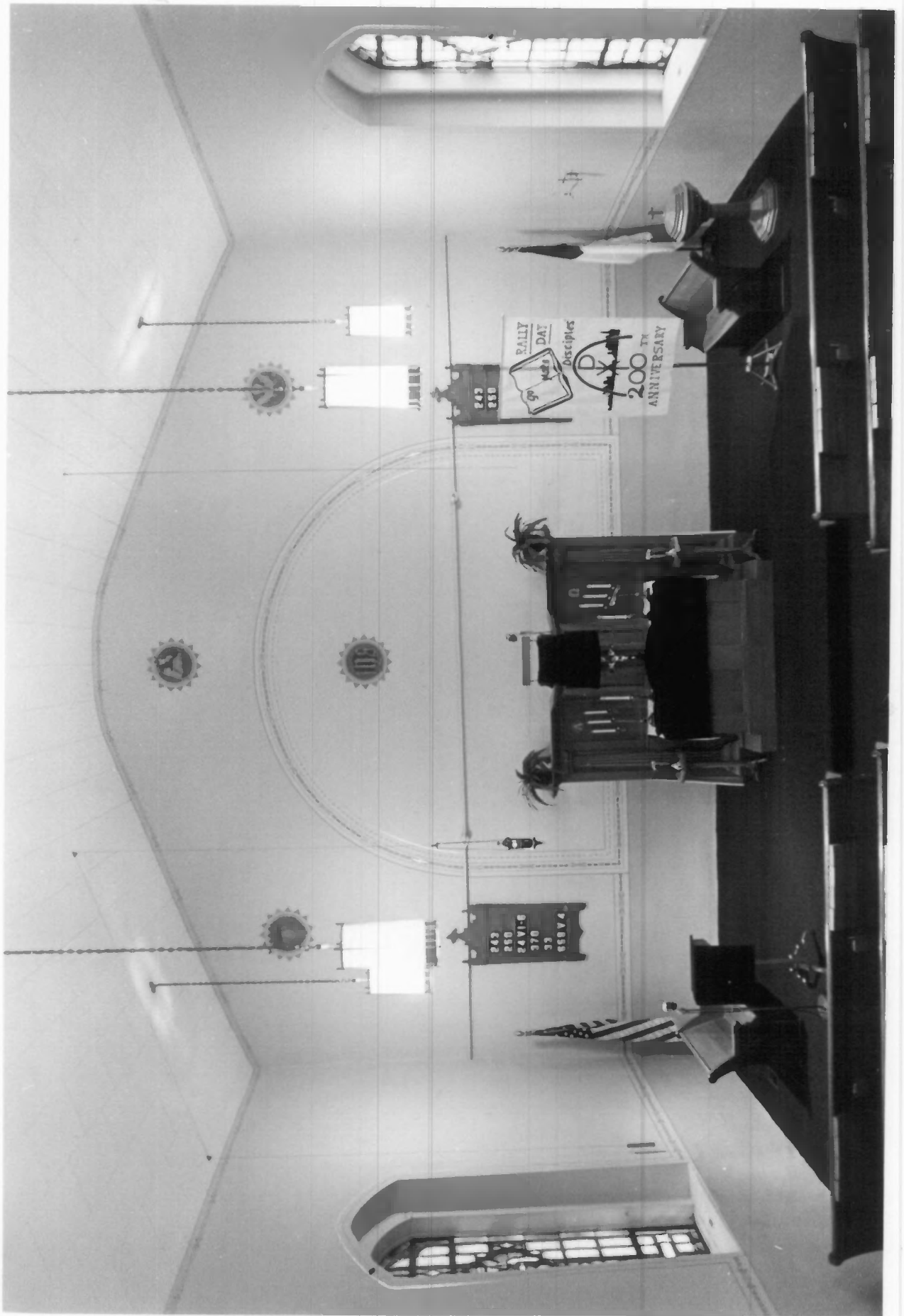
Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176,
Jefferson City, MO. 65101

Interior of church, view to west of balcony
and organ.



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND #8 of 9
CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL
Route D, Box 70, New Melle, St. Charles County,
MO. 63365

Photographer: Noelle Soren
September, 1980
Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176,
Jefferson City, MO. 65101
Interior of church, view to east of altar and
pulpit in current condition.

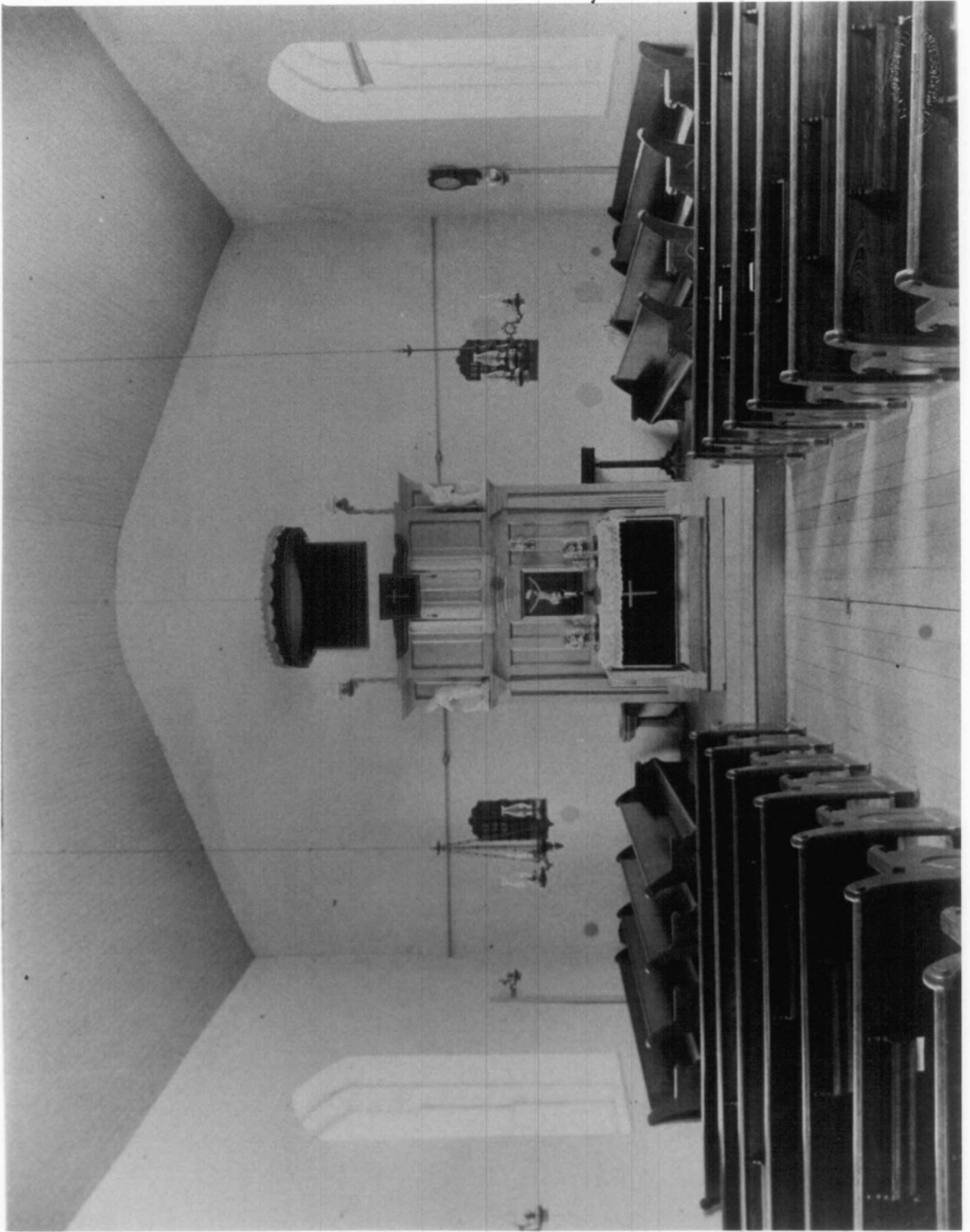


ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND #9 of 9
CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL
Route D, Box 70, New Melle, St. Charles County,
MO. 63365

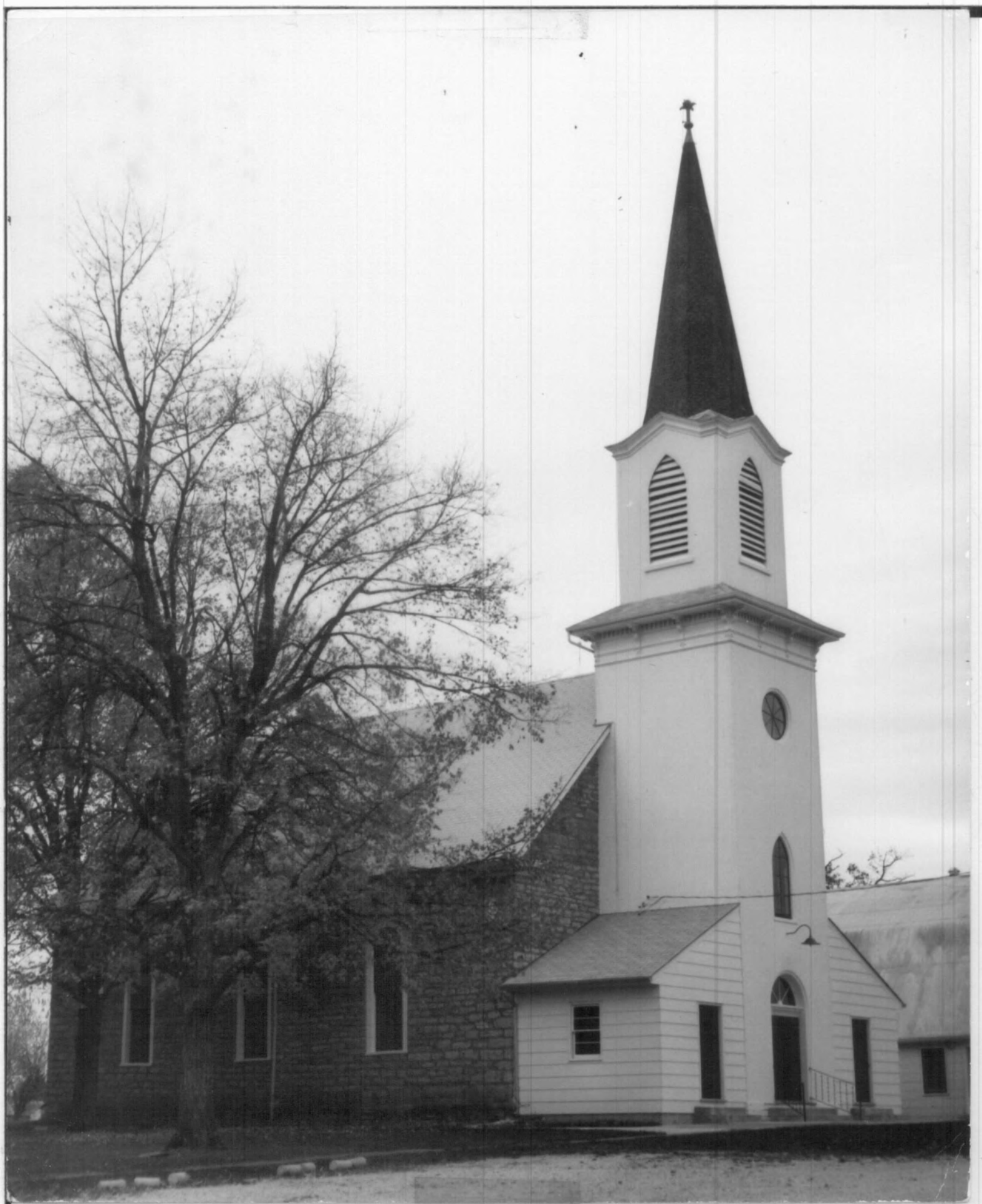
Photographer: Unknown

circa 1920

Neg. Loc.: Department of Natural Resources, P.
O. Box 176, Jefferson City, MO. 65101
Interior of church, view to east with altar
and pulpit as originally constructed.



EXTRA
PHOTOS





243
250
24 VI-8
370
33
659 V 4

243
250

go make disciples
D
200th ANNIVERSARY





