

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received AUG 5 1986
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Albion Methodist Church

and or common Albion Grange Hall

2. Location

street & number 102 North Street N/A not for publication

city, town Albion N/A vicinity of

state Idaho code 016 county Cassia code 031

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

4. Owner of Property

name Albion Grange No. 321, c/o Mrs. Keith Amende

street & number P.O. Box 157

city, town Albion N/A vicinity of state Idaho

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Cassia County Courthouse

street & number County Building, Overland Avenue

city, town Burley state Idaho 83318

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Idaho State Historic Sites Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1982 federal state county local

depository for survey records Idaho State Historical Society

city, town Boise state Idaho

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" 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	N/A moved date <u> </u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date <u> </u>

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Albion Methodist Church is a one-story building that sits in a large lot just northwest of the public square in Albion. The building consists of a rectangular original section built in 1888-1889 and measuring about 30 feet by 20 feet and an addition to the rear elevation built in 1965 and measuring about 20 feet square. The original building is constructed of brick laid in common bond with a course of alternating headers and stretchers every sixth course. The addition is concrete block construction with a brick veneer that nearly matches the original brick in color. Both sections of the building have gable roofs; the roof for the addition is set at a much shallower angle than the approximately one-in-one pitch of the wood-shingled roof over the original section. The original section of the building has a foundation constructed with local sandstone and lava rock.

The front (south) elevation of the church has one bay formed by an outset, enclosed entry with a gable roof. The entry has two sets of paneled double doors, one on the outer and one on the inner walls, that form an airlock against cold winter air. Above the inner doors is a three-paned transom. A similar transom, evident in a 1915 photograph of the building, may still exist under an Albion Grange sign above the outer doors. The gable roof of the entry is set at a pitch to match the primary roof. Centered in the gable space above the entry is a bricked and plastered blind arch. A bell tower straddles the roof toward the front of the building. It is wood frame with decorative scalloped upper framing. The shingled gable roof is set at a pitch to match the primary roof, and the bell is intact and useable.

The east and west elevations of the original church are identical. They each have three bays formed by evenly spaced two-over-two-light double-hung sash windows with shallow segmental brick relieving arches and wooden sills. The north elevation of the original church building is partially visible on the interior of the rear addition. No original doors or windows are visible on that exposure.

On the interior the church retains its original wood floor, plaster walls, plain window and door moldings, and hanging ceiling fixtures. A suspended accoustical tile ceiling masks the original ceiling.

The addition to the Albion Methodist Church is the only major alteration to the building. Attached to the rear of the building and low in profile, the addition has little impact on the building's historic integrity. This part of the building was constructed in 1965 by Albion Grange 321 to house a kitchen, bathrooms, and a basement with a furnace that vents through a small concrete block chimney on the back wall of the original section of the church, also added in 1965. The addition covers the back wall of the original church and extends beyond it about four feet on the east, where a single-pane paneled door provides an outside entrance. This door and the addition's brick veneer were salvage materials from an older building that had been demolished. The addition is roofed with asphalt shingles, and it has glass brick windows set high in the walls. Other

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 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 type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input 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 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"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1887-1888 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Albion Methodist Church is significant as the city's only local example of ecclesiastical architecture to survive from the nineteenth century. Built in 1888-1889 and predating the Albion State Normal School buildings by five years, the building is also the town's oldest extant institutional building. It is a well-preserved representative of vernacular church design and of local craftsmanship. The church has served an important role in the community as a public meeting space for Methodist and other religious congregations, Albion State Normal School classes, grange meetings, funerals and weddings, and other public meetings.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Albion

Quadrangle scale 7.5 minute

UTM References

A

1	2	2	8	7	9	2	0	4	6	9	8	6	5	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

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D

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Verbal boundary description and justification The nomination includes the Albion Methodist Church and the property on which it sits, commencing at a corner stake 75 feet west of the northwest corner stake of the Public Square of Albion, Idaho, thence due north 8 rods, thence due west 8 rods, thence due south 8 rods, thence due east 8 rods to the point of beginning; all in T12S R25E, Section 6, Boise Meridian.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jennifer Eastman Attebery, State Architectural Historian

organization Idaho State Historical Society date June 12, 1986

street & number 610 North Julia Davis Drive telephone (208) 334-3861

city or town Boise state Idaho 83702-7695

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 Thomas J. Green

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date 7/29/86

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the National Register date 9-4-86

for Allison Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

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National Park Service**

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alterations include a layer of green paint on the windows, added in the 1940s and now wearing away; addition of a sign lettered "Albion Grange #321" over the front transom (after 1960); addition of a concrete stoop and steps with a pipe railing (after 1960), and reroofing the west half of the original roof with wood shingles matching the original shingles (after 1960). At that time a stovepipe hole was covered.

The property includes an outhouse moved onto the lot after 1960 and not contributory to the nomination.

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The Albion Methodist Church is typical of church buildings erected by small congregations in late nineteenth-century Idaho. Those churches are architecturally conservative renditions of the Greek and Gothic revival ideals established earlier in the century. The Albion church's one-room gable-front plan, its outset entry vestibule, and its small belfry are characteristic of the small rural church. The building is the only one of its type in Albion; apparently it is also rare in a regional context. Few late nineteenth-century churches of its type have been noted in the Idaho Historic Sites Inventory, although many were built in this period.

One source dates the Methodist congregation in Albion as early as 1878, a year before the town became the seat of Cassia County government. The property on which the building is located was deeded to the Methodist Episcopal Church's Board of Church Extension in a deed dated April 18, 1887. The Albion Church received from the Board a \$500 grant during 1887. Until May 1951 the church either had a resident minister or was served by a minister out of Burley. Apparently it was difficult to sustain a full membership and support a full-time minister in the small town of a few hundred people, most of them belonging to the other principal church in town (the Mormon Church). According to an Albion Normal School student writing in 1912, the Methodist Church served mainly the normal school teachers and students. After 1951, Albion Methodists traveled to Burley for services.

As one of the few public buildings in Albion, the Methodist Church building often served the community as a meeting place for other small religious groups, funerals, weddings, and public meetings. When the Albion State Normal School opened in 1896, the newly-constructed classroom building was inadequate. Some classes were held in the Methodist Church during the first year.

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Historic Structures Worksheet prepared by Maxine Bowlden, Albion, Idaho, on file in Idaho Historic Sites Inventory, Idaho State Historical Society, Boise, Idaho.

(Albion, Idaho) Busy Bee. 3 January 1895.

Albion file, Methodist Archival Collection. MS 456, Box 8. Idaho State Historical Society, Boise, Idaho.

"Albion, Idaho." (Boise) The Capital. 16 June 1900, p. 1.

Albion Normal School student papers, 1912-1913. MS 2.471. Idaho State Historical Society, Boise, Idaho.

Attebery, Jennifer Eastman. Albion Reconnaissance Survey. 9 June 1986. On file in Idaho Historic Sites Inventory, Idaho State Historical Society, Boise, Idaho.

Eschbach, Josie. "History of Albion." Twin Falls News. 3 November 1905, p. 3.

1914-1915 Cassia County Directory. R. L. Polk and Company, p. 240.

Sanborn Map Company maps of Albion, August 1909 and November 1928.



EION GRANG
321

CHURCH

Albion Methodist Church
102 North Street
Albion, Cassia County, Idaho

Photograph by Jennifer Eastman Attebery
June 9, 1986

Negative on file at the Idaho State Historical
Society, Boise, Idaho

View from southeast

Photograph 1 of 1