

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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Christ Episcopal Church

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 412 Summit Avenue

N/A not for publication

city or town Walnut Cove

N/A vicinity

state North Carolina

code NC

county Stokes

code 169

Zip code 27052

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Jeffrey Cron SHPO 12/10/04
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/V" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility

RELIGION/religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

Gothic Revival

foundation brick

walls wood

roof metal

other wood

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark 'X' in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1886

Significant Dates

1886/87

1909

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Christ Episcopal Church

Name of Property

Stokes Co., NC

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.950

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>17</u>	<u>5</u> <u>77</u> <u>260</u>	<u>40</u> <u>17</u> <u>320</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Laura A.W. Phillips, Architectural Historian, Description/Donia Norman, significance

organization N/A N/A date 2/17/03 3/18/03

street & number 637 N.Spring St./1928 Doss Rd. telephone 336-727-1968/336-593-3373

City or town Winston-Salem/Danbury state NC Zip code 27101/27016

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina

street & number P.O. Box 17025 telephone 919-787-6313

City or town Raleigh state NC Zip code 27619

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications 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. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Christ Episcopal Church
Stokes County, North Carolina

DESCRIPTION

Christ Episcopal Church is a simple, frame Gothic Revival, or Carpenter Gothic, church typical of many built in small towns in the United States during the second half of the nineteenth century. Built in 1886-1887 at the north end of Summit Avenue in Walnut Cove, Christ Church was moved five blocks south to its present location at 412 Summit Avenue in 1909. Standing on the east side of this quiet street that historically was the town's most prestigious residential address, Christ Church is flanked by houses and faces the First Baptist Church. The main (west) facade of Christ Church is situated close to the sidewalk, but the less-than-one-acre lot on which it stands slopes downward toward the east, forming a large rear lawn that is bordered by trees.

A brick foundation supports the one-story church, which is sheathed in board-and-batten siding and covered by a standing-seam metal roof with slightly overhanging eaves and exposed rafter ends. Although Christ Church is simple in form and detail, it clearly represents the Gothic Revival style. An emphasis on verticality, central to the Gothic style, is achieved primarily through the use of board-and-batten siding and a steeply pitched front-facing gable roof. Features that further support the church's vertical sense are the lancet-arched windows and front entrance and the two-stage entrance tower and belfry—with a pent roof separating the two stages—located several feet back from the facade at the southwest corner of the church. A cross tops the flat-roofed belfry, which has tall, pointed-arched, wood-louvered ventilators, one per side, and one similarly sized lancet window on the south side of the first story. Smaller lancet windows are evenly spaced along the side elevations, while three lancet windows, the middle one taller and wider than the other two, are clustered at the center of the lower main facade. Round, wood-louvered ventilators are located beneath the gable peaks of the west facade and rear (east) elevation. The chancel projects from the rear of the church. Like the main body of the building, it continues the use of board-and-batten siding, a steeply pitched gable roof, and lancet windows; however, it is lower in height and inset from either side. Illuminating the chancel are a triple-lancet window on the east elevation—like that on the west facade—and a single lancet window on both north and south elevations. Filling the space between the north elevation of the chancel and north elevation of the main body of the church is the shed-roofed, board-and-batten-sheathed sacristy. It is probably an addition, though its date of construction is not known.

The parish house, located at the southeast corner of the church, was added between 1941 and 1943. Designed to complement the architecture of the church, it has board-and-batten siding and a metal-sheathed side-gable roof of lower pitch than the church. The five-bay facade of the parish house has a central, double-leaf entrance flanked by six-over-six sash windows. The gable-roofed entrance porch is detailed with a Carpenter Gothic curvilinear bargeboard. A common-bond brick chimney rises from the south side of the parish house to the west of the central gable peak. A low-hipped-roof addition spans the rear of the parish house above a

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raised brick basement. Sash windows along the rear and sides of the rear extension line up above matching basement windows. A recessed kitchen entrance rises between the north wall of rear portion of the parish house and south wall of the church chancel.

The double-leaf entrance at the base of the church's corner tower leads to a small vestibule (narthex), which in turn opens through a double-leaf door to the rear (west end) of the nave. The nave is organized with a center aisle that leads to the chancel at the east end. The chancel, which is a little more than a third of the width of the nave, is raised two shallow steps, with the area east of the altar rail raised another step. North of the chancel, a lancet-arched door opens from the nave to the sacristy. Immediately west of the chancel, a flat-headed door leads to the parish house.

The interior of the church is sheathed with walnut-stained pine. The floor is covered with boards approximately six inches in width, with a red-carpet overlayer (installed 1973) running down the center aisle and covering the entire floor of the chancel. The walls are covered with boards that are about four-to-six inches wide with a beaded edge. A chair rail encircles the narthex and the nave; in the nave it runs between the top of the pews and the base of the windows. The chair rail continues in the chancel, but here it tops a wainscot with recessed arches. In the nave the board ceiling rises to a peak, while the wood ceiling of the chancel is barrel-vaulted.

The colored-glass windows of the church are of several styles. Probably the oldest is the three-part, lancet-arched window at the east end of the chancel. Produced by R. Geissler, Inc. of Long Island City, New York, these multi-colored figurative panels depict Jesus in the center, flanked by St. John the Evangelist on the north and St. Peter on the south. The center panel is dedicated to the memory of Peter Wilson Hairston (1819-1886), the north panel to Samuel Hairston (aged seventeen years), and the south panel to Elizabeth Perkins Hairston (aged eleven years). The lancet-arched windows (one per side) on the north and south elevations of the chancel are primarily red, green, and purple in color and of geometric design. Roundels run down the center of each window, with a background of diamond blocks and diagonal stripes. Scripture verses and detailing, including fleur-de-lis, are stenciled in black paint on the colored glass.

Seven lancet-arched windows line the nave—four on the north wall and three on the south wall. (The west-end bay on the south wall has the door to the narthex instead of a fourth window.) These windows were given to Christ Church in 1929 by St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Winston-Salem when that congregation moved to its third church building, located in the West End neighborhood. The windows had been used in St. Paul's second church, which stood at the northwest corner of Fourth and Cherry streets in Winston-Salem from 1908 to 1929. The nave windows are composed of colored glass of geometric design. The windows

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Christ Episcopal Church
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have a narrow purple outer border and yellow-brown diamond blocks composing the main body. At the bottom of each window is a pivot sash with a blue-green panel surrounded by a brown border. At the west end of the nave, balancing the window at the east end, is a three-part lancet-arched window with multi-colored glass with curvilinear designs. Like the primary chancel window, the lancet-arched narthex window is figurative, depicting Christ as shepherd, but it is of recent vintage, dedicated to the memory of Paul Fulton (1896-1976).

Handmade pews line the center aisle of the nave. Most face the chancel, but those in the front bay closest to the chancel face the aisle. The simple pews have single boards for the backs and seats, and the side boards angle backward with the base cut in a keyhole design creating two legs. The backboard of the last pew on the south side of the center aisle bears a penciled inscription, "Sunday, April 19, 1896." The church has replacement lighting, dating from the late 1970s or 1980s and given in memory to Sallie Fulton Pepper (1894-1975). However, wooden kerosene-lamp sconces still line the church walls. The baptismal font stands at the west end of the nave. It is made of marble with a wooden top that opens to expose the basin when in use. A modern organ stands at the northeast corner of the nave. The wooden chancel furniture appears to be either original to Christ Church or at least from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century. Some of the fancier furniture may have been given to Christ Church by another, older church, such as St. Paul's, or may have been ordered from an ecclesiastical furnishings company such as Geissler's. The pulpit on the north side of the chancel just above the steps from the nave, the lectern opposite the pulpit on the south side, the altar rail, the altar on the center of the east wall, the bishop's chair on the north side of the altar, the credence table on the south side of the altar, and the priest's chair in front of the south chancel window are all strongly Gothic Revival in design.

The parish house is accessed by way of a narrow hall entered from a door at the southeast corner of the nave and by a double-leaf exterior entrance on the center of the west facade. The main floor of the parish house has wood floors, plastered walls and ceiling, and dark-stained wood trim. The front half of the main floor is one large space composed of a parlor on the south side and a smaller conference space on the north side which retains, on its north wall, the original lancet-arched nave window. The parlor has a large fireplace that was originally brick but was covered with a paneled wood mantel and overmantel in the 1970s or 1980s. The rear (east) half of the main floor of the parish house contains an office and a nursery on the south side of an east-west hall, a vesting room at the east end of the hall, and a kitchen, classroom, and stair to the basement on the north side of the hall. The basement has two large spaces, partially divided by the stair, which are used for other classroom and social purposes.

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Christ Episcopal Church remains well preserved and little altered on both exterior and interior. Although the church was moved from its original location, this move took place early in the church's history. Christ Church has stood at its present location for nearly a century. The placement of the 1941- 43 parish house in relationship to the church proper along with its use of board-and-batten siding and a gabled roof allow it to complement the original church structure rather than detract from it. As a whole, Christ Church retains a strong degree of historic integrity in terms of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

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Christ Episcopal Church
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Summary

Christ Episcopal Church, popularly known as Christ Church, is locally significant under Criterion C as a well-preserved example of the Carpenter Gothic style of architecture applied to an ecclesiastical building. Located in the Stokes County community of Walnut Cover (incorporated in 1890), Christ Church houses an organized mission, which despite its small size has held regular services from the building's consecration in 1886 to the present day. Completed in the late 1880s on a rural site just outside of Walnut Cove, the church is a nearly unaltered representative of the small Gothic Revival board-and-batten churches built across America during the mid-to-late nineteenth century and is the most well preserved and maintained example of a turn-of-the-century frame church remaining in Stokes County. Influenced by works such as *Rural Architecture* (1852) by Richard Upjohn, these churches used board-and-batten construction to achieve the vertical essence of the Gothic style. In 1909, the building was moved into Walnut Cove proper for easier accessibility to most of its congregation. Christ Church is an excellently preserved example of late nineteenth-century ecclesiastical architecture in a small town setting. The building meets Criteria Consideration B because the building's relocation of ninety-five years ago was over a short distance from a similar setting and left the building intact. Because the church is significant for its Carpenter Gothic architecture, the building also meets Criteria Consideration A.

Historical Background

Christ Episcopal Church is located in the small community of Walnut Cove. Its congregation has always been relatively small and for most of its existence has held the status of an unorganized mission.

The church building dates to the late 1880s, a period of railroad construction that rapidly transformed the Walnut Cove and the surrounding area. Walnut Cove was the first community in Stokes County to welcome the railroad. First the Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley Railroad (CF&Y) reached Walnut Cove from Greensboro ca. 1885, having begun at the Egypt coal mines on the Deep River in Chatham County in 1883 and eventually reaching Mt. Airy in 1887. Beginning in 1888, the Roanoke & Southern Railway (R&S) built their line from Winston (later Winston-Salem) north through Walnut Cove and Madison and on to Martinsville, Virginia, and points beyond. The CF&Y later became the Atlantic & Yadkin Railway and eventually part of Southern Railway, while the R&S became part of Norfolk & Western in 1896.¹ The presence of two major rail lines hauling coal and other goods and merchandise, as well as passengers, through Walnut Cove with connections across the state and eventually up and down the East Coast strongly

¹ S. David Carriker, editor, "The North Carolina Railroad Map: A History of North Carolina Railroads: 1830-1990," Heritage Publishing Company, 1990, n.p.

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Christ Episcopal Church
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affected the settlement's growth and development. Families of railroad employees moved to town, salesmen came by train to sell merchandise in town and throughout the area, and local businesses developed to distribute the merchandise, grain, fertilizer, coal, tobacco, and granite. By 1890 Walnut Cove was incorporated, although there had been a settlement in the area of Town Fork Creek since the eighteenth century, as reported by the Moravians.²

Christ Church owes its existence largely to the efforts of Major Peter and Fannie Hairston and Harry Olmsted Lacey (1857-1889). The Episcopal congregation formed in the mid-1870s and for a decade attended monthly services during the summer at the Hairstons' "Saura Plantation" just north of Walnut Cove on the Dan River. Two Sunday schools were also taught one for whites and one for African Americans.³

In 1885 it was reported to the Episcopal convention by Rev. Harry O. Lacey that a new church on the edge of town (beside the present-day water tower) was advancing towards completion and had "promise of being a very neat church edifice."⁴ Services continued to be held monthly, and sometime in 1886 or early 1887, the congregation moved into the new building, although it lacked a stove and chancel furniture and muslin filled the window frames. In July 1887 the chancel was furnished and glass placed in the windows, and on 21 July 1887 the new church building was consecrated under the name of "Church of the Holy Comforter."⁵ Bishop Theodore Benedict Lyman, fourth Bishop of North Carolina, performed the consecration ceremony with the assistance of Rev. Harry O. Lacey while Major Peter Hairston and Frank Hairston served as laity.⁶ Church construction was funded by two families in the neighborhood, Dr. W.A. Lash's and Major Peter Hairston's. (The most prominent family in the vicinity during the nineteenth century was the Lash family, and for a time the community was unofficially known as Lash.⁷) There is no known record of the builder of the church.

Lacey held the Walnut Cove mission along with St. Philips, Germanton, and St. Pauls, Winston-Salem, until his illness in 1888. His last report on Christ Church states that "the Sunday schoolwork has continued without interruption and with zeal; at the Christmas celebration about 150 scholars were present and received gifts."⁸ Lacey died later that year of bronchial consumption.

After the death of Lacey, Christ Church had new priests from 1889-1892. It was forced to share its priests

² John R. Woodard, *Stokes County Heritage Book, Volume II* (Winston-Salem, N.C.: Hunter Publishing Company, 1990), 4.

³ *Journal of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of North Carolina* (Raleigh, Greensboro, and other cities: various publishers, annual from 1817 to present; hereinafter cited as *Episcopal Journal*). 1877, p. 40.

⁴ *Episcopal Journal*, 1885, p. 17.

⁵ Donna Tuttle, "History of Christ Church," high school term paper, January 1966 (copy in NCHPO survey file), 3.

⁶ *Episcopal Journal*, 1887, p. 9.

⁷ John R. Woodard, *Stokes County Heritage Book, Volume I* (Winston-Salem, N.C.: Hunter Publishing Company, 1881), 102.

⁸ *Episcopal Journal*, 1889, p. 95.

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with the church in Germanton and frequently with other churches in the area including those in Mt. Airy, Surry Co., Elkin, Surry Co., and Madison in Rockingham County. In 1891 the church changed its name from Church of the Holy Comforter to Christ Church. James H. Williams took over as priest in 1896. In addition to regular church services, Williams held Sunday summer services at parishioner Sarah M. Blackburn's farm on the Danbury road. Occasionally he held afternoon services in an old tobacco warehouse, which could accommodate the hundreds who attended those services.⁹ Williams remained at Christ Church until 1904, the longest tenure of any priest in the church. After Williams departure, Albert Rivers Berkley took charge, and during his tenure the congregation gave approval to move the church building to a more convenient location in town one-half mile due south.¹⁰

In 1909 a 0.95-acre lot was donated by Captain R.L. Murphy, a parishioner and A&Y Railroad conductor.¹¹ The building was moved on logs by mules and at least one Sunday service was held in the middle of the road. The cost of moving was \$300. There are no photos of the move, but physical examination of the building reveals no indication that it was damaged or altered in the relocation. Before the church was moved, it is reported that many people came from quite some distance in the country to attend services, likely due to the influence of the Hairston family. When the church was relocated, the number of country visitors diminished along with monthly summer services at the Blackburn farm.¹²

Christ Church had a number of clergy after Berkley left in 1904. After Fannie Hairston died in 1907, the Hairstons remained at their Davie County Coolemee Plantation home and stopped visiting Stokes County regularly. The priest's salary of \$60 had largely been paid by Mrs. Fannie Hairston. However, this affected Christ Church very little as other prominent families in the church kept the services regular. Since then, Christ Church has had numerous priests. Those with the longest period of service were Arthur W. Taylor, 1915-1918; James R. Mallet, 1919-1922; Arthur H. Marshall, 1926-1928; Daniel W. Allen, 1929-1941; Edwin W. Hurst, 1932-1934; Alfred Stratton Lawrence, Jr., 1939-1944; Fred Hammond, 1978-1986; and John Shields, 1986-1996. During the tenure of Stratton, the wing addition was built, completed in 1943.¹³

Throughout the twentieth century, the size of Christ Church's congregation has waxed and waned with Walnut Coves development. In mid-century passenger trains were discontinued due to the advancement of automobiles. Walnut Cove's population declined as residents moved to the nearby cities of Winston-Salem and Greensboro. Walnut Cove hasn't grown to a great extent it remains small with a population of 1,465

⁹ Episcopal Journal, 1895, 120.

¹⁰ Episcopal Journal, 1909, 56.

¹¹ Stokes County Register of Deeds, Book 53, Page 373.

¹² "History of Christ Church, Walnut Cove, North Carolina," undated (1981?) pamphlet in church register format in the Christ Church records, copy in NCHPO survey file.

¹³ Ibid.

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residents. At the present time Christ Church has a part-time priest, William Poulos. Membership has remained relatively stable over the years with fifty communicants.

Architecture Context

Throughout the second half of the nineteenth century, the Gothic Revival style was, by far, the most prevalent design choice for Episcopal churches throughout America. As new Episcopal congregations formed in North Carolina during this period, church design preferences were increasingly rooted in the style.¹⁴ Many of these congregations, however, were located in small towns or rural areas where financial resources would not allow for elaborate churches in stone or brick. To help such congregations, not only in North Carolina but elsewhere in the country, prominent New York architect Richard Upjohn provided a solution. Upjohn, acknowledged as the leading Gothic Revival architect in nineteenth-century America, felt a strong commitment to providing good design for simple churches and did so on occasion without fee for rural congregations.¹⁵ By 1852 more requests by small parishes for church plans were coming to Upjohn than he could accommodate. His solution was to publish a book, *Upjohn's Rural Architecture*, which included plans and specifications for a small wooden church and a smaller chapel, both calling for board-and-batten siding.¹⁶ Thus, Upjohn was able to translate the grandeur of the Gothic Revival style into manageable terms in wood that were more affordable and at the same time more accessible to the working knowledge of local carpenters.¹⁷ As Upjohn's designs were circulated, they were modified in various ways, often with the help of local clergy. While the actual design source for many churches, including Christ Church in Walnut Cove, is not known, the influence of *Upjohn's Rural Architecture* is undeniable.¹⁸

Although the ultra-plain rectangular frame churches built by Baptist and Methodist congregations throughout small-town and rural North Carolina during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries far outnumbered the Carpenter Gothic churches favored by Episcopal congregations, the architectural distinctiveness of the fewer Carpenter Gothic churches have enabled them to stand out—then and now—in their various locations around the state. Several in the Piedmont section of North Carolina are listed in the National Register. These include St. Mary's Chapel (NR 1970) and All Saints Chapel (NR 1978) in Raleigh, St. James Episcopal Church (NR 1978) in Kittrell, St. Athanasius Episcopal Church (NR 1979) in Burlington, and St. Philip's Episcopal Church (NR 1982) in Stokes County. Two other Carpenter Gothic churches in Rockingham and

¹⁴ Drucilla H. York, National Register nomination for Grace Episcopal Church, Weldon, North Carolina, 1991, 8:2.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, 8:3.

¹⁶ William H. Pierson Jr., *American Buildings and Their Architects: Technology and the Picturesque, the Corporate and the Early Gothic Styles* (New York: Anchor Books, 1980), 433.

¹⁷ Martha Walker Fullington, National Register nomination for Church of the Incarnation, Highlands, North Carolina, 1996, 8:4.

¹⁸ York, 8:4.

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Christ Episcopal Church
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Surry counties neighboring Stokes County—Church of the Messiah in Mayodan and Galloway Memorial Episcopal Church in Elkin—have not yet been listed in the National Register.

It is somewhat unusual that a rural county such as Stokes has two Episcopal churches—St. Philip's Episcopal Church in Germanton and Christ Episcopal Church in Walnut Cove—in the Carpenter Gothic style located within a few miles of each. Although the existence of both churches owes largely to the efforts of the Reverend Harry Olmsted Lacey, the actual designer of the churches is not known. The 1886-1887 Christ Church predates St. Philip's by several years.

Like the other Carpenter Gothic churches in the Piedmont, Christ Episcopal Church in Walnut Cove exhibits many features that emphasize both the verticality of the Gothic style, translated in wood, and the liturgical functions of the Episcopal Church. Among these distinctive features are board-and-batten siding, a steeply pitched front-facing gable roof, a slightly offset two-stage corner entrance tower with open belfry, and lancet-arched windows on the exterior, and on the interior, dark stained woodwork, a steeply pitched ceiling, and a center aisle leading to a raised chancel with altar that is inset from the width of the nave.

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Fullington, Martha Walker. National Register nomination for Church of the Incarnation, Highlands, North Carolina.

"History of Christ Church, Walnut Cove, North Carolina." Undated (1981?) pamphlet printed by Christ Church. Copy in NCHPO survey file.

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Pierson, William H. Jr., *American Buildings and Their Architects: Technology and the Picturesque, the Corporate and the Early Gothic Styles* (New York: Anchor Books, 1980).

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

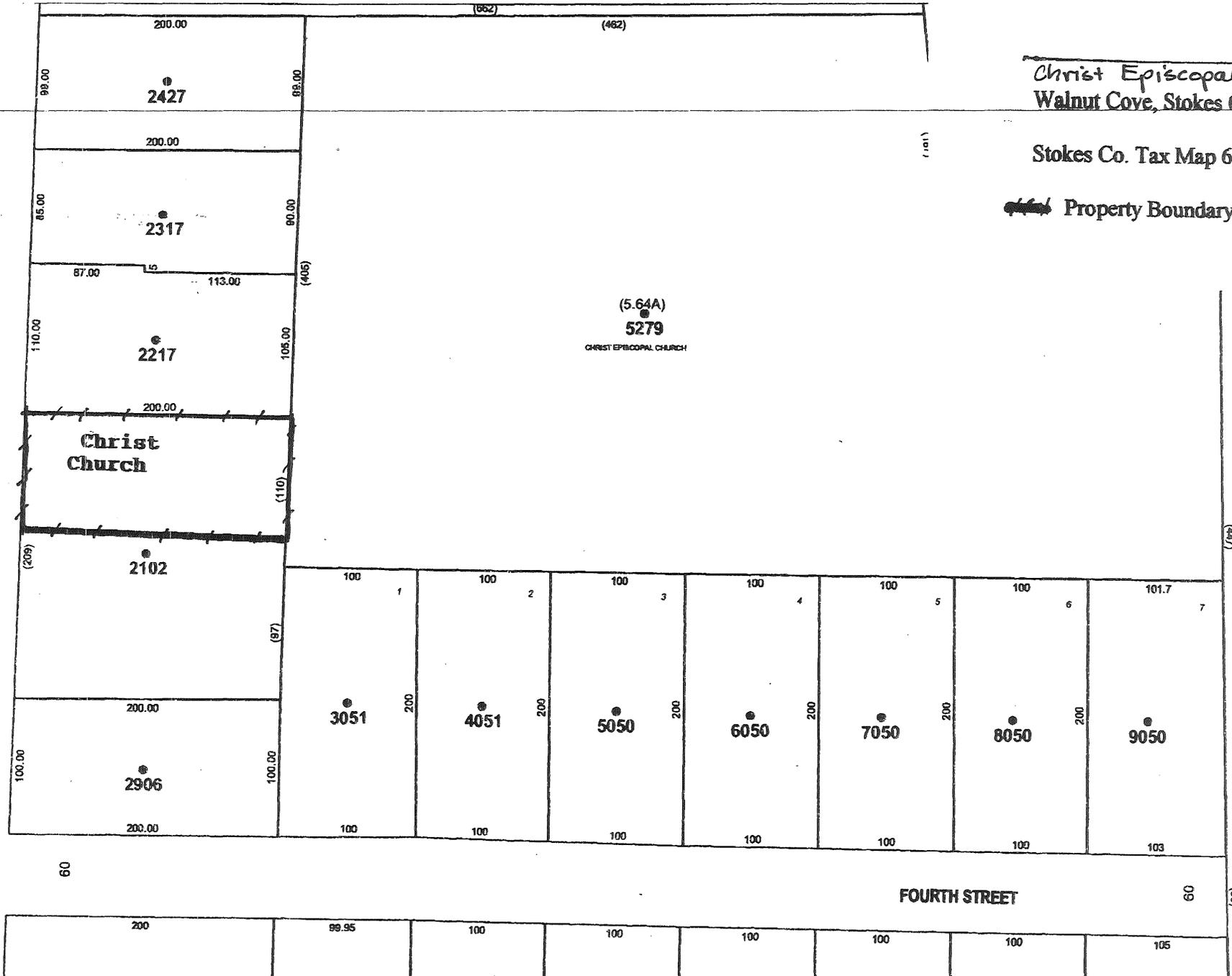
Verbal Boundary Description: The boundary of Christ Episcopal Church includes a portion of lot 2102 on Stokes County tax map 696207 as shown by the heavy black line on the accompanying map drawn to a scale of 1" = 100'.

Verbal Boundary Justification: The boundary of Christ Episcopal includes the church and its immediate surroundings which constitute the historic setting of the church since its move to this site in 1909.

Christ Episcopal Church
Walnut Cove, Stokes Co., N.C.

Stokes Co. Tax Map 696207

 Property Boundary



County of Stokes, North Carolina
Mapping/GIS Department

Map Number
696207



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Map printed 6/14/2001



