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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

RECEIVED APR 2 1 1975

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NAME	TITE ALL ENTRIES (CONFECTE AFFEICAD	LE SECTIONS	
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HISTORIC Shilat	n Church			
AND/OR COMMON	T BIRTON			
	llows Lodge			
LOCATION				
STREET & NUMBER				
Huntsv	ville and Main Street	5	_NOT FOR PUBLICATION	
CITY, TOWN			CONGRESSIONAL DISTRI	ICT
Spring	dale	VICINITY OF		0005
STATE Arkans	226	05	соимтү Washington	CODE 143
CLASSIFIC		<u> </u>		
OM 100H 10	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENT USE
OISTRICT	PUBLIC	XOCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
X_BUILDING(S)	X_PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	_вотн	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDENC
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	XYES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	_SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	!NDUSTRIAL	_TRANSPORTATION
		NQ	MILITARY	x_OTHER:frater
OWNER OF	PROPERTY			
NAME				
New Era	Independent Order of	Oddfellows Lodge	, #36	
STREET & NUMBER				
Huntsvi	lle and Main Streets			
CITY, TOWN			STATE	
Springda	<u>ale</u>	VICINITY OF	Arkansa:	S
LOCATION	OF LEGAL DESCR	IPTION		
COURTHOUSE.				
REGISTRY OF DEEDS,	ETC. County Clerk's Of	fice		
STREET & NUMBER				
	Washington County	Courthouse		
CITY, TOWN			STATE	_
	Favetteville		Arkansa:	5
REPRESEN	TATION IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS		
TITLE				
DATE		FEDERAL	STATECOUNTYLOCAL	
DEPOSITORY FOR				
SURVEY RECORDS				
CITY, TOWN			STATE	

13:42 1740

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

X_EXCELLENT __GOOD

FAIR

__DETERIORATED

UNEXPOSED

__RUINS

__UNALTERED

X_ORIGINAL SITE

XALTERED

MOVED DATE

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Shiloh Church, intended for use as a church, but since the 1930's used as a fraternal meeting hall, is a two-storey frame building constructed in 1870. The floor plan is rectangular and measures 45 feet by 35 feet. White clapboard walls and a gable roof enclose the 40 foot tall structure. Exterior trim consists of a boxed cornice with returns over a wide plain entablature at each gable end, and wood pilasters at each corner of the building.

The north and south elevations are divided into equal bays by four double hung sash, six-over-six light windows at both the first and second storey levels. The western-most bay on the south elevation, ground floor, contains a panelled wood door with transom. Dressed field stone was used in the original foundation, but has been covered with cement and faced with fourteen inch wide boards.

The facade (west) elevation is symmetrical, with a pair of panelled doors with transoms on the ground floor level, and windows identical to those on the north and south elevations at the second storey level. The belfry centered above the ridge line at the west end of the roof, has been reconstructed at least three times. However, earlier belfrys were quite similar in shape and scale to the present belfry. The original bell is still in use.

Except for an enclosed space in the northwest corner, the interior of the ground floor remains open as when originally constructed in 1870. The first floor ceiling has not been lowered and remains at its original 15 1/2 foot height. An enclosed stairway in the southwest corner leads to a hallway on the west end of the second floor. Doors on the east side of the upstairs hall lead to the large open room which covers almost all of the second floor. The building's original floors, walls and second storey ceiling have been covered with contemporary materials in recent years (plywood panelling, acoustical tile, etc.)

The simple <u>Greek Revival</u> touches and impressive dimensions combine to make the Shiloh Church a most architecturally pleasing structure. As Springdale's oldest surviving building, Shiloh Church is the community's most visible link with its early history.

Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

IATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

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occasional meetings, the building was abandoned by both the churches and the Masons in the late 1920's.

In 1932 Springdale's Water and Sewer District took possession of the church and property because of delinquent taxes. Three years later the Oddfellows paid the back taxes and became the owners. Since that time the Oddfellows have used the old church as their lodge hall. The preservation of the building is due solely to their efforts.

The minutes from the meetings of the Shiloh Baptist Church are intact, except for the first book, 1840-1845. Now in the possession of the Shiloh Museum of Springdale, these early church records document the history of the church. During the nineteenth century the growth of Shiloh Church preceded but paralleled the growth of the Springdale community.

The town of Springdale grew up around Shiloh Church, a structure which represents the importance of religion to the early settlers in the region. Surrounded by the most historic sites in the city, Shiloh Church stands as the most important historic landmark in Springdale.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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		THACHIOM		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Shiloh Church is the most historically significant structure in the northwest Arkansas community of Springdale. Built in 1870, it has been used for over one hundred years as both a church and a fraternal lodge hall. It is the only structure surviving from the community's early years, and serves as the most important visible reminder of the town's history.

On the same block as Shiloh Church (Block One, original town plat of Springdale) and just northwest of the building is the site of Springdale's first two churches. Circa 1840 a log church was moved to the site donated by William D. Quinton. During the Civil War this first church building was burned, and was replaced in 1868. Two years later a third structure, the present Shiloh Church, was built just southeast of the original church site.

Until 1878 when the town was incorporated, Springdale had been known as Shiloh. The name "Springdale" was taken from the natural spring which lies just northeast of the Shiloh Church. The community's first graveyard lay just north of the present church, but was moved about 1894 to open a street across the site.

Shiloh Church was built on land belonging to Reverend John Holcombe, a pioneer settler in the area and one of the earliest pastors of Shiloh Church (c. 1843). In 1872 Reverend Holcombe gave the land on which the church was built to the three churches which shared in its construction costs: Shiloh Regular Baptist Church, Liberty Missionary Baptist Church, and the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Controlling interest was given to the Shiloh Church.

The local Masonic lodge used and paid for upkeep of the building's upper room, and also shared half the expense of roof repairs. Lumber used in the construction of Shiloh Church came from the Van Winkle Mill near War Eagle, another early community in the area. The lumber was seasoned and hand dressed at the construction site.

For over fifty years the church was in continual use by both church groups and the Masonic Lodge. However, as the community grew church members gradually dispersed to other churches. The Shiloh Baptist Church was the last congregation to hold regular services in the building. Except for

Goodspeed Publish	torical Society, Fla	ishback, May, l	History." <u>Washington</u> 951. torical Memoirs of Nort
Arkansas. Lemke. W. J. "His	Chicago: Goodspeed storical Pilgrimage	Publishing Co to Springdale.	mpany, 1889. '' Flashback, November,
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