

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 Mallettown United Methodist Church

other names/site number CN0332

2. Location

street & number 274 Mallet Town Road

not for publication

city or town Mallet Town

vicinity

state Arkansas

code AR

county Conway

code 029

zip code 72157

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 for 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.)

Edith Marchas

12/3/04

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

State or 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:

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:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

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

Name of related multiple property listing

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

"A Storm Couldn't Tear Them Down: The Mixed Masonry Buildings of Silas Owens, Sr., 1938-1955"

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY

AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/Craftsman

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls Stone

Brick

roof Composition shingle

other

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 moved from its original location.
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.

Levels of Significance (local, state, national)

Local

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

c. 1947

Significant Dates

c. 1947

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

Architect/Builder

Silas Owens, Sr., builder

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 #

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
Other State Agency
Federal Agency
Local Government
University
Other

Name of repository:

Mallettown United Methodist Church

Name of Property

Conway, County, Arkansas

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

Table with 4 columns: Reference Number, Zone, Easting, Northing. Contains data for references 1, 2, 3, and 4, with a checkbox for '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 Benita Duvall, National Register Historian
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date 9-14-04
street & number 1500 Tower Building 323 Center Street telephone 501-324-9880
city or town Little Rock state Arkansas zip code 72201

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
street & number telephone
city or town state zip code

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 listing. 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 Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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SUMMARY

The Mallettown United Methodist Church, built circa 1947 for one of the oldest congregations in Mallettown, Arkansas, is the only Craftsman style mixed masonry church in the town. While predominantly Craftsman in style, it borrows from others, evident in its wide boxed overhang, basket handle arch porch entry, moderately pitched roof and front-gable rectangular plan. The Mallettown United Methodist Church is exemplary of stone mason Silas Owens's work, with its three-in, three-out pattern of cream brick around three sides of the windows and doors, quoins at all corners, and a herringbone pattern in the stone. All window sills of this Owens building are made of brick in header position.

ELABORATION

Located at 274 Mallettown Road in Mallettown, Conway County, the Mallettown United Methodist Church was constructed circa 1947. The church is a one-story mixed masonry building with a raised basement. It has its original window casings and doors, and the bell from the previous church building. No changes have been made to the original exterior, except for an enclosed vent and an addition to the rear corner. Several features have been added to the grounds of the church, such as sidewalks and ramps, but none detract from the structure itself.

South Elevation

Separating the south elevation of the church and Mallettown Road are a brick sign with the church's name, and a concrete drive that meets the church steps. A sidewalk extends from each side of the drive, the west side of which leads around the corner of the church to a concrete slab with basketball goals, the east side around to a gazebo.

Ten concrete steps with rock stoops lead up to an arch entrance to the porch. The arch has quoins at the corners, and brick in header position along the curve of the arch. More narrow arched openings are at each side of the porch, with the same brick design. Above the entrance is a sunburst design of brick in header position embedded in the rock. The eave of the porch is lower than that of the remainder of the church, but is boxed the same. A bell is attached to the porch ceiling.

The face of the main quarters of the south elevation contains a centered square above the roof of the porch, which has been enclosed with vertical weatherboard. Formerly housing a louver, it is surrounded by the cream three-in, three-out pattern of brick. On each side of the porch is a one-over-one window. Centered within the porch are double doors, each with a small window centered on the upper half.

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East Elevation

On the grounds of the east elevation is an octagonal gazebo and sidewalk which continues from the front to the gazebo, and on to the back door and addition. The side has four one-over-one windows. Beneath, on the raised portion of the basement, are four smaller two-over-two, horizontal pane aluminum sash windows. Near the back corner is a door, housed within an added porch of concrete, covered by a lowered shingled roof that wraps around the corner to cover the addition.

North Elevation

The north elevation contains the addition of restrooms housed in a small square section covered with white siding. The addition contains two doors on the east side under the porch roof, a small horizontally-sliding window on the north side, and an identical window on the west side. These are the only windows and doors on the church that do not feature the brick pattern surrounding them. No alterations to the original structure were made during construction of the addition. Centered just under the eave on the original structure is an enclosed louver. To the west of the addition are two windows, one on the main level identical to those on the side of that level, and one beneath, identical to the others on the basement level.

West Elevation

The west elevation, from back to front, has one main level window and one basement window. Next is a covered ramp, which connects to the concrete slab on that side. The ramp leads to a door at the main level. Following the door are three main level windows, and three basement level windows. These have the same characteristics of the windows from their respective levels from the opposite side.

INTEGRITY

The Mallettown United Methodist Church, built circa 1947, retains with exceptional precision, all seven elements of integrity. The location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association all remain intact, with any additions made in a way that does not detract from the structure. The addition is small and to the rear, while the ramps are inconspicuous. The early Malletts of Mallettown would easily recognize this church as the one they built with the help of Silas Owens circa 1947.

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SUMMARY

Constructed in 1947, the Mallettown United Methodist Church is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C** as the only example of a Silas Owens Craftsman-style church in Mallettown, Conway County, Arkansas, with **Criteria Exception A**, for a religious property. Silas Owens was gaining popularity for his work in nearby towns of Faulkner County when the congregation of the church requested his services to construct the rock and brick veneer for the church. He added the signature touches he was well known for with the cream brick quoins, and three-in-three-out pattern in the brick around the windows and doors. The rock was laid in a meticulous herringbone pattern with great precision as was his style. The Mallettown United Methodist Church is being submitted under the multiple property listing, "**A Storm Couldn't Tear Them Down: The Mixed Masonry Buildings of Silas Owens, Sr., 1938-1955.**"

ELABORATION

Originally known as the community of Friendship, Mallettown earned its name because of the vast majority of the population sharing the last name "Mallett." The community was hard hit by natural disasters on several occasions of its existence up to the present time. Floods struck in 1924, 1927, 1957 and 1982. In 1937 Mallettown survived devastating tornados. Today, there aren't as many "Malletts" in Mallettown, but they have been replaced by newcomers.

The Mallettown United Methodist Church was in existence before the town's name change, and was known as the Friendship Methodist Episcopal South Church, founded in 1878. The pastor's pay at the time was recorded as \$60 a year, paid from a collection of \$1 a year per family.

When the time came for a new church in the mid-1940s, the congregation began to work. John Loyd, with the help of some younger members of the congregation, began digging the basement with the aid of a horse and scoop. The congregation pitched in and hired Silas Owens of Twin Groves to do the rock work, using local rock found in abundance in the area. The bell from the original church was salvaged, and now hangs in the porch of the rock church.

Several years ago, when the congregation began discussion of making additions to the church, several wanted to jeopardize the structure by cutting into the rock. The pastor at that time objected, seeing the beauty in the building's design. Thanks to him, only the interior has been remodeled since its construction.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

Book

FAULKNER COUNTY: Its Land and People. River Road Press. Copyright 1986 by the Faulkner County Historical Society.

Interviews

Oral History as told by *Owens, Silas, Jr.*, now deceased son of Silas Owens, Sr. Personal interviews by Special Projects Historian Holly Hope from January 2002, through January 2004.

Oral History as told by *Keys, Betty*, elder of the church. Interview by National Register Historian Benita Duvall on September 14, 2004.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

From the northwest corner of the Mallet Town Road and Town Circle Road intersection, proceed northerly 120 feet along the west side of Town Circle Road to the point of beginning. From the point of beginning, proceed northerly 80 feet, thence proceed westerly 160 feet, thence proceed southerly 80 feet, thence proceed easterly 160 feet to the point of beginning.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary includes all land historically associated with the Mallettown United Methodist Church.

Mallettown United
 Methodist Church
 Mallet Town, T 7 N
 Faulkner Co., 3904
 UTM REF:
 15/546410/3904157



Produced by the United States Geological Survey

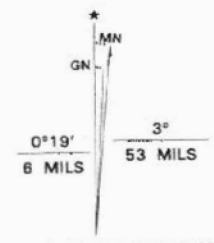
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1958. Field checked 1961. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1989-90. Field checked 1993. Map edited 1994

Universal Transverse Mercator projection
 10,000-foot grid ticks: Arkansas coordinate system, north zone
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 15, shown in blue
 1927 North American Datum (NAD 27)

North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks
 The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute intersections are given in USGS Bulletin 1875

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



UTM GRID AND 1994 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET