Name of Property: Mt. Zion Community Church

Location: Osage Township
(street and number)

(city, town, or vicinity location)

NE corner of the SW ¼ of Section 1, T 32, Range 17
/legal description

Labette
(county)

Owner of Property: Mt. Zion Church Association

Route 1
(street and number)

Cherryvale, Kansas
(city, town, county)

National Register status:

(date approved for nomination to the National Register by Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review)

(date entered in National Register)

Description: Mt. Zion Church is a rectangular, front-gable frame structure with projecting entrance tower/belfry. Pointed arched windows are utilized throughout. An old gas meter (Tobey No. 1, Erie, Pa.; Metric Metal Works; patent date December 13, 1892) is still on the

Significance: The Mt. Zion Church is a characteristic example of a small rural church of the 1890s. The church is historically associated with the rural community life in the area.

Form prepared by Julie A. Wortman date 6-30-79

This property was approved for listing in the Register of Historic Kansas Places by the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review on 6-30-79. I hereby certify that this property is included in the Register of Historic Kansas Places.

Signature: State Historic Preservation Officer
Date: July 3, 1979
DESCRIPTION:

premises. The interior still has the original sanctuary platform, wood wainscoting and wood flooring. The present roofing material is a recent treatment.
**HISTORIC PROPERTY INFORMATION FORM**

1. **Name and location of the property.** Mt. Zion Community Church Osage Township, Labette County. Commencing at the corner stone at the N.E. corner of the S.W. quarter of section (1) township (32) Range (17) E. R.R. 1, Cherryvale, Ks. 1 ½ mi. N and 3 mi. E.

2. **Who owns the property?**
   - Mt. Zion Church Association
   - address:
     - Rt. 1,
     - Cherryvale, Kansas 67335

3. **How is the property used?**
   - Church and Sunday School
   - Has it always been used for this?
   - Yes, until 1963 when it was closed.

4. **When was the structure built?** (explain how you determined the date of construction)
   - Mt. Zion Church was chartered in 1888 and dedicated in 1893. Information obtained from the deed and through old records.

5. **Do you know the name of the original owner?** (If so, please include.)
   - The ground was donated by P.B. Darling to the Methodist Episcopal Church Conference.

6. **Do you know who built the structure?** (If so, please include.)
   - Constructed by the church members and neighbors - all volunteer.

7. **Is an abstract available?** If so, where? Abstract is available and up to date.
   - In the possession of Mt. Zion Association, Rt. 1, Cherryvale, Kansas 67335

8. **Does the property look the same today as it did when it was first constructed?** (Tell what, if anything, has been changed. If you know when changes were made, that information would also be helpful.)
   - The structure is essentially the same, other than in a deteriorating condition.

**The Mt. Zion Church has been designated an Historical Site by the Labette County Board of Commissioners.**

9. **Why is this property important?** Many of the ancestors of the original members, 4th to 6th generation, still live in the community. It is the first church built in Osage Township. Located ½ mile from the Big Hill Dam now under construction. It has been a beautiful little church and loved by us. It is our desire to see it restored to the original state and preserved for future generations as a part of their heritage.

10. **Where did you find out about the property's history and importance?**
    - Through the Deed, old church records, the Labette County History book and the history related by a lady who lived to the age of 103 years, with a brilliant and clear mind, who loved the little church. Services first were conducted under the trees at the Will Johns home.
11. Please sketch a simple map showing the property and its relationship to surrounding structures and streets, providing a north arrow.

12. If there are other properties nearby, what are they like? Do they date from the same period, look the same, have similar functions, etc.?

Nice farm homes occupied by families that are descendents of the first families who settled in this area, built the church and tilled the land.

Please enclose at least one photograph of the property.

Your name and address:  

Mrs. Ruth L. Nixon  

R.R. 1,  

Cherryvale, Kansas 67335  

316-336-3386  

Date: January 17, 1979