

1690

### National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions on 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 Logan Methodist Church

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

#### 2. Location

street & number County Route 4 at County Route 2 [ ] not for publication

hamlet Logan (Town of Hector) [ ] vicinity

state New York code NY county Schuyler code 097 zip code 14818

#### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this [ X ] 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 as set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. in my opinion, the property [ X ] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant [ ] nationally [ ] statewide [ X ] locally. ([ ] see continuation sheet for additional comments.)

*J.W. Acker*

*13 December '00*

Signature of certifying official/Title : Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation Date

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation

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)

*Edson H. Beall*

Signature of the Keeper date of action

*1-26-01*



**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Logan Methodist Church  
Logan, Schuyler County, NY**

Section 7 Page 1

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**Description**

The Logan Methodist Church, built in 1833 and remodeled in 1878, is a large, rectangular Federal era frame building with a veneer of Victorian era embellishment. It sits on the southeast corner of the intersection of County Routes 2 and 4 in the tiny cross-roads hamlet of Logan in the sparsely populated, rural town of Hector on the western fringes of the expansive Finger Lakes National Forest. The one-acre lot upon which the former church sits is gently sloped and lightly wooded, particularly around the edges; the building itself is surrounded by a lawn. The building is currently vacant, but is being restored for use as a community center. Also located on the property is a contributing, late nineteenth century privy.

Built in 1833, the former church is simple, rectangular, gable-roofed, frame building resting on a slightly raised stone foundation. The heavy timber frame is sheathed with clapboard siding terminating in cornerboards. The roof features broadly projecting, bracketed eaves and is covered with standing-seam metal, reflecting the building's late nineteenth century remodeling. Also dating from the 1878 building campaign is a handsome central tower with a louvered belfry surmounted by a steeply pitched, pyramidal roof, each face of which is pierced by a decorative lancet window. The front (west) façade of the building is dominated by the slightly projecting tower, which is embellished with paired, Victorian-era lancet windows and a large, scroll-sawn, applied wood medallion. A large, double-leaf, molded wooden door—sheltered beneath a small pent roof—is located at the base of the tower. Tall, narrow, full-length, Gothic-arched windows with molded wood labels flank the central tower.

The north and south (side) elevations each feature three large, evenly spaced, Gothic-arched windows, also embellished with wood label molds. Projecting eastward from the rear (east) elevation of the building is a one-story frame wing that once served as the church's parish hall/Sunday school. Like the main block, this rear wing features a slightly raised stone foundation, clapboard siding, and a gable roof covered with standing-seam metal. Windows here, however, contain rectangular, 6-6 double hung sash. A tiny, gable-roofed, frame privy is adjacent to the inside corner of the rear wing where it meets the back of the main block.

**United States Department of the Interior  
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**Logan Methodist Church  
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Although the pews have been removed, several late nineteenth-century interior features survive intact. The large open space of the sanctuary as well as the smaller space of the narthex remain, as does a variety of decorative woodwork; notable fabric includes handsome beaded wainscoting throughout the building; plaster walls; original stairs in the narthex leading up to the choir loft; oak trim around door and window openings and numerous paneled wood doors, including a massive, triple-leaf door between the narthex and sanctuary. The former altar area is articulated by a turned balustrade and features a recessed arch that is surrounded by a bold, paneled entablature. Wall-to-wall carpeting currently obscures an older wooden floor. The rear wing also features beaded wainscoting and simple wood trim around door and window openings.

There is one contributing support structure located on the nominated property: a small, rectangular, gable-roofed, frame outhouse is located at the inside (northwest) corner of the rear wing where it meets the back of the main block.

Abandoned in 1970, the former church has suffered some deterioration. Concerned for the future of the much-neglected property, a group of local citizens united to form the Logan Community Association, which purchased the building in 1986. Since then, members of the association have been working to restore the edifice to its former grandeur in hopes of creating a viable center for community activities.

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**8. Statement of Significance**

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**Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

- A** Property 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 boxes that apply.)

- 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:** See continuation sheets

**Areas of Significance:**

(Enter categories from instructions)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Architecture

**Period of Significance:**

1833-1878

**Significant Dates:**

1833; 1878

**Significant Person:**

NA

**Cultural Affiliation:**

NA

**Architect/Builder:**

unknown

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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Teeter, Kirsten. "History Report: The Logan Church." 1987, unpublished typescript; copy available at NYS Division for Historic Preservation.

**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 Building 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 repository: Logan Community Association

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Logan Methodist Church  
Logan, Schuyler County, NY**

Section 8 Page 1

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**Significance**

The Logan Methodist Church, originally built in 1833, is architecturally significant as a substantially intact, representative example of nineteenth century religious architecture in the hamlet of Logan. While its Federal era origin is evinced by its simple, rectangular, gable-roofed form and heavy timber framing, the overall character of the buildings reflects its late nineteenth century remodeling in the Victorian mode. It is the only surviving public building in the tiny hamlet of Logan and serves as a visual reminder of the once-thriving, much larger settlement. The building was—and still is—the hamlet's most imposing local landmark and, despite recent deterioration due to neglect, it retains a substantial degree of integrity of design, materials, craftsmanship, setting, location, and feeling to the period of significance.

The hamlet now known as Logan was once the bustling mill village of Polkville, originally settled during the first decade of the nineteenth century. About 1816, eight local Methodists joined together with eight members and engaged the services of John Lambert, an itinerant preacher. Rev. Lambert ministered to the Logan Methodists only once a month, so large was his circuit. The congregation met in the hamlet's schoolhouse during its early years. Membership flourished; by 1832, the Methodists built their own facility, a vernacular, Federal style frame building overlooking present County Route 2 to the north. Services were held every Sunday; Lambert's successors included Abner Chase, Israel Chamberlain, Glezon Fillmore, Matthew Dodson, Alvin Terry, R.M. Everts, Gideon Lanning, W.J. Comstock and William H. Goodwin. By 1854, the thriving congregation boasted 130 members. At about this time, the church appears to have been turned counter-clockwise to face present County Route 4.

Meanwhile, Polkville was flourishing as well; local commercial and industrial ventures in 1854 included a veterinary practice and a feed mill; a tiny one-room school served the needs of the local youth. By 1874, there were twenty households in the hamlet. By the late 1800's the community boasted a post office, a general store (with an amusement hall in the upper story), a creamery, an icehouse, a slaughterhouse, a blacksmith's shop, a cobbler's shop, an inn, and a sawmill; the schoolhouse was enlarged around 1884.

**United States Department of the Interior  
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The Methodist congregation continued to grow during the last quarter of the nineteenth century, thus allowing the members to improve upon their aging building. In 1878, a tower was added to the front façade, and a veneer of Victorian-inspired ornamentation was applied to modernize the building. The interior was also updated at this time: galleries were added in the sanctuary and a variety of handsome woodwork was applied around door and window openings and in the altar area; beaded wainscoting was also added around the perimeter of the sanctuary and in most secondary spaces as well. With the exception of the loss of the galleries, the church survives substantially intact to this period: it is architecturally significant as a representative example of nineteenth-century ecclesiastical architecture in Schuyler County. While its basic Federal-period form and method of construction continues to recall early nineteenth building practice, the building's primary significance is as a late nineteenth century church in the Victorian mode.

By the early twentieth century, development in other sections of Schuyler County—better served by “modern” modes of transportation—bypassed predominantly rural, hard-to-reach towns such as Hector. Lakeside communities—such as Watkins Glen—flourished as tourist attractions, while cross-roads hamlets like Logan began to languish. Church congregations, like commercial and industrial ventures in the area, faltered and declined. Many congregations united in an effort to sustain their numbers; consequently, numerous small churches in rural communities were abandoned at an alarming rate. The Logan Church benefited from others' misfortunes, however: it inherited a massive, 1890 brass bell from its sister church in nearby Valois that was torn in 1942. The Logan Methodists joined with the Methodist congregation in nearby Ovid in 1968; subsequent services were held in Ovid and the Logan Church enjoyed only sporadic use. By 1970, it was abandoned altogether.

Sixteen years later, the then newly formed Logan Community Association purchased the property and began the lengthy process of rescuing the building from the brink of demolition by neglect. Much has been done to stabilize the structural components of the building, although much cosmetic work remains to be done. Nonetheless, even in its slightly deteriorated overall condition, the Logan Community Center remains a significant and imposing reminder of the hamlet's late nineteenth-century heyday. Particularly in the context of rural Schuyler County, the former church remains an outstanding example of nineteenth-century religious/public architecture in the region.

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property approximately 1 acre

UTM References: **18/349715/4705299**

**Verbal Boundary Description:** The boundary of the nominated property coincides with the legal lot lines as delineated on the attached county tax map.

**Boundary Justification:** The boundary coincides with the full extent of land historically and currently associated with the nominated resource.

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Nancy L. Todd, Program Analyst

organization Division for Historic Preservation

date September 2000

street & number Peebles Island, Box 189

telephone (518) 237-8643 x 3262

city or town Waterford

state NY zip code 12188

### 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.

### Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Logan Methodist Church  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Schuyler

DATE RECEIVED: 12/22/00 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/03/01  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1/20/01 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/05/01  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 00001690

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 1-26-01 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Entered in the  
National Register*

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



Logan Methodist Church  
Logan, Schuyler Co, NY  
Photo: A. Secord, 2000  
Neg: OPRHP

Photo: Front (west) facade



Logan Methodist Church

Logan, Schuyler Co, NY

Photo: A. Secord, 2000

Neg: ORRHP

Photo: detail, front tower

025 064 NNNC 1911:00 ELITE PHOTO



Logan methodist Church  
Logan, Schuyler Co, NY

Photo: A. Secord, 2000

Neg: OP2HP

View: Detail, front door

026 064 NNNC --- 15.11.00 ELITE PHOTO



Logan methodist Church  
Logan, Schuyler Co, NY

Photo: A. Secord, 2000

Neg: oPEHP

View: Altar area

017 064 NNNC 38A 15.11.00 ELITE PHOTO



Logan Methodist Church

Logan, Schuyler Co, NY

Photo: A. Secord, 2000

Neg: OPRHP

009 064 NNNC 30R 15.11.00 ELITE PHOTO

View: South elevation

Logan Methodist Church  
 Logan, Schuyler Co.  
 Burdett Quad, Zone 18  
 E: 349715  
 N: 4705249



NEW YORK STATE  
 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

BURDETT QUADRANGLE  
 NEW YORK-SCHUYLER CO.  
 7.5 MINUTE SERIES PLANIMETRIC

423766 DP



Prepared and published in 1978 by the New York State Department of Transportation, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration.

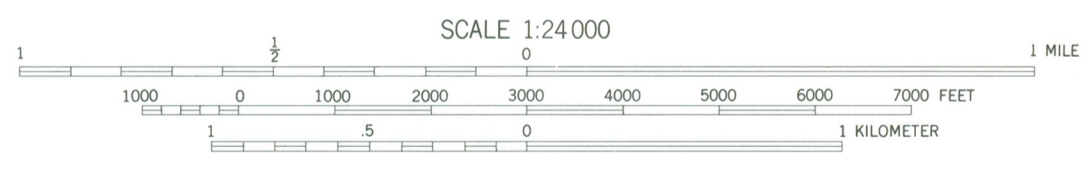
Map base from 1950 U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle.

Map revisions made using 1977 aerial photography, construction plans, official records and other sources. Features revised include: highways and other transportation facilities; civil boundaries; recreation sites; hydrography; and buildings. Grey tint indicates intensely developed areas in which only landmark buildings are shown.

Revisions may not comply with National Map Accuracy Standards.

Correspondence concerning this and other maps of the Department of Transportation should be directed to: Map Information Unit, New York State Department of Transportation, State Campus, Albany, New York 12232.

1978 revisions by G. D. Schmidt



SCALE 1:24,000

1 0000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET

1 0 1 KILOMETER

Polyconic projection, 1927 North American datum.

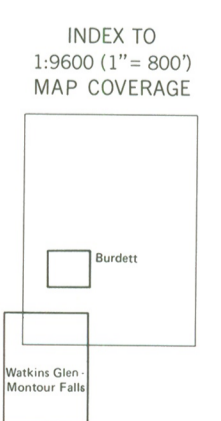
1000-meter ticks based on the New York Transverse Mercator grid.

Between 72° and 78° West Longitude, this grid is identical to Zone 18 of the Universal Transverse Mercator grid. Areas east of 72° and west of 78° are direct mathematical extensions of Zone 18.

10,000-foot ticks based on the New York Plane Coordinate grid, Central Zone.

SPECIAL TOPOGRAPHIC EDITION

Contours, at 10-foot intervals, shown unrevised from 1950 U.S. Geological Survey map. Datum is mean sea level.



BOUNDARIES:

State.....

County.....

Town or City.....

Incorporated Village.....

ROADS:

Touring Route markers:

Interstate.....

U. S. ....

State Highway number and limit.....

County road.....

Interchange number.....

Divided highways and streets:

Wide mall.....

Narrow mall or barrier.....

Undivided highways and streets:

4 or more lanes.....

Less than 4 lanes.....

Vehicle track; trail.....