1. **NAME**
   - HISTORIC: Antioch Christian Church
   - AND/OR COMMON: Antioch Community Church

2. **LOCATION**
   - STREET & NUMBER: 4805 N.E. Antioch Road
   - CITY, TOWN: Kansas City
   - STATE: Missouri

3. **CLASSIFICATION**
   - CATEGORY: DISTRICT
   - OWNERSHIP: PUBLIC
   - STATUS: OCCUPIED
   - PRESENT USE: EDUCATIONAL

4. **OWNER OF PROPERTY**
   - NAME: Antioch Community Church
   - STREET & NUMBER: 4805 N.E. Antioch Road
   - CITY, TOWN: Kansas City
   - STATE: Missouri

5. **LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**
   - COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Office of the Assessor, City Hall, 2nd Floor
   - STREET & NUMBER: 414 East 12th Street
   - CITY, TOWN: Kansas City
   - STATE: Missouri

6. **REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**
   - TITLE: Preliminary Inventory of Architecture and Historic Sites of Kansas City, Missouri
   - DATE: 1974
   - DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Landmarks Commission of Kansas City, Missouri
   - STATE: Missouri
2. Missouri Historic Sites Catalogue
   Edited by Dorothy J. Caldwell
   1963
   State Historical Society of Missouri
   Columbia, Missouri

3. Historical Drive-By Tour
   1972
   Clay County Historical Society
   Liberty, Missouri

4. Kansas City, A Place in Time
   1977
   Landmarks Commission of Kansas City
   Kansas City, Missouri
The Antioch Christian Church, 4805 N.E. Antioch Road, is located in Kansas City, Missouri's North District. The single story church has a frontage of approximately thirty-three feet on N.E. Antioch Road. The main facade of the rectangular structure is oriented to the west. In 1968 the church was moved approximately thirty feet south and restored as nearly as possible to its original condition.

The clapboard building is painted white. It measures approximately thirty-three feet in width and fifty-one and one-half feet in length, providing approximately 1700 square feet. The gable roof is covered with asbestos shingles, as is the shed roof of the rear addition. There is no chimney. The church was provided with a full concrete basement when it was moved. The squared rubble of the old foundation was reused at the top portion of the basement walls, so the rubble foundation remains visible from the exterior.

**West Facade**

The main facade features two sets of symmetrically placed, four-panel, wood double doors. Above the doors are painted glass transoms separated into four rectangular panels. Each set of doors is approached by two wooden steps. A brick walkway leads to the new church building on the north. The paired doors are five feet in width and are separated by a space of nine feet, nine inches.

**North and South Facades**

The north and south facades are articulated by four symmetrically placed, rectangular, sixteen-over-eight, double hung, sash windows.

**East Facade**

A shed roofed addition is located across most of the rear (east) facade of the building. A door on the north side of this addition leads to the basement of the building. Offset to the north is a door, approached by two wooden steps, leading to the interior of the church. The addition is constructed of vertical board and batten. A brick walkway from the rear doorway leads to the new church building.

**Interior**

The interior of the church has been restored and is furnished with some original pieces, including the pulpit. The wood-burning stoves, pews, and lighting devices are not the original, but are from the same time period.

**Alterations**

1) The original windows were replaced around 1930.
2) An addition was added to the south side of the church between 1935-1940. The two front doors were replaced with windows and a new doorway connected the two wings. It was probably at this time that the altar of the church was shifted from the east wall to the west wall, as it remains today. This addition was removed when the church was restored in 1968.
3) An addition to the east facade was added around 1968.
**CONDITION**

The building has been restored and is in good condition.

**SITE**

The new church building and its surfaced parking lot are located to the north. To the south and west are residential structures. East of the building is the c. 1880 Anti-Horse-Thief Building, which was moved to its present location from south of the church in the 1930's.  

**PRESENT STATUS**

The building is no longer used as a church. The church was restored by the Antioch Christian Church Historical Society and used as its headquarters. With the restoration work finished, last year the Society disbanded and the church is now the responsibility of the Heritage Committee of the Antioch Community Church Board. Church groups and community groups occasionally use the church for meetings.

**FOOTNOTES**

1. Lawrence McCarthy, Antioch Community Church, North Kansas City, c. 1969.

2. Ibid.


5. Interview with Fred Rickets, Chairman of Heritage Committee of Antioch Community Church Board, 29 April 1978.
The Antioch Christian Church, 4805 N.E. Antioch Road, is located in Kansas City's North District. The church is one of the oldest in the area and was the church home of many prominent Clay County families. Architecturally, the simple structure is typical of early rural churches. It was founded by a nationally known minister and writer, Moses E. Lard and was associated for many years with a prominent local minister, Frederick V. Loos.

### History of the Church

The church was organized on September 4, 1853, at a camp ground on the Winn farm by Moses Easterly Lard. The church was named after the congregation of Antioch in Syria, where the apostle Paul spent part of his early ministry. Lard was minister of the church for two years. The congregation held monthly meetings at the Winn farm site during the summer months and during the winter occupied a school house on the same property. In 1859, six years after the founding of the church, the frame building was constructed at a cost of $1,800. Church members Ben Rickets, Sam Campbell and John H. Williams were named to the committee to superintend the construction. The first meeting in the new building was on October 15, 1859. The land for the church was donated by another church member, Thomas Morton. When the church was built, it was located in deep woods and served a rural farming community. During the early years the congregation consisted of 100 to 150 members, with the membership being maintained largely through annual revival meetings. The church had separate entrance doors for men and women and the segregation was continued on the interior by a wood rail running down the center aisle.

For the fifty years following Lard's ministry, the congregation was served by various part-time preachers, until 1908 when Frederick V. Loos became the minister. By the late 1920's the church membership had reached its lowest point. Membership in rural churches was declining as the trend toward city living grew. In addition, many farmers lost their lands as a result of the depression. A number of rural churches were forced to close their doors as the congregations moved to larger communities and joined city churches. After the death of Loos in June 1930 the congregation came near disbanding. Some of the long-time members called a meeting and invited J.B. Iden, editor of the North Kansas City News to speak. He recalled the past history of the church and the continuing need for the church to provide "...a spiritual refuge, a quiet place for high thought and deep meditations, as a link between the old and the new, as a blessing to a suburban community just as it has been to farm folk in Clay County for generations." At the close of the emotional meeting, the members voted to continue the church as a non-denominational community church.
In 1885, under the auspices of the Women's Council of the church, the first annual Antioch Strawberry Festival was held. The church had become an important center of social life in the area and the festival became a Clay County tradition that continues today. The church was also the site of concerts, musicals and literary readings in the late 1890's.

In 1935 fund raising began for a wing to the south part of the original church, for Sunday School and community activities. The congregation, not wishing to go in debt, adopted a pay-as-you-go plan, and thus the building project was not completed until 1940. Part of the building funds were obtained through the production of out-door plays on the church grounds, involving many community members and attracting audiences of up to six hundred. The church continued to be used for services until Easter Sunday 1957, when a new sanctuary was completed.

In 1964 the Antioch Community Church Historical Society was organized. They moved the church to a new foundation and began the process of restoring it as nearly as possible to its original condition, including the removal of the passage linking it to the 1935-40 Sunday School addition. The restoration was under the supervision of church member, Hugh Loughrey. In 1977, with the restoration completed, the Historical Society disbanded and the management of the church was turned over to the Heritage Committee of the Antioch Community Church Board.

MOSES E. LARD

At the time of the founding of the church, Moses Lard was the pastor of the First Christian Church at Liberty, Missouri. Lard was a native of Tennessee. In 1832 his father, Lavan Lard, a hunter attracted by the wild game of Western Missouri, moved the family to Haynesville, Missouri. At the age of twelve, following the death of his father, Lard was apprenticed to a tailor in Liberty. He learned to write at age seventeen by tearing down and copying old advertisements posted around Liberty. He attracted the attention of Alexander Doniphan, then a young attorney, who enlisted the aid of friends and taught the boy to read. He eventually sponsored him at Bethany College, West Virginia. After founding the Antioch Church, Lard rose in the ministry, becoming one of the great Campbellite preachers of his day. Although he continued a few years as part-time minister for the church, the major part of his ministry was spent in the evangelistic field. He was noted as an orator, a Greek scholar, and a prolific writer. Lard's Quarterly, published in the 1860's was a magazine of religious doctrine and Lard's own stories, including tales of his youth in pioneer Missouri. It was through the Quarterly that he came to national attention. He was offered $5,000 to contribute pieces to the New York Ledger, but refused because he felt his style of writing did not lend itself to regular contribution.
the Disciples of Christ (Campbellite) denomination to write a reply to the book Campbellism Explained. The review was published in 1857 and its wide circulation added to his growing prestige. In 1869 he became editor of the Apostolic Times.24 He also wrote a scholarly commentary on Romans.25

Lard was also a champion of education and equal rights for women. In line with this philosophy, he became the President of the Camden Point Female Academy in Platte County.26 Lard spent most of his life in Clay County and his residence in Liberty still stands.27

FREDERICK V. LOOS

Loos was born in Bethany, West Virginia and attended school there. He later graduated from Transylvania College in Lexington, Kentucky where his father was President of the school. He spent over forty-five years as a minister in Clay County. He had the record of performing over 6,000 wedding ceremonies, more than any other minister in the state.28 In 1898 he served the Christian Church in the Barry Community as a part-time minister.29 From 1906 to 1930 he was the minister for the Antioch Christian Church and became known as the "little shepherd of Clay County." Following his death, the church became a community, non-denominational congregation.30

The survey of Missouri's historic sites is based on the selection of sites as they relate to theme studies in "Missouri's State Historic Preservation Plan." The Antioch Christian Church, therefore, is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places as an example of the themes of "Architecture," "Exploration and Settlement," and "Society."

FOOTNOTES


3. Antioch Christian Church scrapbooks, correspondence from Margaret Porter Nall, 16 September 1930.


16. Interview with Fred Rickets, Chairman, Heritage Committee, Antioch Community Church Board, 29 April 1978.


MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Antioch Christian Church Scrapbooks.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than one (1) acre

QUADRANGLE NAME: "North Kansas City, Mo.-Kans.

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

A 1 5 3 6 6 0 0 4 3 3 7 8 4 0

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

QUADRANGLE SCALE: 1:24,000

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:
PRT OF SW 1/4 SEC 31-52-32 & PRT NW 1/4 NW 1/4 SEC 6-50-32 BEG SW COR SD SEC 31 TH N 60 FT TH E 164 FT TH S 80 FT TH W 164 FT TH N 20 FT TO BEG EXC PRT IN ANTIOCH RD

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE: Sherry Piland, Chief Research Historian

ORGANIZATION: Landmarks Commission of Kansas City, Missouri

DATE: June 29, 1978

STREET & NUMBER: 26th Floor E., City Hall; 414 East 12th Street

TELEPHONE: 816/274-2555

CITY OR TOWN: Kansas City

STATE: Missouri

64106

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE ___ LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE: Director, Department of Natural Resources and State Historic Preservation Office

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION
9. Interview with Fred Rickets, Chairman, Heritage Committee, Antioch Community Church Board, 29 April 1978.
16. "Moon Shines on Old Rip." Kansas City Times, 4 November 1933, p. C.
17. "Old Antioch Church." Kansas City Journal-Post, 3 September 1922, sec. 3, p. 5.


Antioch Christian Church
U.S.G.S. 7.5' Quadrangle
"North Kansas City, Mo.-Kans." (1975)
scale 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCE
15/366300/4337840
Antioch Christian Church #1
Kansas City, Missouri
photographer: Bob Noback
1976

Kansas City Landmarks Commission
City Hall, 26th Floor, East
414 East 12th Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

Front (west) facade on left and south facade on right. View looking northeast.
South facade of church, view looking north.
Antioch Christian Church #3
Kansas City, Missouri
photographer: Sherry Piland
April, 1978

Kansas City Landmarks Commission
City Hall - 26th Floor, East
414 E. 12th Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

Anti-horse Thief Building in rear (on left); main (west) facade of church. View looking southeast.
Antioch Christian Church
Kansas City, Missouri
Photographer: Sherry Piland
April, 1978

Kansas City Landmarks Commission
City Hall - 26th Floor, East
414 E. 12th Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

Rear (east) facade on left; north facade on right. View looking southwest.
Antioch Christian Church #5
Kansas City, Missouri
Photographer: Sherry Piland
September, 1978

Kansas City Landmarks Commission
City Hall - 26th Floor, East
414 E. 12th Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

Interior of church; view looking west.