NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME
   COMMON:
   Old German Church and Cemetery
   AND/OR HISTORIC:
   German Protestant Society (Lutheran)

2. LOCATION
   STREET AND NUMBER:
   Route 32 one mile south of Waldoboro Village
   CITY OR TOWN:
   Waldoboro
   STATE:
   Maine
   CODE:
   18
   COUNTY:
   Lincoln
   CODE:
   015

3. CLASSIFICATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>Public</td>
<td>Occupied</td>
<td>Yes:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Unoccupied</td>
<td>Restricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Preservation</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Object</td>
<td>Public Acquisition</td>
<td>In Process</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Being Considered</td>
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</table>

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)
[ ] Agricultural
[ ] Commercial
[ ] Educational
[ ] Government
[ ] Industrial
[ ] Military
[ ] Museum
[ ] Private Residence
[ ] Religious
[ ] Park
[ ] Transportation
[ ] Other (Specify)
[ ] Scientific
[ ] Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
German Protestant Society (Incorporated 1810)

STREET AND NUMBER:
Route 32

CITY OR TOWN:
Waldoboro

STATE:
Maine

CODE:
18

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Lincoln County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Wiscasset

STATE:
Maine

CODE:
18

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY:
1933-1966

[ ] Federal
[ ] State
[ ] County
[ ] Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE:
D. C.

CODE:
08
Present structure located on hillside, west side of the Medomak River. Plain, unadorned two story structure of wood on stone underpinning, without cellar. Painted yellow. Interior—lower floor with box pews made of pine wood. Second story gallery on three sides of church held up by pillars supported on the first floor foundations front and east end of church. This church contains a beautiful pulpit reached by a short stairway and the pulpit is backed by a fine sounding board.

The building is about 30 feet by 45 feet on the base and 30 feet high. There is an entrance and stair well addition which is about 10 feet square on the base and 22 feet high. The frame is sound as are the original clapboards on three sides. The fourth side has been sheathed with new clapboards in recent years. The fourth side is the east side. It is reputed that there was a porch at one time. It has been removed. The bottom windows on three sides have 24 lights each. All the other windows have 20 lights each. There is no chimney. This church is located on a plot of land consisting of 24 acres in area. Within this area is the church and a cemetery. A lane extending west from State Route 32, up a sharp rise leads by the church and into and through the cemetery. The lane starts beyond the highway right of way, at an iron arch supported by two granite block uprights.

This building was moved from private property on the east side of the Medomak River to the original ministerial lot on the west side of the river, hence the check mark in the Moved and Original Site boxes. The present physical appearance of the building is good. This building was moved across the river in the year of 1794-1795 in the winter, on the ice. The church was set up for services in the spring of 1795. The grounds are well cared for and all the monuments in the cemetery are upright and in place.
The Town of Waldoboro received its name from Samuel Waldo, born in England in 1696, brought to Boston as a boy and eventually appointed to command a brigade of Maine troops. He showed his enterprise by offering inducements for European immigration into Maine and in 1752 got Germans to found the settlement of Waldoborough.

This church was built in 1772, moved over ice to its present location in 1794, and is now maintained as a local memorial by the German Protestant Society.

At the time of the move the church was an austere frame house, hardly constructed, and owned by 32 German Lutherans. There were no box-like pews, no galleries, no hanging pulpit back in the 1790's. The pulpit of the church was served for more than 20 years by a series of unlettered pastors. After the building was moved, Rev. Friedrich Augustus Rodolphus Benedictus Ritz of Germany became the parish's first ordained minister. He was greatly respected and his sermons, of course, were always in the German of the town's forefathers in the Old Country.

The next minister for the congregation came in 1811 after the death of Rev. Ritz. This was Rev. Johannes Wilhelm Starman, an able and devoted pastor. Despite his efforts his ministry was one of slow decline in the history of the church. This was due to the fact that the older inhabitants insisted the Word be preached only in the German language which was unintelligible to the third generation which spoke English almost exclusively. The language factor sealed the fate of the old parish and eventually the church was abandoned and stands today as a memorial to the past.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Johnston, John, History of Bristol and Bremen
Williamson, William D., History of the State of Maine, Hallowell, 1832
Varney, George J., A Gazetteer of the State of Maine, B. B. Russell, Boston, 1886
The Courier-Gazette, Coastal Courier Edition, Rockland, Maine, September 14, 1969, p. 21 (newspaper article)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>44° 6' 1&quot;</td>
<td>69° 24' 52&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>SE</td>
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<td>SW</td>
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<td>69° 25' 53&quot;</td>
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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

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

STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE
STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE
STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE
STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: John W. Briggs, Historian
ORGANIZATION: State Park & Recreation Commission
STREET AND NUMBER: State House
CITY OR TOWN: Augusta
STATE: Maine CODE 18

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-655), 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☑ Local ☐

Name: Lawrence Stuart
Title: Director

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

______________________________
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

DATE: ________________________

ATTEST:

______________________________
Keeper of The National Register

DATE: ________________________