**1 NAME**

HISTORIC  St. Luke's Lutheran Church Cemetery

AND/OR COMMON  Sandy Springs Cemetery

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  E side of SR 1183, 0.5 mi. S of jct. with SR 1176

CITY, TOWN  Tyro

STATE  North Carolina

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>PRESENT USE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DISTRICT</td>
<td>PUBLIC</td>
<td>OCCUPIED</td>
<td>AGRICULTURE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUILDING(S)</td>
<td>PRIVATE</td>
<td>UNOCCUPIED</td>
<td>PARK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STRUCTURE</td>
<td>BOTH</td>
<td>WORK IN PROGRESS</td>
<td>EDUCATIONAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SITE</td>
<td>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</td>
<td>ACCESSIBLE</td>
<td>PRIVATE RESIDENCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBJECT</td>
<td>IN PROCESS</td>
<td>YES: RESTRICTED</td>
<td>ENTERTAINMENT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>BEING CONSIDERED</td>
<td>X: YES UNRESTRICTED</td>
<td>RELIGIOUS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME  St. Luke's Lutheran Church

STREET & NUMBER  Highway 150

CITY, TOWN  Lexington

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC  Register of Deeds, Davidson County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN  Lexington

**6 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE  Ruth Little, Consultant

ORGANIZATION  Survey and Planning Branch

STREET & NUMBER  Division of Archives and History

CITY OR TOWN  Raleigh

DATE  July 26, 1983

TELEPHONE  919/733-6545

STATE  North Carolina  27611
St. Luke's Lutheran Church Cemetery contains a total of some 300 gravestones, of which about 50 are of local manufacture. The earliest inscribed gravestone has a death date of 1804. The small number of early gravestones and the fact that none of the major styles of gravestone carving are represented with the exception of one gravestone by the Swisegood School and three stones by the "Master of the Upper and Lower Case" indicates that the congregation was small and outside the range of activity of most of the stonecutting workshops. The following gravestones, grouped by schools, are most significant:

### Miscellaneous Early Phase
- **Gotfrid Ratz**: 1804 - crude fieldstone
- **Margrt Rats**: 1806 - crude fieldstone
- **Heinrich Clement**: 1737-1807 - semicircular tympanum
- **Barbara Rats**: 1811-1816 - circular monogrammed tympanum
- **M. H.**: 1828-? - semicircular monogrammed tympanum
- **George Lookin(bee?)**: 1793-1825 - semicircular tympanum

### Master of the Upper and Lower Case
- **Thomas L. Hartley**: 1836-1837
- **Thomas Heartley**: 1762-1842
- **John W. Hartley**: 1834-1843

### Professional marble stones
- **Adam Swicegood**: 1752-1833 - signed "Lauder, Fayetteville"
- **Catharina Swicegood**: 1764-1852 - probated to Lauder, Fayetteville
- **George Swicegood**: 1834-1886 - Masonic gravestone signed "H. J. Hege"

### Miscellaneous
- **Barbary C. Smith**: 1837-1838 - Swisegood School
- **Conroad Grubb**: 1835-1842 - simple geometric shape
SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD
- PREHISTORIC
- 1400-1499
- 1500-1599
- 1600-1699
- 1700-1799
- 1800-1899
- 1900

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW
- ARCHEOLOGY: PREHISTORIC
- ARCHEOLOGY: HISTORIC
- AGRICULTURE
- ARCHITECTURE
- ART
- COMMERCE
- COMMUNICATIONS
- COMMUNITY PLANNING
- CONSERVATION
- CONSERVATION
- ECONOMICS
- EDUCATION
- ENGINEERING
- EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
- INDUSTRY
- INVENTION
- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- LAW
- LITERATURE
- MILITARY
- MUSIC
- PHILOSOPHY
- POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
- RELIGION
- SCIENCE
- SCULPTURE
- SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
- THEATER
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES: various
STONECUTTERS: Lauder, Hege, unknown others

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

John Adam Swicegood (1752-1833) deeded land for the first church building in 1790, known as Sandy Creek Lutheran Church. A few years later, the church moved to the present site and was renamed St. Luke's.¹

Footnote
¹Monument located in cemetery; Sink and Matthews, Pathfinders Past and Present: A History of Davidson County, North Carolina, 393-394.

CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

A, C Derives primary significance from the unique collection of folk gravestones by local stonecutters erected here in the late eighteenth and first half of the nineteenth centuries. These highly decorative soapstone gravestones with folk symbols for resurrection and eternity represent the height of folk art accomplishment within the craft community of the Anglo-German farmers of north Davidson County.

Contains a small but significant collection of markers dating from the early nineteenth century by amateur stonecutters largely unaffected by the major stonecutting workshops in Davidson County.
The cemetery boundaries include an area of roughly 1 1/2 acres with the approximate dimensions of 200 feet by 275 feet in a rectangular configuration as shown on the U.S. Geological Survey map, Churchland, N.C.-Quadrangle.