State of North Carolina
Division of Archives and History

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY FORM FOR

XX MULTIPLE RESOURCE XX THEMATIC NOMINATION

1 NAME
HISTORIC Good Hope Methodist Church Cemetery
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER NW jct. of NC 150 and SR 1445
CITY TOWN Welcome
STATE North Carolina

XX VICINITY OF 
CITY TOWN Welcome
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>COMMERCIAL</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>RELIGIOUS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BEING CONSIDERED</td>
<td>YES UNRESTRICTED</td>
<td>SCIENTIFIC</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>CEMETERY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Good Hope Methodist Church
STREET & NUMBER Route 4, Box 490
CITY TOWN Lexington

STATE North Carolina

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE Register of Deeds Office, Davidson County Courthouse
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC
STREET & NUMBER
CITY TOWN Lexington
STATE North Carolina

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
Good Hope Methodist Church Cemetery contains about 350 gravestones. The earliest, located near the main highway, are a group of about 26 locally crafted gravestones. The first few markers, dated 1834 and 1836, are crude, plain fieldstones with no artistic significance, but a group of at least eight, dating 1836-1862, are the work of the "Master of the Upper and Lower Case," a minor folk master who apparently lived in the Welcome vicinity. The John Zimmerman headstone, dated 1843, is one of the rare examples of the fussy over-elaboration of the "Pierced Style" design idiom. The following gravestones, grouped by schools, are most significant:

**Master of the Upper and Lower Case**

Levi Yonts 1833-1836  
Sarah Hage 1773-1843  
Henry Link 1842-1843  
William Phillips 1789-1842  
Jacob Lopp 1821-1847  
Solomon Hanes 1813-1847  
Rebecca Caroline Phillips 1838-1848  
Sarah Hanes 1813-1862

**Swisegood School**

John Zimmerman 1842-1843
8 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
- 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:** unknown

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

Good Hope Methodist Church was established as a Methodist-Episcopal congregation about 1836. The history of this congregation has not been published, and this date has been determined by the earliest inscribed gravestone in the cemetery.

**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 one of the largest groupings of gravestones by the "Master of the Upper and Lower Case" in the county, and may have been the home church of this anonymous folk stonecutter.
The cemetery boundaries include an area of roughly 2 acres with the approximate dimensions of 200 feet by 300 feet by 350 feet by 150 feet by 150 feet in a polygonal configuration as shown on the U.S. Geological Survey map, Welcome, N.C. Quadrangle.