

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *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 Goler Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church

other names/site number (former) East Fourth Street Baptist Church

2. Location

street & number 1435 East Fourth Street Not for publication

city or town Winston-Salem vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Forsyth code 067 zip code 27101

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Jeffrey G. Cross SHPD 12/18/98
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State of Federal agency and bureau

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:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain.) _____	_____	_____

Goler Metropolitan AME-Zion Church
Name of Property

Forsyth, NC
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>1</u>		Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

-0-

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
Historic & Architectural African-American Resources in Northeastern Winston-Salem 1900-1948.

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Classical Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Brick

roof composition shingle

other cast stone
wood

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Goler Metropolitan AME Zion Church
Name of Property

Forsyth, NC
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

- A** Property is 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 the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- 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

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 Buildings Survey

- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Social History

Ethnic Heritage/Black

Architecture

Period of Significance

1924-1948

Significant Dates

1924

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Goler Metropolitan AME Zion Church
Name of Property

Forsyth, NC
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 | 17 | 569550 | 3995050 |
Zone Easting Northing
2 | | | |

3 | | | | |
Zone Easting Northing
4 | | | | |

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lanndon Edmunds Obermann

organization Historic Preservation & Planning Consultant date March 1998

street & number 1500 Overbrook Avenue telephone 336/721-1949

city or town Winston-Salem state NC zip code 27104

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.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Goler Metropolitan AME Zion Church Trustees

street & number 1435 East 4th Street telephone 336/723-2325

city or town Winston-Salem state NC zip code 27104

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Projects (1024-018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Forsyth County, NC

Narrative Description

Setting

Goler Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Zion Church is a handsome Classical Revival-style brick building erected in 1924 at the northwest corner of East Fourth Street and Dunleith Avenue; its principal facade faces south. Known simply as Goler Metropolitan, the building is a landmark in a residential area with blocks of intact houses and scattered commercial uses, especially on nearby Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, that have lost their earlier, well-maintained luster. The church is set back from the sidewalk; a wide concrete walkway flanked by lawns and large boxwood bushes leads to broad concrete entrance steps ascending to the porch. Elliptical and round-arched openings ornament the front facade. To the east side is Dunleith Avenue and the grounds and parking lot of the former City Hospital, built in 1913-1914 and now converted to apartments. According to a church member, the hospital had a big lawn extending to Dunleith that contributed to the pleasant atmosphere of the neighborhood; most of this has been paved for parking and is now bordered by a chain link fence along Dunleith.¹ Along the west side of the church is a narrow concrete driveway. Goler's retains its residential neighbors in the 1400 block of East Fourth Street. Eleven one- and two-story frame houses built in the 1910s remain; however, some of the houses are run-down and the neighborhood does not enjoy the health and stability it once did. Extending behind the church to East Fifth Street is a large paved parking lot. Goler has never had an associated graveyard.

Exterior

Goler Metropolitan is a front-gabled brick church with two prominent domed towers anchoring its front corners. The sanctuary is rectangular in plan with a front-gabled roof. The Akron-plan interior is evident from the one-story hipped-roof wings which run the length of each side elevation beneath the stained glass windows of the sanctuary. At the rear is a transverse wing, and behind it a large tripartite rear ell with three-story pedimented center portion. All is original to the building's 1924 construction and shows in the 1924 Sanborn Map, labeled "From Plans." The front facade is a distinguished symmetrical composition featuring a central block recessed between the pair of matching towers. Stuccoed Doric columns and Ionic pilasters support a prominent pedimented porch with full entablature that projects from the central block, slightly overlapping the edges of the towers.² An arcade of a large central elliptical arch and two small half-round flanking arches extends between the towers and opens onto the recessed porch. On the back wall of the porch, five

¹ Interview, Hattie Elliott.

² The Doric columns are believed to be 1940s or 1950s replacements of original Ionic columns.

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stained-glass windows, with three grouped to be framed by the large central arch, illuminate the sanctuary. Above the arcade in the center of the gable front is another group of five stained-glass windows that also illuminate the sanctuary. At each end of the arcaded porch, double-leaf half-glazed doors open into the vestibules in the towers.

The church is built of red brick laid up in stretcher bond. The towers themselves are two stories of brick matching that of the main block, with windows lighting the vestibules on both levels. First-floor windows have flat soldier course lintels of yellow brick; on the second floor they are round-arched with red header courses and cast stone keystones. Between the two levels are recessed brick panels, each with a cast stone cross. A parapet with cast stone cap projects above the dentil cornice of the brick towers. This cornice extends unbroken along all three sides of the towers and the upper side elevations of the sanctuary. The third tier of each tower is a large wooden cupola, octagonal in shape with open round arches supporting a domed roof. Metal screening has been added to keep out the pigeons but is not noticeable.

A granite marker placed on the front porch in January, 1987, reads: "Dr. M. L. K., Jr. spoke here at Goler Metropolitan A. M. E. Zion Church Monday, April 13, 1964 for Voter Registration Project of Winston-Salem." The white marble cornerstone at the southeast corner reads: "Goler Metropolitan A. M. E. Zion Church, established March 15, 1942 and dedicated October 18, 1953." A concrete handicap ramp with metal rail has been added west of the front door, masked by one of the large boxwood bushes on the front lawn.

Sides and rear

On the east and west sides of the rectangular central block, one-story flat-roofed wings on raised basements mark the length of the sanctuary, connecting (and extending slightly outward from) the backs of the towers and two-story blocks behind the sanctuary that balance the towers in the overall composition. Above the one-story side wings, at the upper level of the main block, are four bays of large, round-arched stained glass windows with bold round-arched and radiating mullions creating a band of small segmental windows lining the arched opening. Simpler windows appear in the wings, where the first story has four bays of one-over-one double-hung sash with soldier-course lintels of yellow brick abutting a dentil cornice and four bays of double-hung sash at the basement level. Basement windows on the west side are six-over-six, while on the east along Dunleith Avenue they are larger nine-over-nine, reflecting the deeper basement wall created by the downward slope of the site. A yellow brick water table, broken only by the front portico, runs around the building and serves as the basement window lintels. All windows have sills of yellow brick.

The projecting two-story blocks at the rear of the sanctuary, part of the education annex original to the building, have flat parapetted roofs and the same dentil cornice that appears elsewhere. A large

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round-arched entrance, accessed by a flight of brick steps parallel to the street, and stained glass windows above mark the east block. A plain entrance at a flight of metal steps and simple one-over-one windows mark the west. An original exterior brick chimney rises from the west block.

A large, tripartite wing extending to the rear (north) accommodates much of the education annex. The central five-bay unit is three stories with a pedimented gable roof. Beneath the pediment, fenestration of the upper two levels is one-over-one windows with yellow brick soldier course lintels. In the bottom level, a continuation of the raised basement of the front blocks, are five nine-over-nine windows similar to those on the east side. The two-story side units have flat parapetted roofs and windows identical to those of the taller central unit but only on the east and west sides. Dentil cornices mark the upper facades of all three units.

Interior

The symmetrical design of the church's main facade and sides reflects the balanced plan within. The main entrances lead from the front porch to vestibules in each tower base.³ From each vestibule, a stair leads to the balcony and tower. The stairs have simple Craftsman-style newels with molded rail and turned pickets; these are painted. The vestibules open into a generously proportioned sanctuary space essentially square in plan and designed on a north-south axis; it is an Akron plan with a theater-style sanctuary and adjoining one-story side spaces in the wings for extra seating or Sunday school classes. Large well-executed stained glass windows illuminate the sanctuary. The walls and ceiling are plaster, and pews are stained wood, each with its inset end panel painted white. Beneath each window bay is a three-part partition separating the one-story side spaces, with square panelled columns separating the bays. Each partition is made up of three rows of paneled wood; the center panels can remain in place to create a room-like space, or be raised to reveal three large, unglazed openings to expand seating capacity for the sanctuary. In the sanctuary, a curved and molded rail with panelled balustrade separates the raised pulpit and stage from the seating area. Behind this, the choir area is defined by another panelled balustrade with Craftsman-style square posts. On either side of the north wall, a wide elliptical-arch doorway with leaded stained-glass doors and transom leads to the education annex. A large balcony spans the width of the rear south wall and is accessed from the vestibules. Behind and north of the sanctuary is the two-story education annex, original to the building, that contains a row of large vestment closets, church offices, the pastor's study, conference rooms, nursery, and Sunday School rooms. These spaces generally retain the primary elements of their 1924 construction and finish of white plaster walls and ceiling, and painted wood moldings and stair balustrades. Stored in the basement is the 1924 cornerstone of the East Fourth Street Baptist Church.

³ The vestibules were carpeted in 1965.

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Goler Metropolitan AME Zion Church
Forsyth County, NC

Summary

The building we know today as Goler Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church was erected in 1924 to serve the white congregation of the East Fourth Street Baptist Church when this part of East Winston was still a white neighborhood. The church housed the worship services of the white Baptist congregation for almost twenty years until 1942, when that congregation disbanded and sold the building. Acquired by an African-American congregation of the A.M.E.Z. denomination that had recently split from its fire-damaged home church (Goler Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church at 630 Patterson Avenue; NR 1998), the building was renovated for the new congregation and opened for worship and religious education as Goler Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church in March, 1942. In 1953, the congregation changed their name to Goler Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church. Goler Metropolitan represents an important aspect of the religious, social, and political life of Winston-Salem. Goler Metropolitan meets Criterion A in the contexts of social history and African-American heritage because it reflects the growth of the African-American population in Winston-Salem as it spread to the north and east from Depot Street and Columbian Heights, establishing new neighborhoods and adopting formerly white neighborhoods and churches for new congregations. It is a reminder of the extraordinary transformation of East Winston from a successful white neighborhood to an equally successful African-American neighborhood in less than two years. These historic contexts are more fully discussed in the Multiple Property Documentation Form, "Historic and Architectural African-American Resources of Northeastern Winston-Salem, 1900 to 1948," in Section I, Part II, "The Realization of the African-American Community in Neighborhoods in Northeastern Winston-Salem, 1900 to 1948." The building is also important architecturally as an intact example of the Classical Revival style in religious architecture in Forsyth County. It is among the more prominent of the churches remaining, and one of only a few pre-1948 Classical Revival church buildings in Winston-Salem, with details that embody the distinctive characteristics of the style and identify its time period and original use. The building retains its historic form, floor plans, and materials and thus retains architectural integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. In addition, Goler Metropolitan retains its urban setting, siting, and orientation to the street and sidewalk. Few alterations have been made to the exterior of the church; the handicap ramp added some years ago on the west front is sympathetic and well screened. Therefore, Goler Metropolitan meets National Register Criterion C in the area of architecture as a little-changed representative of the Classical Revival style of church architecture. Finally, Goler Metropolitan satisfies Criteria Consideration A regarding religious structures because it derives its primary significance from architectural distinction and historical importance.

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Historical Background

The Goler Metropolitan congregation traces its roots to the Winston Tabernacle A.M.E. Church, begun in the Depot Street neighborhood in 1881, only eight years after R.J. Reynolds built his first tobacco company in that area and drew large numbers of African-Americans to the then small town of Winston. They later chose the name Goler Memorial in honor of Dr. W.H. Goler, who helped organize the church, donated the land for a building, and later became the second president of Livingstone College in Salisbury, North Carolina.⁴ In 1918 the congregation built its third church on the site, a Gothic Revival brick church on Patterson Avenue, then called Depot Street. Goler Memorial was representative of the rapid improvement of that neighborhood as its African-American residents became more affluent.

Major change took place in the 1940s. In 1941, the Goler congregation had made the final payment on the mortgage on the 1918 building, and in celebration a banquet was held on a cold Friday night in January as a thanksgiving and mortgage burning. Later that night a fire started, perhaps in the kitchen or in the organ, and did great damage to the church, burning the slate roof, some of the walls, the principal tower, and the rear ell.⁵ The congregation then held services in the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) nearby on Chestnut Street and began raising money to rebuild the church. Because the United States had recently entered World War II, however, building materials were hard to obtain. Having lost its sanctuary, the church then lost its pastor, Reverend P.R. Washington, when he moved to Ohio. A local preacher, Mrs. Lizzie Lindsay, became interim pastor while services were held at the YWCA.

It was during this time that the East Winston neighborhood was in transition, with white families moving out and black families moving in. Two women of the Goler congregation, Miss A. Louisa Lyerly and her mother, Mrs. Rena Lyerly, were looking at houses in East Winston to buy for themselves, and noticed that the East Fourth Street Baptist Church was for sale. This was a white church whose members were rapidly moving out of the neighborhood. The Lyerlys met with Dr. A.L. Cromwell, chairman of Goler's trustee board, and Mr. D.W. Andrews, the treasurer, and soon the full trustee board agreed to look into purchasing the church. After negotiations among trustees of the two churches, it was agreed that, as a purchase price, Goler would assume the Baptist Church's \$28,500 mortgage. The Goler congregation toured the church in January 1942, and held a meeting that night headed by Bishop Benjamin Garland Shaw, D.D.L.L.D. By secret ballot they

⁴ Goler Metropolitan printed history.

⁵ Church history; interviews with several individuals, including Bill Rice and Virginia Newell.

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voted overwhelmingly to move to the church building on Fourth Street.⁶ A year had passed since the fire at Old Goler.

On February 23rd, 1942, a deed was made by H.H. Morgan, W.P. Davis, P.W. Dobbins, E.R. Luper, and J.C. Harmon, trustees of the East Fourth Street Baptist Church, to C.H. Jones, A.L. Cromwell, D.W. Andrews, J.W. Parker, and Dr. LeRoy Hall, trustees of Goler Memorial AMEZ Church. The acquisition included the church at East Fourth Street and Dunleith, the parsonage behind at Fifth Street and Dunleith, as well as two adjoining tracts of land from Fourth to Fifth Streets. Explicitly excepted from the sale was a four-to-five-foot-wide strip of land off the Fifth Street frontage which was "conveyed and released to the city of Winston-Salem for the purpose of widening East Fifth Street."⁷

Three weeks later, on March 15, 1942, the Goler congregation held its first service in the church on East Fourth Street. This was the Goler congregation's sixth place of worship. A newspaper article in the "Negro News" section of that day reported, "The auditorium of the church has been recently redecorated and has a seating capacity of 1,200. A massive pipe organ has been installed." Goler bought the organ from the Carolina Theatre, where it had been used during the silent film era. Goler had two services that day and a third at eight p.m., special programs celebrating the new location. Pastor of the new church was the Reverend W.F. Witherspoon. A Reverend R.O. Langford preached the afternoon service. Witherspoon, a graduate of Livingstone College, had earlier been pastor of Trinity Church in Greensboro, and came to Goler from the Rockingham, N.C., district. He had pastored several churches in the South. Goler's written history reports, "They all came filling the church to the rafters. The Choir was filled, the church auditorium was filled right down to the front pews." Appropriately, the organist for Goler Memorial's new church was Louisa Lyerly, who with her mother had discovered the church for sale.⁸

This was not to be the end of the burned out Goler Church on Patterson Avenue, however. A group of members opposed to the move continued to hold worship services at the YWCA, and that membership grew. They eventually raised the necessary funds and rebuilt the 1918 church at the

⁶ Goler Metropolitan printed history, and 1947 church bulletin.

⁷ Deed Book 494/124.

⁸ *W-SJ*, 3/15/1942, p. 40. Organ information from church history, p. 43. Witherspoon's previous churches included Moore's Chapel in Salisbury; St. Peters in New Bern; Old Ship Church in Montgomery, Alabama; Hood's Temple in Bristol, Tennessee; St. Mark's Church in Durham; and Clinton's Chapel in Charlotte.

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war's end in 1946. The rebuilt Goler took on the name "Old Goler."⁹ By the 1950s there was confusion between the names Goler Memorial, on Fourth Street, and Old Goler on Patterson Avenue. In 1953 at the insistence of Reverend G. Linwood Fautleroy, then pastor, members of Goler Memorial on East Fourth Street reluctantly agreed to change their church's name to Goler *Metropolitan* AMEZ, and Old Goler once again became Goler Memorial AMEZ. A marble cornerstone was placed at Goler Metropolitan in October 1953 to commemorate the new name.¹⁰

Although this church was a new home to the Goler congregation, it had served a white Baptist congregation for almost twenty years. That group had originated in 1913 as the Greenwood Avenue Baptist Church, with its building two blocks to the west on the corner of Greenwood Avenue and East Fifth Street. This was a much smaller brick church, fifteen feet high at the eaves with a corner tower. A study of deeds suggests the building was constructed around 1915. In 1920 and 1921, the Greenwood Avenue congregation purchased four lots on East Fourth Street from two owners, and in 1923 to 1924 their new church was built.¹¹ The congregation then sold the Greenwood property and changed its name accordingly. The Sanborn map of 1924 shows the new building, "East Fourth Street Baptist Church," with the notation, "From Plans."¹² The minutes do not identify the architect, however, in March of 1923, a motion was carried to purchase all brick from Wilbur Crews, and 60,000 were to be bought at once. After sale of the Greenwood Avenue church, the Baptist congregation worshiped at First Presbyterian Church until the new church was completed. In August, 1924, they approved installation of a bell in the new church, and the first services were held in the new East Fourth Street Baptist Church in November, 1924.¹³

By 1942, the transition of the East Winston neighborhood from white to black was well underway. The year before, an African-American named Jasper Carpenter had bought a house in this area of East Winston, and the effect had been almost instant. White residents moved out and were straightaway supplanted by black occupants. It was classic "white flight." And so, by 1942, twelve of the fifteen houses on the Baptist church's block were already occupied by African-American families; only Lingles Bakery and two white families remained in the block, and the house across

⁹ Oppermann, National Register nomination for Goler Memorial.

¹⁰ 1987 dedication bulletin; church history.

¹¹ Greenwood Avenue Baptist Church minutes of 4/22/1923 reference "a pencil sketch of the Blue Prints of the New Church was presented to the conference for inspection, and a motion was carried to extend the building 8 feet in order to enlarge the class rooms". . . "

¹² 1917 Sanborn map; deeds; N.C. Baptist Historical Association; Mt. Pilot Baptist Association.

¹³ Minutes.

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Fourth Street from the church was vacant. At that time East Fourth Street continued eastwardly one block to Hospital Street, and two white families remained there as well. In this framework, the white congregation of East Fourth Street Baptist Church had dwindled. Church records show that the congregations's annual "gifts to all mission causes" decreased from \$6,000 in 1939 to \$1,214 in 1940 to \$160 in 1941; Sunday School attendance records showed a similar decline. There are no records for 1942; the church simply disappears from the records.¹⁴ Unlike some other white congregations that left the neighborhood, the East Fourth Street Baptist Church did not relocate, but rather dissolved as individuals moved out of the neighborhood and joined other churches. Because Goler's purchase price was its assumption of the mortgage, there were no excess funds as the church dissolved.¹⁵ Other churches in this area (*e.g.* today's Mars Hill and First Calvary, both farther west on Fourth) also were built for white congregations and were later purchased by African-American churches.

A new deed for a new name

In 1960 the two Goler congregations did some legal "cleaning up" to the deeds; thus in October, 1960, the Trustees of Goler Memorial (Old Goler) transferred to the Trustees of Goler Metropolitan, for one dollar and other considerations, the four lots at East Fourth and Dunleith streets purchased in 1942, as well as the abandoned ten-foot alley running between the lots. Recorded with this deed is a resolution of the same date authorizing this warranty deed "in order to clear the title record" and "to provide funds for the payment of recent repairs to the [Goler Metropolitan] church and parsonage."¹⁶ The resolution further authorized Goler Metropolitan to secure a loan for \$14,000, "the proceeds of said loan to be used for the payment of labor and materials used in connection with the recent improvements on the church and parsonage of the church . . ."¹⁷ The resolution was approved by the bishop. Some years later, the parsonage facing Fifth Street was demolished for expansion of the church's parking lot.

Goler Metropolitan, like Old Goler, had an active involvement in the affairs of the community, playing important roles in social, economic, and political issues of the times. For example, in 1964 Dr. F.W. Jackson was president of the Voter Registration Project of Winston-Salem. He and

¹⁴ Collection of the Pilot Mt. Baptist Association.

¹⁵ According to the 1942 deed, \$28,500 was the original amount of East Fourth Street Baptist Church's mortgage with Pilot Life Insurance Company (dated 10/26/1929, Deed of Trust book 265, page 154).

¹⁶ Deed Book 814/114.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

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William Henry Andrews were both members of Goler Metropolitan, and it was largely through their efforts that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., spoke at Goler Metropolitan in April, 1964, promoting voter registration.¹⁸ A commemorative marker was placed on the church's porch in 1987.

Earlier, Mrs. Georgia Marshall and Dr. A.L. Cromwell organized the Goler Day Nursery in 1942 during World War II. It was funded by the Community Chest, a forerunner of the United Way. The agency funded nurseries to enable mothers to work in war plants; Goler's nursery ran from six o'clock in the morning to six at night Monday through Saturday. Funding ended after the war; however, the Goler congregation kept the nursery going for two decades until funding was received under the Great Society program in the 1960s.¹⁹

Goler, like many other churches, had a nurses board, generally made up of women who learned first aid and assisted those who became ill at church services, rode to the hospital with the sick, and comforted bereaved families during funeral services. A nurses board was one of many groups established at new Goler when it opened in 1942. More recently, in 1991, Charles and Katherine McLean established the Charles McLean Library at Goler. McLean was for many years a social activist and NAACP field secretary.²⁰ Goler continues its community services today.

Classical Revival Architecture

The revival of interest in classical models was piqued by the World's Columbian Exposition held in Chicago in 1893. A classical theme was mandated; the resulting designs incorporated columns in a variety of uses based on primarily the Greek and to a lesser extent the Roman architectural orders, and were distinguished by symmetry, composition, and relatively unadorned surfaces. The buildings received extensive publicity, and the Classical Revival style became the latest fashion. The Classical Revival style is generally characterized by monumentality, and inspired countless public, ecclesiastic, and commercial buildings in the following decades. At the same exposition, the designs of the smaller pavilions representing each state of the Union served as precedents for most Classical Revival houses. Georgian, Adam, Early Classical Revival and Greek Revival traditions became fused in this popular, prestigious twentieth-century style.²¹ The Classical Revival style in America followed the Beaux Arts style; while it uses many of the same motifs, it is a quieter, more refined version of classical architecture.

¹⁸ Goler Metropolitan printed history.

¹⁹ church history, p. 69

²⁰ Church history, p. 81.

²¹ McAlester.

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Forsyth County, NC

Some of the more impressive dwellings in Winston-Salem were built during the early years of the twentieth century in the Classical Revival style. The style also lent instant prestige to churches of this mode. The most prolific period of Classical Revival style buildings was the between-wars period. The two primary examples in Winston-Salem are Goler Metropolitan, completed in 1924, and First Baptist Church. Goler Metropolitan follows the typical characteristics of the Classical Revival style, with its pedimented portico and quiet, unbroken roof line. Goler's use of the arch as a key motif is unusual. The First Baptist Church at 501 West Fifth Street, built in 1924 when Goler Metropolitan was also under construction, was designed by Dougherty and Gardner architects of Nashville, Tennessee. The building is a Classical Revival-style domed rotunda with full-height Corinthian portico. Rising above the portico is a three-tiered, classically-inspired steeple. The interior is as impressive as the exterior with its spacious domed sanctuary and rich detailing.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Forsyth County deeds, deed index, will index, plats, tax listing records, and old and current tax maps.

"Goler Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church, 1942-1992," privately printed church history.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee, A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1989.

N.C. Baptist Historical Collection, Wake Forest University (files on Greenwood Avenue Baptist Church and East Fourth Street Baptist Church).

Oppermann, Langdon E. National Register nomination for Goler Memorial AMEZ Church.

Sanborn-Perris Map Company, "Winston-Salem, North Carolina," (New York: Sanborn-Perris Co., 1895-1927).

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Taylor, Gwynne Stephens, From Frontier to Factory: An Architectural History of Forsyth County, (North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, Division of Archives and History, with Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Historic Properties Commission, City-County Planning Board, 1981).

Winston-Salem City Directories, 1895-1952.

Winston-Salem Journal, 3/15/1942, p. 40; 10/24/1980; and 4/15/1997.

Interviews

Mrs. Blakely, secretary Burkhead United Methodist Church.

Mike Bradshaw, archivist, Pilot Mt. Baptist Association.

Hattie Elliott, longtime member of Goler Metropolitan AMEZ Church.

Seth O. Lartey, pastor of Goler Memorial AME Zion Church.

Virginia Newell, attended the banquet the night of the 1941 fire.

Dr. William J. Rice, former resident of East Winston, former president of the Society for the Study of Afro-American History in Winston-Salem and Forsyth County, and former chairman of the Forsyth County Joint Historic Properties Commission.

James M. Sloan, pastor, Goler Metropolitan AMEZ Church

Dorothy Williams, longtime member of Goler Memorial AME Zion Church.

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10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The property included in this nomination consists of lots 9B, 10D, 19, 20, and 118 (abandoned alley) in block 394 on Forsyth County Tax Map 636854.

Boundary Justification

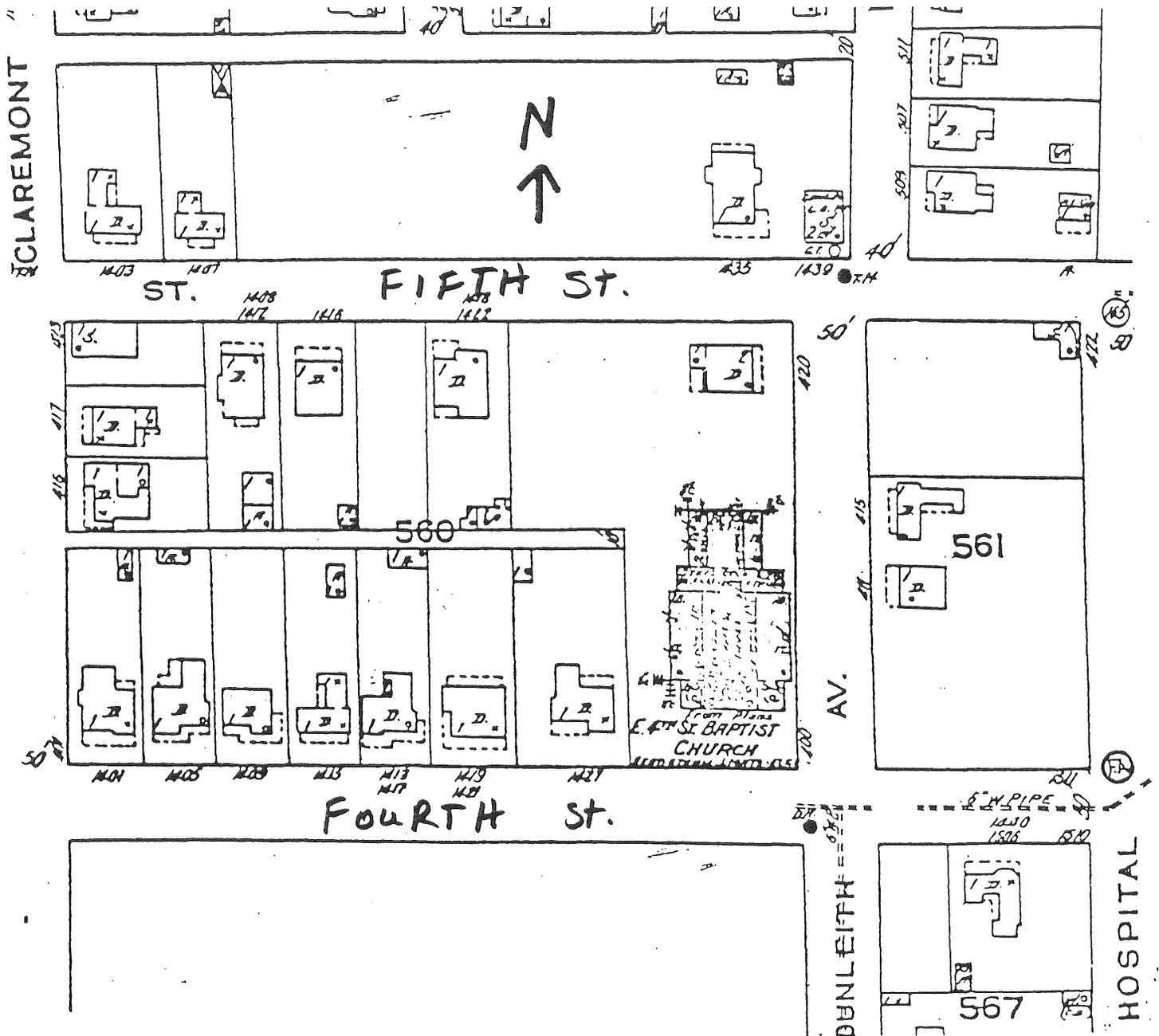
The boundaries enclosing this property comprise the acreage acquired from East Fourth Street Baptist Church in 1942 and the abandoned ten-foot alley, which continue to serve as the site and setting of Goler Metropolitan AME Zion Church.

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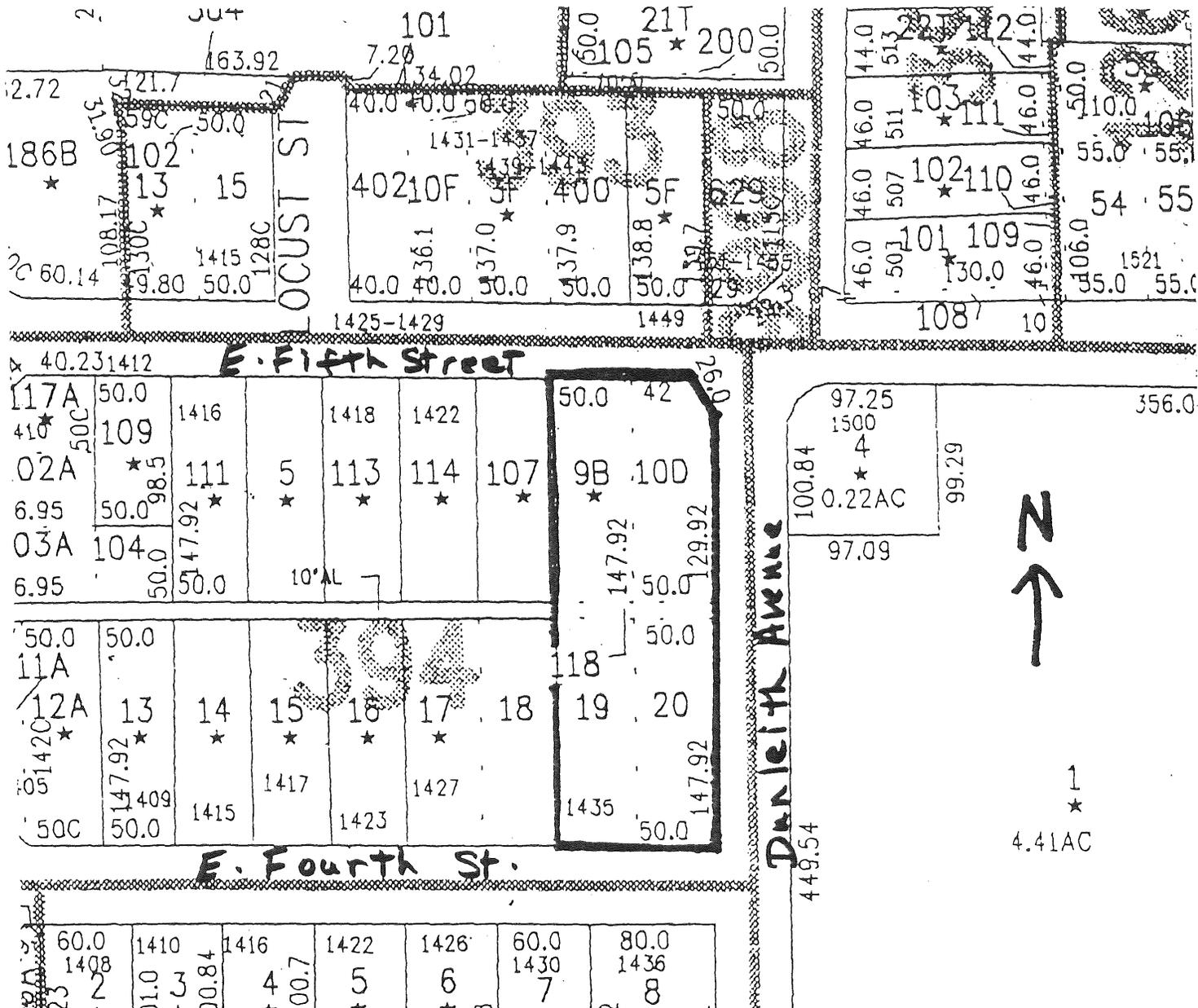
Goler Metropolitan AME Zion Church
1924 Sanborn Map (1917 base map)

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Goler Metropolitan AME Zion Church
1435 East Fourth Street
Forsyth County Tax Map 636854
Block 394, Lots 9B, 10D, 19, 20, and 118.
Scale 1" = 400'

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE OF NO
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL
RALEIGH, NOI

1956 (11 NE)
(RURAL HALL)

80°15' 568000m E MT AIRY 36 MI. RURAL HALL 7.7 MI. 569 570 571 12'30" DENNIS 9 MI WALKERTOWN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL (WALKER 1955)



Winston-Salem Quad.
60er Metropolitan
AME Zion Church
Forsyth Cty., NC
17/569550/3996000

397000m N
3996
YADKINVILLE 29 MI
PEAFFETTOWN 8.3 MI
STATESVILLE 44 MI
CLEMONS 11 MI
3994

79
SA
LA



GOLER
CHURCH