

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**DRAFT**

# 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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

## 1. Name of Property

historic name First Presbyterian Church of Springport

other names/site number Frontenac Historical Society

name of related multiple property listing N/A

## Location

street & number 178 Cayuga St

N/A	not for publication
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city or town Union Springs

N/A	vicinity
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state New York code NY county Cayuga code 011 zip code 13160

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,  
I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

    national          statewide        X   local

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting official Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <u>   </u> entered in the National Register                  | <u>   </u> determined eligible for the National Register |
| <u>   </u> determined not eligible for the National Register | <u>   </u> removed from the National Register            |
| <u>   </u> other (explain:) _____                            |  |

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only **one** box.)

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

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

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

<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	<b>Total</b>

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION/Church

RECREATION/CULTURE/museum

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Greek Revival

foundation: stone, concrete

walls: wood

roof: metal

other: \_\_\_\_\_

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### **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

### **Summary Paragraph**

The former First Presbyterian Church of Springport, now the Frontenac Museum & Historical Society, located at 178 Cayuga Street in the Village of Union Springs within the Town of Springport, Cayuga County, New York, stands on the east side of Cayuga Street between Chase Avenue and Spring Street Road, several blocks north of the village's historic central business district. Cayuga Street (NY 90) historically served and continues to serve as the main north-south thoroughfare through this part of the county. Union Springs is located on the eastern shore of Cayuga Lake, and was incorporated from the Town of Springport in 1848. The village draws its names from nearby springs which contributed to its nineteenth century tourist economy.

The building occupies the majority of the present day parcel which measures approximately 66' by 165' with road frontage on the west side of the structure. There is an unpaved driveway on the south side of the building which continues through to side street Chase Ave. There are no parking facilities. Access is by three entrances: on the west by a concrete walkway leading to stairs with steel railings which access the centered front entrance, on the south by a concrete walkway and single step leading to a single door entrance, and on the east by a concrete sidewalk leading from the unpaved driveway to a double ADA compliant set of doors. The adjacent property to the north is the Howland-Chase House (NRHP 2005), an 1840s two-story, center-hall stone residence to the north. The area opposite the structure on Cayuga Street is a small commercial area containing a grocery store, pizzeria, former restaurant and laundromat. The area to the east and south consists of residential homes. Members of the First Presbyterian Church of Springport sold the property to the Frontenac Historical Society and Museum in 1994 for \$1.

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### **Narrative Description**

#### *Location and Setting*

The First Presbyterian Church of Springport is located in the center of the village of Union Springs on the east side of Cayuga Street, the main street in the village and part of the Cayuga Lake Scenic Byway. The structure comprises two sections: the original Greek Revival sanctuary built in 1840, and a rear addition constructed in 1961 for use as Sunday School classrooms, offices, and additional space for the museum that now occupies the building.

#### *Exterior*

The original section of the church, constructed in 1840, is a distinctive example of Greek Revival architecture designed by architect John Hagaman, known for his classical architectural contributions in nearby Auburn, New York. This two-story rectangular structure has a north-south gabled roof with a pedimented façade facing Cayuga Street. The building rests on a stone foundation with a full basement, while its exterior is clad in tongue-and-groove wood siding.

The west façade showcases a raised pedimented portico supported by six fluted Corinthian columns featuring Tower of the Winds-style capitals. A set of eight wooden steps extend across almost the entire façade leading to the base of the portico. The entablature currently reads "Frontenac Museum" in the frieze. The façade is symmetrically organized, with pilasters at each corner and a centered wooden double-door entrance framed by an eared enframement and peaked cornice. Above the portico sits a square, louvered belfry, each side adorned with small eared enframements. A brass bell, manufactured by the Andrew Meneely Bell Foundry in

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1875, occupies the tower. Other notable details on this façade include dentil molding along the raking and horizontal cornices. Although some elements have been replaced over time, such as the bases of the columns and the steps, these alterations have retained the historical appearance and design intent. The north and south elevations mirror each other and feature three bays of tall, rounded-arch opalescent memorial windows with eared enframements, installed in 1914 by Booth Art Glass of Buffalo, New York.

The 1961 rear addition, a one-story, gabled structure, was thoughtfully designed to complement the original sanctuary without overshadowing it. Clad in plywood with six-bays of regularly spaced one-over-one windows, the addition rests on a cement block foundation and does not include a basement. The addition's entrances, located on the eastern elevation, are utilitarian, with a side door framed by sidelights and a half-circle transom window above, and a rear ADA-compliant double door.

### *Interior*

The sanctuary's interior retains much of its original Greek Revival detail including plaster walls, window trim, wainscoting, chair rail, and layout. The original plaster coved ceiling was replaced in kind circa 2014. The walls are adorned with a bull-nose chair rail atop a 38 inch wooden wainscot, and the original wood flooring remains beneath a layer of modern cork flooring.

The main sanctuary is accessed through a vestibule at the west end of the building. The vestibule extends across the west end of the building and had three entry doors into the sanctuary, two of which are wood replacements and feature eared enframements while the other is an alteration at a later date with two unadorned wooden doors. The vestibule also houses a wooden staircase, added in the late nineteenth century, which leads to the basement which was excavated and finished between 1891 and 1895.

Inside the sanctuary, a balcony is accessible via a winder staircase and overlooks the main sanctuary space. The balcony features raised moldings across a frieze with eight raised panel sections which overlooks the sanctuary. A small louvered door in the balcony provides access to the belfry and attic space over the sanctuary. The eastern end of the sanctuary contains a raised semi-round pulpit area which features two sets of wooden steps and raised paneling sections on its face. It is flanked by two wooden paneled doors that lead into the 1961 addition and is immediately in front of a partial two-story wall which encloses the former organ room. The organ (Figure 3), pipes, and lighting were removed and sold by the congregation in the 1960s, though the recessed, arched space which it originally occupied is preserved behind this temporary partial wall.

The walls of the sanctuary are of flat plaster with original bull nose chair rail molding topping horizontal tongue and groove wooden wainscoting. The north and south elevations feature three bays of double memorial windows. These windows, installed in 1914, are of multicolored opalescent glass and feature geometric and floral scrollwork designs. Each memorial window contains a small glass plaque at its base containing a name or names indicating to whom the window is dedicated. The pews were removed in the late 1960s when the space was converted into a museum.<sup>1</sup>

The basement beneath the 1840s section of the building is accessed via a wide staircase from the internal vestibule. It is a finished, open area with three large windows on both the north and south elevations and includes a modern enclosed furnace room and kitchenette. The original 1840s framing and flooring for the sanctuary can be seen from this basement space.

The interior of the 1961 addition is arranged with a central hallway that is flanked by six rooms. These spaces were originally utilized as classrooms and office space by the congregation, but are currently utilized as office space, research center, and exhibit space by the Frontenac Museum & Historical Society. The addition's design includes a metal roof and two entrances; an ADA entrance with double metal hollow-core doors and

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<sup>1</sup> Two of these pews are currently held and displayed by the Frontenac Museum & Historical Society.

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small portico is located on the eastern elevation, and a single fiberglass door with arched transom and recessed porch is located on the western elevation.

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**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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1840-1961

**Significant Dates**

1840, 1914, 1961

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

John Hagaman

**Period of Significance (justification) see section 8 summary**

The period of significance stretches from 1840, the original date of construction for the church, to 1961 when the rear addition was completed.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

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N/A

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph**

(Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The First Presbyterian Church of Springport/Frontenac Historical Society and Museum is significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture as a representative and notably intact example of a rural Greek Revival church in the village of Union Springs, located on Cayuga Lake in the Town of Springport, Cayuga County, NY. Built in 1840 by Farrand Kitchell and designed by John Hagaman, it followed the Greek Revival style that was popular at the time. Hagaman is regarded as one of the most talented architects of this area. The form was simple and the lack of ostentatious decoration was well suited to the Presbyterian congregation and is one of several surviving structures from the early years of Union Springs. Continually in use as a church from 1840 to 1968, the structure has seen little alteration and retains most of its original fabric and historic context in the community. Its history continues today in its use as a historical society and museum as well as community gathering place and resource for educators.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance**

*Town History*

Union Springs lies within the homelands of the Cayuga Nation, one of the six nations in the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. While the Cayuga remained officially neutral during the American Revolution, they were a target for attacks, especially during the Sullivan-Clinton Campaign of 1779. Following the aftermath of war and scorched-earth campaigns, land in this area was granted to American soldiers while treaty rights were ignored. While some Cayuga people remained in the area, others were forcibly removed and displaced to territory in Canada and what would become Oklahoma. Land was continued to be given away to white settlers moving into this area at the end of the eighteenth century, many coming from eastern New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and New England. These settlers were particularly attracted to the area's fertile land, temperate climate, and access to natural resources. Early settlers built log mills, woolen mills, and a blacksmith shop to support the small community which began to grow in this area.

Springport, established in 1823 from parts of the towns of Scipio and Aurelius, leveraged its natural resources, notably mineral springs and gypsum, as a foundation for its early economy. The village of Union Springs, incorporated in 1848, takes its name from the many springs within its boundaries. Early in the nineteenth century, two of these springs were dammed to create north and south ponds, powering the community's initial industries. Positioned advantageously on Cayuga Lake and near the growing canal system, Union Springs became a hub for agricultural and lake trade, reflecting the economic momentum created by New York's canal development.

Union Springs' growth was shaped by its resources and location. Early settlers were attracted to the abundant and productive farmland as well as proximity to water for travel, trade, and power, and the first permanent settlement was established in 1800. The community's first post office opened the same year. Gypsum and limestone quarries along the lake shore significantly contributed to the local economy, with gypsum becoming commercially viable during the War of 1812. Quarries in Springport produced between twenty- and forty-thousand tons of gypsum per year during this period. Additionally, limestone quarries were established to the north, south, and east of the Village of Union Springs within the Town of Springport. By the 1820s, Union

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Springs was a center for wheat milling, lumber, and plaster production, and was also noted for its exportation of tanned hides.

The trajectory of the community was also shaped by George Howland, a whaling baron who relocated to the area and founded the Village of Union Springs. Howland quickly began an investment scheme in Union Springs which helped to facilitate economic growth and settlement during the 1830s. In 1840, he built a large and imposing stone Greek Revival residence for his son, Charles, on the parcel of land located immediately north of the First Presbyterian Church of Springport.<sup>2</sup> The Howland-Chase House, as it is now known, is an L-shaped residence comprised of a two-story, five-bay main block house with its gable ridge running parallel to Cayuga Street and a two-story rear wing. Its front façade features two Doric columns which frame the recessed doorway. At the time the home was built, the Howland estate comprised roughly 100 acres of land.

The opening of the Erie Canal in 1825 and the Cayuga and Seneca Lakes Canal in 1828 enhanced trade, connecting the village to broader markets and accelerating development. Union Springs continued to expand, experiencing a major period of growth between 1830 and 1870 when canal trade was at its peak. Springs fed the mill ponds year-round, and the construction of wharves and shorter feeder canals to mill sites made barge transportation simpler and cheaper. By the last quarter of the nineteenth century, these ponds were lined with a series of gristmills, a bending works, sawmills, woolen mills, warehouses, and wharves. Goods, including flour, were shipped in oak casks and crates produced nearby from local lumber. Indeed, prior to 1872 all local transportation took place by water, horse, or foot, and ferryboats, yachts, sailboats, and charter boats busily plied Cayuga Lake's waters connected the many industries and consumers located along the lakeshore to one another and to markets beyond. This network enabled local goods to be shipped across the state which enriched Union Springs and encouraged settlement in the area.

In 1880, Union Springs reached its population peak of 2,200 people, supporting a diverse economy including new boot and shoe manufacturers, harness and carriage makers, furniture makers, undertakers, barbers, bakeries, jewelry stores, coal and lumber yards, and nurseries. Many doctors and lawyers had established local practices to serve the community as well. However, with the 1872 arrival of the Cayuga Lake Railroad, transportation began to shift from water to rail, gradually reducing lake and canal trade. Between 1880 and 1900, growth within Union Springs dramatically slowed, as evidenced by the lack of new construction and expansion during this period. A significant amount of economic activity within the community began to transition from agriculture and industry to one of tourism and wine production which continue to provide a vibrant economic base today. Train travel eventually waned as the personal automobile gained popularity, with passenger service to Union Springs ending in 1948 and freight service ending in 1971.

### *Architectural Significance*

Built in 1840, the First Presbyterian Church of Springport is a significant example of Greek Revival architecture, representing both the aesthetic ideals of the period and the emerging identity of Union Springs. As one of the earliest churches in the area, this structure embodies the cultural aspirations and architectural trends that characterized early nineteenth-century America. The Greek Revival style, with its classical elements, aligned with the democratic ideals of the time, making made it a fitting architectural choice for this community landmark.

The founders of this church had roots in a Congregational congregation which, in 1801, built a small stone meetinghouse in the Town of Springport. Several members of this church applied to join the Presbyterian Church in 1822 and incorporated as the First Presbyterian Society of Springport in 1835. According to Session

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<sup>2</sup> Howland donated the parcel of land upon which the church is built from his own substantial landholdings.



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records, this group formed a building committee in 1839 with the goal of building a church to support their growing congregation. Session records from September 1839 indicate that the building committee unanimously agreed to hire Farrand Kitchel to build the structure "...in a style and instructions corresponding with a draft drawn by [John] Hagaman of Auburn for the sum of \$2,650."<sup>3</sup> On October 8, 1839, the church trustees accepted a donation of land from George Howland and his son, Augustus Howland, for the building of their new sanctuary.<sup>4</sup> An 1840 letter from the representatives of the Church Society to the Boards of Assistance for the Western Agency of the Presbyterian noted that the Society contributed roughly \$2,900 for the construction of this new church, noting also that construction had already begun and the foundation had been laid.<sup>5</sup> The stone foundation was likely quarried locally, but records have not been found to substantiate this.<sup>6</sup> The congregation first met in their new building on December 29, 1840.

John Hagaman, who designed the church, was a noted local architect who had a significant impact on early Auburn, NY, a city located eleven miles from Union Springs. Born in Dutchess County in 1792, he first worked as a carpenter's apprentice but soon left to pursue a self-study in building design. In 1821, he came to Auburn to open a school of design. Many downtown Auburn buildings were designed by Hagaman, including the 1837 Cayuga County Courthouse (Figure 1) which is the only example of his classical architecture still in existence in Auburn today. It originally featured a dome which was lost to fire in 1922. The columns are of Greek Doric design with triglyphs positioned directly above the capitals. Hagaman also designed Auburn Town Hall, another Greek Revival public building which housed village offices, a jail, and public gathering spaces (Figure 2). The building was demolished in 1930. Howland's designs are characterized by classical Greek Revival typologies, in particular prominent gable-end primary facades which feature classical columns supporting a pedimented portico, dentil molding, and heavy entablature. These similarities in design can be traced between these two public buildings and the First Presbyterian Church of Springport. Overall, Hagaman's designs in Cayuga County have been noted to have "had a profound influence on early Auburn and laid the foundations for our local love of Classical Revival architecture."<sup>7</sup>

The congregation continued to grow through the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The first major modification to the original building was the construction of a "Prayer Room" in a hand-dug basement under the sanctuary. The development of this space was chronicled in a 1962 commemorative pamphlet, noting that:

...on May 28, 1860, the (Presbytery) Session authorized certain funds for what apparently was a thriving "Sabbath School....We find that during the pastorate of Rev. Henry R. Fancher (1891-1895), the basement of the church was excavated. Several of our members remember seeing the work done when they were little children. We understand that Charlie Davis, older brother of our own Jerry Davis, drew the dirt out using a slip scraper and his team. This was a long arduous task, since all the work had to be done by hand. There were no machines as we know them, in those days. The only other person living today who worked on the excavation is William Schenck. This room was used first as a Prayer Meeting Room, then for Sunday School, and later for social affairs of the church."<sup>8</sup>

The next change occurred in 1875, when a brass bell manufactured by Andrew Meneely Foundry in West Troy, New York, was purchased and installed. Meneely has been described as one of the most prolific bellmakers in the United States, with over 65,000 bells cast under the Meneely brand between 1826 and 1951.

<sup>3</sup> "Session Records of the First Presbyterian Church of Springport," September 1839, Frontenac Historical Society and Museum, 14.

<sup>4</sup> "Letter of Receipt of Land Donation," October 8, 1839, Frontenac Historical Society and Museum.

<sup>5</sup> "Letter from the Church Society to the Boards of Assistance for the Western Agency of the Presbyterian to First Presbyterian Church of Frontenac," 1840, Frontenac Historical Society and Museum.

<sup>6</sup> The Howland-Chase House, which was constructed in the same year on the adjacent parcel, utilized locally quarried stone.

<sup>7</sup> *The Auburn Citizen*, 1970.

<sup>8</sup> Jubilee Pamphlet, 1962, Frontenac Historical Society and Museum.

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In 1914, the church purchased and installed twelve opalescent stained-glass windows. The windows were designed and installed by Booth Art Glass Company, located in Buffalo. The firm was founded by William Booth and his son George, both of whom had worked previously for the Buffalo Stained Glass Works. William Booth had been a noted art glass designer and, while working with Queen City Stained Glass Works, gained an international reputation for stained glass work in over 200 churches across North America. Notable local projects included windows designed for the Olean Baptist Church, St. James Protestant Episcopal Church in Buffalo, and the Gowanda Presbyterian Church. George Booth took leadership of the business in 1888 and the firm earned a reputation for their design of “emblems, monograms, medallions, and Scriptural pieces.”<sup>9</sup> The windows designed during George Booth’s period of leadership emphasized geometric motifs, elaborate scrollwork, and a reliance on lead to create depth and movement within the window designs. The firm remained in business until George Booth retired in 1919.<sup>10</sup> The windows located in the First Presbyterian Church of Springport are memorial windows, which are dedicated to the memory of notable nineteenth century church members. Of particular note are the windows dedicated to the Yawger family, including Eunice, Phillip, and Peter Yawger. The Yawgers were among the earliest white settlers in the Town of Springport, and the family were active leaders in building the church during the late 1830s.

By 1927, the congregation had begun to revisit the idea of expanding the church building (Figure 4). Session records under the leadership of Reverend George Davis indicate that church leaders gave extensive consideration to an expansion, but, following several months of discussion, abandoned the idea due to prohibitive cost. The idea of an addition was revisited thirty years later, and by 1960 fundraising efforts had netted \$33,000 in gifts and pledges for this project. Construction began in 1960 and was completed in 1961 with the congregation holding a celebration in honor of its opening in October of that year. This eastern addition to the original building measures 74 by 75 feet and contains a total of six rooms covering 3,330 square feet. At the time of its construction, a church celebration document described its architectural style as “Contemporary yet blending in perfect harmony with the beautiful Greek Revival style of the Sanctuary itself.”<sup>11</sup> This addition included the purchase of additional land measuring 100 by 190 feet to the south of the building. The total cost of the project was \$42,754.51 and included refurbishing of the basement space beneath the dining room including the installation of a new kitchen and new ceiling (subsequently removed in the 1980s) and flooring, and the installation of a modern electric heating system throughout the building (including in the 1840s sanctuary). A stairway from the addition to the basement beneath the 1840s sanctuary was also installed at this time. This was the last major modification of the building.

The church remained an active worship space until 1968 at which point the First Presbyterian Church of Springport congregation joined with those of the United Methodist Church of Union Springs (founded in 1843) and Grace Episcopal Church (founded in 1867) to form the United Ministry Church of Union Springs. Initially, services were rotated between the three church buildings, and the organ from the First Presbyterian Church of Springport was also rotated between the three buildings alongside the congregation. In the early 1980s, the United Ministry Church decided to consolidate worship into the Methodist Church. In 1986, the First Presbyterian Church began leasing the church space to several businesses though they experienced some periods of vacancy.

In 1994, the Frontenac Historical Society and Museum purchased the building for \$1.00 and moved their museum to this site. Today the all-volunteer historical society serves as a vibrant center of activities for

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<sup>9</sup> Jennifer Walkowski, “History - Richmond Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church,” Buffaloah.com, 2020, buffaloah.com/a/wferry/525/hist.html#Queen. Accessed 6 Nov. 2024.  
<sup>10</sup> “Buffalo, NY, Stained Glass Studios,” Buffaloah.com. 2024. <https://buffaloah.com/a/DCTNRY/mat/stained/bflo/tc.html>.  
<sup>11</sup> Jubilee Pamphlet.

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community groups, school visits and is the source of educational programming offered during the summer and fall months. The Frontenac Museum, chartered by the NYS Department of Education, provides five display rooms as well as genealogical research to the public free of charge.

*Conclusion*

While a core of early buildings remains in the downtown area of Union Springs and in other parts of the Town of Springport, these are largely commercial structures. The community retains only two distinctive Greek Revival buildings: the First Presbyterian Church of Springport, and the adjacent, and more architecturally modest, Howland-Chase House. Extant historical churches within Union Springs were constructed later in the nineteenth century and do not speak to early community or architectural development. The distinctive Greek Revival architecture of the First Presbyterian Church is unique within the community as an example of early construction as well as an architect-designed building within a rural village.

The First Presbyterian Church of Springport remains as a remarkably intact and locally distinctive example of Greek Revival architecture. Its classical design, craftsmanship, and historical significance reflect the values and aspirations of early Union Springs, making it an essential part of the town's architectural and community heritage. As one of the few remaining early structures in Union Springs, the church serves as a vital link to the past, embodying the area's religious, cultural, and architectural history. Its designation under Criterion C is warranted, as the church not only exemplifies Greek Revival architecture but also plays a central role in preserving the historical identity of Union Springs for future generations.

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### 9. Major Bibliographical References

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**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Primary Sources

*Maps of Cayuga County and the Village of Union Springs* (1848, 1853, 1859, 1875 and 1904). Frontenac Museum and Historical Society, Union Springs, NY.

Minutes of the Bi-Centennial Committee of Union Springs NY. *History of Springport and Union Springs*. 1976. Ovid, NY. Press of W.E. Morrison & Co.

*The First Presbyterian Church of Springport* Manuscript Collection, 1838-1994. Frontenac Museum and Historical Society, Union Springs, NY.

*The Yawger Family Papers*. Frontenac Museum and Historical Society, Union Springs, NY.

Secondary Sources

Holmes-King-Kallquist. *Condition Report Frontenac Historical Society & Museum*. Syracuse, NY.

Phelan, Thomas. *Hudson Mohawk Gateway: An Illustrated History*. Accessed February 12, 2024. <https://hudsonmohawkgateway.org/the-meneely-bells>

Storke, Elliot G. *History of Cayuga County, NY*. Syracuse, NY. D. Mason & Co. Publishers, 1879.

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other  
Name of repository: Frontenac Historical Society

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Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): **NY SHPO # 23NR00085**

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### 10. Geographical Data

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**Acreage of Property** 0.46  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

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**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_  
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 42.843670 | Longitude: -76.690882 |
| 2. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |
| 3. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |
| 4. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary is indicated by a heavy line on the enclosed map with scale.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title Sara Evenson (NYSHPO), Linda Albrecht & Pat Kimber (Frontenac Historical Society & Museum)  
organization NYSHPO date 11/22/2024  
street & number 1 Delaware Ave telephone 518-971-0501  
city or town Cohoes state NY zip code 12047  
e-mail Sara.Evenson@parks.ny.gov

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**Additional Documentation**

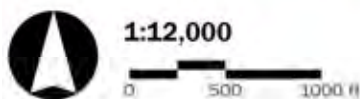
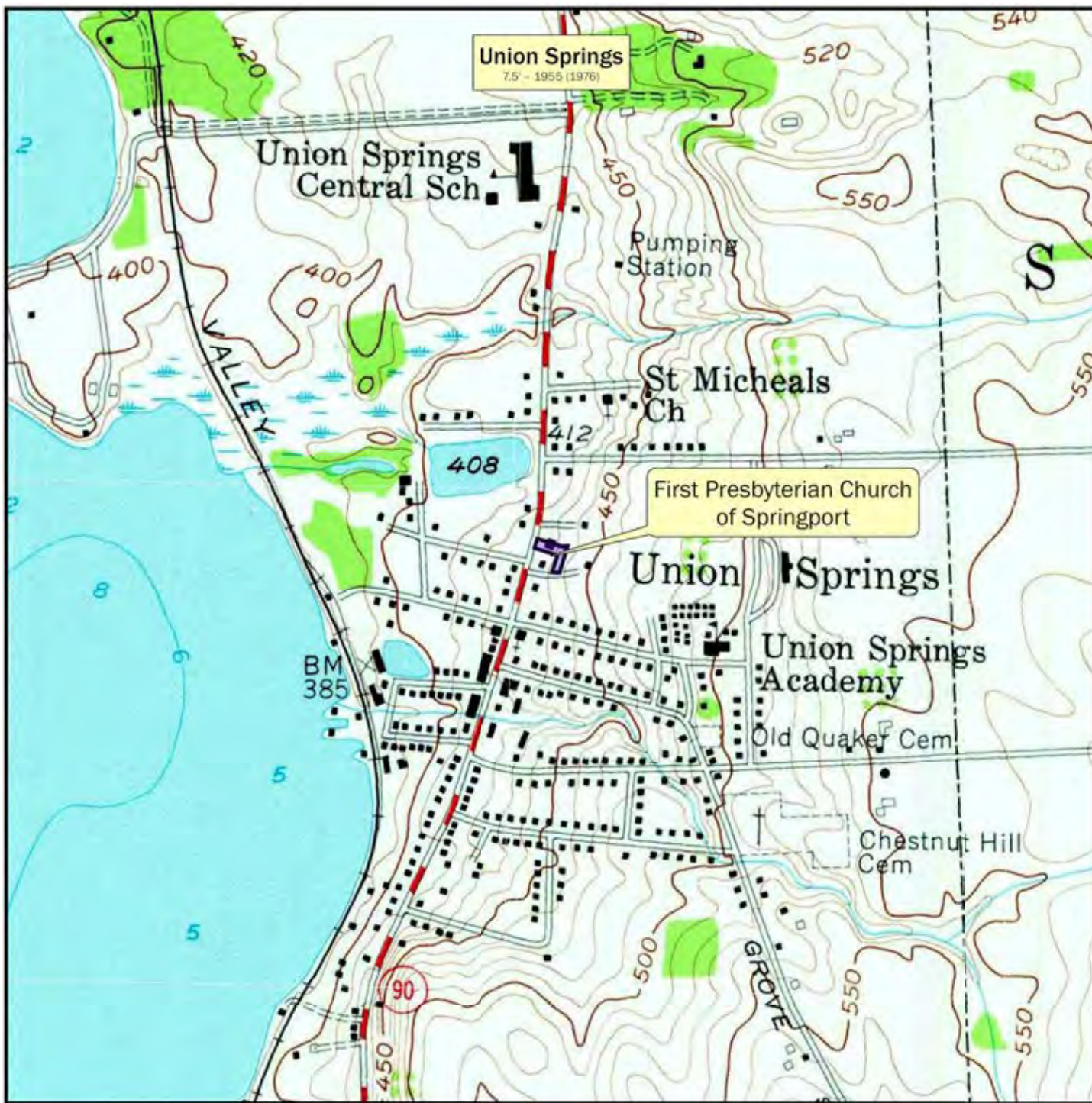
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Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

**First Presbyterian Church of Springport**      **Draft**  
Name of Property

Cayuga County, NY  
County and State



 First Presbyterian Church of Springport



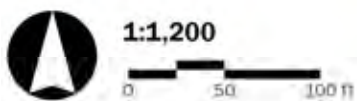
Projection: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 18N

Mapped 11/13/2024 by Matthew W. Shepherd, NYSHPO



**First Presbyterian Church of Springport**      **Draft**  
Name of Property

Cayuga County, NY  
County and State



 Nomination Boundary (0.46 ac)



Projection: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 18N

New York State Orthoimagery Year: 2022

Mapped 11/13/2024 by Matthew W. Shepherd, NYSHPO

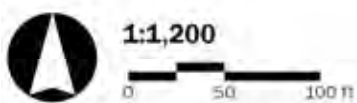
**First Presbyterian Church of Springport** **Draft**  
Name of Property

**Cayuga County, NY**  
County and State





**First Presbyterian Church of Springport** **Draft**  
Name of Property

Cayuga County, NY  
County and State



Projection: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 18N

 Nomination Boundary (0.46 ac)  Tax Parcels

Cayuga County Parcel Year: 2023



Mapped 11/13/2024 by Matthew W. Shepherd, NYSHPO

**First Presbyterian Church of Springport** **Draft**  
Name of Property

Cayuga County, NY  
County and State

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**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: First Presbyterian Church of Springport (Frontenac Historical Society & Museum)

City or Vicinity: Union Springs

County: Cayuga State: NY

Photographer: Pat Kimber

Date Photographed: 8/29/2024 and 11/6/2024

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 0001 of 0013: Exterior of primary façade from the west
- 0002 of 0013: Southeast corner of building
- 0003 of 0013: South end of building from the east
- 0004 of 0013: Capitals of façade columns
- 0005 of 0013: Interior of sanctuary from balcony
- 0006 of 0013: North wall of sanctuary interior
- 0007 of 0013: Sanctuary crown molding
- 0008 of 0013: West/rear wall of sanctuary with balcony
- 0009 of 0013: Yawger memorial windows
- 0010 of 0013: Stairway to basement from entry vestibule
- 0012 of 0013: Interior of main entry vestibule
- 0012 of 0013: 1961 addition entry (west entrance)
- 0013 of 0013: 1961 addition interior

**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.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

**First Presbyterian Church of Springport**      **Draft**  
Name of Property

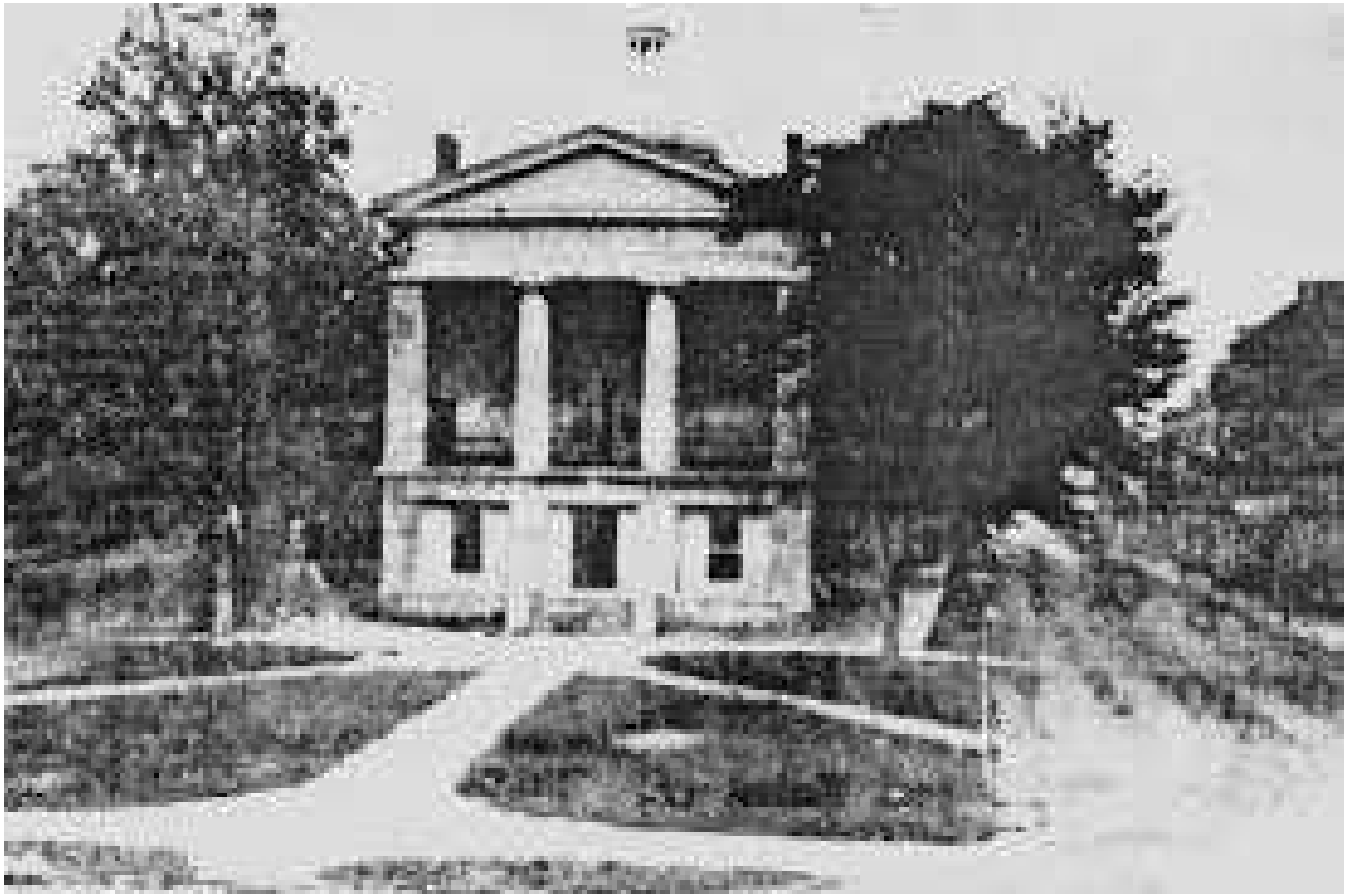
Cayuga County, NY  
County and State



**Figure 1.** Cayuga County Courthouse. Courtesy of The Historical Society of the New York Courts.

**First Presbyterian Church of Springport** **Draft**  
Name of Property

Cayuga County, NY  
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**Figure 2.** Auburn Town Hall, 1836. Image courtesy Nancy Assmann.

**First Presbyterian Church of Springport**      **Draft**  
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Cayuga County, NY  
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**Figure 3.** Sanctuary with pipe organ. Collection of the Frontenac Historical Society & Museum

**First Presbyterian Church of Springport** **Draft**  
Name of Property

Cayuga County, NY  
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12/18/1949 Union Springs Presbyterian Church  
Coll. of Cayuga Co. Historian. CITIZEN photo

**Figure 4.** Exterior of the church in 1949. Collections of the Frontenac Historical Society & Museum.

**First Presbyterian Church of Springport**      **Draft**  
Name of Property

Cayuga County, NY  
County and State





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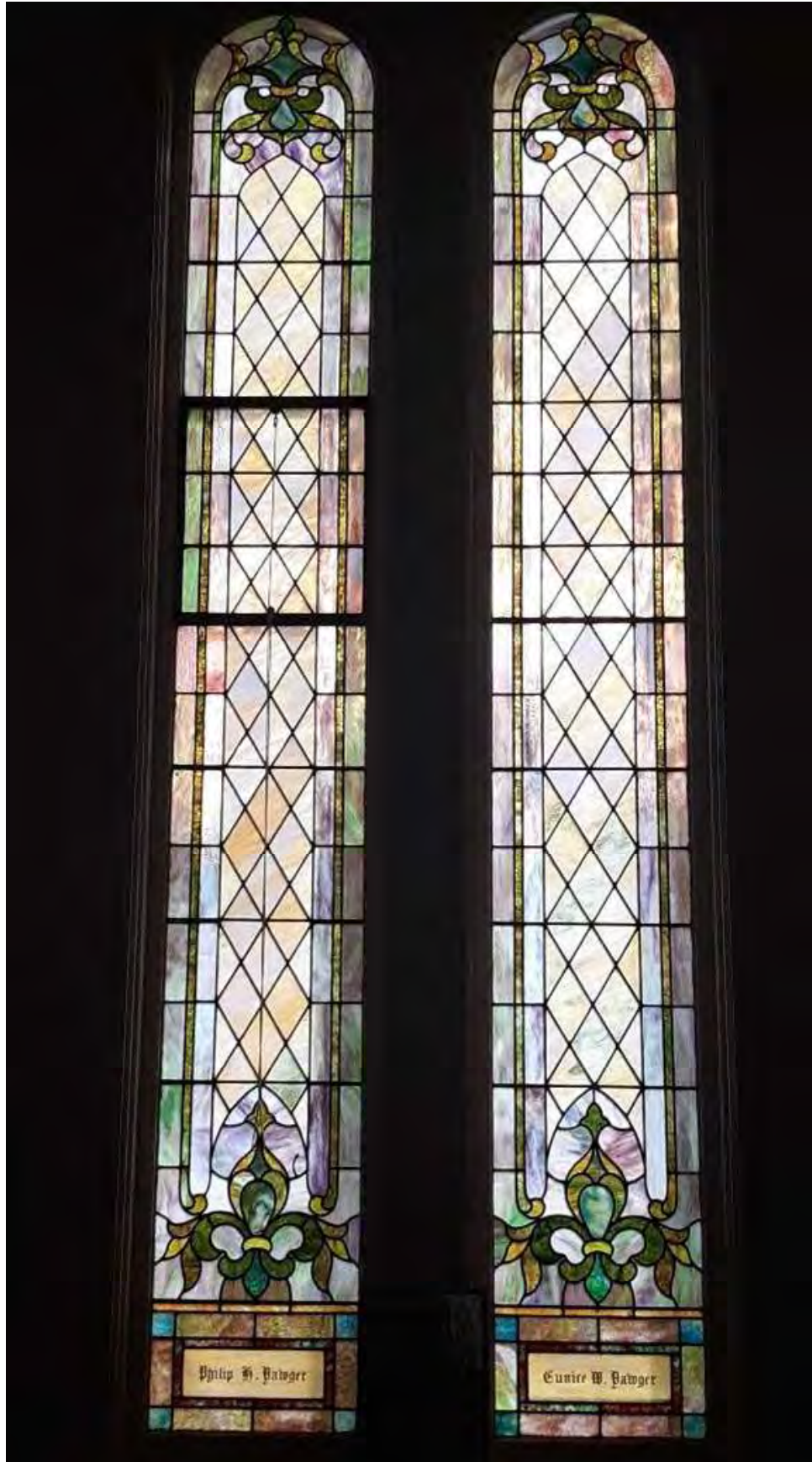
**First Presbyterian Church of Springport**      **Draft**  
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