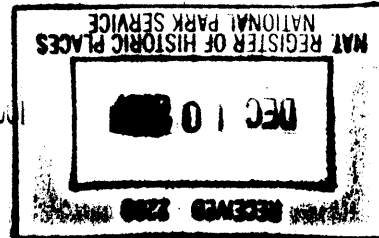


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



OCT 25 2001
1485

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 First United Methodist Church

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 923 Roland not for publication

city or town Chariton vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Lucas code 117 zip code 50049

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.)

Donell G. Lake, DSHPO October 25, 2001
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA
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:

entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Edson H. Beall 1-24-02
Date of Action

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

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| 1 | 0 | buildings |
| | | sites |
| | | structures |
| | | objects |
| 1 | 0 | Total |

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/Religious Facility/Church

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/Religious Facility/Church

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19th/EARLY 20th C REVIVAL:

Late Gothic Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE/Limestone

walls STONE/Limestone

roof ASPHALT

other

Narrative Description

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

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1899-1951

Significant Dates

1899

1961

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Bullard, S.A. (Arch)

Enslow, D.A.; Stewart, G.J.; Johnson & Best

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

First United Methodist Church
Name of Property

Lucas County, IA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property Less than one acre.

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

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 Molly Myers Naumann, Consultant
organization _____ date May 2001
street & number 167 West Alta Vista telephone (641) 682-2743
city or town Ottumwa state IA zip code 52501-1437

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 First United Methodist Church Trustees
street & number 923 Roland telephone 641-774-5023
city or town Chariton state IA zip code 50049

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 Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**First United Methodist Church
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DESCRIPTION:

The First United Methodist Church of Chariton, Iowa (1899-1900) is located on the northeast corner of Main and Roland streets, one block north of the northwest corner of the Chariton Square. The building features main entrances on both the west and south sides of the corner tower.

This church is basically rectangular in shape measuring 62' x 95', with a north/south axis. It features a hip roof with cross gables. Square towers housing entrances are located on the SW and SE corners. The spire on the SW tower rises 92' denoting the main entry. Both towers have copper finials on top, with the SW tower having a copper finial above each of the Gothic arches, and the SE tower having copper finials on all four corners. The main roof finials have an oriental, pagoda-like, quality. A large round finial is located at the north end of the hip roof. The original slate roof has been replaced by asphalt shingles.

First Methodist is a fine example of the late 19th/early 20th century Gothic Revival style executed in Bedford limestone. It was designed by a well-known Illinois architect, Samuel A. Bullard of Springfield. The exterior walls of the church are of rock faced (rusticated) limestone blocks, more in the tradition of Richardsonian Romanesque than Gothic. Doors and windows in the main (sanctuary) portion of the church are all Gothic arched, while those in the north part of the building (Sunday School rooms, etc) are rectangular in shape. The arched openings are defined through the use of texture, being framed with smooth ashlar stone. The building rests on a high stone foundation and all entrances are reached by flights of stone steps.

The church has two major elevations, the south and west, with the main entrances located in the tower at the SW corner of the building. These entrances are flanked by smooth stone columns with hybrid capitals. Above these capitals are carved stone panels with a foliated rinceau pattern. A cornerstone is located on the southwest corner of the building. A large Gothic window is centered in both the south and west walls in the projecting gable ends, and a smaller arched window on the west wall is located just north of the large one. The openings at the top of the bell tower feature Gothic arched panels, with louvers below. The shorter tower at the southeast corner of the building features an arched entry on the south wall enhanced by ashlar stone, but there are no freestanding stone columns.

The east elevation must be considered secondary as it was originally facing a residence on the lot to the east. It features a series of small Gothic arched windows, with a large Rose window centered on the east gable end. This window is obscured on the interior by the organ pipes. A secondary entrance is located on the east elevation. Originally this led into "the room used for the infant class in Sunday School, so they need not go through any other part of the church." Like the other entrances, this one is also reached by a flight of stone steps.

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As previously noted, the north part of the building housed Sunday School rooms and parlors and was treated in a different manner than the sanctuary. All doors and windows have rectangular framing, and the separate floors are clearly defined. A shallow three story bay projects out just north of the entrance on the west side. A small round window is located in the west gable end. Copper finials are found at the ends of this gable. On the north wall, the stories are also well defined. A series of five windows band together near the center of this north wall at the main floor level.

The stonework throughout consists of courses of rusticated blocks of varying size and shape. The foundation is separated from the upper walls by a watertable of ashlar stone. There does not appear to be a set pattern for the alternation of narrow and wide stone courses. Sometimes there are three wide, one narrow, four wide, one narrow, or two wide, one narrow. Narrow stone is used for the sills of all windows. A row of dentils (wood or metal) is found just below the cornice on all elevations. The stained glass windows have been given a protective covering, but it is not visually distracting.

On the interior, the sanctuary occupies the southern part of the building, with the cross gables of the roof providing space for the large stained glass windows. It features plastered walls with oak woodwork. The floor is carpeted in the aisle areas. The main entrances at the SW corner lead into a small square vestibule, and then into the sanctuary proper. The altar is located in the NE corner of the room, so the orientation is from SW to NE. Instead of a single central aisle, there are two side aisles leading to the front, with three sections of pews curved to fit the space. The choir loft and organ are located on the east wall, just south of the altar area. The tall arched opening which has a Rose window on the exterior, is filled with organs pipes on the interior. The other cross gables contain the great windows on the south and west. At the front of the church the altar and lectern are located to each side of the recessed arched altar area. Doors in this wall also feature Gothic arches. Note what appear to be original hanging light fixtures.

The north wall of the sanctuary contains a broad Gothic arched opening which opens into additional seating. Originally this was the Sunday School room and parlors, and folding doors separated it from the sanctuary. Above this north room there was originally a balcony which opened onto the sanctuary. During 1946-47 a renovation plan for the church included a complete renovation of the sanctuary, with the removal of the folding doors separating it from the Sunday School rooms. It is believed that the balcony was enclosed and turned into second floor Sunday School rooms at that time. Pews and other woodwork were refinished. Shortly after this the pews were replaced with new ones. The stained glass windows in the sanctuary were removed and re-built. At the NW corner of the main floor is a small room that was converted into a chapel in the late 1980s.

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Originally there was a basement only under the north portion of the church. In 1921 local architect (and church member) W.L. Perkins was in charge of a project to excavate a basement under the sanctuary proper and remodel the kitchen area.

In 1961 construction was started on a large education wing designed by the Des Moines architectural firm of Woodburn & O'Neil. This was built to the NE of the original building and was designed in such a manner that the only place it connects with the church is at the NE corner of the original part. It is L-shaped and is placed far enough from the church that landscaping makes it appear to be two separate buildings. The new education wing is not intrusive.

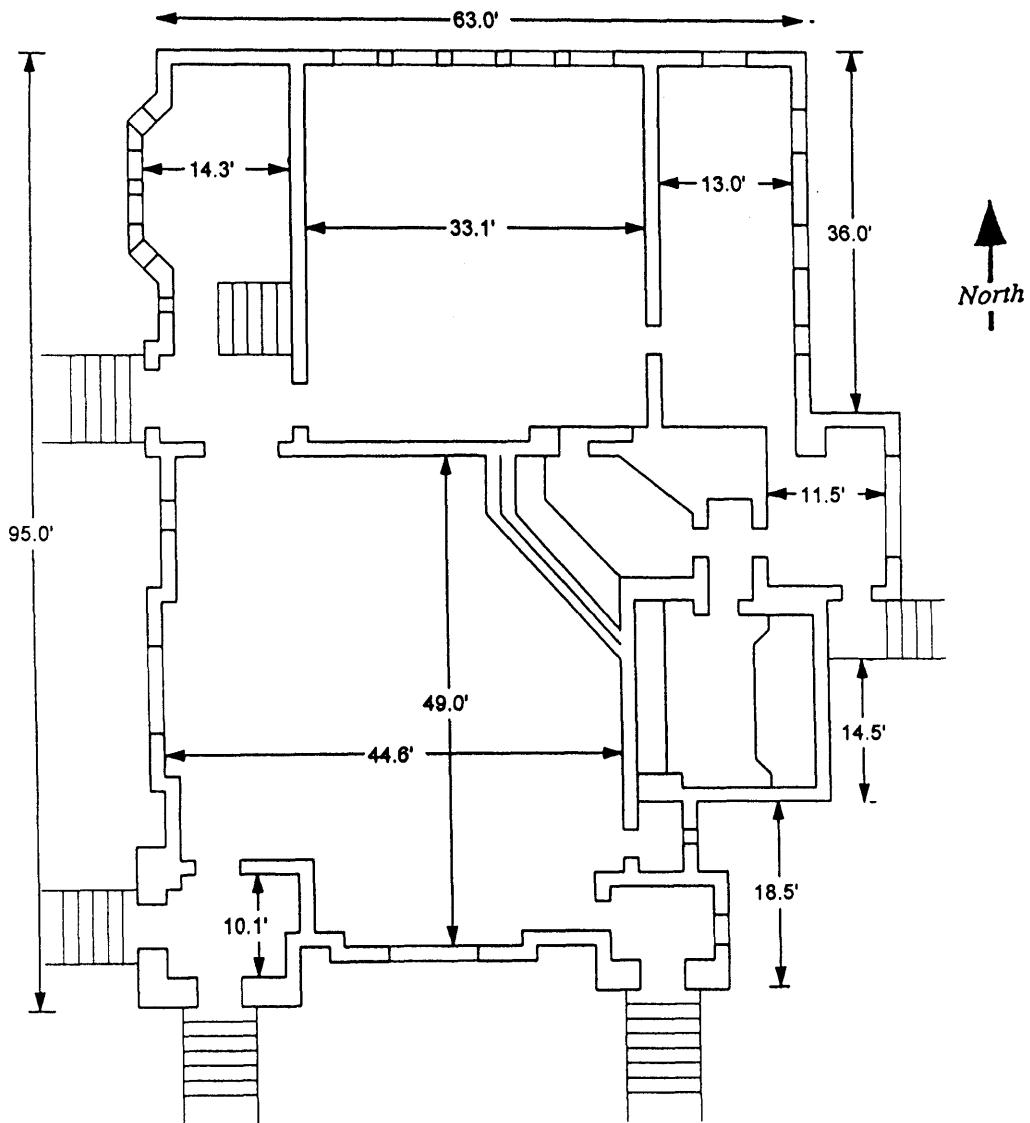
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Plan of Main Floor
Drawn from plans by Washburn & O'Neil

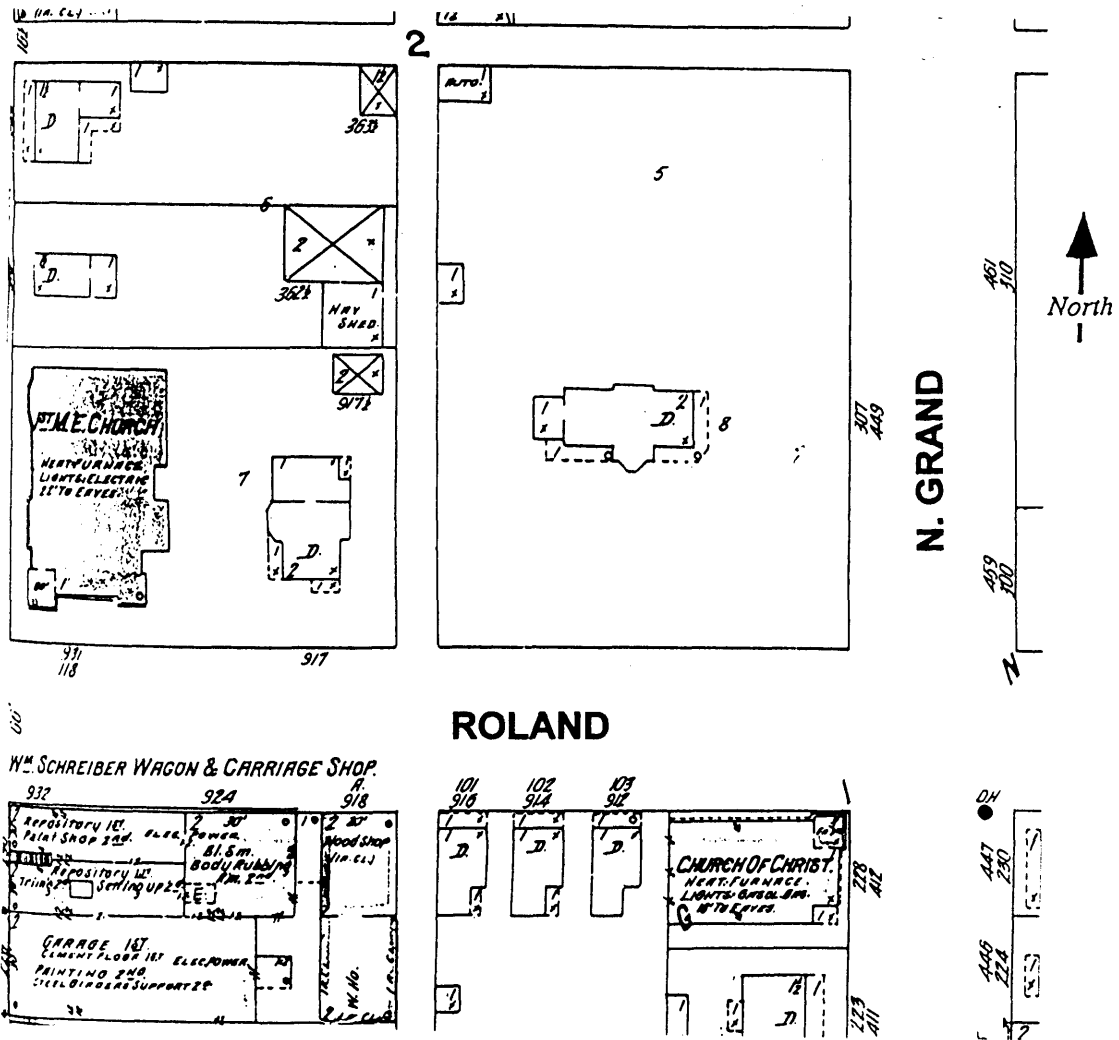
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1913 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map
Shows church with residence located to east (present site of Education Wing)

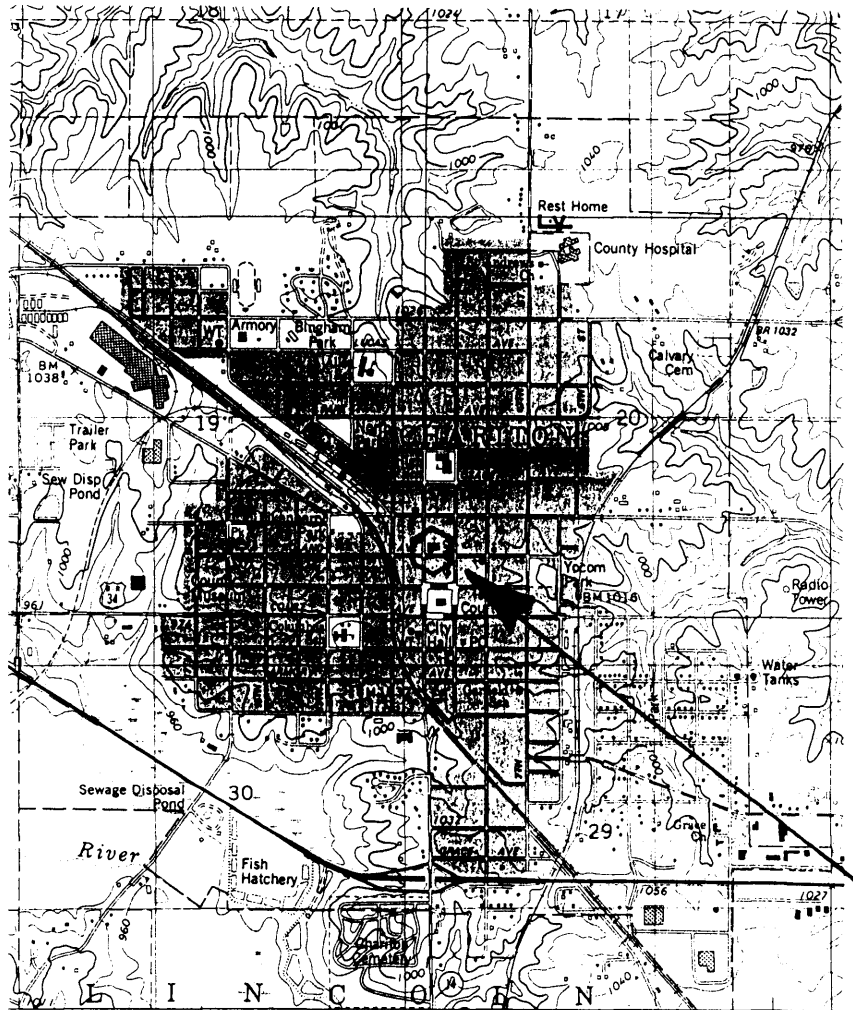
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U.S.G.S. Map of Chariton
Location of First United Methodist Church indicated by arrow

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**First United Methodist Church
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The First United Methodist Church of Chariton, Iowa from 1900 is locally significant under Criterion C as a fine, unaltered example of turn of the century Gothic Revival design by well known Illinois architect, Samuel A. Bullard, and it meets Criteria Consideration A as it derives its significance from its architectural design.

This is the second Methodist church on this site. The first church was a brick Greek Revival design with Italianate brackets that was built in 1864. By 1898 it had deteriorated to the point that discussions were held concerning construction of a new facility. In August 1898 the Board of Trustees recommended that the church should proceed with the construction of a new building at a cost of no more than \$15,000. The new building was to be built on the site of the old one, but was to be set back ten feet from the south and west streets. It was to be constructed of pressed bricks or stone-faced brick and have slate shingles for the roof. The new building was to have a basement, a sanctuary seating no less than 400, and Sunday School rooms for no less than 300. It was voted to have two entrances at the tower and also to have copper gutters. (History of First United Methodist Through the Years, p18)

There are no records as to how they solicited or advertised for proposals, but in March 1899 S.A. Bullard of Springfield, Illinois was chosen as their architect. Three Trustees resigned at this time. There is no explanation why.

Samuel A. Bullard was described in 1891 as "one of the leading architects of this state..." He was educated in public schools and studied architecture at the University of Illinois, Champaign, graduating with high honor in the class of 1878. A few years later he returned to the University of Illinois and earned his M.A. in architecture. He established a practice in Springfield in 1879 and until 1893 he was also associated with his brother George in a practice in Tacoma, Washington. The two brothers drew plans for some of the finest buildings and residences in Illinois and Washington. Somewhat later Samuel became a partner with another brother in Springfield, and the firm of Bullard and Bullard was later joined by Samuel's son Clark. Bullard served for many years as a Trustee of the University of Illinois, and in 1923 was elected Mayor of Springfield. He died in office in December 1926. Among the buildings he designed, or helped to design are:

Springfield YMCA
Christ (Episcopal) Church, Springfield
Springfield City Hall
State Arsenal
Sangamon County Courthouse

2nd Methodist Episcopal Church, Springfield
Grace Lutheran Church, Springfield
Enos School, Springfield
The Lincoln Tomb
Jess Residence, Springfield

Despite his many designs in Illinois and other states, Bullard does not appear to have drawn plans for any other buildings in Iowa. He is not mentioned in Shank's book of Iowa architects. No connection has been made between Bullard and any residents of Chariton at

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the time. It appears however, that he left his mark on the community, not just with the church, but perhaps with two other buildings as well.

Contractors for the new building included G.J. Stewart, Johnson and Best (who did the carpentry work), and D.A. Enslow (who did the stone and brick work). All of the contractors were local residents. During construction it became apparent that the new building was going to cost well over \$18,000, and the Trustees raised the maximum cost figure to \$25,000.

First United Methodist Church is almost a textbook example of turn of the century Gothic Revival design. This medieval style had been popular through much of the 19th century in America, for residences as well as public buildings. The strongest manifestation occurred during the 1840s and '50s with the Gothic cottages of A.J. Downing and Alexander Jackson Davis. The style was most popular however, for churches, and remained the most influential style for churches well into the 20th century. Key elements of Gothic Revival are the pointed arch used for windows and doors, the steeply pitched roof (either hip or gable), towers (often with crenellation), foliated ornamentation, and an asymmetrical plan. These elements are all found on First Methodist. The pointed Gothic arched windows and doors are found in the main (sanctuary) portion of the building, the roof is steeply pitched, it is asymmetrical with two towers of different size and design, and, foliated ornamentation is found flanking the main doors. Limestone is a common building material for this style, although often the stone is ashlar rather than rusticated.

By July 1900 the "magnificent stone structure" was ready for consecration. The *Chariton Patriot* carried this description of the new building on July 12, 1900.

The building, 62 x 95 feet, built of Bedford stone with slate roof; the spire is 92 in height. The sanctuary was beautifully arched and has a seating capacity of 400, with a platform level with the Sunday School rooms and a choir loft. Just north of the sanctuary was the Sunday School room and parlors, above which was the balcony. The rooms were so arranged and doors adjusted that they could be thrown into one vast room and yet no one be seated more than fifty-five feet from the speaker and in full view of him. His congregation almost surrounds him..... The auditorium, lecture room and parlor and balcony were all carpeted. The balcony was arranged so that by sliding panels, it could be converted into small rooms or stalls for Sunday School classes.

The windows are of beautiful opalescent or plate glass and were bought of Jacoby, Spies & Co., of St. Louis, MO. A number of them are memorials.

The stained glass windows are found primarily in the sanctuary, and over half have been given as memorials. However, it is two windows in the north wall that receive the most interest. Remember, the room on the north side of the sanctuary was originally the Sunday School room. One of the windows in that room was given by the Junior Epworth League. The

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Epworth League was an organization for Methodist youth, and the group in Chariton was established in 1889 "...for the purpose of holding the young people together and developing the useful and consecrated spirituality so much needed by the young Christians." The Junior Epworth League appears to have been for elementary age youth.

The second window of interest reads "Anti-Cigarette League." This was established in 1900 "...for the purpose of developing the purest and best character in young men and boys by encouraging all that was manly and noble in life; discouraging the harmful, such as reading profane literature, drinking intoxicating liquors, smoking cigarettes, blaspheming or the use of vulgar language."

Although the church was originally lighted with 140 electric lights, by 1906 a new light system was being installed. In 1913 a "water closet and toilet" were installed, and a new steam heat system was put in place in 1914. By 1921 more space was needed in the basement, and local architect W. L. Perkins (a member of the church) was the architect selected. Although Perkins is not listed in Shank's book, several of his projects are known. He designed banks in Melrose and Lucas, the Perkins Apartments in Chariton, and a number of Chariton residences.

It does not appear that the 1940s renovation project made major changes to the building. It was primarily cosmetic, and repaired rather than replacing. The 1961-62 addition of the Education Wing is of interest as it was designed by a well known architectural firm, Woodburn and O'Neil, and because it was sympathetically designed to work with the original church. The addition was attached in such a way as to appear to be a separate building. It is not intrusive in any way.

The First United Methodist Church is one of, if not the, largest churches in the community. It is the only stone church. Others in the neighborhood are Sacred Heart, a brick church from 1915 one block to the north, and First Presbyterian, constructed of rusticated concrete block in 1908, several blocks to the southeast. The only other building of the size and prominence of the Methodist church is the Lucas County Courthouse (NRHP) in the center of the Chariton Square. This building was built in 1893 from plans drawn by Foster and Liebke of Des Moines. It is Richardsonian Romanesque in style, and features the heavily rusticated stone blocks common to the style. G.J. Stewart, who was involved with the construction of the church, is also listed as a builder of the courthouse.

Two buildings on the west side of the Square also feature facades of rusticated limestone blocks. The Ensley Crocker Building (1901) at 113 N. Main and the Stanton Building at 111 N. Main were both owned by Trustees of First Methodist (Ensley and Stanton). Although no date has been determined for the Stanton Building, it is so similar to the Ensley Crocker Building that it was probably built at the same time or soon after. The question is, were these buildings designed by Samuel A. Bullard while he was working on the Methodist Church, or were Ensley and Stanton so taken with Bullard's design that they decided to copy it on their buildings?

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9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Shank, Wesley I. Iowa's Historic Architects: A Biographical Dictionary. Iowa City, IA: University of Iowa Press, 1998.

Smith, George W. History of Illinois and Her People. Chicago & New York: The American Historical Society, Inc., 1927, Vol IV, pp 65-6.

Wallace, Joseph. Past and Present of the City of Springfield and Sangamon County, Illinois. Chicago: S.J. Clarke Pub. Co., 1904, p 497.

10. GEOGRAPHIC DATA

Verbal Boundary Description:

Original Town of Chariton, Lucas County, Lot Seven (7), Block Two (2).

Boundary Justification:

This is the area historically associated with this resource.

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The photographs submitted with this nomination were all taken by Molly Myers Naumann in May 2001.

- 1) Façade to NE
- 2) Detail front entrance on south side of tower, to NNE
- 3) West elevation showing new addition at far left, to E
- 4) South elevation to NW
- 5) East end of building showing new addition on right, to N
- 6) Interior: From entry toward altar and organ, to NE
- 7) Interior: From altar toward entry, to SW
- 8) Detail: Stained glass windows on west wall, to W
- 9) Interior: From sanctuary toward original Sunday School room, to N