

PH0066 151

STATE: Colorado
COUNTY: Denver
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE DEC 27 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:	Evans Memorial Chapel
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: University of Denver Campus			
CITY OR TOWN: Denver	CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 1		
STATE Colorado	CODE 08	COUNTY: Denver	CODE 031

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: The University of Denver		
STREET AND NUMBER: 2199 S. University Boulevard		
CITY OR TOWN: Denver	STATE: Colorado	CODE: 08

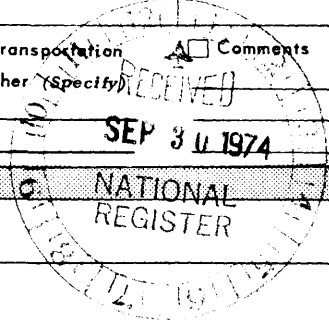
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Denver Assessment Division, City and County of Denver		
STREET AND NUMBER: 1445 Cleveland Place		
CITY OR TOWN: Denver	STATE: Colorado	CODE: 08

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Building Survey Inventory		
DATE OF SURVEY: April 29, 1967 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local		
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: State Historical Society		
STREET AND NUMBER: Colorado State Museum Building, 200 Fourteenth Avenue		
CITY OR TOWN: Denver	STATE: Colorado	CODE: 08

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Evan's Chapel is an example of Early Gothic Revival architecture. According to Richard Brettell in Historic Denver The Architects and The Architecture 1858-1893, "its simplicity is reflective of the frontier mentality which was just then wakening, under the hand of men such as John Evans, to a consciousness of a need for style and beauty in its buildings." It is characterized by pointed window and entrance arches and by a large pointed east window with extensive tracery (a picture of Ruth in memory of Josephine Elbert). It is very simple in plan. One large room comprises the whole structure. This houses an east/west axial nave, terminating at the west with an octagonal apse. The nave is flanked by pointed arch windows. The small choir is located under the east window. The chapel is entered off the south through a Gothic arched doorway and small vestibule. The ceiling is characterized by ornate open-tracery wood trusses.

The exterior consists of heavily rusticated Colorado red sandstone bearing walls supporting a steep pitched slate roof, with iron cresting along the ridgepole. The sandstone is articulated in various Gothic motifs. The interior trusses bear directly on pilasters reflected on the exterior, and chimney pots surmount the buttresses at the northeast and southeast corners of the chapel.

The chapel is in excellent condition and all remodeling has been done with deliberation and constraint to preserve its original character. Some of the numbers painted on each stone to facilitate accurate reassembly on the D. U. campus can still be seen. At the time of the move, in 1959, defective stones were marked and replaced.

Stone from the old Grace Community Methodist Church has been used in landscaping around the chapel, and the stone gabel cross is from old Grace Church.

According to a letter from Edgar M. Wahlberg which appeared in "The Iliff Review," Vol. XVIII, Winter 1961, No. 1, p. 18, the stage in the chapel was removed sometime prior to 1945 and was replaced with a circular platform a normal step high. Later the original pine floor was covered with a hardwood flooring. The chapel originally had stone crosses at the very top of the gable and over the entrance. In need of repair, they were removed.

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3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian! | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1876-78

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

John Evans was born in Waynesville, Ohio, March 9, 1814. He obtained his M.D. degree in 1838. In 1845, he was elected to a chair in the Rush Medical College in Chicago, which professorship he held for eleven years. During that time Evans was active in both the fields of medicine and education. In 1853, he advocated the founding of Northwestern University, and with others selected a suburb of Chicago for its site, later named Evanston in his honor. He was the first President of the Board of Trustees of Northwestern and occupied a position on the board for forty-two years.

In 1861, he publicly advocated the emancipation of slaves and their enlistment in the Union Army as a most effective measure for crushing the Rebellion. Dr. Evans was a delegate to the State Convention which nominated his friend Abraham Lincoln for the Presidency. After his appointment to the Governorship by President Lincoln, he came to Denver City in 1862. He served as the first Territorial Governor of Colorado until 1865.

As early as 1863, Governor Evans realized the need for an institution of higher learning in the area. With the help of other leading citizens, he founded the Colorado Seminary, now the University of Denver.

The chapel was built by Dr. Evans as a memorial to his daughter, Josephine Evans Elbert, in response to requests from Methodist churchmen. The chapel, constructed in 1878 at West 13th Avenue and Bannock, is the oldest Protestant church building still in use in Denver. At its present

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Dallas, Sandra, Cherry Creek Gothic, University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, Oklahoma, 1971.

Davis, Sally and Betty Baldwin, Denver Dwellings and Descendants, Sage Books, Denver, Colorado, 1963.

Etter, Don D., Denver University Park, Four Walking Tours, Graphic Impressions, Inc., Denver, Colorado, 1974.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

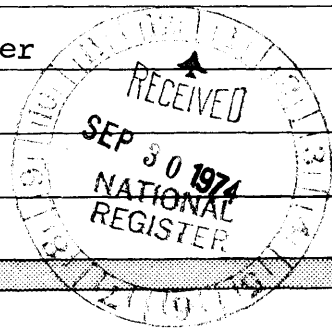
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0	'	"	39	46	57	104	57	46
NE	0	'	"						
SE	0	'	"						
SW	0	'	"						

UTM
13/503200
4391670
CU

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1/4 acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Colorado	08	Denver	031
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Nanaruth Haines**

ORGANIZATION: **Historic Denver, Inc.** DATE: **August 14, 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER: **1142 Washington, #3**

CITY OR TOWN: **Denver** STATE: **Colorado** CODE: **08**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: [Signature]

Title: State Liaison Officer

Date: 9/25/74

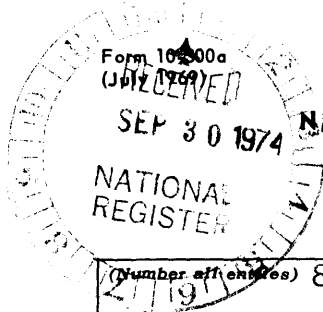
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

[Signature]
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 12/27/74

ATTEST: [Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date: DEC 26 1974



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(Number of entries) 8. Significance

location on the University of Denver campus, inter-denominational services are held, and the beauty and charm of the chapel and its setting make it a popular sanctuary for weddings.

The chapel was used on its original site as a part of Grace Community Methodist Church from 1889 until 1953. It was used then by the Assembly of God members until the site was purchased by the University of Denver for a parking lot. The University, assisted by a grant from the Evans family, moved the chapel stone by stone to be reassembled on the campus.

Don Etter, in his book Denver University Park, Four Walking Tours, notes, "Even in its original location, the chapel had important connections with University Park...; Henry White Warren and Elizabeth Fraser Iliff, both long-time residents, were married there in 1883; and Henry A. Buchtel, Denver University Chancellor and Colorado Governor, preached his first sermon there in 1884."

The relocation of the chapel served, in fact, to bring it home, for in its present site it is nearer the names with which it is so closely associated and which are the heritage of the University Park Community. The Campus is bordered by Evans Avenue and Iliff Street. Warren Avenue, named for Bishop Henry Warren, runs into the campus, and Buchtel Boulevard runs parallel to all these streets just two blocks north of Evans Avenue. Bishop Warren founded the Iliff School of Theology whose buildings share the campus with the University of Denver, which was originally founded under the auspices of the Methodist Church.

John Evans was a man who had a large part in molding the raw territory of Colorado, for even after his term as Territorial Governor he was vitally active in the growth of Denver, especially in opening up the first railroad to the town. He helped shape the future of the city for all time. It has been said by some that Evans, as Governor, was ruthless

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(Number all entries) 8. Significance (Second Continuation Sheet)

in his treatment of the native Americans. We are reminded of the raw power he exerted in the frontier setting everyday as we see the magnificent Mount Evans towering over our city on the plains. But there was another side to this man. A side which mourned for a daughter dead before her time, which reached out to commemorate her life. And he believed in the civilized future of the West and the important role of the Christian Church in that future. He was a civilizing force in the formative days of the West, and perhaps all that his life and work meant to the community, the city, and the state is best embodied in this lovely and dignified chapel, so fittingly set in the heart of the University he founded.

Relocated: 1959

