

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED SEP 7 1978
DATE ENTERED SEP 22 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC United Methodist Church

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION Central Ave. and 5th St.

STREET & NUMBER
Northeast corner of Southeast Central Avenue and Southeast 5th Street
NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN Jasper VICINITY OF Second CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE Florida CODE 012 COUNTY Hamilton CODE 047

CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | PRESENT USE |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT | <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC | <input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S) | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE | <input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE | PUBLIC ACQUISITION | ACCESSIBLE | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: |

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME United Methodist Church

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Lakeland VICINITY OF Florida STATE 32338

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Hamilton County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Jasper Florida STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The United Methodist Church in Jasper, Florida was constructed in 1878 and has undergone several alterations. The original structure appears to have been a small, rectangular frame building resting on piers, with a belltower centered on the entrance facade. Later expansion consisted of the addition of the transepts and sanctuary creating the irregular Latin Cross plan of the church today. Subsequent additions did not alter the main body of the church, but expanded to the northeast corner of the building.

The exterior of the building is dominated by a belltower with two setbacks and a steeple. The exterior fabric of the structure is wood, drop siding painted white. The nave of the church, along with the belltower appears to be the original 1878 building, and is decorated with corner pilasters and a plain frieze. This detailing is also evident in the base of the belltower, which forms the small front vestibule, and in the tower itself. The decorative treatment of the transepts and sanctuary is simpler consisting of corner boards and no frieze. The nave and transepts of the church are surmounted by gable roofs covered with diamond pattern composition shingles; while the roof of the sanctuary is hipped. The belltower setbacks are covered by pent roofs of the same material. The main entrance is centered on the west (front) facade and has panelled double doors. Small, gable porches protect both the front and side entrances. This secondary entrance is located on the west side of the north transept. The entire structure rests on a continuous concrete block foundation added in 1943, along with the addition of the entrance porches. Also of interest is the regular placement of stained glass, lancet windows with label mouldings. Of the 17 windows installed in 1905, only 15 remain. Two windows were apparently located on the northeast corner of the sanctuary where the rectangular addition is connected. With the exception of the paired lancets on the north and south sides of the nave, the remaining windows are single.

The most interesting feature of the interior is the tongue-and-groove, wood cove ceiling of the nave. Since this treatment is repeated in both transepts and in the sanctuary, it is difficult to establish whether this was an original element or a later addition. The walls of the nave and transepts are plastered and painted off-white, and have a beaded tongue-and-groove wainscot. All interior decorations, except the ceiling which is painted off-white, appear to be wood tone. These include the chancel rail, corner pilasters, window and door architraves, and wainscot. The sanctuary was entirely remodelled in 1938 and included the addition of a new altar; 3 square, stained glass, altar windows; and walnut stained panelling and wainscot. The floor and pews appear to be of a lighter wood finish than the other wood tone decorations.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

| PERIOD | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW | | | |
|---|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Community Importance |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES 1878 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

There are very few written records that can clarify the early history of the United Methodist Church in Jasper. The significance of the building can be derived from the fact that it is almost 100 years old and is one of three remaining active Methodist Churches in Hamilton County.

The first Methodist Circuit Rider came to Hamilton County in 1825, but it wasn't until 1847-8 that the Methodist Congregation in Jasper decided that a building was necessary for their Church Services.¹ Oral tradition indicates that a small, log structure was erected at the northwest corner of a lot which is today the oldest part of the city cemetery. The building was apparently destroyed by a hurricane on September 15, 1858. After that disaster, no new structure was constructed by the Methodist Church probably due to the hard times brought on by the Civil War and its aftermath.

In 1878, Dr. Lucian Frink and Mrs. Martha E. Frink donated a lot for the construction of the present building, begun in September of that year.² It is not clear why a new lot was necessary instead of rebuilding on the site of their previous building. No photographic or written information is available on the configuration of the Church, but oral tradition indicates that it was a small, rectangular, frame building with a belltower centered on the entrance facade. In 1904-5, \$1500 were raised for repairs to the church under the pastorate of Reverend S. W. Lawler, Sr.³ It is probable that these "repairs" consisted of the expansion of the building by the addition of the north and south transepts and the sanctuary. The stained glass windows are also believed to have been added during this time. In 1932-3, a small country church was moved to Jasper and attached to the northeast corner of the building.⁴ This section was expanded in 1947. Since 1938, several additional interior remodellings were undertaken completing the building as it is today.

¹Reverend Norman E. Booth, "History of the First Methodist Church," Program of Service, Sunday, October 25, 1964, First Methodist Church, Jasper, Florida.

²Hamilton County, Florida, Deed Records, Book K, p. 536, Hamilton County Courthouse, Jasper, Florida.

³Miss Marion Worley, personal communication with Mrs. Owen Hinton, Sr; Mrs. Owen Hinton, Sr. to Phillip Werndli, June 20, 1977, United Methodist Church file, Division of Archives, History and Records Management, Tallahassee, Florida.

⁴Ibid.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Booth, Reverend Norman E. "History of the First Methodist Church" (Unpublished program of service, Sunday, October 25, 1964, First Methodist Church, Jasper, Florida).

Hamilton County, Florida. Deed Records. Book K, p. 536. Located in the Hamilton County Courthouse, Jasper, Florida. (See Continuation Sheet)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than One

UTM REFERENCES See Continuation Sheet

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|---------------|----------------|---|------|---------|----------|
| A | <u>17</u> | <u>313110</u> | <u>3377260</u> | B | | | |
| | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING | | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING |
| C | | | | D | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Commencing at a point on Eastern edge of railroad right-of-way, south of the lot owned by Mrs. E. C. Rice, and now occupied by her in the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 6, Township 1 North, Range 14 East, 210 feet from the corner (formed by said lot of Mrs. Rice) is a stake from which stake go south, as parallel with Rail Road on edge of right-of-way 105 feet, then east 200 feet on to edge of street known as Frink Street, then north preserving the parallel with street 105 feet, then west to point of beginning. Said lot being 200 feet east and west and 105 feet (cont.)

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

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Jorge L. Currais, Preservation Architect

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Florida Division of Archives, History and Records Management June 7, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Department of State, The Capitol

904/487-2333

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Tallahassee

Florida 32304

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

9/29/78

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ATTEST: Guy B. Franklin
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

9.29.78

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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| DATE ENTERED | SEP 29 1978 |

United Methodist Church
CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

This is a nomination revision. Please add "Architecture" to the area of significance.

The United Methodist Church in Jasper is architecturally significant due to the fact that the building is almost 100 years old. This makes it one of the oldest surviving structures in Hamilton County. Although heavily altered through later additions and remodellings, the nave and belltower appear to be the original structure erected in September, 1878. Oral tradition indicates that the Church was a small, rectangular, frame building with a belltower centered on the entrance facade. The present exterior configuration of the Church has been the same since 1904-5, when \$1,500 were raised for repairs to the church under the pastorate of Reverend S. W. Lawler, Sr.¹ It is probable that these "repairs" consisted of the expansion of the building by the addition of the north and south transepts and the sanctuary. The stained glass windows are also believed to have been added during this time.

There are very few written records that can clarify the early history of the United Methodist Church in Jasper. The first Methodist Circuit Rider came to Hamilton County in 1825, but it wasn't until 1847-8 that the Methodist Congregation in Jasper decided that a building was necessary for their Church Services.² Oral tradition indicates that a small, log structure was erected at the northwest corner of a lot which is today the oldest part of the city cemetery. The building was apparently destroyed by a hurricane on September 15, 1858. After that disaster, no new structure was constructed by the Methodist Church probably due to the hard times brought on by the Civil War and its aftermath. In 1878, Dr. Lucian Frink and Mrs. Martha E. Frink donated a lot for the construction of the present building, begun in September of that year.³

Additional expansions have occurred since the 1904-5 remodelling, but none of these altered the exterior appearance of the main body of the Church. In 1932-3, a small country church was moved to Jasper and attached to the northeast corner of the building.⁴ This section was expanded in 1947. Since 1938, several additional interior remodellings were undertaken completing the building as it is today.

(Footnotes on continuation sheet)

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|------------------|-------------|
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| RECEIVED | 9/20/78 |
| DATE ENTERED | SEP 29 1978 |

United Methodist Church

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

¹Miss Marion Worley, personal communication with Mrs. Owen Hinton, Sr.; Mrs. Owen Hinton, Sr. to Phillip Werndli, June 20, 1977, United Methodist Church file, Division of Archives, History and Records Management, Tallahassee, Florida.

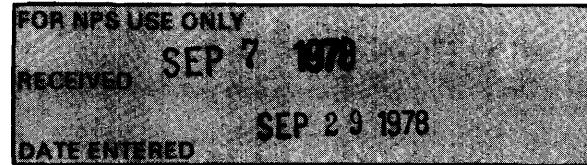
²Reverend Norman E. Booth, "History of the First Methodist Church," Program of Service, Sunday, October 25, 1964, First Methodist Church, Jasper, Florida.

³Hamilton County, Florida, Deed Records, Book K, p. 536, Hamilton County Courthouse, Jasper, Florida.

⁴Worley to Hinton, Sr; Hinton, Sr. to Werndli.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**



United Methodist Church
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Ley, John C. Fifty-two Years in Florida. Published by the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, 1899.

Worley, Marion. Personal communications with Mrs. Owen Hinton, Sr. as related in correspondence to Phillip Werndli, Historic Sites Specialist, by Mrs. Owen Hinton, Sr., June 20, 1977. Letter located in the United Methodist Church file, Division of Archives, History and Records Management, Tallahassee, Florida.

Item No. 10 (cont.)

UTM Coordinates not available.

30°30'54"N 82°56'51"W

Item No. 10 -- Verbal Boundary Description (cont.)

north and south.