

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

**SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD**

**NRIS Reference Number: 93000961**

**Date Listed: 10/1/93**

St. Matthew's by the Bridge  
Episcopal Church  
Property Name

Hardin  
County

IA  
State

Architectural & Historical Resources of Iowa Falls, Iowa MPS  
Multiple Name

-----  
This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

*for* Patrick W. Andrus  
Signature of the Keeper

10/1/93  
Date of Action

=====  
**Amended Items in Nomination:**

**Level of Significance:**

The level of significance for this resource is local.

**UTM:**

The UTM coordinates were omitted from the nomination form. The correct coordinates were obtained from the attached USGS map.

This information was confirmed with Beth Foster of the Iowa SHPO.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

National Register property file  
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

RECEIVED

AUG 20 1993

NATIONAL REGISTER

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 St. Matthew's by the Bridge Episcopal Church

other names/site number N.A.

2. Location

street & number Oak Street at Railroad Street  not for publication

city or town Iowa Falls  vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Hardin code 083 zip code 50126

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.)

[Signature] 8/13/93  
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

Date of Action

Patrick Andrews

10/1/93

Name of Property

County and State

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 buildings
sites
structures
objects
1 Total

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

Architectural & Historical Resources of Iowa Falls, IA 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/Religious Facility

RELIGION/Religious Facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th/Early 20th C. Revival

Tudor Revival

foundation Concrete

walls Stucco over wood

roof Asphalt

other Wood trim

Narrative Description

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

Name of Property

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or grave.
D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F a commemorative property.
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1913

Significant Dates

1913

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N.A.

Cultural Affiliation

N.A.

Architect/Builder

Designed by Robert Layton

Builder is unknown

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:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre.

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 115 478395 471071150  
Zone Easting Northing  
2         

3           
Zone Easting Northing  
4         

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Molly Myers Naumann, Consultant (515) 682-2743  
organization Iowa Falls Historic Preservation Commission date May 1993  
street & number City Hall, 321 Stevens telephone (515) 648-2527  
city or town Iowa Falls state IA zip code 50126

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 Episcopal Diocese of Iowa  
street & number 225 37th Street telephone (515) 277-6165  
city or town Des Moines state IA zip code 50312

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.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

CFN-259-1116

**St. Matthew's by the Bridge Episcopal Church  
Hardin County, Iowa**

**Description:**

St. Matthew's by the Bridge is a single story rectangular building measuring 24'x 60' perched on the palisade overlooking the Iowa River next to the Oak Street bridge. It features a gable roof, with two entrances located on the long, or eave, side (the north elevation). The primary entrance is that at the northwest corner. Tudor Revival in design, the building is of wood frame construction covered with stucco. The gable ends have a simple simulated half-timbered effect and paneled vergeboards. Diagonal braces appear to support the roof. A cross is located atop the south gable end, and the gable of both entrances. A single chimney is located just to the east of the eastern entry. Windows were all originally of small leaded diamond shaped panes. Five memorial stained glass windows have been placed in the sanctuary in recent years ("Ascension" over the altar in 1965, and the four Apostles on the south and west walls between 1980 and 1987).

A single story wing with shed roof was added at the rear basement level approximately thirty years ago. This addition was needed to provide a vicar's study, class rooms, and storage space and is not considered to be intrusive. The exterior is stuccoed to match the rest of the building, and it can only be seen from the east and west ends. The south elevation along the river bank is hidden by trees most of the year.

On the interior, St. Matthew's remains basically unchanged. The altar is located at the east end of the sanctuary. The organ was moved several years ago, into a portion of the choir area on the north side. The aisle is arranged just to the left of center, with narrow pews along the north wall. The walls are plastered, while the ceiling is of wood. The interior structural system of King-posts, Queen-posts, collar beams, and struts makes a dramatic vertical statement. Wood throughout the interior has been given a deep stain, creating a sharp contrast of light and dark. The feeling of the sanctuary is that of a small, intimate place of worship.

The lower level is given over to offices, classrooms, and a kitchen and is not considered to be significant.

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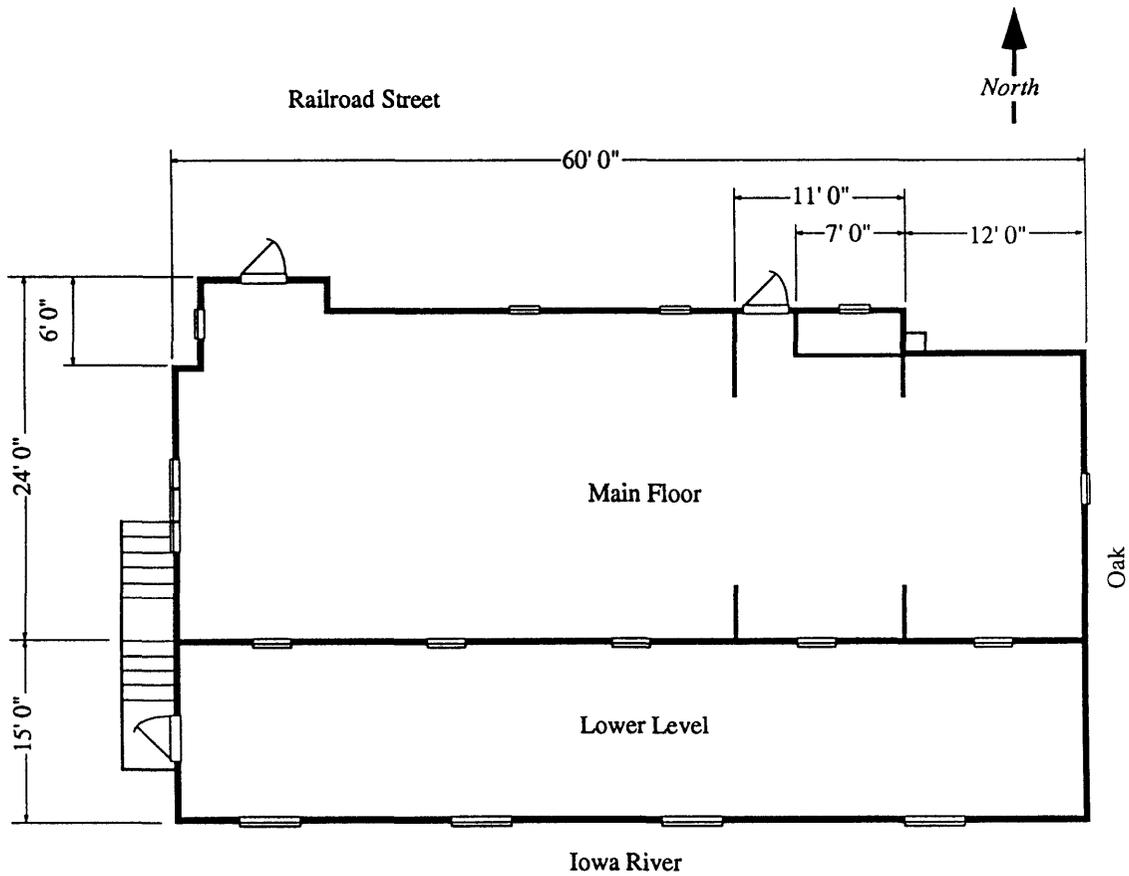
# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

CFN-259-1116

St. Matthew's by the Bridge Episcopal Church  
Hardin County, Iowa

Description (continued):



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

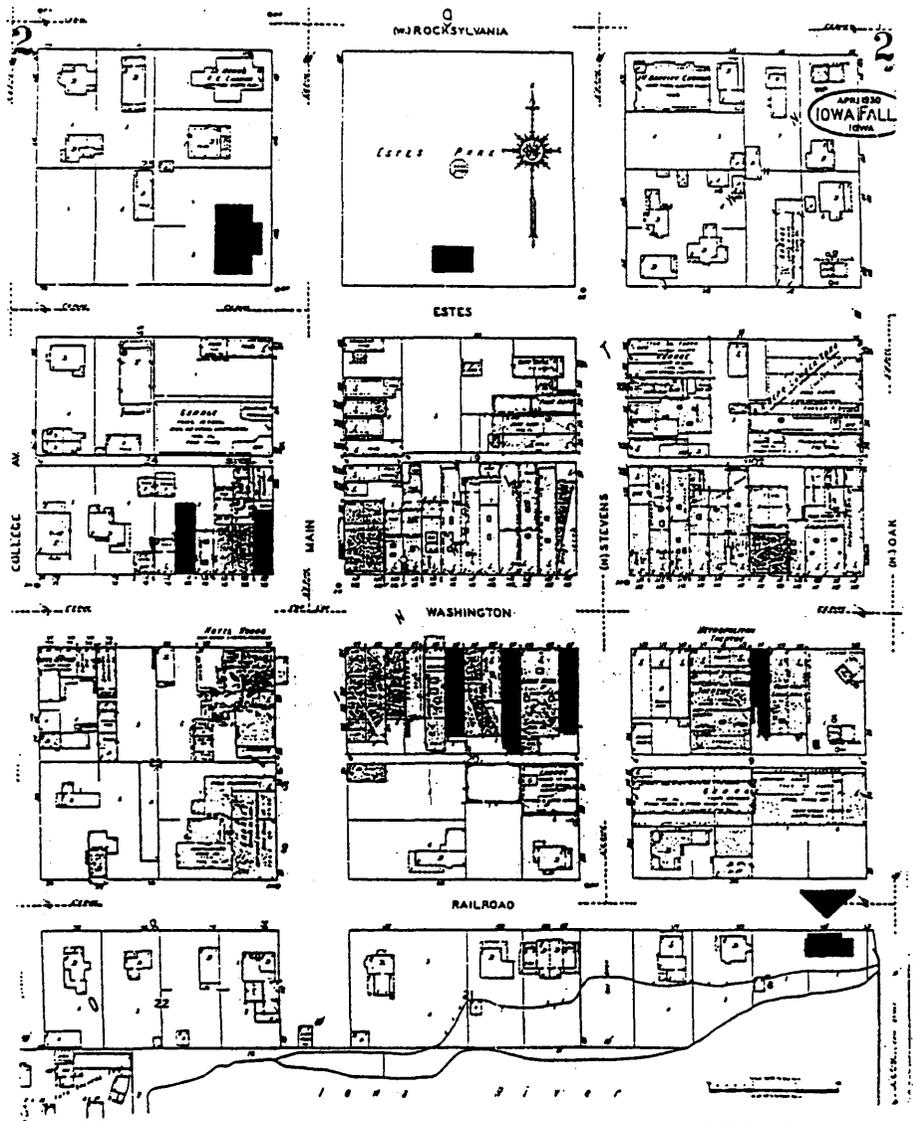
# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

CFN-259-1116

St. Matthew's by the Bridge Episcopal Church  
Hardin County, Iowa

Description (continued):



### IOWA FALLS BUSINESS DISTRICT

Shaded buildings are those being nominated.

▶ indicates specific building being nominated.

United States Department of the Interior  
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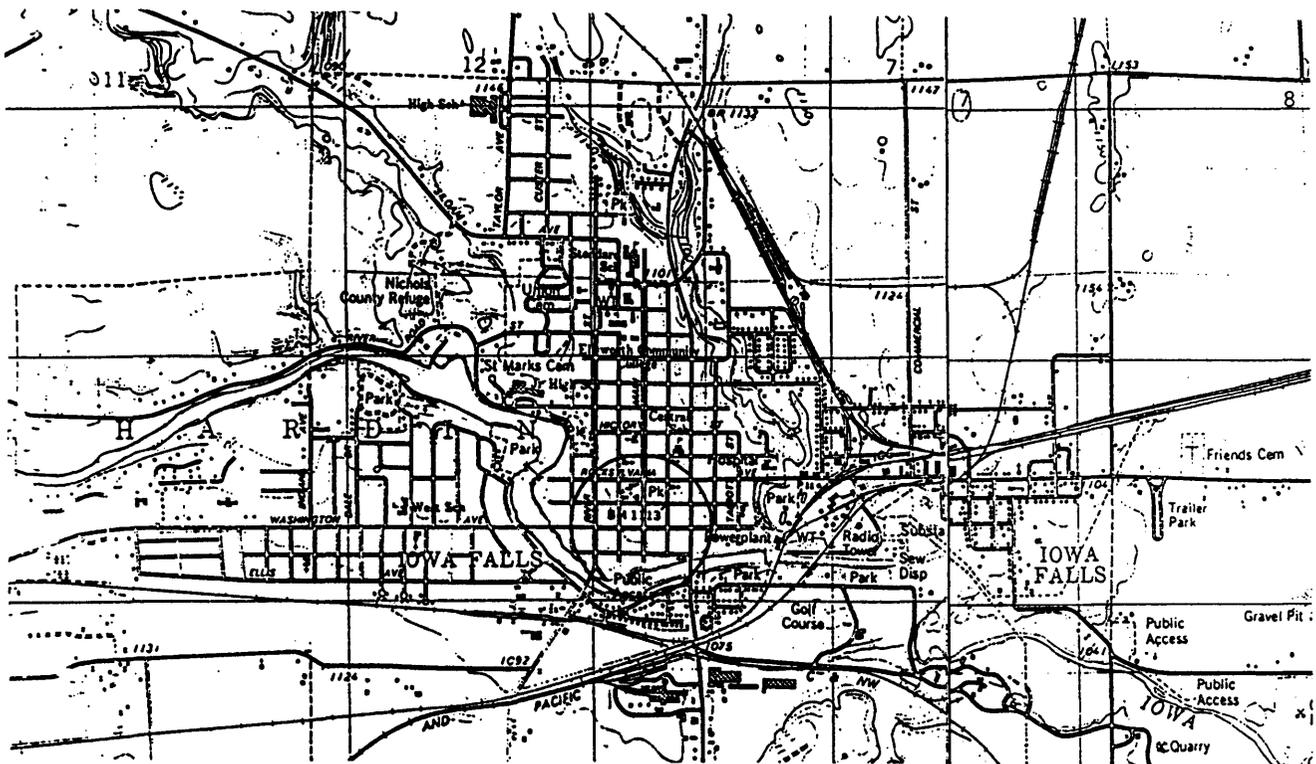
# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

CFN-259-1116

St. Matthew's by the Bridge Episcopal Church  
Hardin County, Iowa

Description (continued):



Central Business District is circled.  
U.S.G.S. Map

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

CFN-259-1116

St. Matthew's by the Bridge Episcopal Church  
Hardin County, Iowa

### Significance:

St. Matthew's by the Bridge (1913) is locally significant under Criterion C and meets Criterion Consideration A as a good example of a small Tudor Revival design church. The period of significance is the year of construction.

Tudor Revival, as a style, was very popular during the early part of the 20th century and was commonly used for residences, offices, and school buildings as well as churches. The majority of these Tudor inspired buildings were architect designed. St. Matthew's by the Bridge is an exception. Robert Layton was an industrial arts teacher in the Iowa Falls school system. An Englishman, Layton returned to his old home on a visit in 1912, and made sketches of several village churches in the area. Armed with these sketches he drew the plans from which St. Matthew's was built the following year. Two of his students, Louis and Ernie Weldon, assisted him in making the blueprints.

St. Matthew's by the Bridge (fondly referred to by its parishioners as "St. Matthew's on the Brink" because of its precipitous location) retains a strong quality of the small English churches. There is no attempt at grandeur. It is a quiet, simplified example of the Tudor style, with little half-timbering, and no fancy designs on the vergeboards. There is an intimacy of scale and proportion, a warmth of materials, that create a very inviting space.

This church was built on lots purchased a few years earlier, about the time that the first Oak Street bridge was built, connecting both sides of the river in this part of town. With the coming of the automobile and paving, this site became a prime one for construction. The Oak Street bridge channeled the traffic on U.S. Highway 65 into downtown Iowa Falls. St. Matthew's was well located to serve people from both parts of the community.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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CFN-259-1116

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St. Matthew's by the Bridge Episcopal Church  
Hardin County, Iowa

### Bibliography:

Abstract of Title, City of Iowa Falls, Original Plat, Block 8, Lots 1 & 2  
Nichols, Ira A. History of Iowa Falls: 1900-1950. Iowa Falls: Hecht Printing Co.,  
1956.

History of St. Matthew's Church. Printed by the church, 1963, updated 1988.  
Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps

### Verbal Boundary Description:

City of Iowa Falls, Original Plat, Block 8, Lots 1 & 2.

### Boundary Justification:

This is the area historically associated with this resource.