

166A

United States Department of Interior
National Park Service

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 Hoover, James Stephen and Borland, Elizabeth, Memorial Chapel

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number	Lakeview Cemetery, Buffington Drive	N/A	not for publication
city or town	City of Eau Claire	N/A	vicinity
state Wisconsin	code WI	county Eau Claire	code 35 zip code 54703

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.)

Alvin T. [Signature]
Signature of certifying official/Title
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer-WI

12/1/99
Date

State or 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 commenting official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

Hoover Memorial Chapel
Name of Property

Eau Claire County, Wisconsin
County and State

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.

See continuation sheet.
removed from the National Register.
other (explain) _____

APC
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
Edson A. Beall 1-7-00

5. Classification

Ownership of Property Category of Property
(check as many as apply) (Check only one box)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> private | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local | <input type="checkbox"/> district |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-state | <input type="checkbox"/> site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-federal | <input type="checkbox"/> structure |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> object |

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

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

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

Historic Resources of Eau Claire

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

FUNERARY/ Mortuary

FUNERARY/ Mortuary

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Late Gothic Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE
walls STONE
roof CERAMIC TILE
other CONCRETE

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Continuation Sheet**

Section 7 Page 1

Hoover Memorial Chapel
Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin

INTRODUCTION

The Hoover Memorial Chapel was designed by John Tilton of the Chicago architectural firm of Armstrong, Furst and Tilton. It was built in 1936.¹ It is a one-story, Neo-Gothic Revival building constructed of rock-faced ashlar with smooth-faced limestone trim. The Chapel is front-gabled, and the roof is clad with flat, red ceramic tiles. The Chapel has a poured concrete basement.

DESCRIPTION

The Hoover Memorial Chapel is located in the Lakeview Cemetery, west of Eau Claire's central business district. The Chapel lies on the north edge of the cemetery, along the main road. The cemetery is set on the bluffs overlooking Half Moon Lake in Carson Park. The cemetery has curvilinear streets and a scattering of trees. Carson Park forms the south and east boundaries of the cemetery. To the north and west, there is a residential neighborhood of predominantly early mid-twentieth century homes.

The Hoover Memorial Chapel is a tall, one-story, Neo-Gothic Revival building (see photo 1). The Chapel was built in 1936 at a cost of \$25,000. The architect was John Tilton, of Armstrong, Furst and Tilton, a Chicago firm. The fact that Armstrong, Furst and Tilton had designed the chapel addition to Christ Church Cathedral in 1935 probably led to Tilton's selection as architect for the Hoover Memorial Chapel. Fannie Hoover Buffington, who financed the construction of the Chapel, was an active member of Christ Church Cathedral. The Hoepfner-Bartlett Company, a noted Eau Claire builder, was the contractor for the Hoover Memorial Chapel. The overall footprint of the building is rectangular and measures 58 feet (northwest-southeast) by 29 feet (excluding the side entrance porch).²

The Chapel is composed of the nave section (southeast), and a slightly narrower apse section (northwest), united beneath a continuous gable roof. The Bedford limestone trim includes a water table running around the building, as well as window and door surrounds. The ceramic tile roofing dates from 1996, and reproduces the appearance of the original roofing. There is a polygonal, metal spirelet on the ridge of the roof at the point where the nave meets the apse (see photo 2). The spirelet is decorated with zig-zag patterning, and topped with a Latin cross.

The front facade of the Chapel faces southeast (see photo 3). The Chapel has an enclosed, gabled entry porch constructed of random, rock-faced ashlar. The roof is surfaced with flat, ceramic tiles. The main entrance is

p. 6. ¹"View of Hoover Memorial Chapel Which Will Be Dedicated Friday Afternoon," Eau Claire Leader, 26 November 1936,

²Ibid.

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Section 7 Page 2

Hoover Memorial Chapel
Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin

composed of a pair of Gothic-arched, vertical-board doors recessed in a Gothic-arched entrance, with a smooth stone surround that is quoined below the springing of the arch. The arch is enclosed in a label molding. In the gable end above the entry porch, there is a leaded-glass rose window recessed in a surround of smooth stone. West of the entry porch, there is a bronze plaque, inscribed: "THE HOOVER MEMORIAL CHAPEL IN MEMORY OF JAMES STEPHEN HOOVER AND HIS WIFE ELIZABETH BORLAND HOOVER GIVEN BY THEIR DAUGHTER FANNIE HOOVER BUFFINGTON 1936."

On the northwest-facing (rear) facade of the Chapel, the apse section dominates (see photo 4). It has no openings on this facade. On either side of the apse, a narrow strip of the nave is visible, but has no openings. There is a heavy, random, rock-faced ashlar chimney with a smooth stone cap tucked into the corner east of the apse, where the apse and nave meet. This chimney vents the furnace.

The northeast- and southwest-facing (side) facades of the Chapel are nearly identical (see photos 1 and 3). On both facades in the nave section, there is a series of four regularly-spaced random, rock-faced, ashlar buttresses. Between each pair of buttresses, there is a Gothic-arched window opening with a recessed, leaded-glass window and a quoined, smooth stone surround with a splayed sill (see photo 5). Plexi-glass has been placed over each window to protect the glass from vandals. On the east- and west-facing facades in the apse section, there is a buttress at the north end, and two rectangular window openings, each with a recessed leaded-glass window and splayed stone sill, set high in the wall to light the altar from above. Attached to the southwest-facing facade of the apse, there is a small, one-story entrance porch of random, rock-faced ashlar with a tiled, side-gable roof (see photo 6). On the north face of the entry porch, there is a single steel door recessed in an off-center opening with a smooth stone lintel. On the west face, there is a narrow window opening with a recessed, leaded glass window and a splayed stone sill. There are no openings on the south face of the entry porch.

The interior plan in the nave consists of a central aisle with a row of simple, wooden pews on either side. A pair of velvet curtains can be drawn to separate the nave from the apse. The apse is open, and houses a poured concrete altar, which has a silver cross on top. The Chapel features bronze wall sconces, exposed King-post wood trusses with braces, and exposed rafters and purlins. The trusses are painted with Christian symbols. The walls and ceilings are finished with plaster. The flooring is quarry-tile laid in a decorative pattern. The entrance porch on the west-facing facade houses a straight stair of poured concrete, which leads to the basement. There is a forced-air furnace and 42 "receiving vaults" in the basement. Bodies could be stored in the receiving vaults during the winter, when the frozen ground made burials difficult. Burial services were held in the Chapel, which could accommodate about 80 people. The receiving vaults are still used occasionally.

NPS Form 10-900-a
(Rev. 8-86)
Wisconsin Word Processing Format
(Approved 1/92)

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Hoover Memorial Chapel
Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin

The Hoover Memorial Chapel retains excellent integrity. The roof tiles were replaced in 1996.³ This is the only alteration that has been made to the Chapel, and it does not compromise the historic integrity of the Chapel as the new tiles reproduce the appearance of the old.

³Blaine Johnson, Sexton of Lakeview Cemetery, to Stacey Pilgrim, Personal Communication, 10 June 1998.

Hoover Memorial Chapel

Name of Property

Eau Claire County, Wisconsin

County and State

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 the 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.

 x **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 our prehistory or history

Criteria Considerations

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

 x **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 achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

 Architecture

Period of Significance

 1936

Significant Dates

 1936

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

 N/A

Cultural Affiliation

 N/A

Architect/Builder

 Tilton, John (architect)

 Hoepfner-Bartlett (builders)

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Hoover Memorial Chapel
Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: SUMMARY

The Hoover Memorial Chapel is architecturally significant at the local level under Criterion C. It is a fine example of Neo-Gothic Revival style and retains excellent integrity. The period of significance coincides with the year that the Chapel was built, 1936.

HISTORY OF THE CITY OF EAU CLAIRE

The early history of the city of Eau Claire is closely associated with the development of the lumber industry in the Chippewa Valley, earning the community its nickname, the Sawdust City. Logs were rafted down the Chippewa River beginning in 1821, and a sawmill was built at Chippewa Falls in 1838. In 1846, Stephen McCann, Jeremiah Thomas, George Randall and Simon Randall erected a dam and a sawmill at the junction of the Eau Claire and Chippewa rivers. The sawmill was washed away by heavy rains in 1847, but the Randalls, with new partners, were able to rebuild the mill. A second dam and mill complex was built for Jesse Gage and James Reed soon afterward.⁴

Lumbermen such as Daniel Shaw, Charles Bullen, Joseph G. Thorp, Orrin Ingram, Donald Kennedy, H. C. Putnam and George Buffington set up operations near the sawmills in the 1850s. Three small settlements grew up near the sawmills, separated by the rivers. The village of Eau Claire was located south of the Eau Claire River and west of the Chippewa River; Eau Claire City was located south of the Eau Claire and east of the Chippewa; and North Eau Claire was north of the Eau Claire River and east of the Chippewa. In 1856, plats for the Village of Eau Claire and Eau Claire City were recorded, and Eau Claire County was separated from Chippewa County. The village of Eau Claire was made county seat. In 1861, the population of the three settlements was 3,164.⁵

⁴Jane Hieb, Eau Claire, Heartland of the Chippewa Valley: An Illustrated History, (Northridge, California: Windsor Publications, Inc, 1988), pp. 20-22.

⁵Mary Taylor, "Final Report: Intensive Historic/Architectural Survey of the City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin," Report Prepared for the City of Eau Claire, March 1983, pp. 6-7; and Lois Barland, Sawdust City, (Stevens Point, Wisconsin: Worzalla Publishing Company, 1960), pp.12-20.

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Section 8 Page 2

Hoover Memorial Chapel
Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin

Following the Civil War, many Norwegian immigrants settled in Eau Claire, adding to an ethnic base of Germans, Irish, Canadians and Yankees. By this time, a fourth community had developed in the area. West Eau Claire was located north of the Eau Claire River and west of the Chippewa River. When Eau Claire incorporated as a city in 1872, the new city included what had been West Eau Claire, as well as the former communities of Eau Claire, Eau Claire City, and North Eau Claire. The population in 1880 was 9,771. By 1885, the booming lumber industry had caused the population to swell to 21,668, making Eau Claire the second-largest city in Wisconsin. During the late 1880s, the lumbering industry in Eau Claire declined sharply. The city's population fell twenty percent in response, dropping to 17,415 in 1890. Eau Claire's business community moved into wood-products manufacturing, with such enterprises as the Pioneer Furniture Company (1887), the Phoenix Furniture Company (1899), the Dells Pulp and Paper Company (1894), the Linderman Box and Veneer Company (1895) and the Kaiser Lumber Company Box Factory (1905). These concerns helped stabilize Eau Claire's population.⁶

After the turn of the century, the manufacturing sector expanded beyond wood-products, with the Gillette Safety Tire Company (later Uniroyal, Incorporated, the city's largest employer until it closed in 1992), the Northwestern Steel and Iron Works (later National Presto Industries, producing small home appliances), and other companies. In 1916, the Wisconsin State Normal School for teacher-training opened in Eau Claire. This post-secondary institution, now the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, drew students from all over west-central Wisconsin. Eau Claire's population, which had hovered around 17,500 from 1890 to 1910, began to grow again in the 1910s. This reflected the city's development as a regional economic and educational center for the surrounding rural counties.⁷

In 1940, the population of Eau Claire was 30,745. It reached 44,619 in 1970.⁸ Today the city of Eau Claire is a lively community with more than 55,000 residents and thriving institutional, commercial and industrial sectors.

⁶Taylor, pp. 8-9.

⁷Ibid.; and Barland, Sawdust City, p. 112.

⁸Taylor, p. 9.

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Section 8 Page 3

Hoover Memorial Chapel
Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin

HISTORY OF CEMETERIES IN EAU CLAIRE

Prior to 1862, Eau Claire did not have an official cemetery, although burials took place at what would become Lakeview Cemetery as early as 1858. On 5 June 1862, the town of Eau Claire purchased the land that became the Forest Hill Cemetery from two prominent lumbermen, Nelson C. Chapman and Joseph G. Thorp.⁹ In 1867, the community of West Eau Claire purchased 7.83 acres from Addison Ely and James S. Vail for \$102.85, thus establishing the Lakeview Cemetery.¹⁰ The cemetery was expanded when Byron Buffington donated 15 acres in honor of his parents, George A. and Pluma A. Buffington. Part of this acreage was used to create an entry into the cemetery, called Buffington Drive, with an iron fence and gate.¹¹

⁹Eau Claire Free Press, 5 June 1862.

¹⁰"City Cemeteries Date Back to 1860s," Eau Claire Community Times, 20 May 1985; and Barland, Sawdust City, p. 96.

¹¹Barland, The River Flows On: A Record of Eau Claire, Wisconsin from 1910-1960, (Stevens Point, Wisconsin: Worzalla Publishing Company, 1965), p. 409.

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Section 8 Page 4

Hoover Memorial Chapel
Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin

Byron Buffington (?-1929) was a prominent local businessman, who served as an officer on the board of directors of the Chippewa Valley Light & Power Company (later the Wisconsin-Minnesota Light and Power Company), and the Chippewa Valley Bank (later the Union National Bank) for many years. Buffington was also civic-minded, serving two years on the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin, and four years in the state assembly (1897-1901).¹² Buffington's father, George, had settled in Eau Claire in 1857. George Buffington operated the Niagara House hotel for several years. In 1859, Buffington bought out Charles Smith's partner in the Smith and Ball sawmill. The Smith and Buffington Lumber Company was renamed Valley Lumber Company in 1873. George Buffington was also a mayor of Eau Claire (1875), and a founder and director of the Eau Claire Street Railroad Company (established 1879).¹³

HISTORY OF HOOVER MEMORIAL CHAPEL

The construction of the Hoover Memorial Chapel was funded by Frances "Fannie" Hoover Buffington, in memory of her parents, James Stephen Hoover and Elizabeth Borland Hoover. The Hoover Memorial Chapel was intended for use as a receiving vault for those who died during the winter, when the frozen ground made burials difficult, and for holding services. Mr. Hoover was a butcher, in business in Eau Claire from 1866 until 1898. Fannie Hoover (?-1945) was born in Orange County, New York, and came to Eau Claire when her parents settled here in 1866. Fannie Hoover attended Ripon College. She married Byron Buffington in 1874. The Hoover Memorial Chapel was erected in the summer of 1936, and dedicated on 27 November 1936. Fannie Hoover Buffington also left generous bequests to Christ Church Cathedral, Luther Hospital, the Visiting Nurse Association, and the Red Cross.¹⁴

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

¹²Ibid., pp. 358 and 409.

¹³Barland, *Sawdust City*, pp. 44, 81, 126.

¹⁴Barland, *The River Flows On*, p. 409; "Memorial Chapel To Be Erected By Mrs. Fannie E. Buffington In Lakeview Cemetery, Gift To City," *Eau Claire Leader*, 29 April 1936, p. 9; and "Funeral Is Held Monday for Mrs. B. A. Buffington," *Eau Claire Leader*, 24 July 1945.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section 8 Page 5

Hoover Memorial Chapel
Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin

The Hoover Memorial Chapel is architecturally significant at the local level under Criterion C. It is a fine and intact example of Neo-Gothic Revival style. The Neo-Gothic Revival style is a part of the Period Revival movement of the early twentieth century, and was popular primarily for churches and chapels. Neo-Gothic Revival buildings typically are of random ashlar or brick construction, with irregular massing, and steeply-pitched roofs. The Gothic-arched openings are the hallmark of the style. Ornamentation and other details are derived from European Gothic ecclesiastical precedents, and can include tracery, pinnacles, battlements, buttresses, parapeted gables with finials, and square towers or keep-like entrances.¹⁵ The Hoover Memorial Chapel incorporates many of these features, such as the random ashlar construction, buttresses, Gothic-arched openings and a rose window. During the 1930s, there was a trend toward the simplification of architectural styles, and the use of minimal or stripped down ornamentation. The Hoover Memorial Chapel, with its lack of surface ornament, reflects this trend.

The 1983 and 1997 intensive surveys of Eau Claire's historic resources identified eight pre-1950 Neo-Gothic Revival churches and chapels as potentially eligible for the National Register for their architecture. Four are large-scale churches, and four are smaller chapels. The four large-scale churches are Christ Church Cathedral, First Congregational Church, St. Patrick's Catholic Church, and the First Methodist Church. The large-scale examples are much grander and more ornate than the Hoover Memorial Chapel, and as such do not provide a good comparison. Therefore, they will be described only briefly here.

Christ Church Cathedral at 510 South Farwell Street was designed by the prominent Minneapolis firm of Purcell, Feick and Elmslie, and erected over an eight-year period between 1908 and 1916. Christ Church Cathedral is finished with smooth-faced, Bedford limestone ashlar. It features eared, parapeted gables; gothic-arched window openings with label moldings and leaded-glass set in ornate stone tracery; gabled and polygonal entrance porches; and an attached parish house. In 1935, the Christ Church Chapel was built, between the nave and the parish house and chancel, and creating a continuous complex. Chicago architects Armstrong, Furst and Tilton designed the chapel.¹⁶ Christ Church Cathedral is an outstanding Neo-Gothic Revival church and was listed on the National Register in 1983.

Purcell and Elmslie designed the fine First Congregational Church at 310 Broadway Street. Begun in 1919, this church is finished with rock-faced stone ashlar and features an ornate corner tower with buttresses and pinnacles. It was listed on the National Register as a contributing resource in the Randall Park Historic District in 1983.

¹⁵Barbara L. Wyatt, editor, Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin (Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1986), II:2-5 and II:2-30.

¹⁶Mary Taylor, "Christ Church Cathedral and Parish House," Intensive Survey Form, 18 November 1981.

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Hoover Memorial Chapel
Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin

St. Patrick's Catholic Church at 322 Fulton Street draws elements from both the Neo-Gothic Revival and Romanesque Revival styles. Built in 1885, St. Patrick's is constructed of brick and has a square corner tower; steeply-pitched, parapeted gables; grouped gothic-arched openings with continuous label moldings; a triple-portal entry porch; and much decorative brickwork. It was listed on the National Register in 1983.

The First Methodist Church is the fourth large-scale Neo-Gothic Revival church identified in the surveys of Eau Claire. It is not so ornate as the three described above. Located at 421 South Farwell Street, the First Methodist Church was built in 1911. It is finished with limestone ashlar and has steeply-pitched, parapeted gables; a three-story tower; buttresses; and gothic-arched openings with leaded-glass windows. The First Methodist Church, now the home of the Unitarian Fellowship, is being nominated to the National Register.

Three more large-scale Neo-Gothic Revival churches were identified in the surveys, but were found ineligible for the National Register. These are Grace Lutheran Church at 202 West Grand Avenue (1915), Lake Street Methodist Church at 337 Lake Street (1916), and the First Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church at 1005 Oxford Avenue (1919).

The four Neo-Gothic Revival chapels are simpler, smaller-scale buildings than the four churches described above, yet still are potentially eligible for National Register listing. These more modest buildings provide a better comparison with the Hoover Memorial Chapel.

St. Joseph's Chapel in Sacred Heart Cemetery was built in 1896. This one-room building is constructed of brick with a square entrance tower and gothic-arched openings. St. Joseph's Chapel has limestone lintels and sills, and features a leaded-glass quatrefoil window. It was listed on the National Register in 1988.

St. Edward's Chapel at 1129 Bellevue Street was built in 1889. Constructed of random, rock-faced ashlar, St. Edward's has a steeply-pitched gable roof, rose windows, and a gabled entry porch. It is now a private residence, but retains very good integrity.

The final comparison property is the Putnam Memorial Chapel in Forest Hill Cemetery, built in 1908 (see photo 7). It is constructed of random, rock-faced ashlar, and has a steeply-pitched roof with parapeted gables, clad with ceramic tile. The Putnam Memorial Chapel features trefoil-shaped finials, buttresses with pinnacles, dentil and fillet moldings, gothic-arched openings with label moldings and leaded-glass. The Putnam Memorial Chapel is being nominated to the National Register.

The Hoover Memorial Chapel, with its simplified Gothic elements, represents a different interpretation of the Neo-Gothic Revival mode than do Eau Claire's earlier chapels. However, it is still as good an example, with as good integrity, as any of the other National Register-eligible Neo-Gothic Revival chapels described here.

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Section 8 Page 7

Hoover Memorial Chapel
Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin

The Hoover Memorial Chapel was designed by John Tilton, a partner in the Chicago firm of Armstrong, Furst and Tilton. Armstrong, Furst and Tilton also designed the chapel addition to the Christ Church Cathedral in Eau Claire in 1935. John Tilton received his bachelor and master of architecture degrees from Cornell University. While maintaining an architectural practice in the Chicago area, Tilton returned to Cornell in 1932 to teach. Many of his architectural works include academic and religious buildings in Illinois and Wisconsin.

Local contractors Hoepfner and Bartlett built the Hoover Memorial Chapel. Frederick Hoepfner and William B. Bartlett became partners in 1896 and incorporated in 1904. According to the 1983 survey of Eau Claire, the firm was very active and erected many public buildings, although none are identified in the survey report.¹⁷ The firm currently operates as Hoepfner Building Corporation.

CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS

Certain types of properties ordinarily are not eligible for listing on the National Register. One of these "criteria considerations" applies to the Hoover Memorial Chapel. Under criterion consideration A, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes are not eligible. However, under this criterion consideration, properties may be eligible if they derive their primary significance from architectural distinction. The Hoover Memorial Chapel is significant for its architecture, as a fine and intact local example of a the Neo-Gothic Revival style. Therefore, while criterion consideration A does apply, it does not bar the Hoover Memorial Chapel from listing on the National Register.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the Hoover Memorial Chapel is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C, as an excellent local example of a Neo-Gothic Revival chapel, with fine integrity. The building displays the detailing associated with the style, including buttresses, a rose window, pointed arch openings, and a decorative spire. It is also a fairly late example of the style. While buildings designed with Gothic precedents continued to be built, later examples tend to simplify and modernize the Gothic vocabulary. The Hoover Memorial Chapel compares favorably with the four other Neo-Gothic Revival chapels identified in the intensive surveys of Eau Claire. While the chapels are not as ornate or high-style as the National Register-eligible Neo-Gothic Revival churches of Eau Claire, the chapels display similar characteristics and their integrity is comparable, making them equally worthy of National Register recognition.

¹⁷Taylor, p. 118.

Hoover Memorial Chapel
Name of Property

Eau Claire County, Wisconsin
County and State

9. Major Bibliographic 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

Primary location of additional data:
 State Historic Preservation Office
 Other state agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other

Name of repository: State Historical Society of Wisconsin

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>1/5</u>	<u>6/1/6/6/8/0</u>	<u>4/9/6/2/9/3/0</u>	3	<u>1</u>	<u>////</u>	<u>////</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>1</u>	<u>////</u>	<u>////</u>	4	<u>1</u>	<u>////</u>	<u>////</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		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 <u>Elizabeth L. Miller, Historic Preservation Specialist</u>	date <u>August 24, 1998</u>
organization <u>Mead & Hunt</u>	telephone <u>(608)273-6380</u>
street & number <u>6501 Watts Road</u>	zip code <u>53719-2700</u>
city or town <u>Madison</u> state <u>WI</u>	

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)

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Section 9 Page 1

Hoover Memorial Chapel
Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Section 10 Page 1

Hoover Memorial Chapel
Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Hoover Memorial Chapel is located in Buffington Heights Addition to the Lakeview Cemetery, in Section 19, T27N, R9W, in the City of Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin on a parcel more particularly described as follows: beginning at the intersection of the quarter sections in Section 19, thence N 300 feet along the line separating the west half-section from the east half-section to the place of beginning. Thence W 370' along a line parallel to the line separating the north half-section from the south half-section to the point where said line intersects with the edge-of-pavement of Buffington Drive; thence N-NE 153' along the edge of pavement of Buffington Drive; thence E 320' along a line parallel to the line separating the north half-section from the south half-section to the line separating the west half-section from the east half-section; thence S 146' along the line separating the west half-section from the east half-section to the place of beginning, a parcel encompassing 1.0 acre.

VERBAL BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries of the Hoover Memorial Chapel enclose all the resources historically associated with the Chapel, and were created for the purpose of National Register listing by drawing lines of convenience within the larger cemetery parcel.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section Photos Page 1

Hoover Memorial Chapel
Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo 1 of 7

Hoover Memorial Chapel
City of Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin
Photo by Stacey Pilgrim, Mead & Hunt, 10 June 1998
Negative on file in the State Historical Society of Wisconsin
View of the southeast- (front-) and northeast-facing facades, looking north.

For the photographs listed below, the information is the same as the above, except as noted:

Photo 2 of 7

Closeup of the spirelet, looking north.

Photo 3 of 7

View of the southeast- (front-) and southwest-facing facades, looking east.

Photo 4 of 7

View of the northwest- (rear-) and northeast-facing facades, looking southwest.

Photo 5 of 7

Closeup of one of the side facade windows.

Photo 6 of 7

Closeup of the southwest-facing facade entry porch, looking east.

Photo 7 of 7

Putnam Memorial Chapel, Forest Hill Cemetery, Eau Claire.

Hoover Memorial Chapel
Name of Property

Eau Claire County, Wisconsin
County and State

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name City of Eau Claire Parks and Forestry Department

street & number 1040 Forest Street

telephone (715)839-5039

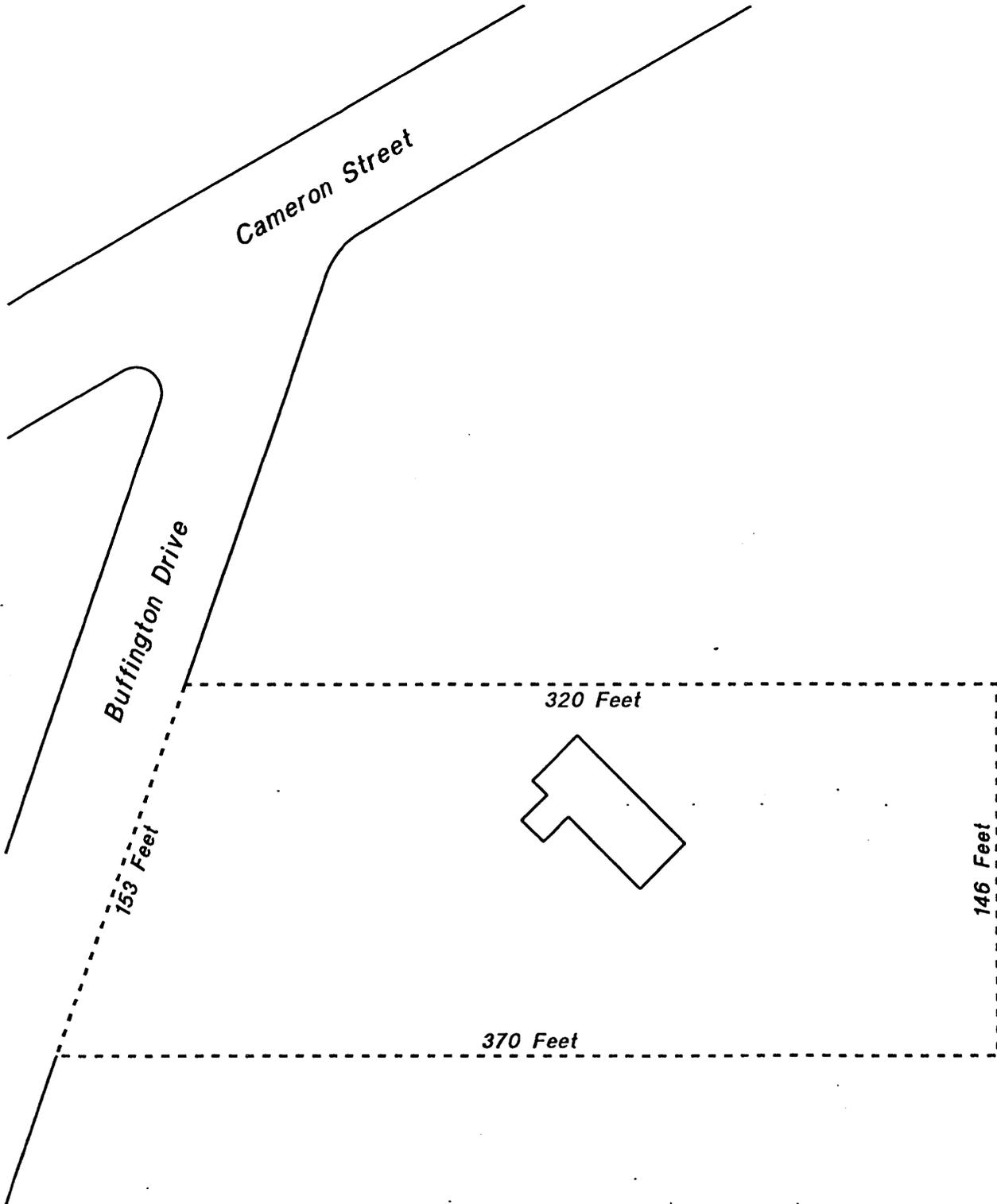
city or town Eau Claire

state WI

zip code 54703

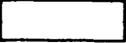
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain 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 Reduction Projects, (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.



HOOVER MEMORIAL CHAPEL

Lakeview Cemetary/Buffington Drive
 Eau Claire, Eau Claire County
 Wisconsin

- Legend:**
-  Contributing
 -  Historic Boundary



Scale: 1" = 60'