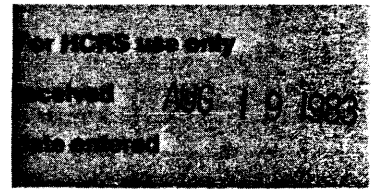


United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

# 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 First United Methodist Church

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 202 E. Oklahoma \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Walters \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district 3

state Oklahoma code 40 county Cotton code 33

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<u>NA</u> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<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:

## 4. Owner of Property

name Walters First United Methodist Church

street & number 202 E. Oklahoma

city, town Walters \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state Oklahoma 73572

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Cotton County Courthouse

street & number Broadway and Oklahoma Streets

city, town Walters \_\_\_\_\_ state Oklahoma 73572

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Oklahoma Comprehensive Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date February 10, 1983  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Preservation Office, Oklahoma Historical Society

city, town Oklahoma City \_\_\_\_\_ state Oklahoma 73105

## 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Walters First United Methodist Church was first constructed in 1917 of hand-made bricks, produced from local materials. The building is a two-story structure with arched windows on the north, south, and west sides having triple rows of brick rowlock arches, and two rows of brick trim. The windows are stained glass religious scenes that have been releaded and have safety glass on the outside. The front entrance on the northwest corner is gently curved and has four square, brick pillars supporting the roof. The front door is a modern glass and metal type with the original transom made of stained glass. Over each large stained glass window is a gabled roof. The center of the building has a dome with an octagonal base and two windows on each of the eight sides and a parapet of brick construction over curved wall above church entrance.

On the east side of the building the Sunday school rooms have a hipped roof with green composition shingles. The interior of the sanctuary is still in almost original condition, with the wood floors, woodwork trim, stained glass windows, and balcony all original. New carpet and theatre type seats were added recently. On the ceiling are large wooden beams that crisscross at regular intervals. Centered in the ceiling is the octagonal opening to the dome, which reveals eight panels of stained glass at the dome's peak. The second floor Sunday school room in the southeast corner of the building has a double-hung set of stained glass windows and the original metal panels on the ceiling. The stairway leading to the second floor and the balconys are of the original wood. The building is one of the oldest churches in Walters, and is the only building of its style and design in Cotton County.

In 1948 and 1953, the Sunday school additions were added to the east side of the church. In 1960 both additions were removed and a single, concrete block building, one-story was built beside the old sanctuary as a joint education and fellowship building.

# 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates      1917                              Builder/Architect      Unknown/Interior-"Akron Plan" by Lewis Miller

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The building is significant because:(1) It is the only building in Cotton County with major elements of the Romanesque Revival architecture combined with a large central dome (2) It is the best example of this architecture and design in Southwestern Oklahoma.

The congregation was formed in 1902, five years before statehood, and built the first wood frame church building on the site in 1905 for a cost of \$1,620.00. The nominated property was built on this site under the guidance of Rev. B.M. Nelson in 1917 for a cost of \$15,000.00 and donated labor by the congregation. One other Methodist church with this design is known in Southwest Oklahoma, but that building in Tipton, is in poor condition and smaller in scale. One unique feature other than the architecture is that the building is made of hand-made bricks using a local clay and church members' labor.

The building has the monochromatic brick walls with special emphasis on the monumental semi-circular arches over the windows. The pronounced archivolt or rowlock arches over the stained glass windows are further emphasized with large overhanging gable roofs. Although the building has no polygonal towers, the octagonal central dome gives a strong hint of the Romanesque Revival style. The building is in the central downtown area of the county seat and is well known and admired by the local townspeople as a landmark.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

(No author)

1977 A History of the First United Methodist Church. Unpublished pamphlet, Walters, Okla.

Walters Herald. July 12, 1917.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Walters, Okla. 1962

Quadrangle scale 1:62,500

UMT References

A 

1	4	5	6	3	7	0	0	3	8	0	2	0	5	1	0
Zone		Easting				Northing									

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing									

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing									

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing									

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing									

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing									

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing									

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing									

Verbal boundary description and justification In the City of Walters; Block 62, Lots 9 to 16, in the Walters Addition ( On the S.E. Corner of Oklahoma St. and Third St.)- A rectangular area 200 feet E-W and 130 feet N-S.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state None code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title John D. Northcutt, Archeologist; and John Beckman, Historian

organization Museum of the Great Plains date Feb. 10, 1983

street & number 6th and Ferris (P.O. Box 68) telephone (405) 353-5676

city or town Lawton state Oklahoma 73502

# 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature C. M. Metcalf date 8-10-83

title date

For HCERS use only  
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register  
for Melores Byers  
Keeper of the National Register  
Entered in the National Register date 9/15/83

Attest: date

Chief of Registration