

United States Department of the 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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

Historic name First Methodist Episcopal Church

Other names/site number First M.E. Church; First Methodist Church; First United Methodist Church; KHRI: 045-3010-00022

Name of related Multiple Property Listing N/A

2. Location

Street & number 946 Vermont Street not for publication

City or town Lawrence vicinity

State Kansas Code KS County Douglas Code 045 Zip code 66044

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 at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local Applicable National Register Criteria: A B C D

Patrick Zollner
Signature of certifying official/Title Patrick Zollner, Deputy SHPO Date 11-30-18

Kansas State Historical Society
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register

other (explain) _____

Kevin Abernathy
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 3/14/19

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

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

<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION: religious facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION: religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN: Romanesque
MODERN MOVEMENT

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE: Limestone
CONCRETE
walls: STONE: Limestone
BRICK
roof: ASPHALT
SLATE
METAL
SYNTHETICS
other: _____

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Narrative Description

Summary

First Methodist Episcopal Church, used continuously as a religious facility since February 8, 1891, is located at 946 Vermont Street in downtown Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas, adjacent to the city's Original Townsite plat. The oldest and most prominent portion of the building was designed by John G. Haskell in 1888 and built between 1889 and 1891. The three-story Romanesque Revival building is situated on two lots at the northeast corner of Vermont Street and 10th Street (formerly Berkley Street). The church acquired two additional lots to the north of the stone building in 1949 and 1958, and in 1962 a three-story modern brick wing, designed by Robertson & Ericson, completed along Vermont Street, creating an L-shaped plan. A third addition was constructed in 1987 to the east of the 1962 addition, and a new west entry along Vermont Street between the 1891 and 1962 portions was completed in 1987. The church building retains good historic integrity of location, setting, design, materials, and workmanship that allow the building to convey its architectural significance from 1889, when the stone church's construction began, through 1962 when the Modern addition was constructed.

Elaboration

Setting

First Methodist Episcopal Church (Church) is located in downtown Lawrence at the northeast corner of Vermont Street and W. 10th Street. (*Figures 1 and 2*). Although the church is closely associated with the downtown development, it is just east of the commercial district, Lawrence's Downtown Historic District and west of the residential district, Oread Historic District. There is an auto related shop to the south and a parking lot to the north of the church. The setting is generally an urbanized area with street trees around the exterior on the north, east, and south, with the alley directly abutting the east boundary.

Lots 90 and 92 were purchased in 1872 and are located at the northeast corner of Vermont and 10th. Construction of the current stone church building was completed by 1889 on those lots. By that time, the Plymouth Congregational Church, which is across Vermont from the church and the Trinity Episcopal Church, cattycorner from the church, on the southwest corner were built. Lots 86 and 88 were purchased in subsequent years to accommodate the 1962 educational wing addition. In 1987, an addition was added to the 1962 addition to accommodate a fellowship hall. Between the 1891 building and the later 1987 addition is a fenced in area with the Church's power station, visible only from the alley to the east of the church. The church with its subsequent addition now takes up the entire four lot parcel.



Figure 1: Contextual map; church is marked by yellow square.

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Figure 2: Aerial map; church is marked by yellow border.

Lawrence, Kansas Sanborn Maps

Originally the north, south and west sides of the Church faced a neighborhood of houses and other churches. Over time, the churches remained, but houses were replaced with commercial buildings and parking lots. The Church's east side has always faced an alley that backs up to the rear of the commercial buildings on Massachusetts Street.

The September 1883 Sanborn map shows the Methodist Church's old stone foundation taking up Vermont Street lots 90 and 92 in entirety on the northeast corner. Directly north of the stone foundation are dwellings and a boarding house. On the east side is the alley, which faces the backs of commercial buildings whose fronts face Massachusetts Street. The businesses include furniture, groceries and wall paper. On the

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southeast corner is a dwelling. Further south from the dwelling is S.A. Brown & Co lumber yard. On the southwest corner is Trinity Episcopal Church. The northwest corner is an orchard; further north dwellings, followed by Plymouth Congregational Church.

By the September 1889 Sanborn map the northeast corner shows the new Methodist Episcopal Church, taking the entire parcel. Directly north of the church continue to be dwellings and a boarding house. On the east side is the alley, which faces the backs of commercial buildings whose fronts face Massachusetts Street. The businesses include candy, furniture and stoves. The southeast corner has a larger dwelling. Further south from the dwelling is S.A. Brown & Co lumber yard. On the southwest corner is Trinity Episcopal Church. The northwest corner is a lot; further north dwellings, followed by Plymouth Congregational Church.

The February 1897 Sanborn map continues to show the Methodist Church on the northeast corner. Directly north of the church continue to be dwellings and a boarding house. On the east side is the alley, which faces the backs of commercial buildings whose fronts face Massachusetts Street. The businesses include candy, furniture and meat. The southeast corner has a large dwelling. Further south from the dwelling is tennis courts which replaced the lumber yard. On the southwest corner is Trinity Episcopal Church. The northwest corner is a lot; further north dwellings, followed by Plymouth Congregational Church.

The new century arrives. The February 1905 Sanborn map has the Methodist Church on the northeast corner. Directly north of the church continue to be dwellings. On the east side is the alley, which faces the backs of commercial buildings whose fronts face Massachusetts Street. The businesses include coal and wood yard, hardware and meat. The southeast corner has a large dwelling. Further south the tennis courts were replaced with dwellings. On the southwest corner is Trinity Episcopal Church. The northwest corner is a lot; further north dwellings, followed by Plymouth Congregational Church.

The April 1912 Sanborn map shows the Methodist Church on the northeast corner. Directly north of the church continue to be dwellings, as well as, the beginnings of commercial buildings. On the east side is the alley, which faces the backs of commercial buildings whose fronts face Massachusetts Street. The businesses, in one building, included hardware on the first floor, furniture on the second floor and a dance hall on the third floor. This building would one day be owned by the Methodist Church. The southeast corner has a large dwelling. Further south dwellings. On the southwest corner is Trinity Episcopal Church. Beginning at the northwest corner north of Plymouth Congregational Church are dwellings.

The January 1918 Sanborn map shows the Methodist Church on the northeast corner. Directly north of the church continue to be dwellings, as well as, the beginnings of commercial buildings. On the east side is the alley, which faces the backs of commercial buildings whose fronts face Massachusetts Street. The businesses, in one building, included hardware on the first floor, furniture on the second floor and a dance hall on the third floor. This building would one day be owned by the Methodist Church. The southeast corner has a large dwelling. Further south dwellings. On the southwest corner is Trinity Episcopal Church. Beginning at the northwest corner north of Plymouth Congregational Church are dwellings.

The January 1927 Sanborn map shows the Methodist Church on the northeast corner. Directly north of the church continue to be dwellings, as well as, the beginnings of commercial buildings. On the east side is the alley, which faces the backs of commercial buildings whose fronts face Massachusetts Street. The businesses, in one building, included hardware on the first floor, furniture on the second floor and a dance hall on the third floor. This building would one day be owned by the Methodist Church. The southeast corner has a large dwelling. Further south dwellings. On the southwest corner is Trinity Episcopal Church. Beginning at the northwest corner north of Plymouth Congregational Church are dwellings.

Changes identified for each of the Sanborn years; 1935, 1954, 1959, 1961, 1968 were drawn, cut and pasted onto the 1927 map. The last Sanborn map reflects the Methodist Church with the 1962 education wing on the northwest corner. Directly north of the church is parking. On the east side is the alley, which faces the backs of commercial buildings whose fronts face Massachusetts Street. The businesses are now unidentified. The

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southeast corner shows a tire store. Further south a mix of commercial and dwellings. On the southwest corner is Trinity Episcopal Church. Beginning at the northwest corner is one dwelling, north is parking, followed by Plymouth Congregational Church.

Church Building – Exterior

The Church occupies the entirety of four city lots. The three-story 1891 Romanesque Revival limestone building occupies most of the southern two lots with public facades facing west towards Vermont Street and south towards 10th Street. Attached to the north of the 1891 building is a three-story blond brick Modern Education Wing, constructed in 1962. A non-historic (1987) addition fills in the ell of the two historic portions (*Figure 3*). The current main entrance to the Church is within the space between the 1891 and 1962 portions on Vermont Street. This entry, added in 1987, is a combination of steel and glass; this includes the roof, wall to north and south of entry doors and the doors. Because of the complexity of the Church's footprint, the following description is organized chronologically, beginning with the 1891 building.



Figure 3: Vermont and 10th Streets; southwest corner

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Figure 4: Main entrance

1891 Romanesque Revival Building

The 1891 Romanesque Revival section of the Church (*Figure*

5) is a three-story building constructed of quarry-faced limestone laid in broken ashlar with facing and trim of Cottonwood stone. The gable roof is covered in asphalt shingles. Two square towers with a central gable-front bay have pyramidal black slate roofs. The north tower is three stories, and the south bell tower is four stories. The north tower has a wide cornice band with a checkerboard pattern formed by alternating quarry-face and dressed-face stones. The south bell tower has brackets at the roof eaves, and round spired columns at the four corners. It is open on the fourth story, which is striking for its large radiating stones on the arched openings, a hallmark of the Romanesque Revival style.



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Figure 5: The new church early 1900s; southwest corner
West (Vermont Street) Façade

The windows in both towers vary in treatment. Second story has small rectangular stained glass windows, while the third story has small rectangular stained glass windows with round stone arches above. When constructed, a large arch window of stained glass was located in the wall between the two towers (*Figure 6*). The window was bricked up in 1939 due to leakage, and the smaller round stained glass rose window was added in the top part of the original window space. The windows at street level (basement) are double hung aluminum windows. Two sets of double wood entry doors, set between the two towers, are both within Romanesque arches.

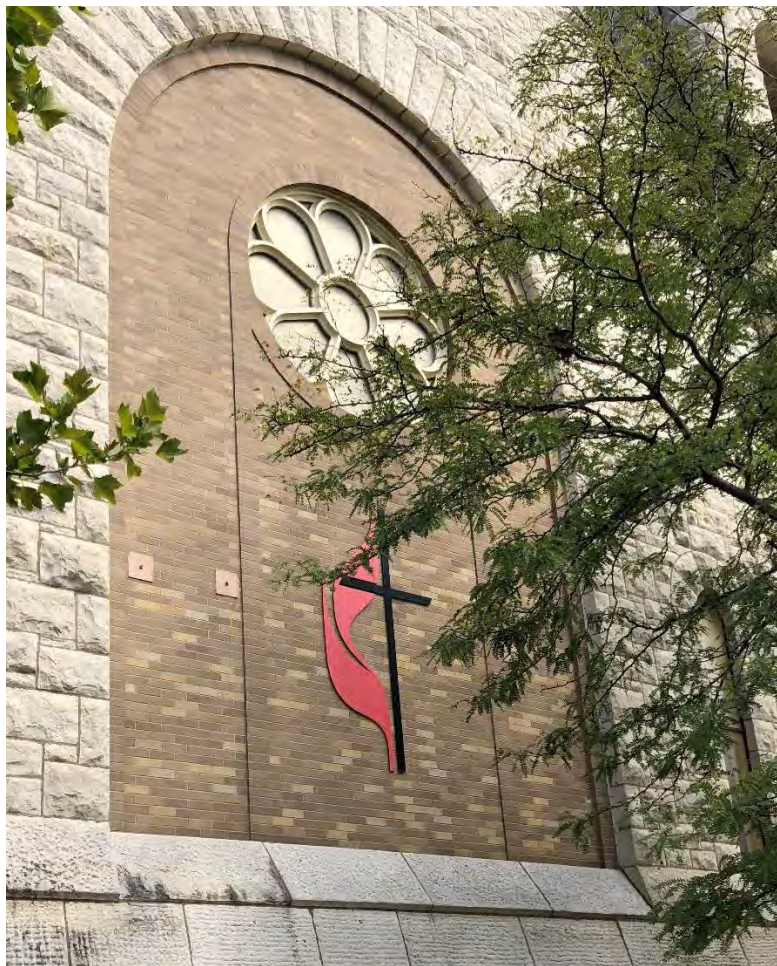


Figure 6: Former arch window

South (10th Street) Façade

The south elevation, also a primary facade, has cross gable bays. The windows vary in treatment. Similar to the north side, the second story has small rectangular stained glass windows, while the third story has small rectangular stained glass windows with round stone arches above. Several singular stained glass windows are found on both primary elevations. Set between the two entries is a three-story Romanesque arched panel. The gable ends have parapet tops at the peaks. On the west side is a stone covered entrance with rubber roof, added in circa 1962. The double glass door entrance provides access down concrete stairs to the basement and the original fellowship hall. To the west of the covered entrance is a street level former window that has been infilled with brick. To the east of the covered entrance, at street level, are three double hung aluminum windows. The original south entrance to the church is the Romanesque stone arch entry with two sets of oak, hand carved, doors in eight sections in a floral design. To the east of the oak doors are street level windows

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with glass block. On the east side of the façade, by the roof line, is a circular window that has been infilled with brick (*Figure 7*).



Figure 7: Elegant late 18th century façade

East (Alley) Façade

The east elevation faces the alley (*Figure 8*). Similar to the west and south facades, the second story has small rectangular stained glass windows, while the third story has small rectangular stained glass windows with round arches above. On the south end, third story, second window is now infilled with brick. Street level windows are glass block. There are two exits from the stone church on this side. One exit, with steel door, is from the basement directly to the alley. The other exit, with steel door, exits from the original stone basement to alley.



Figure 8: Back alley

There are five building exits to the alley. From the stone church; two exits. The first exit is from the first story, facing east, through a tan painted wood door, directly to the alley. The second exit, facing north, from the third

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story is a solid steel door and down a flight of green steel steps. The third exit is from the 1962 addition. This exit from the enlarged boiler room, faces east, through a wide solid steel door.

The remaining exits are from the 1987 addition. The first exit is from the second story, facing south, through a green steel and glass door and down concrete steps. The second exit, facing south, from the first story are green double steel and glass doors and up concrete steps. Exit through any of the steel doors leads to a chain link gate that opens directly onto the alley.

North Façade

The majority of this wall is covered by the 1962 addition (northwest side) with no windows and the 1987 addition (northeast side) has two single inset glass block windows (*Figure 9*).



Figure 9: Parking lot view

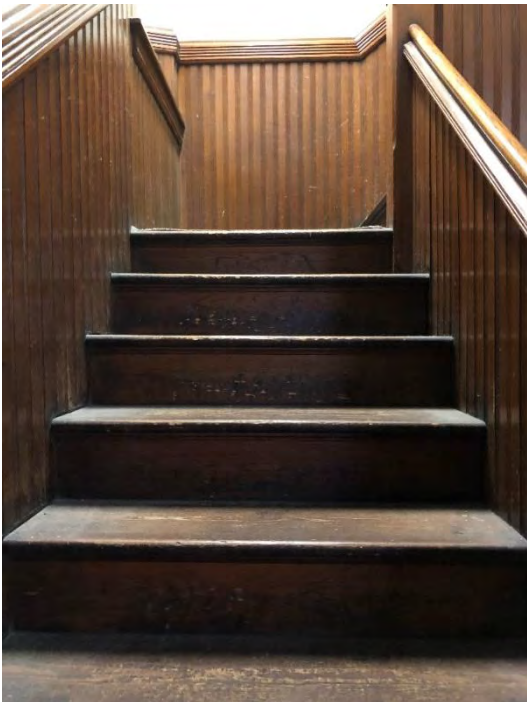


Figure 10: Staircase, northwest tower

Church Building – Interior

The interior retains much of the original white oak wainscoting, carved white oak door trim (*Figure 10*), metal door handles, hinges and trim (*Figure 11*). On the second floor, southeast corner, is the library. The wood burning fireplace is original to 1891 (*Figure 12*). The hand carved wood mantle includes the original mirror above the mantle, as well as, the tile surrounding the opening to the fire box.

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Figure 11: Original door hardware



Figure 12: Original library fireplace

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1891 Romanesque Revival Building

The original limestone foundation is intact and has been maintained. The foundation has changed in the areas where the second entrance from 10th Street was added in 1939 (*Figure 13*) and the 1962 addition. In the boiler room the location of the original coal and/or wood chute can still be seen on the east stone wall; which is across from the Majestic ash clean out door for the original chimney (*Figure 14*). The first floor has the original pastor's office on the south side which is now used for storage. The original stair cases from the second floor southeast and southwest corners are present. The original class room area on the east side, where bible studies were held, has at one time been the choir room and is now the youth place. The original location for the kitchen on the west side is now a secondary kitchen. The remaining space that was the original fellowship hall has been divided into separate rooms to support the needs of the current congregation.



Figure 13: Entry and stairwell to old fellowship hall

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Figure 14: Original coal chute (left) and ash clean out door (right)

The layout for the second floor has changed little since 1891. The original Vermont Street 1891 main entries still exist. In 1939 the main entrance changed to the 10th Street entry (Figure 15). These entries lead to the sanctuary. The library is off the 10th Street entrance. Original stairs to both towers are off the Vermont Street entries.



Figure 15: Main entry; 1939

The sanctuary is most of the second floor. The vestry of the sanctuary has always faced west (Figure 16). Originally the sanctuary had third floor galleries on the north, south and east sides (Figure 17). The gallery depth allotted three rows of pews. The north and south galleries were removed in 1939, leaving the east gallery (Figure 18) until removal in 1982. The original stain glass exists on the north, south and east walls. The original stain glass (west wall) (Figure 19) was removed in 1939 and the rose window installed in the top part of the original window space.

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Figure 16: Vestry, 1939

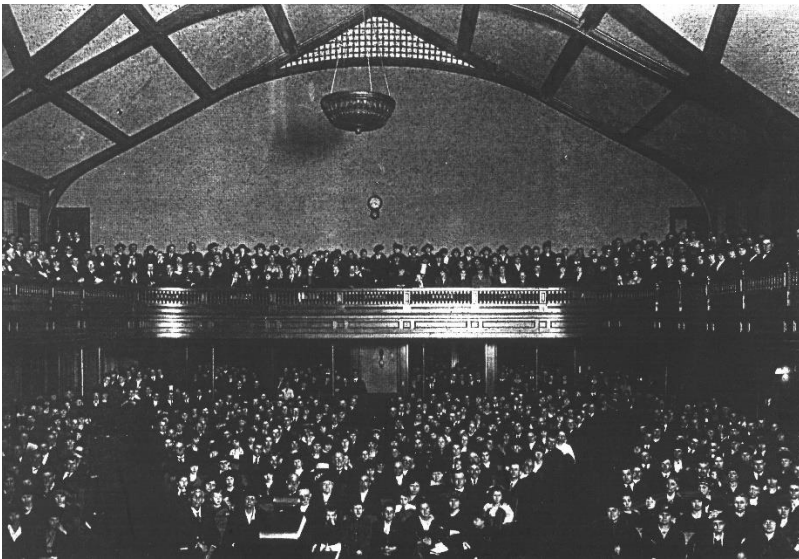


Figure 17: Galleries; pre-1939

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Figure 18: Gallery; 1939



Figure 19: Two stories of stain glass; west wall, January 2, 1938

The third story is located on the east side. Stain glass windows are present along the south, east and north walls. Originally the east gallery had a door on each end to the gathering area. When the east gallery was removed, the gathering space was expanded to include the former gallery. This gathering space has been used as a youth place and presently the choir room. An office is located in the southeast corner outside the choir room. The southwest tower is four stories, the first three stories each have one room with stain glass windows on the south and west walls. The belfry is located on the top story. The northwest tower is three

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stories. Each story has one room with stain glass windows on the west and north walls. Two large unfinished attics are present.

1962 Modern Addition

On the northwest side is the first addition completed in 1962 on Vermont Street lots 86 and 88 (*Figure 20*). Vermont Street lot 88 was procured in March 1949. Vermont Street lot 86 was left to the church in July 1958. The three story education wing is constructed of brick and concrete. All windows are double hung aluminum windows. The roof is asphalt and gravel. A new gathering area was added tying the west portion of the north exterior, of the 1891 church, to the 1962 addition. New staff offices were also built in this location.



Figure 20: Education wing

West (Vermont Street) Façade

On the north side of the façade is a double glass door exit with two stories of colored glass above the door.

North (Parking Lot) Façade

The north wall is blank. There is no exit on this side of the building.

The education wing contains three floors of classrooms. Continued growth of the congregation brought need for more classroom space for bible studies, Christian education, meetings and community programs. The United Child Development Center (UCDC) was established to meet the needs of children pre-kindergarten and parents in the congregation and surrounding communities. UCDC provides quality care in a Christian environment with opportunity for the child to develop physically, mentally, emotionally, socially and spiritually to their fullest potential. The children's playground is ground level behind (east) of the education wing.

1987 Addition

The Church's northeast portion is a later addition built in 1987. Split faced concrete block was used predominantly to tie the stone original building together with the brick addition. This addition has an EDPM roof covered in concrete pavers which creates a fenced rooftop patio. Most windows are glass block, but the south façade also has one over one replacement windows. There are two exits from the later addition. The first exit is from the second story, facing south, through a steel and glass door and down steel steps. The second exit, facing south, from the first story are double steel doors that exit directly to the alley. This north side of the building is flush with the north wall of the 1962 addition. The east third story is an open outdoor gathering area. Two entrances lead from the addition to the parking lot.

This most recent addition, on the first floor, was a new fellowship hall, where the children's playground previously was located, as well as, a large new modern kitchen. The outdoor playground moved to the east third story. The staff offices were moved to the second floor in the education wing, allowing the greeting area to be expanded. An elevator was incorporated into the education wing providing access to all three stories.

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Integrity

The west, east and south exterior sides of the stone church look very much as it did 127 years ago.



Figure 21: Aerial map with addition dates.

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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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1888-1962

Significant Dates

1888-1891, 1939, 1954, 1962 (addition)

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Haskell, John Gideon (1891 architect)

Dahlene, Daniel (1891 stonemason)

T.C. White (1891 carpentry)

Robertson & Ericson (1962 architect)

Finney & Turnipseed (1962 structural engineer)

Moore & Clark (1962 mech. & elec. engineers)

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance spans the years of construction, beginning in 1888 when the oldest portions of the church building were undertaken and ending in 1962 with the completion of the modern wing.

Criteria Considerations (justification)

This property also falls under Criterion Consideration A because it is owned by a religious organization and is used for religious purposes. Because the property derives its primary significance from its architecture, it meets Criterion Consideration A.

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Narrative Statement of Significance

Summary

First Methodist Episcopal Church (1888-1891) is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for its architectural significance as an picturesque Late Victorian-era church, Romanesque Revival style building with a strong Richardsonian influence.

Elaboration

Church History

The Beginning

In 1854 Kansas officially becomes a US Territory in late May. The city of Lawrence is founded in September. Methodist ministers, William H. Goode and James Griffing, arrive in Lawrence in November to begin Methodist ministry in the territory. "June 17, 1855 is the date usually assigned for the organization of the local Methodist Church...It is believed that this took place under the branches of a spreading oak on the west side of the 800 block of Kentucky Street."¹

The Tent Church 1855-1857

After meeting in various homes and even some business places, a primitive church was erected in 1855 at the southwest corner of Vermont and 10th Street, formerly Berkley Street (*Figure 22*). The Methodist Episcopal Church had rough board sides, a dirt floor and a canvas roof. It was commonly known as 'the tent' and was destroyed by a storm.



Figure 22: Model of "The Tent"; 1856

Frame Church 1858-1865

July 6, 1855, the church purchased lot 34, 724 Vermont Street for \$150. By 1858 a wood frame church (*Figure 23*) is completed at a cost of about \$2000. On August 21, 1863 the Lawrence massacre (also known as Quantrill's raid) left an estimated 164 civilians dead. The seats of the Methodist Church were removed, and the bodies were laid out in long rows as an improvised morgue and hospital for the wounded. A famous Harper's Weekly illustration shows the Lawrence business district following Quantrill's raid. "The drawing, looking south along Massachusetts Street after the raid... few remaining buildings, the dry goods store and the Methodist Church, stand amidst the burned remains of the rest of the commercial district."² "For many days following the

¹ "Share the Faith Assure the Future" (private collection of First United Methodist Church, 1988), 1.

² Lawrence Convention and Visitors Bureau, "Quantrill's Raid: The Lawrence Massacre" (brochure, University of Kansas Map Associates, 1997), 12.

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scene of terror, the people, fearing fresh bands of marauders carried their arms to church, stacked them behind the door, and detailed a guard for duty outside.”³ The frame church building was sold November 15, 1865 and was later used as a home. The building was razed in 1940. A historical marker was placed on the west exterior wall of the commercial building on lot 34: ‘Site of First Methodist Church in Lawrence Bought July 6, 1855 Building Erected 1857 Used as Morgue Aug 21, 1863’.



Figure 23: 724 Vermont Street; Cabinet card 1858-1865

Brick Church 1864-1891

In 1864 the foundation and cornerstone for a new church at the southwest corner of Massachusetts and 10th Street (formerly Berkeley Street) were laid. Construction of the red brick church was stopped twice. The first the result after Quantrill's raid “leaving the city in ruins, business suspended, the people discouraged and poor...The work of church building resumed but was again interrupted when all able-bodied men were needed to fill the Kansas regiments.”⁴ The church (*Figure 24*) was completed in August 1865, at a cost of \$15,000. The church was occupied for 25 years. Lawrence financier J.B. Watkins purchased the former church building in spring 1890 from the Methodist Church for \$5,000, and it was razed in 1909.

³ “Memorial Book and Directory of First Methodist Episcopal Church” (private collection of First United Methodist Church, 1891), 2.

⁴ “Memorial Book and Directory of First Methodist Episcopal Church”, 2.

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Figure 24: Massachusetts and Berkeley Streets; date unknown

Stone Church 1891-Present

In 1872, the First Methodist Episcopal Church building committee purchased Lots 90 and 92 at the northeast corner Vermont and 10th for \$2,200. Architect George Wells was commissioned to design a large Gothic-style stone church (*Figure 25*). "Ground for the new structure was broken on October 21, 1872 but construction progress was slow due to difficulty in collecting pledges. It was almost a year before the building committee could report that the structure was ready for floor joists. At this point construction stopped completely due to lack of funds."⁵ The financial panic of 1873, as well as, the 1874 drought and grasshopper infestation took years to recover. To this end "a new church edifice was planned, lots were purchased, and a foundation put in at a cost of about \$8,000."⁶ The September 1883 Lawrence Kansas Sanborn map described the location as the "old stone foundation."⁷

⁵ John M. Peterson, *John G. Haskell: Pioneer Kansas Architect* (Lawrence, KS: Douglas County Historical Society, 1984), 176.

⁶ "Memorial Book and Directory of First Methodist Episcopal Church", 5.

⁷ Sanborn Map and Publishing Co, *Lawrence, Kansas: 1883*. Map. (New York: Sanborn Map and Publishing Co, 1883), 4. From University of Kansas Spencer Research Library, KU LUNA Collections. <https://luna.ku.edu/luna/servlet/view/all/where/Lawrence?sort=identifier%2Carea%2Ccitation%2Cclassification> (accessed April 26, 2018).

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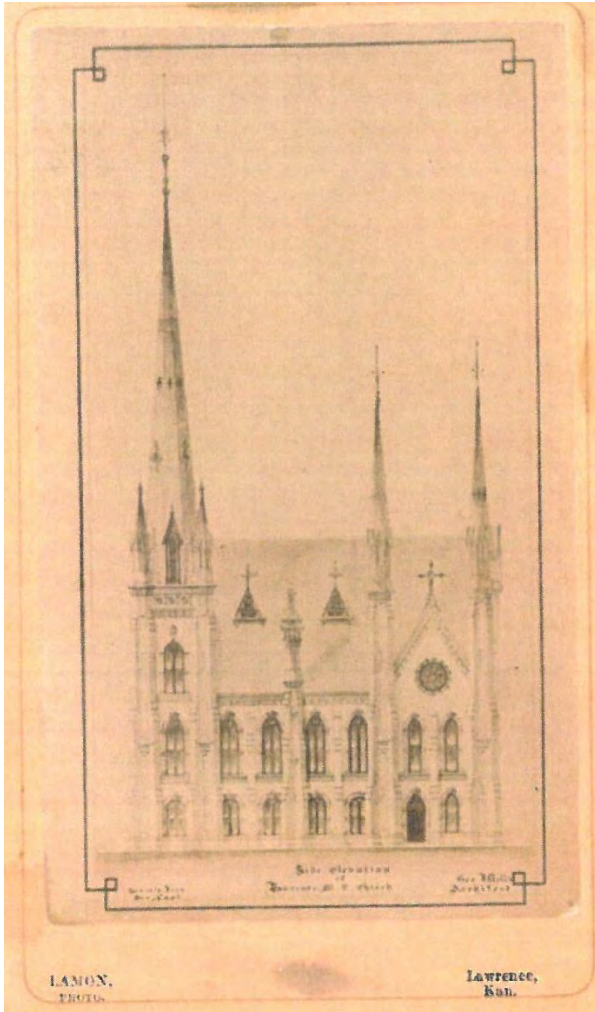


Figure 25: Proposed design 946 Vermont Street; Cabinet card, 1872 by George Wells

George Wells also designed the Lawrence Universalist church, southwest corner of Vermont and 9th Streets (formerly Warren), that building was completed in 1871. During the time George Wells was working on the Universalist church and the design for the new Methodist church, John G. Haskell, Lawrence architect, was busy with several projects that were church related: “Plymouth Congregation Church (1867-1870), which Mr. Haskell was a member and across the street (Vermont) from the future First Methodist Episcopal Church, English Lutheran Church (1870), United Presbyterian Church (1870-71), and Friends Church (1872).”⁸

The Kansas Tribune (Lawrence, Kansas) printed March 14, 1878, “We are gratified to announce the fact that our fellow townsman Mr. George Wells, who enjoys the respect of the entire community...has entered into partnership with Mr. Unwerth, a skilled architect of Chicago, and the new firm will begin operations in Kansas City this week”⁹

By 1872, the congregation was burgeoning, and a larger building was needed. March 1888, sixteen years after initial construction had stopped, the First Methodist Episcopal Church building committee reinitiated the attempt to build a new church. By this time a number of the members of the committee had turned over. “Dr. James Marvin, the former Chancellor of the University of Kansas who now was the church’s pastor, made a

⁸ Peterson, 246.

⁹ Jonathan M. Pitts, “A Removal.” *Kansas Tribune* (Lawrence, KS), March 14, 1878.

<https://kansashistoricalsociety.newspapers.com/image/367180019> (accessed August 23, 2018).

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trip east to study current church design. He found two he favored, one in Delaware, Ohio, and one in Richmond, Indiana."¹⁰ Local architect, John G. Haskell, was selected to prepare the plans and specifications for the new church. (Figure 26).

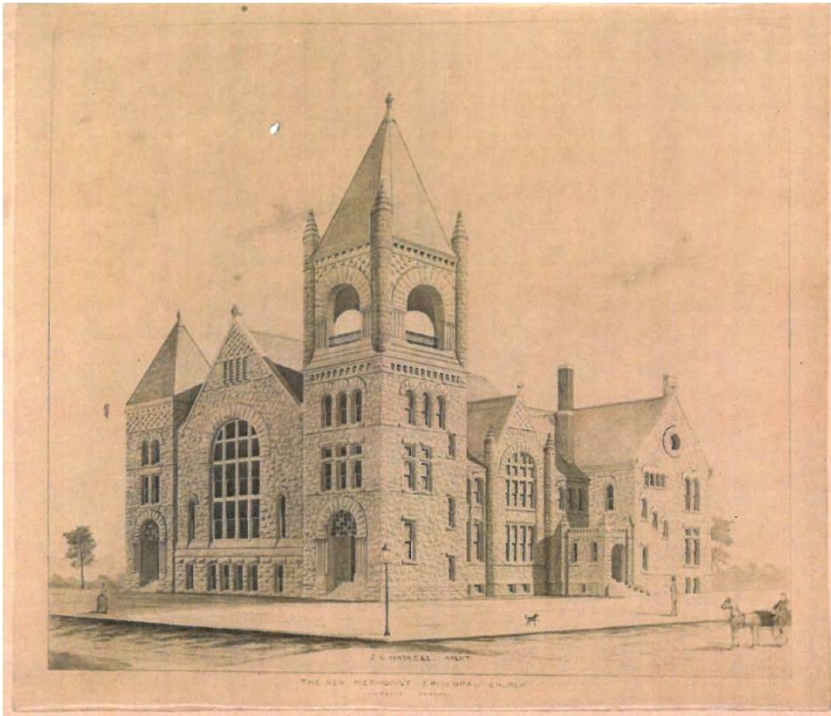


Figure 26: Proposed design 946 Vermont Street; Cabinet card, 1888 by John Haskell

"In the winter the old foundation was completed to sidewalk grade."¹¹ On May 29, 1889, at the southwest corner, the cornerstone ceremony was held. A memory box was placed in a specially made compartment, followed by the corner stones. Engraved on the first stone 'MAY 29', second stone '1889'. Despite the unfinished auditorium [sanctuary] the congregation made the move to the new stone church February 8, 1891. May 21, 1891 the building dedication ceremony was held. In celebration a leaflet was published. This was the first attempt of the church in preserving its own history. The following passage comes from this leaflet. "The new edifice stands on the corner of Vermont and Berkley [10th] streets, with a front of 95 feet and length of 117. It is built of stone from the quarries near the city, faced and trimmed with light gray limestone from the Cottonwood quarries of southwest Kansas. The interior is finished with white oak throughout. The pews in the auditorium [sanctuary] are arranged in curved lines facing the pulpit, and all appliances are in the most approved style. The lecture room with gallery, will seat five hundred, and the auditorium eight hundred. Fronting the lecture room is the church parlor below, and the pastor's study above. In the towers and above the two main entrances are four class rooms. The edifice has no superior in Kansas Methodism, and but few in the West."¹² A moveable wood wall divider [east] separated the sanctuary from other rooms. When the dividers were removed about 1,200 could be seated. Total building cost for the church was approximately \$40,000.

"Cast in Troy, N.Y., in 1865, the Methodist bell was originally in what was known as the red brick church at 10th and Massachusetts...It was moved to the present building in 1880".¹³ The belfry holds the original pure metal

¹⁰ Peterson, 176.

¹¹ Mary Peterson Clark, *History of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Lawrence, Kans* (Kansas City, MO: Franklin Hudson Publ. Co., 1915), 48.

¹² "Memorial Book and Directory of First Methodist Episcopal Church", 7.

¹³ Nancy Smith, "Church Bells Echo New England Heritage," *Lawrence Journal-World* (Lawrence, KS), May 18, 1986.

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'A flat' bell inscribed on one side 'Jones & Company, Founders, Troy N.Y., 1865'. On the other side of the bell is inscribed 'Patented 1855'. The bell is hung with patent rotary yokes. Jones and Company bells were known for their richness of tone, prolongation of sound, excel in depth and durability.

The stain glass windows throughout the stone church were installed when the church was built in 1890. "Little history remains about the designs in the windows and no names of individual artists are available. The windows were made by the Wells Glass Company of Chicago, Illinois."¹⁴ Exceptions are the rose window [west] at the top of the dedicated November 1939. The other stain glass window was installed in the stone church [north] wall around 2003 and can be seen upon entry through the west entrance.

"Music — particularly the music of the organ — is central to the life of the church. Members say the instrument's rich sounds complement their liturgy, inspire congregational singing and even seem to invite the Holy Spirit into their presence."¹⁵ In 163 years the First Methodist Episcopal Church has owned two organs. Originally, 1904 mechanical organ which little is known about and the present Reuter organ originally installed in 1939. Over the years the 1938 Reuter organ fell into disrepair which resulted in a major overhaul. Repairs and enhancements including the removal of the organ console to be thoroughly cleaned by Reuter. "Reuter rebuilt the console incorporating a solid-state electronic switching system. The 1938 oak console shell with its ornate carving was retained because it matches the lectern, pulpit, communion table, and other woodwork originally constructed by the organ company."¹⁶ Presently the organ has 124 ranks (over 7,000 pipes) and is the largest and one of the most versatile organs in this area of the country.

946 Vermont Building Changes through the Years

1897: The February 1897 Lawrence Kansas Sanborn map stated the "Heat Furnace".¹⁷

1904: The first pipe organ is installed in the northwest side of the vestry. The church is carpeted. The basement is finished.

1905: An important structure change in the building was made to the gallery above the lecture room. "They were torn out, and a complete second floor built in the east end of the church, the upper room being arranged as a modern church dining-room and kitchen. Another improvement at about the same time was the building of granitoid steps at the south entrance".¹⁸ The February 1905 Lawrence Kansas Sanborn map stated the "Heat: Steam Lights: Gas".¹⁹

1909: In the basement a large room under the lecture room and a small room under the parlor were added in support of ever increasing church activities and Sunday school classes. "In the large room, each class has a table and is separated from the other classes by a series of screens."²⁰

¹⁴ Deanell Reece Tacha, *A Legacy of Love: The Windows, Banners, and Pipe Organ of First United Church Lawrence, Kansas* (Topeka, KS: Mainline Printing, 2000), 2.

¹⁵ Jonathan M. Pitts, "Churches Struggling to find Organists," *The Baltimore Sun* (Baltimore, MD), April 7, 2017. <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/bs-md-church-organist-shortage-20170407-story.html> (accessed April 25, 2018).

¹⁶ Tacha, 19.

¹⁷ Sanborn Map and Publishing Co. *Lawrence, Kansas: 1897*. Map. (New York: Sanborn Map and Publishing Co, 1897), From University of Kansas Spencer Research Library, KU LUNA Collections. <https://luna.ku.edu/luna/servlet/view/all/where/Lawrence?sort=identifier%2Carea%2Ccitation%2Cclassification> (accessed April 26, 2018).

¹⁸ Clark, 73.

¹⁹ Sanborn Map and Publishing Co. *Lawrence, Kansas: 1905*. Map. (New York: Sanborn Map and Publishing Co, 1905), From University of Kansas Spencer Research Library, KU LUNA Collections. <https://luna.ku.edu/luna/servlet/view/all/where/Lawrence?sort=identifier%2Carea%2Ccitation%2Cclassification> (accessed April 26, 2018).

²⁰ Clark, 86.

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1912: The April 1912 Lawrence Kansas Sanborn map stated the lights in the church as "gas and electric".²¹

1916: Southwest corner in the basement a fireplace was built, and lights were installed over it.

1936 The J.C. Ecke building (945 Massachusetts Street) was willed to the church. The second and third floors of the Ecke building would eventually be used by the church for classes and a nursery. While the first floor was rented and provided income for the church.

1939: The anonymous gift of a new organ made it necessary to remodel the church. The new Russell Memorial organ, made by the Reuter Company of Lawrence, was installed in the southwest corner of the vestry. The big west stain glass window in the vestry was bricked up and a rose stain glass window substituted in the top part of the original window space. The south entry door was enlarged and made the main entrance. The second story south and north galleries (three pews deep) were removed leaving the east gallery. The second story east gallery would eventually be removed in the 1980s. The chancel was divided with the ladies' choir sitting on the south side and the men's choir sitting on the north side. A covered walkway was built from the east second floor, across the alley, to the west second floor of the Ecke building. The covered walkway (*Figure 27*) would remain until the church sold the J. C. Ecke building in the 1980s and was subsequently torn down.



Figure 27: Bridge across alley, date unknown (between 1968 and early 1980s)

1949: Vermont Street lot 88 was procured.

1954: The large chimney, "which had been in the middle of the partition between the sanctuary and rear sanctuary, was torn down and replaced by a smokestack outside the building in the north. The pillars between the two rooms were removed and narrow metal posts substituted. The floor of the rear sanctuary was slanted so that it is now continuous with the rest of the main room, and this rear space as well as the main room and the gallery equipped with pews, uniform throughout. The rooms above and below the rear sanctuary were made over in departmental quarters for Sunday School groups."²²

²¹ Sanborn Map and Publishing Co. *Lawrence, Kansas: 1912*. Map. (New York: Sanborn Map and Publishing Co, 1912), From University of Kansas Spencer Research Library, KU LUNA Collections. <https://luna.ku.edu/luna/servlet/view/all/where/Lawrence?sort=identifier%2Carea%2Ccitation%2Cclassification> (accessed April 26, 2018).

²² Clark, 26.

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1958: Vermont Street lot 86 was left to the church in July.

1962: Robertson and Ericson (architect), Finney and Turnipseed (structural engineer), Moore and Clark (mechanical and electrical engineers) designed the three story education wing. The addition included lower, main and upper levels for class rooms. A new main entry connected the stone church to the new brick addition. The inclusion of an elevator, as well as, a gathering area tied the stone church to the new addition. Once the north facing education building was completed the church school moved in.

Church Social History

"Methodism entered what is now Kansas by means of Indian missions at least as early as the [18]30s...The Kansas-Nebraska Bill passed in May, 1854...The disruption of the Church on the question of slavery nearly ten years earlier had caused the name 'Methodist' to be practically synonymous with 'free state.'²³ The First Methodist Episcopal Church has been serving the local community, missions both home and foreign since 1854.

Students from Kansas University and Haskell began to attend the Methodist Church for student prayer meetings as early as March 1877. Attendance was as many as 100 persons per meeting. The church roll book began to contain names marked 'student' in the margin. Eventually Wesley KU was established as a united Methodist campus ministry. The work at Haskell during this time was "carried on so quietly that in the absence of records it is very difficult to obtain details about it."²⁴

Missionary work started at the beginning for the 20th century. Church volunteers were sent to foreign lands that include: China, India, Japanese work, Korea, South America and Sumatra.

Founded in 1858 as the first university in Kansas, Baker is an institution that has held close ties with the Methodist Episcopal Church, which became the Methodist Church in 1939, and then the United Methodist Church in 1968 and has retained its affiliation. The Methodist Church has supported Baker since its founding.

The Methodist Church opened its doors so that other religions and ethnicities could use the church for worship. This include freed black slaves.

The 20th century has seen the church's growth and its problems, war and depression, war and peace, war and social upheaval. The interests of the Methodist Church have become even more people oriented.

The congregation in the 1980's confirmed its commitment to the city and its heritage when it was decided to keep and improve the downtown church rather than moving to the city's fringe.

John Gideon Haskell, architect

John Haskell had a love for architecture from a very early age. He was born in Vermont in 1832 and died in Lawrence, Kansas in 1907. He came to Kansas at age 25 and spent the next 50 years designing buildings that were built to last.

The First Methodist Episcopal Church Romanesque Revival style was used in several large buildings; Lawrence High School, the McPherson County Courthouse and Douglas County Courthouse (with Frederick Gunn). Common design elements found in Haskell architected churches include "semi-circular seating arrangement, the tall tower, and the sliding door which could be opened to unite a secondary room with the main audience room."²⁵ All these elements are present in the Methodist Church.

²³ Peterson, 6.

²⁴ Peterson, 74.

²⁵ Peterson, 135.

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The National Register Historic Properties lists eleven Kansas Haskell properties. Six are in Lawrence. Biographer John Peterson states in his introduction that "Unfortunately no archive or collection of family letters or business records exists".²⁶

Robertson & Ericson, architect

Lawrence architects Donald M. Robertson and Paul N. Ericson were active in the 1960s and 1970s. The functionalism 'modern look' is visible in their 1962 simplicity in form and design for the churches new education wing. Robertson & Ericson were the architects that designed the new Lawrence Public Library in 1972. The new libraries brutalist 'modern look' of recurring concrete modular characteristics was a dramatic change in design from the Carnegie Library that was used from 1904-1972.

Settlement of Lawrence

"When the Kansas-Nebraska bill passed, May 25, 1854, there was a feeling of despondency all over the north...its passage opened Kansas to slavery ...Kansas lay beyond Missouri, and Missouri was a slave state."²⁷ The anti-slavery north knew if Kansas was settled with people who wanted the state to be free the move to make Kansas a slave state would be to put down the counter ideals coming from Missouri. The Emigrant Aid Company was formed in Massachusetts to educate, financially support and helped bring about emigration to Kansas. Eli Thayer and Amos A. Lawrence were charged to begin recruiting people for settlement in Lawrence. "As early as June 1854, they [The Emigrant Aid Company] sent Dr. Charles Robinson, of Fitchburg, and Mr. Charles H. Branscomb, of Holyoke, to explore the territory and select a site for a colony.... Dr. Robinson and his party...looked off over what was afterwards the site of Lawrence. They marked the beauty of the spot and the magnificence of the view."²⁸

The inaugural party arrived at Wakarusa [Lawrence] August 1, 1854. The second group of emigrants came soon after on September 9, 1854. Amos Lawrence "was a very liberal contributor to its [The Emigrant Aid Company] funds.... His interest in Kansas, and especially in Lawrence, never faltered."²⁹ Amos Lawrence's reputation, financial support and public spirit influenced the first settlers to name the new settlement 'Lawrence'; "the first free state town in Kansas".³⁰

Religion was present from the very founding of Lawrence with laymen coordinating the first sermon readings. Protestant, Methodist and Unitarian religious denominations being the first to form religious congregations in Lawrence.

Lawrence 1889

The years after the Civil War ended were ones of steady growth and progress for Lawrence. "The city's population jumped to 8,320 by 1870 and climbed to just short of 10,000 by 1890."³¹ Lawrence was a city with a diverse ethnic population; German, Irish, American Indian, African American, Hispanic and Asian. The different ethnic groups brought distinctive culture, religion and job skills.

The effects of the financial panic of 1873 were felt by most citizens of Lawrence. Ten years after the panic, the First Methodist Episcopal church congregation was growing, as was the financial respects. During this time the church debt was paid off. "Now at last increase in membership and the needs of

²⁶ Peterson, xi.

²⁷ Richard Cordley, D.D., *A History of Lawrence, Kansas from the First Settlement to the Close of the Rebellion* (Lawrence, KS: Lawrence Journal Press, 1895), 1.

²⁸ Cordley, 4.

²⁹ Cordley, 10.

³⁰ Cordley, 10.

³¹ Virgil W. Dean, *Images of America Lawrence* (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2015), 25.

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repairs on the old church [10th and Massachusetts Streets] made building almost necessary and the freedom from debt made it possible."³² By April 1888 a church committee was established to secure new building plans and estimates. October 31, 1888, the church building committee was elected. "On the 20th of November, the subscription [funds] being large enough to warrant proceeding with the building [10th and Vermont Streets], it was decided to advertise bids according to plans and specifications of J.G. Haskell, architect."³³

John Haskell's Lawrence roots go back to his father who was in one of the 1854 parties The Emigrant Aid Company sent to settle Lawrence. John Haskell was known as a skillful architect who had designed close to three dozen buildings in Lawrence over his lifetime. This included his architecting the Plymouth Congregational Church [where he attended], across Vermont Street from the First Methodist Episcopal church [10th and Vermont Streets] and the Trinity Episcopal Church on the southwest corner of 10th and Vermont Streets.

Winter brought the completion of the new churches foundation to sidewalk grade. The corner-stone was laid in spring 1889. The construction of the exterior church building was near completion late May 1890. "The next few months were devoted to the plastering, painting, finishing of interior, and arranging for the seats and the heating and lighting systems. February 8, 1891, the congregation removed to the new church, although the auditorium was not finished, and it was necessary at first to hold services in the lecture-room."³⁴

The new Methodist church at 10th and Vermont Streets was in the style of "Romanesque Revival with a strong Richardsonian influence...There were heavy, round arches over the doors and many windows, some of which were very large. A massive, square tower topped by belfry with a large open arch on each side, a short turret at each corner, and a pyramidal roof, stood at the southwest corner of the building. A smaller and shorter square tower stood at the northwest corner. Each tower covered an entrance; other entrances were on the south side. There was a very large arched window under the west gable...The rough, rock-faced surface of the [exterior] walls contributed to the feeling of rugged strength embodied in design."³⁵

Romanesque Revival (1840–1900) style did not immediately become an architectural style used in the United States until "American architect Henry Hobson Richardson embraced the style in the 1870s and 1880s. Richardson, a graduate of the École des Beaux Arts in Paris, developed a more dramatic version of this style with bolder, wider arches and strong sculptural forms."³⁶

Lawrence 1939, 1954, 1962

In 1939, the final year of the Great Depression, brought the slow recovery to Lawrence through WPA projects. Lawrence celebrated its 85th anniversary of its founding; the original two parties of The Emigrant Aid Society arrived. "Significant change and growth can be observed in the general Lawrence population numbers, which increased substantially during the 1950s and 1960s and beyond. In 1950, census takers enumerated 23,351 inhabitants, 32,858 in 1960".³⁷ The baby boomer generation (1946-

³² Clark, *History of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Lawrence, Kans.*, 47.

³³ Clark, *History of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Lawrence, Kans.*, 48.

³⁴ Clark, *History of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Lawrence, Kans.*, 49.

³⁵ Peterson, 177.

³⁶ Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission, "Romanesque Revival Style 1840 – 1900," In *Pennsylvania Architectural Field Guide*, August 26, 2015, <http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/portal/communities/architecture/styles/romanesque-revival.html> (accessed September 2, 2018).

³⁷ Dean, 97.

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1964) brought development of new neighborhoods and commercial growth outside of Lawrence's downtown district.

In 1936, the J.C. Ecke building, directly east of the church, was willed to the church. Through an anonymous gift of a new organ in 1939 brought about the necessity of remodeling the church. Some of the changes that came from the remodel include: installation of the new organ, the bricking up of the very leaky stain glass window to the west of the vestry and the installation of the rose stain glass window, above the new brick, at the top of the windows arch and the building of a covered walkway between the churches east second floor, across the alley, to the west second floor of the J.C. Ecke building. The second and third floors in the Ecke building provided needed space for a nursery and meeting room.

The 1954 changes updated the sanctuary and provide additional space for Sunday school rooms.

The number of children in the congregation continued to grow through the 1950s. By 1958, the church "began planning for a major facilities expansion of a new education building."³⁸ Robertson and Ericson were selected to design the new three story education wing. The architectural plan design was for a Modern Movement aesthetic. "[F]ree from the styles and forms of the past... the Moderne style [roughly 1933-1965] featured smooth walls with little surface ornamentation, rounded corners and curved glass. Moderne buildings have flat roofs, and bands of windows with a horizontal emphasis."³⁹ Late in 1959 the church building committee approved the preliminary plans for the new education wing. Construction began in 1960. "The church school moved into the new building in April 1862."⁴⁰

³⁸ Sesquicentennial Committee, *Some of the History of First United Methodist Church Lawrence, Kansas 1954-2004* (Lawrence, KS: Self-Published, First United Methodist Church, 2004), 4.

³⁹ Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission, "Moderne Style 1930 – 1950," In *Pennsylvania Architectural Field Guide*, August 26, 2015, <http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/portal/communities/architecture/styles/moderne.html> (accessed September 2, 2018).

⁴⁰ Sesquicentennial Committee, 4.

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Other Sources

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Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas
Helen Osma Local History Room, Kansas Collection, Lawrence Public Library
Watkins Museum of History, Lawrence, Kansas

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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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: First United Methodist Church Archive

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property less than one

Provide latitude/longitude coordinates OR UTM coordinates.
(Place additional coordinates on a continuation page.)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|-------------------|---|-----------|------------|
| 1 | <u>38.966043</u> | <u>-95.236796</u> | 3 | _____ | _____ |
| | Latitude: | Longitude: | | Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 2 | _____ | _____ | 4 | _____ | _____ |
| | Latitude: | Longitude: | | Latitude: | Longitude: |

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)

Vermont Street Lots 86, 88, 90 & 92 (Plate/Record Id: U01424A; U01424, 26, 27-01 & 28-01 Combined 1988)
Total lot size 200' x 117'; beginning at SW corner (Vermont Street and 10th Street) North 200', at NW corner East 117', at NE corner South 200', SE corner West 117'.

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The nominated property includes the Douglas County, KS legal and property descriptions for the entire parcel historically associated with the First Methodist Episcopal Church.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jane A. Cotitta/Church Historian

organization First United Methodist Church of Lawrence date April 24, 2018

street & number 1424D Brighton Circle telephone (913) 220-5013

city or town Lawrence state KS zip code 66049

e-mail jkittel01@gmail.com

Property Owner: (complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

name First United Methodist Church of Lawrence

First Methodist Episcopal Church
Name of Property

Douglas County, KS
County and State

street & number 946 Vermont Street

telephone (785) 841-7500

city or town Lawrence

state KS zip code 66044

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.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each digital image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to a sketch map or aerial map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

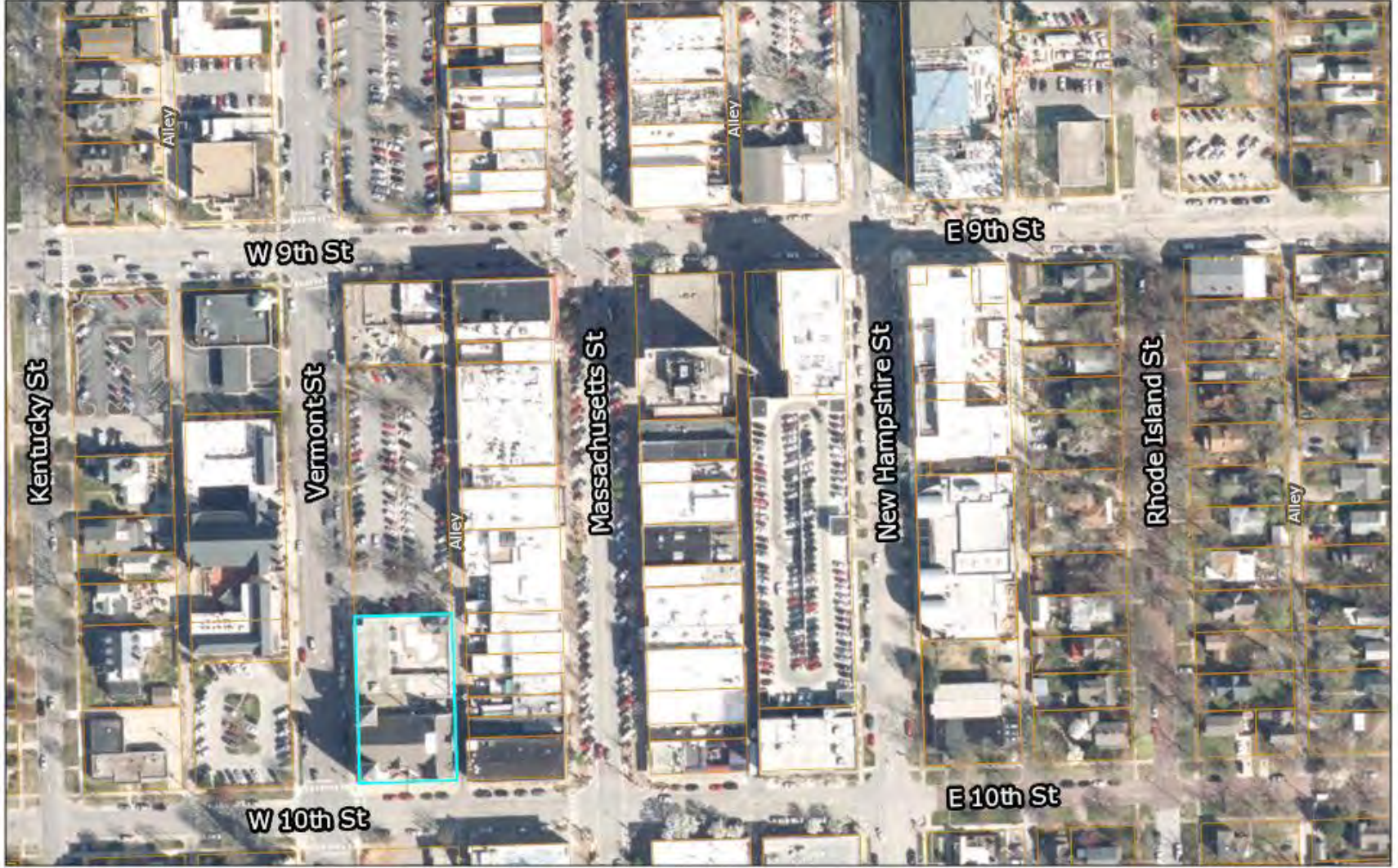
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- 27 of 27: Bridge across alley, date unknown (between 1968 and early 1980s)

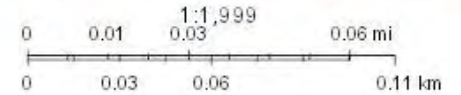
First Methodist Episcopal Church
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Property Viewer for Douglas County, KS

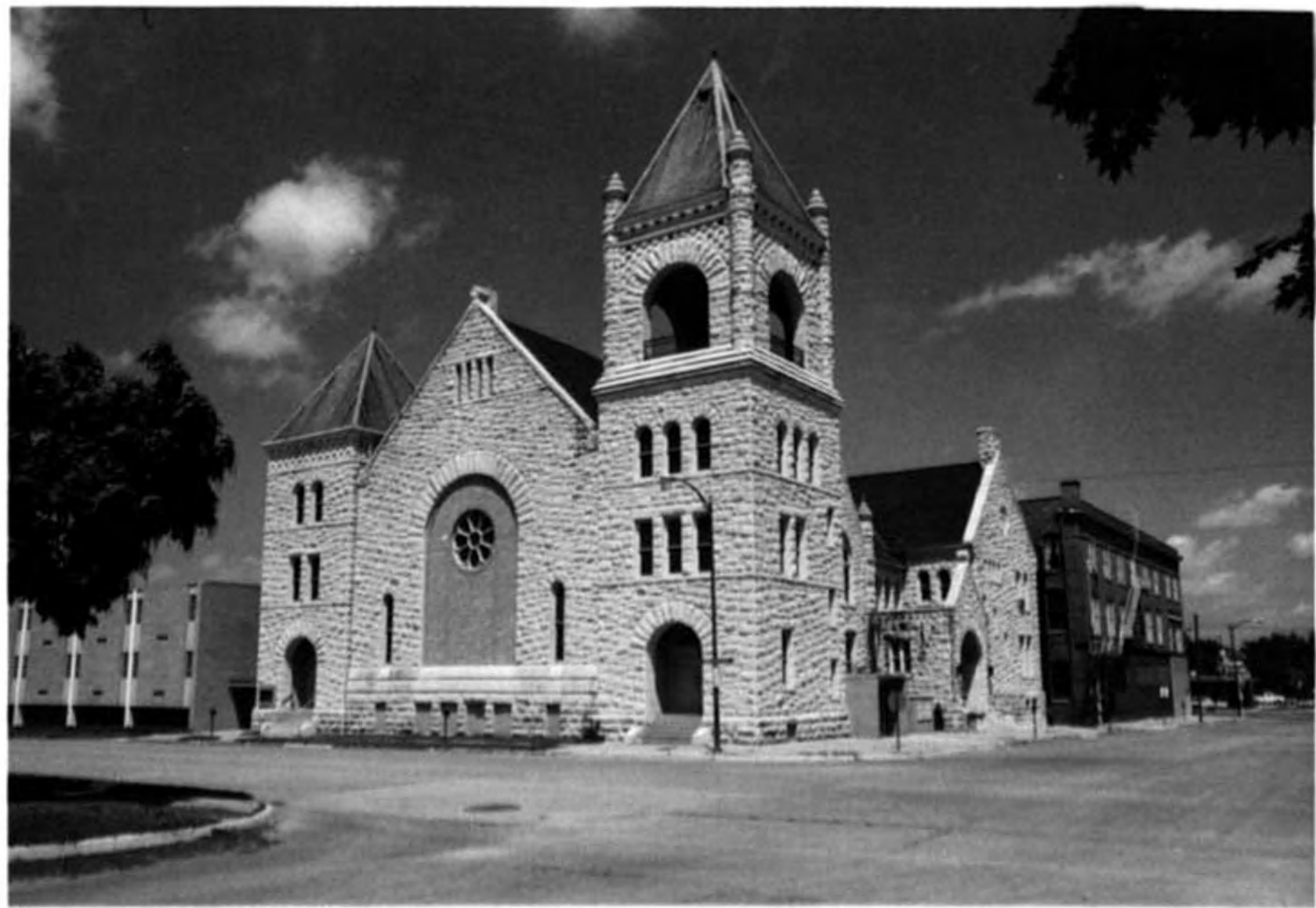


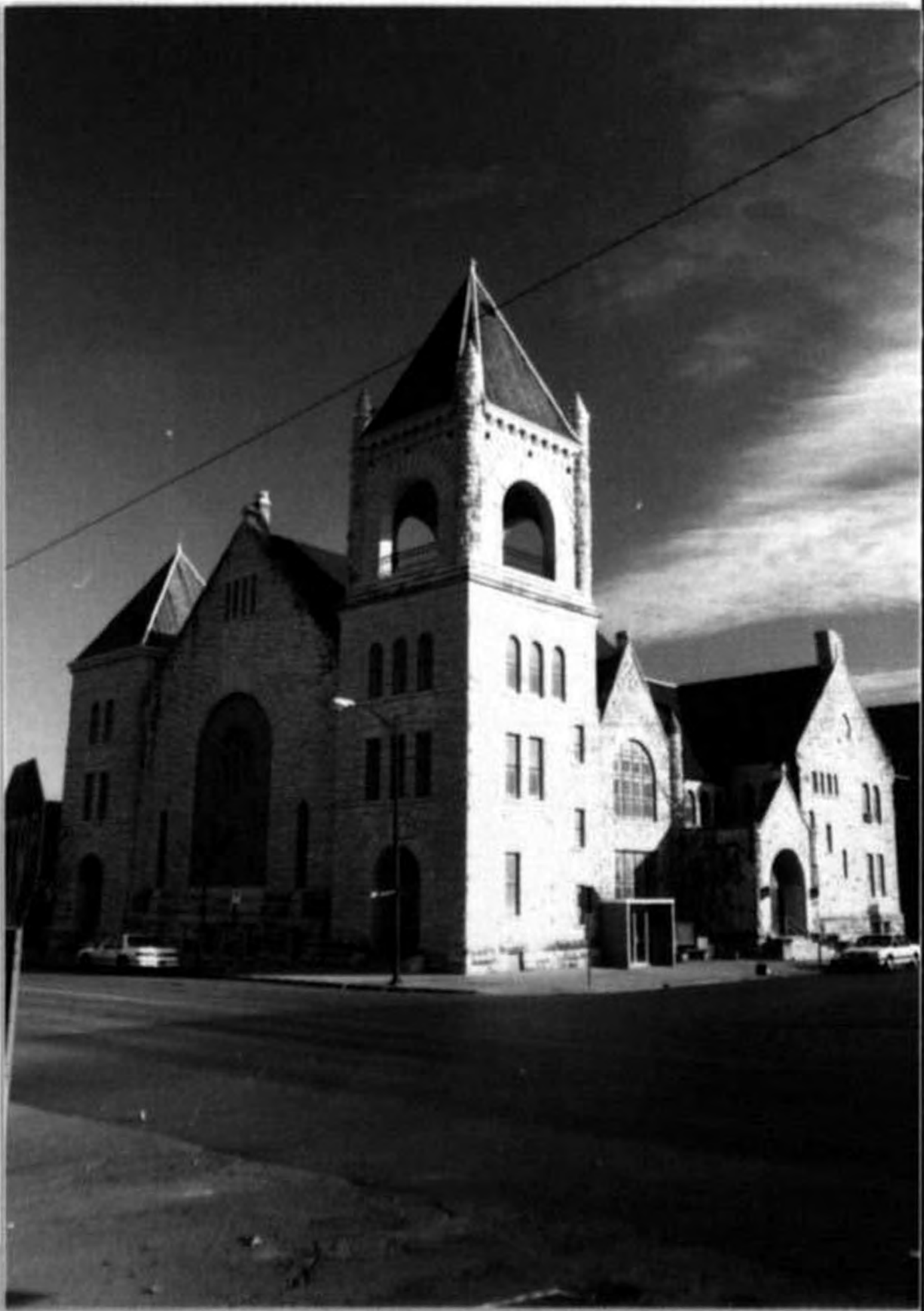
April 16, 2018
Parcel



Douglas County GIS

Property Viewer for Douglas County, KS
DISCLAIMER: This is not a legal survey. This map is to be used for reference purposes only, and no other use or reliance on the same is authorized.





None. Addition made in 1967.







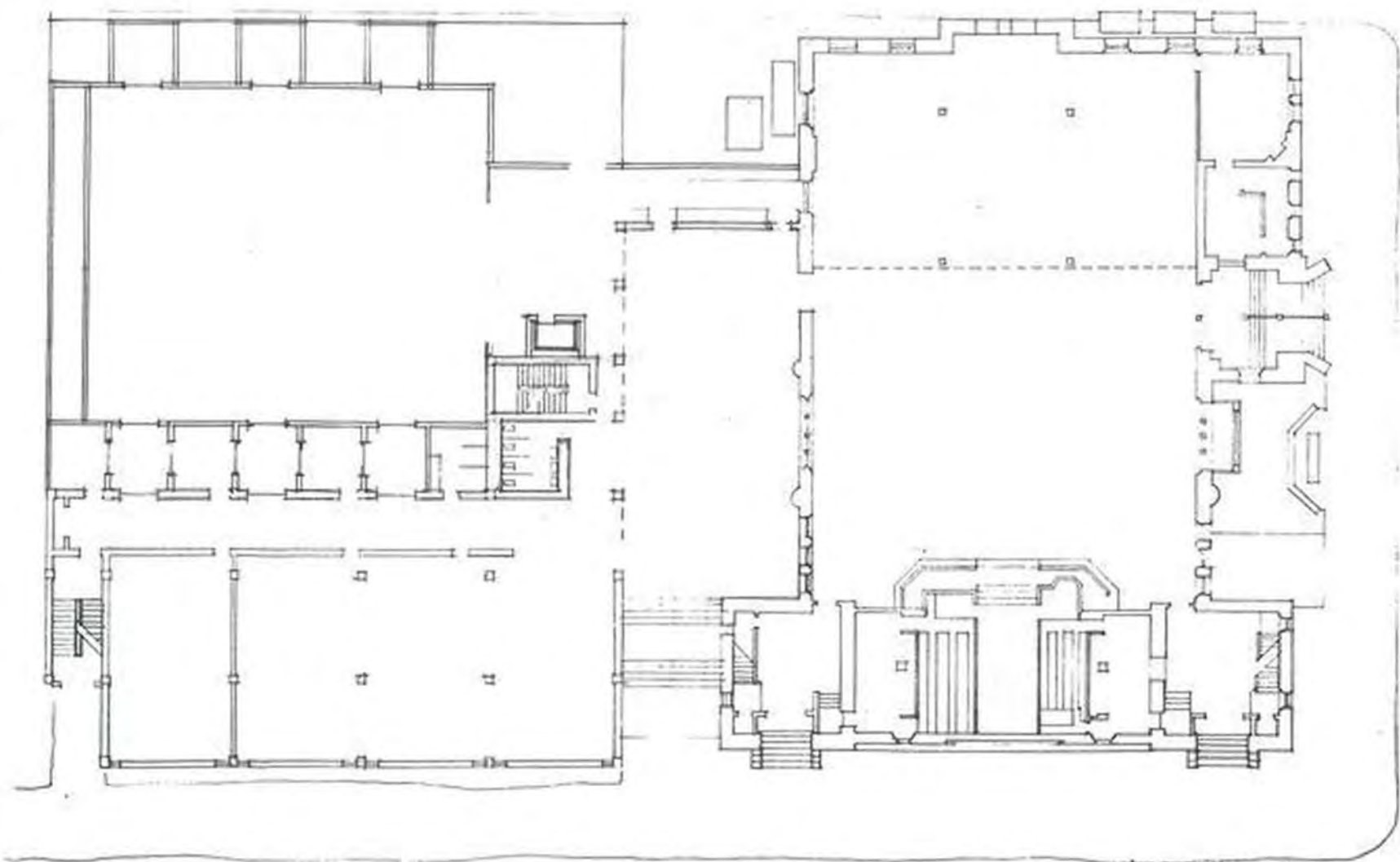




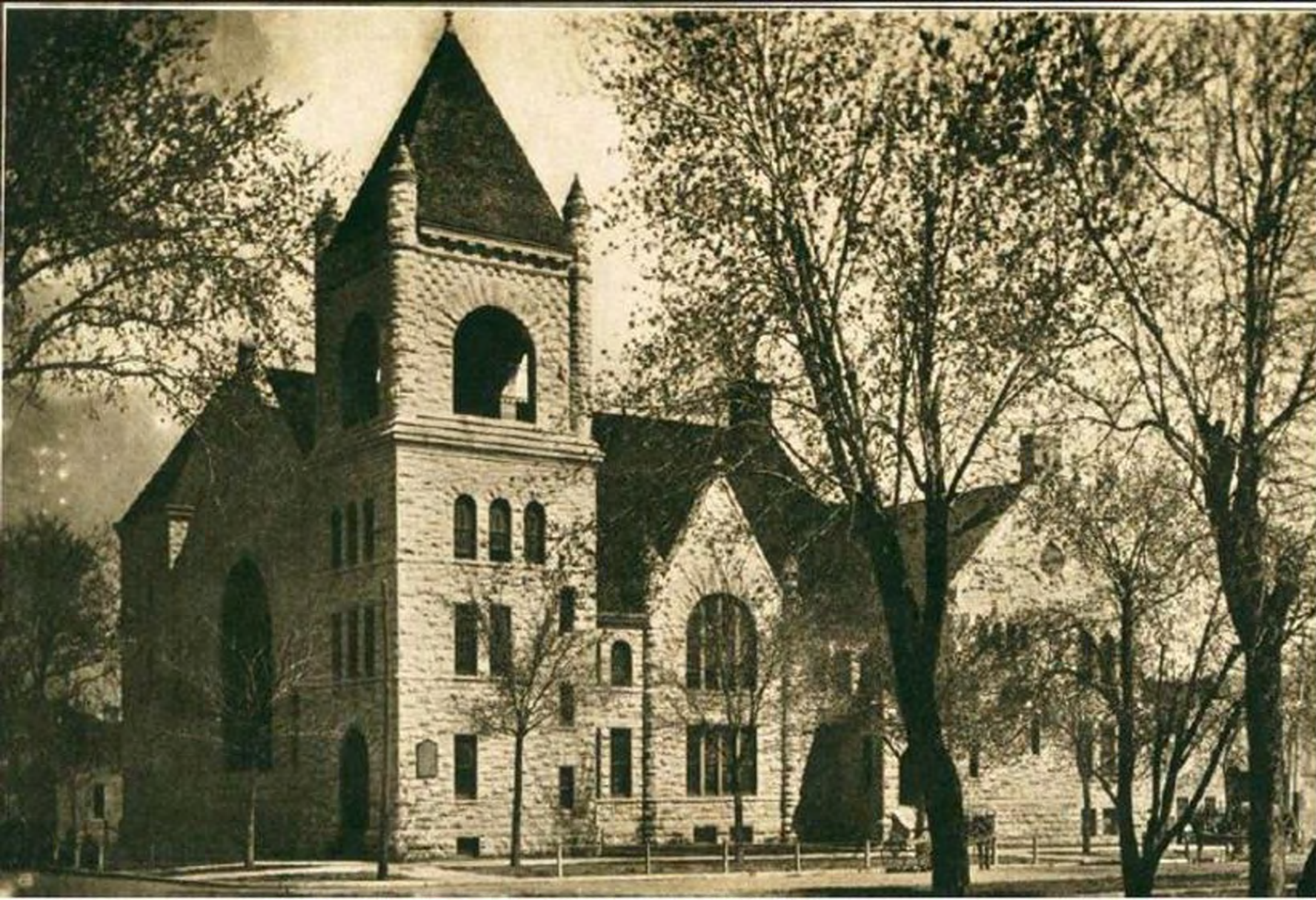








Existing First Floor Plan
First Methodist Church
Lawrence 6/189



Neg. H32124 Slide 24 Wesley Foundation
Church Service, Lawrence, Kas.























CONNECTION POINT





A woman in a light blue short-sleeved shirt and dark pants stands in the hallway, pointing at a bulletin board on the left wall. She is holding a silver pot and a black object, possibly a marker or a small bag. A table with a white cloth and a silver pot is positioned next to her.

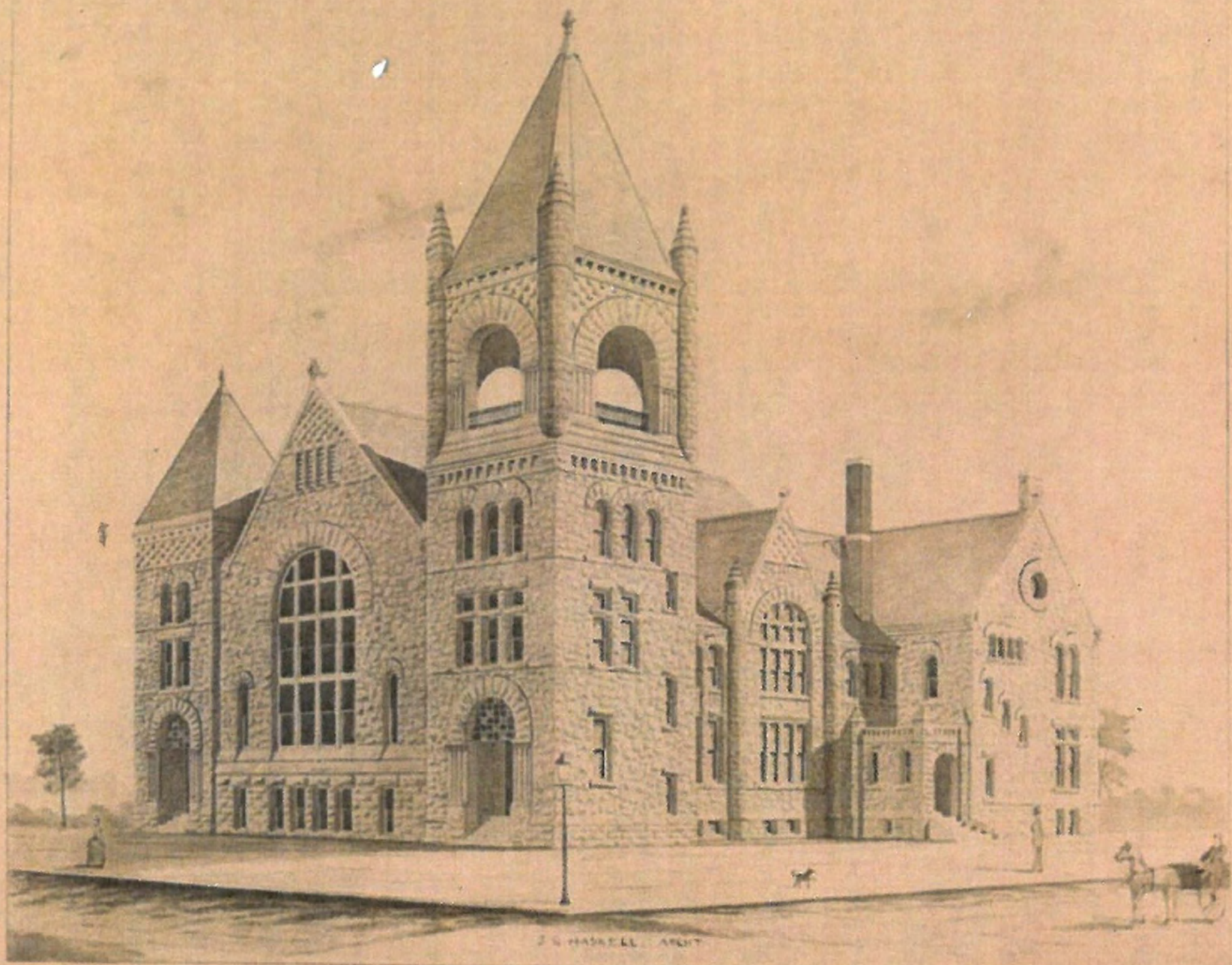
A bulletin board on the right wall features a grid of small photographs and text, likely a yearbook or a collection of community photos.

United Methodist Women

2019 Mission Studies

Projects

A large bulletin board on the right wall with a pink floral border. It contains several sections of text and photos, including a heading "United Methodist Women" and a sub-heading "2019 Mission Studies". There is also a section titled "Projects" with a list of items.



J. G. HAYKELL. ARCHT.

THE NEW METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 1/28/2019 Date of Pending List: 2/12/2019 Date of 16th Day: 2/27/2019 Date of 45th Day: 3/14/2019 Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal | <input type="checkbox"/> PDIL | <input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver | <input type="checkbox"/> National | <input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Period |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CLG | |

Accept Return Reject 3/14/2019 Date

Abstract/Summary
Comments:

Recommendation/
Criteria

Reviewer  Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2236 Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



City of Lawrence

THOMAS M. MARKUS
CITY MANAGER

City Offices
PO Box 708 66044-0708
www.lawrenceks.org

6 East 6th St
785-832-3000
FAX 785-832-3405

CITY COMMISSION

MAYOR
STUART BOLEY

COMMISSIONERS
LISA LARSEN
JENNIFER ANANDA, JD, MSW
MATTHEW J. HERBERT
LESLIE SODEN

October 18, 2018

Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review
Cultural Resources Division
Kansas State Historical Society
6425 SW 6th Avenue
Topeka, KS 66615-1099

Dear Board Members:

The Lawrence Historic Resources Commission (HRC) reviewed the National Register Nomination for 946 Vermont Street, the First Methodist Episcopal Church, at their September 20, 2018 meeting. The HRC voted unanimously to send a letter to the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review supporting the nomination. The HRC considers listing in the National Register of Historic Places an important component of the identification and protection of historic resources in Lawrence.

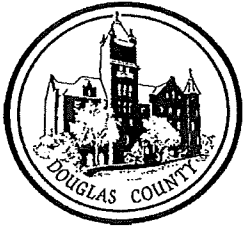
Chapter 11 of *Horizon 2020 The Comprehensive Plan for Lawrence and Unincorporated Douglas County* identifies the City of Lawrence's commitment to the identification and protection of Historic Resources. This plan encourages the identification, evaluation, and protection of historic resources. The nomination of the First Methodist Episcopal Church to the National Register helps to further this goal.

The Historic Resources Commission is of the opinion the First Methodist Episcopal Church is an important historic resource that is worthy of the recognition and protection that listing in the National Register of Historic Places provides.

Respectfully,

Aaron Bailey, Chair
Lawrence Historic Resources Commission





DOUGLAS COUNTY HERITAGE OFFICE

1100 Massachusetts Street
Lawrence, KS 66044-3064
(785) 330-2878 Fax (785) 838-2480
<https://www.douglascountyks.org>

October 24, 2018

Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review
Cultural Resources Division Kansas State Historical Society
6425 SW 6th Avenue
Topeka, KS 66615-1099

RECEIVED
OCT 31 2018
CULTURAL RESOURCES

Re: First Methodist Episcopal Church (946 Vermont Street, Lawrence, KS)

Dear Board Members,

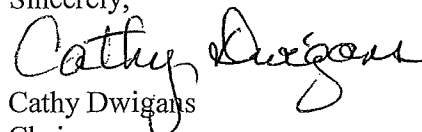
The Douglas County Heritage Conservation Council supports the nomination of the First Methodist Episcopal Church to the National Register of Historic Places and Register of Historic Kansas Places. This important building, designed by John G. Haskell in 1888, has served our community for over a century and retains sound historic integrity.

Listing in the National Register of Historic Places honors historic properties by recognizing their importance to the community. In addition, listing in the National Register is an important component of the identification and protection of historic resources.

Chapter 11 of *Horizon 2020 The Comprehensive Plan for Lawrence and Unincorporated Douglas County* identifies the City of Lawrence's commitment to the identification and protection of Historic Resources. *Horizon 2020 Comprehensive Preservation Plan Element* is a revision to Chapter 11 and has been approved by the Historic Resources Commission and the Lawrence/Douglas County Planning Commission, and is in the process of being adopted by the City of Lawrence and Douglas County as a comprehensive preservation plan for Lawrence and the unincorporated areas of Douglas County. This plan encourages the identification, evaluation, and protection of historic resources.

Thank you for considering this nomination.

Sincerely,


Cathy Dwigans
Chair

Douglas County Historical Society

1047 Massachusetts Lawrence, KS 66044-2923

Phone 785-841-4109 Fax 787-841-9547

www.watkinsmuseum.org

RECEIVED

SEP 18 2018

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Board of Directors
Officers
Jeannette Blackmar
President

September 12, 2018

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Webster Golden
Treasurer

Pat Kehde
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Charles Jones
Past President

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Eric Anderson

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Michael Delaney

Kurt Falkenstien

Sandra Gautt

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Mick Ranney

Deanell Tacha

Lauren Taylor

Sean Williams

Historic Sites Board of Review
c/o Bethany Emenhiser
National Register Coordinator
Cultural Resources Division
6425 SW 6th Avenue
Topeka, KS 66615-1099

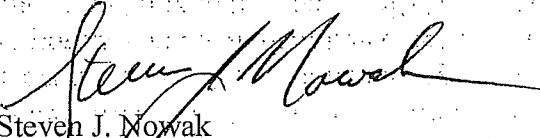
Dear Members of the Historic Sites Board of Review:

The Douglas County Historical Society fully supports the nomination of the First United Methodist Church in Lawrence, KS to the National Register of Historic Places. Listing in the National Register will signify the church building's historic importance in downtown Lawrence, but will also recognize the congregation's significant role in the community's history.

The First United Methodist Church building at the corner of Vermont and 10th Streets was completed in 1891, but the roots of the congregation go back to the founding days of Lawrence. There has been a Methodist Church in downtown Lawrence since the 1850s. That early building served as a morgue for the victims of William Quantrill's raid on Lawrence in 1863. A later church building, vacated when the current building was built, was purchased by J.B. Watkins, who built the Watkins Building now housing the Watkins Museum of History, served for a time in the 1890s as the headquarters of the University of Kansas School of Music. The current building contributes to present character of Vermont Street, which is home to several churches with historic buildings and long histories in Lawrence.

With its significant history in the community, we believe the First United Methodist Church richly deserves the distinction and protection provided through listing on the National Register.

Sincerely,



Steven J. Nowak
Executive Director

September 22, 2018

Historic Sites Board of Review
c/o Bethany Emenhiser
National Register Coordinator
Cultural Resources Division
6425 SW 6th Avenue
Topeka, KS 66615-1099

RECEIVED
SEP 26 2018
CULTURAL RESOURCES

Dear Ms. Emenhiser:

It is our honor and privilege to write in support of the nomination of the First United Methodist Church building to the National Register of Historic Places. The nomination clearly defines the extensive role the building has played in the story of Lawrence, KS. Still today, the edifice proudly maintains its dominance in the landscape of downtown Lawrence.

As members of the congregation and a member of the board of trustees of the church, I heartily support this nomination for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,



Mike Amyx

Trustee Chair



Marilyn Amyx

Congregation Member



6425 SW 6th Avenue
Topeka KS 66615-1099

phone: 785-272-8681, ext. 240
fax: 785-272-8682
kshs.shpo@ks.gov

Governor Jeff Colyer, M.D.
Jennie Chinn, Executive Director

December 19, 2018

Christopher Hetzel, Acting Chief
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 7228
Washington, DC 20240

Re: National Register documents for Kansas

Dear Mr. Hetzel:

Please find enclosed the following National Register documents:

NEW NOMINATION in Certified Local Government (6)

- **Chewing House; Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas** (new nomination under “Historic Resources of Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas” MPS)
 - Physical, signed copy of the nomination’s first page;
 - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination, .kmz file, and letters of support;
 - 1 CD (disk #2) with photographs.

- **First Methodist Episcopal Church; Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas** (new nomination)
 - Physical, signed copy of the nomination’s first page;
 - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination, .kmz file, and letters of support;
 - 1 CD (disk #2) with photographs.

- **Wolf House Historic District; Manhattan, Riley County, Kansas** (new nomination under “Late 19th Century Vernacular Stone Houses in Manhattan, Kansas” MPS)
 - Physical, signed copy of the nomination’s first page;
 - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination, .kmz file, and letter of support;
 - 1 CD (disk #2) with photographs.

- **Johnson Block Historic District; Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas** (new nomination under “Historic Resources of Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas” MPS)
 - Physical, signed copy of the nomination’s first page;
 - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination, .kmz file, and letters of support;
 - 1 CD (disk #2) with photographs.

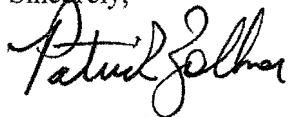
- There are 22 distinct property owners in this district; no notarized objections were received.
- **St. Joseph's School & Convent; Topeka, Shawnee County, Kansas (new nomination)**
 - Physical, signed copy of the nomination's first page;
 - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination, and .kmz file;
 - 1 CD (disk #2) with photographs.
- **Eastwood Plaza Apartments; Wichita, Sedgwick County, Kansas (new nomination under "Historic Residential Suburbs in the United States, 1830-1960" and "Residential Resources of Wichita, Sedgwick County, Kansas 1870-1957" MPS)**
 - Physical, signed copy of the nomination's first page;
 - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination, and .kmz file;
 - 1 CD (disk #2) with photographs.

NEW NOMINATIONS in non-CLG communities (3)

- **Martin Farm; Paola, Miami County, Kansas (new nomination under "Historic Agriculture-Related Resources of Kansas" MPS)**
 - Physical, signed copy of the nomination's first page;
 - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination, and .kmz file;
 - 1 CD (disk #2) with photographs.
- **Municipal Auditorium & City Hall; Leoti, Wichita County, Kansas (new nomination "New Deal-era Resources of Kansas" MPS)**
 - Physical, signed copy of the nomination's first page;
 - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination, and .kmz file;
 - 1 CD (disk #2) with photographs.
- **Lyman Christy Farmstead; Meriden, Jefferson County, Kansas (new nomination under "Historic Agriculture-Related Resources of Kansas" MPS)**
 - Physical, signed copy of the nomination's first page;
 - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination, and .kmz file;
 - 1 CD (disk #2) with photographs.

If you have any questions about these enclosed items, please contact me at ext. 217 or patrick.zollner@ks.gov.

Sincerely,



Patrick Zollner
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Kansas State Historic Preservation Office

Enclosures