

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received MAY 24 1984

date entered JUN 22 1984

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Mulhall United Methodist Church

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number SE corner of Bryant and Craig Streets N/A not for publication

city, town Mulhall N/A vicinity of

state Oklahoma code 40 county Logan code 083

**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 type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
	<u>N/A</u> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name First Methodist Episcopal Church of Mulhall

street & number c/o Ruby Cothorn, Box 154

city, town Mulhall N/A vicinity of state Oklahoma 73063

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the County Clerk

street & number Logan County Courthouse

city, town Guthrie state Oklahoma 73044

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1983  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma Historical Society

city, town Oklahoma City state Oklahoma 73105

## 7. Description

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

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

The Mulhall United Methodist Church is a 1½ story, rectangular-shaped, (38' x 51') religious building. The wall finish is a coursed ashlar native red sandstone and white wooden shingles with fish scale pattern. The main shaft of the building has a gable roof with a cross gable on the southwest corner.

The facade (west side) of the building contains four pointed arch window openings with 1/1 sash windows. The original vertical plank door which serves as entrance to the foyer has been replaced with a plain wooden type. The entry door sets in a pointed arch opening. There is a round window with wagon wheel pattern in the gable end of the facade.

The north side has four pointed arch window openings with 1/1 sash windows. The original vertical plank door on the northwest corner also provides entry to the foyer.

The south side has two pointed arch window openings in the cross gable on the southwest corner. There is also a round window with wagon wheel pattern in the gable end of cross gable. To the east of the cross gable on the south side, there are four more pointed arch openings with 1/1 sash windows.

The rear has a one-story, three sided bay with pointed arch openings in the north and south walls. Each opening has a 1/1 sash window. In the gable end of the rear, there is a round, stained glass window. Within the wagon wheel design are the Christian symbols of a cross, fish, dove, and open Bible.

Although modest in stylistic treatment, several Gothic Revival elements have been applied to the building including the pointed arch openings; the three-sided bay and round, stained glass window in the rear; polychromatic appearance provided by the contrasting red stone and white, fish scale patterned shingles; and the rough masonry typical of the post-Civil War Gothic Revivalists.

The belfry, which contains the original cast iron bell still in use, adds a striking feature to the building. Located on the northwest corner above the entry doors, it has a square base with tent roof. The steeply pitched slopes of the roof rise to a peak atop which sits a weathervane. On each corner of the belfry are four scroll-shaped brackets and above the louvered openings are small triangular pediments. Just below the pediments are pointed arch elements on all four sides. The original bell is still heard on Sunday mornings and is operated by pulling a rope while standing in the foyer. Other decorative features include the round windows designed in wagon wheel pattern in all the gable ends, dentils in eaves of the gable ends, and lug sills below window openings.

In 1961 a one-story, 36' x 50' Sunday School Classroom addition was completed to the northeast corner of the original building where the original rear door was located. It is constructed of concrete blocks and has a gable roof covered with composition shingles. The north side of the addition has two 1/1 sash windows and a paneled metal door now used as the rear exit. The south side has three 1/1 sash windows and the rear has one 1/1 sash window. Although the addition is of different construction materials, it does not significantly detract from the overall integrity of the original building because of its location in the rear.

The nominated property sits on a hill overlooking the downtown section of Mulhall and has several trees surrounding it, one of which is a cedar planted in 1902 by church members.

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

**Specific dates** 1894-1934 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Mulhall United Methodist Church is historically and architecturally significant for two reasons: (1) it is the oldest church building still intact in north central Oklahoma having been constructed during the Oklahoma Territorial year of 1894 and continuous religious services have been held in it for almost 95 years, and (2) it is the oldest and best remaining example of Gothic Revival architecture as applied to a church in north central Oklahoma.

Mulhall Methodist Church was completed in early 1894, only five years after Oklahoma Territory was opened for settlement by the Land Run of 1889. Built at an estimated cost of \$3,000, the red sandstone used as construction material for the first story exterior was quarried west of Mulhall and church members donated their time and labor in completion of the building. The only other remaining Territorial Era churches still intact in north central Oklahoma were completed during the period around the turn of the century such as the Marshall Methodist Church (1898), Hawley-Bethel Baptist Church in Nash (1898), Morrison Baptist Church (1903), and the Blackburn Methodist Church (1904). Membership peaked ca. 1910 with approximately 150 members and, although current membership has declined to about 50, weekly services are still held in the 95 year old structure.

Although modest in stylistic treatment, several Gothic Revival features have been applied to the church including the pointed arch (lancet) openings; three-sided bay and round, stained glass window in the rear; contrasting colors and texture of red stone and white, fish scale pattern, wood shingles; and the rough masonry typical of the post-Civil War Gothic Revivalists such as Ruskin. The most outstanding decorative element is the belfry which possesses intricate and exquisite detail for a small town church building. It has a steeply pitched tent roof with slopes rising to a peak where a weathervane is located. Detail is provided by the scroll-shaped brackets, small pediments over louvered openings on all four sides of the belfry, and pointed arch elements over the louvers. The other existing Territorial Era Churches in north central Oklahoma small towns employ clapboard finish and vernacular architecture detail.

The Mulhall Church has continued to serve the residents of the community for almost 95 years making it the oldest church in north central Oklahoma to retain both its historic and architectural integrity.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Interview: Logan County History Vol. II  
Ruby Cothorn, November, 1983 (church historian)  
Stella Craven, December, 1983 (oldest member of church)

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Mulhall, OK

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000  
7 1/2"

UTM References

A 

1	4	6	4	3	7	6	5	3	9	9	1	9	6	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

Lots 1 and 2, Block 22, Original Townsite of Mulhall, OK

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

state N/A code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Claudia Ahmad Supervised by Dr. George Carney

organization Department of Geography

date December, 1983

street & number Oklahoma State University

telephone 405-624-6250

city or town Stillwater,

state Oklahoma 74078

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature C. Metcalf

5-21-84

title

date

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Beth Casveno  
Keeper of the National Register

date 6/20/84

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration