

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Lutcher United Methodist Church
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 2347 Texas Street N/A not for publication
city, town Lutcher N/A vicinity
state Louisiana code LA county St. James code 093 zip code 70071

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.

LP Jan January 7, 1992
Signature of certifying official Leslie P. Tassin, LA SHPO, Dept of Culture, Recreation and Tourism Date
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

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

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. **Entered in the National Register**
 See continuation sheet. 2/12/92

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain): _____

for Signature of the Keeper Date of Action _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious structure

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne Revival

Gothic Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls weatherboard

roof metal

other shingles

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Lutcher United Methodist Church stands on a quiet residential block within the St. James Parish town of Lutcher. Constructed in 1901, the vernacular building shows the influence of both the Queen Anne Revival and Gothic Revival styles. The church has experienced very little change over the years. Thus, its National Register eligibility remains intact.

The building's Queen Anne features include 1) asymmetrical massing composed of two gabled masses anchored by a front facing, four-stage tower, and 2) the presence of fishscale shingles decorating the two gables as well as the belfry's second stage. The church's Gothic Revival characteristics include 1) simplified lancet windows created by surmounting regular sashes with triangular shaped lintels, 2) two triple lancet windows containing vernacular lozenge shaped tracery, and 3) the use of quatrefoil decorations within the lintels and upon brackets found on the gables. Other architectural features of interest include 1) a round stained glass window above the altar, 2) the use of translucent colored glass within the lancet windows, and 3) small brackets on the belfry's second stage.

The church's interior contains a vestibule, auditorium and parlor. A pastor's office and robing room are found behind the auditorium. The interior decoration is plain, with two sets of paneled, folding doors being the most outstanding feature. These doors separate the auditorium and parlor. The walls and ceiling are covered with horizontal beaded board, and the auditorium has a simple chair rail. The auditorium's ceiling is in the shape of a faceted vault.

The church's original cypress shingled roof was covered with corrugated metal sometime before the mid-1960s. The only other change to the exterior occurred in 1965, when the entrance stoop was covered by a new pent roof supported by a thin post. This roof was attached to the main building at an angle slightly different from that of the original roofline. This change was made in order to protect the building's original doors, which were deteriorating. Additional work was necessary that year to repair damage caused by Hurricane Betsy. Of these repairs, only the placement of linoleum over the water damaged floors was an actual change. The change in flooring and roofing materials is not serious enough to impact the building's historic character. Although the

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Lutcher United Methodist Church, Lutcher, St James Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 1

addition of the porch does impact the entrance, the church's original architectural character still stands forth. As a rare architectural landmark within the community, the Lutcher United Methodist Church is a worthy candidate for National Register listing.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1901

Significant Dates

1901

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Lutcher United Methodist Church is locally significant in the area of architecture because it is a landmark within the late nineteenth/early twentieth century architectural heritage of Lutcher.

The small community of Lutcher was founded by the Lutcher and Moore Cypress Lumber Company in 1891. Because the community was first and foremost a mill town, the residences and other buildings erected by the company were, for the most part, plain and utilitarian structures. Only the company office and a handful of the manager's homes could claim even a modicum of style. This fact is verified by the St. James Parish Historic Structures Survey. Conducted in 1987-1988, the survey identifies approximately 400 Lutcher structures as being at least fifty years of age. This surviving building stock consists primarily of small undistinguished bungalows, generic shotguns, simple galleried cottages, and extremely plain Queen Anne style cottages. In contrast to this comparatively humble patrimony, the Lutcher United Methodist Church is a styled building incorporating distinctly articulated elements from both the Gothic Revival and the Queen Anne. Its combination of single and triple lancet windows (some exhibiting lozenge-like tracery), quatrefoil decorations, fishscale shingles, asymmetrical massing, and four stage bell tower sets the structure apart from every other building within the community.

Historical Note

The congregation of the Lutcher United Methodist Church organized in 1898 and obtained its first minister in 1899. In 1988 the Methodist Conference recognized the church for its status as the first Protestant house of worship in Louisiana's river parish region. Members take pride in the fact that, after the damage caused by Hurricane Betsy in 1965, they refused the funds allocated for the restoration project by the Louisiana Methodist Conference and financed needed repairs themselves.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Historic Structures Survey for St. James Parish.

Site visit by National Register staff.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A
 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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:
 State historic preservation office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other
Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than an acre

UTM References

A 15 7218100 33255810
Zone Easting Northing
C _____

B _____
Zone Easting Northing
D _____

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Please refer to property plat map. Boundaries follow the property lines of the lot upon which the church is located, said lot measuring 110' by 76'.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

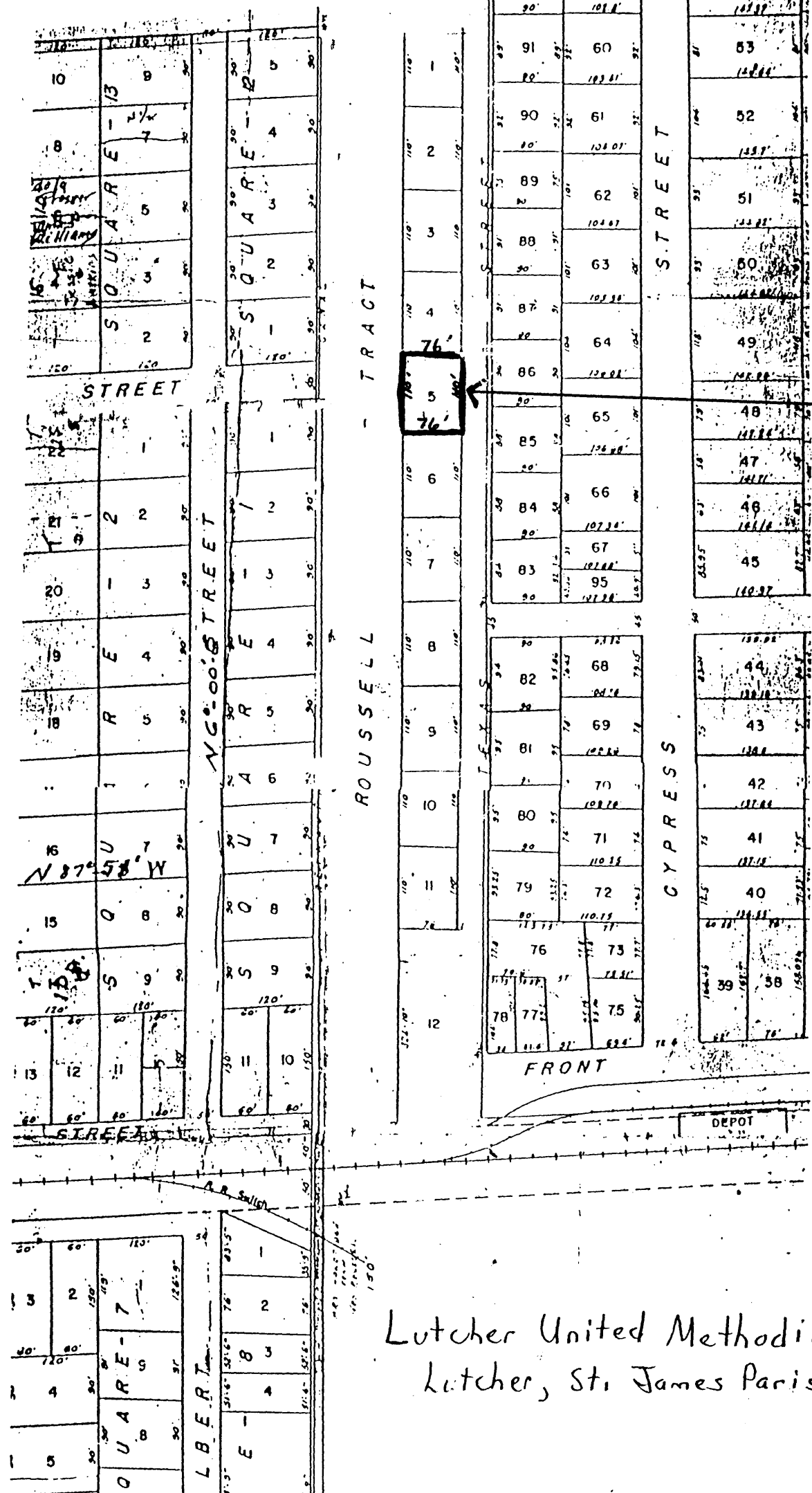
Boundary lines follow property lines of the lot upon which the church is located.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title National Register Staff
organization Division of Historic Preservation date November 1991
street & number P. O. Box 44247 telephone (504) 342-8160
city or town Baton Rouge state Louisiana zip code 70804

Owner: Lutcher United Methodist Church
2347 Texas Street
Lutcher, LA 70071



CHURCH PROPERTY
(measuring 110' by 76')

Lutcher United Methodist Church
Lutcher, St. James Parish, La.