

56-814

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 of Walworth  
other names/site number Walworth United Methodist Church  
Name of related multiple property listing N/A

### 2. Location

street & number 3679 Main St

N/A	not for publication
N/A	vicinity

  
city or town Walworth  
state New York code NY county Wayne code 117 zip code 14568

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,  
I hereby certify that this X 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 X 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 X local

Michael P. Lynch Deputy SAPO 1/27/17  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

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:

X 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:)

[Signature] 3/21/17  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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**5. Classification**

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
 (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

**Current Functions**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION/church

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RELIGION/church

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**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

**Materials**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Late Nineteenth Century: Late Victorian

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foundation: Stone, concrete

walls: brick

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roof: asphalt

other: \_\_\_\_\_

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### **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

### **Summary Paragraph**

The First Methodist Episcopal Church of Walworth (now known as Walworth United Methodist Church) was built in 1872 on a southeast corner lot at the intersection of Church and Main Streets. The church is located in the hamlet of Walworth in the western part of Wayne County, New York. The building's orientation is east to west with the façade along Main Street. Directly across the street (north) is the Baptist church, which predates First Methodist. The nominated church is a late Victorian eclectic brick building with stone details, combining the older, familiar Gothic feature of a corner entrance tower with a pitched roof sanctuary with Romanesque detailing: brick corbeling, rounded lintels over windows and doors and groupings of tall, narrow windows. The interior of the sanctuary is a large, open room with a plaster paneled ceiling, two rows of pews with a center aisle and three large arches on the west end by the altar and pulpit platform. Rounded doors in the arches enter into the rear portion of the building, added in 1956 but built in the location of a previous addition. The sanctuary also features a south end balcony, paired stained glass windows, chair railing and large crown molding. Decorative plaster medallions have suspended cathedral style lamps (lamps are from a later interior redecoration). The church includes a basement used for social functions, dug out/added when the rear annex was built (1956). The annex is currently used for offices and classrooms. Few changes have been made to the 1872 sanctuary except for new entrance doors and carpeting. The 1956 rear annex was planned to be compatible by reflecting the same exterior details as the older portion of the building and by being constructed of brick. A former 1884 parsonage is to the south of the church and is considered non-contributing due to loss of integrity resulting from substantial alteration. Also on the property is a non-historic shed for storing donated items, also non-contributing and considered too small to count. The building retains a high degree of integrity in terms of materials, workmanship, location, design, feeling and setting and reads as a late-nineteenth century church with a mid-twentieth century compatible annex on the rear (west side).

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### **Narrative Description**

Walworth is the largest of three hamlets in the town of Walworth, western Wayne County, New York. The county is bounded on the north by Lake Ontario, on the west by Monroe County and the south by Ontario County. Wayne County is largely rural with the county seat at Lyons, New York. Walworth developed along West Main Street, which is the primary route that runs north and south through the heart of the hamlet. The church steeple is readily visible upon entering Walworth, especially when approaching the community from the west. It signals to the community and visitors that it is a place to gather for events, worship and fellowship.

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Main Street contains mostly private homes with few commercial buildings. The church building is located just southwest of the main intersection and is a short distance west of the Walworth Historical Society museum. Directly across Church Street to the north of the structure is the Second Baptist Church.

Directly south of the main structure is a two-story wood-framed and vinyl-sided former parsonage with two-car attached garage that is now rental property. To the rear of the church building is a small asphalt parking lot, which can hold approximately 30 cars. The church building and parsonage are surrounded on three sides by ample lawn and shrubbery. When viewed from Main Street, the church building's façade has three divisions with a tall center section with peaked roof and gable end facing the street. A small section with a sloping roof and entrance is separated from the center by a tall, narrow column with a recessed arch, capped with a metal pyramid shaped top. To the north, the corner has a two-stage entrance tower with corner angled buttresses and a tall spire. The entire façade is unified by round arches over windows and doors, decorative corbeling paralleling the roof line and a molded cornice and eave, except for the tower where a cornice with small millwork arches is under the eave between the two stages.

The main entrance is in the north tower, accessed by poured concrete stairs with metal railings leading to the arched doorway. A matching stair and doorway are on the south end of the facade. All doors are non-historic metal with a single upper narrow light. The original double paneled wooden doors in these entrances were replaced in the 1990s due to being severely weathered and damaged. Above each front entryway is a glass window set into a stone round arch transom. A ground-level entrance is in the center of the façade (between the tower entrance and south end doors) and consists of a non-historic door and two sidelights. A set of stained glass windows was removed in the 1990s for the doorway to accommodate people with limited mobility. (The windows are currently in storage.) Just below the roof peak is a circular stained-glass medallion that displays the date of construction (1872). Three additional egresses are located on either side of the structure, one in the back wall of the annex and two more on either side of the annex. The original slate roof was replaced in 1990s with a seamed metal roof. At the same time, the original wooden cross atop the spire was replaced with a hand-crafted copper covered cross. The original cross is now housed in a lighted display case in the rear of the sanctuary. The spire and annex roof are asphalt shingled.

Both the north and south elevations are nearly identical, showing the stone watertable and quoining over the fieldstone foundation. Four sets of tall paired windows are set into a slightly recessed section of the brick wall and each pair shares a stone sill and has a rounded lintel with a keystone. Each section is topped with a uniform line of brick corbels. The south side has a brick entrance to the one-story annex at the west end as does the north side, but the north entrance is more formal with the roof mimicking the peaks in the main church body and tower. This entrance has a wood panel and rounded door set into a round arched wood

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surround and recessed brick arches. One arch has a segmented stone arch and large keystone over the door and another has a brick arched lintel. The entrance is flanked by two narrow round arched stained glass windows set into recessed brick arches. The eaves have a molded wood cornice.

Prior to 1906 a matching red brick addition was constructed on the back (west) side that housed the original kitchen and fellowship hall. This was replaced in 1956 by the current one story annex. A portion of an arched window casing is still visible above the annex roofline. The annex has a below-grade foundation of local fieldstone sitting on sizeable solid concrete footers. Also around 1956-1964, a basement was excavated to make room for a kitchen, large dining hall and additional classrooms/offices. The utilities were also located to the basement.

## **Interior**

The main interior space is the sanctuary with its high ceiling and tall stained glass windows. Two interior entrances are in the east end of the sanctuary on either side of a balcony. The floor of the sanctuary is carpeting over wood, which continues into two east end vestibules. Both vestibules have stained glass windows set into large recessed wood moldings and dual hinged round arched wooden doors leading into the sanctuary. Between the vestibules is the ground level entrance, which opens into a coat room. It has low-rise steps leading to the north vestibule and a ramp to the south vestibule. There is also a central doorway leading to the stairway to the basement fellowship hall.

The sanctuary is a clear spanned space with no obstructing columns. The ceiling is plaster with slightly recessed panels and a pronounced crown molding. Four intricate corner plaster medallions and one central plaster medallion originally had kerosene lights suspended from each and were later replaced by acetylene gas lamps (1898). Electric lights were installed in 1924 at the same time as a pipe organ. The current lighting consists of metal and opaque glass cathedral style lamps, dating from 1956. The organ pipes remained as decoration in the enter arch of the west wall even though the organ was replaced with a Baldwin electronic organ (1956). The pipes were removed in 1967 when a back-lighted stained glass cross was installed in the altar area.

All interior doors leading into the sanctuary are the original double wood paneled doors. The west end of the sanctuary has an altar/pulpit platform that is highlighted by three monumental round arches. The north and south arches contain arched double doors leading to the annex. The wood molding of the arches has acanthus leaf decoration and wood keystone-like decorations at each apex. The central arch features the stained glass cross insert and provides recessed space for the raised central altar with two of the original

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church chairs on either side. A pulpit and lectern are placed at the edge of the platform, framing the central arch. The altar, pulpit and lectern all date from 1956. A kneeling rail is in a lower level of the platform and is comprised of turned balusters set into molded railings. Most of the platform has two low tiers except for the three in front of the south end arch, providing a platform for choir seating (non-historic chairs). The organ and a piano are in front of the choir seating.

At the east end of the church, the balcony is accessed by an enclosed staircase with two stairways on either end behind a blue and white wall with a row of round arches in the upper portion. The stairs are carpeted and a plain wood handrail is fixed to the opposite vertical board wall. The balcony is currently over a narthex coat room, created when the ground level entrance was added for mobility access and contains smaller pews and an audio/visual console. An entrance to the bell tower is in the north side of the balcony. This tower area was formerly a classroom and has a stained glass window and a closet with a ladder leading into the spire. A bell pull rope hangs from the ceiling. The original bell was replaced in 1888 after it developed a crack. The "new" bell cost \$600, and came from the Baltimore Foundry in Maryland.

Both the north and south walls of the sanctuary contain eight pairs of leaded glass windows with stained glass borders, many with memorial plaques and inscriptions including the names of the donors. Two similar single windows are in the north and south walls of the narthex. Unfortunately, careful examination of church records fails to name a source or artist for the windows. All windows have the same diamond pattern design with colored narrow borders. Inscriptions are usually in a colored glass inset in the lower portion of the window. One exception is the memorial window for former pastor L. F. Congdon that has a three-panel dedication and red and green floral etched border sections.

The rear portion of the interior includes a hall way with classroom space and a separate room for a nursery. The stairs to the basement is in this section and enters into a hall with restrooms, office space and storage. The office walls show the CMU foundation from the 1956 construction. The utility room shows the stone foundation from the previous older addition that was retained in 1956. East of the hall is a kitchen area that runs the length of the wall and contains ca. 1960 cabinetry and more recent appliances. A pass-through section is in the wall between the kitchen and the dining hall, which was added ca. 1956-1960. The hall has a linoleum tile floor, painted CMU walls and wood boxed support posts.

**Parsonage:** The parsonage is a two-story wood-framed structure with full basement, four bedrooms, one and one-half baths, and was constructed in 1884 costing \$1,435. There is a small front porch off the entry foyer. After renovations/upgrades, the interior now has open archways providing ease of movement through a sizeable living room, dining room, and family room as well as replacement windows, kitchen and a sliding

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glass doorway that leads to a side deck. Attached to the house is a two-car garage and connecting entrance. The entire building (house and garage) is clad with vinyl siding. Due to renovations, the attached two-bay garage and vinyl siding, the parsonage is considered non-contributing.

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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.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1872-1964

**Significant Dates**

1872, 1956, 1964

**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.

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

A. J. Hopkins (architect)

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period begins with the initial construction of the church building and ends with the completion date of the annex and basement.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

The building is notable for architecture as a design by Palmyra architect A. J. Hopkins and for its period architectural features (arches, windows, form, etc.).



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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

Currently known as the Walworth United Methodist Church, the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Walworth is significant in the area of architecture as an architect designed late nineteenth century building that combined an older, familiar, recognizable form of front gable, side bell tower and steeple with fashionable, newer details such as rounded arches and decorative brickwork (corbeling, recessed panels, etc.) Since its construction in 1872, the building served the community as a gathering place for worship and community gatherings. North of the Methodist church is a smaller, older church, the First Baptist Church of Walworth, constructed of stone in 1833. The two buildings marked the religious center of Walworth as the locations of two of the oldest congregations in the area, founded prior to the opening of the Erie Canal. Both buildings reflected the development of the hamlet of Walworth as prosperity from the canal aided the local agricultural economy that resulted in the development of community centers in various parts of the county. The Methodist church building was the second constructed for the congregation. The first was built around 1809 and was located three-quarters of a mile from the settlement. When the new church was planned, it was purposely located on a lot near the heart of the village and was intended to display popular picturesque features prevalent in church architecture at the time. The building still serves as home to an active congregation and a place for community oriented events (scout meetings, etc.).

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**Developmental history/additional historic context information** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

## Historical Context

Initially, Walworth was known as Douglass Corners, first settled in 1799 when it was still part of the town of Ontario. The town of Walworth was created in 1829 and named after Reuben Hyde Walworth (1788-1867), an important jurist in New York State courts, a former general of the New York State militia and veteran of the War of 1812. The town was described in an 1895 history as follows:

The town of Walworth has never enjoyed the commercial advantages granted to nearly all her sister towns in Wayne County; yet it has ever maintained a degree of prominence that speaks well for the industry and enterprise of the inhabitants, and which has placed it in the front rank of the minor civil divisions of this State. Lacking the rapid shipping facilities afforded by rail and water, its rich soil and industrious population tend to offset the absent means of transportation. Its nearest railroad stations are Walworth and Macedon on the New York Central on the south, and Ontario and Lakeside on the R.W. & O. on the north, all distant from three or four miles from the bounds of the town.<sup>1</sup>

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The village got its original name of Douglass Corners when brothers Stephen and Daniel Douglass settled at the four corners of Walworth. At that location, Stephen built the first frame house in 1805 and opened a tavern.<sup>2</sup> By 1823, the community was large enough for a post office to be established in the settlement.

The Methodist congregation was first formed in 1809, shortly after settlement began in the area. The first worship facility, a modest wood framed building, was located one and one-half miles west of the present location on the northwest corner of what is now Routes 350 and 441. Even though they worshiped as a group, it took until 1826 for the society to formally organize. As more people settled to the east of the church, a new lot was purchased in April of 1825 for a larger wooden structure to be built closer to the heart of the hamlet on the south side of what is now the Walworth-Marion Road (an east-west continuation of Rt. 441). Construction was completed in 1837.

The Walworth church was part of the Genesee Methodist Episcopal Conference and continued to grow in membership. In 1871, one hundred seventy-five members launched a campaign for a larger building in Walworth. Pledges were made from 25 cents to \$3.00 to raise the \$16,000 necessary for construction that ranged, and careful records were kept as to whether or not those pledges were met. The church was dedicated in 1872 with the service conducted by Bishop John P. Newman of Washington D. C.; prior to the dedication, the old church building was sold and used as an apple drying house until it was destroyed by fire.

Some of the funds raised were used to hire an architect, identified in church records as A. J. Hopkins who had a practice in nearby Palmyra and drew up plans in 1871.<sup>3</sup> The form and details of the building indicated that Hopkins was familiar with reigning styles and architectural writings of the period. One of these period publications was distributed by the American Tract Society, which reminded architects and builders that churches were to be built “for convenience and the uses of spiritual worship” and that “it should be made as beautiful and attractive as possible for its cost.” It also recommended that “the house of God should be placed at a central point, for ease of access, and away from disturbing noises; it should have the pleasantest and most commanding site obtainable, and should be surrounded, if possible, by an open lawn.” It also encouraged the planners to include Sunday school and lecture rooms as distinct spaces from the sanctuary.<sup>4</sup> As for the sanctuary, it recommended that careful attention be paid to “symmetry of form” so that the sanctuary have “the right proportions and outlines for beauty and acoustic qualities, with the best arrangement of aisles and seats, so that the speaker may easily be heard as well as seen from every point in the audience

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<sup>1</sup> George W. Cowles, *Landmarks of Wayne County, New York* (Syracuse, NY: D. Mason & Company, 1895), 395.

<sup>2</sup> Stephen Douglass should not be confused with the Stephen A. Douglas, famous for his political career and debates with Abraham Lincoln. This Stephen Douglass died in 1812.

<sup>3</sup>One of Hopkins designs was for the Ambrose Lapham House, a large Italianate brick residence in Palmyra (NR listed 2014).

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room.”<sup>5</sup> The publication ended with drawings and floor plans of thirteen churches that followed its recommendations, including cost estimates and names of the architects.



First Methodist Episcopal Church, ca. 1905.

Most of the buildings featured in the publication were stone Gothic Revival style buildings except for two that were described as being in “the Byzantine style of architecture”, one being built of brick. Rather than pointed arches, parapets and buttress, these buildings used decorative corbeling along the roofline, tall rounded windows that were either single or grouped in twos or threes and rounded entry openings. Both had bell towers added at a façade corner, one with an eight sided tall steeple “shingled with wood, or covered with galvanized iron, with pinnacles.”<sup>6</sup> Gothic Revival was commonly adopted by many protestant denominations since it was introduced to America by architect Richard Upjohn in the 1840s, but by the late nineteenth century, architects were looking to other sources and classical styles.<sup>7</sup>

As previously stated, Hopkins seemed to be well aware of the design literature of the period, but it is highly unlikely he knew of the

American Tract publication since it was printed the same year he designed the Methodist church in Walworth. By chance, Hopkins and the buildings committee applied many of the recommendations in the tract, such as the central location and the best design to allow for clear sight lines and acoustics. Hopkins combined the familiar form of a Gothic Church with “the Byzantine” or what later became known as Romanesque details. The Methodists acquired land in the center of the hamlet along a major roadway and Hopkins included a tall

<sup>4</sup> Rev. W. W. Everts, *The House of God* (New York: American Tract Society, 1871), 80-81.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid*, 82.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid*, 116.

<sup>7</sup> Jeffery Howe, *Houses of Worship: An Identification Guide to the History and Styles of American Religious Architecture* (San Diego, CA: Thunder Bay Press, 2003), 165.

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steeple resulting in it being the tallest building in Walworth. When the church opened in 1872, the interior had an unobstructed view of the clergy platform and the only other hints of Gothic were a large wood pulpit and platform chairs with Gothic arches. The platform's base featured an arcade of recessed round arches with a kneeling rail in front with a wood spindles and railing. In 1956, the interior was remodeled and kept the open view but new, straight backed wooden pews replaced the old scroll-edged originals and a new pulpit and lectern were installed. The original altar chairs were kept, but the platform was carpeted, hiding the base. In 1924, a pipe organ was installed in the platform area, later replaced by an electronic organ during the 1956 interior remodeling.



Looking toward pulpit and platform, ca. 1890.

Hopkins placed the tower and steeple at the northeast corner, signifying that it was the main entrance to the sanctuary. A stained glass window in the transom included the inscription, from Psalm 100, "Enter into his

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gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise! Be thankful unto him and bless his name.” The tower was spacious enough to permit a large foyer and a room above for use as a classroom or office. The foyer included another stained glass window set into a tall wide molding. Additional windows in the sanctuary were added throughout the years, including one dedicated to LaFayette Congdon, the pastor at the time the church was built.

When the church celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the building’s dedication (1897), the following was published:

It was decided to build of brick with limestone foundations and Albion stone trimmings. The architect, A. J. Hopkins of Palmyra, was paid fifty dollars for his plans. The house on the parsonage lot was sold and removed, and the house that stood where the church now stands was moved on the parsonage lot where it remained for a dozen years to furnish a home for the pastors and their families. On the 6<sup>th</sup> of May, 1871, the architect came and staked out the grounds, and then the work of digging the cellar and of drawing the materials was commenced and were so far completed that on July 10<sup>th</sup> the masons commenced laying the foundations...The annual conference was being held in Geneva at this time, and the pastor Rev. L. F. Congdon, who had thus far had charge of this church enterprise, was returned a second year to finish the work which was inaugurated under his ministry. Soon after returning, he determined to follow Horace Greeley’s advice and “go west;” however, he only went as far as Pittsford, and was there married to a noble woman who has since shared in the work of the ministry with him. Meanwhile the work on the church was being pushed as rapidly as possibly, [sic] it being enclosed so that the carpenters could work during the winter. At the beginning of this church enterprise, the ladies, with great energy, organized a mite society which met once every two weeks at the homes of its members and was quite largely attended. We could not find out just how much they raised, but among other things they made and furnished, cushions for the pews, the carpets, the pulpit stand, chairs and table. After about a year and four months the church was finished and on Tuesday, Sept. 17, 1872, twenty-five years ago to-day, it was dedicated to the service of Almighty God. The day was bright and beautiful and for some time before the hour appointed for service, the handsome church was filled to its utmost capacity, it having been previously announced that Rev. Dr. John P. Newman of Washington D.C., now Bishop Newman, would preach the dedicatory sermon.<sup>8</sup>

The building, constructed in 1872, was essentially a one-story building with a lower crawl space and a field stone foundation. In the mid-1950s the congregation enlarged the crawl space to accommodate a full lower level for a fellowship hall, kitchen, furnace room, restrooms, storage, and office space. It was completed and dedicated in 1964. The sanctuary was also renovated, replacing the older wooden pews, with newer pews and new cushions were added in the 1970s. In 1985, the original fellowship area and kitchen in the main floor annex behind the sanctuary were renovated for a nursery and classrooms. A modern colored glass window was installed above the back stairwell commemorating United Methodist history. The window was created and



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donated by the son and daughter-in-law of a former pastor. The offices/restrooms in the lower level went through another renovation in July 2015 after damage by flooding from a burst water pipe .

Since 1872, the First Methodist Episcopal Church building has been an important part of Walworth, serving the congregation and the larger community as a gathering place. In addition to being a house of worship, the sanctuary was used at one time for graduation ceremonies by the local academy, musical concerts, Order of the Eastern Star meetings, and in 1955, as a kindergarten facility while the local school's kindergarten addition was being completed. Since 1955, the church has been home to Cub Scout Pack 113. Girl Scouts and 4-H groups also use the building for meetings and events, as does a local nursery school/day care center. The church regularly hosts a Women's Community Ecumenical Breakfast and a community Vacation Bible School each summer. Numerous other charitable groups use the facility on a regular basis and the church is currently working with the Family Promise organization to provide temporary quarters for those who are suddenly homeless. The building also retains its historic presence in the hamlet. Various interior renovations allowed the congregation to adapt the building to new needs with changes in the sanctuary limited to updated lighting and new furniture. The 1956 annex was deliberately planned to match the rest of the building, making the church a highly visible and intact example of Hopkins's work.

As one of the largest buildings in the hamlet, First Methodist is capable of seating  $\pm 200$  people for town gatherings and community events. The current congregation adopted a goal of continuing as stewards of the building and grounds as long as possible for worship, discipleship, mission, gatherings, and outreach to the area. As a long-standing presence in the community, the church intends to be part of the growing interest in the history of the region and the growing attention paid to promoting the Erie Canal, local products and the Finger Lakes as a destination. The congregation is committed to the building being a welcoming face for all.

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<sup>8</sup> Excerpt from J. D. Kipp, "Account of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, Walworth, NY, 1892," Walworth Methodist Church Archives, Walworth, New York.

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### 9. Major Bibliographical References

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#### Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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Everts, W. W. *The House of God or Claims of Public Worship*. New York: American Tract Society, 1872.

"Former Pastors, Members Attend Church Anniversary Celebration." *Fairport Herald Mail*. 18 September 1947, 10.

Howe, Jeffery. *Houses of Worship: An Identification Guide to the History and Styles of American Religious Architecture*. San Diego, CA: Thunder Bay Press, 2003.

Kipp, J. D. "Account of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, Walworth, NY, 1892," Walworth Methodist Church Archives, Walworth, New York.

McIntosh, W. H. *History of Wayne County, New York*. Philadelphia: Everts, Ensign & Everts, 1877.

Turner, Orsamus. *History of the Pioneer Settlement of Phelps's and Gorham's Purchase and Morris' Reserve Embracing the Counties of Monroe, Ontario, Livingston, Yates, Steuben, Most of Wayne and Allegany and Parts of Orleans, Genesee and Wyoming*. Rochester, NY: W. Alling, 1851.

"Walworth Methodist Anniversary Slated." *Rochester Democrat and Chronicle*, 10 October 1959, 17.

"Walworth News." *Fairport Herald-Mail*. 23 June 1932, 8.

#### 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: Walworth UMC archives

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Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

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First Methodist Episcopal Church of Walworth  
Name of Property

Wayne County, NY  
County and State

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### 10. Geographical Data

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**Acreage of Property** Less than one acre  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

#### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>18N</u> Zone	<u>315138</u> Easting	<u>4764297</u> Northing	3	<u>                    </u> Zone	<u>                    </u> Easting	<u>                    </u> Northing
2	<u>                    </u> Zone	<u>                    </u> Easting	<u>                    </u> Northing	4	<u>                    </u> Zone	<u>                    </u> Easting	<u>                    </u> Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)  
The boundary is indicated by a heavy line on the enclosed map with scale.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)  
The boundary is the same as for the period of significance.

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### 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Rev. Jacqueline Ruth, pastor (edited by Virginia L. Bartos, NYS OPRHP)  
organization Walworth United Methodist Church date 8 December 2016  
street & number 3679 Main Street telephone 585-733-7566  
city or town Walworth state NY zip code 14568  
e-mail virginia.bartos@parks.ny.gov

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### Additional Documentation

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.  
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

---

### Photographs:

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Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 2000x3000 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. For districts, key all photographs to the sketch map.



First Methodist Episcopal Church of Walworth  
Name of Property

Wayne County, NY  
County and State

Name of Property: First United Methodist Church

City or Vicinity: Walworth

County: Wayne State: NY

Photographer: Virginia L. Bartos

Date Photographed: 30 June 2016

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 0001 of 0013: First Methodist Episcopal Church of Walworth and former parsonage, view looking southwest.
- 0002 of 0013: North elevation of church and annex, looking southwest.
- 0003 of 0013: Detail view of annex north entrance.
- 0004 of 0013: South elevation of church, view looking northwest.
- 0005 of 0013: West and south elevations of church from parking lot looking northeast.
- 0006 of 0013: Interior view of sanctuary from balcony, looking west.
- 0007 of 0013: Interior view of sanctuary looking toward balcony (northeast).
- 0008 of 0013: Detail view of sanctuary ceiling.
- 0009 of 0013: Tower vestibule entrance, northeast side of building.
- 0010 of 0013: One of the pairs of sanctuary windows.
- 0011 of 0013: Memorial dedication for Congdon window.
- 0012 of 0013: View of classrooms, upper floor of annex.
- 0013 of 0013: Looking from kitchen pass-through into basement room, looking east.

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**Property Owner:**

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

---

name Walworth United Methodist Church  
street & number 3679 Main Street telephone 585-733-7566  
city or town Walworth state NY zip code 14568

**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.).

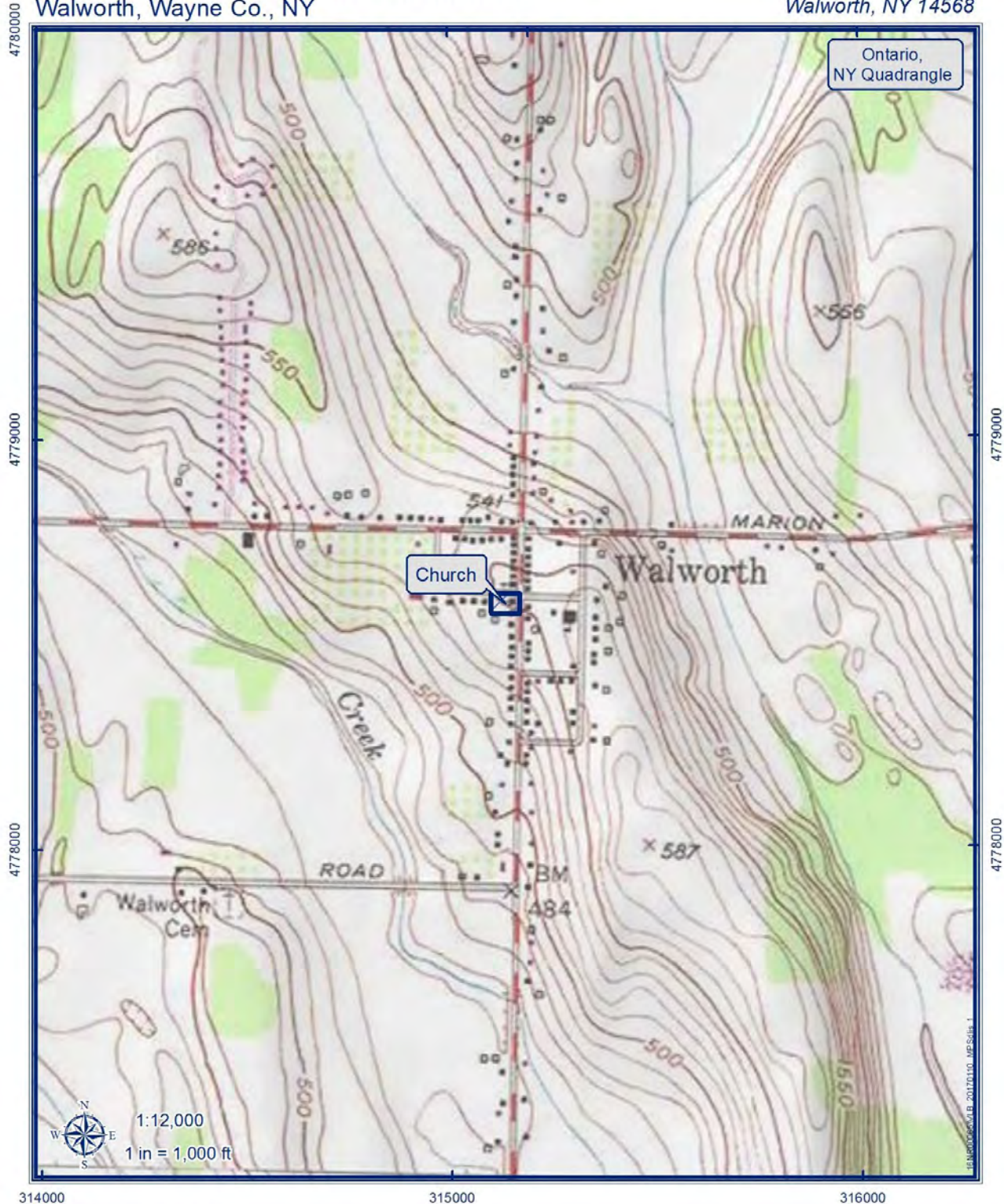
**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

First Methodist Episcopal Church of Walworth  
Name of Property

Wayne County, NY  
County and State

First Methodist Episcopal Church of Walworth  
Walworth, Wayne Co., NY

3679 Main Street  
Walworth, NY 14568



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N  
Projection: Transverse Mercator  
Datum: North American 1983  
Units: Meter



Parks, Recreation  
and Historic Preservation

First Methodist Episcopal Church of Walworth  
Name of Property

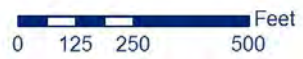
Wayne County, NY  
County and State

First Methodist Episcopal Church of Walworth  
Walworth, Wayne Co., NY

3679 Main Street  
Walworth, NY 14568



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N  
Projection: Transverse Mercator  
Datum: North American 1983  
Units: Meter



























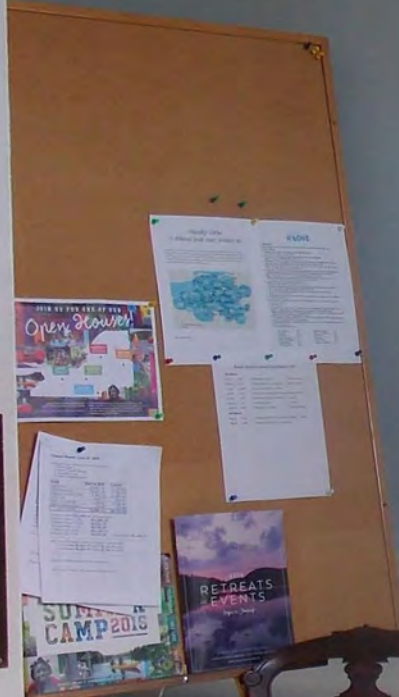





















In Memory of  
Rev.  
L. F. Congdon.  
D. D.

1845 - 1927  
Soldier  
Pastor  
Educator

During whose  
pastorate  
this church  
was built.





Remembers  
now thy Creator...






MAXWELL HOUSE  
Coffee Samples

Wegmans





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:  Date of Pending List:  Date of 16th Day:  Date of 45th Day:  Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept  Return  Reject  Date

Abstract/Summary  
Comments:

Recommendation/  
Criteria

Reviewer Alexis Abernathy 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.



**Parks, Recreation  
and Historic Preservation**

ANDREW M. CUOMO  
Governor

ROSE HARVEY  
Commissioner



6 February 2017

Alexis Abernathy  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 Eye St. NW, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: National Register Nomination

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

I am pleased to submit the following four nominations, all on disc, to be considered for listing by the Keeper of the National Register:

Common School 32, Delaware County  
First Methodist Episcopal Church of Walworth, Wayne County  
South Presbyterian Church, Onondaga County  
Bushwick Avenue Central Methodist Episcopal Church, Kings, County

I am also submitting additional information for the:

Alice Austen House, Richmond County (see letter).

Please feel free to call me at 518.268.2165 if you have any questions.

Sincerely:

Kathleen LaFrank  
National Register Coordinator  
New York State Historic Preservation Office