

PH0012068

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
Florida

COUNTY:
Alachua

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE
JUL 25 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Epworth Hall

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
419 Northeast First Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Gainesville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Second District

STATE:
Florida

CODE:
12

COUNTY:
Alachua

CODE:
001

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
First United Methodist Church

STREET AND NUMBER:
419 Northeast First Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Gainesville

STATE:
Florida

CODE:
12

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Alachua County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Gainesville

STATE:
Florida

CODE:
12

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
N/A

DATE OF SURVEY:
 Federal State County

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

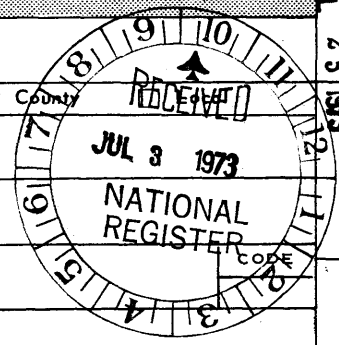
STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

0036900
N 328 1140
2000 17



STATE: Florida

COUNTY: Alachua

ENTRY NUMBER: JUL 25 1973

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

According to an early newspaper article, Epworth Hall, at the time the construction contract was awarded, was to be built entirely of hard northern brick. "The outside walls will be 32 feet high from the ground, surmounted by a handsome cornice....A tower will project ten feet from the center of the south side of the building...." The structure was completed in 1884 and was originally oriented north-south. The main entrance is now on the west side of the building. Epworth Hall is a simplified institutional structure of red brick. Two stories in height, the building is symmetrically laid out with classrooms on either side of a wide central hall. This is as per the original plan which called for "a long hall-way, eight feet wide, and extending the entire length of the building." The main entrance, consisting of double pine doors with fanlight above, is set into a pavilion which projects about ten inches from the main wall surface. The brick is laid in a common bond of six rows of stretchers alternating with one row of headers. Much of the wall surface is decorated with corbelled arches and bands of glazed brick. The building has two hipped roofs, one on the original hall at the rear and one on the newer section at the front. There is a pent roofed connecting structure between the old and new buildings with a cloistered walk projecting from it. This connects Epworth Hall with the buildings to either side of it. On the front of the building over the main doorway is a stone plaque placed there in 1953 which reads:

University of Florida
1853-1953
Site Of
East Florida Seminary
1866-1905

The building is today an integral part of the United Methodist Church and it is in excellent condition.



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SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1884

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Epworth Hall was erected in 1884 when the need for adequate classrooms in the East Florida Seminary became a pressing problem. Funds for construction of the building were raised through private donation with a scholarship promised to those patrons who gave at least one hundred dollars. The construction contract was awarded to J. O. Goodale on a low bid of \$11,000. The building was completed in 1884 and served as a classroom building until the Seminary was abolished by the legislature in a 1905 act which provided for the establishment of the University and the State College for Women. In 1906, the University of Florida held its first classes in Epworth Hall. The property was purchased from the State of Florida in 1911 by the Trustees of the First United Methodist Church. It was at this time that the building was named Epworth Hall. (It had never been officially given a name).

Epworth Hall has played a very significant role in the development of Florida's educational system in that it was an integral part of the campuses of both the East Florida Seminary and the University of Florida.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

A Century of Methodism in Gainesville. Gainesville, Florida: First Methodist Church, 1957. (Pamphlet)

Alachua County Courthouse, Gainesville, Florida. Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court. Alachua County Records. (Subgroup: deeds).

Proctor, Samuel. The University of Florida: Its Early Years, 1853-1906. Gainesville: University of Florida Press, 1958.

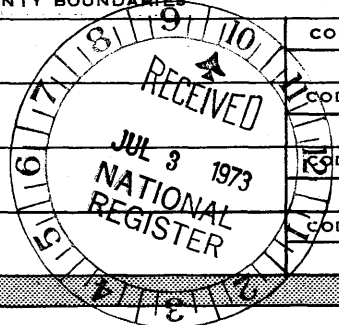
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		N29° 39' 19"	W82° 19' 25"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Diane D. Greer, Historic Sites Specialist

ORGANIZATION: Division of Archives, History, & Records Mgt. DATE: 10/71

STREET AND NUMBER: Department of State, The Capitol

CITY OR TOWN: Tallahassee STATE: Florida CODE: 12

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: [Signature]

Title: State Liaison Officer

Date: June 26, 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

[Signature]
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 7/25/73

ATTEST:
[Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 7/23/73