United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



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

1. Name

historic	Jefferson Metho	dist Church and Par	rsonage	
and/or common	Jefferson Unite	d Methodist Church		
2. Loca	tion			
street & number	310, 342 N. Sec	ond Street		not for publication
city, town	Jefferson	vicinity of	congressional district	2nd
state	Oregon code	41 county	Marion	code 047
3. Class	sification			
Category district X_building(s) structure site object	Ownership public private both Public Acquisition in process being considered	Status X_occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible X_yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. Own	er of Proper	ty		·······
name street & number	% Ecumenical Mi 685 Marion St.			
city, town	Salem	vicinity of	state	<u> 0regon 97301</u>
5. Loca courthouse, regist		ion County Courthou		
city, town	Sal	em	state	0re gon 97301
6. Repr	esentation	in Existing	Surveys	
_{litle} Statewide	Inventory of Histor	ric Proper tie snis pro	perty been determined el	egible? yes _X no
date	1970		federal <u>X</u> sta	te county local
depository for sur	vey records State H	istoric Preservatio	n Office	
city, town	Salem		state	Oregon 97310

7. Description

Co	nd	lit	io	n

excellent	deteriorated
<u>X</u> good	ruins
X_ fair	unexposed

Check one X original site moved date _

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Check one _____ unaltered

X altered

An intact and comparatively late example of the traditional Protestant meeting house in the Classic Revival style, Jefferson Methodist Church has been in continuous use since its completion in 1871. Built to accommodate a growing Methodist Episcopal congregation, it is today the oldest church building in Jefferson.

The church and the parsonage built on the north side of the lot in 1891 occupy a conspicuous site at the northwest corner of the intersection of North Second Street--a main north-south arterial--and East Church Street. The parcel, with a frontage of 165 feet along North Second Street and 141.5 feet on East Church, is situated outside, but adjacent to the north boundary of the Original Plat of Jefferson. The commercial core lies to the south, and the residential area lies to the north. The church occupies the corner and is oriented east to west, with the south and east elevations presented to the street.

The wood frame, gable-roofed church is retangular in plan and measures 34x50'. The roof, presently covered with composition shingles, rises from a height of 17' at the eaves to 33' at the roof ridge. The east, or front elevation is formally organized. Its central entry consists of a double-leaf door with four panels in either leaf, a transom, or toplight, and a classical surround and entablature based upon the Tuscan order. Above the entrance is a pair of small rectangular openings with three fixed panes each and framements consistent with other exterior detail. These openings, horizontal in emphasis, were not originally part of the facade, but were added sometime between 1916 and 1933 to provide light to the 12-foot balcony above the entry vestibule when it was enclosed for use as a Sunday school. A fan light in the gable end of the facade lights the attic. The east end of the church is surmounted by an octagonal louvered belfry on a square base. The church bell is still in place. Either side elevation of the church is divided into four bays. Each of four tail windows is fitted with three sashes containing six lights each. Exterior walls are covered with clapboards and trimmed with pilaster corner boards. Eaves are carried by a classical entablature with eave returns at gable ends. A water skirt covering the frame and concrete block foundation is formed of vertical drop siding. On the rear, or east facade is a polygonal, or three-sided bay approximately 13' wide and 12' high which has window openings in each facet. Initially, as in most pulpit-centered churches of this type, the pulpit was placed in front of the bay, which apparently served an acoustical purpose. Today, however, the pulpit has been placed to one side, and an altar occupies the central space in front of what has become, in effect, a chancel. The interior is simply finished with detail derived from the Classic Revival and is unaltered except for enclosure of the balcony at the east end. In 1954 a 42x28' wing was added to the westerly half of the north elevation in order to house an assembly hall, three classrooms, a kitchen, and two restrooms. Its low hipped roof and clapboard siding, its six over six double-hung window sash and its setback from the main facade make the perpendicular wing more compatible than obtrusive. Simple, uncovered wooden porches give access to all entries of the church.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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Jefferson Methodist Church and Parsonage

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In 1891, when the need for a parsonage arose, the church was shifted to the southeast corner of the parcel so that the parsonage could occupy the northerly portion of the site. According to church history, Deacon Hatch was paid \$75 to execute the re-siting. The parsonage is a $1\frac{1}{2}$ -story vernacular farmhouse type with clapboard siding, tongue and groove water skirt, shingled gable roof, and plain detail which is compatible with the church building despite the span of two decades between construction dates. The parsonage has a central brick stove chimney and a modified T-shaped plan measuring 29x34', not including a porch and garage extending from the north half of the rear facade. While not exceptional as an architectural type, the parsonage is included in the nomination as part of the ensemble illustrating the development of the property by the Methodist Church. No longer used as a parsonage, the house is maintained as rental property and has been set aside on a separate taxable portion of the property measuring 50x141.5'

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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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JEFFERSON METHODIST CHURCH 310 N. 2nd Street Jefferson Marion County Oregon Control number: 80003346 Listing date: 11-6-80

The purpose of this continuation sheet is to amend the title of the nomination to reflect irretrievable loss of the parsonage (342 N. 2nd Street), which was torn down in September, 1983. Enclosed is a snapshot taken in February 1987 which shows the cleared site of the parsonage, immediately north of the single-story assembly hall wing of the church. The church was built in 1871 for the Methodist Episcopal congregation in Jéfferson. The parsonage was added to the site in 1891. It was torn down because it was no longer in serviceable condition. It had been used as a rental property in recent years.

Following the procedure outlined in Federal Regulations 36 CFR 60.15 (g), the State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation considered whether or not the parsonage should be removed from National Register listings during its meeting on February 27, 1987. The property owner, Jefferson United Methodist Church, was duly notified of the meeting and offered no objection. Accordingly, the State Historic Preservation Officer was requested to petition for amendment of the National Register listing.

The property owner now has a permanent address, as follows.

Jefferson United Methodist Church 310 N. 2nd Street P.O. Box 76 Jefferson, Oregon 97352 Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date: April 13, 1987

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 X 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture X architecture art commerce communications	community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement	 landscape architecture law literature military music philosophy politics/government 	e_X_ religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1871	Builder/Architect	Unknown	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Jefferson Methodist Church is significant as the oldest standing church building and one of the oldest buildings of any kind in the small Willamette Valley farming community of Jefferson. It has remained virtually unchanged since its completion in 1871, with the exception of a sympathetic service wing which was added to the north side in 1954. The church property also encompasses a vernacular parsonage of 1891, and the whole parcel of little over a half acre is significant for its association with James M. Bates, a lay member of the Methodist Mission in Oregon and one of the earliest settlers and leading members of the Methodist Community in Jefferson. Above all, the church is an outstanding example of the prolongation of the classical tradition in church building by conservative denominations in Oregon. By its overall attenuation, increased height of roof pitch, and comparative delicacy of classical detail, Jefferson Methodist Church exhibits the change of feeling which occurred in the Classic Revival by the 1870s.

The local Methodist congregation held its first services in the log house of James and Margaret Bates. For some years the Bates House was the only church in town. James Madison Bates (1809-1891) was a native of Washington, D.C. He came to Oregon several times as a sailor. On the third visit to the Columbia River, in 1836, he left ship and worked as a blacksmith at the Methodist Mission until the principal station was moved to Chemeketa in 1841. At the latter site, he worked as steward and teacher in the Indian Manual Labor Training School established by Jason Lee, Oregon's first Methodist missionary. When Mission Superintendent Jason Lee left Oregon in 1843, Bates resigned his post and eventually--sometime after 1847, presumably--settled a donation land claim of 640 acres on the Santiam River, a portion of which became the townsite of Jefferson and also the site of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He married Margaret Farrar Caldwell, a widow, in 1847. As the town grew, the Bates House was not large enough to accommodate everyone attending church services. Meetings began to be held in a house owned by E. E. Parrish and at the new Jefferson Institute. Because of an apparent divergence of religious thought, the original congregation formed itself into two groups. The Methodist Protestants, under the leadership of E. E. Parrish, built a church in 1858 on land donated by Parrish lying south of the present Methodist Church. The Methodist Episcopal group built the present Methodist Church on the southeast corner of the Bates' donation land claim. According to the original deed, James and Margaret Bates sold this parcel of land at the corner of their claim to the Board of Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1860 for the sum of \$10.00.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was built in 1871 at a cost of \$1,004.66. The lumber for the church was obtained from a local mill owned by Absalom Smith, a member of the congregation. In his <u>Illustrated Historical Atlas Map of Marion and Linn Counties</u>, published in 1878, Edgar Williams described Smith's mill as follows: "Saw and planing mills, owned by A. Smith, is a fine mill, with excellent facilities for doing all classes of work; it has a planer, scroll saw, etc., and does a successful business." The wooden pews still used by the church also were constructed at Smith's mill.

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geo		gar Williams & (Nical Data		(see cont	inuation	sheet)
Acreage of nomin	ated property	less_than_one	<u>(0.</u> 52 acres)			
Quadrangle name	Albany, O	regon	I NOT VER'I		luadrangle so	ale 1:24000
UMT References			ACREAGE	NOT VERIF	IFN	
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			·····			
Verbal boundar	y descriptio	n and justification It constitutes N	The property	is located	in Sec.	11, T10S, R3W, o No. 63217-000.
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property, ther	ice west ti	<u>wo chains, then</u>	<u>e north at r</u>	<u>ight angle</u>	2 ¹ / ₂ chains	, to J. Driggs s
List all states a	nd counties	for properties ove	rlapping state o	or county bou	ndaries (S)	ee continuation
state		code	county			code
state		code	county			code
11. Eor	m Prei	pared By				
					······	
name/title		Taylor, student	5			
organization		f Architecture ty of Oregon		date	December	r 7, 1979
organization	UNIVERSI	cy of oregon				
street & number	Universi	ty of Oregon		telephone	503/686	-3656
city or town	Eugene			state	Oregon	97403
12. Sta	te His	toric Pres	ervatio	n Offic	er Cer	tification
					<u></u>	
i ne evaluated sig		his property within the	<u>XX</u> local			
	_ national	state	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1	;	
	State Historie	c Preservation Officer	for the National H	listoric Preserv	vation Act of '	1966 (Public Law 89-
As the designated	riteria and pre	ocedures set forth by	the Heritage Cons	servation and R	ecreation Se	vice.
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665), I hereby nom according to the c State Historic Pres litle Deputy	SHPO	cer signature V			date	August 5, 1980
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Jefferson Methodist Church and Parsonage

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Construction was completed on December 23, 1871, and the church was dedicated the following day, a Sunday, with John Flinn presiding. The Reverend John Flinn, a native of Ireland born in 1817, had emigrated to Canada, where he entered the ministry. He was minister to the Jefferson Methodist Episcopal congregation during the planning and construction of the building in 1871 and the first year of the building's use.

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Jefferson Methodist Church and Parsonage

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Pacific Christian Advocate, December 28, 1871. Thurston, L. "Notes on the History of the Jefferson Methodist Church."

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line there at right angle east two chains, to Driggs southeast corner, thence to place of beginning, in the city of Jefferson, Marion County, Oregon.

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Deputy/St Preservation Officer tøric Date: April 13, 1987

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OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

4/21/87

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Jefferson Methodist Church Marion County, OR

Name and Address Change

for Keeper William B. Bushing 5/18/87