

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or entering the information requested. If an 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Methodist Episcopal Church of Winooski

other names/site number Winooski United Methodist Church

2. Location

street & number 24 West Allen Street not for publication

city or town Winooski vicinity

state Vermont code VT county Chittenden code 007 zip code 05404

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Gina Gilbertson, NRSpecialist 1/24/2001
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Vermont State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet

determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, (explain): _____

Edson H. Beall 3/2/01
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Name of Property

County and State

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)

- private, public-local, public-State, public-Federal

- building(s), district, site, structure, object

Table with 2 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing. Rows for buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total.

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

Religious Bldgs., Sites and Structures in VT

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter Categories from instructions)

Current Functions (Enter Categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility

RELIGION/religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter Categories from instructions)

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

Late Gothic Revival

foundation stone, walls shingle, weatherboard, roof slate, other wood

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

see continuation sheet.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 7 Page 1Methodist Episcopal Church of Winooski
Winooski, Chittenden County, Vermont

The Winooski United Methodist Church, located on the southwest corner of West Allen and Follett Streets in Winooski, Vermont, is an essential part of the historic fabric of this New England mill town. The church is situated on a gentle slope above the lower falls of the Winooski River, on a plot originally donated by the Burlington Woolen Company in 1860. Built in 1918 in vernacular neo-Gothic style, this church is a good example of early twentieth century ecclesiastical architecture in Vermont. This three-by-four bay, woodframe building is set on a limestone foundation, clad with wooden clapboards and shingles, and is capped by a high-pitched slate shingle roof. A belfry with louvered Gothic arches and topped by a pyramidal roof, rises above the northeast corner of building. The Gothic arch motif is prevalent throughout the interior and exterior of the church. A large, seven-section, Gothic arch stained glass window dominates the building's gable front. The four bays of each side facade are filled with paired, stained glass Gothic arch windows. The property retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Built in 1918, the Winooski United Methodist Church, located in the city of Winooski, Vermont, is situated at the southwest corner of Follett and West Allen Streets. Winooski maintains the fairly dense urban fabric of its beginnings as a prosperous mill town and has a continued presence as part of the greater Burlington, Vermont area. This neo-Gothic church is built on a slightly graded lot, along a hillside that slopes up from the northern shore of the Winooski River and the former mill buildings.

Exterior

The rectilinear, three-by-four bay church stands two stories atop a limestone block foundation. The exterior walls of the building are clad with shingles on the upper story and attic and wooden clapboards along the lower level. Both are painted a rich teal green with brown trim. The high-pitched, gable-front roof is covered with slate shingles, its gables accentuated with bracketed eaves.

The northern face of the building, along West Allen Street, is the main facade and entrance to the building. The gable front is delineated by four decorative rows of scalloped shingles at its base and accented by a stained glass rosette at its peak. A large Gothic arch stained glass window, which consists of seven separate windows, dominates the center of this wall. Four identical rectangular windows make up the base of the arch and three others immediately above those create the point of the arch. Below this window, at the basement level, are two additional rectangular windows, which are now boarded over. Two large Gothic arch cutouts provide access to recessed porticos at each edge of the facade. Behind each arch, three steps

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lead up to a doorway. The single door at the northwest corner of the building is capped by a Gothic arch stained glass window. At the northeast corner, the main entrance continues the Gothic arch motif; dark wood double doors, each with a carved Gothic arch panel, create the base of the larger arch which is completed by a stained glass peak.

Above the northwest corner of the building, a short bell tower rises and is capped by a shingled, pyramidal hipped roof. On each of its four sides, a louvered Gothic arch conceals the bell itself. An additional smaller stained glass Gothic arch window lies just below the louvered arch on the belfry's eastern facade.

Each of the side facades has four bays, the back three filled with paired pointed-arch stained glass windows along the upper level. The first bay, closest to the front wall on each side, exhibits a larger Gothic arch stained glass window which is paired with the adjacent Gothic arch cutouts on each of the entry porticos. In addition, the side facades each have three square stained glass windows along the basement level. One of those along the eastern facade has been boarded up and painted over due to vandalism. Also on the eastern facade, a side entrance door, between the second and third bays, is sheltered by a wood shingled shed awning.

The rear (southern) facade exposes the limestone foundation of the church. Its central, corbelled brick chimney rises through the peak of the gable, flanked on each side by a quadrant window. Mimicking the entrance facade, scalloped shingles run the length of the building just below the bottom of the gable.

Interior

A small entry vestibule stands behind the main northeast entrance where the rope that rings the churchbell is visible overhead. A short stairway to the right of the vestibule leads to the church's upper level, which encompasses the sanctuary and nave. The plaster walls have been painted white but reveal some structural cracks as well as some recent repair work. The ceiling is covered with pale blue paneling. The floors of the sanctuary and nave are hardwood. The interior of the stained glass windows are covered seasonally with insulation.

Furnishings are spare in this room. Five lighting fixtures hang from the ceiling, two on each side of the nave and one above the landing of the steps. Blue carpet with a stitched wave pattern covers the length of the entrance, steps, center aisle, and altar. Eighteen dark wood pews with Gothic arched side panels curve gently toward the outer walls, softening the angularity of the room. At the southern end of the room, the church's original organ pipes,

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painted in pinks and grays and each accented with a fleur-de-lis, rise behind the raised altar. To the left of the altar stands the organ built by the Hall Organ Company of New Haven, Connecticut; to the right is empty space which was, at different times, occupied by deacon's benches or by a choir. The altar and the two adjacent spaces are each marked by one of three low wooden railings, all carved in a continuous series of Gothic arches.

At the northwest corner of the room, a stairwell leads down to the basement level which remains basically unaltered since its construction. The basement contains a large kitchen, a children's playroom and a restroom in the northern half of the building; a large recreational room fills the southern half. This level can be entered and exited through a central door along the eastern wall.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark " x " in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the 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.

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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL HISTORY

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1918-1947

Significant Dates

1918

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Winooski United Methodist Church

Winooski United Methodist Church

Chittenden County, Vermont

Name of Property

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM references

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>18</u>	<u>644090</u>	<u>4927810</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
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4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
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see continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name / title Kathryn Wollan

organization University of Vermont, H.P. Program date April 29, 1997

street & number 442 Main Street, Wheeler House telephone (802)656-3180

city or town Burlington state Vermont zip code 05405

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

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.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

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

name Winooski United Methodist Church c/o Roger Provost, Chmn. Board of Trustees

street & number P.O. Box 53 telephone 802-878-3066

city or town Winooski state Vermont zip code 05404

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. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Section number 8 Page 1

Methodist Episcopal Church of Winooski
Winooski, Chittenden County, Vermont

The Winooski United Methodist Church, a neo-Gothic vernacular building built in 1918, is significant as a representative example of early twentieth century ecclesiastical architecture in Vermont and for its importance in the community development of a prosperous New England mill town. Known historically as the Methodist Episcopal Church of Winooski, the church has operated continuously at its current site since 1860. The original Greek Revival meetinghouse was destroyed by fire in 1917 and the current church building was constructed in the following year. The church is eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for its architectural significance and, under Criterion A for its contribution to the community development and identity of Winooski, Vermont. For these reasons, the property also meets Criteria Consideration A. It is being nominated under the multiple property listing, "Religious Building, Sites, and Structures in Vermont", and meets the registration requirements for the church property type. As the building retains its original function and remains almost completely unaltered, the Winooski United Methodist Church retains all qualities of historic integrity.

The Winooski United Methodist Church, built in 1918 in Winooski, Vermont, is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for architectural significance as an example of early twentieth century ecclesiastical architecture in Vermont. It is also eligible under Criterion A for significance in the community development of a mill town in Vermont.

The Winooski United Methodist Church is a neo-Gothic, three-by-four bay church standing two stories and topped by a high pitched gable-front roof. Its exterior wall are clad in wood shingles and clapboards typical of traditional New England meetinghouses. Built following a 1917 fire which destroyed the original 1860 Greek Revival meetinghouse, this building clearly mimics the original in volume and plan. Its decorative use of the Gothic arch and stained glass as embellishment reflect the prevalent style of church building in the early twentieth century. Its belfry contains a bell, cast in 1849, that originally belonged to the adjacent Congregational Church. Some interior woodwork is attributed to Albert H. Whittekind, an accomplished local woodcarver of national repute.

Beginning in the 1830s, Methodist preaching began in the fledgling village of Winooski Falls. Winooski's proximity to Lake Champlain and the prosperous port of Burlington, in addition to the water power of the Winooski River, made the village attractive for settlement. With the arrival of the Burlington Woolen Company, which established mills along the lower falls of the Winooski River in 1837, the community began to grow. By mid century, the local Methodist congregation had also grown significantly. In 1847, at the Methodist's Troy

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Conference, the Winooski congregation was formally separated from its Burlington counterpart. In 1860, having raised sufficient funds for the construction of a permanent meetinghouse, the church received a land donation from the Burlington Woolen Company in exchange for three pews. Methodism's early and prominent arrival in Winooski reflects the popular spread of that denomination throughout the State of Vermont in the nineteenth century.

On December 16, 1917, the original church burned after an overheated furnace caused the wood casing of the chimney to ignite. Fire ran up the casing and into the attic. The roof was quickly consumed by fire and collapsed. A meeting of the church board the following evening resolved to protect the original property from further damage while the church decided to rebuild on site or to acquire a new site on Mansion Street for new construction. Pledges totaling \$1100 for the building fund were made during that meeting. The Winooski United Methodist Church's historic community presence, both physical and spiritual, is evidenced by its decision to rebuild on the original site and in the image of the building destroyed by fire.

The tandem rise of the mills and organized religion in Winooski offered economic and spiritual support to the village. Although economically associated with the city of Burlington and politically tied to the town of Colchester, Winooski developed a distinct sense of community which ultimately led to its establishment as a separate city. The state legislature granted the Village of Winooski a city charter in 1922.

With the exception of cosmetic and structural repairs, the building remains identical to its original design. In 1990, the Winooski United Methodist Church received funding from the Fund for Vermont's Third Century to complete a architectural conservation and structural engineering report. A report was prepared in September of that year by the University of Vermont Architectural Conservation & Education Service and TWM Northeast, Inc. of Williston, Vermont. In 1995, on the basis of that report and despite years of having been painted white, the church restored its exterior to the original teal green and brown color scheme.

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Methodist Episcopal Church of Winooski
Winooski, Chittenden County, Vermont

Bibliographical References

Architectural Conservation & Education Service, University of Vermont and TWM
Northeast. "Architectural Conservation and Structural Engineering Report", 1990.

Carlisle, Lilian Baker; ed. "Look Around Winooski, Vermont, Heritage Series Pamphlet
Number Three". Burlington: Chittenden County Historical Society, n.d.

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Secretary of State, 1914.

A Little Friendly Souvenir of Winooski, Vermont. Burlington: P.C. Dodge, 1899.

Martin, Elden H. "Methodism in Vermont," in Vermont History, Volume 22, July 1954, pp.
193-196.

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Methodist Episcopal Church of Winooski
Winooski, Chittenden County, Vermont

Boundary Description and Justification

The Winooski United Methodist Church is located on City of Winooski property # WA024.

This is the entire parcel historically associated with Winooski United Methodist Church.