

PH 0660817

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

H C W R S

S.S.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JAN 24 1978
DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
First United Methodist Church
AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
618 Wallace Avenue
CITY, TOWN
Coeur d'Alene
STATE
Idaho
VICINITY OF
First
COUNTY
Kootenai
CODE
16
CODE
055
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
First United Methodist Church
STREET & NUMBER
618 Wallace Avenue
CITY, TOWN
Coeur d'Alene
STATE
Idaho
VICINITY OF

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Kootenai County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN
Coeur d'Alene
STATE
Idaho

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Idaho State Historic Sites Inventory
DATE
1972
DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
Idaho State Historical Society
CITY, TOWN
Boise
STATE
Idaho
_FEDERAL STATE _COUNTY _LOCAL

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The First United Methodist Church, a white pressed brick building, is distinguished by its stepped gabled facade and combination of a low and high tower. The towers have mock battlements, and the taller tower terminates with a spire, while the lower has a hipped roof with a finial. The building has a cruciform plan with the shallow transepts also having stepped gables.

Window arches, all of terra cotta, are varied. All first story windows have segmental arches, but the short tower's windows have flat arches, the taller tower's ventilators have Tudor arches and the transepts' and facade's major window has a Gothic arch. All the windows are stained glass and have tracery. The Coeur d'Alene Journal of February 26, 1909, claimed the north end window depicting an Easter scene was "easily the finest window of its kind in this part of the country."

The building remains unaltered except for the Education building which was added to the right rear in 1957.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES	1906-1908	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	George Williams
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The First United Methodist Church is architecturally significant for a stepped gabled facade which is unique in Idaho church buildings. It has a visually tight design with a major and a minor tower, characteristic of many Methodist churches of this period. Its stained glass windows are also noteworthy.

Voluntary labor constructed most of this church which was designed by George Williams, Coeur d'Alene's foremost architect of the time. Williams did very few churches in Idaho.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Coeur d'Alene Journal, December 14, 1906, p. 9, c. 3; April 17, 1908, p. 5, c. 1;
 February 26, 1909, p. 1, c. 3-4.
 Neil, J. M., Saints and Oddfellows, Boise Gallery of Art, 1976, p. 14.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre.

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,1	517080	5280145	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This property includes the real estate owned by the Methodist church at 618 Wallace Avenue.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Don Hibbard, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Idaho State Historical Society

DATE

18 Jan 78

STREET & NUMBER

610 North Julia Davis Drive

TELEPHONE

384-2120

CITY OR TOWN

Boise

STATE

Idaho

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Maile Wells

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

18 Jan 78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

W. Ray Jure
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

6-18-79

ATTEST:

W. Ray Jure
 for KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

6/15/79

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The 1957 addition in no way relates to the original design. It is one-story in height, of red-brick construction and contemporary utilitarian design. However, attached as it is to the right rear corner of the church, it does not seriously compromise the visual impact of the original.

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The Coeur d'Alene Methodist Church is significant architecturally as an eclectic example of a transitional type of ecclesiastic building which tended to occur in Idaho in the first decade of the 20th century, designed by one of Coeur d'Alene and North Idaho's foremost architects of the period.

The church relates in scale and material to a number of contemporary Protestant structures in the smaller Idaho cities whose congregations were prepared at this time to build substantial buildings; it is comparable in this regard to the Baptist church in Blackfoot, the no-longer-extant Presbyterian Church in Twin Falls, or the Presbyterian Church in Coeur d'Alene itself. Such structures are often of brick and are intermediate in size between the frame structures in which most Idaho churches began their congregational lives, and the more massive structures, often of stone, which were built by major congregations ready to make such an investment in the 'teens and 'twenties: e.g. the Methodists in Idaho Falls, Twin Falls, Lewiston. Stylistically, the church with its dominant left tower and consequently picturesque, asymmetrical profile is related to other Methodist churches of the period (Blackfoot and Moscow Methodist are examples) and to contemporary churches of other denominations: e.g. the splendid St. Thomas Catholic in Coeur d'Alene. It is stylistically a precursor of the more monumental and symmetrical stone structures the Methodist congregations mentioned above would build in the 'teens.

The special significance of Coeur d'Alene Methodist is its vigorous eclecticism, which appears to be a function of its design by an architect of substantial energy and originality who was not, however, much experienced in church design. George Williams, a native of Iowa who had practiced for 12 years in Eastern Oregon, settled in Coeur d'Alene in 1903. He designed many of the finest buildings in the city, among them the City Hall, Masonic Temple, Nixon and other business blocks, and a number of large residences. Even more regularly, he designed school buildings. Twenty Idaho and eastern Washington examples are mentioned in the Coeur d'Alene papers during the period 1905-1911. During this same period only two churches are mentioned, the no longer extant Lady of the Lakes, 1905, and the 1906 Coeur d'Alene Methodist. The design of the latter dates from early in Williams' Idaho career, and seems to represent a rare type within it. And it was provided to a congregation sufficiently unaffluent as to build its own church primarily with donated labor and hold the cost to \$10,000. The church may possibly be seen therefore as somewhat experimental, novitiate work. Its exuberant eclecticism stands in favor of this argument: the use, for example, of four different kinds of arch--segmental, flat, pointed and Tudor--on the same facade. And the picturesque stepped gable is to our present knowledge unique in Idaho.

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This nomination includes the First United Methodist Church in Coeur d'Alene and the property on which it stands at 618 Wallace Avenue: lots 3, 4, 5, and 6, block 27, Coeur d'Alene and Kings Addition.



First United Methodist Church
(1957 addition at right)

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Photographer: Ron Wells

1979

Kootenai Co.

Negative on file at Idaho State
Historical Society
Boise, Idaho

1072

View from northeast

JUN 18 1979

MAY 21 1979



First United Methodist Church
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Photographer - J. M. Neil
1976

Kootenai Co.
Idaho State Historical Society
front view from the north

76-160.1775

2 of 2

JUN 18 1979

JAN 24 1978