

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Architectural Inventory Form

(Page 1 of 5)

I. IDENTIFICATION

1. Resource number: **5BL924**
2. Temporary number: **N/A**
3. County: **Boulder**
4. City: **Louisville**
5. Historic building name: **Methodist Episcopal Church; Community Church**
6. Current building name: **Louisville United Methodist Church**
7. Building address: **741 Jefferson Avenue**
8. Owner name: **United Methodist Church**
Owner address: **741 Jefferson Avenue**
Louisville, CO 80027

II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M. **6th** Township **1S** Range **69W**
NW¼ of **SW**¼ of **NW**¼ of **SE**¼ of section **8**
10. UTM reference
Zone **13**
Easting: **488550**
Northing: **4425090**
11. USGS quad name: **Louisville, Colorado**
Year: **1965 (Revised 1994) 7.5'**
12. Lot(s): **11, 12** Block: **9**
Addition: **Jefferson Place** Year of Addition **1880**
13. Boundary Description and Justification: **This legally defined parcel encompasses but does not exceed the land historically associated with this property.**

Official Eligibility Determination

(OAHP use only)

- Date _____ Initials _____
- ☐ Determined Eligible - National Register
- ☐ Determined Not Eligible - National Register
- ☐ Determined Eligible - State Register
- ☐ Determined Not Eligible - State Register
- ☐ Needs Data
- ☐ Contributes to eligible National Register District
- ☐ Noncontributing to eligible National Register District

III. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

14. Building plan (footprint, shape):
Rectangular Plan
15. Dimensions in feet: **~3030 square feet**
16. Number of stories: **1½**
17. Primary external wall material
Wood / Horizontal Siding
18. Roof configuration (enter one):
Cross Gabled Roof
19. Primary external roof material (enter one):
Asphalt Roof
20. Special features (enter all that apply):
Tower
Decorative Cornice
Chimney
Stained Glass

22. Architectural style / building type:

Late Victorian
/ Carpenter Gothic



21. General Architectural Description

The Louisville United Methodist Church is a tall 1½-story wood-frame building, with a corner tower, built in the Carpenter Gothic style. The building is supported by a low stone foundation, and its exterior walls are painted white horizontal wood siding, with 1" by 4" corner boards. The steeply-pitched intersecting gables roof is covered with black asphalt shingles, and features exposed sculptured rafter ends, and decorative brackets under the eaves. Solid bargeboards, each with a cross motif and a pendant, appear in the upper gable ends on the east and north elevations. Located at the northeast corner, the flared hipped-roof corner tower represents the church's most notable architectural feature. The tower, which serves as the church foyer, is approached by a 4-step concrete porch, covered by a gable hood with painted white 4" by 4" wood kneebrace supports. Paired, painted white, wood-paneled entry doors lead into the foyer. A large stained glass bulls-eye window is located beneath the bargeboard, in the upper gable end on the east elevation. Windows elsewhere are single and paired 4/6 and 4/4 double-hung lancet windows, with painted white wood frames and surrounds. A large one-story gabled addition has been built onto the original building's west (rear) elevation. At the time of survey (February 2000) another addition was under construction, extending the overall building to the alley to the west.

29. Construction History (include description and dates of major additions, alterations, or demolitions:

The original church, located to the east, was a relatively square building constructed in 1891. The north Alcove was built in 1910, while the belltower dates to the 1930s. A 28' by 36' addition was built onto the east elevation in the early 1940s. Initially used as a recreation room, this was known as the Fellowship Hall. A new addition, constructed in 1999-2000, has extended the building to the alley, and will be used for offices, Sunday school rooms, and restrooms.

23. Landscape or setting special features:

This property is located at the southwest corner of Jefferson Avenue and Spruce Streets, in Louisville's oldest residential neighborhood. Memory Square Park is across Spruce Street to the north.

24. Associated buildings, features, or objects
n/a**IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY****25. Date of Construction:**

Estimate

Actual 1892

Source of information:

"Church History Dates Back to Late 80s."
The Louisville Times, September 3, 1942.

26. Architect:

unknown

Source of information:

n/a

27. Builder/ Contractor:

unknown

Source of information:

n/a

28. Original owner:

United Methodist Church Conference

Source of information:

"Methodist Church" (manuscript on file
at the Louisville Historical Museum)

30. Original location: yes

Moved no

Date of move(s) n/a

V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

31. Original use(s): **Religion / Church**

32. Intermediate use(s): **Religion / Church**

33. Current use(s): **Religion / Church**

34. Site type(s): **Church**

35. Historical Background

Originally known as the Methodist Episcopal Church, the original portion of this building was constructed in 1891-1892. The history of the church goes back more than a decade earlier, though. Louisville residents, primarily of British heritage, formed the Methodist Episcopal Church of Louisville in the early 1880s. This church, which had its roots in the Anglican Church of England, initially met in members' homes. Tom Carlton, a coal miner, served as a preacher in the early days, although he was not an ordained minister. As the number of members grew, church officials began to look for a building site, and the land where the church was built was acquired from Charles C. Welch in February 1891. Welch was a mine owner, and had originally homesteaded the land which became Louisville. The Methodist Church of Louisville was officially incorporated in August 1891, and construction on the church began soon afterward. The first ordained minister of the church was reported to be Reverend R.M. Beardsley, while the names of other early ministers were Reverend Hewitt, Homer Shutz, C.J. Meckellson, Jesse Dean, Reverend Strader, W.J. Catrell, D.M. Scott, and H. Twiford. During the 1920s, the church's name was changed to the Community Church, although it was commonly known as the Community Methodist Church. In January 1954, the name of the church was officially changed again to the Methodist Church of Louisville. Having been in existence here for some 109 years, this church is renowned as the second oldest in Louisville, and the oldest church still meeting in its original building.

36. Sources of Information

"Church History Dates Back to Late 80s." *The Louisville Times*, September 3, 1942.

Conarroe, Carolyn. *The Louisville Story*, Louisville: Louisville Times Inc., 1978.

"Ground Breaking Celebration Kicks off Expansion at Louisville United Methodist." *Louisville Times / Lafayette News*, September 22, 1999.

"Member Recalls Church Activities of Yesteryear." *The Louisville Times*, n.d., circa 1940.

"Methodist Church" (manuscript on file at the Louisville Historical Museum)

Polk's Boulder County Directory [generally published annually], Denver, Kansas City, and Salt Lake City: R.L. Polk and Company Publishers.

VI. SIGNIFICANCE

37. Local landmark designation:

Yes

No ☒

Date of Designation: n/a

38. Applicable National Register Criteria

☒ A. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history;

B. Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;

☒ C. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction;

D. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield information important in history or prehistory;

Qualifies under Criteria Considerations A through G (see Manual).

Does not meet any of the above National Register criteria.

39. Area(s) of Significance:

Architecture; Religion

40. Period of Significance: 1891 - 1950

41. Level of Significance:

National:

State:

Local: ☒

42. Statement of Significance

The Louisville United Methodist Church building is historically significant relative to National Register Criterion A for its association with the theme of religion in Louisville, beginning in the late 1800s, and throughout the 1900s. The church is also architecturally significant under National Register Criterion C, as an excellent local example of a Carpenter Gothic style church.

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:

Overall, this building displays a high degree of historical integrity. The new addition to the west elevation, which was nearing completion in the spring of 2000, is architecturally compatible with the historic structure.

VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

44. National Register eligibility field assessment:

Eligible: **xx**

Not Eligible:

Need Data:

45. Is there National Register district potential?

Yes: **xx**

No:

Discuss: **Buildings in this neighborhood may have the potential to comprise a National Register Historic District.**

If there is National Register district potential, is this building:

Contributing: **xx**

Noncontributing:

46. If the building is in an existing National Register district, is it:

Contributing: **n/a**

Noncontributing: **n/a**

VIII. RECORDING INFORMATION

47. Photograph numbers:

Roll: **CM-2**

Frame(s): **14-17**

Negatives filed at: **City of Louisville, Administration
749 Main Street
Louisville, Colorado 80027**

48. Report title: **"Old Town" Louisville Historical Building Survey**

49. Date: **February 1, 2000**

50. Recorder(s): **Carl McWilliams**

51. Organization: **Cultural Resource Historians**

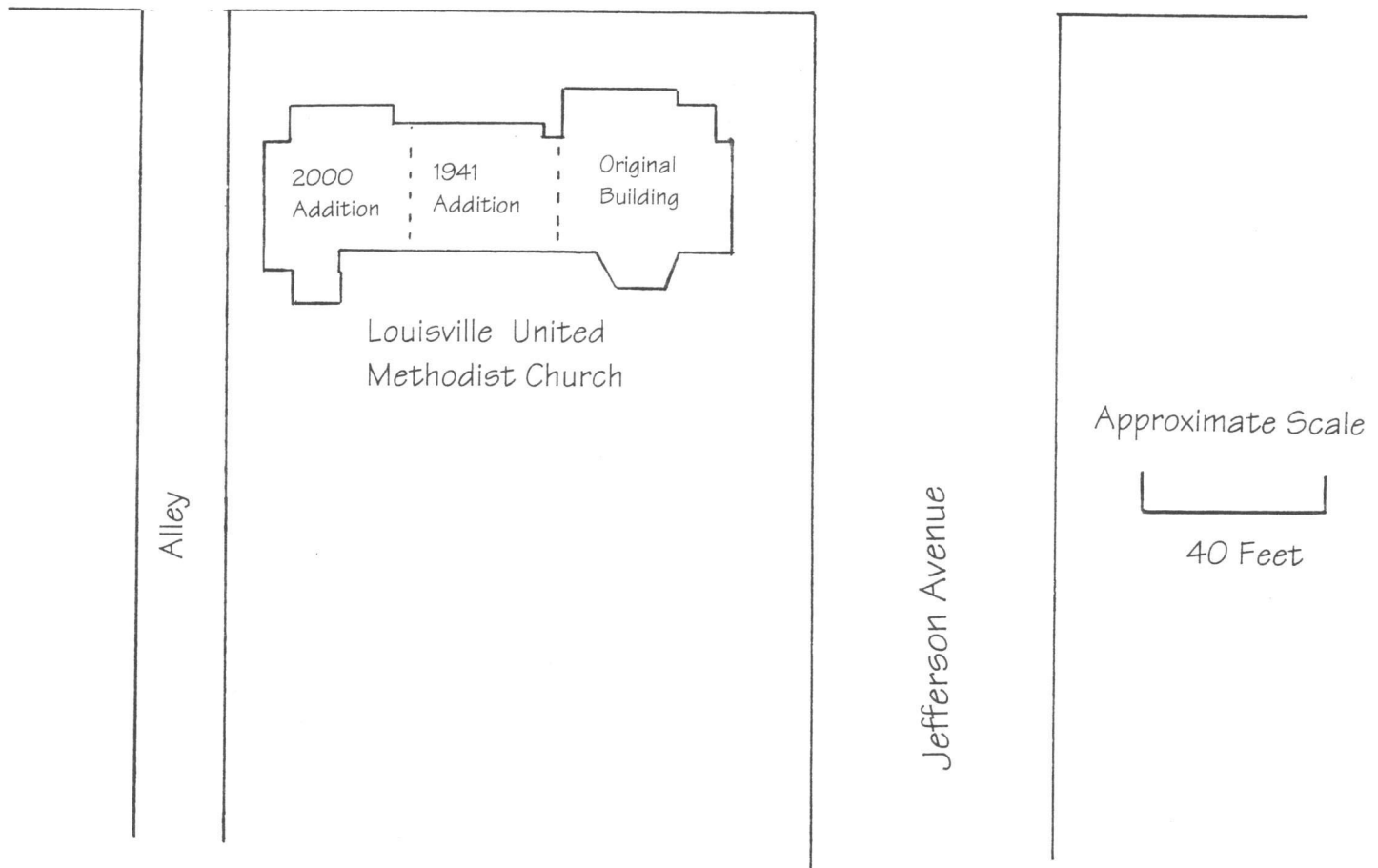
52. Address: **1607 Dogwood Court
Fort Collins, Colorado 80525**

53. Phone number: **970/493-5270**

Memory Square
Park

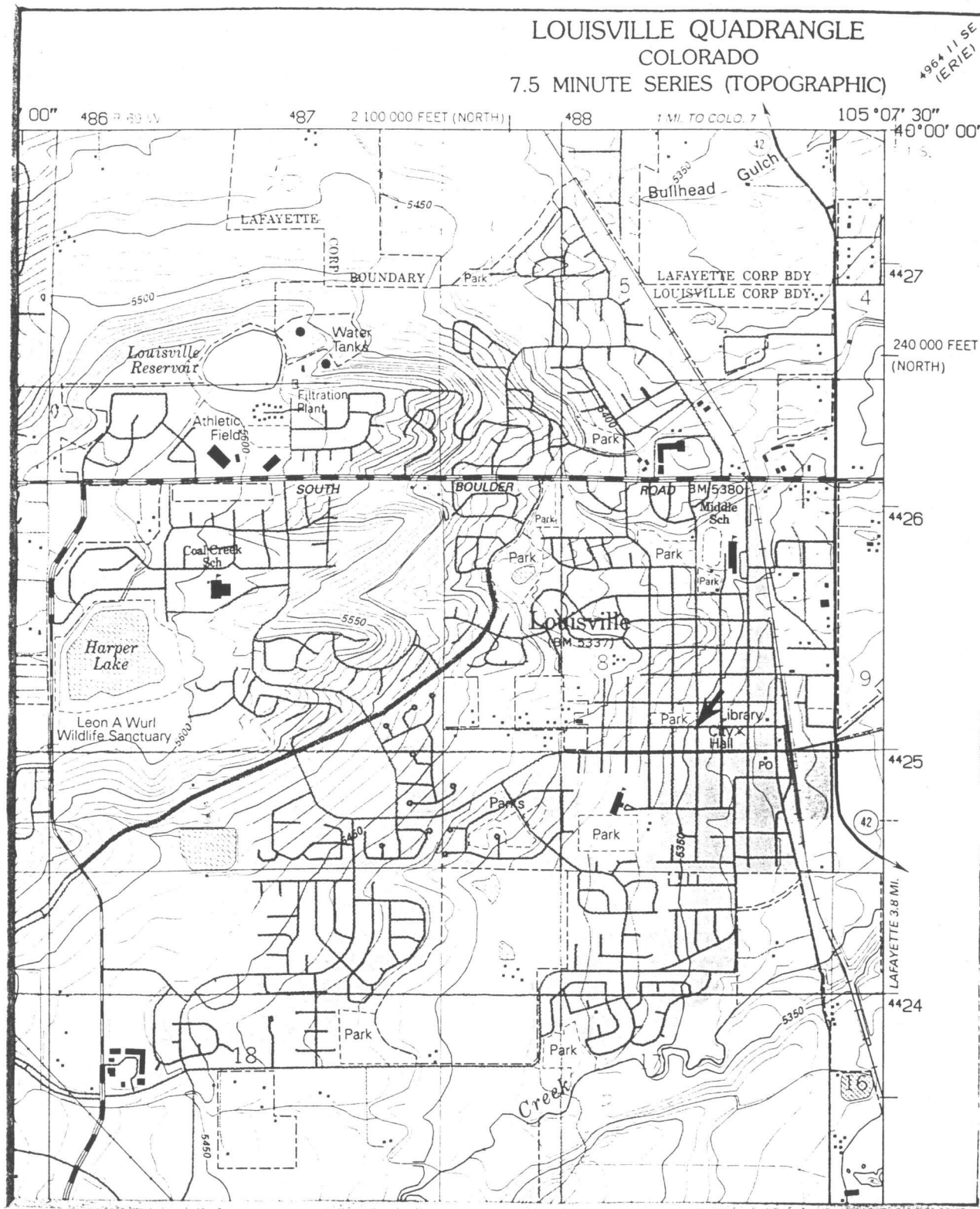


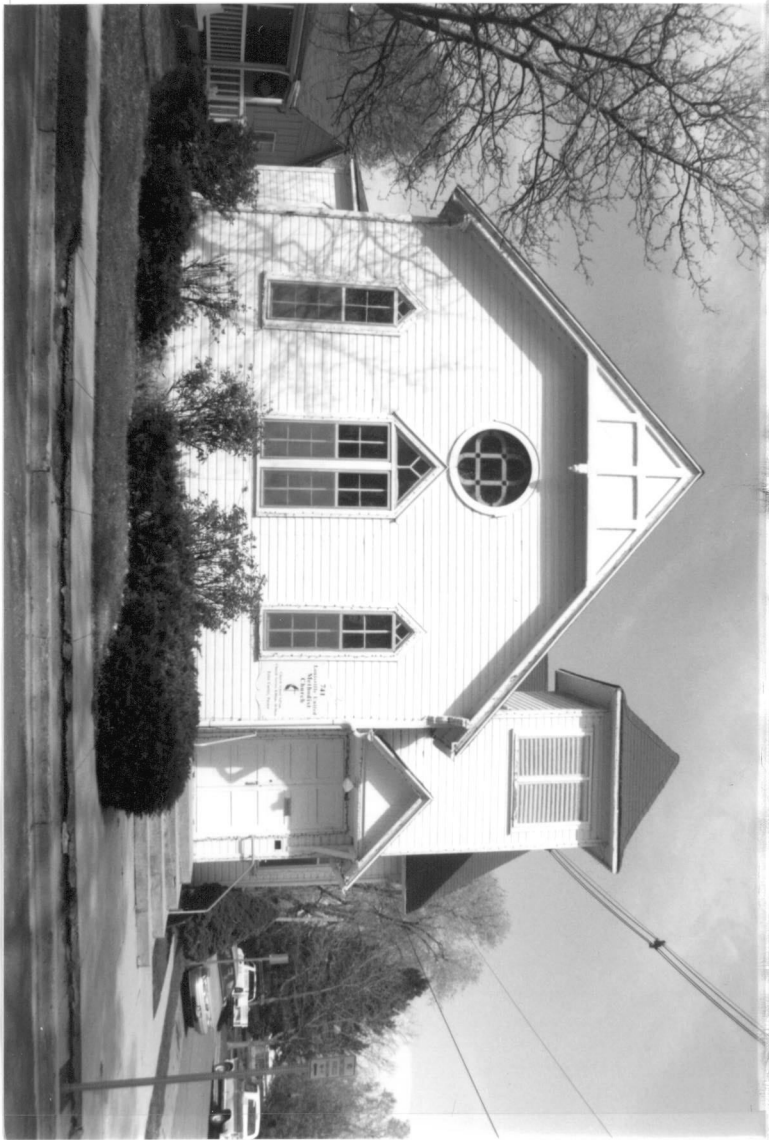
Spruce Street



• • • SKETCH MAP • • •

741 Jefferson Avenue, Louisville, Colorado







5BL924 741 Jefferson Avenue, Louisville
 Louisville United Methodist Church
 25 April 2000
 Negative located at: City of Louisville
 749 Main Street, Louisville, CO 80027
 Photographed by Carl McWilliams
 Roll CM-2 Frame 15
 View to SW

5BL924 741 Jefferson Avenue, Louisville
 Louisville United Methodist Church
 25 April 2000
 Negative located at: City of Louisville
 749 Main Street, Louisville, CO 80027
 Photographed by Carl McWilliams
 Roll CM-2 Frame 16
 View to NW