



REGULAR HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, June 27, 2023 5:00 PM

City Council Chambers, Elks Civic Building - 107 S. Cascade Ave.

The Montrose Historic Preservation Commission is pleased to have residents of the community take time to attend Historic Preservation Commission Meetings. We encourage your attendance and participation. Individuals wishing to be heard during public hearing proceedings are encouraged to be prepared and will generally be limited to three minutes to allow everyone the opportunity to be heard. Additional written comments are welcome and will be received at any time.

1) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A) Approval of minutes dated March 28, 2023
- B) Approval of minutes dated April 25, 2023

2) PUBLIC COMMENT

- A) Public invited to be heard on matters not on the agenda (Limited to 3 minutes)

3) PUBLIC HEARING

- A) Historic Designation Hearing - Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose

The commission will review the application for historic property designation for conformance with the established criteria for designation in accordance with § 11-3 of the Official Code of the City of Montrose, Colorado.

Action: Accept public comment/consider approval of the application.

4) ADJOURNMENT

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
March 28, 2023**

A regular meeting of the City of Montrose Historic Preservation Commission was held on **Tuesday, March 28, 2023**, in the Centennial Room – City Hall located at 433 S 1st Street in Montrose, Colorado. Said meeting was posted in accordance with the Sunshine Law.

PRESENT: Kenneth Huff, Danielle Godt, John Elo, Jon Horn, Darlene Mora, Catherine Stroh

GUESTS: Planner II William Reis, Deputy City Clerk Briceida Ortega

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Historic Preservation Commission considered the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 28, 2023.

A motion was made by Kenneth Huff, seconded by Danielle Godt, to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2023 regular meeting as amended. All voted yes. Motion passed.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

There were no additions or deletions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was received.

REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

Reports from Saving Places Conference

William Reis and Catherine Stroh provided a summary of the different online sessions they participated in for the Saving Places Conference. Mr. Reis shared what he learned from the Focus on Facades Session. He mentioned that according to data from Main Street America, communities that have improvement programs and actual numbers are much more successful. Mr. Reis will be watching more sessions and will share more information at the next meeting.

Catherine Stroh presented on various themes from the different sessions. Ms. Stroh mentioned that the first theme was how equity, diversity, and inclusion should interplay with preservation and the importance of telling the full story. Sustainability was the second theme and how using existing buildings helps mitigate potential climate change. Ms. Stroh also shared that the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) announced that they are doing a “Colorado Heritage for All” initiative. Their goal is to register 150 new listings on the State Register of Historic Properties by 2026. This initiative is focusing on sites with historically excluded communities. CPI also announced a subgrant

program that will focus on preservation and façade improvement in rural communities. The application hasn't been released yet.

Mr. Reis shared that future Historic Preservation Commission meetings will now be held at the Council Chambers.

Discussion on Historic Building Imaging

William Reis provided an update on the possibilities for Historic Building Imaging. Mr. Reis explained that Colorado State University is doing scans of the interiors of historic buildings. They are pursuing a State Historical Fund grant to be able to these scans at no cost to cities. He mentioned that it would be a great opportunity for the City of Montrose to be a part of this project.

Jon Horn explained that this project would address the condition of each building and provide the ability to analyze the cost of building repairs. Mr. Horn also mentioned that if something ever happened to the building, the record would exist to look back at how the building looked like.

The board discussed the 9 buildings that should be included in the list. Mr. Reis mentioned that there is a maximum of 9. The final list included Methodist Episcopal Church, Montrose City Hall, Montrose Fire Dept. No. 1, Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks, Montrose County Jail, Denver and Rio Grande Depot, Montrose Potato Growers Association, U.S. Post Office – Montrose, and Masonic Temple.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Catherine Stroh, seconded by John Eloë, to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m. with no further action taken. All voted yes. Motion passed.

Jon Horn, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Amanda Lloyd, Secretary

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
April 25, 2023**

A regular meeting of the City of Montrose Historic Preservation Commission was held on **Tuesday, April 25, 2023**, in the City Council Chambers, Elks Building at 107 S. Cascade Avenue in Montrose, Colorado. Said meeting was posted in accordance with the Sunshine Law.

PRESENT: Kenneth Huff, Amanda Lloyd, Catherine Stroh, Darlene Mora

GUESTS: Planner II William Reis, Deputy City Clerk Briceida Ortega, Tim Stroh

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

As there was not a quorum present, voting on approval of the minutes of the March 28, 2023 meeting was tabled for the time being.

Darlene Mora joined at 5:25 p.m.

REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

Tim Stroh gave a presentation on Section 106.

ATTEST:

Jon Horn, Chairperson

Amanda Lloyd, Secretary



CITY OF MONTROSE
Planning Services

MEMO

DATE: June 27, 2022
TO: Montrose Historic Preservation Commission
FROM: William Reis, Planner II
RE: Application for Historic Property Designation of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1) Historic Property Designation Application Cover Sheet for the Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose
- 2) National Register of Historic Places Registration Form
- 3) Montrose County Assessor Property Report Card
- 4) Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps
- 5) Historic Photographs
- 6) Current Photographs

Staff finds the application to be complete and has recommended it to be considered by the Montrose Historic Preservation Commission according to Section 4-15 of the Montrose Municipal Code.

Staff submits the following findings:

1. The structure is at least 50 years old and meets the eligibility criteria (listed below in **bold**) per Montrose Municipal Code 4-15-3 (B), which requires that one or more of these criteria be met:
 - a. **Association with events that have made a significant contribution to history**
This building is significant for its association with the religious history of Montrose, having been completed in 1920, and retaining its original use.
 - b. **Connection with persons significant in History**
This building was designed by architect Thomas Pellatt Barber, whose work throughout Colorado and California has been nationally recognized as having historical value.
 - c. **Distinctive characteristics of a type, period, method of construction or artisan**
This building is significant for its Romanesque Revival style architecture exterior, with a tower and interior in line with the Akron Plan of churches.
 - d. **Geographic importance**





This criteria is not applicable to this building.

e. **Possibility to yield important information related to pre-history or history.**

This criteria is not applicable to this building.

2. The structure has been found to also meet the integrity criteria per Montrose Municipal Code 4-15-3 (C), which are location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of this application by the Montrose Historic Preservation Commission based on the above findings.





CITY OF MONTROSE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION HISTORIC DESIGNATION APPLICATION AND COVER SHEET

Application Date: June 27, 2023

Property Address: 19 S Park Ave, Montrose, CO 81401

Historic Property Name: Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose

State Site Number (if applicable) (Example: 5MNnnnnn): 5MN.4493

Owner Name: First United Methodist Church of Montrose Board of Trustees

Owner Address: 19 S Park Ave, Montrose, CO 81401

Owner Phone Number:

Owner Email Address:

Preparer Name (if different from owner): William Reis

Preparer Phone Number: (970) 240-1475

Preparer Email Address: wreis@ci.montrose.co.us

Property is listed in:

☒ Colorado State Register of Historic Properties

☒ National Register of Historic Places

☒ Property is already recorded on a Colorado State site form.

Additional Required Information

Property and Ownership Details

- Copy of the [Montrose County Assessor's](#) Data Card for the property
- Copy of the deed or other proof of ownership

Supporting Documentation

- Copy of Colorado State Register of Historic Properties form, National Register of Historic Places form, or Colorado State Site Form if property is already listed in those registers

Descriptions

Character-defining attributes of the property that currently exist:

- 1909 design of a two-story Romanesque Revival style, Akron Plan church.
- Tan colored stone and sandstone trim as coping topping parapeted gable ends and crenellated towers.
- Roof includes a central octagonal domes portion set on a square base that delineates the area above the sanctuary of the nave. The dome is topped with a large skylight and a small circular vent.
- The dome includes two heavy built-up tied arched spanning north/south.
- Four ridges forming a cross extending from the domed portion of the roof.
- West, south, and east slopes of roof have parapeted gable ends with shoulders.
- North ridge of roof intersects with the hipped roof that covers the administrative and classroom area of the building.
- The hipped roof has a three foot overhang with exposed rafter ends, and two brick chimneys pierce the lower edge of the roof on the east toward the north end.
- Exterior walls are a muted yellow brick.
- Horizontal projecting corbeled trim and header courses over the bell tower arches are used to accent the roof line.
- The main door and window openings are topped with semicircular arches.
- Standing header courses, doubled and tripled, produce segmental arches over the 1/1 double hung stained glass windows on the north and east walls.
- Toward the south end of the east wall, there is a large religious stained glass rose window, and a single light door with transom at the basement level.
- West facade is delineated by a low, square tower secondary entry toward the north and a tall, square bell tower main entry at the south corner.
- Crenellated towers have belt courses of stone and double wood paneled doors with arched transoms.
- Corner bell tower have paired arched openings of molded brick that are filled with wood louvers.

Photographs

Please attach current photographs of all sides of buildings and structures being proposed for listing individually or front views of buildings, structures, or objects proposed for listing in historic districts. Detail photographs of important property characteristics are appreciated, as are photographs of property settings. Include a list of photos that describes what is shown in each photo and the direction of view. Also, please consider submitting historical photographs that document the original

appearance of the nominated property and any photos that can document alterations to the property and when the alterations took place.

Signature of Owner(s)

I _____ and _____
(printed name) (printed name)
am/are the 100-percent owner(s) of the property or their designated agent.

Signature

Date

Notification

After my property has been designated, I agree to comply with all City codes and regulations pertaining to modifying, upgrading, removing, or in any other way altering the physical characteristics of the property that effect its historical character, being particularly aware that maintaining the character-defining elements of the property as they currently exist is of utmost importance in retaining Historic Property designation status. If a special feature on a property or district has been altered beyond repair in such a way so as to negate the features necessary to retain designation, revocation of the designation of the property and the ability to qualify for the benefits that come with designation, may result.

I have read this Notification clause and understand its content.

Owner Signature

Date

For Staff and Historic Preservation Commission Use Only

Historic Property designation date: _____

Adopted by Ordinance Number: _____

- *Completed Colorado State site form prepared as part of application process for properties that have not been previously inventoried.*



1996





1996





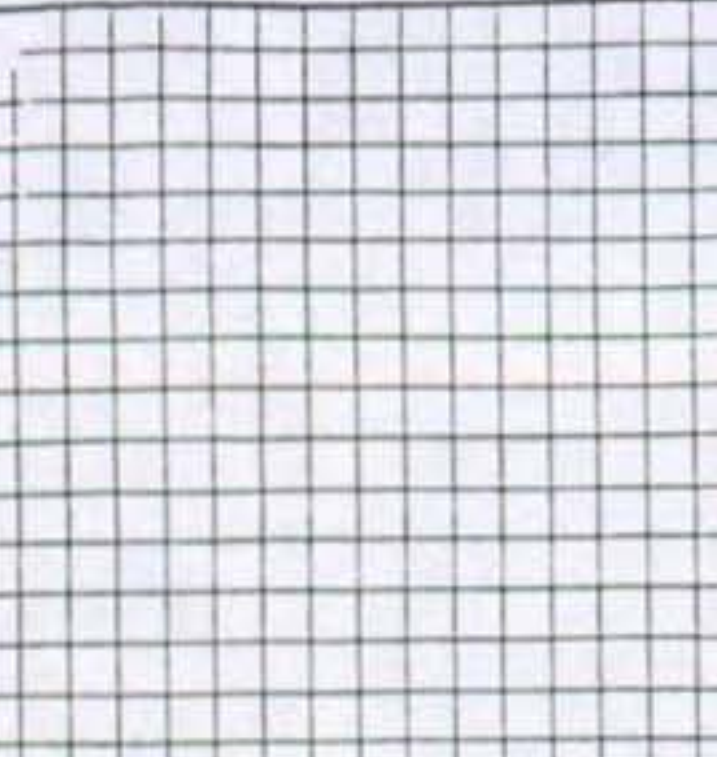
COLORADO HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
1300 Broadway Denver, Colorado 80203

Historic Building Inventory Record

NOT FOR FIELD USE	
_____	ELIGIBLE
_____	DET. NOT ELIGIBLE
_____	NOMINATED
_____	CERTIFIED REHAB
_____	DATE _____

project name		county Montrose	city Montrose	state ID no. 5 MN 4493	
current building name United Methodist Church of Montrose		owner Rocky Mountain Conference of United Methodist Churches			
address 19 South Park Montrose, Co		township 49 N range 9 W section 27 1/4 SW 1/4			
historic name Methodist Episcopal Church		USGS quad name Montrose East yr. 7.5' 15'			
district name		block 49 lot(s) 13 to 19 addition City yr. of addition Montrose 1882			
film roll by no.	negative nos.	location of negatives	date of construction Lay Corner stone 1900 estimate 1917 actual		
paste photograph here.			source Historical Church Book They Came With Bible and Spade		
			use Church present Church historic		
			condition excellent good fair deteriorating		
			extent of alterations minor moderate major describe:		
			original moved date(s) of move:		
style Akron Plan (Interior) Romanesque Revival		stories two plus basement	National Register Eligibility		
materials Brick and stone		square footage 8,250 outside dimensions	Individual: yes no		
architectural description Brick, stone, typical Methodist architecture with Akron plan tower. Has a domed ceiling in main structure. The windows throughout are all stained glass with protective covering.			Contributing to district: yes no		
			local landmark designation name date		
			associated buildings? yes type		
			if inventoried, list ID nos.		
additional pages yes no					

Mrs. Sally

plan shape 	architect Unknown	original owner Methoidst Church
	source	source
	builder/contractor Unknown	theme(s)
	source	

construction history (description, names, dates, etc. relating to major additions or alterations to original structure)

Completed in 1920. Some remodeling in 1984.

An addition of Fellowship Hall and Classroome in 1991

Remodeling of basement level of the original structure in 1992

Outside ramp to provide wheel-chair accessability, both levels

continued ☐ yes ☐ no

historical background (discuss important persons and events associated with this structure)

Please refer to the Church's 100th Anniversary book.

continued ☐ yes ☐ no

significance (check appropriate categories and briefly justify below)

architectural significance: ☐ represents the work of a master ☐ possesses high artistic values ☒ represents a type, period or method of construction	historical significance: ☒ associated with significant persons ☒ associated with significant events or patterns ☐ contributes to an historic district
--	--

statement of significance

Refer to statement

continued ☐ yes ☐ no

references (be specific)

Cliff Baldrige / dates of major changes

North balcony converted to class rooms in the 1950's

Major change in pews, pulpit and carpeting in 1982

Plastic protection over stained glass in 1980

continued ☐ yes ☐ no

surveyed by	affiliation	date
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1994 From West South West

Site Number 5MN4493

Please Note

Some of the items previously filed with this cultural resource record were not scanned. These items may include:

- Published materials - including newspaper and magazine clippings
- Bound material - including brochures and pamphlets
- Microfiche
- Negatives (photocopy any contact sheets and clip to negatives)
- Computer disks or CDs
- Documents
- Items over 17 x 11

These items are now stored in the Supplementary Files at the OAHP office.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts. See instruction 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 by 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

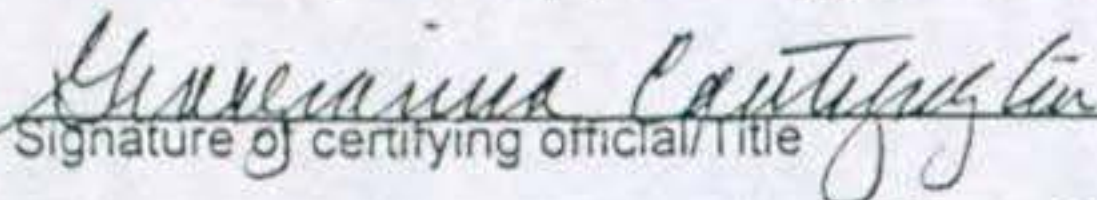
historic name Methodist Episcopal Church of Montroseother names/site number United Methodist Church of Montrose, 5MN4493

2. Location

street & number 19 S. Park Avenue [N/A] not for publicationcity or town Montrose [N/A] vicinitystate Colorado code CO county Montrose code 085 zip code 81401

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this
[x] 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 [x] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be
considered significant [] nationally [] statewide [x] locally. ([] See continuation sheet for additional comments.)



State Historic Preservation Officer

10/13/99
DateState Historic Preservation Office, Colorado Historical Society
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:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

- [] 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
[] See continuation sheet.

5. Classification**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not count previously listed resources.)

Contributing

Noncontributing

1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing.

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources
previously listed in the National
Register.**

0

6. Function or Use**Historic Function**

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility

7. Description**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Romanesque

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls Brick

roof Asphalt

other

Narrative Description

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

Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose

Name of Property

Montrose County/Colorado

County/State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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
- # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Periods of Significance

1909-1920

Significant Dates

1920

Significant Person(s)

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above).

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Barber, Thomas P.

Davis, Patrik

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State Agency
- ☐ Federal Agency
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

Colorado Historical Society

Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose

Montrose County/Colorado

Name of Property

County/State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1. 13 249365 4262840
Zone Easting Northing

3. Zone Easting Northing

2. Zone Easting Northing

4. Zone Easting Northing

[] 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 John T. Shoup, Member

(Edited by S. Doggett)

organization United Methodist Church of Montrose

date April 15, 1999

street & number 2615 Cirque Way

telephone 970-240-0395

city or town Montrose

state CO

zip code 81401-5342

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 United Methodist Church of Montrose

street & number 19 S. Park Avenue

telephone 970-249-3716

city or town Montrose

state Co

zip code 81401

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.).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose
Montrose County, Colorado

Section number 7 Page 1

DESCRIPTION

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose enjoys a prominent location at the northeast corner of the intersection of Park Avenue and South 1st Street, just northeast of Montrose's downtown commercial district. There are narrow grassed areas and several mature trees running along the west (Park Avenue) and south (1st Street) sides of the building. A square bell tower entry faces the intersection and is approached by a flight of concrete stairs, with metal handrails, which leads up to a large concrete landing. Signage is found on a low brick wall that is placed on an angle at the base of the stairway. A non-historic brick faced, concrete ADA access ramp, with metal railings, extends across a portion of the west side of the building. An alley runs close to the building on the north, and a paved parking/play area is on the east. Also to the east, there is a 1991 Post Modern style addition designed by Montrose architect Patrik Davis. A narrow portion of the addition serves as a connector between what are essentially two separate buildings. The addition was constructed on the property after the 1990 removal of a free-standing parsonage that dated from 1953.

Completed in 1920, the circa 1909 design of the two story Romanesque Revival style, Akron Plan church is credited to Colorado Springs architect Thomas P. Barber. The congregation purchased the land in 1909. Shortly thereafter, the basement was constructed, roofed over, and subsequently utilized for services. The raising of funds and labor shortages resulted in sporadic construction during World War I. Construction resumed in earnest during 1917.

Over the years, the trustees of what is now known as the United Methodist Church of Montrose have conscientiously maintained the property. The existing condition of the structure and its exterior and interior is good. A 1975 engineering report identified some maintenance issues but found no major structural problems, and none have appeared since. The building retains a high degree of integrity in terms of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

The building's concrete foundation extends more than ten feet below grade. The foundation walls were poured one foot thicker than specified by the architect as the building committee had past experience with the instability of the local soil. Basement walls are faced with coursed, rusticated sandstone to six feet above grade where there is a water table of rusticated sandstone. The tan colored stone came from a nearby quarry on the Uncompahgre Plateau and was shaped by local stone cutters. Sandstone also appears as trim, primarily as coping topping parapeted gable ends and the crenellated towers.

The main roof structure consists of timber trusses and a rafter/joist system. The primarily asphalt shingled roof includes a central octagonal domed portion set on a square base that delineates the area above the sanctuary of the nave. The shingled walls of the base are painted a shade of rose. The dome is topped with a large skylight and a small circular vent. Structurally, the dome includes two heavy built-up tied arches spanning north/south, providing the east/west boundary of the dome over the sanctuary. The north/south boundary consists of framing forming wood lattice trusses spanning between the tied arches.

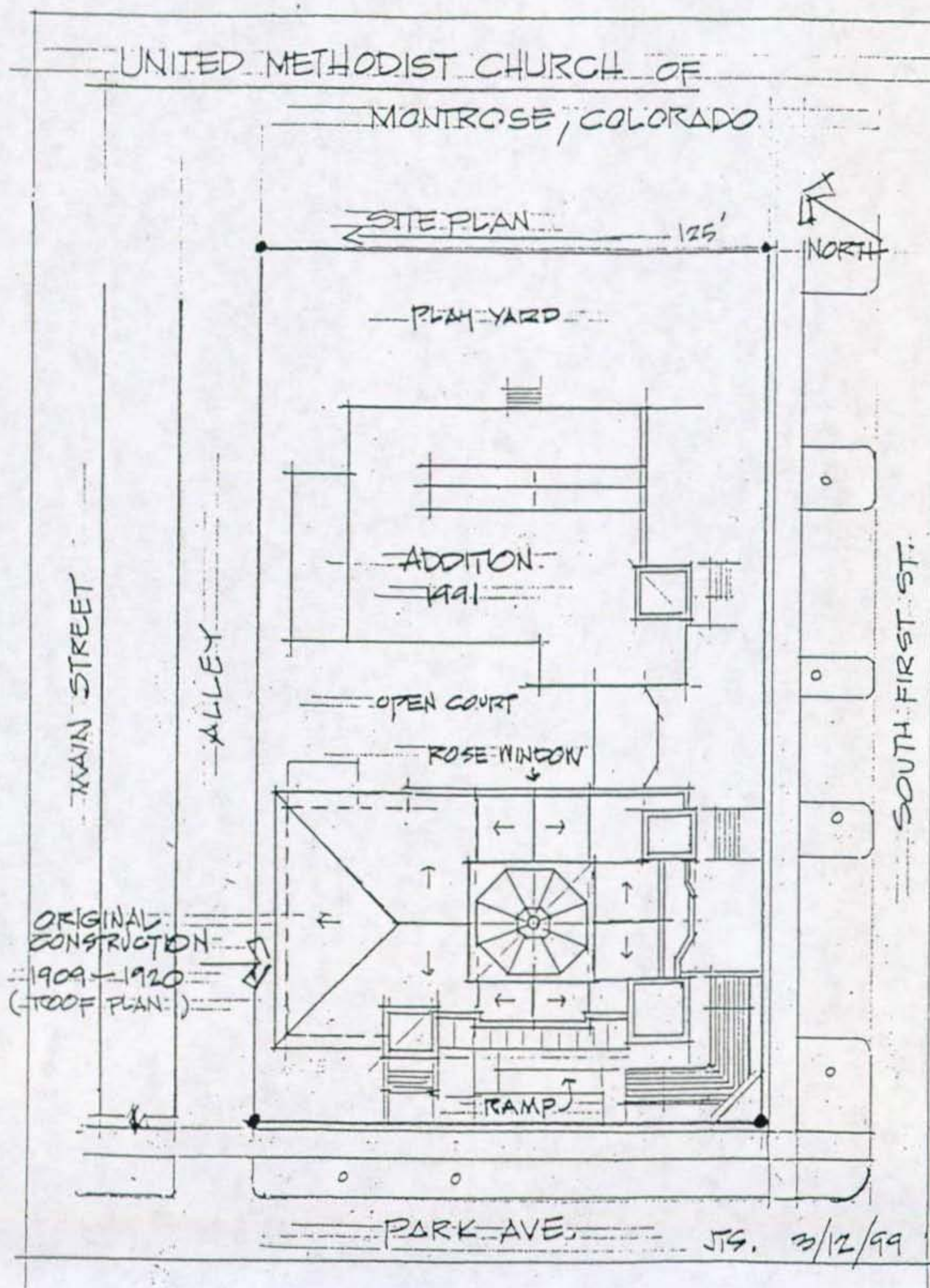
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose
Montrose County, Colorado

Section number 7 Page 2

SKETCH MAP



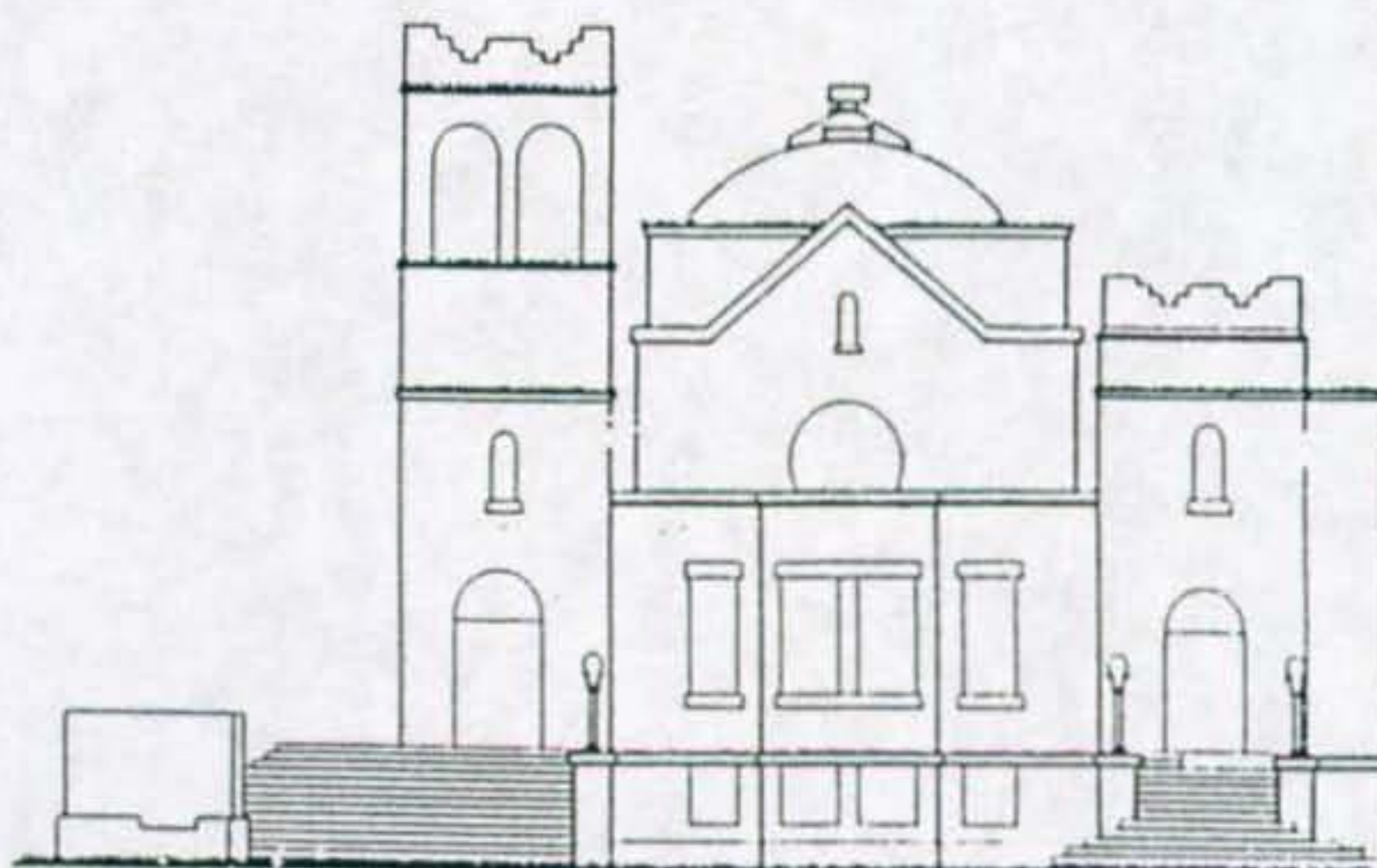
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

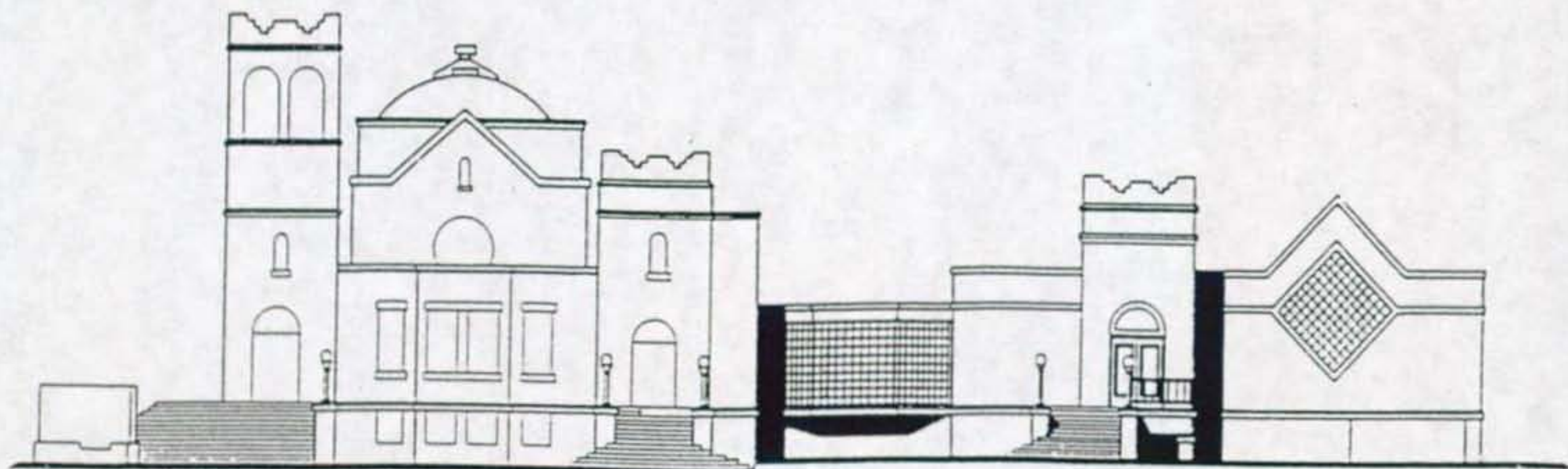
Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose
Montrose County, Colorado

Section number 7 Page 3

SOUTH ELEVATION



Original Building



With 1991 Addition

Source: Brochure from 1991 Consecration Ceremony

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose
Montrose County, Colorado

Section number 7 Page 4

Extending from the domed portion of the roof, there are four ridges forming a cross. The west, south, and east slopes have parapeted gable ends with shoulders. The north ridge intersects with the hipped roof that covers the portion of the building which houses the administrative and classroom area. The hipped roof has a three foot overhang with exposed rafter ends, and two brick chimneys pierce the lower edge of the roof on the east, toward the north end..

Exterior walls are of a muted yellow brick, laid in a common bond, that was locally produced by the Montrose Brick Company. Horizontal projecting corbeled trim and header courses over the bell tower arches are used to accent the roof line. The main door and window openings are topped with semicircular arches. Standing header courses, doubled and tripled, produce segmental arches over the 1/1 double hung stained glass windows on the north and east walls in the north portion of the building which houses offices and classrooms. Toward the south end of the east wall, there is a large religious stained glass rose window in the gable end. Also on the east, there is a single light door with transom at the basement level and a temporary metal storage shed that sits on a concrete pad.

On, the west side of the building, the two-story classroom portion at the north end is stepped back from the body of the church. This west facade of the church is delineated by a low, square tower secondary entry toward the north and a tall, square bell tower main entry at the south corner. The crenellated towers have belt courses of stone and double wood paneled doors with arched transoms. In the upper portions, there are small arched windows with stone sills. All four sides of the top portion of the corner bell tower have paired arched openings of molded brick that are filled with wood louvers, painted rose. The gabled pavilion has a large stained glass, arched window. It depicts "Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane", copied from a painting by Heinrich Hofmann, at Riverside Church, New York. Flanking the pavilion, the tall, narrow arched window toward the north depicts "Girl Kneeling", by an unknown artist. The window toward the south depicts "Jesus Knocking at the Door", by William Holeman.

On the south facade, below the gable there is a one story flat roofed bay which extends forward beyond the edge of the corner bell tower and the low secondary tower that is toward the east end. The bay opens into the nave to provide additional seating and has four 1/1 double hung secular stained glass windows. The arched stained glass window in the gable end depicts "The Good Shepherd", by Bernhard Pluckhorst, Syracuse, New York, Museum of Fine Art and includes geometric and foliate patterns.

The religious windows were painted on glass and then kiln fired. No information as to their maker exists, but they were installed at completion of construction in 1920. The stained glass had been covered with plexiglas in the early 1980s. The plexiglas was replaced with tempered glass in 1998.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose
Montrose County, Colorado

Section number 7 Page 5

1991 Addition

The Post Modern style, one story addition is clearly distinguishable from the original building. The yellow brick used in the construction of its walls varies slightly from the original, as the Montrose Brick Company has not been in business for some 60 years. On its street-side south facade, the forms, textures, colors, and detailing resulted in a compatible design that complements the original building. The addition has an irregular plan and a partial raised basement. It includes approximately 8,800 square feet of useable space. The main level houses restrooms, storage facilities, a large fellowship hall, and a kitchen. The basement houses classrooms, storage space, and a play area.

The asphalt covered roof is flat, except for a portion toward the east end where a front gabled roof covers a vaulted ceiling and skylighted area over the fellowship hall. The foundation is of rock faced concrete block. On the east and west walls, there are high ribbons of small horizontal window openings.

On the south facade, concrete steps, with a wrought iron railing, lead up to an entry patio that has a low wrought iron balustrade. Entry to the building is through double doors with transom set in a semicircular arch. The arched opening is located in a rose colored, stuccoed square tower that complements the towers of the original building. Below the gable peak, set within a diamond shape, there is a "rose" window filled with glass block. The building's belt course of red brick intersects two points of the diamond.

A low, flat roofed one story connector runs between the two buildings. Its walls are of cream colored stucco. Its south facade features a large bay. The bay's three window spaces are filled with glass block. On the connector's north wall, there are small horizontal window openings high on the wall.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose
Montrose County, Colorado

Section number 7 Page 6

Interior

Including the full basement, the building contains approximately 16,000 square feet of floor area. Elements of the Akron Plan visible in the nave and sanctuary include: the sloping floor, curved pews set on the diagonal in a square nave, corner elevated pulpit/lectern and communion table, and a large undulating balcony over rear pews that is supported by seven cast iron columns. The balcony spans the west and south walls. At the top of the prominent central dome, a non-religious stained glass window is lit from a skylight above and fluorescent lights. The main floor structure includes a system of wood joists on steel beams framed to cast iron columns.

The entrance to the sanctuary leads from the narthex located under the main bell tower and diagonally down a sloping central aisle to the opposite corner of the nave, then up a stairway to the elevated platform. To the right of the entry from the narthex is a flat floor overflow seating area created by the bay below the south gable. On the east wall, under the rose window and the original organ pipes, there is a choir loft with a floor at the same level as the pulpit platform. All woodwork is paneled natural oak at lower level of the pews, platform, and in front of the choir.

Projecting outward from the square nave to the west, south, and east are elliptical ceiling vaults below the gable roofs. Eight pilasters accent the square nave and vault intersections. Each is topped by composite Ionic capitals. This plaster detail was completed by special plaster contractors from Denver circa 1919. Above the pilasters, there is a cornice.

North of the sanctuary, there is a recessed room for the bell choir that can be partitioned off by an eight foot high oak folding door, running the length of the nave. Originally, the entire north wall could have been opened into a large meeting room with two levels of classrooms on three sides. During services a rising wall could be lifted so that classes and the Sunday School assembly could participate in the opening and closing exercises from their rooms. The alterations to the north wall date from the late 1930s or early 1940s and reflect an evolution in the way religious services were conducted. The alterations provided for enclosed classrooms and administrative offices.

The full basement has a large meeting room where services were held once the partially finished church basement was roofed. Other below grade spaces are kitchen, classrooms, storage, mechanical areas, and a coal room. The basement floor structure consists of wood on wood joists framing from exterior walls to steel beams or wood girders supported by piers and pad foundations. Wells and sumps monitor the water table.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose
Montrose County, Colorado

SIGNIFICANCE

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose is nominated for listing in the National Register under Criterion C. The property is eligible under Criteria Consideration A as a religious facility significant in the area of Architecture. Completed in 1920, the building is a good local example of an ecclesiastical interpretation of the Romanesque Revival style. In addition, although the interior has been somewhat modified, the building retains its ability to reflect important elements of the Akron Plan, a Protestant church design utilized during the late 19th and early 20th century. The exterior remains in its original form except for the installation of an ADA entry ramp on the west. A clearly distinguishable, but compatible, 1991 addition on the east leaves all but a small portion of the building's east wall visible. The scale of the building, its overall size, the quality of materials and workmanship, and the numerous stained glass windows are impressive for its time of construction in what was a small, somewhat isolated town in southwestern Colorado.

The well-crafted and well-preserved building reflects elements of the Romanesque Revival style in its overall massing, rusticated stone basement walls, numerous semi-circular arches, and square towers of different heights. Many of the materials were locally produced and crafted. In some cases, such as the application of interior plaster, craftsmen came from as far as Denver. The building also reflects the long term commitment of the congregation to provide an adequate facility to meet their evolving needs.

The building compares favorably with the National Register listed Tudor Revival style First Methodist Episcopal Church of Delta (5DT896), one of Colorado's most intact examples of an Akron Plan church. The Akron Plan, believed to have originated in Akron, Ohio shortly after the Civil War, was utilized by some Protestant denominations into the early 1920s. The plan reflected a religious philosophy which stressed the importance of Sunday School attendance over church attendance. Based on a desire for separateness with togetherness, the large open, high ceilinged interiors typically incorporated perimeter balconies that allowed all students to be together for opening and closing exercises. Folding partitions provided the flexibility to create separate classrooms for small group study. Over 2,500 churches were built using the basic plan, which was adapted by numerous architects throughout the country. Their designs were executed in popular ecclesiastical architectural styles of the time.

As the philosophy of the Protestant Sunday School continued to evolve, many of the interiors were modified, particularly with the installation of more permanent partitions in the balcony area. In the case of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose, although the north side of the interior had been modified by the 1950s, the south and west sides remain largely intact. In addition, the sloping floor, and placement of the curved pews in the large open nave continue to clearly reflect important characteristics of the Akron Plan. From the exterior, the building's massing presents an appearance that is very different from the more rectangular Basilican Plan churches that typically included center aisles to accommodate the processions of more formal religious services.

United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose
Montrose County, Colorado

Section number 8 Page 8

Historical Background

Montrose incorporated in 1882 when the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad had arrived. Otto Mears built a hotel with a dining room and bar, and soon there were 14 saloons in town. The Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose stems from the 1882 organization of a Methodist Sunday School by three mothers. It met in a carpenter's shop, using empty nail kegs for seats. Church services were held afterward by a minister sent from Denver. The shop was purchased for \$500 in 1883 and named the Methodist Episcopal Church. The building also served as the first public school, which was taught by another Methodist woman.

In 1886, a brick L-shaped, Gothic style church was built at the corner of North 2nd Street and Cascade Avenue. The Ladies Guild helped pay for the building with their annual Flower Fair held at the new Opera House. By 1906, the brick church building was in bad shape structurally, due to soil instability, and it was condemned. The members decided a new church should be built. Lots were purchased in 1909 at South 1st Street and Park Avenue. The building committee and congregation had a vision of the potential of the Uncompahgre Valley based on the opening of the Gunnison Tunnel which was dedication on September 23, 1909. The tunnel was part of one of the greatest irrigation projects to be attempted by the United States government. President William Howard Taft, federal, state, and local dignitaries attended the event that marked the changing of the valley from high desert to 280 square miles of grazing and farmland.

Church trustees directed the architect to size the new building for a town of 25,000 people and to make the footings large enough to assure no settlement from the expansive soil. Services were held in the local Masonic Hall until the church basement was built. The basement was roofed, and services were conducted there during World War I. In 1917, as funds and labor became available, construction of the new church resumed in earnest, with the final touches being completed in 1920.

Thomas P. Barber of Colorado Springs is credited with the design of the building. The Akron Plan is reported to be similar to his Cameron Memorial Church in Denver. Barber also designed numerous buildings in Colorado Springs, among which are the: First Methodist Church; YMCA gymnasium; Jones/Argo Hall at the Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind; Beth-EI Hospital; the Dern, Robbins and Hubbard buildings; the Alamo Hotel; the St. Vrain Apartments; the Idlewild, North Junior Lowell, Helen Hunt, and Columbia Schools. He also designed buildings in Denver, Pueblo, Greeley, and Gunnison before his death in 1932.

While history books have recorded a few names of local individuals primarily involved in the discovery or development of mining, freight and commerce, road and railroad building, the everyday efforts of the principal players dedicated to establishing a well-rounded working community were often missed. The founding members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose were closely associated with the development of Montrose through their involvement and significant contributions to local daily life in the late 1800s and into the early 1900s. This time period and the locale produced a distinctive church

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose
Montrose County, Colorado

Section number 8 Page 9

building, reflecting the prevailing philosophy of Methodism, a popular architectural style, and the use of local materials.

The construction of the 1991 addition reflected the congregation's long term effort to provide additional space. Prior to 1980, the trustees established a capital improvement fund. In 1984, a long range planning report sited the need for a barrier-free annex. Fundraising and planning continued, with the ground breaking for the addition occurring in December of 1990. It was completed and consecrated in September of 1991.

The architect for the addition was Patrik Davis, a member of the church. With a practice in Montrose, Davis has designed numerous community structures including: schools, a city library, and a county sheriff's office/jail complex.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose
Montrose County, Colorado

Section number 9 Page 10

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose
Montrose County, Colorado

Section number 10 Page 11

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Boundary Description

The boundary includes Lots 13-19, less the eastern 6 feet 6 inches of Lot 19, of Block 49, City of Montrose, 1882.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the parcel of land historically associated with the property.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

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Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose
Montrose County, Colorado

PHOTOGRAPH LOG

The following information pertains to photographs 1-9.

Name of Property: Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose
Location: 19 S. Park Avenue, Montrose, Montrose County, CO
Photographer: John Shoup
Date of Photographs: Spring, 1999
Negatives: Church files.

<u>Photo No.</u>	<u>Photographic Information</u>
1	West and south facades, view east
2	South facade, view north
3	West facade, view east
4	East and north sides, view southwest
5	Paved area between original building and 1991 addition, view southwest
6	South facade 1991 addition, view north
7	Choir loft from balcony, view east
8	North wall with bell choir recess, view south
9	Balcony and seating, view southwest

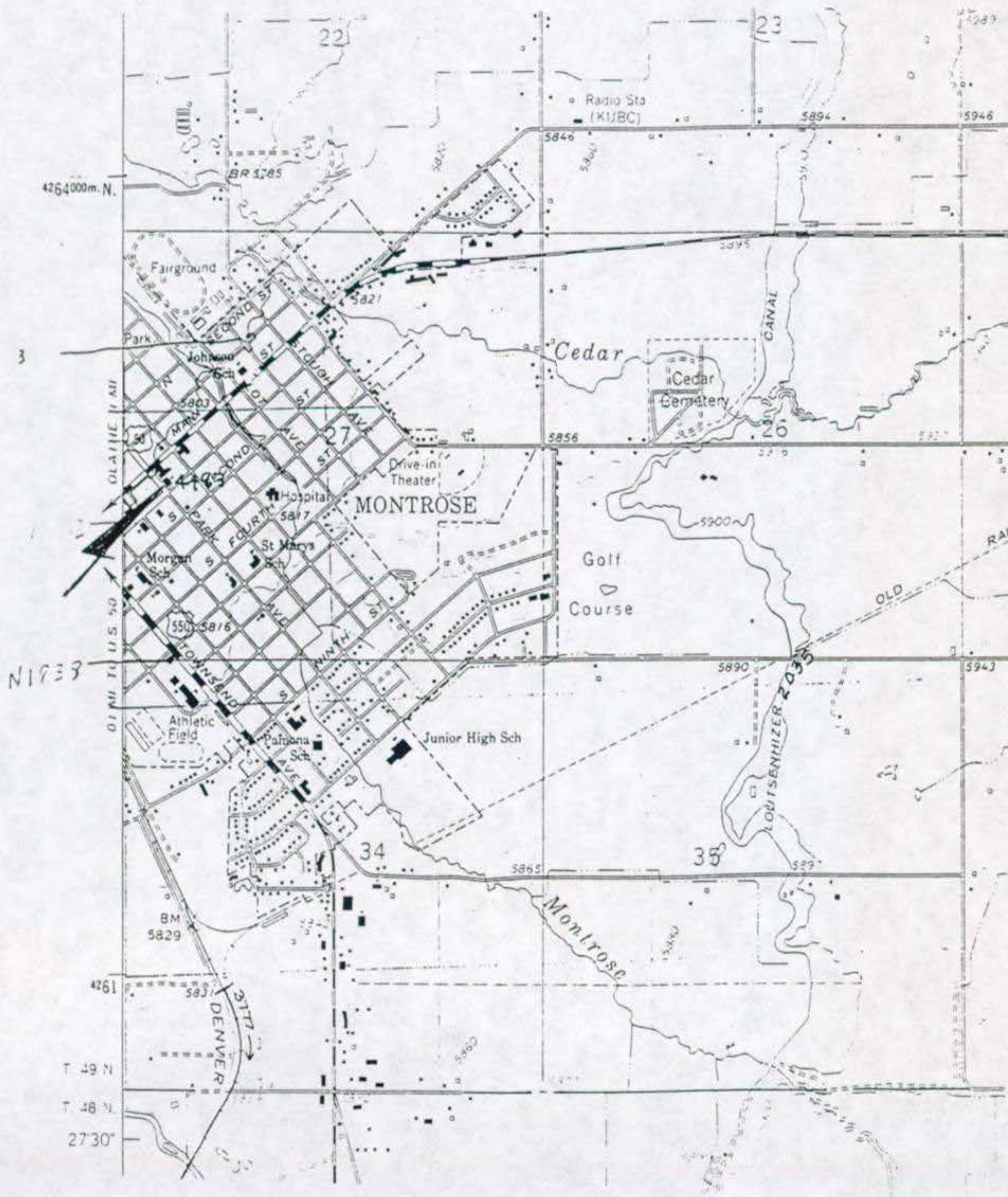
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose
Montrose County, Colorado

Section number Additional Materials Page 13

USGS MAP
Montrose East, Colorado





United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240



The Director of the National Park Service is pleased to announce actions on the following properties for the National Register of Historic Places. For further information contact Edson Beall via voice (202) 343-1572, fax (202) 343-1836, regular or E-mail: Edson_Beall@nps.gov

Visit our web site at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr>

WEEKLY LIST OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON PROPERTIES: 11/29/99 THROUGH 12/03/99

KEY: State, County, Property Name, Address/Boundary, City, Vicinity, Reference Number, NHL, Action, Date, Multiple Name

ARKANSAS, MADISON COUNTY, Bunch Store, 100 Public Sq., Kingston, 99001350, LISTED, 11/26/99

✱ COLORADO, MONTROSE COUNTY, Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose, 19 S. Park Ave., Montrose, 99001407, LISTED, 11/30/99

COLORADO, ROUTT COUNTY, Hayden Rooming House, 295 S. Poplar St., Hayden, 99001144, LISTED, 9/17/99
(Ornamental Concrete Block Buildings in Colorado MPS)

IDAHO, ADA COUNTY, O'Farrell, John A., Cabin, W. Fort St., bet. N. 4th and N. 5th Sts., Boise, 99001415, LISTED, 12/03/99

IDAHO, BONNER COUNTY, Lamb Creek School, 28769 North Highway 57, Priest River vicinity, 99001418, LISTED, 11/30/99
(Public School Buildings in Idaho MPS)

IDAHO, IDAHO COUNTY, Blue Fox Theatre, 116 W. Main St., Grangeville, 99001412, LISTED, 11/30/99 (Motion Picture Theater Buildings in Idaho MPS)

IDAHO, WASHINGTON COUNTY, Star Theater, 342 State St., Weiser, 99001413, LISTED, 11/30/99 (Motion Picture Theater Buildings in Idaho MPS)

MICHIGAN, ALGER COUNTY, King Road--Whitefish River Bridge, King Rd. over Whitefish River, Limestone Township, 99001463, LISTED, 11/30/99 (Highway Bridges of Michigan MPS)



1



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3



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7



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9

COLORADO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FOR OFFICIAL USE:	
Site Number	5MN4493
Nomination Received	
Determined	☐ Eligible ☐ Not Eligible
08-06-99	Review Board Recommendation
	☒ Approval ☐ Denial
08-11-99	CHS Board State Register Listing
	☒ Approved ☐ Denied

COLORADO STATE REGISTER OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

NOMINATION FORM

SECTION I

Name of Property

Historic Name Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose

Other Names United Methodist Church of Montrose

OFFICIAL

Address of Property

[] address not for publication

Street Address 19 S. Park Avenue

City Montrose County Montrose Zip 81401

Present Owner of Property

(in the case of multiple ownership, list the names and addresses of each owner on one or more continuation sheets)

Name United Methodist Church of Montrose

Address 19 S. Park Avenue Phone 970-249-3716

City Montrose State CO Zip 81401-5342

Owner Consent for Nomination

(attach signed consent from each owner of property - see attached form)

Preparer of Nomination

Name John T. Shoup, Member (Edited by S. Doggett) Date April 15, 1999

Organization United Methodist Church of Montrose

Address 2615 Cirque Way Phone 970-240-0395

City Montrose State CO Zip 81401-5342

E-mail _____

Legislative Information

Colorado House District # 58 or Name of Representative Kay Alexander

Colorado Senate District # 6 or Name of Senator Jim Dyer

COLORADO STATE REGISTER OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Property Name Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose

SECTION II

Classification of Property

Type ☒ building(s) ☐ district ☐ site ☐ structure ☐ object ☐ area

Local Historic Designation

Has the property received local historic designation?

☒ no ☐ yes --- ☐ individual ☐ in district

date designated _____

designated by _____ (Name of municipality or county)

Locational Status

☒ original location ☐ moved (date of move _____)

Use of Property

Historic Religion/religious facility

Current Religion/religious facility

Original Owner Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose

Source of Information Church records

Year of Construction 1917; Addition 1991

Source of Information Church records

Architect, Builder, Engineer, Artist or Designer

Thomas P. Barber; 1991 Addition, Patrik Davis

Source of Information Church records

Architectural style/Engineering type

Romanesque/Romanesque Revival; 1991 Addition, Modern Movement/Post-Modern

COLORADO STATE REGISTER OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Property Name Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose

SECTION III

Description and Alterations

(describe the current and original appearance of the property and any alterations on one or more continuation sheets)

SECTION IV

Significance of Property

Nomination Criteria

- ☐ A - property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to history
- ☐ B - property is connected with persons significant in history
- ☒ C - property has distinctive characteristics of a type, period, method of construction or artisan
- ☐ D - property is of geographic importance
- ☐ E - property contains the possibility of important discoveries related to prehistory or history

Areas of Significance

Architecture

Significance Statement

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

Bibliography

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

COLORADO STATE REGISTER OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Property Name Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose

SECTION V

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Locational Information P.M. NM Township 49N Range 9W Section 27

Quad Map Montrose East

Lot(s) 13-19 Block 49 Addition City of Montrose, 1882

UTM Reference: Zone 13 Easting 249365 Northing 4262840

Verbal Boundary Description of Nominated Property

(describe the boundaries of the nominated property on a continuation sheet)

SECTION VI

Photograph Log for Black and White Photographs

(prepare a photograph log on one or more continuation sheets)

SECTION VII

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS TO ACCOMPANY NOMINATION

Owner Consent Form

Black and White Photographs

Color Slides

Sketch Map(s)

Photocopy of USGS Map Section

Optional Materials

STATE REGISTER OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
OWNER CONSENT FORM

Each partial owner must sign a separate form. Reproduce form as needed.
All signatures must be notarized.

Property Name UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, MONTROSE, COLORADO

I, Tom McIntosh
(type or print name)

Chair, United Methodist Church Board of Trustees
title

certify that I am the sole owner___/partial owner___ of the land and property located at
19 South Park Avenue
street number and name

Montrose Montrose
city county

and that I hereby give my written consent and approval for this property's nomination to and inclusion in the
Colorado State Register of Historic Properties.

Tom McIntosh
signature



(seal)

Subscribed and sworn to before me, in my presence, this 27th day of
April, 1999, a Notary Public in and for the
(county) (state) of Colorado.

My term expires: 5/10/2001.

Judith A. Wind
Notary Public

Property Name Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose

DESCRIPTION and ALTERATIONS

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose enjoys a prominent location at the northeast corner of the intersection of Park Avenue and South 1st Street, just northeast of Montrose's downtown commercial district. There are narrow grassed areas and several mature trees running along the west (Park Avenue) and south (1st Street) sides of the building. A square bell tower entry faces the intersection and is approached by a flight of concrete stairs, with metal handrails, which leads up to a large concrete landing. Signage is found on a low brick wall that is placed on an angle at the base of the stairway. A non-historic brick faced, concrete ADA access ramp, with metal railings, extends across a portion of the west side of the building. An alley runs close to the building on the north, and a paved parking/play area is on the east. Also to the east, there is a 1991 Post Modern style addition designed by Montrose architect Patrik Davis. A narrow portion of the addition serves as a connector between what are essentially two separate buildings. The addition was constructed on the property after the 1990 removal of a free-standing parsonage that dated from 1953.

Completed in 1920, the circa 1909 design of the two story Romanesque Revival style, Akron Plan church is credited to Colorado Springs architect Thomas P. Barber. The congregation purchased the land in 1909. Shortly thereafter, the basement was constructed, roofed over, and subsequently utilized for services. The raising of funds and labor shortages resulted in sporadic construction during World War I. Construction resumed in earnest during 1917. Over the years, the trustees of what is now known as the United Methodist Church of Montrose have conscientiously maintained the property. The existing condition of the structure and its exterior and interior is good. A 1975 engineering report identified some maintenance issues but found no major structural problems, and none have appeared since. The building retains a high degree of integrity.

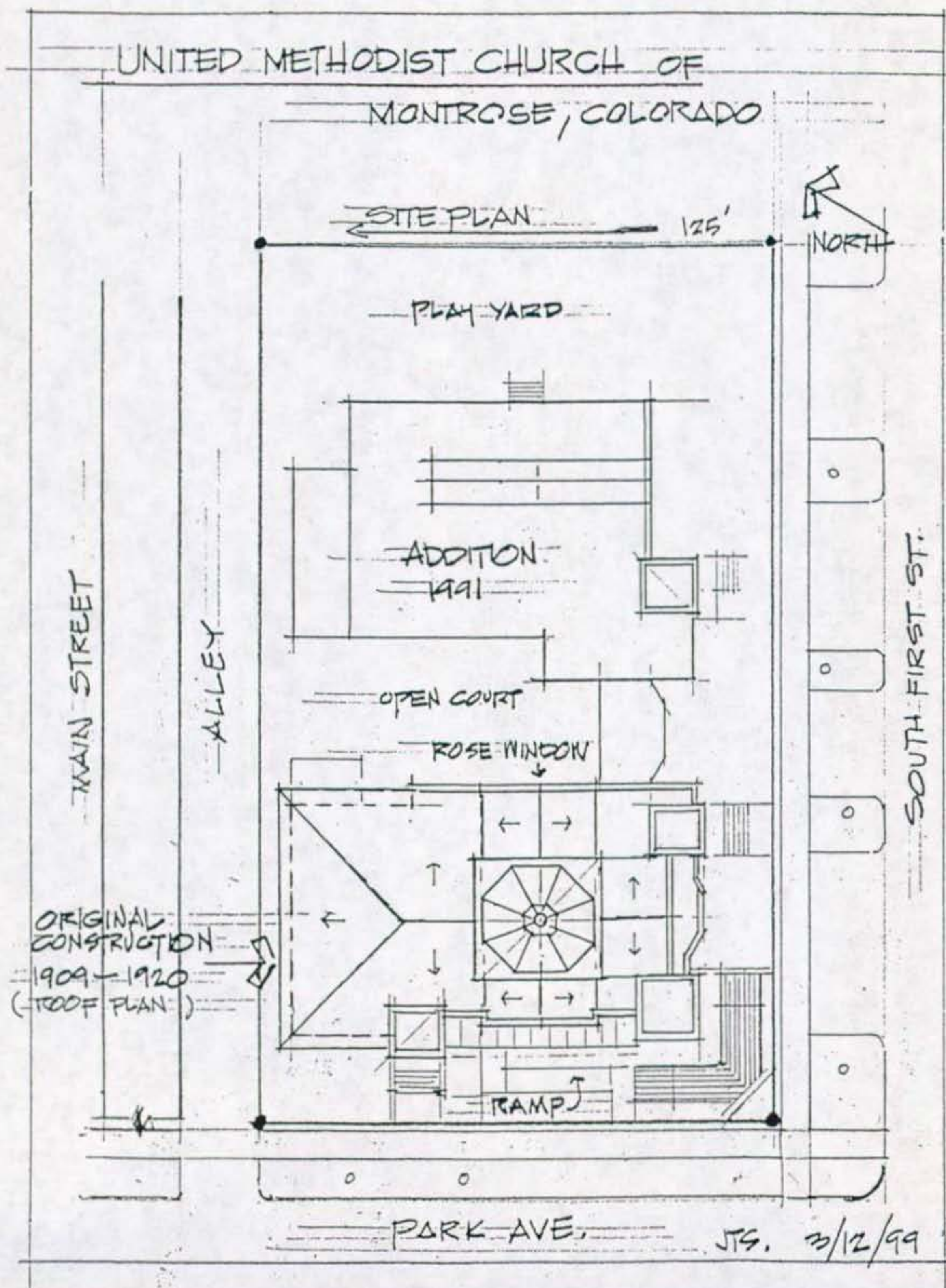
The building's concrete foundation extends more than ten feet below grade. The foundation walls were poured one foot thicker than specified by the architect as the building committee had past experience with the instability of the local soil. Basement walls are faced with coursed, rusticated sandstone to six feet above grade where there is a water table of rusticated sandstone. The tan colored stone came from a nearby quarry on the Uncompahgre Plateau and was shaped by local stone cutters. Sandstone also appears as trim, primarily as coping topping parapeted gable ends and three crenellated towers.

The main roof structure consists of timber trusses and a rafter/joist system. The primarily asphalt shingled roof includes a central octagonal domed portion with a square base that delineates the area above the sanctuary of the nave. The walls of the square are painted a shade of rose. The dome is topped with a large skylight and a small circular vent. Structurally, the dome includes two heavy built-up tied arches spanning north/south, providing the east/west boundary of the dome over the sanctuary. The north/south boundary consists of framing forming wood lattice trusses spanning between the tied arches.

Extending from the domed portion of the roof, there are four ridges forming a cross. The west, south, and east slopes have parapeted gable ends with shoulders. The north ridge intersects with the hipped roof that covers the portion of the building which houses the administrative and classroom area. The hipped roof has a three foot overhang with exposed rafter ends, and two brick chimneys pierce the lower edge of the roof on the east, toward the north end.

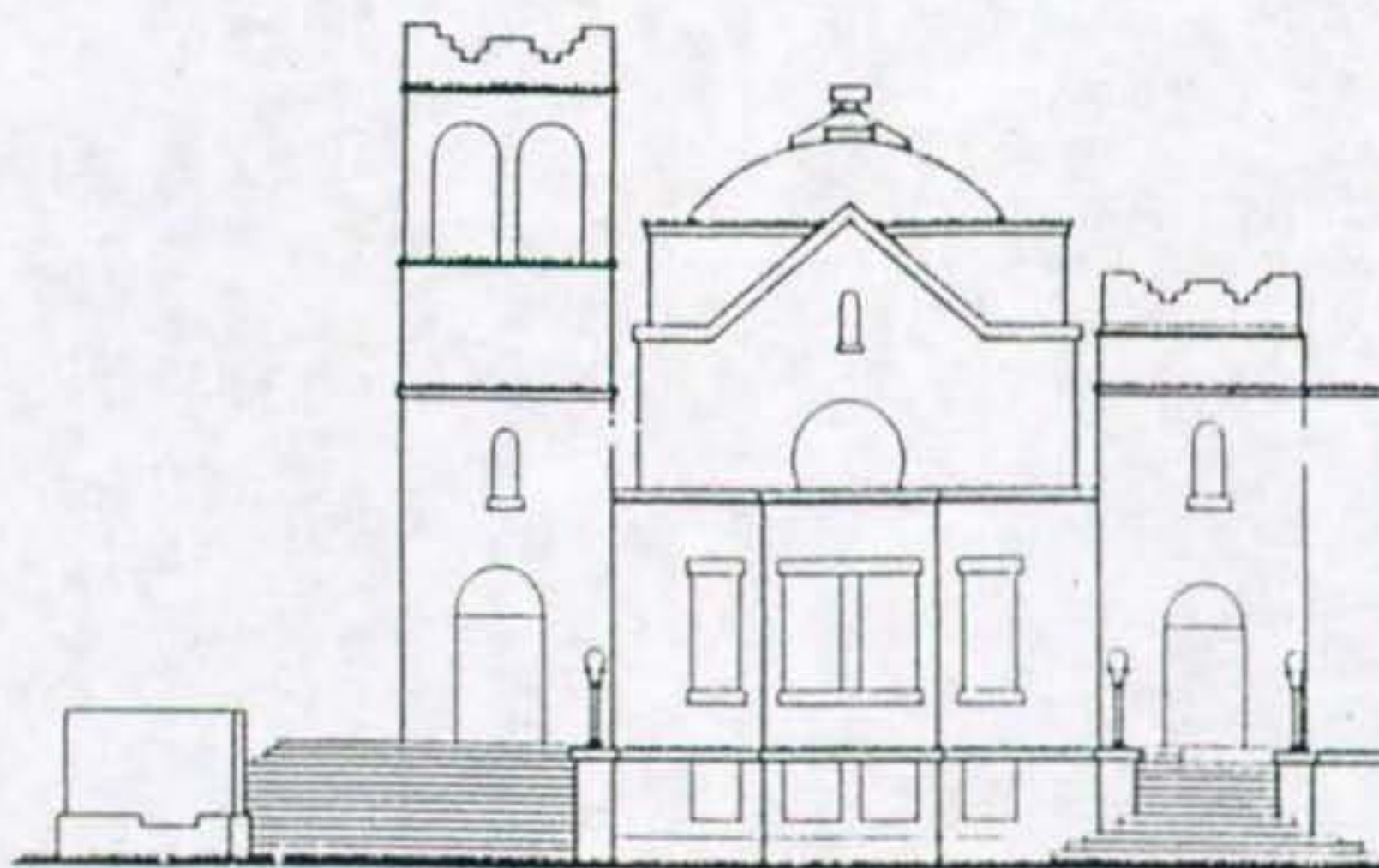
Property Name Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose

SKETCH MAP

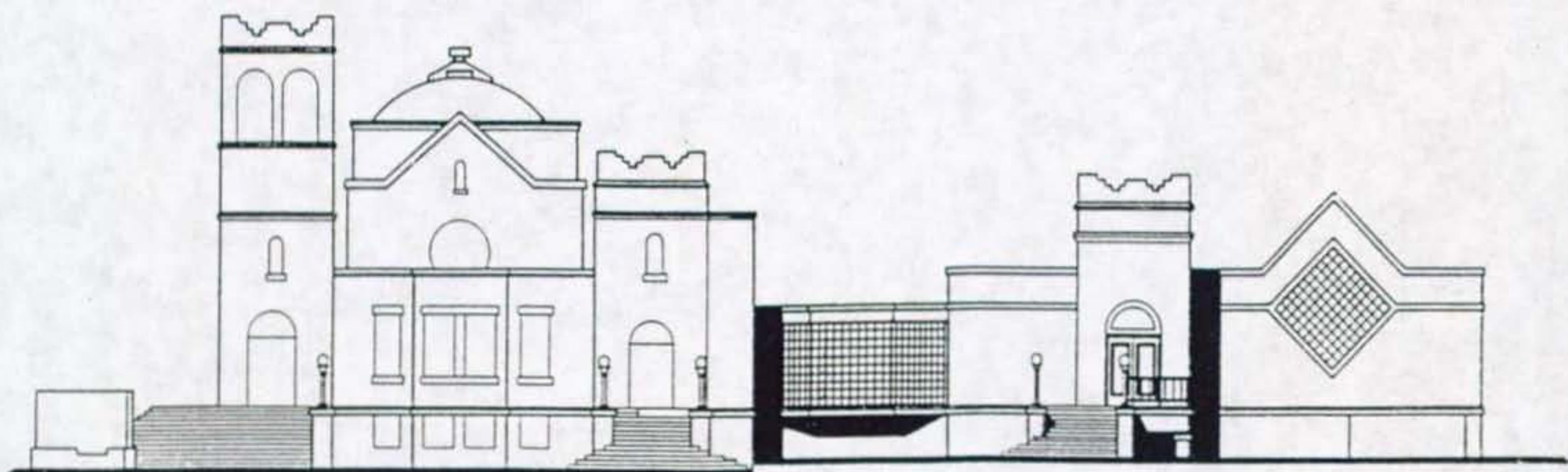


Property Name Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose

SOUTH ELEVATION



Original Building



With 1991 Addition

Source: Brochure from 1991 Consecration Ceremony

Property Name Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose

Exterior walls are of a muted yellow brick, set in a common bond, that was locally produced by the Montrose Brick Company. Horizontal projecting corbeled trim and header courses over the bell tower arches are used to accent the roof line. The main door and window openings are topped with semicircular arches. Standing header courses, doubled and tripled, produce segmental arches over the 1/1 double hung stained glass windows on the north and east walls in the north portion of the building which houses offices and classrooms. Toward the south end of the east wall, there is a large religious stained glass rose window in the gable end. Also on the east, there is a single light door with transom at the basement level and a temporary metal storage shed that sits on a concrete pad.

On the west side of the building, the two-story classroom portion at the north end is stepped back from the body of the church. This west facade of the church is delineated by a low, square tower secondary entry toward the north and a tall, square bell tower main entry at the south corner. The crenellated towers have belt courses of stone and double wood paneled doors with arched transoms. In the upper portions, there are small arched windows with stone sills. All four sides of the top portion of the corner bell tower have paired arched openings of molded brick that are filled with wood louvers, painted rose. The gabled pavilion has a large stained glass, arched window. It depicts "Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane", copied from a painting by Heinrich Hofmann, at Riverside Church, New York. Flanking the pavilion, the tall, narrow arched window toward the north depicts "Girl Kneeling", by an unknown artist. The window toward the south depicts "Jesus Knocking at the Door", by William Holeman.

On the south facade, below the gable there is a one story flat roofed bay which extends forward beyond the edge of the corner bell tower and the low secondary tower that is toward the east end. The bay opens into the nave to provide additional seating and has four 1/1 double hung secular stained glass windows. The arched stained glass window in the gable end depicts "The Good Shepherd", by Bernhard Pluckhorst, Syracuse, New York, Museum of Fine Art and includes geometric and foliate patterns.

The religious windows were painted on glass and then kiln fired. No information as to their maker exists, but they were installed at completion of construction in 1920. The stained glass had been covered with plexiglas in the early 1980s. The plexiglas was replaced with tempered glass in 1998.

1991 Addition

The Post Modern style, one story addition is clearly distinguishable from the original building. The yellow brick used in the construction of its walls varies slightly from the original, as the Montrose Brick Company has not been in business for some 60 years. On its street-side south facade, the forms, textures, colors, and detailing resulted in a compatible design that complements the original building. The addition has an irregular plan and a partial raised basement. It includes approximately 8,800 square feet of useable space. The main level houses restrooms, storage facilities, a large fellowship hall, and a kitchen. The basement houses classrooms, storage space, and a play area.

The asphalt covered roof is flat, except for a portion toward the east end where a front gabled roof covers a vaulted ceiling and skylighted area over the fellowship hall. The foundation is of rock faced concrete block. On the east and west walls, there are high ribbons of small horizontal window openings.

On the south facade, concrete steps, with a wrought iron railing, lead up to an entry patio that has a low

Property Name Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose

wrought iron balustrade. Entry to the building is through double doors with transom set in a semicircular arch. The arched opening is located in a rose colored, stuccoed square tower that complements the towers of the original building. Below the gable peak, set within a diamond shape, there is a "rose" window filled with glass block. The building's belt course of red brick intersects two points of the diamond.

A low, flat roofed one story connector runs between the two buildings. Its walls are of cream colored stucco. Its south facade features a large bay. The bay's three window spaces are filled with glass block. On the connector's north, there are small horizontal window openings high on the wall.

Interior

Including the full basement, the building contains approximately 16,000 square feet of floor area. Elements of the Akron Plan visible in the nave and sanctuary include: the sloping floor, curved pews set on the diagonal in a square nave, corner elevated pulpit/lectern and communion table, and a large undulating balcony over rear pews that is supported by seven cast iron columns. The balcony spans the west and south walls. At the top of the prominent central dome, a non-religious stained glass window is lit from a skylight above and fluorescent lights. The main floor structure includes a system of wood joists on steel beams framed to cast iron columns

The entrance to the sanctuary leads from the narthex located under the main bell tower and diagonally down a sloping central aisle to the opposite corner of the nave, then up a stairway to the elevated platform. To the right of the entry from the narthex is a flat floor overflow seating area created by the bay below the south gable. On the east wall, under the rose window and the original organ pipes, there is a choir loft with a floor at the same level as the pulpit platform. All woodwork is paneled natural oak at lower level of the pews, platform, and in front of the choir.

Projecting outward from the square nave to the west, south, and east are elliptical ceiling vaults below the gable roofs. Eight pilasters accent the square nave and vault intersections. Each is topped by composite Ionic capitals. This plaster detail was completed by special plaster contractors from Denver circa 1919. Above the pilasters, there is a cornice.

North of the sanctuary, there is a recessed room for the bell choir that can be partitioned off by an eight foot high oak folding door, running the length of the nave. Originally, the entire north wall could have been opened into a large meeting room with two levels of classrooms on three sides. During services a rising wall could be lifted so that classes and the Sunday School assembly could participate in the opening and closing exercises from their rooms. The alterations to the north wall date from the late 1930s or early 1940s and reflect an evolution in the way religious services were conducted. The alterations provided for enclosed classrooms and administrative offices.

The full basement has a large meeting room where services were held once the partially finished church basement was roofed. Other below grade spaces are kitchen, classrooms, storage, mechanical areas, and coal room. The floor structure consists of wood on wood joists framing from exterior walls to steel beams or wood girders supported by piers and pad foundations. Wells and sumps monitor water levels.

Property Name Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose

SIGNIFICANCE

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose is nominated for listing in the State Register under Criterion C as a religious facility significant in the area of Architecture. Completed in 1920, the building is a good local example of an ecclesiastical interpretation of the Romanesque Revival style. In addition, although the interior has been somewhat modified, the building retains its ability to reflect important elements of the Akron Plan, a Protestant church design utilized during the late 19th and early 20th century. The exterior remains in its original form except for the installation of an ADA entry ramp on the west. A clearly distinguishable, but compatible, 1991 addition on the east leaves all but a small portion of the building's east wall visible. The scale of the building, its overall size, the quality of materials and workmanship, and the numerous stained glass windows are impressive for its time of construction in what was a small, somewhat isolated town in southwestern Colorado.

The well-crafted and well-preserved building reflects elements of the Romanesque Revival style in its overall massing, rusticated stone basement walls, numerous semi-circular arches, and square towers of different heights. Many of the materials were locally produced and crafted. In some cases, such as the application of interior plaster, craftsmen came from as far as Denver. The building also reflects the long term commitment of the congregation to provide an adequate facility to meet their evolving needs.

The building compares favorably with the National Register listed Tudor Revival style First Methodist Episcopal Church of Delta (5DT896), one of Colorado's most intact examples of an Akron Plan church. The Akron Plan, believed to have originated in Akron, Ohio shortly after the Civil War, was utilized by some Protestant denominations into the early 1920s. The plan reflected a religious philosophy which stressed the importance of Sunday School attendance over church attendance. Based on a desire for separateness with togetherness, the large open, high ceilinged interiors typically incorporated perimeter balconies that allowed all students to be together for opening and closing exercises. Folding partitions provided the flexibility to create separate classrooms for small group study. Over 2,500 churches were built using the basic plan, which was adapted by numerous architects throughout the country. Their designs were executed in popular ecclesiastical architectural styles of the time.

As the philosophy of the Protestant Sunday School continued to evolve, many of the interiors were modified, particularly with the installation of more permanent partitions in the balcony area. In the case of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose, although the north side of the interior had been modified by the 1950s, the south and west sides remain largely intact. In addition, the sloping floor, and placement of the curved pews in the large open nave continue to clearly reflect important characteristics of the Akron Plan. From the exterior, the building's massing presents an appearance that is very different from the more rectangular Basilican Plan churches that typically included center aisles to accommodate the processions of more formal religious services.

Property Name Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose

Historical Background

Montrose incorporated in 1882 when the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad had arrived. Otto Mears built a hotel with a dining room and bar, and soon there were 14 saloons in town. The Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose stems from the 1882 organization of a Methodist Sunday School by three mothers. It met in a carpenter's shop, using empty nail kegs for seats. Church services were held afterward by a minister sent from Denver. The shop was purchased for \$500 in 1883 and named the Methodist Episcopal Church. The building also served as the first public school, which was taught by another Methodist woman.

In 1886, a brick L-shaped, Gothic style church was built at the corner of North 2nd Street and Cascade Avenue. The Ladies Guild helped pay for the building with their annual Flower Fair held at the new Opera House. By 1906, the brick church building was in bad shape structurally, due to soil instability, and it was condemned. The members decided a new church should be built. Lots were purchased in 1909 at South 1st Street and Park Avenue. The building committee and congregation had a vision of the potential of the Uncompahgre Valley based on the opening of the Gunnison Tunnel which was dedicated on September 23, 1909. The tunnel was part of one of the greatest irrigation projects to be attempted by the United States government. President William Howard Taft, federal, state, and local dignitaries attended the event that marked the changing of the valley from high desert to 280 square miles of grazing and farmland. Church trustees directed the architect to size the new building for a town of 25,000 people and to make the footings large enough to assure no settlement from the expansive soil.

Thomas P. Barber of Colorado Springs is credited with the design of the building. The Akron Plan is reported to be similar to his Cameron Memorial Church in Denver. Barber also designed numerous buildings in Colorado Springs, among which are the: First Methodist Church; YMCA gymnasium; Jones/Argo Hall at the Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind; Beth-E1 Hospital; the Dern, Robbins and Hubbard buildings; the Alamo Hotel; the St. Vrain Apartments; the Idlewild, North Junior Lowell, Helen Hunt, and Columbia Schools. He also designed buildings in Denver, Pueblo, Greeley, and Gunnison before his death in 1932.

Services were held in the local Masonic Hall until the basement was built. The basement was roofed, and services were conducted there during World War I. In 1917, as funds and labor became available, construction of the new church resumed in earnest, with the final touches being completed in 1920.

While history books have recorded a few names of local individuals primarily involved in the discovery or development of mining, freight and commerce, road and railroad building, the everyday efforts of the principal players dedicated to establishing a well-rounded working community were often missed. The founding members the Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose were closely associated with the development of Montrose through their involvement and significant contributions to local daily life in the late 1800s and the early 1900s. This time period and the locale produced a distinctive church building, reflecting the prevailing philosophy of Methodism, a popular architectural style, and the use of local materials.

The construction of the 1991 addition reflected the congregation's long term effort to provide additional space. Prior to 1980, the trustees established a capital improvement fund. In 1984, a long range

COLORADO STATE REGISTER OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 8
Section IV

Property Name Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose

planning report sited the need for a barrier-free annex. Fundraising and planning continued, with the ground breaking for the addition occurring in December of 1990. It was completed and consecrated in September of 1991.

The architect for the addition was Patrik Davis, a member of the church. With a practice in Montrose, Davis has designed numerous community structures including: schools, a city library, and a county sheriff's office/jail complex.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 9
Section IV

Property Name Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 10
Section V

Property Name Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Boundary Description

The boundary includes Lots 13-19, less the eastern 6'6" of Lot 19, of Block 49, City of Montrose, 1882.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the parcel of land historically associated with the building.

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Section VI

PHOTOGRAPH LOG

The following information pertains to all photographs except as noted:

Name of Property: Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose
Location: 19 S. Park Avenue, Montrose, Montrose County, CO
Photographer: John Shoup
Date of Photographs: Spring, 1999
Negatives: Church files.

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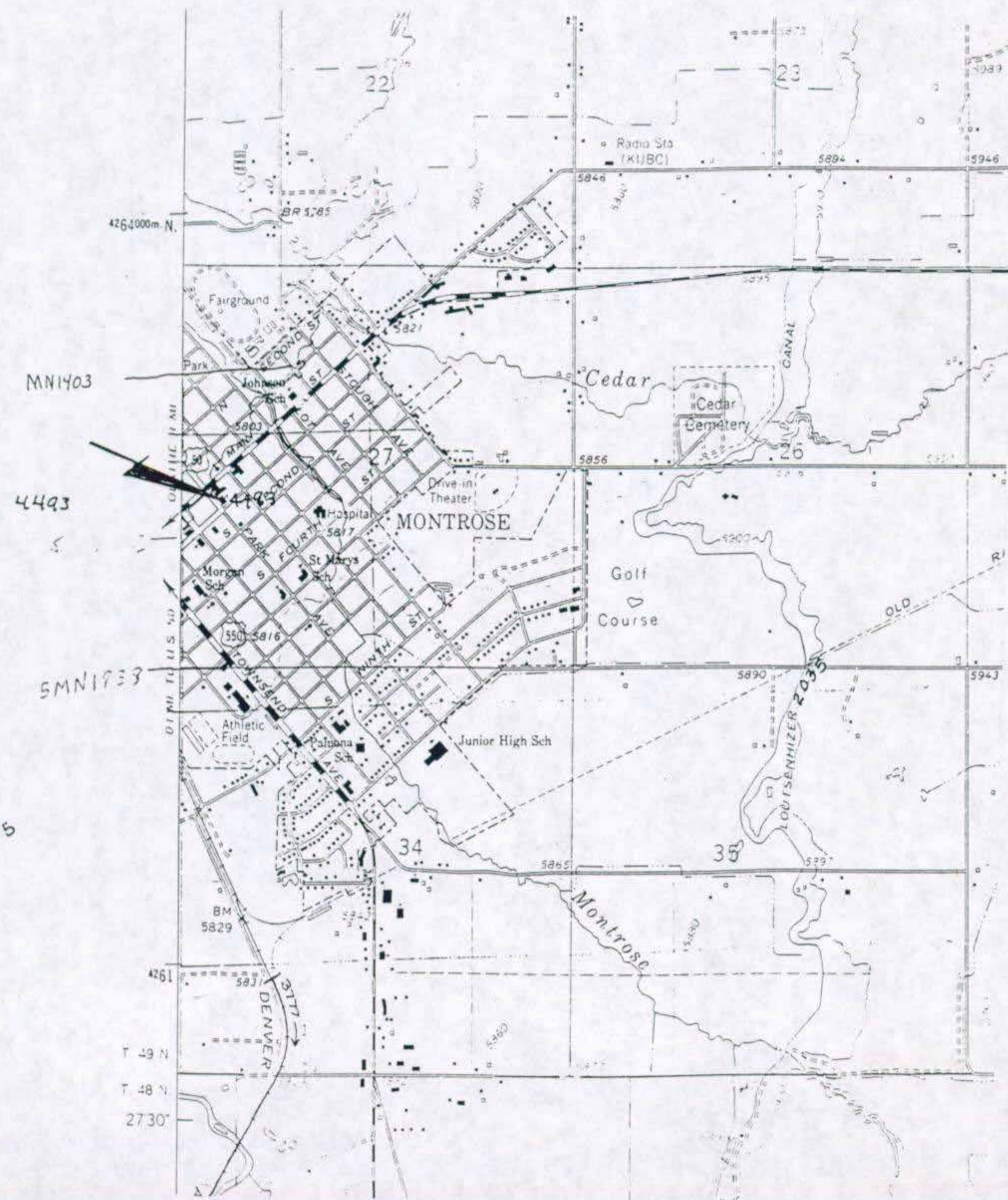
1 Same as National Register nomination

COLORADO STATE REGISTER OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
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Section VII

Property Name Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose

USGS MAP
Montrose East, Colorado



Marble City State Bank
105 W. Main St., Marble (5GN2872)

Missouri Heights School
Carbondale vicinity (5GF2735)

 **Methodist Episcopal Church of Montrose**
19 South Park Avenue, Montrose (5MN4493)

Brewer Archaeological District
County Road S, Dove Creek vicinity (5DL578)

Monte Vista Cemetery Chapel
4927 Road 27, Monte Vista (5RN646)

Forestry Building, Colorado State College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts
Building #81, Colorado State University Campus, Fort Collins (5LR2090)

Veterinary Medicine Building, Colorado State College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts
Building #84, Colorado State University Campus, Fort Collins (5LR2092)

Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad Baggage-Express Car No. 732
8th and Osage (Union Pacific RR Burnham Shops) Denver (5DV6250)

Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad Baggage-Railway Post Office Car No. 631
8th and Osage (Union Pacific RR Burnham Shops) Denver (5DV6136)

Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad Dining Car *Mt. Massive*
8th and Osage (Union Pacific RR Burnham Shops) Denver (5DV6141)

Enterprise Grange No. 25
7203 Simms St., Arvada (5JF1713)

McPhee and McGinnity Paint Factory
2519 Walnut St., Denver (5DV4706)

Midland Savings Building
444 17th St., Denver (5DV1733)

Dodge moved that the Colorado Historical Society Board of Directors approve the recommendations of the State Register Review Board regarding the listing of these



1998





1998





Account: R0652115

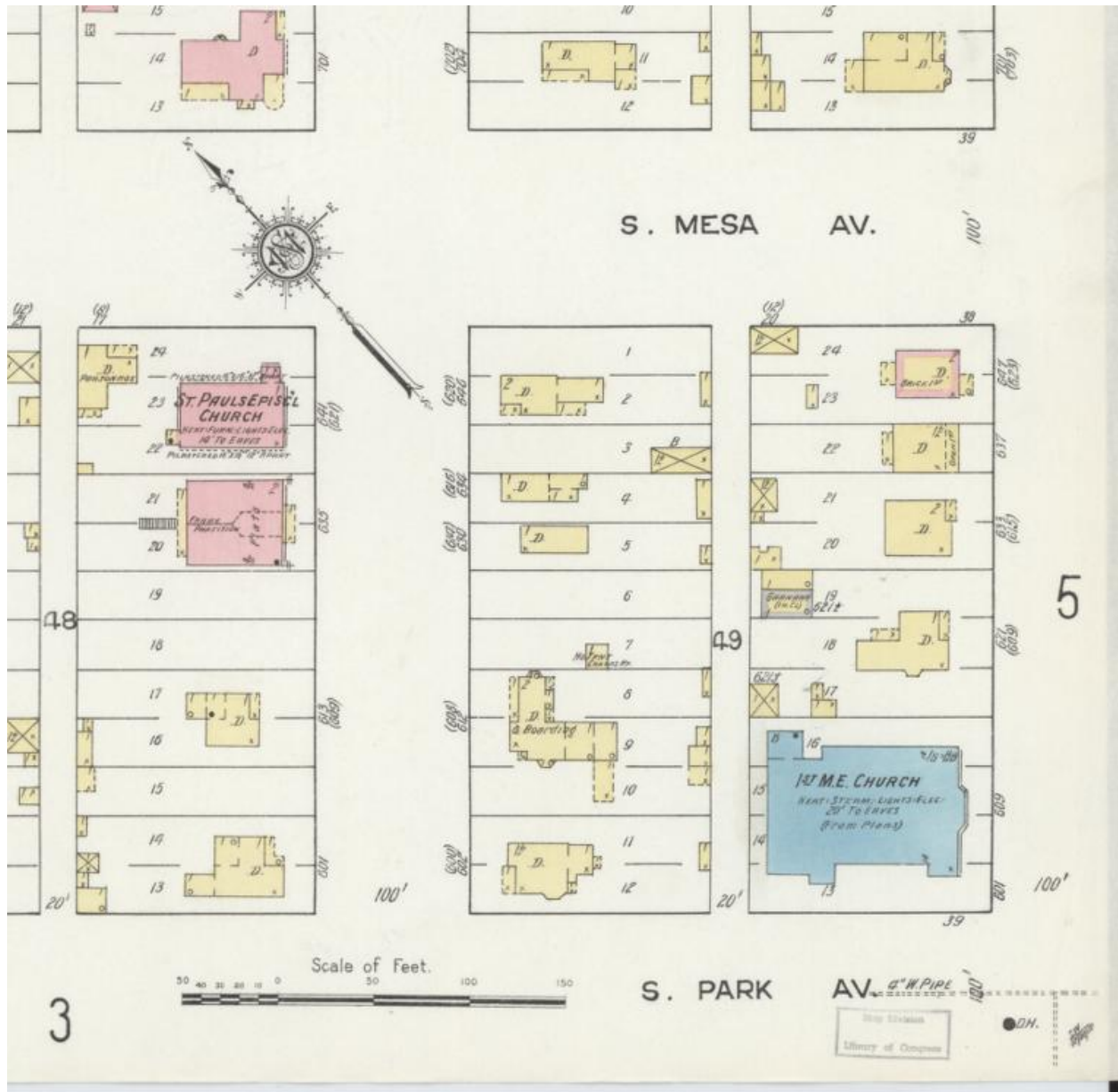
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Tax Area Id - 001005	Owner Name FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF MONTROSE BOARD OF TRUSTEES	Actual (2023)	\$2,432,060		
Parcel Number 3767-273-26-904		Assessed	\$705,300		
Situs Address 19 S PARK AVE 633 S 1ST ST	Owner Address 19 S PARK AVE MONTROSE, CO 81401-0000	Exempt	(\$705,300)		
City MONTROSE MONTROSE		Total Taxable	\$0		
Legal Summary Subd: MONTROSE TOWN OF Block: 49 Lot: 13 THRU:- Lot: 21 WLY 1/2 OF 21 S: 27 T: 49 R: 9		Tax Area: 001005	Mill Levy: 68.812		
		Type	Actual	Assessed	SQFT
		Improvements	\$2,221,950	\$644,370	24907.000
		Land	\$210,110	\$60,930	26563.000
Business Name UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF MONTROSE					
Map Number					

Reception Number	Book Page	Sale Date	Sale Price	Doc Description
	B: 822 P: 560	07/30/1991		QUIT CLAIM DEED

Tax History		Images	
Tax Year	Taxes	• Photo • Sketch •	
*2023	\$0.00		
2022	\$0.00		

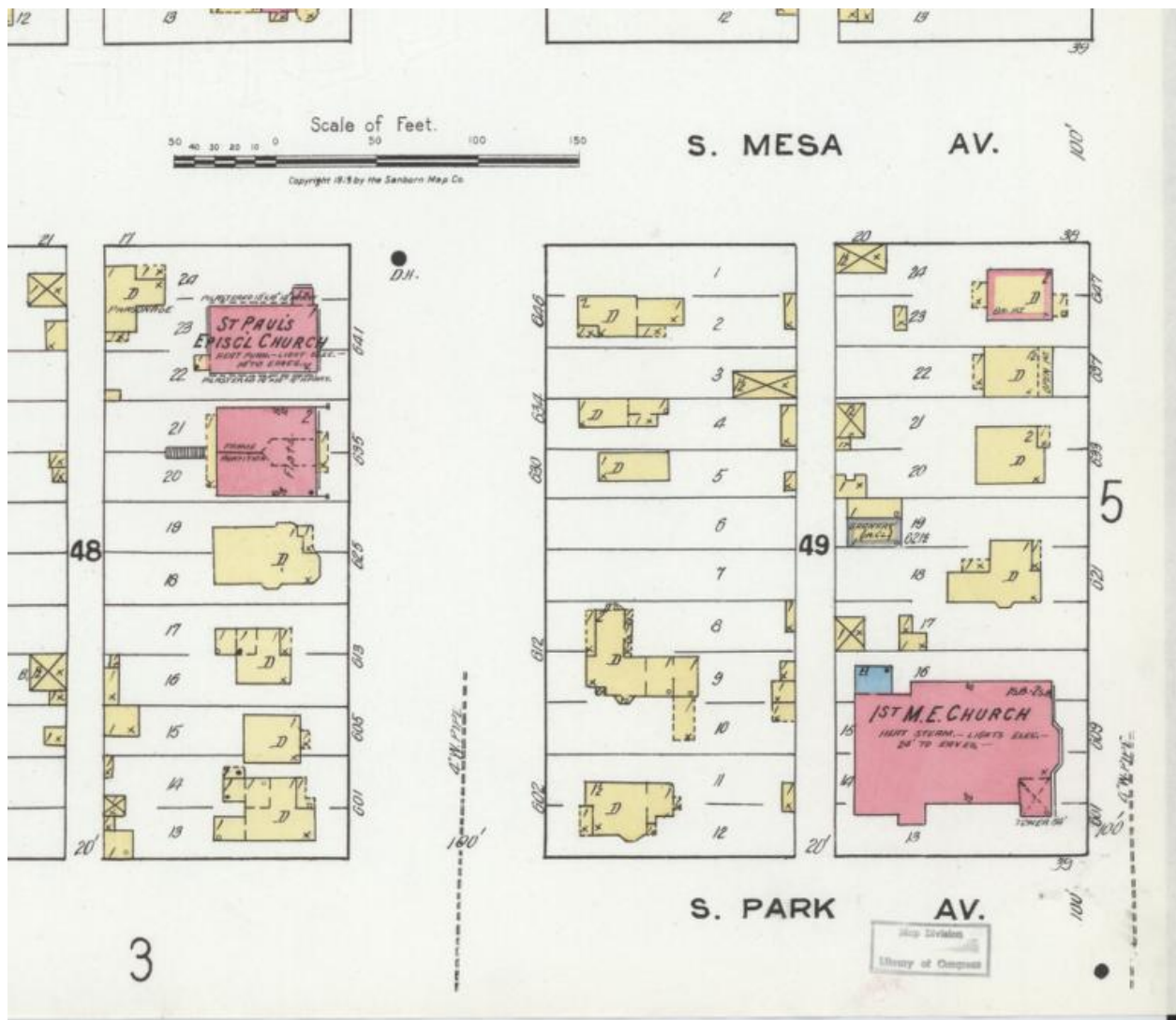
* Estimated





1912 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map

Map shows the building footprint from plans of the church. The building would not actually be completed until 1920.



1919 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map

Map reflects the brick construction as the building nears its completion date of 1920. Work had been halted due to the outbreak of World War I.



1920's, *Denver Public Library*

Children from the Sunday School classes at the church pose with their elders in front of the building.



1920's



1940's



Park Avenue (southwest) facade

Note the tan colored stone, sandstone trim, domed octagonal roof, Akron Plan-style belltower, semicircular arch-topped entrances and windows.



S 1st St (southeast) facade

Corner bell tower has paired arched opening of molded brick filled with wood louvers.



Rear (northeast) side

Stained-glass windows, including circular window. Roof has parapeted gable end, as with other sides. Note that there is an addition to the northeast of the original building, which was built in 1991, and is not considered a historic feature.



Northwest side

Lower portion of the building is constructed of stone, while upper portions constructed of brick. Stained-glass windows with brick sills and transoms.