

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

HISTORIC BUILDING INVENTORY

SITE NO.: 5ME8321

Eligible for National Register yes no
date _____ initials _____
Criteria A B C D
Contributes to a potential National Register district
 yes no district name: _____

COUNTY: Mesa

CITY: Grand Junction

Eligible for State Register yes no
date _____ initials _____
Criteria a b c d e
Areas of significance: _____

HISTORIC BUILDING NAME: First Methodist Episcopal Church

Period of significance _____
Needs data date _____ initials _____

CURRENT BUILDING NAME: First United Methodist Church

LOCAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION: yes no

ADDRESS: 522 White Ave., Grand Junction, CO 81501-2644

Date of designation: N/A
Designating authority: N/A

OWNER NAME & ADDRESS: First United Methodist Church, 522 White Ave., Grand Junction, CO 81501-2644

P.M.: UTE township: 1S range:1W
NE ¼ of NW ¼ of NE¼ of SW¼ of section 14

UTM REFERENCE-12
Easting: 710770
Northing: 4327140

USGS QUAD NAME: Grand Junction

Year: 1962; photorevised 1973 7.5' 15'

STYLE: Spanish Colonial Revival

Block: 82
Lot(s): 28 to 32 inc and W2 lot 27
Addition:
Year of addition:

BUILDING TYPE:

original location moved

Date of moves(s): _____

MATERIALS: Concrete Foundation - Stucco Frame - Asphalt Shingle/Clay Tile Roof

HISTORIC USE: Religious

PRESENT USE: Religious

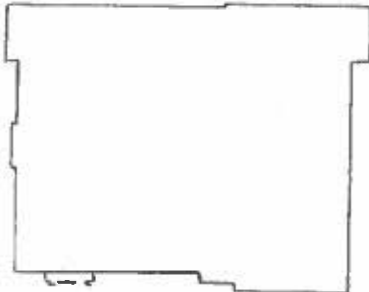
STORIES: 2

SQUARE FOOTAGE: 29778

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION- estimate: 1928 actual:
Source of information: Tax Assessor's Records

PLAN SHAPE:

north arrow



ARCHITECT: Unknown

Source of information: _____

BUILDER/CONTRACTOR: Unknown

Source of information: _____

ORIGINAL OWNER: First United Methodist Church

Source of information: Lot and Block Books

ASSOCIATED BUILDINGS- yes no

Type: _____

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION: Two story nave with front gable roof. Concrete steps with pipe railings lead to three-bay entrance facade. The central three-bay facade is divided by wall piers that rise a full two stories. Three large oak doors with rounded tops are separated by four full height Solomonic columns with Corinthian capitals and impost blocks. The impost blocks are joined by wide molding strips with the form of segmental arches, situated above each door. The molding contains decorative, cartouche-like keystones. The two, large facade piers are capped with four inverted pinnacles. The facade is crowned with a shaped gable. Fenestration is varied. Three large and one small arched stained glass windows in the east elevation. The facade has three tall, rectangular stained glass windows separated by the two inner facade piers. The two lateral windows have molded window hoods, curving horizontal consoles that buttress the central, slightly taller window hood. The central window follows the segmental arch curve of the window head and is ornamented with two outer pendants that frame an oval cartouche resting on horizontal consoles. The facade windows are covered by a protective layer of plexiglass panels divided into twelve and eighteen lights. Concrete basement. Walls are covered with beige stucco. Red Spanish tile roof with overhanging eaves with knee braces and exposed rafter ends. All architectural ornament is white glazed terra cotta. Basement, knee braces, raking cornice and exposed rafter ends are red. A large stucco chimney is on the north slope.

The U-shape education and office addition, built in 1951-1956-1963 is on the west elevation of the Church. The U surrounds a center courtyard.

Two story with hip roof. Concrete steps with pipe railing lead up to principal entrance in east corner of facade. Two large oak doors, each with two small lights. Door has brick jambs supporting a brick segmental arch and a large stone keystone. Next to the entrance, to the west, is a tall, inset, 2-story bell tower and elevator shaft crowned with a shaped gable. Fenestration is varied. Above the entrance are three tall, narrow lights with brick surrounds separated by thick brick mullions. The bell tower has louvered openings in the upper section, metal siding with brick surround in the mid section, and a narrow single light window with a segmental arch, brick surround on the first floor. All other windows around the building are metal casement. Projecting bay window with hip roof in facade. A clerestory of casement windows around the building below the eaves. Rusticated brick basement with ribbons of metal frame sliding windows. Beige stucco siding. Red composition shingle roof with boxed eaves.

PHOTOGRAPHS (include photographs showing each side of building and any associated buildings)

Film roll no.: 30
Negative no.: 24

Photographer: Carolyn Howard
Location of negatives: City Of Grand Junction

CONSTRUCTION HISTORY (include description and dates of major additions, alterations, or demolitions): Addition. Additional construction or modifications not noted in Assessor's records.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (discuss important persons and events associated with this building): In 1883, the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, constructed the first church building in Grand Junction in the 500 block of Rood. The northern Methodists constructed their own building at 5th and White in 1890. It was called the Fifth Street Methodist Church. After meeting separately for a number of years, a service was held on October 27, 1899, uniting the two Methodist congregations under the auspices of the M.E. Church, (North). The united church was named the First Methodist Episcopal Church. Thus, the separation between the two divisions of Methodism since the Civil War period ended—at least in Grand Junction. A national merger did not occur until some 40 years later.

A Methodist Church has stood at 5th and White since the first structure was dedicated in 1890. The lots on which it was erected were acquired by Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church (North) on April 26, 1884 when the Corporate Authorities (Grand Junction) transferred lots 29-32 to the Church. Later, two additional lots were purchased in the 500 block of White expanding the church site to its present six.

The 1890 vintage red brick, Victorian Gothic, church was expanded in 1904 when a large Sunday School building was added, and the older building refurbished. In 1928, a new sanctuary to the east was erected for \$60,000; the 1890 section of the building was torn down in 1950. Ground breaking for a new building occurred in 1951. A second educational unit was consecrated in 1956, and the last educational unit dedicated in 1963. Some 20 years later, the church interior and adjacent courtyard were extensively remodeled. It became the First United Methodist Church in 1967.

Acquisition of the original four lots by the Methodist Church from the Corporate Authorities was part of an overall offer extended to all congregations who might wish to acquire land for the construction of a church on White Avenue. Eight denominations accepted, resulting in corner lots between the Two Hundred and Ten Hundred blocks of White being set aside for religious purposes. In 1996, several churches, including the First United Methodist, remain on these original sites.

INFORMATION SOURCES (be specific): Plat Map, Appraisal Card, Lot and Block Books, Grantor/Grantee Index (1883-1884), Deeds (Book 7 pp. 28-32), Grand Junction City Directories. Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps.

Museum of Western Colorado Research Library:

"Go Tell it in the Valley": A History of the White Street Methodist Church, Grand Junction, CO

"A History and Business Directory of Mesa County, CO" (1886)

SIGNIFICANCE (check appropriate categories) Architectural significance: <input type="checkbox"/> represents the work of a master <input type="checkbox"/> possess high artistic value <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> represents a type, period, or method of construction National Register eligibility: Individual <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D Area(s) of significance: Architecture Period of significance: 1928		THEME(S): 	
Historical significance: <input type="checkbox"/> associated with significant person(s) <input type="checkbox"/> associated with significant event <input type="checkbox"/> associated with a pattern of events <input type="checkbox"/> contributes to an historic district Contributes to a potential district: <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no District name:			
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (briefly justify the significance checked above): A church whose architecture was inspired by the 1920s interest in Spanish Revival. The facade has Churriguersque details. The newer education wing has surfaces and colors to coordinate with the 1926 building. Although not eligible for the National Register, this church may contribute to a local register.			
INVENTORY COMPLETED BY: Museum Group Staff		DATE: 5/31/96	
AFFILIATION: Museum of Western Colorado		PHONE: (970) 241-9117	
ADDRESS: PO Box 20000-5020, Grand Junction, Colorado 81502-5020		PROJECT NAME: Grand Junction Historic Resources Survey, Phase 2	



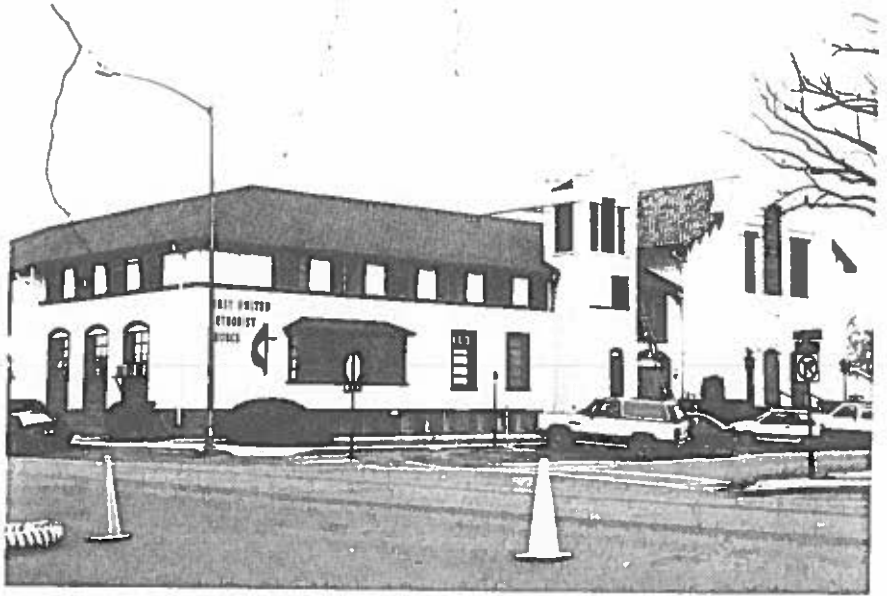
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2945-143-05-951

02/07/1996

Roll 30 Frame 24 View S Dir N/NE

SM E 8321



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