United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any 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.

1. Name of Property
   Historic name: Hobart First Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage
   Other names/site number: ____________________________________________
   Name of related multiple property listing:
   N/A
   (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location
   Street & number: 650 and 654 East 4th Street
   City or town: Hobart State: IN County: Lake
   Not For Publication: [ ] Vicinity: [ ]

3. State/Federal Agency Certification
   As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
   I hereby certify that this ___ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets
   the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic
   Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
   In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I
   recommend that this property be considered significant at the following
   level(s) of significance:
   ___national ___ statewide x local
   Applicable National Register Criteria:
   ___A ___B x C ___D

________________________________________________________________________
Signature of certifying official/Title: ___________________________ Date
Indiana DNR-Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

________________________________________________________________________
Signature of commenting official: ___________________________ Date
Title: ___________________________ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.
4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register
___ determined eligible for the National Register
___ determined not eligible for the National Register
___ removed from the National Register
___ other (explain:) __________________

Signature of the Keeper   Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:  x

Public – Local

Public – State

Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

Building(s):  x

District

Site

Structure

Object
Hobart First Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributing</th>
<th>Noncontributing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 buildings</td>
<td>1 Noncontributing buildings</td>
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<tr>
<td>0 sites</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 structures</td>
<td>0 structures</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 objects</td>
<td>0 objects</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
RELIGION: religious facility
RELIGION: church-related residence

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
RELIGION: religious facility
RELIGION: church-related residence
7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)
LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Late Gothic Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
foundation: BRICK
walls: BRICK
SYNTHETICS: Vinyl
roof: ASPHALT
other: STONE: Limestone

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a summary paragraph that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph
The Hobart First Methodist Episcopal Church is a Late Gothic Revival style brick building, with pointed arch and art glass windows, constructed in 1916 at the corner of East Street and 4th Street. The congregation built a similarly-styled, but much restrained in its features, education wing on the back of the building between 1955 and 1957. A parsonage loosely designed in the American Foursquare style was built in the first decades of the 20th century, but modernized in 1951. About the same time, a brick sign was built west of the church. A storage garage, considered non-contributing, was built behind the education wing in about 1980.
Narrative Description

The Hobart First Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage is located on the northwest corner of East and 4th Streets near downtown Hobart. While the city streets are laid out in a grid plan, they are canted about 45 degrees instead of aligning with the cardinal points. Therefore, for the purposes of this document the facades shall be referred to as south or front (southeast), east (northeast), north or back (northwest), and west (southwest).

Concrete sidewalks are located along the south and east facades of the 1916 church and a paved alley runs along the west side of the property near the parsonage and the education wing (photo 0001). Minimal plantings are found on the north, south, and east sides of the church/education wing, but a lawn with trees and landscaping is located around the parsonage. A small c.1951 sign sits in the lawn of the parsonage near the church and is considered a contributing object (left side of photo 0002). To the north of the education wing are a 1968 parking lot with a 1980 storage garage (non-contributing) at the southwest corner (right side of photo 0004).

_Hobart First Methodist Episcopal Church, 654 East 4th Street, 1916. Contributing_
Sidney R. Badgley, Architect (Cleveland, OH)
R. A. Gabbert, Contractor (Mattoon, IL)
Von Gerichten Art Glass Company, art glass windows
Photos 0001, 0007-0008, 0015-0017, 0025

_Church--Exterior_

The Gothic Revival building, constructed of brownish-red brick produced locally by the Kulage Brick Company, dominates the corner with its four-story crenallated corner tower and large gable front with arched art glass window along 4th Street. Both the church and the attached education wing sit on partially exposed basement spaces, making them appear even taller than they are. Limestone accents, a series of buttresses, art glass windows covered with metal storm windows, and other decorative elements add visual interest to the building. Generally, the art glass windows, designed by Von Gerichten Art Glass Company of Columbus, Ohio, have a geometric pattern with multiple panes composed in Gothic arches, foil patterns, and column-like designs flanking each window with lighter colored glass interior panes and light shades of blue with yellow highlights in the transoms and outside panes of the windows. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and features exposed rafter tails on its eaves. The church has two wide chimneys that pierce the roofline: one on the north façade that is only visible above the roofline between the church and education wing and another internally placed chimney near the front of the west façade just inside the southwest entry. Both are wide brick chimneys divided into two chambers as they rise up from the wall. The west chimney has a diamond-shaped brick pattern and a brick belt course composed of soldiers that extends onto the rest of the wall south of the chimney. There are limestone chimney breasts that mimic the buttresses along the exterior.
The south façade is divided into three bays. Moving west from the corner are the entry tower, the gable front portion with an arched art glass window, and then a secondary entry at the southwest corner (photo 0001). A limestone beltcourse runs around the entire church building and visually separates the lower level from the main level. A granite cornerstone is set just below the beltcourse at the southeast corner and is carved with “FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH 1871-1916.” A short set of steps flanked by low brick knee walls with limestone coping and metal railings lead to a set of replacement metal double doors. Each door has a window in the upper portion with an angular pointed arch meant to mimic the smooth pointed arched window in the adjoining bay. The doors are surrounded by decorative brickwork featuring header, footer, and soldier courses, some of which project out while others recess back. In place of a glass transom above the doors is a herringbone pattern brick panel with a central diamond-shaped stone matching the brick color. A pair of historic lantern-style lights flank the doors.

The tower itself tapers slightly as it rises to the belfry. There are two small art glass windows with limestone sills at the second level of the tower. A small narrow slit art glass window occupies the next level. The belfry is separated from the rest of the tower by a limestone beltcourse around all four identical sides. Each side has a limestone segmental arched opening filled with limestone tracery centered in the façade. The opening is topped by an alternating brick and limestone arch and is highlighted by shallow, stepped buttresses on each corner. The top of the belfry features a brick parapet with crenellations and limestone coping.

The middle bay on the front façade is the gable front with large art glass window. This bay rises roughly three stories with an attic space at the peak and projects out farther than the façade of the tower. Centered in the lower level are three sets of paired 1/1 art glass windows with limestone trim and brick lintels. Directly above these windows is the large Gothic arch art glass window. The window is divided into three rows with the bottom two rows featuring five rectangular panes per row. Two of the panes in the bottom row feature depictions of an oil lamp and a crown with a cross. These are painted into the center of the panes and are therefore stained glass. The top row is curved to follow the curve of the window frame. The window has a limestone sill and is topped by a brick arch that forms a kind of hood over the window with the peak being deeper than the sides (photo 0001). A rectangular louvered attic vent is located above the art glass window. At the corners of this gabled bay are a series of buttresses. Shallower ones adjoin the narrow sides of the projecting front bay and slightly overlap onto the flanking bays. Deeper ones step out toward the street and taper toward the façade. All are topped with limestone caps.

The secondary entry bay at the southwest corner is set back from the street. It has a hipped roof that ties back into the main gabled roof of the church (right side of photo 0002). There is another set of steps that match the tower entry and a second set of the replacement metal doors. This entrance has decorative brickwork surrounding the doors, but it is more subdued that the tower entry. Rows of header course brick run from the beltcourse around the top of the door. Additional rows of brick form a shoulder arch. A decorative panel is located above the door and features rowlock course bricks forming the outer rectangle and filled with two stacked soldier
courses. This area has also been repointed. A pair of historic lantern-style lights flank these doors as well.

The east façade of the church building has three bays and starts with the tower on the south end (photo 0001). There are two small windows in the lower level. Two art glass windows with limestone sills rise along the second level of the tower. The third level is a small narrow slit art glass window that matches the one on the south facade. As mentioned in the description of the south façade of the tower, all four sides of the belfry are identical. The middle bay of the east façade has three sets of triplicate windows divided by buttresses with limestone caps. On the lower level there are two 1/1 wood windows and on the main level each set consists of three art glass windows that have been covered by metal storm windows and rest on limestone sills. The northernmost bay of the church is three-stories tall with brick buttresses at the corners. The bay features a hipped roof that extends out from the building’s main gable roof. A pair of metal replacement doors with narrow slit windows enter slightly above grade in the southern portion of the bay. The doors are framed by a course of soldier course brick with limestone corner accents. Two metal louvers are north of these doors in the lower level. The main floor has two brick panels set high above the doors and surrounded by soldier course brick. A pair of art glass windows covered with metal storm windows with limestone sills are in the north half of this level. The upper floor has two pairs of windows that match the art glass windows on the main floor below.

The former north façade of the church is now covered by the education wing and will be described later in this document.

The arrangement of the west façade is similar to the east façade with its three bay arrangement. Since this side does not have the tower, the southernmost bay instead replicates the window arrangement found in the middle bay of the east façade. While the east side has three sets of this window and buttress arrangement, the west façade has four including the southernmost bay. Additionally, the addition of the education wing entrance obscures most of the northernmost bay although the hipped roof arrangement is still visible (middle of photo 0002).

Church--Interior

Upon entering the church through the main entry in the southeast corner tower, there is a split stair with a narrow set leading down to the lower level and a wide set leading up to the main level (photo 0015). The newels posts at each break in the stair are unadorned rectangles of wood that taper slightly at the top. The balusters are rectangular pickets and the railing is a standard turned rail. Overall it has a very Craftsman-like feel. On the west side of the landing to the main level is a door into the parlor. This space, which acts as an extension of the sanctuary, is located between the entrances/staircases and beneath the balcony in the south end of the building (photo 0016). Given that the interior plan of the church is a variation of the Akron plan, it likely originally served as a Sunday school room. This area, finished in the same plaster and red carpet
as the sanctuary, can be separated from the sanctuary by a set of retractable wood accordion doors that collapse into the corners of a large opening in the north wall of the parlor (photo 0021). The space is bathed by vast amounts of diffused light provided by the art glass windows in the south wall. Two rows of cushioned wood chairs fill the space that functions as a cry room during services.

At the top of the entry stairs is the main opening into the sanctuary. This large space has plaster walls and ceiling and wood floors under the pews (refinished in 2016) and red carpet covering the other floor surfaces (photo 0016). The ceiling over the central part of the sanctuary forms a Gothic arch. There are lower wings to each side that are defined by an arched beam that runs north-south from the front to the back of the church. The arched beams terminate at both ends in a foliated corbel and dropped pendant. Decorative wood molding extends along the three walls of the wings and seamlessly joins the corbels. Three sets of triplicate art glass windows with transoms fill the east and west walls. They are marked in memory of Jarvis Roper, Mr. & Mrs. W. B. Owen, Miss Carrie E. Banks, Clarence C. Dorman, the Epworth League, and the Harmony Class. Two large brass and white glass cylindrical pendant lights extend from the arched beam on either side of the sanctuary. They match much smaller wall sconces that are located under each corbel and dropped pendant found on the south wall. Next to the corbels found on the both sides of the north wall are two pairs of art glass windows that depict St. Paul and St. Peter (west side) and Jesus and St. John (east side). These depictions of saints are painted onto panes, and are therefore stained glass rather than art glass. The north wall of each wing has a recessed two-paneled wood door. The one to the west connects to an L-shaped corridor that accesses the sacristy in the church and the choir room in the education wing. The one to the east connects to the east stairway and a storage closet.

Between these two doors on the north wall of the sanctuary is the chancel and choir loft (photo 0017). Set on a low semi-circular wood platform, three steps lead up to the altar and choir loft which are recessed into a Gothic arch topped chancel. The lower platform is set apart from the congregation by a wood balustrade that conforms to the curve of the platform. The wooden altar and pulpit are placed at the front of the higher platform. A series of chairs and a wood knee wall separate the stepped choir loft from the altar. A paneled wood door is located on the west wall of the choir loft and connects to the L-shaped corridor that accesses the choir room. The back wall of the chancel features a Palladian-style wood screen over the organ pipes and an oculus window composed of art glass above the screen. A second band of decorative molding is found on the east and west walls of the chancel and continues along the side walls of the central sanctuary space above the arched beams that delineate the wings.

The wood pews of the sanctuary are designed in a semi-circular plan and follow the curve of the lower platform. There are three sets of pews that allow for two aisles in the sanctuary, in addition to the side aisles along the outer walls.

The only access to the balcony is by the stairway in the corner tower. A single wood paneled door at the upper level landing is located in the northeast corner of the balcony. There are four
tiers of seats set in two rows. The balcony rests directly above the parlor and the ceiling of the balcony conforms to the Gothic arch found in the sanctuary (photo 0016). Like the south wall of the parlor below, the south wall of the balcony is composed of the panels of art glass windows.

There are two wall sconces on the south wall that match those found on the south wall of the sanctuary below.

A staircase is located off of the northeast corner of the sanctuary. It leads to a storage area and then into the education wing on the main level. This storage area has historic built-in wood cabinets (photo 0020). It also leads to a storage area in the lower level. However, it does not connect to an upper level because there is no upper level in the church building in this area.

The staircase in the corner entry tower is the only stair in the church proper that provides access down to the lower level. A short corridor turns west off of the stairs to meet the main north-south corridor. There are five classrooms and a storage closet in this part of the building (photo 0008). Four of these rooms flank the corridor and the fifth is at the south end of the church, directly under the parlor on the main level (photo 0007). This north-south corridor meets the east-west corridor to form a T at the north end of the church. The east-west corridor wraps around four centrally located storage rooms (under the choir loft on the main level) and accesses the education wing at either end. Walls in the lower level are plaster, there are tile floors, and dropped acoustical tile ceilings with fluorescent light fixtures. The walls along the north-south hallway are topped by wood framed glass transoms to allow for natural light to filter into the halls. Doors are wood with a narrow slit window in the center.

**Education Wing, 1955-1957**

*Frank Schutt, Schutt-Haley Associates, Architect/Engineer*

Photos 0002, 0004, 0009-0014, 0018-0019

**Education Wing--Exterior**

Between 1955 and 1957 a three-story education wing was added to the back (north) façade of the church. The wing addition extends north and west from the north side of the church. It extends the entire east-west width of the property and, with the church, forms an L-shaped building. Like the church it is on a raised basement. The red brick addition has a flat roof and parapet walls with limestone caps. There are metal awning windows and stone sills. The lower level windows are divided into two panes of glass and the main and upper floor windows are divided into three panes of glass. This arrangement is consistent around the entire addition. There are two entrances to the main level education wing and a service entry at grade that leads to the main level and the lower level. The original one is along the south façade in the crux of the L (middle of photo 0002), a modern entry vestibule was added to the northeast corner of the wing in 1997 (middle of photo 0004) and the service entry is centered along the west facade.

The only portion of the south façade that is visible from 4th Street is the entry (photo 0002). The east end of this side is attached to the church building and the west end is partially obscured by the parsonage. A wide sidewalk runs north between the parsonage and church and meets a wide
set of stairs that have brick knee walls with limestone caps. These lead to a two-story brick and limestone entry gable with parapet on a partially exposed lower level. The wall surface is brick and the paired metal replacement doors with narrow slit windows are set within a large Gothic arch and surround made of limestone. An arch stained glass window covered with a metal storm window is located above the entry doors. It is divided into lancets with hopper sashes in the lowest row. The window has depictions of Jesus and the disciples painted into certain panes, while other panes are unpainted, therefore making the window a combination of stained and art glass. On either side of the doors on the brick wall are a pair of historic lantern-like lights. The outside edge of this projecting gable have brick buttresses with limestone caps.

The remaining south façade, west of the entry bay, has five metal awning windows with stone sills on each level spread across the façade.

The west façade has a central entry filled with a pair of metal doors with narrow slit windows at grade and a tall window composed of six stacked panes of glass situated mid-floor between the main and upper levels. To either side of the central bay are two windows at each level. As mentioned earlier, the lower level windows are two lite and those on the main and upper levels are three lite. The southern-most bay in the lower level has a metal louver in place of a window. All windows except those on the lower level have limestone sills.

The north façade of the addition (right side of photo 0004) has thirteen windows, fairly equally spaced, on each of the three levels. Four metal downspouts and leader boxes are located on the north façade. At the eastern end of this façade is a brick and limestone gable front entrance with paired doors and sidelights and topped by transoms that was built in 1997. A large oculus window with stained glass showing a figure of Jesus and surrounded by limestone is set in the gable. There is a limestone arcade-like element along the sides of this entry. The openings are filled with aluminum windows. A large metal louver is located above this entrance near the northeast corner on the education wing.

The east façade (left side of photo 0004) abuts the back of the church building on the north (photos 0001 and 0004). The lower level only has two windows, centrally located in the middle of the wall. On both the main and upper level there are three windows and these are in the south and middle portion of the wall. No windows are located on the northern section of this façade on the wing.

**Education Wing—Interior**

The interior walls in the education wing are mostly composed of concrete blocks and some are covered with plaster. The floors are either tile or carpet. The ceilings are plaster and acoustical tiles and a mixture of fluorescent light fixtures. The three stairways are metal with metal picket-style balustrades with wood railings and access all three levels of the wing (photo 0010). The doors throughout the addition are wood with simple wood casings.
The primary historic entrance to the main level of the education wing is via the south exterior staircase (photo 0011). The double doors open into a wide corridor with stairs to the west and a choir room to the east. This then forms a T with the east-west corridor which extends the full width of the building and includes offices, hall into the church, chapel, restrooms, library, and classroom on the south side and north stair way and entry/elevator, lounge, nurse and closet, offices, and nurseries on the north side (photos 0010, 0012, 0013 and 0014). The chapel was formerly a classroom and was remodeled into a chapel in 1967 designed by D. W. Nolan, Architect. The chapel has wood paneled walls and carpet on the floor with a handful of simple wood pews. Mosaic-style art glass windows decorate the chapel wall of the hallway. The transom window above the door features a crown, while the larger side panels show a white dove and an open book. Across the hallway is a lounge with clear glass windows into the corridor. The west end of the hall terminates at the west stairway.

Moving to the upper floor of the education wing via the south stairs is another short corridor that also forms a T with the east-west corridor (photo 0018). Tucked into the L of the church and the wing on the south side is another chapel with a large pointed-arch art glass window, in memory of Paul and Bliss Emery (photo 0019). No other rooms are accessed from the short corridor. On the south side of the east-west corridor are multiple storage rooms, restrooms, and a large classroom. Along the north side are the north stairway, library, classroom, storage, and playroom. Like the main level, the west end of the hall terminates at the west stairway.

The lower level of the education wing consists of a large social hall and secondary functional spaces (photo 0009). There are three stairways and associated corridors located around the east, south, and west outer edges of the social hall, along with restrooms, storage, boiler, and kitchen facilities.

The primary access into the social hall is via the south stairs. At the bottom of the stairs to the south is the men’s restroom, which is located in the crux of the L formed by the church and the education wing. The social hall is to the north, the women’s restroom and lounge is due east and the corridor into the lower level of the church is to the west beyond the men’s restroom. The remainder of the south elevation of the lower level of the education wing consists of a storage room, the custodian room, and the boiler room. Access to the latter two is via the corridor/service stair hall immediately north of these rooms. On the other side of this corridor/stair hall is the kitchen. The third corridor/stair hall forms extends along the east wall of the education wing. The stairs and handicapped lift are in the northeast corner and access the 1997 vestibule at the northeast corner of the wing that overlooks the parking lot. The corridor itself continues south and connects to the church and the women’s lounge.

*Parsonage (Stafford House), 650 East 4th Street, 1951. Contributing*  
*Frank Schutt, Architect/Engineer*  
*Photos 0003, 0005-0006, 0023-0024*
The two-story brownish-red brick American Foursquare house was built in 1951. Although an unusually late example of the style, the architect’s plans were recently uncovered at the church and confirm this date. The house has a low-pitched hipped roof covered with asphalt shingles and aluminum soffits. A chimney is generally centered on the roof. It has 2/2 replacement wood windows, divided horizontally by Mullions, with limestone sills.

The front façade of the parsonage faces south. A set of concrete steps with metal railings lead to a metal storm door that accesses an enclosed front porch. The porch itself is centered on the symmetrically arranged façade (left side of photo 0003). The porch has brick walls with stone caps and wood-framed screens divided into squares between wood posts. The porch has a flat roof and originally had a wood Colonial Revival style balustrade around its perimeter.

The front of the house consists of a centrally located 2-lite wood entry door with a metal storm door. A set of paired of windows with metal shutters and limestone sills are located on either side of the front entry and porch. There are two sets of this window arrangement on the second floor that are aligned with those on the first. The center bay of the second floor has two slit windows composed of four glass blocks.

The east façade has an off-center stair and entry stoop accessed by a short flight on concrete steps metal railing (photo 0003). It is topped by a canopy-style metal awning supported by metal rods. There are two 2-lite basement windows, one on either side of the stoop. The entry features a metal storm door and a metal entry door with a fan-shaped window at the top and it is flanked by a 2/2 window with a limestone sill on both sides. The second floor has two centered 2/2 windows also with limestone sills.

The north (back) façade has two glass block basement windows. A stoop with concrete steps and floor is east of center on the façade. There is a canopy-style metal awning supported by metal rods over a metal storm door and a wood three-panel door with a window divided into three panes at the top. A 2/2 window is located east of the porch and two small 2/2 windows are located west of the porch. The second floor has two 2/2 windows near the corners of the second floor.

The west façade has two glass block basement windows and two 2/2 windows on the first and second floors. They are located in the southern half of the façade.

Parsonage—Interior
As expected with an American Foursquare house, the interior of the parsonage is divided into four rooms on the first floor. The central entry opens directly into a large living room at the southeast corner (photo 0005, 0022). Moving clockwise from this room is the dining room (southwest corner, photo 0023), kitchen (northwest corner), and office (northeast corner, photo 0024). Two small hallways divide the rear of the house and run perpendicular to one another. The primary one extends from the living room to the north entry and separates the office (east) from the bathroom and closet (west). Access to the main stair is on the west side of this hallway
near the living room. The smaller hallway reaches east from the kitchen between the stairway (south) and bathroom/closet (north) and adjoins the north hall across from the office.

The second floor deviates a bit from the Foursquare plan. The staircase rises from the center of the floor at the west end of the landing (photo 0006). It has a replacement oak balustrade along the north and east sides bordering the staircase. There are three bedrooms, located in the northeast, southeast, and southwest corners. A bathroom is in the northwest corner and between that and the northeast bedroom is a large storage closet.

The house has original plaster walls and ceilings, carpet and tile are on the floors. Trim and doors are simple pine casings and wood doors with brass knobs. Original kitchen and bathroom fixtures were updated. The parsonage retains the original stairway handrail and a few original light fixtures.

*Church Sign, c.1951. Contributing*
left of center in photo 0002
The church sign is a U-shaped brick form with triangular shaped limestone caps on the top of the arms of the U. Set within the bricks is a metal and glass case with a pedimented top. It is located in the lawn of the parsonage near the main access to the education wing and the southwest entry to the church.

*Storage Garage, c.1980. Non-contributing*
right side of photo 0004
This is a one-story storage building with vinyl siding and a hipped roof covered with asphalt shingles. It is located behind the education wing off of its northwest corner. The building has a metal garage door on its west façade facing the alley on the property’s west boundary.
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.)

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<tr>
<td>A.</td>
<td>Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.</td>
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<tr>
<td>B.</td>
<td>Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.</td>
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<tr>
<td>C.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>D.</td>
<td>Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.</td>
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Criteria Considerations
(Mark “x” in all the boxes that apply.)

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<tr>
<td>x</td>
<td>A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes</td>
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<td>B. Removed from its original location</td>
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<td>C. A birthplace or grave</td>
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<td>D. A cemetery</td>
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<td>E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure</td>
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<td>F. A commemorating property</td>
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<td>G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years</td>
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Hobart First Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage

Lake County, IN

Name of Property

County and State

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
ARCHITECTURE


Period of Significance
1916-1957


Significant Dates


Significant Person (last name, first name)
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)


Cultural Affiliation


Architect/Builder (last name, first name)
Badgley, Sidney R. (architect-church)
Von Gerichten Art Glass Company (windows)
Schutt, Frank (architect/engineer-education wing & parsonage)
Hobart First Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage

Name of Property: Hobart First Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins in 1916 when the congregation constructed the church building on the corner of the property and concludes in 1957 when the education wing addition was completed on the back of the church. It includes the period during which the parsonage was built in 1951.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

The church and parsonage were constructed for religious purposes and are owned by the congregation of the Hobart First Methodist Episcopal Church. The property is being nominated as a locally outstanding example of Gothic Revival architecture.

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Hobart First Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criterion C due to the architectural significance of the Late Gothic-styled church including its later addition. The property also features the church parsonage and a historic sign which raises the overall level of significance of the property in the city of Hobart.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Hobart First Methodist Episcopal Church is an outstanding example of Late Gothic Revival architecture which had become a popular choice for church design throughout the late 19th century and well into the first decades of the 20th century. The church has some of the finest features of the style that include buttresses and a crenellated corner entry tower with stone tracery in its belfry. The large pointed-arch window on the building’s front gable wall, composed entirely of art glass, is another impressive feature of the building. The continuation of the pointed-arch design follows through the building in its vaulted ceiling of the sanctuary and chancel. The church retains all of its historic art glass windows and wood cabinets in former office areas.

The Gothic Revival style had been popularized in house design books in the middle part of the 1800s and became popular in Midwestern towns by the 1850s due to the influence of pattern books produced during this time. The pattern books gave hints for other building types. A.J. Davis’ Rural Residences (1837) included a design for a Gothic Revival “Village Church” as well as Gothic Revival houses. A religious revival in Britain in the early 19th century renewed interest
in church construction and in the English Gothic style. In religious architecture, Gothic Revival reached full expression in the United States. The Hobart First Methodist Episcopal Church is the only example of 20th century Gothic design in the city, though a house on East 3rd Street was built c. 1860 in the early Gothic Revival style.

The church was designed by Sidney Rose Badgley, an architect who was born and practiced in Canada until his move to Cleveland, Ohio, in 1887. Badgley, who died a year after the church was built, used a variation of the Akron plan for its floor plan. Badgley (1850-1917) designed more than 60 churches across the country, several of which were for Methodist congregations and featured the Gothic Revival style. His work includes at least two other churches in Indiana: Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church (1904-1906) in Richmond and St. Paul’s Memorial Methodist Church (1903) in South Bend. Both are still standing. Other work includes Deering Memorial Methodist Church in South Paris, Maine, Calvary Baptist Church in Providence, Rhode Island, Highland Park and Woodward Avenue Presbyterian Churches in Detroit, Michigan.

Badgley utilized the Akron plan for his Hobart design. This form had been adopted by many Protestant churches in the United States as a way of implementing Sunday school programming in the building of new church facilities. The plan generally allowed for a classroom or classrooms to be closed off from the main sanctuary during services. Classrooms were arranged in a pie-shaped configuration off a central space. The Hobart First Methodist Episcopal Church utilized this basic concept to enable the back parlor-like room to be closed off at the back of the sanctuary for separate uses. Wood accordion-style doors allow this wide room to be closed from the sanctuary. Though not multiple rooms like the origins of the Akron plan, the ability to close off the space still uses the plan’s basic element.

During the 1920s-1950s many congregations were constructing large education wings onto church buildings in response to increased membership and interest in Sunday school programs. The congregation of Hobart First Methodist Episcopal was no different. They constructed a large three-story addition for classrooms and a social hall in 1955-1957. The design is fairly utilitarian, but includes an entry bay on its south (front) façade that features a stepped gabled parapet, similar to the front façade of the original building, and a pointed-arch window composed of art glass on its upper story.

Frank Schutt of Frank Schutt Engineering Services of Gary, Indiana, was the architect/engineer for the church parsonage in 1951 and the education wing in 1955-1957. He was also responsible for designing the East Gary Community Presbyterian Church.

Other examples of historic religious architecture in Hobart include a few 19th century churches constructed between 1875-1876 in the Italianate style or vernacular in design. These include the German Evangelical Lutheran Trinity Church at 426 Center Street, First Unitarian Church at 497 Main Street, and the German Zion Society Methodist Episcopal Church at 350 E. 5th Street. These are all smaller, gable-front style buildings. Two historic 20th century churches, both of
which post-date Hobart First Methodist Episcopal, include the Neoclassical-styled First Church of Christ Scientist located at 305 E. 6th Street and the Colonial Revival-styled St. Bridget’s Catholic Church located on Center Street. These were built in 1941 and 1953, respectively.

**Developmental History/Additional historic context information**

*History of Hobart in relationship to the organization of the Methodist Church*

In 1846, George Earle, who had a mill and was postmaster of a nearby village named Liverpool, purchased land and constructed a new mill by damming Deep River a few blocks north of Hobart’s current downtown area. Earle relocated the post office to his new mill site and within a few years platted a new village he named for his brother, Hobart. The first schoolhouse in the region was constructed in 1845, near the future mill site, at the current Hobart Masonic Temple location. In 1849, Lake County organized Hobart Township, in which the newly established village of Hobart would become the center for community life in the township. Earle built the first cabin in the village; his son, John, constructed the first residence a few years later. The new village was located on the Chicago-New York coach route, which allowed the community to reap the benefits of frequent travelers and trade. The same year Hobart Township was organized, a Methodist circuit included the village as a stop by Reverend Daniel Straight. Two years later, the first Methodist Sunday School class was organized by H. N. Wheeler.

By the 1870s, the population of Hobart reached 500 and there were 95 families recorded in 1871 when the First Methodist Episcopal Church was organized. In 1870, Hobart was named the head of a Methodist circuit that included Lake Station, Hickory Grove, and Merrillville. The congregation constructed a building the following year on land donated by the town’s founder, George Earle, on the same site as the current building. James T. Stafford became the first pastor over a congregation that numbered just twenty.

The railroads and subsequent industry accelerated the community’s growth during the first decades of the 20th century. In 1900 the population was 1,200 but it grew to over 6,500 by 1935. The town responded by incorporating as a city in 1921 at which time the population had already nearly tripled to 3,500. In 1915, a year before Hobart First Methodist Episcopal began construction on its new building, there were seven churches in the city including Saint Bridget’s Catholic Church, German Evangelical Lutheran, Swedish Lutheran, German Evangelical Methodist, the Christian Church, Swedish Methodist, and the Hobart First Evangelical Methodist led by Rev. G. S. Goodwin.

With the construction of a new church building in 1916 for $22,803, the Hobart First Methodist Episcopal congregation was responding to the growing population of the city. Reverend John Ayling was the pastor during the construction of the new building. Milton Brown, William Owen, David Frank, Frank Davis, George Thompson, Albert Phillips, and Arthur Weaver were trustees of the church during its construction. Hobart’s population continued to climb...
dramatically through the middle part of the 20th century. In 1950 the population had reached over 10,000 and by 1960 had grown to more than 18,000. The construction of the parsonage in 1951 and the construction of the education wing in 1955-1957 occurred during this explosive growth of Hobart’s population. At the time of the education wing’s dedication, the congregation numbered 1700 persons and the Sunday school had an enrollment of 950 under the pastoral leadership of Reverend Walter Wilson.
9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

“Facades Won’t Do When it Comes to the Church”

First United Methodist Church of Hobart History & Pastoral Chronology 1870-2010, 2010.


Lake County Interim Report/Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory. Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, 1996.


Profile of a Northern Indiana Community: Hobart, c. 1960.

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 #__________
___ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #___________

Primary location of additional data:

___ State Historic Preservation Office
___ Other State agency
___ Federal agency
___ Local government
___ University
___ Other
   Name of repository: ______________________________________

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 089-520-04080
10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

Use the UTM system

**UTM References**
Datum (indicated on USGS map):

- [ ] NAD 1927  or  [x] NAD 1983

1. Zone: 16  Easting: 478948  Northing: 4597849
2. Zone:  Easting:  Northing:
3. Zone:  Easting:  Northing:
4. Zone:  Easting:  Northing:

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Beginning at the northwest corner of East Street and East 4th Street, face southwest and continue in a line with the north side of 4th Street 132 feet to the east edge of the paved alley at the west edge of the property. Turn northwest and continue in a line with the east edge of the alley 198 feet to the northwest corner of the property. Turn northeast and continue in a line 132 feet to the west edge of East Street. Turn southeast and continue in a line 198 feet to the north side of East 4th Street, or the place of beginning. These are lots 70, 71, and 72 to the town of Hobart.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary described above includes the primary building, the church and its addition, and includes the church parsonage and other features that support the congregation and significance of Hobart First Methodist Episcopal Church since its establishment in 1871.
11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Kurt West Garner  
organization: Hobart First United Methodist Church/PIP  
street & number: 12954 6th Road  
city or town: Plymouth state: IN zip code: 46563  
e-mail: kwgarner@kwgarner.com  
telephone: 574-936-0613  
date: September 28, 2015

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)
Photographs
Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn’t need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage
City or Vicinity: Hobart
County: Lake State: Indiana
Photographer: Kurt West Garner
Date Photographed: June 30, 2017
Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: South and east facades of church, facing northwest
1 of 25.

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage
City or Vicinity: Hobart
County: Lake State: Indiana
Photographer: Kurt West Garner
Date Photographed: June 30, 2017
Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Front façade of education wing, facing north
2 of 25.
Hobart First Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage

City or Vicinity: Hobart

County: Lake  State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: June 30, 2017

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: South and west facades of parsonage, facing northeast

3 of 25.

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage

City or Vicinity: Hobart

County: Lake  State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: June 30, 2017

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: North façade of education wing, facing southwest

4 of 25.

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage

City or Vicinity: Hobart

County: Lake  State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 18, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Living room and back hall of parsonage, facing northeast

Sections 9-end  page 24
Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage

City or Vicinity: Hobart

County: Lake State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 18, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Second floor landing of parsonage, facing east

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage

City or Vicinity: Hobart

County: Lake State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 18, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Front classroom in lower level of original church, facing southeast

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage

City or Vicinity: Hobart

County: Lake State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner
Date Photographed: May 18, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Corridor in lower level of original church, facing south

8 of 25.

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage
City or Vicinity: Hobart
County: Lake State: Indiana
Photographer: Kurt West Garner
Date Photographed: May 18, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Social Hall in first floor of education wing, facing northwest

9 of 25.

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage
City or Vicinity: Hobart
County: Lake State: Indiana
Photographer: Kurt West Garner
Date Photographed: May 18, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Main staircase/northeast stairway from second floor of education wing looking north toward ground level entry vestibule.

10 of 25.

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage
City or Vicinity: Hobart
Hobart First Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage
City or Vicinity: Hobart
County: Lake State: Indiana
Photographer: Kurt West Garner
Date Photographed: May 18, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Main corridor leading from south entry into education wing on second floor, looking south
11 of 25.

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage
City or Vicinity: Hobart
County: Lake State: Indiana
Photographer: Kurt West Garner
Date Photographed: May 18, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Main corridor on second floor of education wing, looking west
12 of 25.

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage
City or Vicinity: Hobart
County: Lake State: Indiana
Photographer: Kurt West Garner
Date Photographed: May 18, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Library on second floor of education wing, looking south
13 of 25.
Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage
City or Vicinity: Hobart
County: Lake State: Indiana
Photographer: Kurt West Garner
Date Photographed: May 18, 2015
Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Exterior of chapel on second floor of education wing, looking southeast
14 of 25.

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage
City or Vicinity: Hobart
County: Lake State: Indiana
Photographer: Kurt West Garner
Date Photographed: May 18, 2015
Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Corner entry tower stairs of church, looking southeast
15 of 25.

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage
City or Vicinity: Hobart
County: Lake State: Indiana
Photographer: Kurt West Garner
Hobart First Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage
City or Vicinity: Hobart
County: Lake State: Indiana
Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 18, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Church sanctuary looking southwest from main floor

16 of 25.

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage
City or Vicinity: Hobart
County: Lake State: Indiana
Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 18, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Church sanctuary looking north from balcony

17 of 25.

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage
City or Vicinity: Hobart
County: Lake State: Indiana
Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 18, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Main corridor of education wing’s third floor, looking west

18 of 25.
Hobart First Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage

County: Lake State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 18, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Third floor chapel of education wing, looking southwest

19 of 25.

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage

City or Vicinity: Hobart

County: Lake State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 18, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Historic cabinetry in room off sanctuary, looking southwest

20 of 25.

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage

City or Vicinity: Hobart

County: Lake State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: June 30, 2017

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Back of sanctuary, looking south from choir loft

21 of 25.

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage
Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage

City or Vicinity: Hobart

County: Lake State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 18, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Parsonage living room, looking west

22 of 25.

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage

City or Vicinity: Hobart

County: Lake State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 18, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Parsonage dining room, looking southwest

23 of 25.

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage

City or Vicinity: Hobart

County: Lake State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 18, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Parsonage office, looking northeast

24 of 25.

Name of Property: Hobart United Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage
Hobart First Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage

Name of Property:

Lake County, IN

County and State:

City or Vicinity: Hobart

County: Lake State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: June 30, 2017

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: West facade of church, looking northeast

25 of 25.

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.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.