

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCERS use only

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Hamline Chapel, United Methodist Church

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number High and Vine Streets

not for publication

city, town Lawrenceburg

vicinity of

congressional district

state Indiana

code

county Dearborn

code

**3. Classification**

**Category**

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

**Ownership**

- public
- private
- both

**Public Acquisition**

- in process
- being considered

**Status**

- occupied
- unoccupied
- work in progress

**Accessible**

- yes: restricted
- yes: unrestricted
- no

**Present Use**

- agriculture
- commercial
- educational
- entertainment
- government
- industrial
- military

- museum
- park
- private residence
- religious
- scientific
- transportation
- other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name United Methodist Church

street & number High and Vine Streets

city, town Lawrenceburg

vicinity of

state Indiana 47025

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dearborn County Court House

street & number West High Street

city, town Lawrenceburg

state Indiana 47025

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title \_\_\_\_\_ has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date \_\_\_\_\_  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records \_\_\_\_\_

city, town \_\_\_\_\_

state \_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

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**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

Situated near the Ohio River on High Street, a street known for it's high nature in reference to the regional river level, the present building known as the Hamline Chapel of the United Methodist Church, Lawrenceburg is a structure consisting of a lower ground level being used for Sunday School and Religious Educational purposes with a large high ceiling sanctuary at the second level.

The original building was built with a large gabled front with typical Georgian Styling with wood trim and two sets of high double doors on the front facade at the Sanctuary level. The building is raised out of the ground due to it's close proximity to the river and waterbasin, the Sanctuary is accessed via a grand staircase, originally built of stone, and now replaced by concrete for safety reasons.

The original front doors were destroyed in 1937 during the Ohio River flood and have been replaced by eight foot oak doors with a simple wooden lintel above to fill the original opening.

The Sanctuary interior consists of simple Georgian woodwork detailing, all painted plaster walls, and a unique and ornate tin ceiling with elaborate cornice work which has been painted to accent the interior decor.

At a later date, approximately 1900 (exact date is not known) an addition to the rear of the main Sanctuary was built to accommodate the working mechanisms for the large pipe organ which is still existing in the church. This is a small brick extension built in complete sympathy with the original design and houses access to the pulpit area from the basement area of the church as well as housing utility function below and pipe organ equipment above.

During the 1950's, a new addition was built beyond the second addition, across the back of the church extending to the Southeast consisting of two floors of contemporary styling in a glazed red brick which consists of offices and educational facilities for the main church. This addition is somewhat nondescript and does not have the scale to compete with the main church edifice which dominates the site.

In 1979, a major renovation program was started consisting of both exterior and interior work. The exterior brick work was totally cleaned with a high pressure steam and chemical solution, which preserved the integrity of the soft river brick. After cleaning, a one-hundred percent tuck pointing job was accomplished with full silicone waterproofing to follow. All trim was repaired and replaced, all stone lintels were completely cleaned and renewed with proper stone sealant. A new roof was installed over the entire structure and all gutters and downspouts were replaced or repaired.

Existing grand staircase at the front of the church has been sealed with latex sealer and a new slurry-grit surface has been applied to better conform with the brick coloration of the church and also provide a skid-proof surface for pedestrian use.

There exists a small log cabin building utilized for Boy Scout purposes to the rear of the 1950's addition. This structure has no impact on the site.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** Built in 1847      **Builder/Architect** Unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The original Hamline Chapel was built in 1847 as a fine example of simple Georgian detailing and styling and represents a high degree of structural technology with it's wide span main Sanctuary ceiling and roof structure. It also represents one of the finest examples of tin ceiling and cornice detailing in the Southeastern Indiana Region. The church has been through many periods of adverse environmental conditions, attributed to it's close location to the Ohio River. The building and it's wood steeple have been major landmarks in the Lawrenceburg Area and can be seen from the Ohio River as a maneuvering landmark for passing river traffic. The facility is now protected by an earthen levee which was installed after the 1937 flood by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and not affected by flooding at this time, even though the building does occupy flood plain location. The present church building accommodates an active and growing congregation of the Methodist Church and from the recent renovation work which has been accomplished, a firm commitment to retain the present church facility has been made by the congregation and maintenance of the facility as an ongoing responsibility.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1/4-acre

Quadrangle name Lawrenceburg

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

**UMT References**

A 

1	6
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6	8	6	0	4	0
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4	3	2	8	9	0	0
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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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**Verbal boundary description and justification**

Dearborn County, Indiana Deed Record Book X, page 161. Inlot #36 bounded on North side by High Street, East side by Vine Street, South side by levee and railroad property and on West side by Ewbank Law offices.

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries**

state \_\_\_\_\_ code \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ code \_\_\_\_\_

state \_\_\_\_\_ code \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ code \_\_\_\_\_

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Philip W. Miller

organization Space Team/Phil Miller, Inc.

date July 2, 1980

street & number 319 Front Street

telephone 812/537-4100

city or town Lawrenceburg

state Indiana 47025

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

title \_\_\_\_\_

date \_\_\_\_\_

**For HCRS use only**

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date \_\_\_\_\_

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date \_\_\_\_\_

Chief of Registration