

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

FINAL

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 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 St. Paul Methodist Episcopal Church
other names/site number St. Paul United Methodist Church 139-555-37020

2. Location

street & number 426 N. Morgan St. N/A not for publication
city or town Rushville N/A vicinity
state Indiana code IN county Rush code 139 zip code 055 46173

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 36CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] 11-5-97
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
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:

<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain:)	_____	_____

St. Paul Methodist Episcopal Church _____

Rush _____ IN _____

Name of Property _____

County and State _____

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
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

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 Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: Religious Facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: Religious Facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: Gothic

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE

walls BRICK
STONE

roof ASPHALT

other TERRA COTTA

Narrative Description

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

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1887

Significant Dates

1887

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

McDaniel, David W.: Brick Mason

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographic 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

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

St. Paul Methodist Episcopal Church
Name of Property

Rush IN
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property <1

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	16	633580	4385400	3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2				4			

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 Mary C. Swarts, Church Historian / Heather M. Confer
organization St. Paul United Methodist Church /DHPA date 7-28-97
street & number 1210 N. Harrison St. telephone 65-932-2628
city or town Rushville state IN zip code 46173

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 Trustees of St. Paul c/o Mrs. William Moore
street & number 426 N. Morgan telephone 765-932-3777
city or town Rushville state IN zip code 46173

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.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**National Register of Historic Places
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Section 7 Page 1

St. Paul Methodist Episcopal Church, Rush County, Indiana

St. Paul Methodist Episcopal Church, now known as St. Paul United Methodist Church, was constructed in 1887. The Victorian Gothic building is located at the southeast corner of North Morgan and Fifth Streets in Rushville, Indiana, in a residential area that is two blocks north of the Rushville Commercial Historic District. A basement was added to the building in the 1920's. South of the church there is a separate non-contributing brick education building which was constructed in 1962. The church itself is brick with a stone foundation. It has a cruciform plan, with steeply pitched cross gable roof. A square bell tower dominates the north facade. Patterned brickwork, decorative stone bands, Gothic arched windows, and terra cotta accents contribute to the integrity of the exterior. The interior has original walnut doors, carved wooden stair rails and a 1917 Moeller pipe organ. The building has been well maintained by the Trustees who are very proud of their church. It is in excellent condition both inside and outside.

The north or main facade of the church faces Morgan Street. The Rush County Interim Report lists the foundation as limestone but reports from local sources say it may be water weathered Kentucky dolomite. There are approximately five courses of stone below a smooth limestone water table. Small window openings punctuate the foundation. The heating and cooling system is evident along the east side of the north foundation. Also at the very eastern end of the north facade is a small recessed gable containing a door. This is the handicapped entranced to the building and there is a ramp with metal railings leading to this door. Moving west there is large gabled section, one of the short arms of the cross. It has a large Gothic arch stained glass window recessed from the plane of the wall with wooden tracery. Originally the tracery divided the window into three horizontal sections and formed trefoil and quatrefoil patterns in the uppermost arched section. The current tracery forms a series of Gothic arches within the larger arch. On both sides of the large window are lancet windows. The windows all have stone sills, radiating brick voussoirs with stone insets. The insets have carved details. There is a narrow stone band across the facade approximately two-thirds of the way up the building. This band corresponds to the lower roof level of the other gable section. At the top of this gable there are three small Gothic arched openings, the middle one has solid decorative wood and the two on the sides have vents. They are banded on the bottom and the top by stone and there are two thinner bands along the top third of the small arches. There is basket weave brickwork at the top of the gable. A double line of brick runs parallel to the white wooden cornice line. A pinnacle with crockets sits atop the gable.

To the west of the gable is the square brick bell tower. The tower is divided into three horizontal sections not including the foundation. On the lower east facade of the tower is a small shed roof extension. On the lower north facade there is one small square window opening in the foundation, a double hung window and a Gothic arched glass window. On the lower west facade of the tower are the main entry doors. Originally the steps ran east along the side of the building onto a small landing and straight into the double wooden doors. When the basement door was installed the steps were turned to face south and a larger concrete landing was added. At the east edge of the landing the double wooden entry doors are almost hidden within a steeply pitched gable containing a Gothic arch. The arch has radiating voussoir. Stone insets give it a banded appearance. There is a stone band at the top of the arch. The gable has basket weave brickwork with a centered, molded terra cotta rosette medallion.

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St. Paul Methodist Episcopal Church, Rush County, Indiana

The two upper sections of the tower appear larger than the lower one, making the tower look top heavy. The division between the lower and upper parts is made visually by a section of brick work that advances from the plane of the wall. This section then has recessed rectangles that help to emphasize the top heavy nature of this section. On top of the advancing/recessed section on each facade are three Gothic arched window openings with radiating brick voussoirs. A corner buttress also begins at this level and continues upward on the northwest corner of the tower, it has blind arches with stone sills. A smaller buttress like projection is on the northeast corner but it does not continue to the top of the tower. Above the small windows on each facade is a stone band. Above the band on each side of the tower are tall lancet windows with radiating brick voussoirs and stone insets. A decorative horizontal brick band separates the middle section from the top. Large Gothic arched openings with wooden vents dominate each facade in this section. They have the same brick voussoir with stone insets as the other window openings. In addition all of the window openings are set back from the plane of the wall. Another decorative brick band cuts across this section of the tower at the top third of the large arched openings. The very top of the bell tower has a decorative wooden parapet. Each corner of the tower is topped by a pyramid with a spherical finial. Each pyramid also has gablet details on each of its four sides. The corner buttress originally had a taller, domed shaped top.

To the west of the tower on the north facade are the stairs that lead to the entry doors and the door which leads to the basement. The basement door is to the right (west) of the stairs. There was once a small window in this location. Above the concrete stoop is a round arch window divided into four sections. The radiating voussoir has molded terra cotta medallions at each end. Above the basement door is a band of three small Gothic arched windows on a stone sill. They also have radiating voussoirs with incised stone keystone type inset tops each arch. There is a molded terra cotta medallion at each end of the band. Over the band of windows is a small wall dormer containing a Gothic arch with brick voussoir and stone insets.

The west facade of the church is a large gable section that creates the bottom of the cross in this cruciform plan. Along the bottom of the stone foundation, where the foundation meets the sidewalk, there is a concrete section. Originally this area was covered with some kind of planting and landscaping which made it look level with the rest of the foundation. There are six small windows in the foundation on this facade. The main section, the middle, of this facade projects from the plane of the building. Centered in the projecting section is a large Gothic arch window with wooden tracery. On each side of the large window is a lancet window. All of these windows have radiating voussoirs with stone insets, stone lintels, and are set back from the plane of the wall. On each side of the projecting middle section there is a tall rectangular window with a flat brick radiating voussoir. In the upper portion of the gable there are three small Gothic arched windows with the same details as the ones in the north gable. There is basket weave brick work above the windows and a vertical line of terra cotta tiles directly under the gable point. A pinnacle with crockets tops the gable. At the corners of the building and at the corners where the projecting section advances there are small gablets similar to the ones on the top of the bell tower. Originally there were two large brick chimneys on this facade, one on each side of the projection. (See copy of 1920's photograph). They had decorative brick work and large rectangular chimney pots. The chimneys on the east facade were the same. The west

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St. Paul Methodist Episcopal Church, Rush County, Indiana

facade chimneys may have been removed during the 1920's remodeling for the basement which is probably when the east facade chimneys were shortened too.

The south facade somewhat mirrors the north facade. Instead of the three windows that are over the basement door on the north facade there are only two windows on the south facade. There is a wall dormer above. To the east is a large arched window divided into four parts. The main difference between the north and south facades is the absence of the bell tower on the south. The entry on the south has a tall pyramidal steeple in place of the bell tower. The detailing on this entry is less elaborate. The gable over the doorway arch is smaller and the brick work in the gable is triangular following the lines of the gable. The main gable section, which is the other short arm of the cross, has a large Gothic arch window with wooden tracery and two lancet windows on either side. There are three small Gothic arch windows in the gable with the same details as the north gable.

The east facade of the church is a jumble of elevations, roof shapes, and projections that reflect the interior use of this space. This area on the interior houses the altar, the pipe organ, and small auxiliary rooms. The main exterior facade is a large gable section that completes the top portion of the cross in this cruciform building. There is a large hipped roof section beneath the gable point and a smaller hipped roof section below that with windows on each side, north and south. To the left (south) is a short hipped roof section with a Gothic arch door and window. The arches are the same as those on the rest of the building. To the north of the center section is a gable section, but the gable faces the north. Two Gothic arch windows are on the east facade. They are the same as the other arches on the building. The decorative band is made from glazed white brick instead of stone. There are two brick chimneys that have been shortened from their original appearance. The details in the gable are less elaborate than they are in the other gables. There are three small Gothic arched openings above a band of glazed white brick but no other decorative elements. The original slate roof was replaced with asphalt shingles in 1972.

Upon entering the church through the main doors into the north foyer one can choose to enter the sanctuary through swinging doors or turn left to go upstairs or turn right and go downstairs to the basement. The basement was added in the 1920's with funds raised by the women of the congregation. It contains a parlor with a fireplace at the bottom of the stairs, a fellowship and banquet area, a large kitchen with pantry, restrooms, and mechanical and storage areas. The ceiling in the basement is the original molded tin installed in the 1920's.

The main floor of the church encompasses the altar with the pipe organ area behind it in the east. The organ was rebuilt in 1971 and an organ screen was added at that time. There is a choir loft on each side (north and south) of the altar with a small storage room beside these, one on each side of the church. The altar and the nave are carpeted. The nave seats 250 people on oak veneer pews from a 1968 interior remodeling. The ceiling of the nave shows where the cross gable sections intersect. Elaborate wood trim 'ribs' form a star like pattern from which an electric light is suspended. The sanctuary has just recently been redecorated. To the west (back) of the church is auxiliary seating for an additional 50 people. This area is affectionately known as "the garage" because it can be closed off for Sunday School or other functions with wooden pull down doors. In each foyer are double walnut wood doors that lead into the "garage area". Each door has six panels, the top panels have wooden tracery forming a Gothic arch.

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St. Paul Methodist Episcopal Church, Rush County, Indiana

Behind (west of) the "garage" is a bridal preparation room and a choir robe room which were added in a 1953-1954 remodeling.

In each foyer are wooden stairs leading to the second floor. These stairs, which are original to the building, have square newel posts with carved floral design and turned spindles. The second floor which is above "the garage" was originally a balcony. It was enclosed in the 1950's remodeling for educational uses. When the education building was constructed in 1962 it was used for storage. Currently it is divided into three rooms. The center room is used for the church museum. The room to the north of the center is used for storage and the room to the south of the center is the church archives. Access to the bell tower is through this second story. The original bell is still in place and is used occasionally for weddings and other special celebrations. None of the interior changes are reflected in the exterior of the building.

Rated "Outstanding" in the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory for Rush County, St. Paul Methodist Episcopal Church retains much of its integrity. The interior renovations have not affected the exterior character of the building. It is a fine example of Victorian Gothic architecture.

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St. Paul Methodist Episcopal Church, Rush County, Indiana

St. Paul Methodist Episcopal Church, now know as St. Paul United Methodist Church, in Rushville, Indiana is significant under Criterion C for Architecture. It meets Criterion Consideration A because its significance is not at all related to it function as a religious facility. It was constructed and dedicated in 1887 and a basement was added in 1923. Other minor changes to the facade have occurred over time but St. Paul's remains a locally outstanding example of the Victorian Gothic style. It has a cruciform plan with a steeply pitched cross gable roof, patterned brickwork, stone banding, Gothic arch windows and terra cotta accents. The building sits at the corner of North Morgan and Fifth Streets in a residential area two blocks north of the Rushville Commercial Historic District. South of the church there is a separate non-contributing brick education building built in 1962 which is not included in the boundary.

The congregation of St. Paul Methodist Episcopal Church began meeting as a formal group in 1824. During the mid-nineteenth century they met at various locations throughout the town. In 1886 the Trustees purchased Lot 18 in the Sexton Addition to build a place for worship. It was completed in 1887. This is the current location of St. Paul's. In 1906 lots 43 and 44 of the original plat of Rushville were purchased to build a parsonage. This site is now occupied by a 1962 education building. In the early 1920's the ladies of the congregation raised funds so that a basement could be dug underneath the church. It was completed in 1923.

St. Paul 's displays many characteristics of the Victorian Gothic style. Typical Victorian Gothic features include: polychrome wall finishes, decorative bands of stone especially highlighting corners and arches, use of decorative brick bonds and terra cotta tile, and incised carving in geometric patterns. Gothic arches as well as straight headed openings are common. Windows are usually set back from the plane of the wall. Roof lines can be complex with a multitude of gables, gablets, and dormers. Towers usually have an overhanging top stage and an appearance of overall top heaviness is common. St. Paul's is constructed mainly of brick with decorative stone bands. The Gothic arches around doors and windows have polychromatic voussoirs of brick with stone insets. At least some of the insets have carvings on them, the others ones that are higher up may be carved also but it is difficult to see them. Most of the gables have basket weave brickwork. One on the south facade entry has a triangular pattern. There are terra cotta tiles of rosette and star design at the ends of the voussoirs near the entry ways. A line of terra cotta tiles is in the west facade gable directly under the gable point. Most of the window and door openings are Gothic arches. A few straight head openings are visible mostly on the west facade and on the bell tower. The windows are set back from the plane of the wall. There is a cross gable roof, with other smaller gables at the entrances. Two gabled wall dormers are evident, one on the northwest facade and one on the southwest facade. Along the cornice line at the end of the gable and where the wall changes planes there are small gablets. The bell tower also has gablets along the top. The tower seems top heavy. A buttress on the northwest corner contributes to that feeling. A horizontal line of brickwork projecting from the tower has square recessed cavities that also make the tower look more massive at the top than at the bottom. These features along with the excellent condition of the building and its high level of integrity enabled St. Paul Methodist Episcopal Church to be rated "Outstanding" for its architecture in the 1988 Rush County report of Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory.

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St. Paul Methodist Episcopal Church, Rush County, Indiana

Within a few blocks of St. Paul's there are three other large historic churches; First Presbyterian constructed in 1892, Main Street Christian Church constructed in 1893, and St. Mary's Catholic Church constructed in 1897. First Presbyterian and Main Street Christian have plans very similar to St. Paul's but with Romanesque Revival details. St. Mary's has a somewhat similar plan also with Romanesque Revival detailing. So there is considerable local representation of the Romanesque Revival style but only one example, St Paul's, of Victorian Gothic.

The congregation and the Trustees are proud not only of the church building but also of its many celebrated citizens. Many prominent Rushville residents have been members of St. Paul's over the years and played an important part in church history. Captain John K. Gowdy (Jack) was a Civil War soldier and the Consul General to Paris from 1897-1905. He, his wife Eva, and their daughter Fannie were important in the early history of the congregation. John was the St. Paul's delegate to the Methodist conference in 1892. Members of the Gowdy family still belong to the church congregation today. Judge William Morris Sparks was the judge of the Seventh District Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago from 1929-1948 and a long time member of the congregation at St. Paul's. Except for the time that he lived in Chicago, Judge Sparks was a resident of Rushville. He taught the men's Bible class for thirty-three years to sometimes as many as 150 men. He was also an accomplished musician and served the church and community in that capacity. His grandsons and their families are members at St. Paul's today. Another notable person in the history of St. Paul's and of Methodism is Dr. Earl Bowman Marlatt. Dr. Marlatt was a member of the congregation in 1915. He is most famous for authoring two hymns "Spirit of Life in This New Dawn" and "Are Ye Able". His poem "Icarus" written in memory of Woodrow Wilson was placed in the cornerstone of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery. Members of the Marlatt family are still a part of the congregation at St. Paul's.

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St. Paul Methodist Episcopal Church, Rush County, Indiana

Bibliography

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The Rushville Republican. January 9, 1950.

St. Paul United Methodist Church 150th Anniversary booklet. Published 1974. Copy available at St. Paul United Methodist Church.

Whiffen, Marcus. *American Architecture Since 1780: A Guide to the Styles*. Cambridge, MA: M.I.T. Press, 1969.

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St. Paul Methodist Episcopal Church, Rush County, Indiana

Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description:

Lot 18, H. G. Sexton's Addition to Rushville.

Boundary Justification:

This is the legal boundary of the property associated with St. Paul United Methodist Church which includes only the church building. It does not include the lots on which the education building stands. Those were acquired after the church was built.

462
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

39°37'30" 85°30' 29"00"E 30
31 R. 9 E.
32 27'30" R. 10 E.
33
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL REVENUE
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIAN
DUNREITH (LINCOLN, U.S. 40) 13 MI., 390'
MASS. R. 6 MI. 17

INDIANAPOLIS 40 MI.
MORRISTOWN 11 MI.

PAUL UNITED
H. CH.

T. 14 N.
T. 13 N.

4985000m N

St. CLBYVILLE 15 MI.
MAN. LA 6.7 MI.

4983
35/

