

F110000110

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

H.C.R.S.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY **DATA SHEET**

RECEIVED **JAN 24 1978**

DATE ENTERED **JUL 24 1978**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

East 1st and Liberty Streets

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Weiser

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Idaho

CODE

16

COUNTY

Washington

CODE

087 ✓

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

STREET & NUMBER

East Liberty Street

CITY, TOWN

Weiser

VICINITY OF

STATE

Idaho

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Weiser

STATE

Idaho

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Idaho State Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1972

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Idaho State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Boise

STATE

Idaho

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. Luke's Episcopal Church is a frame parish church in the Gothic style, and is distinguished by its steeple, bargeboards, and stained glass windows. The inset steeple has an open Gothic arched belfry. A bowed triangular stained glass window is above the gabled vestibule. Each side has three stained glass lancet windows.

A 1942 parish hall which is somewhat consistent with the original design is the only addition and gives the structure a "U" shaped plan.

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 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 1892 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Reverend Charles W. Snavelly

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St. Luke's Episcopal Church is architecturally significant as an example of the Gothic styled parish church in Weiser. The fine decorative motifs: the bargeboards, bowed triangular window and open belfry, all make this church note worthy.

It is one of the oldest buildings in Weiser and an important town landmark.

The design followed Bishop's Plan #2, which was also employed for St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Blackfoot. Reverend Snavelly came from Wyoming to superintend the construction of this "formula" church.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Weiser Leader, June 12, 1891, p. 8, c. 2.
Weiser Signal, October 13, 1892, p. 3, c. 2; January 12, 1893, p. 3, c. 2.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre.

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 1	5 0 2 6 8 0	4 8 9 9 2 2 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This nomination includes all the property owned by St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Weiser.

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

Don J. Hibbard, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Idaho State Historical Society

DATE

18 Jan 78

STREET & NUMBER

610 North Julia Davis Drive

TELEPHONE

384-2120

CITY OR TOWN

Boise

STATE

Idaho

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Mark Wells

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

18 Jan 78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Charles Adams

DATE

7-24-78

ATTEST:

Walter L. Cole

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

7-5-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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St. Luke's Episcopal Church, dating from 1892, as already noted, is one of the oldest extant structures in Weiser. This is not overly surprising as Weiser was merely a collection of about a half dozen families until 1884 when the Oregon Short Line came through the area. Even after this period it was not a very substantial town until after the big copper finds of 1897 in the Seven Devils region the the building of the P.I.N. railroad in 1899. The church therefore dates to the pre-growth era.

It is also one of a handful of surviving nineteenth century frame ecclesiastical structures in the state. Idahoans were not completely irreligious in this reign of the good Queen Victoria, but they were few in number, and built rather modest structures which their more affluent progress minded followers found to be completely inadequate and removed in favor of more ostentatious brick and stone structures. Why this building survived is not for certain ascertainable, but the congregation was late in its talk of building a new structure, and then bad times hit so these plans were not fulfilled. When prosperity returned the anticipated growth of the earlier period never materialized thus this structure made do.

Architecturally the building is also significant with regard to its details. Its bowed triangular stained glass window is most unique, and the only example of this form in Weiser, if not southwest Idaho. Its open belfry is also noteworthy, as these are becoming increasingly rare in Idaho, as birds have a proclivity for destroying them with their nasty nesting habits. However, one other church in Weiser exhibits this feature, although it does not have Gothic arched openings. The bargeboard designs are not as intricate as some to be found in the state, but are good for Weiser, and their stark simplicity of form well lends itself to this structure.

St. Luke's interior also remains intact. The beautiful stained glass windows illuminate it with a proper religious atmosphere. The open trussed ceiling and arched chancel contribute to the church's exuding the charm of rural, nineteenth century medievalism.

Pugin and Ruskin would be proud to see this simple edifice standing on the frontier of that heathen land America, boldly proclaiming the only correct message of ecclesiastical architecture: Gothicism, even if in such a crudely inornate manner.



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Weiser, Idaho

Washington County

Photographer - J. M. Neil

1975

view of front from the southwest

Idaho State Historical Society

76-160.2582

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JAN 24 1978

JUL 24 1978