

Resource Number: 5BL 924  
Temporary Resource Number: 157508427001

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY  
OAH1405  
**Cultural Resource Re-evaluation Form**  
Rev. 9/98

1. Resource Number: 5BL 924 2. Temp. Resource Number: 157508427001

2A. Address: 741 Jefferson Avenue, Louisville, CO 80027  
Previous address prior to 1939: 240 Jefferson. Louisville addresses were changed in 1939.

3. Attachments  
(check as many as apply)
- Photographs
  - Site sketch map
  - U.S.G.S. map photocopy
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_

4. Official determination  
(OAH1 USE ONLY)
- Determined Eligible
  - Determined Not Eligible
  - Need Data
  - Nominated
  - Listed
  - Contributing to N.R. District
  - Not Contributing to N.R. Dist

5. Resource Name:  
 Historic Name: Methodist Episcopal Church  
 Current Name: Louisville United Methodist Church

6. Purpose of this current site visit  
(check as many as apply)
- Site is within a current project area
  - Resurvey
  - Update of previous site form(s)
  - Surface collection
  - Testing to determine eligibility
  - Excavation
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_



Describe This property is within the Jefferson Place Subdivision in Louisville, which is being evaluated for historic district potential in 2010 – 2012. This resurvey is part of the historic district evaluation process.

7. Previous Recordings: Architectural Inventory Form 2000, as part of “Old Town” Louisville Historical Building Survey by Carl McWilliams of Cultural Resource Historians.

8. Changes or Additions to Previous Descriptions: The roof is now covered with green asphalt shingles. A large 1-1/2-story addition was constructed at the west end of the building in 2000. This has a cross gabled roof with the same green asphalt shingle roofing as the rest of the building. The addition is designed and detailed to blend with the original church. Similar detailing includes decorative brackets under the eaves and bargeboards with cross and pendant detailing in the upper gable end. The exterior of the addition is clad with horizontal wood drop siding painted white. There is a new entrance facing east, consisting of a pair of wood paneled doors with decorative glass lights. On the north, west, and south sides of the addition, windows are tall, paired, divided light windows. Wood exit stairs on the south side provide exiting from the second story.

Additional Information about the interior of the original sanctuary as it exists today: The communion rail is oak. The interior has stained pine woodwork throughout and stained pine window sash.

Construction History:

In addition to the construction history discussed in the 2000 inventory, Pastor David Christensen and Sandy Gormley of the Methodist Church provided the following information. The stained glass transom above the main entrance doors was donated in 2001. It was designed by the church youth group and each cross in the pattern was chosen for a specific reason. The glass in the round rose window on the east façade is not original, but the rest of the glass in the original church is original. On the interior, the pews can be rotated and may not be the original pews. The church bell was purchased for \$32 in 1937 and is still hand-operated. The interior walls are finished with a non-historic wainscot of vertical composition siding with lightly textured plaster above. The wainscot and plaster were installed in the 1950s. At the same time, the original flat ceiling was removed and replaced with the gambrel-shaped interior plaster ceiling that exists today. The interior doors at the main entrance are original and have the original hardware.

Landscape or special setting description: Jefferson Place Subdivision is a historic residential neighborhood adjacent to downtown Louisville. The subdivision is laid out on a standard urban grid of narrow, deep lots with rear alleys. Houses are built to a fairly consistent setback line along the streets with small front lawns, deep rear yards and mature landscaping. Small, carefully maintained single-family residences predominate. Most of the houses are wood framed, one or one and one-half stories in height, featuring white or light-colored horizontal wood or steel siding, gabled or hipped asphalt shingled roofs and front porches. While many of the houses have been modified over the years, most of the historic character-defining features have been preserved.

741 Jefferson Avenue is architecturally distinct and visually prominent as a large, historic church building. Prominently located on a corner lot, it has a large concrete plaza at the corner of Jefferson and Spruce with four steps up to the entrance vestibule. Centered in front of the east façade is a small lawn with shrubs. On the north side of the building along Spruce Street, there are additional trees, two areas of colored stone ground cover, and a concrete plaza with an accessibility ramp outside of the 1941 addition (between the original building and the 2000 addition). The colored stone ground cover continues along the west side of the building, adjacent to the alley. South of the building is a wood deck and a concrete sidewalk.

9. Changes in Condition: None.
10. Changes to Location or Size Information: A 1-1/2-story addition was added on the west in 2000.
11. Changes in Ownership: Same ownership as 2000 inventory form.
12. Other Changes, Additions, or Observations:

Further research has yielded more information about the ownership and use of the building.

This report is intended to supplement and update the 2000 survey that was conducted with respect to the history of the Methodist Church at 741 Jefferson. This church was the second church building in Louisville and is the oldest church still meeting in its original building.

When Jefferson Place developer Charles Welch conveyed this property in 1891 to the "Methodist Episcopal Church" for the construction of a church building, it likely made sense for it to be located on Spruce, which was developing into the major east-west street in downtown Louisville. Maps and firsthand accounts indicate that Spruce was at the time a through street to the west, and Pine was not (whereas today, Pine is a through street, and Spruce is not.) By the early to mid-1900s, Spruce as it passed through the Jefferson Place Addition included the offices of the Louisville Times at 800/804 Spruce (5BL925), a very nearby store at 805 La Farge (5BL7984), the William Austin store at the northeast corner of Spruce and Jefferson, the Methodist Church at 741 Jefferson, and the Louisville grade school. Farther west on Spruce were the brick school house at 801 Grant (5BL7974) and the German Lutheran Church at Spruce and McKinley.

Resource Number: 5BL 924

Temporary Resource Number: 157508427001

The following photo, in the collection of the Louisville Historical Museum, shows the relationship of the Methodist Church (on the left) to the Louisville Grade School across Spruce to the north. The photo was taken in 1961, not long before the school was demolished:



As noted in the 2000 survey, this church was established by, and appealed to, the many English pioneer families who came to Louisville in its earliest years. Many of the men were miners who had come from mining areas of England. Surnames of families who belonged to this church included (but are not limited to) the following prominent Anglo families who lived in Louisville: Carlton, Hutchinson, Dalby, Jenkins, Lawrence, Thirlaway, Thomas, Thompson, Ferguson, Robinson, Hilton, Cable, Pickett, and Henning.

Tom Carlton, who was a miner and preacher (though not ordained, apparently), is generally recognized as having been the force behind the establishment of the church. He was born in 1824 in the village of Flimby in Cumberland, which is on the Irish Sea near Maryport and near the border with Scotland. He married in 1844 to Jane McLean (1818-1891) and they had several children. English census records show that he was a "colliery viewer," which was a position similar to that of a foreman. The Carlton family immigrated to the US in the 1870s. By 1880, Tom Carlton was a mining engineer in Gold Hill in Boulder County, and by 1885, he was living in Louisville with his family. Records indicate that he was a preacher for Louisville's English settlers who met in private homes prior to the building of the Methodist Church and that he personally raised \$800 for the building. He died in January 1892, not long after the death of his wife, before the Methodist Episcopal Church could be opened.

The following two photos are strongly believed to show Jane and Tom Carlton based on the available evidence and writings on the backs of the photos. The photo of Jane Carlton was taken by a local Colorado photographer, while the photo of Tom Carlton was taken in Maryport, England (near his home village of Flimby):

Resource Number: 5BL 924  
Temporary Resource Number: 157508427001





Resource Number: 5BL 924

Temporary Resource Number: 157508427001

The earliest available photo of the church shows a central entrance on the east and a bell tower, although records indicate that there may not have ever been a bell installed in that particular tower. The photo would likely have been taken between 1892 and 1910 (when some modifications were made). In these earliest years, the pews faced south and the pulpit was in the south alcove.

The Methodist Church had a strong affiliation with the Iliff School of Theology in Denver. The Iliff School provided student pastors for the church. According to local historian Carolyn Conarroe, writing in 1991, "[o]f the total 60 ministers who have served Louisville Methodist Church, 57 are thought to have been students." It was true for at least some of these student pastors that they would come up from Denver and stay over the weekend in a small room in the building.

One of these student ministers was Ralph Mulhollen, who was assigned by the Iliff School of Theology to be the pastor for the Louisville Methodist Church from 1923 to 1925. It was likely during this time frame that he made a map of the Louisville parish that shows the location of not only streets but also houses and businesses at the time. His name appears on the map. This map was found in a home at 700 Lincoln that until recently was still owned by the Thomas family and was donated to the Louisville Historical Museum. Mary Thomas, the home's former resident, was among the founders of the church, according to a Thomas family history. She and her husband, Nicholas Thomas, were also associated with 733 Pine (5BL853) in Jefferson Place.

The date of construction of the church has been well established as having been 1892, but it should be noted that the church building does appear in the correct location on the 1909 Drumm's Wall Map of Louisville and on the Methodist Church Map of Louisville that was made in circa 1923-25. The property in question is outside of the boundaries of the Sanborn Maps that were done for Louisville in 1893, 1900, and 1908 (they focused on the downtown business district and La Farge Avenue only).

The Ladies Aid Society of the Methodist Church was a very active group of women who are credited with starting Louisville's Labor Day Fall Festival that is to this day a crowd-drawing annual event that has played a large role in Louisville's reputation as a festival town. It quickly grew out of an annual church bazaar that was started in 1932. The Ladies Aid Society had almost identical members as the Pioneer Club and the Saturday Study Club, which operated the Louisville Public Library for decades. The following photo, dated 1925, shows the Ladies Aid Society of the Methodist Church:



The woman seated on the farthest right was Jane Carlton, the daughter-in-law of Tom and Jane Carlton. She was the widow of their son, David Carlton, and was very active in the Ladies Aid Society and in the Methodist Church. As noted by local historian Carolyn Conarroe, in her booklet "A Cloud of Witnesses" written for the centennial anniversary of the Methodist Church in 1991, "Some men of the church were merchants who put in long hours at their businesses. Many men were coal miners in the early years before the mines closed in the 1940's. Their workloads were so heavy, the hours so long, there were no hours left for church work. And the women took over."

Resource Number: 5BL 924  
Temporary Resource Number: 157508427001

Carolyn Conarroe further stated in her booklet "A Cloud of Witnesses" that the Methodist Church was also used for public education in that it provided space for overflow classes from the public grade school across the street. She wrote, "Photographs and the Louisville Times history features tell that the north alcove was added in about 1910. This addition provided space for classes from the overcrowded school across the street in what is now Memory Square Park, but the dates of this primary school annex are not certain." The Methodist Church is also known to have had an active Sunday School program.

According to Carolyn Conarroe, the direction of the seats was changed in 1937, being turned to face west instead of south. Her booklet "A Cloud of Witnesses" also recounts other physical changes made to the building over time.

It should be noted that the statement in the 2000 survey for 741 Jefferson that Charles Welch "had originally homesteaded the land which became Louisville" is now known to be incorrect. As the operator of the first mine, the Welch Mine, he did purchase land in order to expand the Welch Mine, and he also purchased land for residential development. However, Welch did not homestead any land in the Louisville area.

Another address found for 741 Jefferson, under Louisville's old address system, was 240 Jefferson. This address appears in the directories from the late 1920s and early 1930s. In other old directories, the church was simply described as being on the corner of Spruce and Jefferson, with no number address given. The 1940 directory is the first one in which the address of 741 Jefferson appears.

### **History of Louisville United Methodist Church**

For more than 100 years, the Louisville United Methodist Church (LUMC) has held a place at the center of the community. It was incorporated as the Methodist Episcopal Church of Louisville in August 1891, when the land deed on which the church still stands was also filed. The original congregation totaled 29 members. The church building welcomed its first worshipers one year later in a square sanctuary. It had double doors and a round window on the east wall and the pews facing south. A small room on the west side served as a Sunday School classroom and sleeping quarters for visiting student ministers. The north alcove was added in 1910, along with a new entry and bell tower. The old double doors are still visible from the outside.

The sanctuary was rearranged in 1937, with the pews facing west. The former pulpit alcove became the choir loft. The round window on the eastern wall was covered, as the light shone directly in the ministers' eyes.

The Fellowship Hall was added in a 1941 remodel, and in 1983 the sanctuary was renovated to look like it did in 1892.

An extensive, two-story addition was completed in 2000. It added much-needed classrooms, storage and office space, as well as a new kitchen and rest rooms.

For much of its early existence, LUMC was served by student ministers, sometimes sharing their services with Lafayette's congregation. The first full-time minister was appointed in 1978.

Since its incorporation, the church has been an active member of the community. Louisville's annual Fall Festival began as the church bazaar in 1932, and a tradition of handing out Christmas treats to the town's children was begun in 1910. Today's food basket program was begun in 1982.

For a time, the church was used as an annex for the overcrowded public school located across the street (what is now Memory Square Park). Until World War II, the church was at the center of social activities, especially for the town's youth.

### **Sources of Information**

Resource Number: 5BL 924  
Temporary Resource Number: 157508427001

Boulder County "Real Estate Appraisal Card – Urban Master," on file at the Carnegie Branch Library for Local History in Boulder, Colorado.

Boulder County Clerk & Recorder's Office and Assessor's Office public records, accessed through <http://recorder.bouldercounty.org>.

Directories of Louisville residents and businesses on file at the Louisville Historical Museum.

Census records and other records accessed through [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)

Drumm's Wall Map of Louisville, Colorado, 1909.

Methodist Church Parish Map of Louisville, Colorado, circa 1923-25.

Sanborn Insurance Maps for Louisville, Colorado, 1893, 1900, and 1908.

Archival materials on file at the Louisville Historical Museum, including an untitled and undated family history provided by the Thomas family.

"Church History Dates Back to Late 80s." *The Louisville Times*, September 3, 1942.

"Church Receives Many Gifts During 50 Years." *The Louisville Times*, September 3, 1942.

Conarroe, Carolyn, *A Cloud of Witnesses*. (Booklet written for the Methodist Church Centennial, 1891-1991.)

Conarroe, Carolyn, *Louisville Legends*. Capitol Hill LLC, 2004.

Conarroe, Carolyn, *The Louisville Story*. Louisville Times, Inc., 2000.

Gleeson, Carol, "Fall Festival Draws a Crowd." *The Louisville Times*, September 4-10, 2002.

"Good ole Days." *Daily Camera* Fall Festival Guide, September 2001.

"Ground Breaking Celebration Kicks off Expansion at Louisville United Methodist." *The Louisville Times/Lafayette News*, September 22, 1999.

Interview by Kathy Lingo with Pastor David Christensen and Sandy Gormley, 2011.

Martin, Lindsey, "Methodist Church Buildings Gets a New Lease on Life." *The Louisville Times* (believed), February 23, 1983.

McAllister, Margie, "Coal Miner Starts United Methodist Church 100 Years Ago This Week." *Daily Camera*, September 4, 1991.

"Member Recalls Church Activities of Yesteryear." *The Louisville Times*, September 3, 1942.

"Methodist Church" (manuscript on file at the Louisville Historical Museum)

"Methodists Will Observe Church 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary." *The Louisville Times*, September 3, 1942.

13. National Register Eligibility Assessment:

Eligible \_\_\_\_ Not eligible X Need data \_\_\_\_

Explain: The property is not individually eligible to the National Register due to the large 2000 addition.

13A. Colorado State Register: Eligible X Not Eligible \_\_\_\_\_

Resource Number: 5BL 924

Temporary Resource Number: 157508427001

Explain: The property is eligible for the State Register under Criterion C for architecture as a good example of a Gothic Revival style church, with a period of significance of 1892 to the mid-1940s to include the historic additions. The State Register would exclude the footprint of the 2000 addition.

The building has integrity of location. Integrity of setting is compromised, but not entirely lost, due to the large west addition and the 1966 demolition of the adjacent schoolhouse (now Memorial Park). Integrity of design is compromised, but not lost, by the west addition. The addition does not affect the primary façade, and it is designed to be architecturally compatible with the historic structure. The building has integrity of materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

13B. Louisville Local Landmark: Eligible  Not Eligible

13C. Historic District Potential: The church would be a contributing structure to a State Register and local historic district, and contributing to a potential National Register historic district.

Discuss: This building is being recorded as part of a 2010-2011 intensive-level historical and architectural survey of Jefferson Place, Louisville's first residential subdivision, platted in 1880. The purpose of the survey is to determine if there is potential for National Register, State Register or local historic districts. Jefferson Place is eligible as a State Register historic district under Criterion A, Ethnic Heritage, European, for its association with European immigrants who first lived here and whose descendants continued to live here for over fifty years. The period of significance for the State Register historic district is 1881 – 1980. Jefferson Place is potentially eligible as a National Register historic district under Criterion A, Ethnic Heritage, European. However it needs data to determine dates of some modifications, and to more definitely establish the significant impacts of various European ethnic groups on the local culture of Louisville. The period of significance of a National Register district is 1881 – 1963. Jefferson Place is eligible as a local Louisville historic district under local Criterion B, Social, as it exemplifies the cultural and social heritage of the community.

European immigrant families flocked to Colorado coal mining communities, including Louisville, in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in search of economic opportunities they could not find in their own countries. Louisville's Welch Coal Mine, along with other mines in the area, recruited skilled workers from western Europe. In the early years before 1900, most of the miners who lived in Jefferson Place came from English-speaking countries.

Immigrants from England brought a strong tradition and expertise in coal mining. The English are widely credited with developing the techniques of coal mining that were used locally, and they taught these techniques to other miners. The British mining culture was instilled in the early Colorado coal mines. English immigrants also brought expertise in other necessary skills such as blacksmithing and chain forging.

Later Jefferson Place residents arrived from Italy, France, Austria, Germany, Hungary, Slovakia, and Slovenia, among other places. The Italians eventually became the largest single ethnic group in Jefferson Place and in Louisville as a whole. About one-third of the houses in Jefferson Place were owned and occupied by Italian immigrants. Italian immigrants left their mark on Louisville in the food and beverage industries. To the present day, downtown Louisville is known throughout the Front Range for its tradition of Italian restaurants. The impacts of the heritage and customs of the other European ethnic groups could be significant, but are not well documented and need further investigation.

14. Management Recommendations: The property is worthy of individual nomination to the State Register as well as nomination as a Louisville Local Landmark.

15. Photograph Types and Numbers: 5BL924\_741Jefferson\_01 through 5BL924\_741Jefferson\_11.

16. Artifact and Field Documentation Storage Location: Electronic files of forms with embedded photos and maps at Colorado Historical Society. Electronic files of forms, and electronic files of photographs at City of Louisville, Colorado, Planning Department.



Resource Number: 5BL 924  
Temporary Resource Number: 157508427001

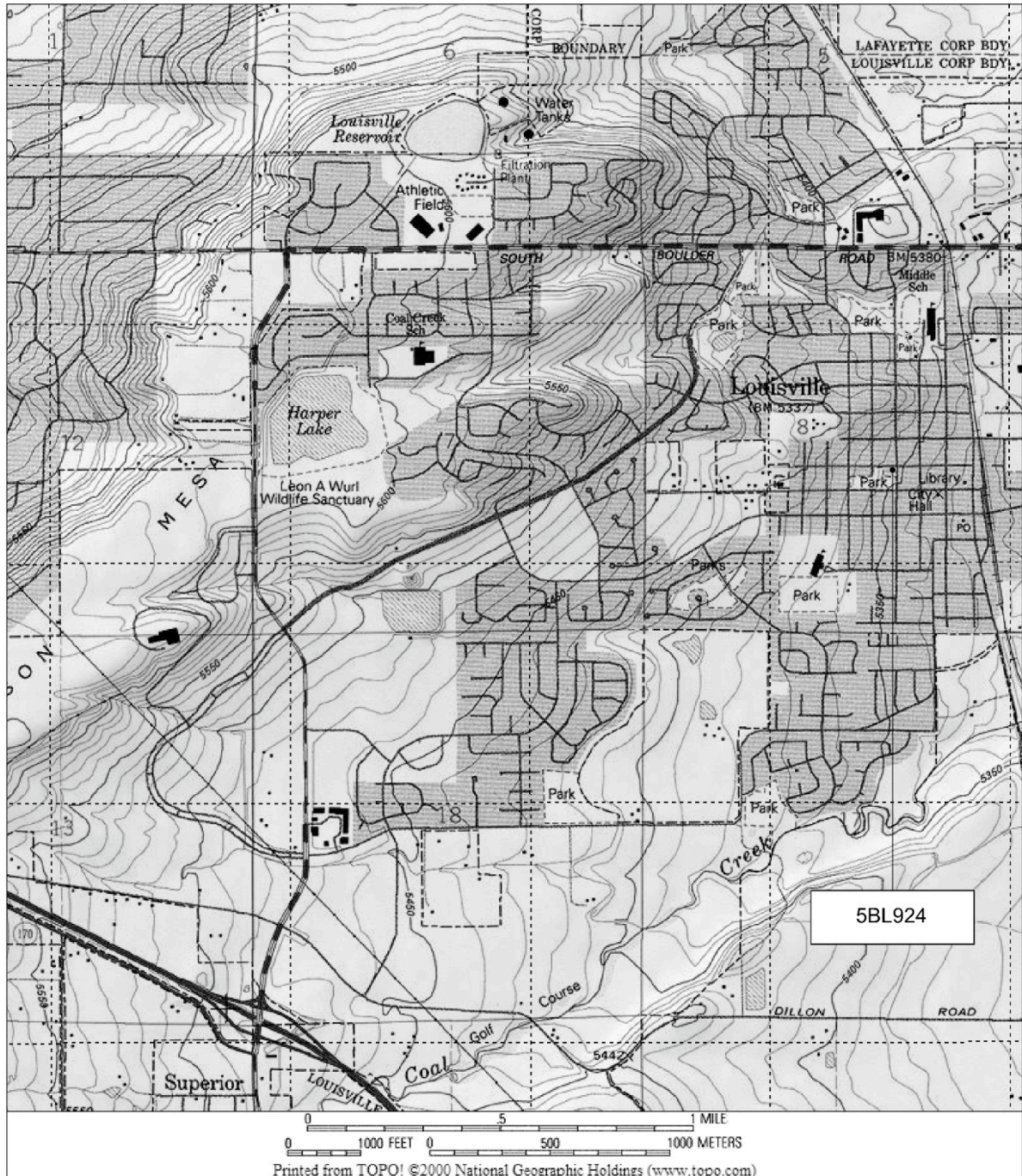
17. Report Title: Historical and Architectural Survey of Jefferson Place Subdivision, Louisville, Colorado
18. Recorder(s): Kathy and Leonard Lingo, and Bridget Bacon, City of Louisville 19. Date(s): 2013
20. Recorder Affiliation: Avenue L Architects, 3457 Ringsby Court Suite 317, Denver CO 80216 (303) 290-9930

Colorado Historical Society, Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation  
1200 Broadway, Denver, CO 80203  
303-866-3395

Resource Number: 5BL 924  
Temporary Resource Number: 157508427001

Resource Number: 5BL924

Architectural Inventory Form  
USGS Location Map



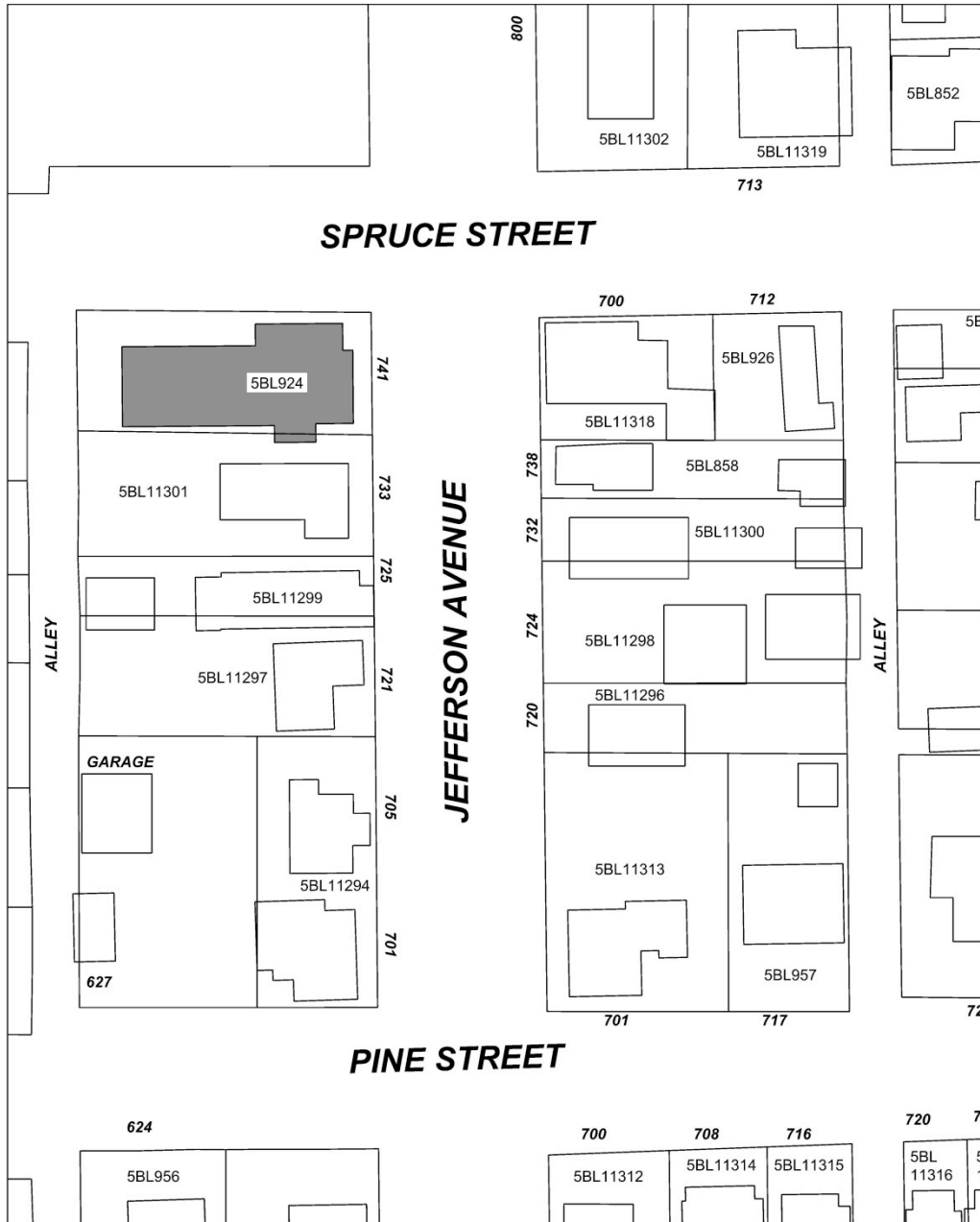
741 Jefferson Avenue, Louisville, Colorado

SOURCE: Extract of Louisville, Colorado  
USGS map, 1994.



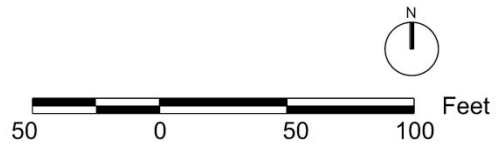
Resource Number: 5BL924

Architectural Inventory Form  
Site Location Map



741 Jefferson Avenue, Louisville, Colorado

SOURCE: City of Louisville, Colorado  
GIS Files.





Resource Number: 5BL 924  
Temporary Resource Number: 157508427001



5BL924\_741Jefferson\_01 east



5BL924\_741Jefferson\_02 northeast



Resource Number: 5BL 924  
Temporary Resource Number: 157508427001



5BL924\_741Jefferson\_03 northwest



5BL924\_741Jefferson\_04 southwest



Resource Number: 5BL 924  
Temporary Resource Number: 157508427001



5BL924\_741Jefferson\_05 south



5BL924\_741Jefferson\_06 sanctuary looking southeast



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Temporary Resource Number: 157508427001

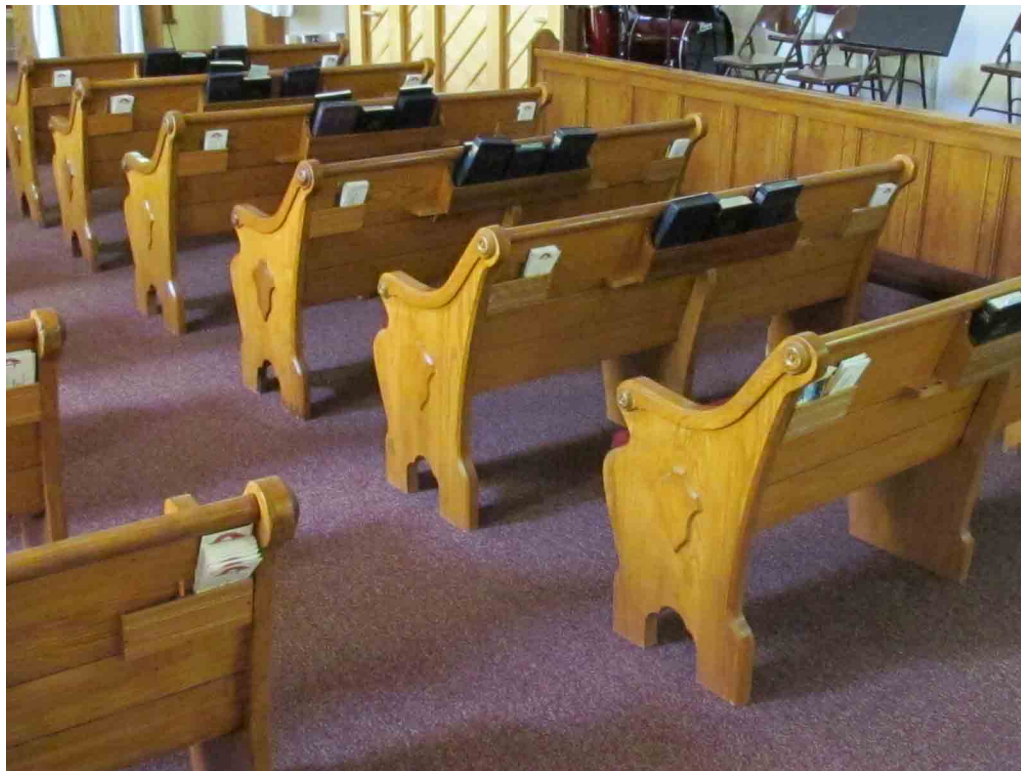


5BL924\_741Jefferson\_07 sanctuary looking south



5BL924\_741Jefferson\_08 sanctuary looking north

Resource Number: 5BL 924  
Temporary Resource Number: 157508427001



5BL924\_741Jefferson\_09 pew detail



5BL924\_741Jefferson\_10 round stained glass



Resource Number: 5BL 924  
Temporary Resource Number: 157508427001



5BL924\_741Jefferson\_11 vestibule stained glass



741 Jefferson ca mid 1940's. Louisville Historical Museum.

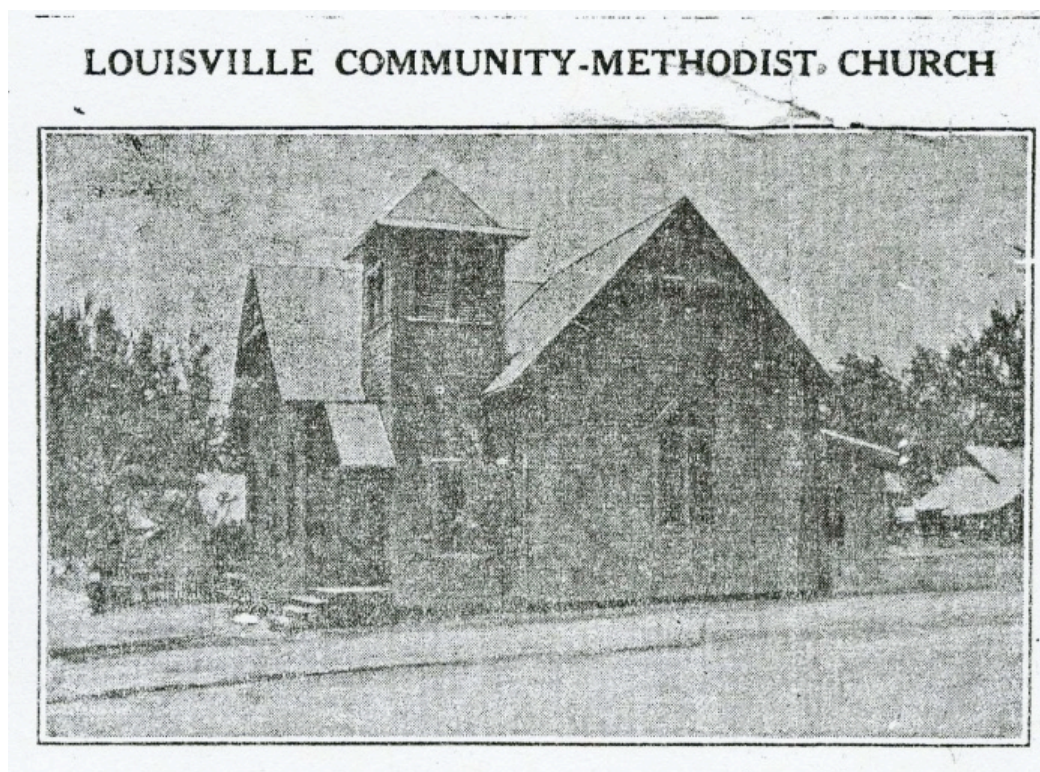


Methodist Church Funeral, undated, pre 1910. Louisville Historical Museum.

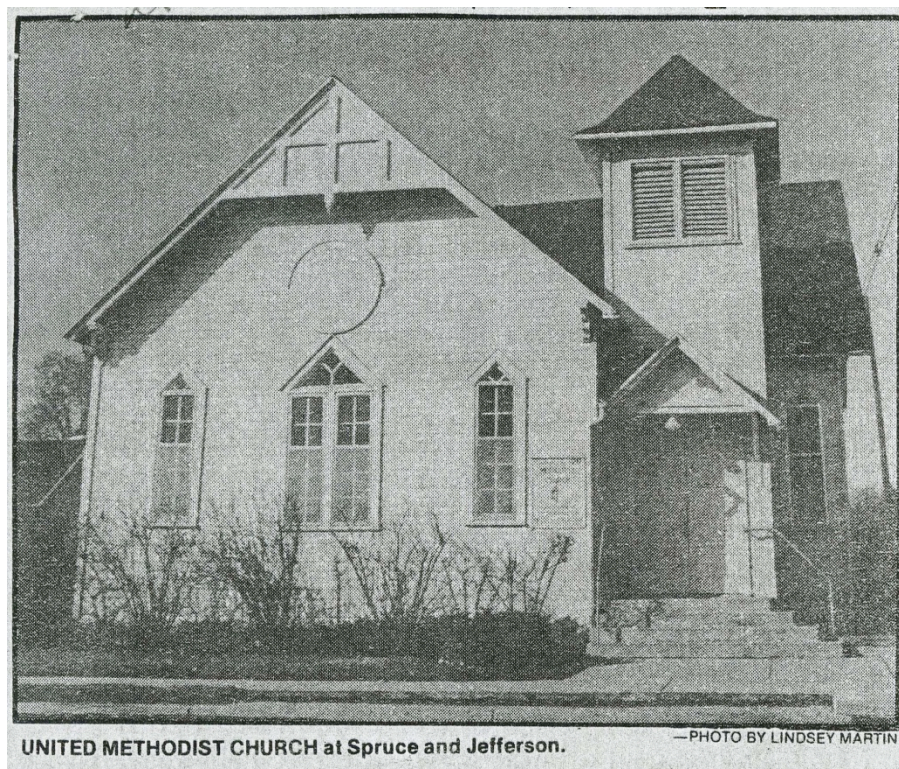


Methodist Church, 741 Jefferson, 1892-1910. Louisville Historical Museum.





1942 Photo Louisville Times article.



1980 photo Louisville Times.





Photo rear of 741 Jefferson, 1920. Louisville Historical Museum.