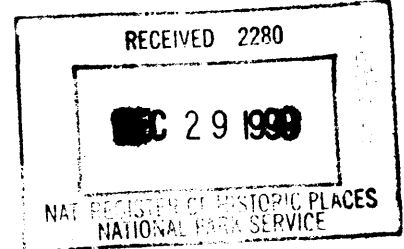


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts. See instruction 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 First Baptist Church

other names/site number 5LA8697

2. Location

street & number 809 San Pedro Street [N/A] not for publication

city or town Trinidad [N/A] vicinity

state Colorado code CO county Las Animas code 071 zip code 81082

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this [X] 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 [X] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant [] nationally [] statewide [X] locally. ([] See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Georgeanna Ortiz State Historic Preservation Officer 12/16/99
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State Historic Preservation Office, Colorado Historical Society
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: Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

- entered in the National Register
 - See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 - See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register
- other, explain
 - See continuation sheet.

Edson H. Beall 1/28/00
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not count previously listed resources.)

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 Function

(Enter categories from instructions)

Religion: religious facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Religion: religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Romanesque

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete
walls Sandstone
roof Asbestos
other

Narrative Description

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

First Baptist Church
Name of Property

Las Animas County, CO
County/State

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.

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

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Periods of Significance

1890

Significant Dates

1890

Significant Person(s)
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Rapp, Isaac Hamilton
Bulger, C. W.

9. Major Bibliographical 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:
Colorado Historical Society
Carnegie Public Library, Trinidad

First Baptist Church
Name of Property

Las Animas County, CO
County/State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1. 13 543710 4114220
Zone Easting Northing

3. Zone Easting Northing

2. Zone Easting Northing

4. Zone Easting Northing

[] 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 Lois Palmquist/Music Director; Vic Macaluso/Moderator; Verlyn Hanson/Pastor (ed. hlw)

organization First Baptist Church date 7/15/1999

street & number 809 San Pedro Street telephone 719-846-3924

city or town Trinidad state Colorado zip code 81082

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 Edward Smith, Head Trustee, First Baptist Church

street & number 809 San Pedro Street telephone 719-846-3924

city or town Trinidad state Colorado zip code 81082

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.*)

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First Baptist Church
Las Animas County, CO

DESCRIPTION

The 1890 First Baptist Church lies just north of the swath cut by Interstate 25 as it bisects the southern Colorado town of Trinidad on its way to New Mexico. Located near the intersection of San Pedro Street and East Colorado Avenue, the Romanesque-inspired sandstone building with painted blue trim has a T-shaped plan, a concrete foundation, and a steeply pitched cross-gabled roof covered with asbestos shingles. The church, with the exception of the stuccoed rear wall, is buff-colored, rock faced sandstone, obtained from a quarry two miles west of town. The walls are irregularly coursed ashlar of varying squares and rectangles, except for the four courses near the base of the building that are comprised of regularly coursed, large blocks of stone. One corner of the building is anchored by a heavy round bastion capped with a conical roof that contains a gothic-arched, recessed entry. Another corner is marked by a slender pinnacle. Stained glass with jeweled designs fills the wood frame windows that vary in size and shape, including a large semi-circular window on the south side and an 8-foot diameter rose window on the east face. The building, despite its small size, gains height and weight through the manipulation of stone and windows. An expanse of concrete spreads out from the east-facing front of the church and flows into a curb-less asphalt parking area adjacent to San Pedro Street. There is a large area of grass on the south and west sides of the building. A narrow concrete sidewalk and paved brick section fill the area north of the building. The lawn slopes gently south down to Colorado Avenue so that the concrete foundation is visible only from the west (rear) and south sides of the building. The building is in good condition, although recently suffering from flaking sandstone and deteriorating mortar. Despite some (mostly historic) alterations, the church has retained its integrity of materials, design, workmanship, location, setting, feeling and association.

The roof of the front facing gable extends over the ridgeline and onto the west slope of the cross-gabled roof. The broad roof planes are covered with large asbestos shingles laid in a fish-scale pattern and end at closed eaves. The raking trim of the closed verges is stone forming a parapet gable that extends above the slope and roofline. The pinnacle has a stepped conical roof that ends in a finial. The conical roof of the bastion/tower is covered with square cut asbestos shingles and is capped with a decorative finial. Where the roof of the tower meets the stone wall, a course of evenly spaced projecting stones creates a crenelated effect that lends a castle-like quality to the building.

The church faces east onto San Pedro Street where the large round bastion anchors the southeast corner and contains the narthex and the main entrance. A large concrete double stairway with a metal pipe railing ends in a platform in front of a slightly projecting, pointed arched entry. The arched opening is trimmed with voussoirs and a raked molding forming shoulders that is capped with a stone in which "1891" is chiseled. Barely visible is the word "Baptist" spelled out, one letter per stone, in the voussoirs. Recessed within the opening is a pointed arch, stained glass transom above a double leaf entrance. Each of the wood paneled doors contains two vertical lights. Masking the northeast corner is a slender tower topped by an open stage. The asymmetrical gabled façade has a centrally positioned, large rose window. Beneath the rose window are five, round-arched, double hung sash windows separated by short heavy fluted pilasters with basket capitals. Below these windows are four courses of

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First Baptist Church
Las Animas County, CO

very uniformly cut large blocks of stone. Five flat-headed, single sash, windows at ground level align with the round-arched windows above them.

Facing Colorado Avenue, the south side is composed of three parts: the narthex/tower, the gabled face of the transept portion of the church, and the expanse of wall between them. The projecting bastion is punctuated by two windows-- a round-arched window with voussoirs above a flat-headed window with a lintel. The connecting wall contains a large basket-handled shaped blind arch, which spans the entire length of the wall and reinforces the visual strength of the building. Centered within the blind arch is a semi-circular window opening with four broad wood mullions separating five stained glass windows. Beneath the arch of stained glass windows is a corrugated metal roof that shelters a below-grade entrance to the basement. The framework of corrugated material and metal poles extends out to cover a series of concrete steps that lead to a solid door. Beside the door is a coupled window. The transept's gabled end is punctuated by three windows stepping up to the parapet gable.

The north side is divided into five bays by the employment of four buttresses. Five, tall, flat-headed, double hung sash windows filled with stained glass are aligned with five small basement windows. Three of the basement windows are obstructed by a concrete ramp with metal pipe railing that parallels much of the building on its way to an entrance into the north transept. The door contains three small stepped windows and has a large stained glass transom. The cross section is a two-story space that contains the sanctuary and office, with classrooms on the second floor. Bisecting the transverse gabled end is a slight chimney-like projection. There are four windows flanking this projection--two on the main floor with two directly aligned on the upper level.

The rear (west side) of the church is covered with stucco. Blocks of stone form lintels and sills for the six original windows that punctuate this two-story portion of the building. There are three, tall, double hung sash windows on the main level with three small, single sash windows directly above. An offset square chimney projects out from the wall and a small shed roof addition is connected to it. This addition covers the door that accesses the kitchen in the basement. To the right of this entrance is a double hung 2-over-2 light basement window. To the left of the entrance are three concrete steps that lead to a raised concrete pad.

The recessed double doors of the narthex/tower lead into a small rounded vestibule that has swinging doors opening into the nave. Designed as a two-story space, the nave is covered by a barrel vault, sustained by quarter-vaults on either side, held together by curved tie beams terminating in decorative corbels. The corbels are painted gold and white. The white plaster walls contrast with the dark brown wood trim around the doors and windows, and the floor is carpeted. There are narrow side aisles with two rows of pews separated by a large central aisle. The oak pews with red cushions will accommodate 150 to 200 worshipers. The central aisle leads to the chancel, within the transept portion of the building, and a communion table.

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First Baptist Church
Las Animas County, CO

The communion table is centrally positioned in front of an oak pulpit that sits on a platform accessed by two steps. Behind the pulpit is the choir. A blue velvet curtain separates the choir from the baptistry, where baptisms by immersion are performed. On the north side of the choir is a door to the pastor's study. The study occupies the north end of the transept and has its own outside entrance accessed by the ramp. The south end of the transept contains the choir and a stairway that leads to a second story where three Sunday school classrooms are located. This stairway also provides access to the basement.

The full basement, recently redecorated, includes a large room used for dinners, receptions, and other meetings. A well-equipped kitchen is next to the dining area. Two restrooms are to the right and back of the natural gas furnace.

A circa 1902 photograph provides clues to the few exterior changes that have occurred to the church. The photo shows a small sidewalk leading straight from the narthex/tower entrance to a series of four stairs that lead to the street. The basement (at grade) windows are not present in this photograph. The basement and kitchen were built in 1922. It is believed that the garden level windows were added at this time to provide illumination for the basement. The basement entry on the south side and the kitchen entry on the rear are presumed to have been constructed at this time. This historic addition of windows, which repeated the fenestration patterns of the main floor, is unobtrusive and does little to detract from the integrity of design, materials and workmanship of the building. It is possible that the re-grading for the basement windows forced the creation of a new stairway. Another theory is that the city lowered the street, which forced the change in the entry staircase. The only other exterior alteration was the installation of the handicapped ramp on the north side 1993. As for interior changes, the sanctuary was remodeled in 1958.

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First Baptist Church
Las Animas County, CO

SIGNIFICANCE

The First Baptist Church in Trinidad possesses high artistic value and therefore is eligible for the National Register under criterion C for its architectural significance. This 1890 Late Victorian composition owes much to Richardsonian Romanesque with its straightforward treatment of stone, the broad roof planes, and a select distribution of openings. Yet its asymmetrical façade framed by a large crenelated tower and a slender pinnacle, both topped with conical roofs, gives credence to its description as a "medieval fantasy. It is a marvel of attention to detail and there is no better stereotomy* in the state of Colorado" (Sheppard). The church is also architecturally significant as it represents the work of Charles W. Bulger and Isaac Hamilton Rapp. The First Baptist Church is the second commission of record for the Trinidad architectural firm of Bulger and Rapp. Although the partnership lasted only a few years, it resulted in several fine buildings that are an important part of Trinidad's architectural heritage. Both architects went on to establish distinguished careers. In particular, Rapp was a prominent Trinidad citizen, who went on to design many more of the town's important buildings. As a religious property that derives its primary significance from architectural distinction, the building also meets Criteria Consideration A.

Charles W. Bulger

Charles W. Bulger was born in Delphi, Indiana, August 1851. After attending Wabash College, he remained in Indiana until 1881. That year, he went to Kansas to build a flourmill and stayed for six years working as a contractor and designer. In 1887, Bulger moved to Trinidad and practiced as an architect in a partnership with Isaac Rapp. The partnership, which lasted from 1889 to 1891, designed a number of churches, schools, and commercial buildings in Trinidad. The first commission of record for the firm of Bulger and Rapp was the 1889 Zion Lutheran Church, a brick and wood frame Gothic-inspired building with some Queen Anne detailing. The second commission was the First Baptist Church. The fact that Bulger was a Deacon in the church probably accounted for the commission. The firm's third commission was the brick Temple of Aaron--an exotic, Victorian eclectic building with onion-shaped finials and tower roof. The firm followed with a commercial building, the First National Bank, a five-story stone building marked by Richardsonian Romanesque forms and ornamentation. In 1891, Bulger left Trinidad to practice in Galveston, Texas. After Bulger's departure, Rapp formed the partnership of I. H. and W. M. Rapp with his brother. Although some sources indicate that the First National Bank was the first building to bear the new firm's name, other sources acknowledge Bulger's attribution and indicate that the building's design was at least begun by Bulger and Rapp, although it was finished in 1892 when the new firm was established. Before dissolving their partnership, the firm of Bulger and Rapp also designed the Donley County Courthouse in Clarendon, Texas, a building very similar to the First National Bank.

* Stereotomy is the art of dividing three dimensional shapes into regular geometric sections; used in stone cutting to provide the proper sizes and shapes of stones for a building

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First Baptist Church
Las Animas County, CO

Bulger practiced in Galveston from 1891 to 1904, designing many private residences and numerous buildings. He then established the prominent and prolific Dallas architectural firm of C. W. Bulger and Son, in partnership with his son Clarence. This firm designed more than sixty churches in Texas and other states, as well as the original buildings of the Baylor Hospital complex in Dallas. Charles Bugler died June 17, 1922 and his son continued the practice.

Isaac Hamilton Rapp

One of nine children, Isaac Hamilton Rapp was born in 1854 in New York City into a family of architects, an old Dutch family from Amsterdam. His family moved to Carbondale, Illinois in 1856 where his father occasionally worked as an architect but made his reputation as a contractor and superintendent. Five of the seven sons would become architects. It is believed that Isaac Hamilton learned his trade from his father, serving as an apprentice and assistant. Isaac moved to Trinidad in 1888 and the following year, he and Bulger set up an architectural firm specializing in public buildings. Bulger left for Galveston in 1891, and shortly thereafter his brother, William Morris Rapp, came out to join Isaac. In 1892, they established the firm of I. H. and W. M. Rapp in Trinidad. In 1904, Arthur C. Hendrickson joined the firm as a draftsman and became a member of the firm in 1909. In the book *Creator of the Santa Fe Style: Isaac Hamilton Rapp, Architect*, author Carl D. Sheppard theorized the roles of the three men in the firm with William Morris keeping the books, Hendrickson overseeing construction, and Isaac Hamilton as the designer and head of the firm. The firm had offices in both Trinidad, Colorado and Santa Fe, New Mexico and designed numerous significant buildings over the two-state area.

In June 1920, William Morris contracted pneumonia and died. In August of the following year, Hendrickson died. Sheppard concludes that the death of his two partners was very difficult for Rapp to absorb. At age 67, he withdrew from his active career and moved back to Trinidad from Santa Fe, where he remained for the rest of his life. The firm did not dissolve, but for all practical purposes, it did no new work. When Isaac Hamilton Rapp died March 27, 1933, the local paper referred to him as "one of the most prominent of the pioneer residents of Trinidad" who was "linked with many of the important construction operations in the city and throughout New Mexico."

Rapp was not only one of Trinidad's most prominent citizens, he also designed most of its important buildings. In addition to the Zion Lutheran Church, the First Baptist Church, the Temple of Aaron and the First National Bank that he designed with Bulger, Rapp also designed the West Theatre (1907), the Beaus Arts styled Las Animas County Courthouse (1912), the East Avenue School, Trinidad High School, the Trinidad Country Club, the First Christian Church (1922), and several homes. The Trinidad Country Club, designed in the Pueblo Revival Style for which he would become most noted, was completed about the same time as the Mediterranean-inspired First Christian Church [listed in the National Register in 1995]. According to Sheppard, the firm "was up to date in its architectural vocabularies as any firm in the country. It was also acutely aware of its clientele and the degrees to which the clientele could be moved in acceptance of the modern."

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First Baptist Church
Las Animas County, CO

Rapp maintained offices in Trinidad and Santa Fe and the firm was connected with many of the principal building operations in southern Colorado and New Mexico, including numerous schools, courthouses and public buildings. In addition to his prolific work in Trinidad, Rapp was also responsible for other Colorado buildings including the Lamar County Courthouse and the high school in Walsenburg. He also designed many buildings in Santa Fe and Las Vegas, New Mexico. Rapp was responsible for the County Courthouse and the hotel La Fonda in Santa Fe, and the state normal school in Las Vegas. Sheppard cites Chris Wilson, who places the architectural firm in perspective:

[They were] Northern New Mexico and Southern Colorado's leading architects between about 1895 and 1920...Like other architects whose careers straddled the turn of the century, Rapp and Rapp moved freely along the range of eclectic styles, from Italianate and Richardsonian Romanesque through Neo-Classical and Prairie to California Mission and Pueblo styles.

Historical Background

The First Baptist Church of Trinidad was organized in 1884 following a visit to the community by Dr. Pope Yeaman, then president of the Missouri Baptist Convention, who was in town visiting his brother. Yeaman gathered together 17 people to form the first Baptist congregation in Trinidad. Following their organizing efforts, members of the congregation spent the next three years meeting at different locations. In late 1887, the congregation agreed to establish a church and Sunday school on the second floor of the Lynch Block on Main Street. The congregation used this site until the building on San Pedro Street was completed.

Plans for construction of the church came into being in late 1889, and at that time, the congregation with five hundred dollars in the bank, invested the money in necessary excavation work and laying of the foundation. Deacon C. W. Bulger and his partner Isaac Rapp were the architects of the building, which was "to be of stone and of modern architecture." Sullivan and Dallison were the contractors of the entire stone work. The material, a Colorado sandstone, was quarried two miles west of the city.

A large congregation witnessed the laying of the corner stone in 1890, which was said to weigh one thousands pounds and upon which "1890" was chiseled by one of the masons. Paying for the construction of the church mainly rested with the congregation. Solicitations from friends in other states by correspondence brought money into the fund while work was ongoing. The building and furnishings cost the congregation about \$7,600. The lots on which the church was built were priced at \$1,400. The dedication was announced for September 21, 1891.

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First Baptist Church
Las Animas County, CO

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First Baptist Church
Las Animas County, CO

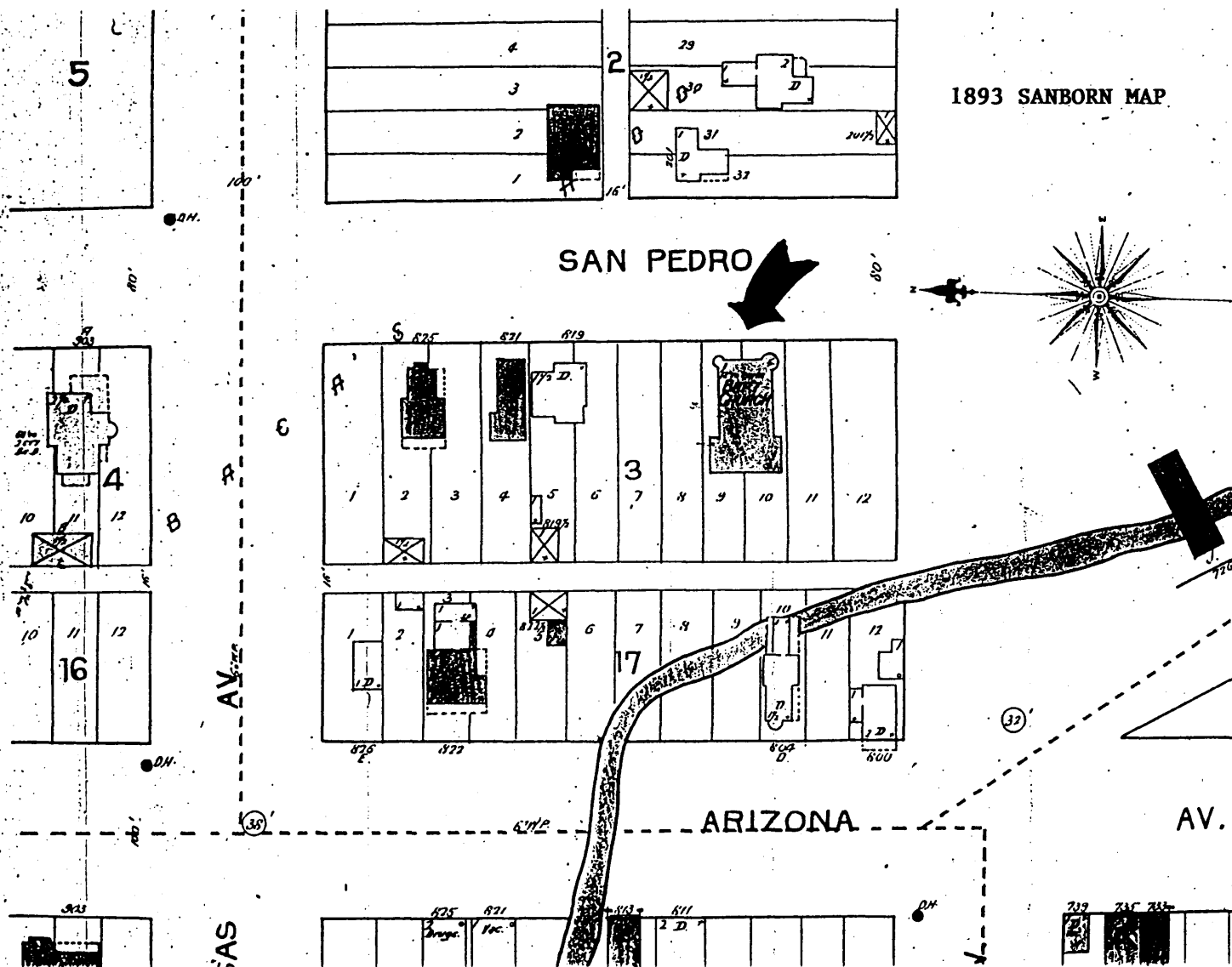
GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots 9 through 12, Block 3, MDG Baca Addition, City of Trinidad.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property is the parcel of land historically associated with the First Baptist Church.



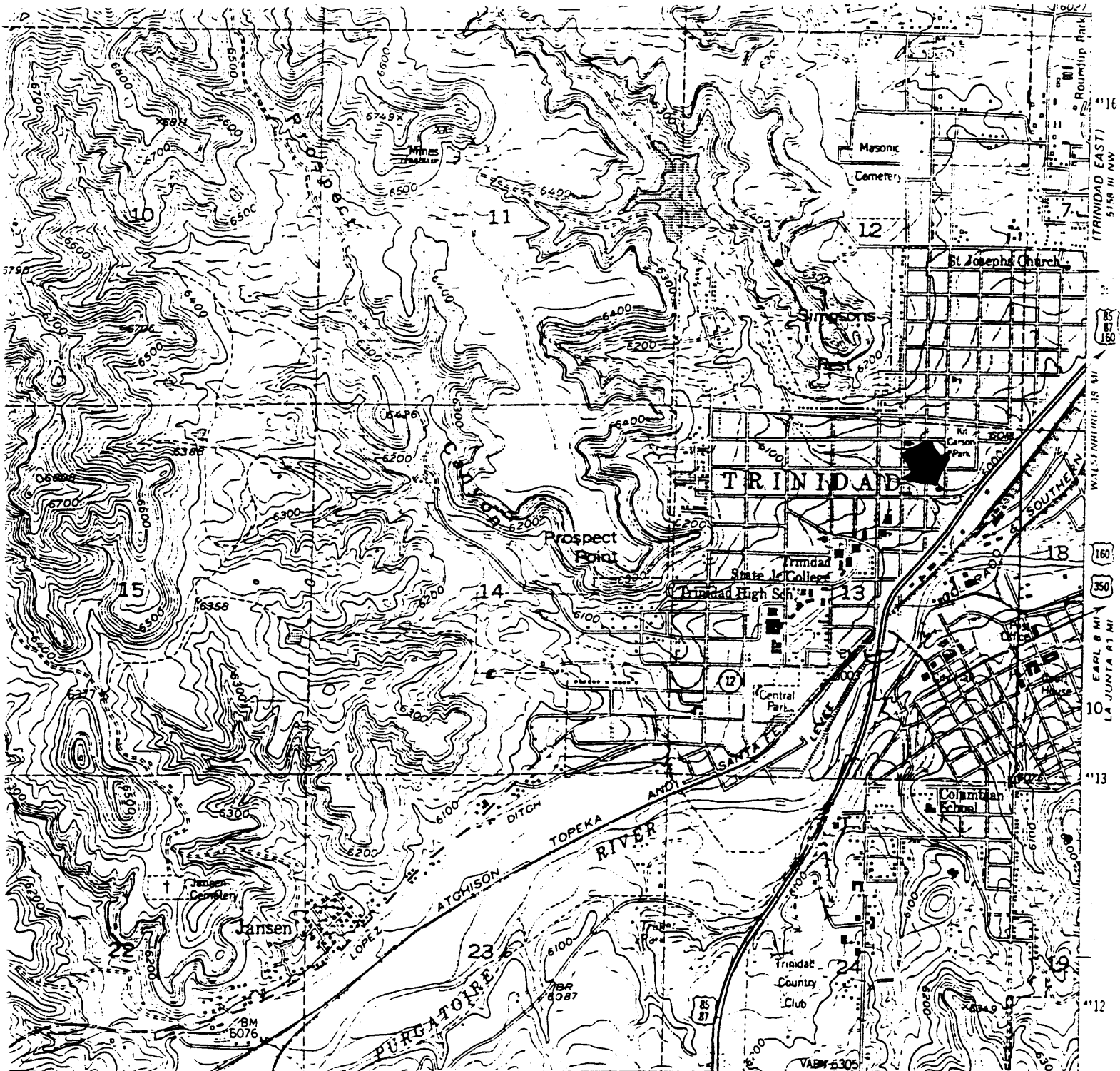
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First Baptist Church
Las Animas County, CO

U.S.G.S. Map - Trinidad West, Colorado Quadrangle



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First Baptist Church
Las Animas County, CO

PHOTOGRAPH LOG

The following information is the same for all photographs:

Name of property: First Baptist Church
City, county and state: Trinidad, Las Animas County, Colorado
Date of Photograph: 18 August 1999
Photographer: Vic Macaluso
Location of original negative: First Baptist Church, 809 San Pedro

<u>Photo #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	east face of church; camera facing west
2	front and south side; camera facing northwest
3	east end of south side with tower/narthex; camera facing north
4	west end of south side; camera facing north
5	southwest corner; camera facing northeast
6	west end (rear) of church; camera facing northeast
7	north side; camera facing southwest
8	northeast corner with pinnacle; camera facing south