

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New Jersey	
COUNTY: Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER OCT 30 1972	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
First Baptist Peddie Memorial Church (Peddie Church)

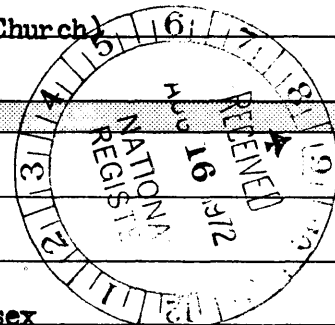
AND/OR HISTORIC:
(First Baptist)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Broad Street and Fulton Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Newark

STATE: **New Jersey** CODE: **34** COUNTY: **Essex** CODE: **013**



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
First Baptist Peddie Memorial Church

STREET AND NUMBER:
Broad Street and Fulton Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Newark

STATE:
New Jersey

CODE:
34

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Essex County Hall of Records

STREET AND NUMBER:
High Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Newark

STATE:
New Jersey

CODE:
34

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
H.A.B.S. -

DATE OF SURVEY: **c. 1960** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:
Washington

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE:
D.C.

CODE:
11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **New Jersey**

COUNTY: **Essex**

ENTRY NUMBER: **OCT 30 1972**

DATE: **OCT 30 1972**

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CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Essentially unaltered exterior, excepting tile roof replaced by slate (which obscures further the relationship to the Pisa Baptistery as the prototype, with much modification). A statue of Gabriel blowing a long trumpet - once atop the dome - was a storm casualty many years ago.

The vistas toward the church from along Broad Street and Central Avenue - with the nearby open spaces of Washington and Military Parks - are very impressive.

The exterior is mostly of rugged rough-hewn light brown granite - probably "pink granite". There are 3 vigorously treated granite towers - 2 on the front corners and 1 on the side street rear. The corner entrances and the main convexcurved arcade of the center entrances are of rough-hewn granite arches, of monastic effect, rising from polished "pink granite" columns capped with capitals which are Byzantine or Egyptian.

Sculptured gargoyles and heads adorn the exterior, and are echoed in the original metal fittings of the interior. The arcade archways are graced with the decorous latticed effect of lacy metal grillwork gates.

The huge curved Baptist meetinghouse interiors of the late 19th Century got a unique addition when Peddie's interior was done in Byzantine with many curious modifications. Some of the interior walls are of various stones and brickwork, but the almost circular balcony and other fittings are predominantly of wood - medium-dark stained - giving a very restful and subdued effect which is still, typically, confused in its elements and various decorative touches, but this might often be said of Byzantine interiors, also, with the variety of art works at St. Mark's, Venice (brought from afar) for example, being notable. Thus we have an upper level pulpit or lectern (not the central pulpit) with its lectern mounted on a large wood-carved spread eagle. Above (behind) the pulpit enclosing the baptismal pool and below it on the main floor are convex-curved seats for the clergy of (cushioned) pink marble, with arcaded columned semi-domed niches - which again echo the entrance arcade and, perhaps, the prototype Pisa Baptistery.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



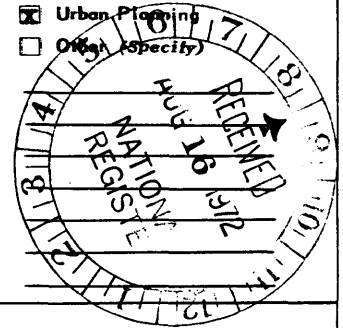
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) founded 1801, built 1888-90

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Unquestionably, this church is of national significance as a unique and robust Byzantine-Romanesque example of the Richardson Romanesque Era. It is irreplaceable.

It is so cited in Gowans and, since the demolition of the extraordinary old Prudential buildings it is New Jersey's most unique edifice of Byzantine-Romanesque of the rugged Richardsonian influence.

It also is a noted work by noted architect William Halsey Wood, Newark.

The church, founded in 1801, is the oldest Baptist congregation in the city - and has absorbed the members of other churches including South Baptist and Clinton Avenue Baptist.

The church was the gift of Newark Mayor Thomas B. Peddie, for whom the church became a memorial in his name. He was a Scotsman, a prominent Newark industrialist, active church member, and philanthropist, with Peddie School in Hightstown, New Jersey also bearing his name. The church location, a fine asset, is also its greatest threat: potential commercial encroachment. There are extraordinary vistas of the church as it anchors Broad Street at its bend at the north end of Military Park - with the overall setting not totally unlike that of St. Basil's - Moscow, at the head of Red Square. It is also at the head of Central Avenue.

/ The church was styled in very free adaptation, with many additions, such as three towers, reputedly, from the Baptistery of Pisa, Italy (of the Cathedral group which includes the famed Leaning Tower also)./ If this seems obscure, more credence can be lent to it by a comparison of photos - in the case of Peddie Church using old photo(s) of the church when it had its dome in tiles, suggestive of the tiled Pisa dome, before Peddie's dome was covered by slate. The arcaded entrances of Peddie also simulate Pisa.

Congressional Representation

- Harrison Williams - U.S. Senator
 Clifford Case - U.S. Senator
 Peter W. Rodino Jr. - Congressman (10th Congressional District)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Church anniversary booklet, 1951 (150th anniversary) Architecture in New Jersey, Alex Gowans, University of Delaware

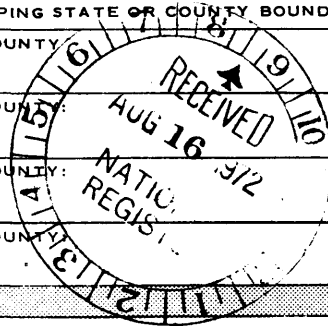
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		40 ° 44 ' 29 "	74 ° 10 ' 08 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Donald W. Geyer, licensed "professional planner", and architectural orian hist-

ORGANIZATION: _____ DATE: 6/9/71

STREET AND NUMBER: 351 Broad Street

CITY OR TOWN: Newark STATE: New Jersey CODE: 34

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Richard J. Sullivan
 Title: Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection
 Date: May 12, 1972

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

Robert W. Geyer
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 Date: 10/30/72
 ATTEST: William M. Smith
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date: _____