

RECEIVED

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

MAY 22 1987

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

OFFICE OF NEW JERSEY HERITAGE
received FEB 2 1987
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Providence Presbyterian Church of Bustleton

and/or common Bustleton Church

2. Location

street & number Old York Rd. at Burl.-Bustleton Rd.

NA not for publication

city, town Florence Township

vicinity of

state New Jersey

code 034

county Burlington

code 005

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	NA	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Trustees of Providence Presbyterian Church of Bustleton

street & number RD 2, Box 2087

city, town Burlington

vicinity of

state New Jersey 08016

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Registry of Deeds, County Court Building

street & number 49 Rancocas Rd., Mt. Holly

city, town Mt. Holly

state New Jersey 08060

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory:
title Burlington County Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1976 federal state county local

depository for survey records Office of New Jersey Heritage, CN 404,

city, town Trenton,

state New Jersey 08625

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Built in 1878 under the direction of architect William Hewitt, the Providence Presbyterian Church of Bustleton is an extremely well-preserved Carpenter Gothic style building. Bustleton remains an unaltered rural section of Florence Township with this beautiful country church as its keystone. The church property sits at the intersection of Burlington-Bustleton Road and Old York Road. The property contains the main church, constructed in 1878; a Victorian residence, circa 1890; an original smaller church built in 1863; and a Christian Education building erected in 1960. All but the Education Building are contributing. There is no graveyard on the property.

The lovely brick and clapboard main church is in the Carpenter's Gothic style and has a simple rectangular plan. The interior is divided into a nave/altar area which features exposed rafters and stained glass windows and a large entry vestibule. The nave contains wooden pews on each side of a middle aisle. There are no side aisles; the wooden pews are fitted into the walls. The altar is a step up and overlooked by a rose window. The ceiling of the church features open vaulted heavy beam timber framing. Electric lights hang from the arched braces. The entry vestibule at the rear of the church is separated from the main area by huge pointed arch pocket doors.

This small, but sophisticated country church has a rectangular form. The linear facade has stained glass windows just beneath the long steep gable roof, at the exposed rafters. The well detailed rose window in the east gable end is flanked by windows. Although not used, there is a formal entrance on the side of the church, near the altar. Protected by a delicately decorated portico, the pointed arch double batten doors open directly into the nave. The building has an open louvered cupola which is centrally located on the main roof. The cupola is decorated with Victorian tooting and brackets and the ends of the roof rafters are exposed at the eaves. The exterior walls consist of verticle board-and-batten siding to the middle of the stained glass windows, horizontal siding to the window sills, and brick infill down to a heavy wooden water table. The building sits on a cut-stone foundation which is coursed randomly. There are two entry porches but only the smaller one on the southwest rear side is used.

While there are no old photos of the church it is known that the only significant alteration to the main church was the replacement, in the 1950's, of the original stenciled type windows with those stained glass ones in place now. The original windows do exist, however, and are stored in the basement of the church. Original windows exist in the vestibule and the pocket doors. The congregation has refused to make any alterations of larger consequence out of a desire to retain the original beauty of the main church.

The parsonage, circa 1890, faces Old York Road and is a 2½ story, 3 bay wide frame structure with the gable end facing the street. It has been covered with aluminum siding.

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The original church built in 1863, also remains on this property. It is a 1½ story frame structure with a rectangular plan and the gable end facing Old York Road. Asbestos siding was added in the 1930's covering the round arched window heads.

The Christian Education Center is a 2 story cinder block building erected in 1960 and is the only noncontributing building on the property. The slightly L-shaped building contains 8 classrooms, a meeting room, and a kitchen. It generally serves the congregation. It is located behind, west of the main church, and is accessed via the Burlington-Bustleton Road. While the building does not add to the historical/architectural significance of the site it does evidence the social and religious growth of the congregation.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1863, 1878, c.1890 **Builder/Architect** Miller & Estelow/William Hewitt

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Providence Presbyterian Church of Bustleton is a well preserved and an excellent example of a rural Carpenter Gothic style church. While Florence Township is lucky enough to claim a half a dozen Victorian churches only Bustleton's is in a picturesque rural setting. The Providence Presbyterian Church of Bustleton was built by local builders Miller and Estelow using plans and specifications of architect William Hewitt. It is one of the few ecclesiastical expressions of the style in Burlington County and certainly a noteworthy example in Florence Township. Erected in 1878, the church remains essentially in a pristine setting. The parsonage (c. 1890) and the original church structure (c. 1860), while not as well preserved, are integral to the historic setting of the Bustleton Church.

William Hewitt (1848–1924) was born and educated in nearby Burlington, New Jersey. After completing his education, which was delayed by the civil war, William Hewitt joined with his older brother George Hewitt, who was a former partner of Frank Furness and John Fraser, and they practiced out of Philadelphia. They were commissioned to do fifty churches in the greater Philadelphia area and are remembered for two outstanding works in particular, the Philadelphia Bourse, now a center city shopping center and Philadelphia's grandest hotel, the Bellevue-Stratford. Among their many other projects the brothers also continued some of the work done earlier at the nations first zoo in Philadelphia by Hewitt, Fraser and Furness.

The following is an article from the Burlington Gazette, Saturday, December 21, 1878 which recognized immediately the churches prominence:

Bustleton's New Church

"The village of Bustleton was all bustle last Tuesday, in consequence of the service attendant upon the dedication of the Providence Presbyterian Church. During the past ten days, as a subject of conversation, the weather has had a rest, in that vicinity, and wherever two or three were seen together, the coming dedication was certain to be the absorbing topic. The people of the village and the surrounding country are proud of their new church, and they have reason to be so. The existance of a church in a community speaks well for the inhabitants thereof.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1.7 acres

Quadrangle name Bristol

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	8	5	1	8	4	2	0	4	4	3	7	3	2	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

Florence Township Tax Map, sheet #21, block #170, lots #5.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries NA

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Roy Jones

organization NA date January 13, 1986

street & number 728 W. Second St. telephone 609/499-0955

city or town Florence state New Jersey

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.

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer signature Aileen Esmerbe

title Assistant Commissioner for Natural Resources date January 05, 1987

For NPS use only

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

Linda McClelland date 11/18/88
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

Providence Presbyterian Church, Florence Twsp.

Continuation sheet Burlington County, NJ

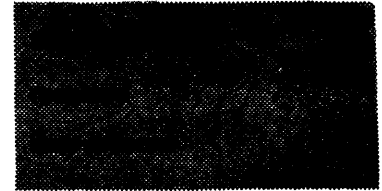
Item number

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As the time for the services to begin approached, the congregation and friends gathered in large numbers, and there must have been between four and five hundred people. At two o'clock the bell in the cupola pealed forth its first notes, in response to which, as many as were able, obtained seats in the church, quite a number being compelled to stand. Among those present were a number of clergymen from distant places. The exercises were opened with a prayer by Rev. Edward B. Hodge, after which the congregation sang a hymn. Dr. Miller of Mount Holly, read a portion of scripture, and was followed by Rev. Louis R. Fox, who gave a brief account of the foundation and subsequent progress of the church. He said that the first services were held under the shade of the trees, in the summer of 1863, by Rev. John Chester. Services were maintained regularly on Sunday afternoons by Mr. Chester and Rev. John P. Robbins, until autumn. The first church building was dedicated December 23d, of the same year. Rev. Edward B. Hodge always maintained a deep interest in the success of the church and frequently held services there. For 18 months Rev. Henry G. Butler had charge of the church in connection with that of Columbus. Various students from Princeton spent their summer months in charge of the little congregation. A Sunday school was organized, having for its superintendent, Mr. David Styler, who still holds the position, and is one of the most zealous workers for the growth and prosperity of the church and congregation. The ground for the new church was donated by Joseph P. Zelly. The new edifice was begun in the later part of last August, the architect being William D. Hewitt, and the contractors and builders, Messrs. Miller and Estelow of this city (Burlington, New Jersey). The cost of the building and its furnishings was \$3100, all of which has been subscribed, and the majority of the bills incurred have been paid.

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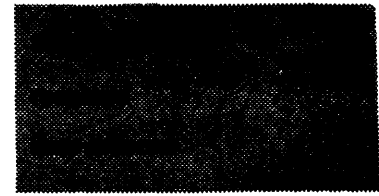
2

This money was contributed by Christian friends at a distance, at the insistance of Rev. Louis R. Fox, the minister in charge, who seems to have indulged in the good work as a labor of love. The material was hauled to the ground from Burlington, by members of the congregation and other people of the neighborhood. The fence was built by the congregation, the posts having been generously contributed by their friends and neighbors. In the construction of the building 93 loads of stone were hauled and used; 11 of brick; 4 of lime; 50 of lumber; 29 of sand; 29 hogsheads of water and a great quantity of gravel. This hauling was done by the following named gentleman, Hillman D. Warren deserving special mention for having hauled more loads than anyone else.

Edward Wainwright, Webster Hancock, Edward Quinn, Ellis Bunting, Ezera Scattergood, Edward King, John Lame, Andrew Tudor, George Bowne, Daniel Smith, Charles Smith, William Richardson, Joseph Haley, Frank Tallman, Benj. T. Warren, Bayard Carty, Wm. Bowne, Alfred Carty, Caleb Rogers, Jas. Bowne, Henry Gilbert, Dr. Calver, William Farrell, Thos. H. Sutton, David Styler, Samuel Hancock, Levi Frazier, Stacy Lippencott.

The prayer of dedication was made by Rev. Mr. Fox, after which Rev. Alfred H. Kellogg, of Philadelphia, preached a sermon, taking his text from the First Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians, the twelfth chapter and the sixth verse, which is in these words: "And there are diversions of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all things." The speaker endeavored to convince his hearers that people are as different in their religious characters as they are by nature. He advised them to be natural, and not endeavor to appear what they are not, by imitating others; saying that this was often the cause of cant, hypocrisy, mockery and other sinfulness. To be

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ourselves, he said, is one of the first principles of a religious life. He spoke of the multiform means of becoming Christians; of the different forms, different churches and characters; but reminded the congregation that it is the same God which worketh all things, and that all religious people were in pursuit of the same object. The sermon was a thoughtful exposition of the words of the text, and was delivered in an earnest manner.

After prayer had been offered and a hymn sang, a collection was taken up to defray incidental expenses. The exercises were brought to a close by singing the doxology and the pronunciation of the benediction, by Rev. Thorn, of the Broad Street M.E. Church of this city (Burlington, New Jersey). Although not down on the programme, there was an interesting exercise held in the old church building. Here the ladies of the congregation had prepared a lunch, of which all were invited to partake. Rev. Mr. Fox announced that services would be held in the new church every Sunday evening. The edifice is 61½ feet long and 23 feet wide, and is highly ornamented as well as convenient and comfortable. It is built something after the plan of the chappel in East Burlington, with a rose window in the end above the pulpit, stained glass being used also in the windows on the sides."

* * * * *

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Bibliographical References

Burlington Gazette, Saturday, December 21, 1878, page 3, column 3. On file in the Burlington County Library, Mount Holly.

Withey and Withey, Biographical Dictionary of American Architects, Hennessey & Ingalls Inc., Los Angeles, 1970.

E.M. Woodward, History of Burlington County, 1883.

Interview of David W. Salinger, Minister of the Providence Presbyterian Church of Bustleton.

Scott, Scotts Burlington County Atlas of 1876.

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National Park Service

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MAR 10 1988

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

NATIONAL
REGISTER

Section number 7/8/13 Page _____ Providence Presbyterian Church, Florence Township,
Burlington County, New Jersey

A D D E N D U M

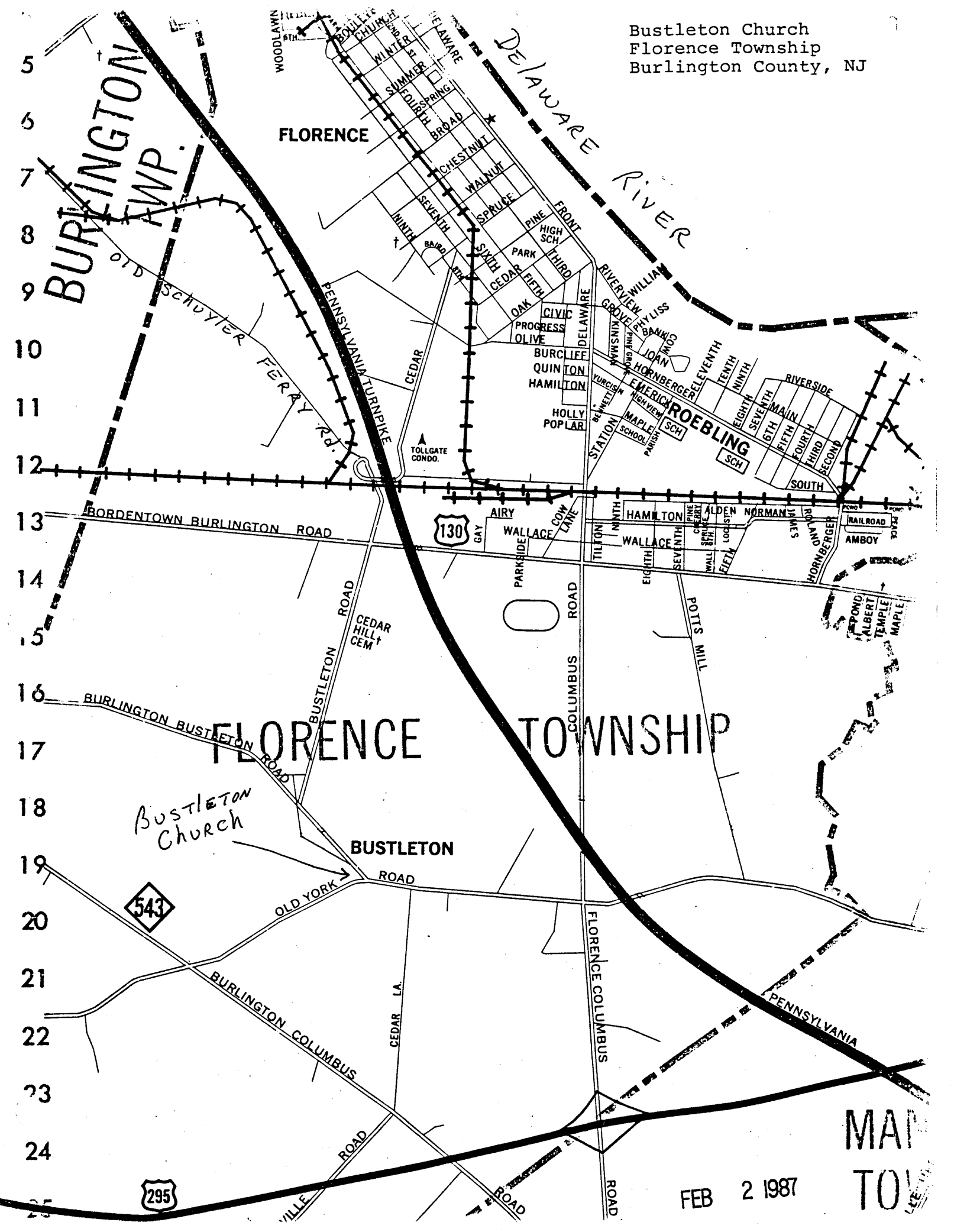
In reference to Section 7 of the Evaluation/Return sheet, the first (1863) and second (1878) churches and parsonage (1890) contribute to the historic integrity of the site as a religious focal point. The clustering of the buildings in the original locations still conveys the sense of a rural setting as it was when they were built. The structures themselves show good workmanship and look much as they once did. The interaction between the grouped buildings as well as the massing of forms of each building is unchanged. The external additions of nonauthentic materials (aluminum siding on the parsonage and asbestos siding on the 1863 church) do not destroy the structural integrity of the buildings or their contributions to the picturesque setting. The local association of all three (3) structures with the late nineteenth century religious growth of the Presbyterians in Florence Township qualifies all three (3) structures as religiously significant.

As to the problems raised in Section 8, the Comprehensive Burlington County Inventory and Survey of Historic Architectural and Cultural Resources (1975-77) points to the Providence Presbyterian Church of Bustleton (1863) as the oldest identified religious structure in the township. As the only Presbyterian church included in the survey it reflects the important religious significance of this particular church in the township. The growth of the parish in Florence Township is reflected in the subsequent construction of the second church (1878) and parsonage (1890).

For a view of the parsonage to comply with section 13, please see the photo of the original church building (11 of 13) for an adequate oblique angle view.

Matt Anderson
February, 1988

Bustleton Church
Florence Township
Burlington County, NJ



MAP
TO

FEB 2 1987

SEE SHEET 15

21

Burl. - Bustleton Rd. 1330'±(S)

11.02

1.23Ac.

346.75

EXEMPTED

Lot 12

PROVIDENCE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF BUSTLETON

5
1.7Ac.

365.50

357.06

105
128.06

167±

226

OLD YORK ROAD

11.01

101.54 A

N

700'
13
235'

OLD YORK Rd.

(COUNTY PROPOSED 86' ROW.)
OLD ESTABLISHED LAW 99' ROW.

FEB 2 1987

Bustleton Church
Florence Township
Burlington County, NJ
TOWNSHIP TAX MAP

BUSTLETON ROAD

X PT #2

X PT #2

X PT #4

X PT #5

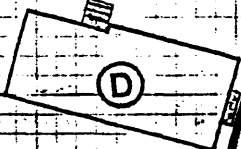
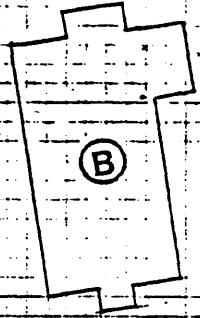
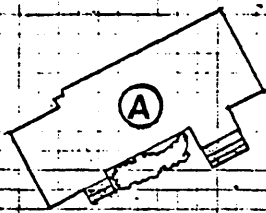
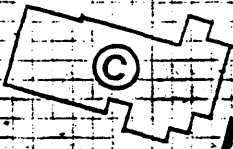
X PT #7

X PT #1

X PT #4

LOT 5

LOT 12
BLOCK 170



ROAD

OLD YORK

LEGEND

- A CHURCH (1878)
- B CHRISTIAN ED CENTER
- C HOUSE
- D ORIG. CHURCH

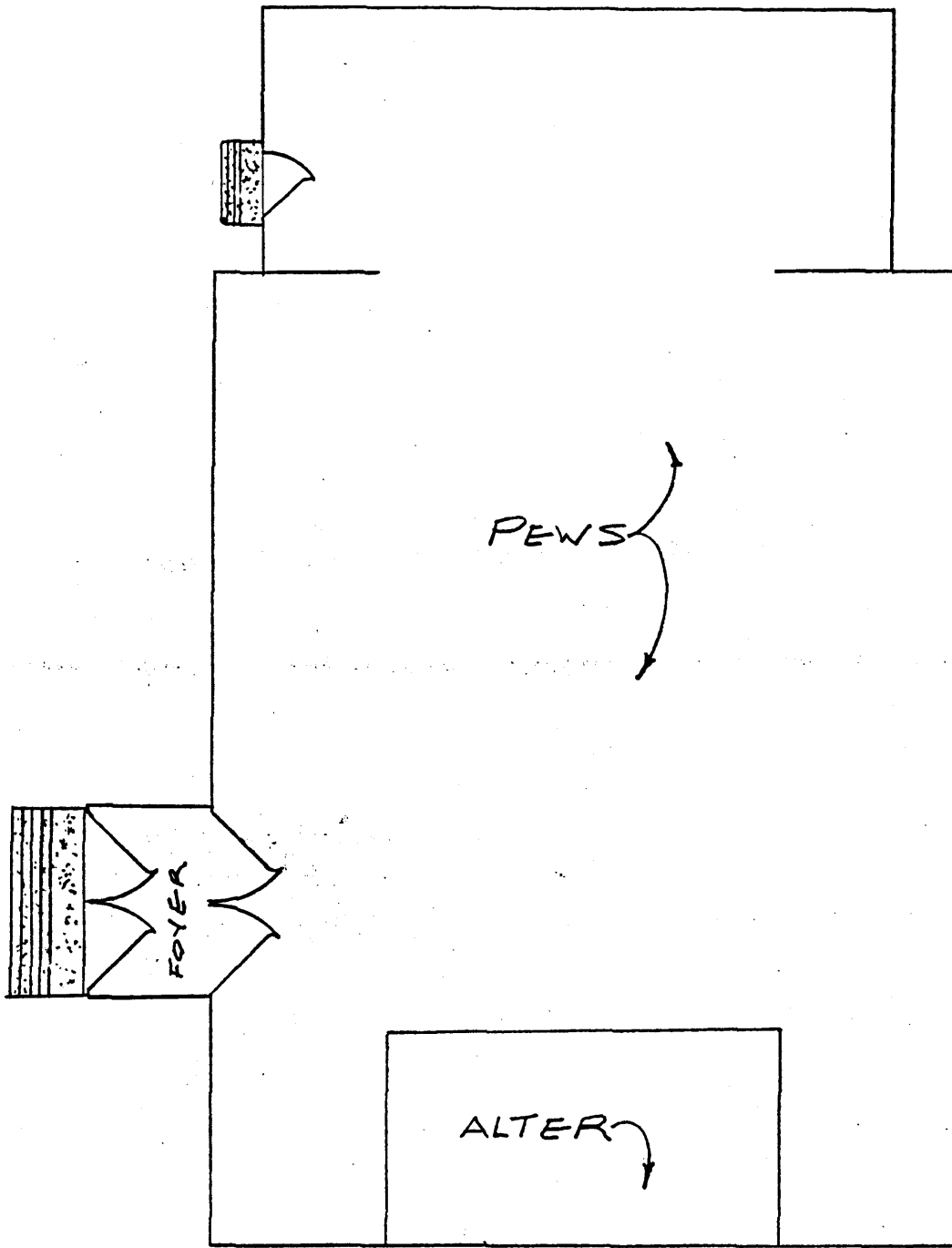
LEGEND

- PT. #1 A,C,D
- " #2 A,B
- " #3 A,B,C,D
- " #4 A,C,D
- " #5 A,B,C,D
- " #6 A
- " #7 A

NOTE:
AT PT. #1 PICTURES
WERE TAKEN OF BLDG. A,C, & D
ETC. ETC.

Bustleton Church
Florence Township
Burlington County, NJ

FEB 2 1967



FLOOR PLAN

NO SCALE

CHURCH (BUILT 1878)

FEB 2 1987