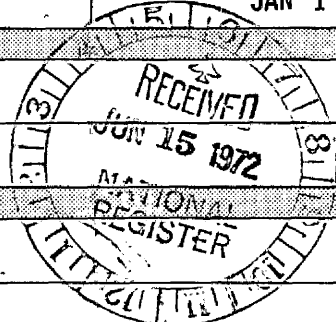


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New Jersey	
COUNTY: Union	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JAN 18 1973



2718  
 N13  
 E 550760  
 W45000050

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Old Baptist Parsonage

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
547 Park Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:  
Scotch Plains

STATE: New Jersey      CODE: 34      COUNTY: Union      CODE: 039

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 (Specify) _____ _____ _____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Scotch Plains Baptist Church

STREET AND NUMBER:  
333 Park Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Scotch Plains      STATE: New Jersey      CODE: 34

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Elizabeth County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Broad Street

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

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
N.J. Historic Sites Inventory #2745.3

DATE OF SURVEY: 1964       Federal       State       County       Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Historic Sites Section, Department of Environmental Protection

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Box 1420, John Nitch Plaza

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

STATE: New Jersey	FOR NPS USE ONLY
COUNTY: Union	
ENTRY NUMBER JAN 18 1973	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

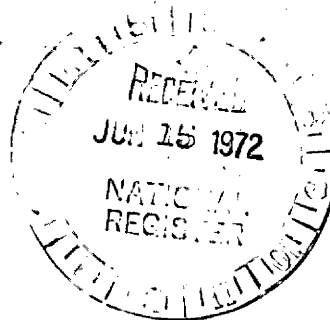
7. Description

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original-Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Old Baptist Parsonage original remaining structure is of cut sandstone walls 16" thick with furred off plastered interior walls. A marble diamond shaped date stone is set below the second floor windows on the northwest corner. It is a full 2 story house with originally 2 rooms downstairs and 2 upstairs. Each room with a fireplace. The original kitchen was a separate out building - since removed. It has a generously wide hall and gentle rising stair with nicely turned balusters and graceful hand rail. The original hardware remains on most of the doors which are flush panel one side, 6 panel (not raised) on the other side. A balancing wood clapboard frame addition was added (1854), making it a typical center hall, 4 room first floor - 2nd floor has been modernized with a bath, and a new kitchen installed on the southeast newer wing - for use by current residents.

It is hoped to restore first floor rooms for Museum and meetings and use second floor for custodian's apartment. The desire of the Church people and local townsfolk to preserve this landmark is great and its setting at the approach to the Town's Municipal complex and Town center is most appealing, aesthetically and historically.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. Significance

**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)** 1786

---

**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		

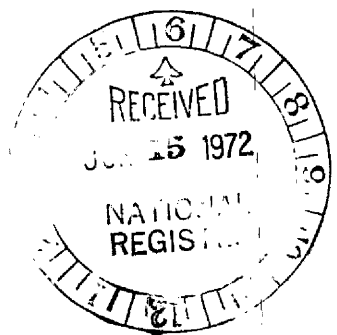
**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

This old parsonage, built in 1786, replaced an earlier frame Parsonage destroyed by fire that same year. It is unique in its use of cut brownstone, a very uncommon practice in this area of the state, as most of the buildings were of frame or brick with the stone being used only in foundations. The choice of stone was obviously a result of the burning of the earlier building. It is of handsome proportions, retaining nearly all of its original features on the first floor, in mantels, trim, early hardware, wide floor boards, etc. The stone was furnished and erected by one William Miller and quarried at some distance on the other side of "The Mountains" and hauled in by Ox cart.

The real significance of the building in addition to its Architectural merit is the fact that it was the site of the Manse which housed the Ministers of this church, which was the Mother Church to the First Regular Baptist Church of New York City (1762). One of its ministers also founded Brown University in 1764 in Providence, Rhode Island, as well as off shoots in Lyons Farm 1769, Samptown (New Market) 1792, Washington Kentucky 1788, May's lick Kentucky 1792 and others.

This church originated from the "First" Baptist Church in New Jersey in Piscataway, New Jersey.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Scotch Plains - The Story of an Old Community by Reignette Marsh.

Scotch Plains - Baptist Church 1897, History from its Organization August 5, 1747 to its 150th Anniversary 1897, Rev. J.H. Parks and Judge James D. Cleaver

Miscellaneous papers in possession of Scotch Plains Baptist Church

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	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° 40' 5"	74° 23' 59"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
Charles H. Detwiller, Jr. - A.I.A. Architect

ORGANIZATION: Historical Society of Plainfield and North Plainfield      DATE: 3/30/71

STREET AND NUMBER:  
602 West Front Street

CITY OR TOWN: Plainfield      STATE: New Jersey      CODE: 31

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  
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 M. Utley  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 1/18/73

ATTEST: Wm. M. ...  
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 1.9.73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet) (1)

STATE New Jersey	
COUNTY Union	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JAN 18 1973	

(Number all entries)

Old Baptist Parsonage

New Jersey Code: 34  
Union Code: 039

Congressional Representation

Clifford P. Case	United States Senator
Harrison A. Williams	United States Senator
Frances P. Dwyer	Congresswoman (12th District)

