

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>New Jersey</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Essex</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER: <b>NOV 2 1972</b>	DATE

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**New Point Baptist Church**

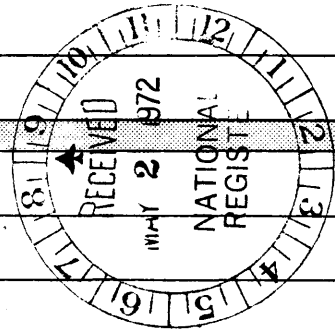
AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**South Baptist Church**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**17 E. Kinney Street, east of Broad 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	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"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**New Point Baptist Church**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Same as above**

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:  
**New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory 2186.34**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1971**  Federal  State  County  Local

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

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**John Fitch Plaza, P.O. Box 1420**

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **New Jersey**  
 COUNTY: **Essex**  
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7. Description

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" 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		

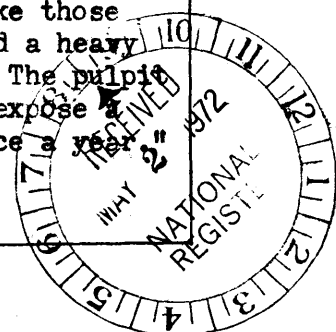
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

**Brwonstone-faced**

Despite destruction of steeple, recent enclosure of porch behind facade columns and minor interior alterations, the church is still a dignified, stately, relatively-intact representation of a Greek Revival facade in fine condition, and a meetinghouse interior much in its original appearance. Kenneth B. Schnall's Thesis gives a detailed account of the appearance:

"The building is constructed of brick, the front and vestibule sides are dressed in a neatly cut ashlar stone in a plumb bond. The entire pediment and entablature is of a white-paneled brick similar to that used in the side and rear of the building. The front portico has two heavy Doric columns with wide fluting. These columns flank the central doorway and are in line with heavy pilasters that frame the vestibule's walls. A photo of the South Baptist Church before the turn of the nineteenth century shows that the facade of the building has not changed except for the complete removal of a large central tower and spire...(Leary reference) The tower was built directly over the peak at the building's front. It was built in four stages, with the bottom stage a square block with round side windows to support two lighter louvered belfrys and a sharp spire. The unadorned pediment is set under a raking cornice that extends beyond the line of the facade. The deep cornice and the simplified triglyphs panels along with a set of dentil-like projections over each panel produces a strong triangular area above the generally flat facade. The central door has a triangular pediment over the door with panels like those found in the entablature. Heavy consoles support the doors pedimented top by locking into the door jams. Doors to the side vestibules are at right angles to the central door. The side walls have long rectangular stain glass windows of a plain design. Windows in the side walls extend from a wooden wainscoting that surrounds the interior walls of the church to a distance of about five feet from the ceiling. The central audience room is entered through three doors. The east side aisle leads to a stage that flanks but is lower than the pulpit stage. The upper gallery is made of wood. The gallery is built across the rear of the room and extends over both side aisles almost the full length of the church, to the pulpit and choir area. The gallery is supported on four cast iron metal pillars. Entrance doors to the gallery are approached through stairwells in the vestibules that flank the central door. The ceiling suggests the full rectangular shape of the room. It is made of tin with a deep coffer. A rectangular section is recessed and is set apart from the texture of the ceiling by a flat plain band of moldings. This center rectangle is the area for the main light fixture which is suspended into the middle of the room. The front pulpit area is a raised stage that is set back beyond the line of the rear wall. This rear wall is broken by a single stained glass window in a round arch with similar flanking closed shapes. These panels are probably boarded windows since they are set beyond the wall surface and are inscribed." (Ornamented 'Palladian Window' effect) "The stage area is framed by a wide lintel molding set with dentils like those in the facade. Side pilasters with braces and gold filigree hold a heavy overhead lintel providing a central focus in the audience room. The pulpit stage is built so that a section of the floor will roll back to expose a large lead and concrete tank which is used for a baptism rite once a year

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) **cornerstone 1849, dedicated 1850, renovated 1862-63**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                      |  |  |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input 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"/> Literature  | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music       |  |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

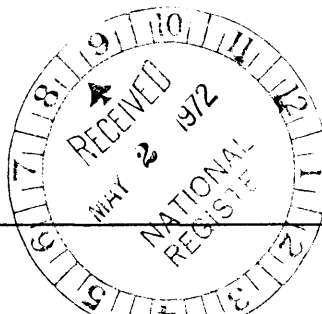
The significance is primarily architectural, although the religious and organizational histories of two Baptist congregations which have utilized it. Currently, the New Point Baptist (alternate New Point Missionary Baptist) Church has occupied the premise for many years, and made practical upkeep and renovation - neither ideal nor desecrating, a conscientious responsibility. The congregation of South Baptist Church (defunct) disbanded many years ago and remerged with First Baptist Peddie Memorial Church from which it had been an offshoot c. 1849-50. The precise sequence in those earlier times is not completely clear, but, from various accounts, First Baptist, itself, purchased the property in E. Kinney St. to relocate itself there, only to change its mind. Apparently a need in that area was anticipated, however, and an architecturally very fine and substantial church designed and largely built before formal organization of the South Baptist Church in early 1850 - a project probably advanced with much support from First Baptist.

Architecturally, the church, despite various non-crucial changes, is one of Newark's best representative Greek Revival churches, public or semi-public remaining. Though records indicated it was designed by a local architect, John G. Hall, of some distinction - who also did the fine Anglo-Norman church of 1850. David S. Gendell of Philadelphia, is given as architect, presumably for the 1862-63 period when the façade (perhaps originally brick) was refaced with fine-cut brownstone - perhaps according to a basic form and plan largely inherited by Gendell from the original architect - and certain interior renovations. Decorator John Gibson is also recorded, presumably c. 1863.

There are extant, in Newark, 4 other churches representing either, or both, simple Greek Revival or other Minard Lafever influence, all erected in the period 1848-1858.

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**

Newark Daily Advertiser, October 23, 1849  
 The Sentinel of Freedom, October 30, 1849  
 Newark Morning Eagle, September 30, 1850  
 American Architect and Building News, Philadelphia, 1862  
 Schnall, Kenneth B., Thesis, 1965 Newark State College

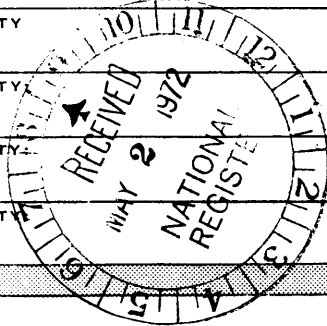
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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° 43' 41"	74° 10' 32"	
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



**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Donald W. Geyer, licensed "professional planner" and architectural historian**

ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: **1971**

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: April 25, 1972

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

Robert W. Geyer  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 11/2/72

ATTEST: William J. ...  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 10 ' 3 ' 72

SEE INSTRUCTIONS