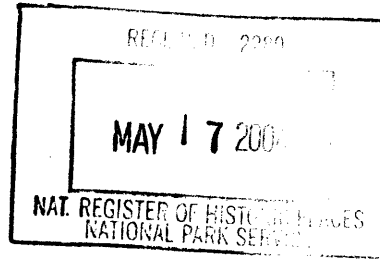


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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions 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 any 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 2nd Baptist Church
other names _____

2. Location

street & number 816 3rd Street, N.W. not for publication
city or town Washington, D.C. vicinity
state District of Columbia code DC county _____ code 01 zip code 20001

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Asia M. Buchanan DC SWPO 3/24/04
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
DC Historic Preservation Office
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 this property is:
- 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): _____

Signature of the Keeper Patrick Andrus Date of Action 6/30/2004

Second Baptist Church
Name of Property

Washington, D.C.
County and State

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 include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	1	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 Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/Religious Facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/Religious Facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE GOTHIC REVIVAL

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone
walls Stone/Limestone
roof Not visible
other

Narrative Description

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

Second Baptist Church
Name of Property

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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 pattern of our History.
- B** Property 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)

Area of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1894-1970s

Significant Dates

1894

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Appleton P. Clark, Jr.

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 files (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:

Second Baptist Church
Name of Property

Washington, D.C.
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 7,500 square feet

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	1 8	3 2 5 2 0 5	4 3 0 7 6 8 0	3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	
2				4			

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 James E. Terrell/Pastor Second Baptist Church; Kim Williams/Architectural Historian, editor
Organization D.C. Historic Preservation Office date February 25, 2004
street & number 801 North Capitol Street, N.E. telephone 202 442-8840
city or town Washington, D.C. state District of Columbia zip code 20002

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- X A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- X A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

- X 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 Second Baptist Church
street & number 816 3rd Street, N.W. telephone 202 584-1524
city or town Washington, D.C. state District of Columbia zip code 20002

Paperwork Reduction 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.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Second Baptist Church

Name of Property

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Section 7 Page 1

Description Summary:

Second Baptist Church property, located at 816 3rd Street, N.W. in Washington, D.C., consists of the impressive limestone church building, constructed in 1894, and a much-altered, late 19th century, but non-contributing dwelling. The church building is located mid-block between H and I Streets and faces 3rd Street with a small yard between the church and street enclosed within an original wrought iron fence. The church is executed in a late Gothic Revival style, but has certain details suggestive of the Romanesque Revival style. The dwelling, constructed between 1888 and 1904, is a two-story, two-bay frame structure, clad in a formstone veneer.

The basilican-plan church building is constructed of Indiana limestone on the front elevation and along the sides of the front entry narthex, but has has brick walls (now clad in formstone) along the sides and rear elevations of the nave and chancel walls. The building rises three full stories and includes an expansive, double-story sanctuary located in the upper level of the building. The first floor undercroft is devoted to church classrooms, meeting spaces, and administrative offices. Robust corner entry towers, located to either side of a wider central gable, define the principal facade. A large, stained glass rose window set within a wide, gothic arched lancet occupies the center of this gable bay, while a series of narrow 1/1 stained glass windows can be found within the corner towers, giving the church a distinctly fortified and Medieval appearance. The church extends six bays deep along its side elevations, and includes four window bays, featuring round arched openings separated by narrow stone buttresses.

The stone Second Baptist Church, constructed in 1894, provides an excellent example of late 19th century Protestant church building architecture in Washington, D.C.

General Description:

Exterior:

The principal façade of the Second Baptist Church faces east on 3rd Street with a small yard in front. The façade is divided into three principal parts, consisting of two square-in-plan corner towers and a wide, central gable bay. The heavy stone corner towers each contain an entry (both with double glass replacement doors) on the first story and a symmetrical arrangement of narrow 1/1 stained glass wood windows on the second and third stories. The entry doors are reached by granite steps, and provide direct access to the first floor, or to enclosed, quarter-turn stairways that lead to the second-story sanctuary. The narrow windows open onto and light these stairwells on the interior. A cornerstone with the date “1894” is located to the right of the north end tower.

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Second Baptist Church

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Section 7 Page 2

The central gable bay is more highly articulated with a series of four, 1/1 stained glass windows on the first and second stories, superimposed by the large rose window at the third story level. A recessed stone panel located on center of the façade, between the second story windows and the third story rose window holds the following inscription: "Established 1848 Constructed 1894." Recessed panels with no inscriptions are located to either side of this central panel, while three unadorned panels are located between the 1/1 windows of the first and second stories. Tall and attenuated semi-octagonal towers mark the edges of this central bay, while a narrow and slightly recessed wall bay connects the central bay to the end towers. This "hyphen" features single 1/1 windows on the first and second stories and a 1/1 gothic arched window on the third story.

The north side elevation of the church consists of the side wall of the entry narthex and the side walls of the nave and chancel. The side wall of the entry narthex is constructed of stone, while the side walls of the nave and chancel, constructed of brick, are now clad in a formstone veneer, a product of exterior renovations from the 1970s. The formstone matches the limestone in size and its rough-cut consistency, but is a different color. This gray-colored formstone was also used to fill in the lower section of the entry narthex where a two-story house once abutted the wall.

This north side elevation extends six bays deep, where the front and end bays corresponding to the narthex and chancel are the widest. The four central bays, corresponding with the nave, consists of four symmetrical window bays, separated by narrow stone buttresses. The front bay is lit at the upper levels by a series of narrow windows on three levels, visually forming a large lancet, while the rear bay has no openings. The four nave bays are articulated with round-arched openings formed by paired 1/1 stained glass windows above which sits a semi-circular, stained glass transom light atop a stone transom bar. The ground floor level of these bays features segmental-arched window openings.

The south side elevation abuts the small, two-story dwelling on the property, but extends beyond it. Like on the north elevation, the narthex walls are constructed of limestone, while those of the nave and chancel are brick, clad with this gray formstone veneer.

The west (rear) elevation of the church also faces the church parking lot which forms an "L" around the church. This formstone-clad elevation features a regular arrangement of five, 2/2 windows set within segmental arched openings at the ground floor and a large, tri-partite, Roman-bath type window opening at the third story level. A single door is located towards the north end of the building, and several other 1/1 windows are scattered across the elevation.

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Second Baptist Church

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

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Section 7 Page 3

Interior:

The interior of the church is divided into two principal vertical parts: the sanctuary located at the second floor and rising a full double-story height (ceiling is 50 feet high), and the undercroft, located in the first floor below the sanctuary. From the corner entry doors, original quarter-turn stairs with narrow beaded wainscoting lead to the second floor landing and into the sanctuary. The sanctuary measures 98 by 70 feet and is arranged with the chancel located at the west end of the room, facing the east front stained glass windows. Original wooden pews face the chancel in three columns, forming two central aisles and two side aisles. A gallery level supported by narrow columns is located at the rear of the sanctuary and at the same level as the stained glass rose window. A choir stand and pulpit are located in the chancel at the west end, along with the original pipes for the church's pipe organ, which was replaced in 1924.

Church Residence:

The church residence at 814 3rd Street, N.W. was constructed between 1888 and 1904, to abut the south side wall of the 1865 frame church building on the site, but was heavily altered in 1953. The present 1894 church building was built against the older dwelling. It is a two-story, two-bay frame building, clad with the same gray formstone veneer that covers the side and rear elevations of the church building. Both the interior and the exterior of the building have been altered and no longer retain sufficient integrity to qualify the dwelling as a contributing resource.

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Section 8 Page 1

Summary Statement of Significance:

Second Baptist Church at 816 3rd Street, N.W. is a late Gothic Revival style stone church building erected in 1894 on the site of the original 1856 church building. The church was established in 1848 as the city's second African American Baptist church congregation, with permission granted by the city's first Baptist church, the Nineteenth Street Baptist Church. At the time Second Baptist Church constructed its first church building, the area north of H Street was emerging as an important racially diverse residential neighborhood. Second Baptist Church survives as an important remnant of this vanished neighborhood.

Designed by architect Appleton P. Clark in a late Gothic Revival style, the church provides an excellent example of late 19th-century church design. The church is laid out in a basilican plan with two corner towers and a central gable, featuring a large rose window on center.

Second Baptist Church meets Criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places, with architecture and religion as the areas of significance. The Second Baptist Church is still an active church congregation and has offered continuous service to the Washington community since its establishment in 1848. The building's period of significance extends from 1894, when the present structure was built, to the 1970s, when the exterior was altered on the sides and rear by the addition of a formstone veneer.

Resource History and Historic Context:

As its name suggests, Second Baptist Church, established in 1848, is the second oldest African American Baptist Church in Washington, D.C., and its standing in that community is legendary. The church was organized in 1848 after the Nineteenth Street Baptist Church—the city's first African American Baptist Church—granted several of its members permission to establish a new church. The new church began its existence in a building on K Street between 7th and 8th Streets, N.W. with Licentiate H.H. Butler as its first pastor. However, in the first years of the church's existence, the members had no regular meeting place, so they met in various homes along K Street, and then later on Capitol Hill, and again later above a store on 9th Street, N.W.

In 1856, the Second Baptist Church bought a lot on 3rd Street between H and I Streets, N.W. and erected its first church building on the site. The structure was referred to as the "large red brick building." It remained the church sanctuary until 1865, when a "small frame building" replaced it. The present Second Baptist Church building at 816 3rd Street was constructed in 1894 as the replacement for this frame church building.

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Section 8 Page 2

According to the church's oral history, the "large red brick building" was used as a station in the "Underground Railroad" during the Civil War. After the War, the church operated a school for freedmen in the vicinity of the church building. Reverend Chauncy Leondard operated this "pay school" for blacks.

In 1883, the celebrated Reverend William Bishop Johnson came to Second Baptist Church as the pastor, a position he held until 1916. Under Reverend Johnson's leadership, the church built the present church structure in 1894 and established the Sunday School Lyceum, gaining the church national recognition. The Lyceum became a forum for African American intellectuals to give and hear lectures. In 1901, the lyceum was considered the largest in the United States. Its members included some of the most prominent men in the nation, including Booker T. Washington, Professor Kelly Miller, ex-Governor Pinchback, H.P. Cheatham, recorder of the deeds, and others. Frederick Douglass and the Reverend Adam Clayton Powell, Sr. both delivered orations during the history of the Lyceum.

In 1917, the Reverend J.L.S. Holloman became pastor, a position he held for 53 years. Under his leadership, the church paid off its debts incurred by the construction of the new church, and it acquired, in 1924, a new pipe organ. Dr. Holloman was President of the Washington Baptist Seminary from 1928 until his death in 1970.

On May 17, 1971, Reverend Smalls Bartley was named pastor. His philosophy was that the local church only progresses in proportion to the minister's continuing growth. During his administration, the church building was continually improved: the main sanctuary gained air conditioning and a new electronic pipe organ. The exterior of the church was renovated (the original brick side and rear walls were covered with a granite veneer). In 1997, the Reverend James E. Terrell was unanimously elected pastor, after having served as assistant minister since 1991.

The present church building was designed by prominent Washington architect Appleton P. Clark, Jr. Clark was a prolific architect in Washington during the late 19th century and early 20th century, designing numerous residential buildings, offices and institutional buildings. Clark is known for several of his large suburban summer houses, including Strathmore Hall in North Bethesda and the rustic Glenmore in Arlington County, not to mention Owl's Nest in northwest Washington. Clark's commercial and institutional building list is extensive and includes Second National Bank, the Victor Building, the Homer Building, and St. Philip's Baptist Church on North Capitol Street.

Since 1848, Second Baptist Church has been in continuous service to the Washington community.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Second Baptist Church

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

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Section 9 Page 1

Major Bibliographical References:

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- "Baptist Seminary Is Part Of Second Baptist Church," *Washington Tribune*, May 20, 1939.
- "Church To Mark 75th Anniversary, Second Baptist Program to Begin 11-27 and to Continue to 12-4," *Washington Star*, November 24, 1923.
- "Dedicating A New Church, The Second Baptist Congregation Has Splendid Home." *The Washington Post*, November 4, 1901.
- "Dr. Holloman Reviews 51 Years At Second Baptist," *Washington Afro American*. February 11, 1968.
- Johnson, W., *The Scourging Of A Race and other Sermons and Addresses by W. Bishop Johnson, D.D. LL.D.* (Pastor of the Second Baptist Church of Washington.. D.C.; Editor of the National Baptist Magazine), Beresford.Printer, 618 F Street, NW, 1904.
- "Rev J. S. Holloman A Leader Since '17," *The Pittsburgh Courier*, May 3, 1947.
- "Second Baptist Church-Where Washington Worships," *Washington Tribune*, February 26, 1946.
- "Second Baptist 100 Years Old on Nov 12," *Washington Post*, August 21, 1948.
- "The Second Colored Baptist Church Now Observing its 98th Anniversary," Photo-Bontz, article by C. Nannes, *Washington Star*, August 17, 1946.
- "Venerable Colored Church Celebrates,Second Baptist, 83 Years Old Tomorrow, to Have Birthday Service." *The Washington Post*, November 28, 1931.
- Waugh, Irene. "2nd Baptist Winds Up Centennial Program," *Washington Afro American*. November 27, 1948.
- "Ministry Is Marked By Contributions to DC Civic Progress," *Washington Pittsburgh Courier*, April 21, 1951.
- "2nd Baptist Installs 15th Pastor," *Washington Afro American*, June 21, 1997.

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Washington, D.C.

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Section 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description:

The Second Baptist Church property at 816 3rd Street occupies Lots 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26 on Square 528 in Washington, D.C. The property includes the attached non-contributing dwelling at 814 3rd Street, N.W. and the church parking lot. +

Boundary Justification:

The lots have been associated with Second Baptist Church since the construction of the first church on the site in 1856. The present church building was constructed in 1894.

+

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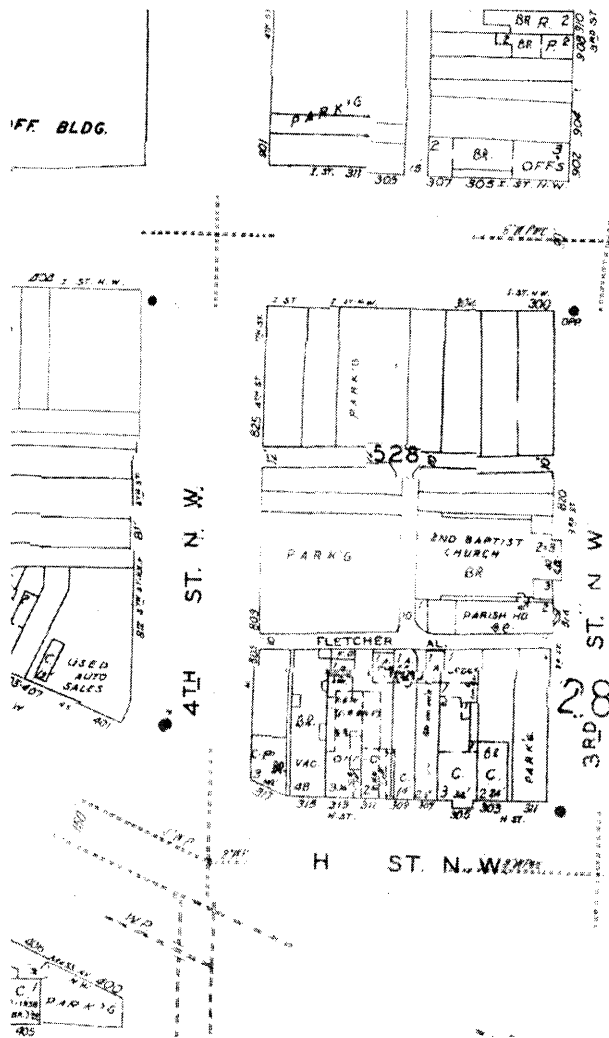
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

2nd Baptist Church
Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

SITE MAP

County and State



2nd Baptist Church
816 3rd Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.
Sanborn Map, 1991

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PHOTOGRAPHS

- 1) 2nd Baptist Church
816 3rd Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
Kimberly Prothro Williams
April 2004
DCHPO
East elevation; view looking northwest
1/4

- 2) 2nd Baptist Church
816 3rd Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
Kimberly Prothro Williams
April 2004
DCHPO
East elevation; view looking northwest
2/4

- 3) 2nd Baptist Church
816 3rd Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
Kimberly Prothro Williams
April 2004
DCHPO
West (rear) elevation; view looking southeast
3/4

- 4) 2nd Baptist Church
816 3rd Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
Kimberly Prothro Williams
April 2004
DCHPO
North elevation; view looking south
4/4