

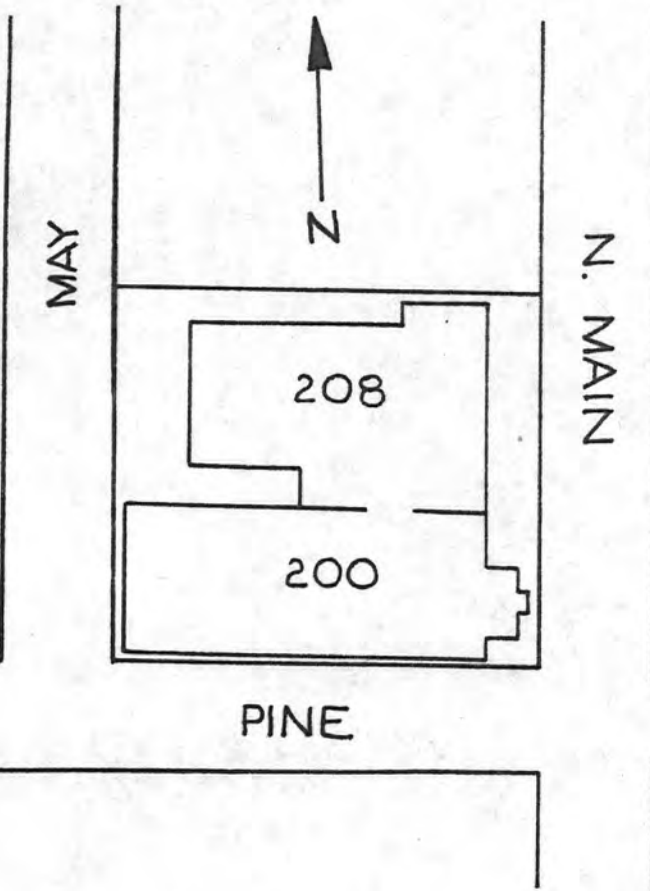
FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.	Form no.
	N-10 Lot 4 259

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number C.P.I. 5

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



1. Town Fall River, Mass.

Address 200-228 North Main St.

Name First Baptist Church

Present use church

Present owner First Baptist Church

3. Description: Brick church w/wood trim

Date 1850

Source First Baptist Church Pamphlet

Style Gothic Revival

Architect Josiah Brown

Exterior wall fabric Red brick (common bond)
1 story brick & stone

Outbuildings (describe) Sunday schl. extension
Parish Hse on Pine St

Other features Extended entrance, central vestibule w/peaked roof. The inner arch springing from Romanesque-spired acanthus-cap

Altered yes, sand blasted 1871 Repairs

Moved _____ Date 1924 Interior enlarged

5. Lot size: 11,138 sq. ft.

One acre or less x Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage _____

Approximate distance of building from street

Vestibule @ 3' from sidewalk line

6. Recorded by P. Giza

Organization F.R.O.H.P.

Date Oct. 14, 1980

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) First Baptist Church

Original use church

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	<u>x</u>
Architectural	<u>x</u>	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/ humanitarian	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		_____
Community development	<u>x</u>				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

This church is a good example of ecclesiastic use of the early Gothic Revival style. With its regular rectangular plan and square tower, it is related to the nearby Unitarian Church; and also, stylistically, to earlier Greek Revival and contemporary Italianate examples elsewhere. It retains all original exterior detail, including window enframements and stone trim; the extended vestibule, built of wood, the most interesting feature. The spire and corner finials of the tower were destroyed in 1954 by Hurricane Carol. Though the brick has been sandblasted clean, the church is well maintained and its wood trim is an appropriate stone color. Its mid-19th century construction date reflects the post-1843 migration of people from the central village district to outlying blocks to live. The church meets Criteria A & C of the National Register of Historic Places.

Parish History: The parish was founded in 1781, before the close of the American Revolution by a group of 30 incorporators at the home of Capt. & Mrs. Jonathan Brownell. The first pastor was ordained in May, 1783. The first meeting house was erected near the Narrows, at the corner of Pleasant & County Sts. About 1800, by a change of name, it became known as Second Baptist Church in Tiverton. About 1823, the society moved to the village & changed the name to the First Baptist Church of Troy, to conform to the name of the town. Soon the rapidly increasing congregation required new quarters & a new church was built on South Main St. corner of Charity Lane in 1828. This was later sold to the Episcopal Society in 1839. Another church located a little farther south on Main St. was dedicated in 1840. By 1847, this church called the Temple or Baptist Temple was later transferred to the Second Baptist Society. From that time until the first Sunday in Oct. 1850, the church worshipped in Union Hall. The property of Capt. John N. Read at the corner of North Main & Pine Sts. was purchased for a new church in 1850 at a cost of \$4200. Josiah Brown was the architect & the cost of building the structure was not to exceed \$10,000.00. It was dedicated on Oct. 23, 1850. Josiah Brown is one of the

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

earliest documented Fall River architect-builders; he was well-known as a mill architect. In 1871, extensive repairs were made and the Meeting House was enlarged (rear portion extended),

Bibliography: Atlas of Bristol County 1895-structure shown
1883-structure shown
1871-structure shown
1858-structure shown
1850- structure shown

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Fall River, Ma.	Form No: N-10 Lot 4
Property Name: First Baptist Church	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below. Item 10 con.

First Baptist Church pamphlet by Hattie B. Silvia, Oct. 23, 1950.
Fall River Herald News clippings- June 3, 1942, Jan. 22, 1971
Bldng. Permit #364, Oct. 20, 1955, lot adjoining 1st Baptist Schl. of Religious Education, brick 68x93'6", 1 story, concrete foundation, A.H. Leeming & Son, \$75,000.00.
Lindsey, J.H. The Sesqui- Centennial History of the First Baptist Church of Fall River, Mass. 1781-1931 and church Directory 1932.
A Brief History of the First Baptist Church...Fall River : Robertson, 1872.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received 4/5/83
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 4 of 10

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Fall River Multiple Resource Area
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

31. Coughlin School

~~Substantive Review~~

Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

32. Crescent Mill

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

33. Davol School

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

34. Davol, William C., Jr., House

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

35. Downtown Fall River Historic District

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

36. Durfee Mills

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

37. Earle, John M., House

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

38. Fall River Bleachery

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

39. First Baptist Church

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

40. Flint Mills

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

First Baptist Church (Fall River MRA)
Bristol County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. 1/5/83-15
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.7.84
Date Due: 2/3/83 - 2/19/83
Action: ACCEPT 2/10/83
 RETURN
 REJECT
Entered in the _____
National Register
Federal Agency: _____

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
 see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: technical corrections cited below
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input 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

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UMT References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272 - 3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



NAME: First Baptist Church

LOCATION: 200-228 North Main Street
Fall River, Mass. 02720
MA

PHOTO CREDIT: Pamela Shields (1981)

NEGATIVE FILED AT: Fall River Office of Historic
Preservation
One Government Center
Fall River, Mass. 02722
(PSNR-6-12)

IDENTIFICATION: First Baptist Church
photo # 1 of 2 3/4 View, looking north-west



Fall River MRA, No

First Baptist Church

200-228 No. Main

CPI - #5 South side front

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000279