

MAR 26 1980

INVENTORY SHEET FOR GROUP NOMINATIONS: IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, BOISE, IDAHO

DEC 3 1980

NOMINATION: Early Churches of Emmett Thematic Group

SITE NAME: Emmett Presbyterian (Emmett First Southern Baptist) SITE # 2

LOCATION: Second Street at Wardwell Avenue, Emmett, Idaho, 83617

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: First Southern Baptist Church, 223 East 2nd Street, Emmett, Idaho, 83617

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: _____ ACREAGE: less than one acre

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: This nomination includes the present First Southern Baptist Block 1, (former Presbyterian) church and the property on which it stands: lots 11 & 12, Reed's addition to Emmett

UTM(S): _____

DATE OR PERIOD: 1909 EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture, local history

DESCRIPTION

The church, built in 1909 for Emmett Presbyterians, now owned by the Southern Baptist congregation, is a red brick structure on a concrete foundation. It is basically rectangular in plan and low and bungalow in massing. The flared-eave, low-shouldered roof is hipped to the rear and jerkin-headed over a clapboard gable on the front elevation. An outset entry tower with a steep pyramidal cap, also flared at the eave, is at left front. The rectilinear entry doors are surmounted by a pointed arch, containing a tripartite light and set off with a brick label molding. The large central sections of the triple windows set into the shallow gabled cross-bays are also gothic-arched. The side lights and the other smaller openings, including those into the belfry and the one on the facade, are segmentally arched.

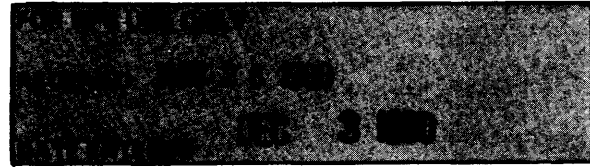
The exterior of the church appears entirely unaltered except for visually consistent remodeling of the steps (they once had fence-like wooden walls--rather than pipe-and-concrete parapets) and replacement of windows (the tripartite pointed-arch lights do not appear in early photographs). The interior has been extensively renovated, particularly recently to provide baptistry in the former choir. The original dark woodwork around windows and doors has been preserved, however. The church is in good condition.

SIGNIFICANCE

The Presbyterian Church is an attractive example, on a smaller scale than the Methodist, of eclectic "gothicism" operating--in the small town setting. Here the forms are even more eclectic. Although the steeply-roofed entry tower provides a decisive vertical element, the body of the church seems to have been influenced by the emphatically horizontal bungalow style then waxing popular in the state. Segmental arches as well as steeply pointed ones are used; the hipped and jerkin-headed roof is unique in Emmett and unusual in Idaho. Historically the church is notable as the only one of the earlier churches to serve as the first church home of its congregation. Emmett Presbyterians went through no frame church stage after their formation as a group in 1906, but proceeded directly to the construction of the brick church in 1909. The church is notable now, as are most of its siblings, for the state in which its unusual stylistic features have been preserved. It is the only

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



Emmett Presbyterian Church (Emmett First Southern Baptist)
Site #2

CONTINUATION SHEET #1

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

one of the group not in use by its original congregation, and it stands therefore as a commendable example of reuse of a building in its historic function by a group for which its historic scale is still appropriate.