

Survey Number LR0079Owner First Presbyterian ChurchProperty Name First Presbyterian ChurchAddress 123 East 8th Street -

Original Name _____

Little Rock, AR 72201Location 123 East 8th StreetConstruction Date 1921

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The First Presbyterian Church is an impressive example of ecclesiastical architecture inspired by English Gothic cathedrals. This 1921 structure has a Latin cross plan and is constructed of yellow mat brick with stone and terra cotta detailing. A very high nave with lower buttressed aisles allows for bands of arched stain glass windows which provide illumination to the interior. The sanctuary's stain glass windows are widely regarded to be among the finest in the city. These arched windows, as well as all of the building's entrances, are emphasized by terra cotta hood molding. The imposing 8th Street facade features an elevated entrance. A deeply recessed ordered arch surrounds the narthex stain glass window. A highly ornamented terra cotta quoins and battlemented parapets. Large stain glass arched windows light the east and west transepts and the transepts' parapets have terra cotta coping.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Organized in 1828, the First Presbyterian Church of Little Rock is the oldest Presbyterian Church in the state. The present building at 8th and Scott Streets is the fourth facility constructed by the congregation. Having outgrown the previous building at 5th and Scott Streets, the church purchased this property and erected, in 1914, a new Sunday School building which was designed by architect Charles Thompson. Six years later construction began on the sanctuary which had been designed by a young architect and former Thompson assistant, John Parks Almand, to complement the earlier classroom building. Almand went on the design some of Arkansas' most handsome 20th Century churches.

Verbal Boundary Description Lots 10, 11, 12, Block 9, Original CityAcreage Less than oneQuadrangle Name Little Rock, ArkansasQuadrangle Scale 1:24000

UTM Reference

Zone 15Easting 566760Northing 3844330

NOV 13 1986

OCT 1 1986

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Little Rock Main Street MRA
State Pulaski County, ARKANSAS

Substantive Review

Cover 1/22/87 RS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

1. Albert Pike Memorial
Temple

Substantive Review

for Keeper

Attest

11/13/86
William B. Bushong

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 11/13/86

2. Rose Building

Substantive Review

for Keeper

Attest

William B. Bushong

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 11/13/86

3. Fulk Building

Substantive Review

for Keeper

Attest

William B. Bushong

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 11/13/86

4. Gus Blass Department
Store

Substantive Review

for Keeper

Attest

William B. Bushong

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 11/13/86

5. Taylor Building

Substantive Review

for Keeper

Attest

William B. Bushong

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 11/13/86

6. St. Andrews Catholic
Cathedral

Substantive Review

for Keeper

Attest

William B. Bushong

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 11/13/86

7. First Presbyterian Church

Substantive Review

for Keeper

Attest

William B. Bushong

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 11/13/86

8. Worthen Bank Building

Substantive Review

for Keeper

Attest

William B. Bushong

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 11/13/86

9. Donaghey Building

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

DOE/CLER OBJECTION

10. State Bank Building

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

DOE/CLER OBJECTION

8600312y

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

First Presbyterian Church (Little Rock Main
Street MRA)
Pulaski County
ARKANSAS

Substantive Review

Working No. OCT 1 1986
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/2/88
Date Due: 11/1/86 - 11/15/86
Action: ☒ ACCEPT 11-13-86
☐ RETURN
☐ REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

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

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☒ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

*The First Presbyterian Church is an impressive example
of ecclesiastical architecture inspired by the English
Gothic cathedrals.*

Recom./Criteria Accept, C
Reviewer Noble
Discipline Historian
Date 11/7/86
_____ see continuation sheet

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

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

| Category | Ownership Public Acquisition | Status Accessible | Present Use |
|----------|---------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|
|----------|---------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|

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

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed |

Check one

- ☐ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

- ☐ original site
☐ moved date _____

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

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM 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: _____



OCT 1 1986

First Presbyterian Church- LR0079

Little Rock Main Street MRA

Little Rock, Pulaski Co.

Photographed by Sarah Brown, 1985

Negative on file at AHPP

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000028