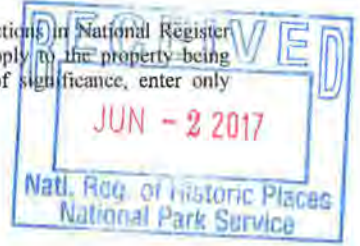


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

SG-1322

# 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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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.



### 1. Name of Property

Historic name: First Methodist Episcopal Church

Other names/site number: United Methodist Church in Washington

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

### 2. Location

Street & number: 116 E. Washington Avenue

City or town: Washington Borough State: NJ (034) County: Warren (041)

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national \_\_\_ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A \_\_\_ B X C \_\_\_ D

<u>RL Boomy</u>	<u>Ass't Commissioner</u>	<u>5/24/17</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:		Date
<u>NJ DEP</u>		
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government		

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

*Eric Edson H. Beall*  
Signature of the Keeper

7.17.17  
Date of Action

**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

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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	buildings
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	sites
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	structures
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	objects
<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register None

**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.)

**RICHARDSONIAN ROMANESQUE**  
**OTHER: LATE VICTORIAN**

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**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: STONE

Foundation: Serpentine Stone

Walls: Serpentine Stone with Sandstone accents

Roof: Slate and Copper (Copper Valleys, Gutters, and Downspouts)

Other: Towers – Serpentine Stone

### **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

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### **Summary Paragraph**

The First Methodist Episcopal Church, located in the borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey, was constructed in 1895 of green serpentine stone with pink sandstone accents in the Richardsonian Romanesque style during the Late Victorian period. The building's architect was Samuel A. Brouse of Trenton, NJ, and the builder was Brinton and Smith. The facade is asymmetrical; a round tower with conical roof dominates the west front corner, and a much taller square bell tower occupies the east front corner. The building features steeply-pitched multiple gables. The church is located within a mixed commercial and residential area. Its location on East Washington Avenue, between Jackson Avenue to the east and School Street to the west, offers a visual gateway to Washington Borough from the east end of the commercial district. (Photo 1) Within a three-block radius most of the houses were built during the same period of significance. At the time the First Methodist Episcopal Church was built, there were also piano factories and a silk mill. The silk mill building (two blocks south-east) is now an apartment building.

The interior of the building opens to a sanctuary of approximately 7,000 square feet, with a vaulted ceiling and exposed beams. A series of rounded and recessed arches separate the sanctuary from the narthex and enhance the Sacristy wall, creating a sense of balance and symmetry to the building's interior. (Photo 2, 3, 4, 5, 6) The building contains sixteen interior doors with lead glass windows, (Photo 7), and fifty-six stained and lead glass windows that were manufactured and installed by J & R Lamb Studios, Inc.

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## Narrative Description

### EXTERIOR

The First Methodist Episcopal Church in Washington, NJ (built 1895-98) is a strong example of the Richardsonian Romanesque style of architecture dating back to the Late Victorian Period. The church façade faces onto East Washington Avenue and rises above a manicured lawn. Stone steps lead to a pair of main double-door entrances, one in each of the pair of front towers. The building was constructed of green serpentine stone that was quarried in (Joseph H. Brinton) Brinton's Quarry in West Chester, Pennsylvania. (Photo 12)

The exterior of the nominated building includes a blind arcade over its two massive stained glass windows on the west and east exterior walls. The post and lintel system is used in the tower entrance. On the west and east walls a pair of rounded arches rest above four sets of paired louvers at the top of the bell tower. (Photo 14) The louvers are marked by sandstone pilasters and center columns. (Photo 15) The bell tower includes two wide horizontal stone bands, one including dentils which provide further definition to the structure. As is typical of styles dating from the Romanesque Revival, the west tower is round, with a conical roof that is capped by a copper ornament approximately 8-feet tall. The "ornament" was blown off during Hurricane Sandy in 2012 and severely damaged. It has since been restored and returned to the top of the tower. Six rectangular stained glass windows with flat arches are also features of the tower. The bell tower includes the four original bells in the bell room at the top of the tower.

The building's façade features a steeply-pitched main roof with a projecting gable that adjoins a flat copper roof over the narthex. (Photo 13) There are two main double-door entrances at the front of the building- one in the west tower and the other in the east (bell) tower. The entry doors are of oak and appear to be original, based on historic photographs. (Figure 17) With the exception of the flat copper roof on the narthex and copper roofs over the sacristy and choir loft, all remaining roof areas, including the roofs of both towers are slate. (Photo 16, 18) The roof is compiled of original slate and pieces of slate salvaged from various churches. The valleys, flashing, gutters and downspouts are made of copper.

The green color of the serpentine stone is accented with a double set of pink sandstone pilasters on either side of the rounded arch entrance in the east tower. These are complimented by a single pink sandstone pilaster on either side of the post and lintel system over the west tower entrance. The pilasters are integral components of the corbels that support the rectangular applied stonework in the flat arch over the entrance in the west tower and a rectangular stained-glass transom over this tower entrance is complimented with a rounded stained-glass transom over the entrance to the east tower. The west tower also includes three pairs of stained-glass windows under rounded arches.

The front wall of the narthex (façade of the building) is rounded, a distance of approximately 30 feet (15 feet on either side of its midpoint) which is also typical of Late Victorian Romanesque architecture. In addition to the tower windows, eight stained-glass windows are set in a combination of rounded and rectangular openings on this elevation. (Photo 20, 21) The gable

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end on the front elevation (above the roof of the Narthex) includes a set of three clerestory stained-glass windows, of particular importance is the central window which depicts a cross encircled by a vine of flowers and leaves. (Photo 22, 23, 24)

The west and east elevations of the building contain two pairs of stone buttresses (also of green serpentine stone) which flank a large stained-glass window, each set in a projecting gable that extends from the steeply pitched roof. The buttresses provide support for the massive network of oak beams that support the building's roof system and allow for an interior with no support columns containing a 38-foot high vaulted ceiling. (Photo 19)

The building's west elevation is dominated by a gable that projects from the steeply pitched roof. The center of the west elevation gable is a stained-glass window sized as approximately 13 feet wide and 17 feet tall, which is placed immediately above two smaller windows, which together are approximately 13 feet wide and 7 feet tall. The window has a rounded top set between two projecting stone buttresses. On the south end of the buttresses is a rectangular stained-glass window. At the front of this elevation (vestibule in tower) is a rectangular stained-glass (rounded top) window with the letters "WCTU" intertwined in its design. The letters signify the Women's Christian Temperance Union. (Photo 25)

Toward the west corner of the rear elevation is a set of double doors that lead into the Sacristy. The doors are topped with a stained-glass transom. Included within the wall of the rear elevation are two sets of rectangular stained-glass windows, at either end (east and west corners). The two stained-glass windows on the right are in the rear of the sacristy and without ornamentation. The two stained-glass windows on the left are in the rear of the choir loft and include musical elements in their design. (Photo 26)

At the south end of the east elevation, (vestibule, east tower) a rectangular stained-glass window with rounded top depicts a church column. Further down this wall is another rectangular stained-glass window that includes a variety of flowers in its design. Next to this window is a set of three stained-glass windows with rounded top flanked by stone buttresses---virtually a mirror image of the windows in the east façade of the building. (Photo 27) Further down is a double-door entrance capped with a stained-glass transom. This set of doors opens into a vestibule that connects the 1895 Church building to the 1978 Fellowship Hall. The metal doors are not original, but were required as a fire deterrent when the Fellowship Hall was constructed in 1978. Another rectangular stained-glass window on this elevation (side-wall of choir loft) incorporates a musical theme in its design.

In preparation for the building of the 1895 Sanctuary, work began with the deconstruction of the 1856 brick building. Over 70,000 were cleaned and piled, and later 20,000 more were added."<sup>1</sup> Included within the exterior walls of the present Church and its towers are 80,000 bricks that were salvaged from the 1856 building. They were also used in constructing piers that support the Church's floor joists and the wall with five rounded arched openings that separates the narthex from the sanctuary, as well as the interior of the west tower. (Photo 28, 29, 30)

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<sup>1</sup> "Finest in Northern New Jersey," *Warren Tidings*, No. 44. (Washington, NJ) September 5, 1895.

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## INTERIOR

The church's interior (sanctuary, narthex, pulpit area, choir loft and sacristy) has plastered walls with stained-wood wainscoting. Exposed ceiling beams are covered with ornamental tin, which is coordinated with the tin work on the ceilings. The installation of the pipe organ was completed in 1905, including the organ frontal (decorative pipes and woodwork). Originally there was one central chandelier, which hung in the center of the room. That light fixture was replaced in the early 1920's with four plaster and glass fixtures which are suspended from the four intersections of the beams. With the exception of some rewiring and repainting, they have not been altered since their installation. All interior ceilings are of stamped tin and painted. (Photo 2, 3, 4) At the front of the church is a semi-circular altar rail of carved oak. (Photo 32, 33) The furniture, lecterns, and the communion table on the raised pulpit were crafted from red and white oak beams which were saved from the prior two church buildings. (Photo 31) All of the furniture was made by craftsmen at the Cornish Piano and Organ Company headquartered in Washington, NJ.<sup>2</sup> The Cornish family has long been associated with the United Methodist Church in Washington.

The interior of the church building is a vast expanse of open space (approximately 7,000 square feet) with no interior support columns and a 38-foot tall vaulted ceiling. By design, the wooden floors are slightly pitched from the narthex at the back of the church to the pulpit, sacristy, and choir loft areas (front of church). This allows for a virtually unobstructed view for anyone sitting on one of the church's oak pews. The pews are arranged in a series of semi-circles that radiate from the front to the back of the church. The pews were also made by the Cornish Piano Organ Company. The ends of each pew are of carved oak (Photo 31, 34) and reflect the skills of the craftsmen employed by the Cornish Piano and Organ Company. Metal frame-like devices remain attached to the underside of many of the pews which were used to hold men's top hats. (Photo 34)

The three stained-glass windows on the front wall of the narthex commemorate the American Civil War, specifically the Grand Army of the Republic (Post 66).<sup>3</sup> The center window includes a representation of the American Flag and the word "Charity" at the bottom of the window. The window to its (interior) left includes an oil lamp with flame and the word "Fraternity" at its bottom and the window to its (interior) right includes a sword and a crown and the word "Loyalty" at its bottom. The brass dedication plaque reads, "These three windows were presented by the Grand Army of the Republic Post 66 in Grateful Remembrance of the Comrades of the Post."

The narthex is separated from the sanctuary with the use of walls with arched openings. (Photo 4) A main aisle and four side aisles extend from the pulpit area to the narthex and vestibules at the back of the church. (See Plan) During the time of the building's construction, the center aisle did not run the entire distance from the back to the front of the church. There were two primary side aisles that ran from each vestibule to the front of the church. This aisle

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<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> "Finest in Northern New Jersey," *Warren Tidings*, No. 44. ( Washington, NJ) September 5, 1895.

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configuration was designed primarily for weddings, as the custom was for the bride to enter the church through the West tower and walk down the side aisle to the front of the church.

Following the wedding ceremony, the married couple would walk together up the aisle running from the front of the church to the east tower to exit the building.

In later years, as customs and usage changed, it was determined that a center aisle running the entire distance from the narthex to the pulpit area was needed. At that time, several of the front pews were shortened and reconfigured to create a center aisle. In 2014, when the interior of the church was restored, the center aisle was widened from three feet to five feet to accommodate individuals with disabilities and to better handle the customs of present day weddings and funeral processions.

To the right of the chancel area is a choir loft which provides seating for 30 to 50 singers. The choir loft is also home to the console for the pipe organ. The choir loft is set apart from the sanctuary by a carved rail, which repeats the colonnade motif of the communion (chancel) rail. Behind the chancel area is the decorative organ frontal. The majority of the organ pipes are set in the area between the organ frontal and the back wall. To the left of the chancel area is the Sacristy, which is separated from the sanctuary by a wall which includes a large leaded glass window and a pair of leaded glass doors.

#### CURRENT CONDITION

With the exception of its stained- and leaded-glass windows, the building's overall condition is very good due to extensive work performed in 2013-2014 which included:

- Repairs to the slate roof, started in August 2013 and completed in January 2014. Those repairs included removing and replacing damaged slates, removing badly damaged slate on the north side of the building and installing all new lumber under the replacement slates. Removing the existing copper sheeting and damaged lumber (under the copper) on the north side of the building with new copper sheeting and lumber. Removing the copper sheeting and damaged lumber under the south side of the building with new copper sheeting and lumber. Replacing the original copper flashing with new copper flashing on the entire roof. Replacing the original copper ridge vent (the length of the roof) with new copper, including ornamentation and brackets.
- Repairs of all areas of interior plaster walls damage from prolonged leaking of church roof (repairs made with plaster); priming and painting of all interior walls;
- Repairs to tin ceiling in sanctuary, sacristy, choir loft and narthex. Tin ceiling in narthex was replaced with restoration tin, due to extensive deterioration caused by leaks in flat roof over narthex. The tin ceiling in the choir loft was carefully removed and replaced with the same restoration tin that was used in the narthex. This salvaged tin was used to repair damaged sections of the ceiling in the remainder of the sanctuary. All remaining ceilings were scrapped of old paint (as needed), lightly sanded, primed, and painted.
- Cleaning, touch up and application of several coats of polyurethane to wood pews and wainscoting;
- Refinishing of interior wood floors;



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- Replacement of carpeting in narthex, all aisles in sanctuary, pulpit area and choir loft;
- Refurbishing of the 110-year-old pipe organ.
- Currently restoration of stained-glass windows is underway. Restoration is being done by the original manufacturer/installer of the windows – J & R Lamb Studios, Inc

### ADDITIONAL BUILDINGS

Located on the same property are two contributing buildings, including the parsonage, constructed in 1892. (Photo 10) The three-story, eleven room home, has the original interior wood trim, including an oak staircase. Renovations have included periodic upgrades of bathrooms and kitchen, as well as aluminum siding. Also located on the church lot is the clapboard barn (garage) was built in 1894. (Photo 11) It is a two-story building with a tin roof. It has been used as a barn for horses, Sunday School space (second floor) and storage. Changes to the barn have included re-orientation of the doors (north façade to the east façade), removal of an exterior staircase to the second floor, and addition of an interior stairway.

Two additional non-contributing buildings occupy the same premises but were constructed in later years: a Fellowship Hall (built 1978) which connects to the east elevation of the Church building (Photo 9) and a Church School (built 1960) which is attached to the Fellowship Hall. (Photo 8) The Church School building is a three-story rectangular building with a tan brick façade. Each floor has a long central hallway which is flanked by classrooms, meeting rooms or offices. The Fellowship Hall is a single-floor building with a dark gray stone block façade. It houses a large meeting room with an elevated stage, as well as a commercial kitchen.

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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 patterns of our history.
- B. Property is 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.)

- 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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**Areas of Significance**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1892-1905  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1895-1898  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

ARCHITECT: Brouse, Samuel A.

BUILDER: Brinton and Smith

STAINED & LEADED GLASS WINDOW MANUFACTURER: J & R Lamb Studios

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Built in 1895-1898, the First Episcopal Methodist Church of Washington meets National Register Criterion C for its local architectural significance as an extraordinary example of the use of the distinctive green Serpentine stone of which it is constructed. This material reflects a design preference of its architect, Samuel A. Brouse, of Trenton, New Jersey, and its builders, the construction firm Brinton & Smith. The church is notable for containing 56 stained- and leaded-glass windows by the famous J.& R. Lamb Studios of New York, a very highly-regarded maker of ecclesiastical artwork. The church is also unusual within northwestern New Jersey as an embodiment of the Richardsonian Romanesque style, featuring rusticated walls, asymmetrical towers (one round, one square), and rounded arches and flat-arch lintels over windows and doorways. These openings are trimmed with a light sandstone that heightens the contrast with the Serpentine. The period of significance begins in 1892 with the construction of the parsonage and the barn (1894), and extends to 1905 with completion of the installation of the organ and pipes in the sanctuary. The historic integrity of the United Methodist Church in Washington is evidenced by the fact that the building is virtually unaltered from the date of its construction

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Church before the Period of Significance

The ground upon which the nominated building is located was deeded on June 6, 1825 by Revolutionary War Veteran Colonel William McCullough and his wife, Mary, to the “Junior Trustees of the First Wesleyan Methodist Episcopal Church in the Village of Washington. (This is the language in the deed which was filed in 1825 in Warren County.) The hand-written deed mistakenly spelled “Wesleyan” as “Wessalying”). The first structure built in 1825 was constructed of wood. The building was destroyed by fire in 1856 and was replaced by a larger brick building. The community in which the church was built was growing rapidly during the late nineteenth century. Easy access to railroads beginning in the 1850s made it easy to ship items from area piano factories, a major local industry. Both the Beatty and the Cornish piano factories were among the first to offer mail-order options for pianos and pump organs. This boom in business led to more and more workers who moved to the community, which in turn increased the size of the congregation many-fold. As a result, the 1856 church was torn down to make way for a building that would accommodate this increase.

Constructing the Present Church

In 1895 the construction of the present day building began. Work started with the deconstruction of the 1856 brick building. Volunteers removed the interior furnishings to the chapel building located next door. Men from the community had the task of leveling the walls, which they did by pushing on them until they collapsed into the foundation of the building. A passage in the Church Historian Records indicates that: “When the walls were thrown over about 60 boys

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presented themselves as candidates for the cleaning of the brick at \$1 per 1000. In about four days over 70,000 were cleaned and piled, and later 20,000 more were added.” Included within the exterior walls of the Church and its towers are 80,000 bricks that were salvaged. They were used in constructing piers that support the Church’s floor joists and the wall with five rounded arched openings that separates the narthex from the sanctuary, as well as the interior of the west tower.

The church building was designed by architect Samuel A. Brouse, of Trenton, New Jersey. Brouse was primarily a New Jersey architect and a sole practitioner, until he partnered with Ernest A. Arend of Philadelphia in 1892 and formed the firm of Brouse & Arend with offices in Trenton. In 1899, Brouse and Arend expanded their business and opened offices in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Asbury Park, New Jersey. By 1905, the firm had closed its Philadelphia office and divided the business with Brouse maintaining an office in Trenton and Arend maintaining one in Asbury Park. Although Brouse designed many homes and public buildings, he was the architect for only two churches in New Jersey – the original Holy Cross Catholic Church in Trenton (built 1891) and the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Washington (built 1895-1898), the nominated building.

#### Architectural Significance

The First Methodist Episcopal Church in Washington, is an extraordinary example of architecture for its design and for the use of the distinctive green serpentine stone of which its walls are constructed, and its historic integrity is evidenced by the fact that the building is virtually unaltered from the date of its construction. It exhibits Richardsonian Romanesque stylistic characteristics from the Late Victorian Era in its asymmetrical front elevation with prominent bell tower at the east front corner and round tower with conical roof at the west front corner. The exterior of the building is defined by multiple stained-glass windows including two prominent two-story stained-glass windows (three window sets, with large arched windows set above two smaller square windows) in rounded arched openings that mirror each other on the east and west elevations. The building’s stately appearance, use of rounded and squared arches over doorways, windows and over the paired louvers at the top of the bell tower, and use of strong horizontal stone bands (one with dentils) on the bell tower, as well as the incorporation of support buttresses are characteristic of this architectural style.

The nominated building was completed in 1898 and is the third Methodist Church building to occupy the same location. Within a half of mile, four other historic churches reside, they include:

- First Presbyterian Church (1862) (Romanesque Revival – brick) – East Church Street
- St. Joseph’s Roman Catholic Church (1872) (Gothic – wood) Belvidere Avenue
- First Baptist Church (1886) (Vernacular – wood) - North Lincoln Avenue
- St. Peter’s [Episcopal] Church (1886) (Original design – wood) – Broad Street

As far back as 1730, there is evidence that serpentine stone was gaining in popularity in the West Chester area of Pennsylvania, quarried from a site that would later be known as Joseph H.

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Brinton's Quarry.<sup>4</sup> Because of its natural beauty it was used throughout the area for barns, homes, and churches, as well as shipped to other areas of the country for construction purposes. In Warren County, only three churches were built in the Romanesque style: Asbury United Methodist Church in Asbury, First Presbyterian in Washington and the nominated building. The Washington United Methodist Church is the only building of these three that is constructed of green serpentine stone. The other two are of brick construction. A further search of the same database of the 1,004 churches located in the remaining 20 counties in New Jersey indicates that the only Richardsonian Romanesque style church build with green serpentine stone is the nominated building, the First Episcopal Methodist Church in Washington, NJ.

Because of its natural beauty, green serpentine was used throughout the area for barns, homes, and churches, as well as shipped to other areas of the country for construction purposes. For a time in the latter half of the 19th century builders constructed homes and public buildings of green serpentine stone quite often from Brinton's Quarry in West Chester, Pennsylvania. Some examples include:

Four buildings on the campus of the University of Pennsylvania: College Hall (1871-72); Logan Hall (1873-74); University Hospital (1873-74); and the Hare Medical Laboratory (1878). Today, only two of these buildings remain standing – College Hall (1871-72) and Logan Hall (1873-74).

Seven buildings on the campus of West Chester University (formerly West Chester Normal School) were constructed between 1871 and 1904. Three of them remain today – Recitation Hall (1891-93); Demonstration School, also known as, the Model School (1899); and the Old Library (1902-04).

More than 100 houses of worship as far distant as Richmond, VA and South Bend, IN, as well as a number of large building in Chicago, and many homes along South New Street, Birmingham Road and Street Road, Westchester County, all in the vicinity of the quarry.

However, serpentine stone is relatively soft and while the stone was easily quarried and carved, it does not hold up well in industrialized areas with high levels of pollution. One of the reasons that the nominated building has survived for the 115 years is due to the rural nature of the community in which it is located with minimal air pollution and the care and attention that have been given to it over the last century. The stone was used because it was unusual and highly promoted by the quarry owner. The fact that the quarry owner and the building contractor were connected would have played a large part in selecting this stone as well.

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<sup>4</sup> Merle Vosburgh, The History of the Quarry, the "Hole" Story As We Know It, (West Chester, PA: 2002, 14, <http://quarryclub.net>,( accessed August 22, 2016). Frank L. Greenagel, a well-known authority on church architecture in New Jersey, maintains an online database of New Jersey churches. The database is continuously updated with photos and histories of New Jersey churches constructed prior to 1900. A search of the 1,071 churches listed as of the date of this application at: indicates that the nominated building is the only church in the database that was constructed of green Serpentine Stone. <Http://www.njchurchscape.com/countly-list.html> (Accessed August 7, 2016)

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Stained-and Leaded-Glass Windows Craftsmen:

In the 1840's, brothers Joseph and Richard Lamb immigrated to the United States from England. A number of years later, in 1857, the brothers founded J & R Lamb Studios, Inc. which has been continuously operating ever since. The Gothic Revival movement in England before the Civil War led to Joseph Lamb's decision to make the "art of the church" his life's work. He and later his sons (Charles and Frederick) played important roles in the art revival movement in the United States. The firm is credited as being the first in this country to formulate the idea of religious art in stained-glass as a specialty business.

J & R Lamb Studios began its operations in New York City. When the city became too hectic and noisy, the studios were moved to Tenafly, NJ for the peace and quiet required to perform such highly skilled work. In later years, the studios were relocated to Midland Park, NJ where they continue to operate today.<sup>5</sup>

Construction of the First Methodist Episcopal Church building in Washington, NJ was a monumental undertaking. The green serpentine stone used on the building's exterior was transported from Brinton's Quarry in West Chester, Pennsylvania. With its 38-foot high vaulted ceiling, substantial unobstructed interior space and sloping floor, it was (and remains) one of the largest auditoriums in Warren County, New Jersey, and one of the first to offer sanctuary seating which resembles a bowled amphitheatre. The building's acoustics enable an audience of over 800 people to hear an individual speaking at the front of the Church, without the aid of sound enhancing equipment. The volume of the room, angled tin ceilings, non-symmetrical plaster walls, wainscoting, and wood floors all provide surfaces that enhance the acoustics.

From its prominent location on the main street in Washington Borough, Warren County, NJ, to the green serpentine stone used on the building's exterior to its stained- and leaded-glass windows, the building has a presence and continues to remain an example of the Richardsonian Romanesque style of architecture during the Late Victorian period.

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<sup>5</sup> In 2003 and 2004, the stained-glass window archives of J & R Studios were acquired by and are now housed in the Library of Congress in Washington, DC.<sup>5</sup> The archives include more than 2,500 watercolor presentation designs – part of a collection of more than 10,000 commissions by J & R Lamb Studios over the course of the company's 158-year history. The goal of the company was to keep the archives intact, to keep them in the United States and to have them available for use by artists, students and researchers.

First Methodist Episcopal Church  
Name of Property

Warren Co., NJ  
County and State

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Church historian records, Washington United Methodist Church, Washington, NJ (1895, 1925, 1975)

Dorchester, Jane Elizabeth. *The Evolution of Serpentine Stone as a Building Material in Southeastern Pennsylvania: 1772-1931*. University of Pennsylvania, (Philadelphia, PA), 2001.

Greenagel, Frank L. *The New Jersey Churchscape: Encountering Eighteenth and Nineteenth-Century Churches*. Rutgers University Press, (New Brunswick, NJ), 2001.

Howe, Jeffrey. *Houses of Worship*. Thunder Bay Press, (San Diego, CA), 2003.

Kaufman, Joanne. "Miracles of Resurrection". *The Wall Street Journal*, (New York, NY) May 29, 2007.

Vosburgh, Merle, "The History of the Quarry, The 'Hole' Story as we Know It,"(Westchester, PA) 2002. (<http://quarryclub.net>)

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### Previous documentation on file (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 # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

### Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: CHURCH ARCHIVES



First Methodist Episcopal Church  
Name of Property

Warren Co., NJ  
County and State

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** N/A

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### 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property** 1.14 ACRES

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

#### Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

**Or**

#### UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |                     |                          |                            |
|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Zone: <b>18T</b> | Easting: <b>502034mE</b> | Northing: <b>4512047mN</b> |
| 2. Zone:            | Easting:                 | Northing:                  |
| 3. Zone:            | Easting:                 | Northing:                  |
| 4. Zone:            | Easting :                | Northing:                  |

First Methodist Episcopal Church  
Name of Property

Warren Co., NJ  
County and State

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

**Block 25.01, Lot 6 on the Tax Map for Washington, NJ.**

The Church is located on a plot of land that includes the 1892 parsonage and the 1894 barn. An adjoining property (east of the original block and lot) was purchased in 1924. The two non-contributing buildings are located on that lot. This is the "Boundary" for the nomination. (In 1987 another lot north of the original plot of land was purchased, but is not considered in the boundary for the church.) In July 2014 the deeds for all three properties were combined into one deed and filed in Warren County under the name "The United Methodist Church in Washington".

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

This boundary was selected because it includes the nominated building, plus the two contributing and non-contributing buildings.

Boundaries selected are the Block and Lot number for the property, as indicated on the Tax Map for Washington Borough, Warren County, NJ.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Erica M. Schaumberg, Rev. C. Jean McMullan, and Candace Lewis  
organization: United Methodist Church in Washington  
street & number: 116 East Washington Avenue  
city or town: Washington state: NJ zip code: 07882  
e-mail cblewis1945@gmail.com  
telephone: 908-963-6861  
date: May, 2017

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

First Methodist Episcopal Church  
Name of Property

Warren Co., NJ  
County and State

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### Photo Log

Name of Property: **First Episcopal Methodist Church**

City or Vicinity: **Washington**

County: **Warren**

State: **New Jersey**

Photographers:

**Historic photographs – photographer(s) unknown  
Rev. C. Jean McMullan  
Erica M. Schaumberg**

Date Photographed:

**Historic photographs – photographer & dates are unknown  
Rev. C. Jean McMullan – April 24, 2015  
Erica M. Schaumberg – August 2013, January & July 2016**

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 34 Front façade, looking north (C. Jean McMullan)
- 2 of 34 Interior view looking north (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 3 of 34 Interior, ceiling with exposed beams, looking north (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 4 of 34 Interior of Church from Sacristy, looking southeast (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 5 of 34 Interior of Church from Narthex at rear, looking north (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 6 of 34 Curved framework attic view (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 7 of 34 Leaded stained glass windows, interior, from East Tower looking west (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 8 of 34 Front façade, looking northeast, Church School Building (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 9 of 34 Front façade, looking north, Fellowship Hall (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 10 of 34 Front façade, looking northwest, Parsonage (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 11 of 34 Front façade, looking northwest, Barn (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 12 of 34 Serpentine stone and sandstone, east elevation, looking west (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 13 of 34 East elevation peak, looking west (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 14 of 34 Aerial View, East Tower (C. Jean McMullan)
- 15 of 34 East Tower, sandstone pilasters and center columns (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 16 of 34 West Tower with ornament (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 17 of 34 Historic photo, front façade East Tower

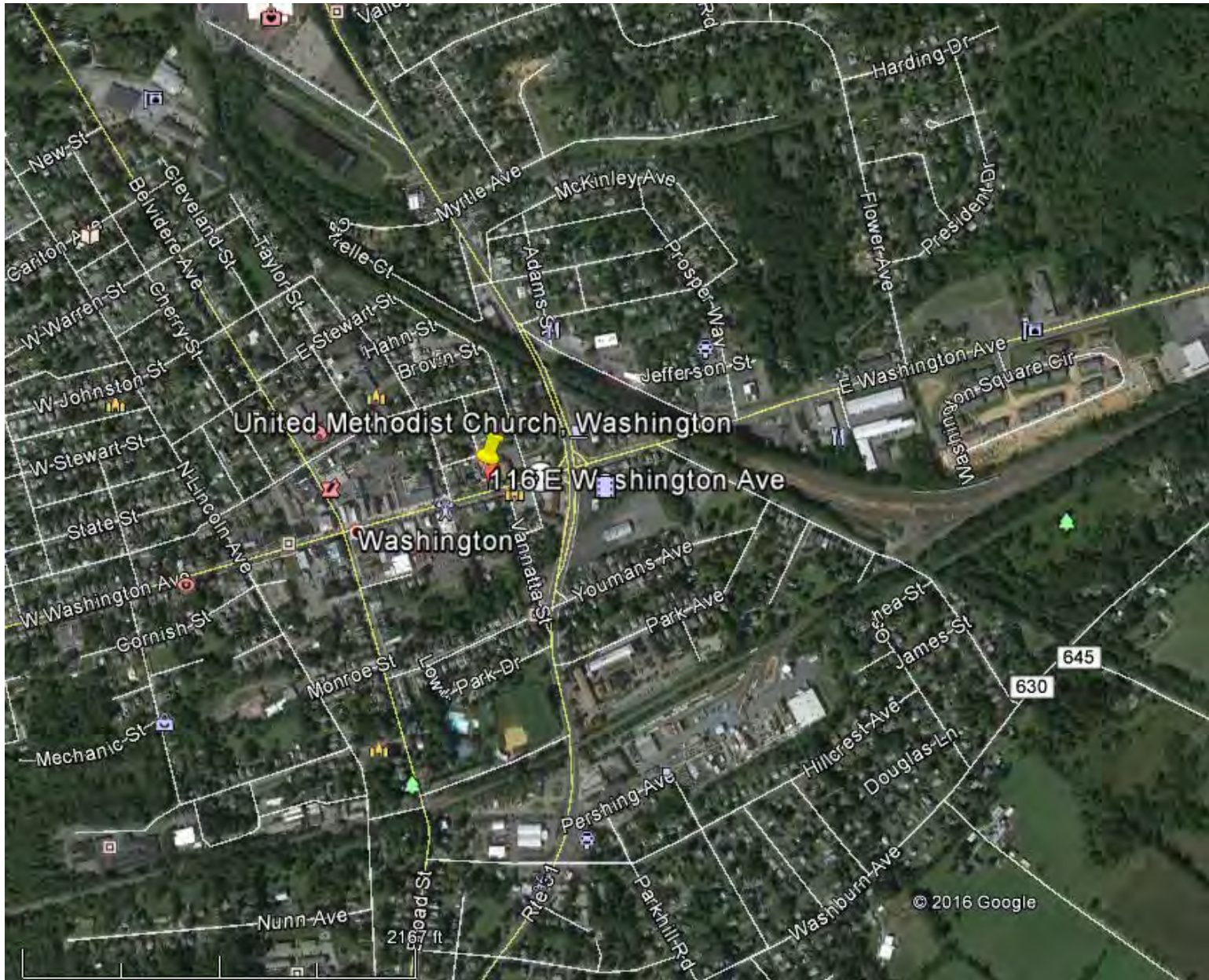
First Methodist Episcopal Church  
Name of Property

Warren Co., NJ  
County and State

- 18 of 34 Roof, rear view of copper and slate (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 19 of 34 Stone Buttresses, east wall exterior, looking west (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 20 of 34 Front façade, 8 Stained-glass windows, looking north (C. Jean McMullan)
- 21 of 34 East Wall Window (C. Jean McMullan)
- 22 of 34 Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) stained-glass windows, inside Church looking south (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 23 of 34 GAR Charity Window, looking south (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 24 of 34 GAR Loyalty Window, close-up, looking south (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 25 of 34 Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) stained-glass window, vestibule of west tower; inside Church looking west (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 26 of 34 Rear Elevation, looking south (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 27 of 34 East side wall, stained glass window (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 28 of 34 Single piece of brick from 1856-1895 brick church building (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 29 of 34 Brick pillars in basement, salvaged bricks from 1856-1895 brick church building (Schaumberg)
- 30 of 34 Brick wall in attic area (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 31 of 34 View of pulpit, looking north (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 32 of 34 Communion rail carvings, looking east (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 33 of 34 Lectern carving (Erica M. Schaumberg)
- 34 of 34 Hat rack on underside of pew (Erica M. Schaumberg)

**Paperwork Reduction Act 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.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



First Methodist Episcopal Church  
116 E. Washington Avenue  
Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey  
UTM Coordinates: Zone 18T 502034mE 4512047mN





Washington Borough  
 Warren County, New Jersey  
 Tax Map - Block 25.01, Lot 6

Tax Map  
 First Methodist Episcopal Church  
 Washington Borough, Warren County, New Jersey



Contributing (C) and Non-contributing (NC) Resources within Property  
First Methodist Episcopal Church  
Washington Borough, Warren County, New Jersey



Photo Annotated Site Map of Contributing and Non-contributing Resources  
First Methodist Episcopal Church  
Washington Borough, Warren County, New Jersey



Diagram 1

Rough sketch of interior sanctuary

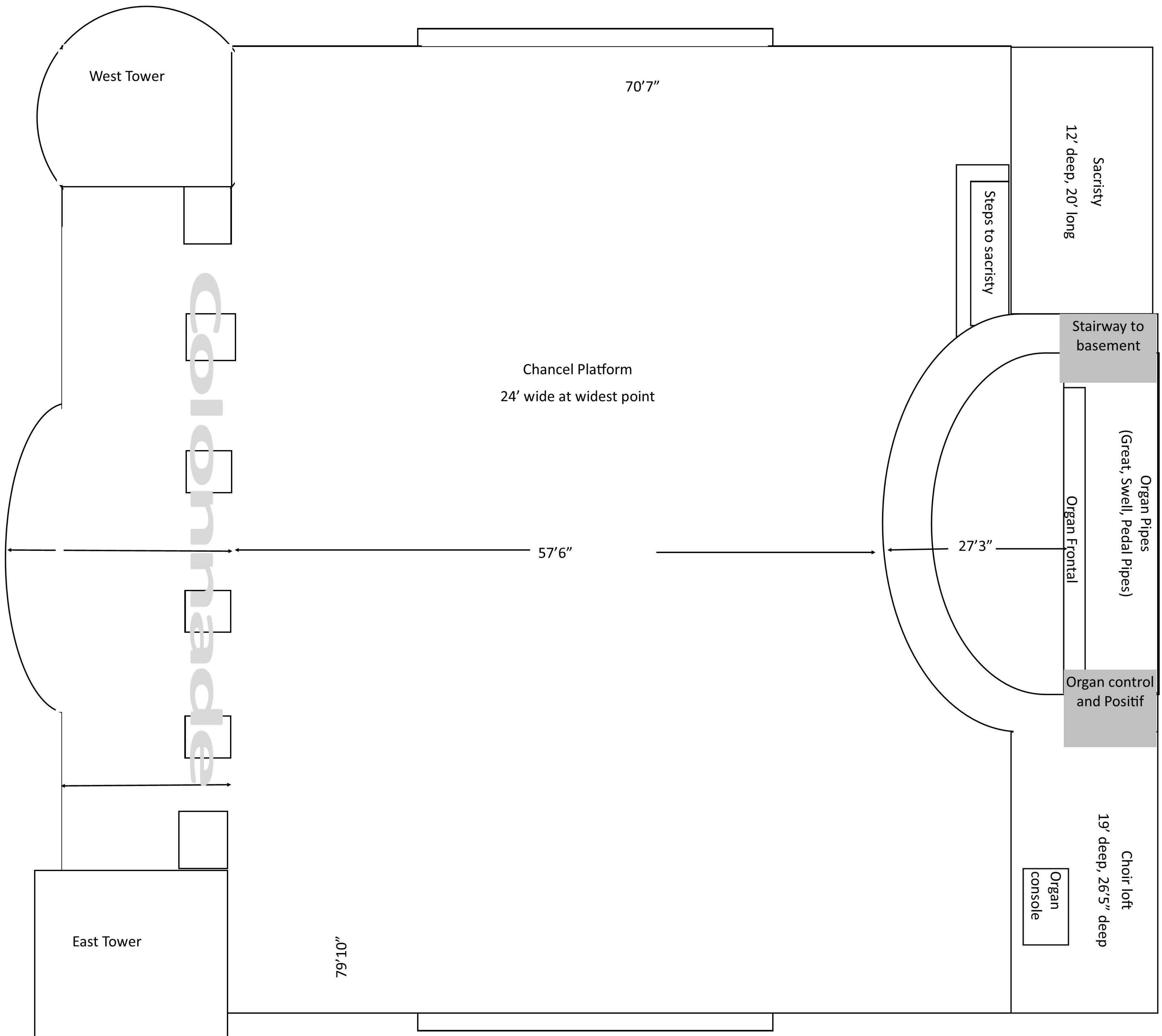
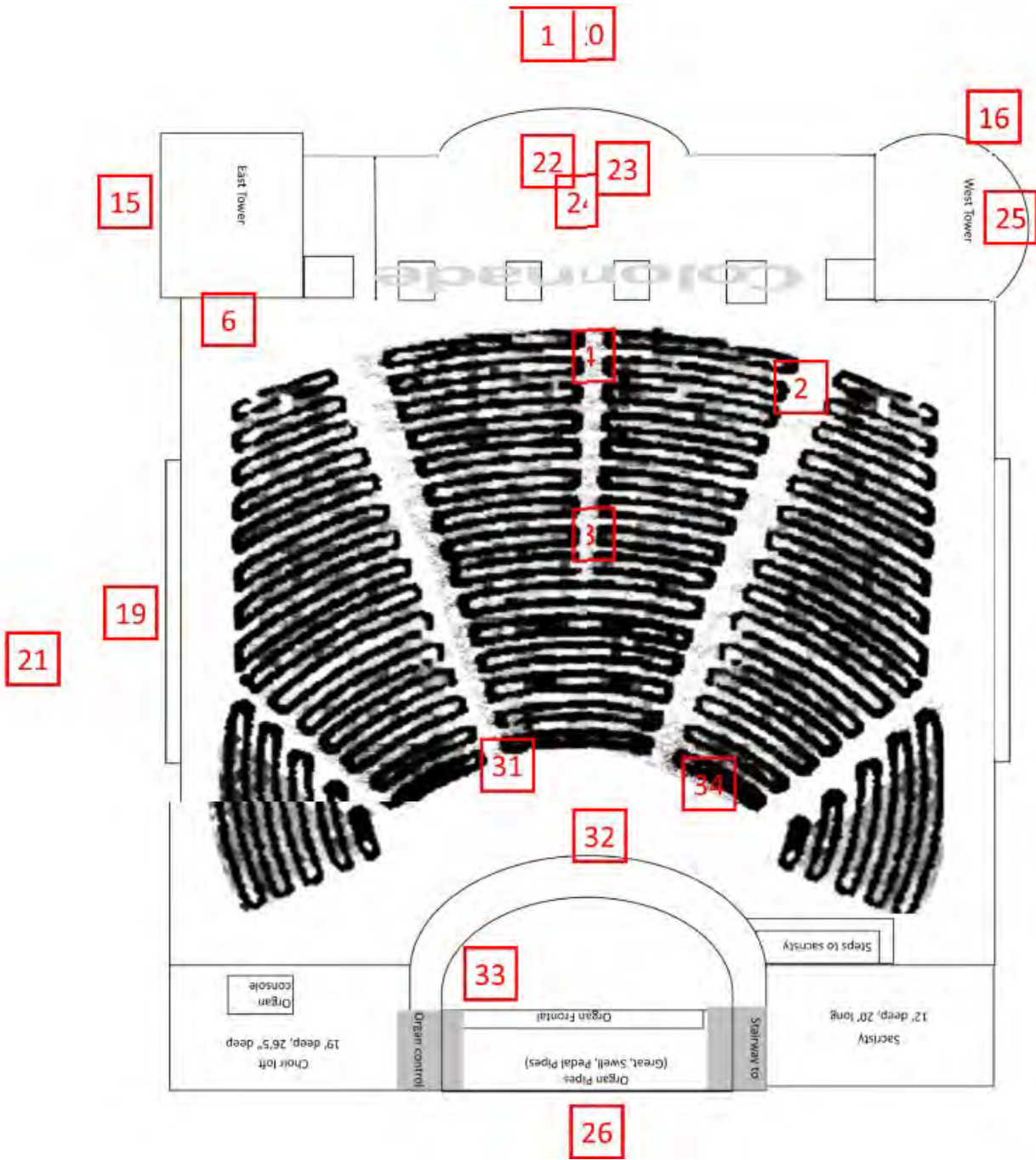


Diagram 2 Approximate placing of pews  
 (Line drawing of pews copied from  
*Catalogue of Architectural Plans for Churches and Parsonages*  
 furnished by the Board of Church Extension of the M.E. Church, 1889, Philadelphia, PA.)



Annotated Plan  
 First Methodist Episcopal Church  
 Washington Borough, Warren County, New Jersey



Historic Photo  
First Methodist Episcopal Church  
Washington Borough, Warren County, New Jersey



Historic Photo – Front Facade  
First Methodist Episcopal Church  
Washington Borough, Warren County, New Jersey



Historic Photo  
First Methodist Episcopal Church  
Washington Borough, Warren County, New Jersey



Historic Photo  
First Methodist Episcopal Church  
Washington Borough, Warren County, New Jersey

1













6





































UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8. & 10:15

ALL ARE WELCOME

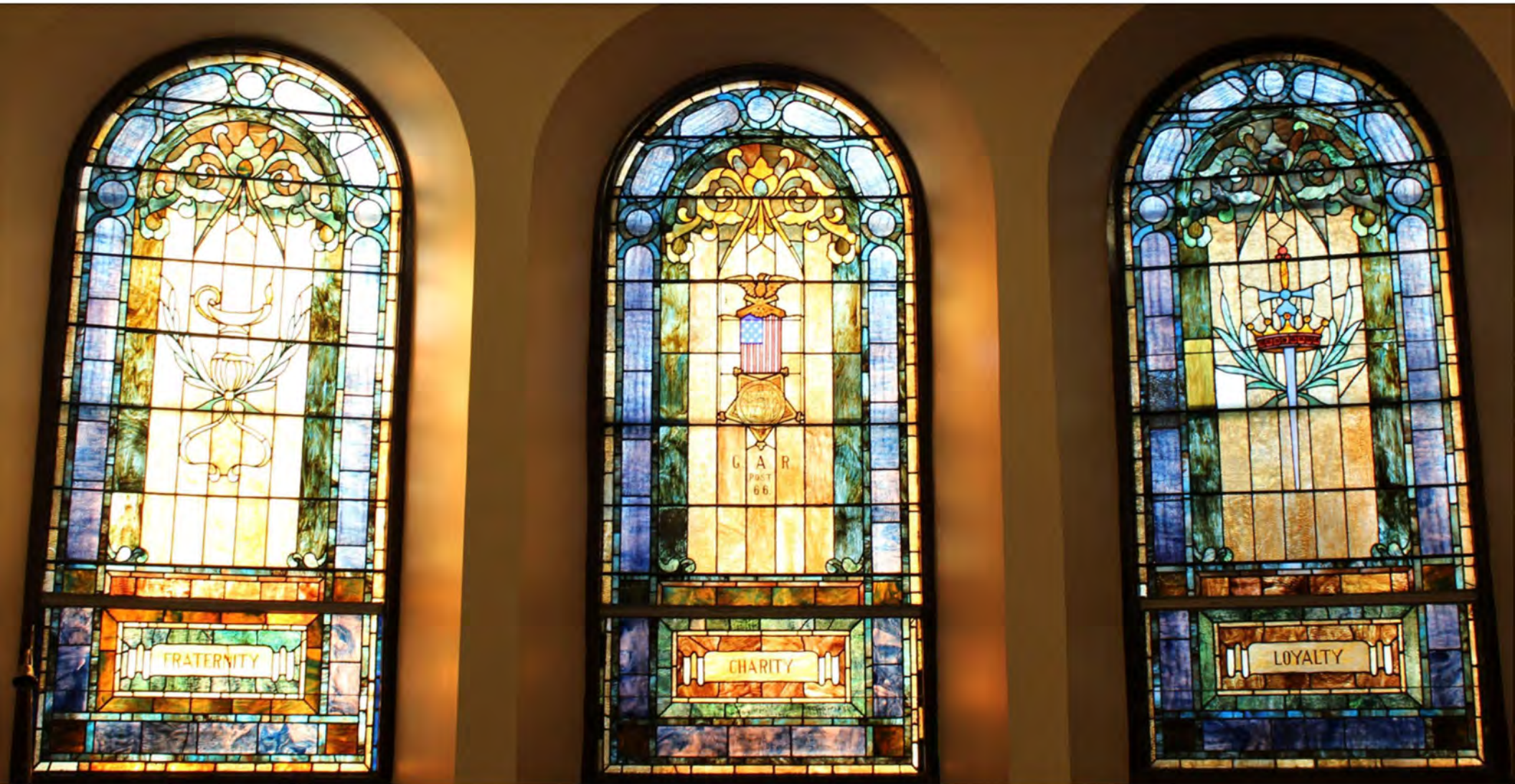
PASTOR REV. JEAN MCNULLAN

ASSOC. PASTORS

REV. MARILYN BALZER

REV. DARLEEN SCHOTT

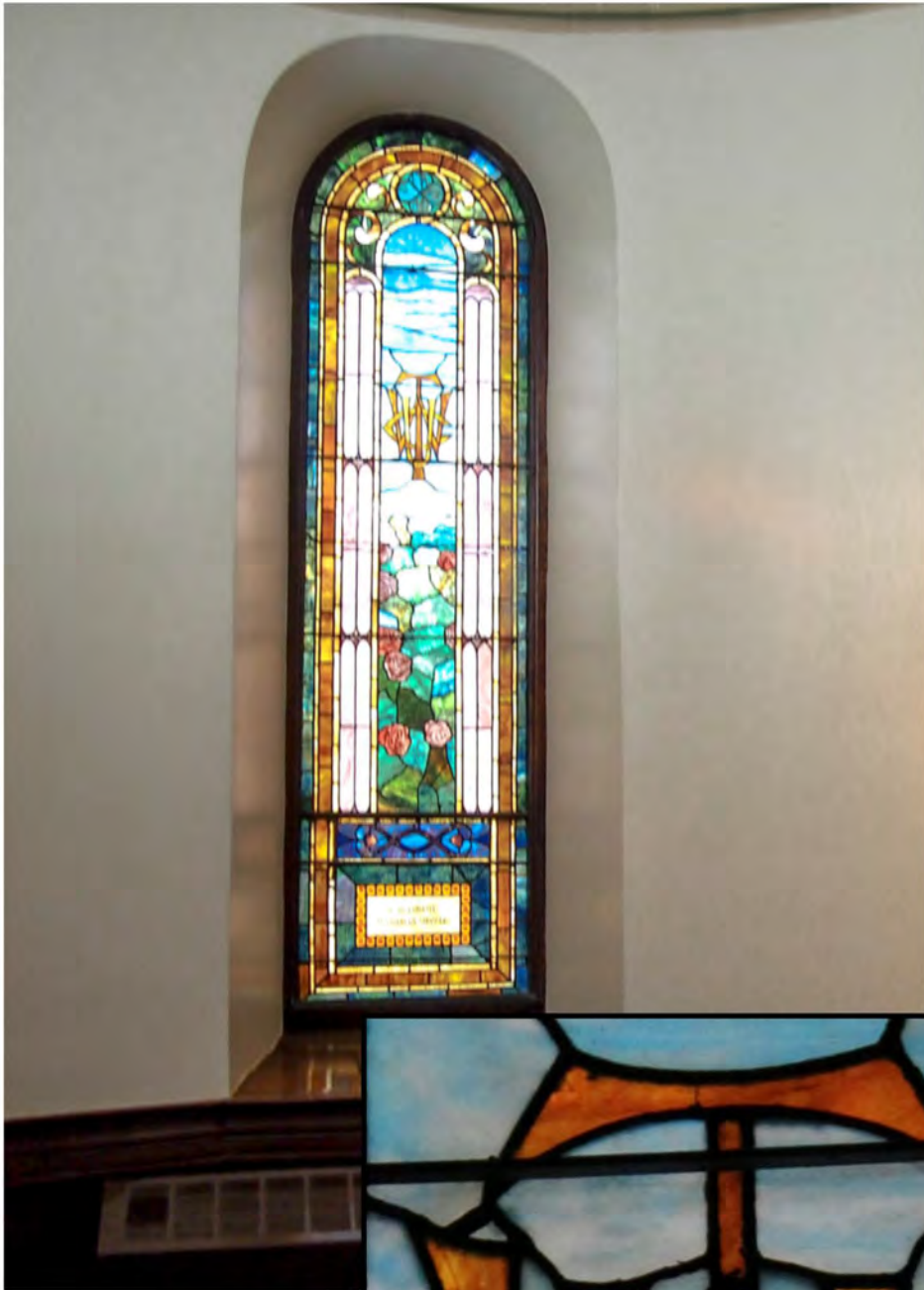
889-0105







25

























UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 6/2/2017      Date of Pending List: 6/28/2017      Date of 16th Day: 7/13/2017      Date of 45th Day: 7/17/2017      Date of Weekly List: 7/20/2017

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept       Return       Reject      7/17/2017 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria

Reviewer Edson Beall      Discipline Historian

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_      Date \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION:    see attached comments : No    see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



State of New Jersey

MAIL CODE 501-04B

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES

HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

P.O. Box 420

Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

TEL. (609) 984-0176 FAX (609) 984-0578

Project # 12-1569  
HPO-E2017-265



BOB MARTIN  
Commissioner

CHRIS CHRISTIE  
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO  
Lt. Governor

May 25, 2017

Paul Loether, Chief  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Loether:

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the First Methodist Episcopal Church, located in the Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey.

This nomination has received unanimous approval from the New Jersey State Review Board for Historic Sites. All procedures were followed in accordance with regulations published in the Federal Register.

Should you want any further information concerning this application, please feel free to contact Katherine J. Marcopul, Administrator, New Jersey Historic Preservation Office, Mail code 501-04B, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420, or call her at (609) 984-5816.

Sincerely,

Rich Boornazian  
Deputy State Historic  
Preservation Officer