

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED MAY 17 1978
DATE ENTERED MAR 12 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Second Reformed Dutch Church/(Old) Mt. Carmel Roman Catholic Church
AND/OR COMMON
Church of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel/Ironbound Educational and Cultural Center

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
178-184 Edison Pl., at McWhorter St. and Ferry NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CITY, TOWN Street CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Newark VICINITY OF 10th
STATE CODE COUNTY CODE
New Jersey 34 Essex 013

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Social Service

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Joseph Costa
STREET & NUMBER
25-29 Bruen Street
CITY, TOWN VICINITY OF STATE
Newark New Jersey

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Essex County Hall of Records
STREET & NUMBER
High Street at Market Street
CITY, TOWN STATE
Newark New Jersey

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory (#2186.78)
DATE
1977 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Office of Historic Preservation, 109 West State Street
CITY, TOWN STATE
Trenton New Jersey

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

As originally constructed in 1848, the Second Reformed Dutch Church of Newark was a rectangular Greek Revival style brick religious edifice having a slightly projecting center tower with frame belfry and spire. Probably at first with a three bay front and five bay sides, a large rear section with gable roof perpendicular to the main unit appears to have been added later (ca. 1870-1890). The fenestration of the main unit is divided by simple pilasters at the front and linear facades. The roof is gable with a pediment and originally dentil coursing beneath the eaves.

Apparently extensively altered on the interior when the Roman Catholic Church purchased the property in 1890, exterior alterations were also conducted at that time. These alterations include the Neo-classical portico, stucco facing, domed tower, entrance facade changes including window shortenings and the introduction of pediments and the second story square windows flanking the round center windows.

The church faces north fronting Edison Place at its corner with McWhorter Street which latter runs along the left of the church as one faces its facade. This corner is adjacent to slightly diagonal Ferry Street, the principal business street of the lively polyglot Ironbound section. Ferry Street and Edison Place form 2 sides of a triangle enveloping Peter Francisco Park, bordered on the 3rd side by the street flanking the east (rear) facade of Penn Station. As one leaves Downtown, crossing under the monumental elevated portion of station structure, entry is made to the Ironbound section looking where the triangular lines cover funneling on the vista, dominated by old Mt. Carmel Church on slightly higher ground.

The church, much as originally designed in 1848-49, is pictured on page 537 of Joseph M. Flynn's 1904 book The Catholic Church in New Jersey. Accounts of the church's considerable alteration by Catholics after the 1890-91 purchase appear to make this picture obsolete before the 1904 book, but a reasonable resemblance to the church's original appearance. It is possible that some exterior changes followed after the interior changes necessary to liturgical change from Protestant to Catholic.

The church as originally built was of the continuum of Georgian-Federal-Greek Revival-Anglo Norman, probably best described as of the Greek Revival Period. It was constructed of brick. (The architect William H. Kirk built other "classical" churches in brick - a year later the nearby, simpler Greek Revival style Union Street Methodist, now Providence Baptist; the 1851-57 Trinity Methodist at Warren and Wilsey Streets; the Greek Revival Old Bergen Church in Jersey City and the Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church - National Register 1976, p.473 and 467).

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAY 17 1978
DATE ENTERED	MAR 10 1979

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church
Newark

Essex County New Jersey 034

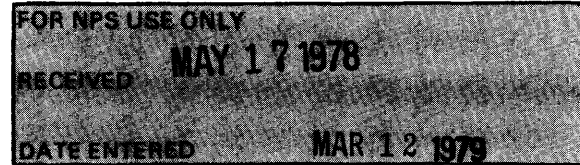
CONTINUATION SHEET DESCRIPTION ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

The church featured a facade with a slightly protruding center tower with, originally, a center spire of total height being 120'. There was originally no portico. The main sanctuary level was several steps above street level, with a full basement (at least now) under the church consisting predominantly of a rectangular social hall with stage and patterned metal flat ceiling, and ten 5-inch cast iron columns.

One pedimented window at the first floor equivalent flanked the main entrance on each side in the facade wall with a rectangular window above each. The pedimented entrance has a round window above at the second floor equivalent. The square tower, about 1/3 of the church's total width of 48', originally rose to frame staging below the spire proper. Each side of the church under the main roof (peaked parallel to the church's length) has 5 large plain rectangular 2-story equivalent windows, now boarded up, suggesting 5 bays, but no major other structural effects such as buttresses were used to create actual bays. Windows 2 and 4 extend downward with doorways to steps, comprising 2 of the 3 McWhorter Street side entrances. To the rear of this main roofed section of approximately 80' length is a perpendicular transverse gable of the same height covering the balance of the church to the straight rear wall, an additional distance of about 26' making the original length a total of about 110'. Excluding a minor rear appendage off to the side the width was and remains, throughout, about 48'.

The sanctuary/chancel area proper, exclusive of former pew area, does not coincide with the location of the exterior transverse gabled roof; but it is unknown whether this was always so. The pew area was approximately 63' long along the main aisle from inside the vestibule doors under the rear loft to the main front wall, within which latter the chancel extended within a wide flat-curve "proscenium" type arch, this being about 10 feet north of the bottom or northern most part of the transverse roof gable. At the chancel rear, the chancel extended another 11' X 20' width as a semi-circular, semi-domed apse behind which was a 5' wide interior walk across areas to the inside of the rear exterior wall. This left moderate size rooms (suitable for drama or dressing rooms) flanking the chancel end on both sides and on 2 floors, with a walk across on the upper level "backstage" also.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



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

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church
Newark

Essex County New Jersey 034

7

CONTINUATION SHEET DESCRIPTION ITEM NUMBER PAGE 3

The semi-circular apse is flanked by fluted marble-simulated Corinthian pilasters. To the sides are lesser arches on flat wall above removed side altars, semi-domed niches remaining, with these side arch's outer curves coming to rest on matching half-pilasters. Above are the slightly protruding chambers which held organ pipes, now empty. There are, in all, 4 vacant statue niches, outside of the former main altar chancel semi-circular recess.

Across the rear is a probably original choir loft gallery with dark wood balustrade intact which includes, at its center, a full semi-circular spindled balustrade projection out over the main aisle.

Like the exterior, many basic lines and fine shapes remain to the interior, even if it is much more bereft of fittings which makes its reuse refurbishing quite achievable but without fidelity of much detail.

Alongside the church, separated from it by a small yard on the church's west, is the former Rectory, an early 20th Century Neo-classical structure amenable principally for its main facade as the other sides are plain aged red brick. The edifice, circa 1920 or perhaps earlier, is of buff-yellow brick on the second and third floors, with some of the brickwork patterned, while the first floor is apparent limestone in fine cut courses although the same stone has some deliberate rough hewn blocks at the short basement level. The building is comparatively narrow, only 3 evenly spaced classically outlined windows across the front which on the first floor has the entrance, with low stone arched top, off center under the left windows. To the rear is a buff-yellow matching brick garage, virtually touching the church. Although the Rectory does not compare with the church in significance, it is a harmonious architectural and functional companion to it.

A handsome 4-column portico of limestone was added in the early 20th century by the Catholics; spaced so that 2 columns were closely spaced from each other on either side of the entry steps. Corinthian capitals adorn the columns with the portico topped by a typical pediment. The double door entrance has a separate round window at the level above it but within the portico.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1848

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

William Kirk

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Originally the Second Dutch Reformed Church (1848-1890) and later the Mt. Carmel Roman Catholic Church (1890-c.1954) and location of the first parochial school in Newark, the building is a representative example of the Greek Revival style as produced by architect William Kirk.

Architecture

One of three extant church edifices in Newark designed by William Kirk, the Second Dutch Reformed Church is a good example of the Greek Revival format as constructed by master builders in New Jersey and is the least altered of Kirk's buildings in the city.

William H. Kirk was a noted builder/architect of the firm of Kirk and Kirkpatrick of Newark. Credited with building approximately a dozen churches in New Jersey from 1839-1858, primarily in the Greek Revival form, the Second Dutch Reformed Church (Mt. Carmel Roman Catholic Church) is representative of the buildings they designed. Although altered, Mt. Carmel Church still manifests substantial features of the original building.

William H. Kirk was an architect, builder/contractor, supplier, statewide politician, and a legislator and churchman who was (among other things) a member of this church (Reformed) and its Sunday School Superintendent. He is among the earliest Newark and New Jersey area prolific architects of many masonry churches, contemporary to and following noted Moses Dodd and Minard Lafever locally. Especially was he an obvious desciple of the latter (Lafever) -- in 4 architectural styles (2 Anglo Norman--Early Romanesque), Greek Revival and Gothic Revival. He is also credited with several porticoed Greek Revival county courthouses, all believed demolished, including that of Hudson County. A competent architect who left some mundane works as well as masterpieces, his architectural designing career was by the Civil War, diminished in relation to his great civic, political, contracting and supply businesses. He is reputed to have had cement mines near Kingston N.Y.--where both he and Lafever also designed buildings.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Newark Daily Advertiser. 9/26/1848, 5/8/1849, 5/10/1849.
Flynn, Joseph. The Catholic Church in New Jersey. Morristown, N.J.,
1904. (p. 537).
Schnall, Kenneth. A Survey of Ecclesiastical Architecture Built in
Newark from 1810-1965.
Records of Mount Carmel Roman Catholic Church.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY one acre (minus)

UTM REFERENCES

A

18	570570	4509200
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

B

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

C

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

D

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property occupies city block 183, lot 6 and is approximately
100' X 200' in size.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
-------	------	--------	------

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
-------	------	--------	------

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Richard Pereira and Donald W. Geyer (Revisions by T. Karschner, Office
of Historic DATE Preservation)

Ironbound Educational and Cultural Center

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

178-184 Edison Place

(609) 292-2028

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Newark

New Jersey

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL XX

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

Deputy
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Joseph Wilson

TITLE Deputy Commissioner

Department of Environmental Protection

4/29/78
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Bill Labovich

ATTEST:

Bill Labovich

DATE

3/12/79

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

March 6, 1979

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAY 17 1978
DATE ENTERED	MAR 12 1979

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

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

Essex County

Newark

New Jersey 034

CONTINUATION SHEET SIGNIFICANCE ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

Most notable of Kirk's surviving work is the great brownstone Gothic--North Reformed Church, 1857-59 adjoining Mutual Benefit Life on Broad Street facing Washington Park, Newark. He did the 1852 simpler, similar Reformed Church by the Belleville Bridge. Especially noted and charming is his red brick, white columned, gold domed, 1839 Greek Revival church of the Presbyterians at Basking Ridge. By 1841, he had completed another very notable Greek Revival Church for Jersey City's most historic congregation-- Old Bergen Reformed. Several blocks from old Mt. Carmel in Newark's Ironbound, he did the simple Greek Revival Union Street Methodist -- 1850, while his Trinity Methodist of 1851-57 copied Lafever's churches in New York, Newark and Kingston---(simplified).

Education

The Mt. Carmel Roman Catholic church was the first Italian Catholic parochial school in (Arch) diocese of Newark---a work of the first American Saint, Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini.

Religion

The Second Dutch Reformed Church was a cultural (religious) focal point for Newark citizens in the second half of the 19th century. When purchased by the Roman Catholic diocese in the 1890's this edifice continued to reflect the beliefs of its congregation although the religious and social ethnicity had changed as a result of Italian immigration brought on by rapid industrialization in Newark.

South of Bergen County and Belleville, the regionally strong Dutch Reformed Church was relatively slower and later in growth, with most of Newark and its west-southwest environs dominated much more by early Presbyterians. The Second Dutch Reformed Church of 1848-49, therefore, comparatively within Newark, was an early church of that denomination.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church
Newark

Essex County New Jersey 034

CONTINUATION SHEET SIGNIFICANCE ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 3

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAY 17 1978
DATE ENTERED	MAR 12 1979

Upon the congregation's move to a newer (destroyed) church on Pacific Street and New York Avenue, the Roman Catholics, under Bishop Winand Wigger, bought the property in 1890 to serve a new Italian national parish, there being many Italians then in-migrant to the neighborhood. The Church was renovated more compatibly to Catholic liturgy and Italian tastes. Mt. Carmel Church parish shifted location slightly and a new church was built 1954 on Oliver Street, (where its street feast days still flourish), with the outgrown old building held by the parish for many years more as an out post.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JAN 29 1979
DATE ENTERED	MAR 12 1979

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

Second Reformed Dutch Church/Mt. Carmel Roman Catholic Church
Newark
Essex County, New Jersey

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

Addendum

The Mount Carmel Church (nee Second Reformed Dutch Church) has firm historical connections with immigration history of Newark. During the last decade of the 19th century thousands of southern and eastern Europeans migrated to the industrial cities of the Eastern United States. This migration is reflected in Newark by the purchase by the Catholic Diocese of Newark of the former Second Dutch Reformed Church in 1890. This religious facility provided comfort and assistance to the many Italians who settled in the Ironbound section of Newark (so-called because of its boundaries physically determined by the surrounding heavy industrial facilities). The Mount Carmel Church functioned as an initial step in the Italian immigrant's perception of a cultural identity and unity within their new society. The church provided comfort and valuable assistance in helping its predominately Italian immigrant congregation adjust to the new environment.

By the 1950's the Ironbound area had substantially deteriorated, but a new era of ethnic history rose out of the decay. Emigrants from Portugal began settling in the 1960's and today Newark has the second largest Portuguese population in the United States, concentrating primarily in the Ironbound area.

Terry Karschner
1/1979