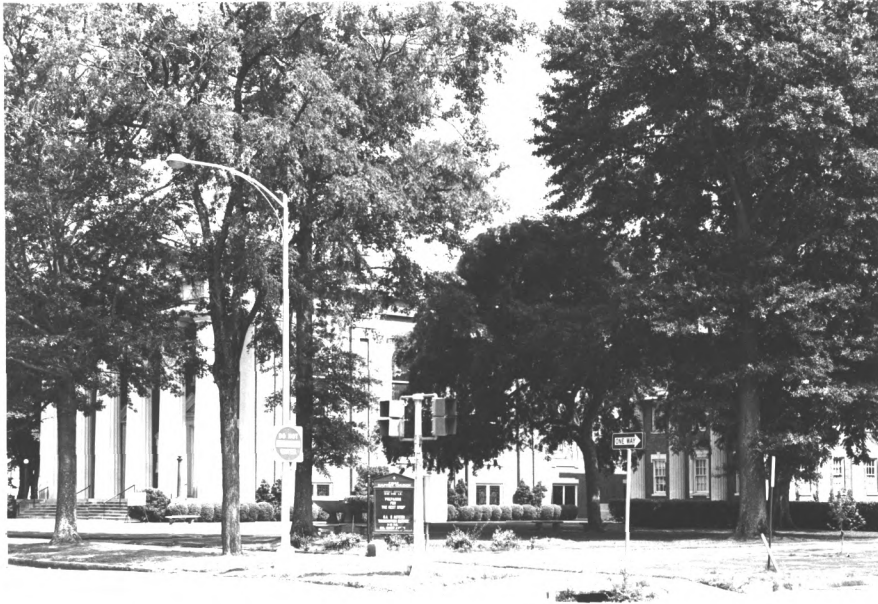


I. IDENTIFICATION	<p>PROPERTY NAME: "Church Square" (including The First Baptist Church of Columbus) STREET ADDRESS: See Attached Sheet</p> <p>PRESENT OWNER: See Attached Sheet</p> <p>CITY: Columbus</p> <p>CURRENT USE: Church property</p> <p>U.S.G.S. QUADRANGLE: Columbus, GA-AL</p> <p>V.B.D. OR TAX MAP NUMBER: 4/14/1</p>	<p>HISTORIC NAME: "Church Square" (including The First Baptist Church of Columbus) CITY: Columbus COUNTY: Muscogee</p> <p>MAILING ADDRESS: See Attached Sheet</p> <p>STATE: Georgia ZIP CODE: 31902</p> <p>ACREAGE: Approximately 4 acres</p> <p>U.T.M. REFERENCE: 16-688925-3593845</p>
II. DESCRIPTION	<p>ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION AND PRESENT CONDITION: Classical Revival, two stories tall, main sanctuary is rectangle with pentagonal apse, gable end roof; porch with six Doric columns runs length of front facade; stretcher bond brick construction on raised basement of the same seamed metal roof; front facade details include two double leafed entrances, evenly spaced across 5 bay front, each capped with a granite pediment which resembles the pediment the columns support, stained glass windows with flat arch granite lintels are located between front doors on the first floor and over each bay on the second floor, brick pilasters with granite base and caps visually divide 2 story tall stained glass windows on the east and west facades; (CONT'D ON BACK)</p>	
III. HISTORY	<p>ORIGINAL OWNER: See Attached Sheet</p> <p>ARCHITECT/BUILDER: See Attached Sheet</p> <p>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: See Attached Sheet</p> <p>HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (FROM ORIGINS TO PRESENT): "Church Square" is made up of Lots A and B, which were incorporated into Edward Lloyd Thomas' original plan of the city of Columbus. The Methodists and the Baptists started worshipping on their respective lots in the late 1820's and are continuing to do so at the present. The congregation of St. Luke United Methodist Church is in its fifth sanctuary (all previous sanctuaries having been built successively on the same site), and the congregation of First Baptist is in its third sanctuary (with its former sanctuaries having been built on the same site, also). The educational wing and chapel, were added in 1924 and in 1948.</p>	<p>ORIGINAL USE: Church property</p> <p>HISTORIC ACREAGE: Approximately 4 acres</p> <p>DATE(S) OF ALTERATIONS: See Attached Sheet</p>
IV. SIGNIFICANCE	<p>N.R. AREA(S) OF SIGNIFICANCE: Community Planning, Religion, Local History and Architecture LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local</p> <p>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL): Community Planning and Religion: This property (city block) is significant as it is the only remaining "church square" still used for its original purpose in downtown Columbus. The congregations of the First Baptist Church of Columbus and St. Luke United Methodist Church have been worshipping on this "church square" continuously for over 150 years. Local History: The sanctuary of the First Baptist Church of Columbus is significant as it is the oldest existing sanctuary in downtown Columbus. It serves the oldest Baptist congregation in the city.</p>	
V. SOURCES	<p>FORM PREPARED BY: a) Nancy Alexander Roger Harris b) Janice P. Biggers</p> <p>ADDRESS: a) P. O. Box 1908, Cols, GA 31994 b) 700 Broadway, Cols, GA 31901</p> <p>REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS: Historic Structures Field Survey: Columbus-Muscogee County, Georgia. 1976 state survey, Historic Preservation Section, DNR, Atlanta, Georgia.</p> <p>SOURCES OF INFORMATION: Worsley, Etta Blanchard, Columbus on the Chattahoochee. Columbus, Georgia: Columbus Office Supply Co., 1951, pp. 140-145.</p>	<p>ORGANIZATION: a) Lower Chattahoochee APDC b) Historic Columbus Foundation</p> <p>TELEPHONE NUMBER: a) (404)324-4221 b) (404)322-0756</p>

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(CONT'D ON BACK)



PHOTOGRAPHER: Nancy Alexander

DATE: 3 June 1980

ROLL NO. 10 FRAME NO. 16A NEGATIVES FILED: Historic Columbus Foundation
700 Broadway

DIRECTION PHOTOGRAPHER FACING: Southeast Columbus, Georgia 31901

USE SPACE BELOW FOR CONTINUATION FROM FRONT, SKETCH PLANS OR MAPS, ADDITIONAL COMMENTS, ETC.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION: several additions to the church resemble the main sanctuary and are in scale with it, the interior of the church has two aisles, with 3 sections of pews, a balcony runs across the rear of the church; to the west is the U. S. Post Office, to the north is Ralston Towers, to the east is the Church of the Holy Family, and to the south is the remainder of church square and St. Luke Methodist Church (which does not meet the criteria of the National Register); landscaping consists of grass lawns, boxwood shrubbery, granite fountain approximately 10 ft. in diameter, and hardwood shade trees; excellent condition.

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture: Having been through several renovations, this building is architecturally significant to Columbus as it shows through building evolution, the development of one of the leading congregations in town. The building began as a Gothic style structure in 1859 and by 1910 the congregation had virtually made the building neo-classical in form. Its series of additions show great sympathy to the original structure. The complex is an architectural landmark in downtown Columbus.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION: Barbara Bogart and Margaret Laney Whitehead. City of Progress: A History of Columbus, Georgia. Columbus, Georgia: Columbus Office Supply Co., 1979, pp. 60-63 and pp. 68-70.

Souvenir Edition: Dedication of New Chapel and Sunday School Addition and Celebration of the Eighteenth Anniversary of Dr. Frederick S. Porter's Pastorate, First Baptist Church, Columbus, Ga., Sept. 1948.

JUL

9 1980

GEORGIA ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORIC PROPERTIES SURVEY-INVENTORY FORM (CONTINUED)
"CHURCH SQUARE" (including the FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF COLUMBUS)

STREET ADDRESS:

"Church Square" is bounded by 2nd Avenue on the west, 11th Street on the south, 3rd Avenue on the east, 12th Street on the north.

PRESENT OWNER:

Congregations of the First Baptist Church of Columbus and St. Luke United Methodist Church.

MAILING ADDRESS:

First Baptist Church of Columbus, 212 12th Street;
St. Luke United Methodist, 1104 2nd Avenue.

ORIGINAL OWNER:

The Methodists were granted Lot B, on the south side of "Church Square," in 1828; the Baptists were granted Lot A, on the north side of "Church Square," in 1829.

ARCHITECT/BUILDER:

"Church Square" was set aside by Edward Lloyd Thomas in his original 1828 plan of the city of Columbus.

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION:

The present sanctuary of the First Baptist Church of Columbus was built in 1859--the sanctuary of St. Luke United Methodist Church is not a part of this nomination as it is a 1948 structure.

DATE(S) OF ALTERATIONS:

During 1896-1897 remodeling of First Baptist's sanctuary, a Gothic steeple was removed from the structure (along with the bell therein). The bell is presently situated on the "Church Square," to the northeast of the sanctuary. In 1909, the front of the Baptist sanctuary was remodeled, with the addition of six Doric columns and pediment. Outlying structures surrounding the main sanctuary were built between 1924 and 1948.