

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Salem United Church of Christ

AND/OR COMMON

Old Salem Reformed Church

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 231 Chestnut Street

CITY, TOWN

Harrisburg

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

17th

STATE

Pennsylvania

VICINITY OF

CODE
42

COUNTY

Dauphin

CODE

042

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Salem United Church of Christ, of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

STREET & NUMBER

231 Chestnut Street

CITY, TOWN

Harrisburg

VICINITY OF

STATE

Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Dauphin County Court House Recorder's Office:

Deed Book P, Vol. 1, Pg. 482, June 26, 1797 - 55.6"x210
Deed Book U, Vol. 1, Pg. 332, April 1, 1816 - 55.6"x210

STREET & NUMBER

Front and Market Streets

CITY, TOWN

Harrisburg

STATE

Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

1973

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

William Penn Memorial Museum, Box 1026

CITY, TOWN

Harrisburg

STATE

Pennsylvania

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

The present Salem United Church of Christ derives its origins from the 1787 founding of a German Reformed congregation in Harrisburg. In that year a two story log structure was erected in the lot adjacent to the present church. The log structure was in existence until the 1850's.

The present was erected in 1821-22 by the firm of Samuel Pool and Henry V. Wilson. The two story brick building was designed in a classical style. A large square tower topped by a domed cupola rose 110 feet from the center of the main facade. This tower was flanked by two, three story towers with stepped gables. A stepped gable was also used on the rear of the building. Twelve over twelve light windows were located on the first and second story levels on all sides of the building. Entranceways surmounted by fanlights were located in the front elevation of each tower. The interior of the church was done in an ornate classic style. The main altar was flanked by projecting Corinthian columns topped by an elaborate frieze.

In 1862, a two story brick sunday-school annex was attached to the rear of the building. The original interior was removed in 1876 when a much more simple interior was installed. The side windows were also enlarged at this time with tall round arch stained glass windows replacing the original 12 over 12 windows. The front entrance ways were closed and new entrance ways were constructed in the side of the corner towers.

An arsonist set fire to the church and annex in 1890. The damage resulting from this fire necessitated extensive repairs to the interior and roof. Cross-gable roofs with brackets were installed on the corner towers and the annex. The interior was also redone at this time.

Since 1890 the exterior of the building has not been altered. The interior remodelled in 1929 and 1948 now bears little resemblance to its original construction.

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 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 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 1821 - 1822, 1876, 1890 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Old Salem Reformed Church founded in 1787 was the 1st church erected in Harrisburg. From its inception the church played an important role in the development of Harrisburg. The church buildings were used for a wide variety of community purposes including use as a hospital during the Civil War.

Architecturally the church is a good example of the classic style. The Italianate roofs added in 1890 do not seriously detract from its original design. The building is still used as a church. At present it is one of the few old buildings left in an area of Harrisburg given over to high rises and hotels.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

175th Anniversary, Salem U.C.C. Church; Glace, Mrs. Earl V.,
1962-Copy Pgs. VIII A.

Annals of Harrisburg; Black, L. Frances Morgan, 1906, Pgs.
279-285.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approx. .5 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	<u>18</u>	<u>314,019,0</u>	<u>4,415,810,40</u>	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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
William K. Watson/Historic Sites Survey

ORGANIZATION
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

DATE
3-12-75

STREET & NUMBER

Box 1026

TELEPHONE
717:787-4363

CITY OR TOWN

Harrisburg

STATE
Pennsylvania

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

William K. Watson

TITLE

Executive Director

DATE

3/31/75

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

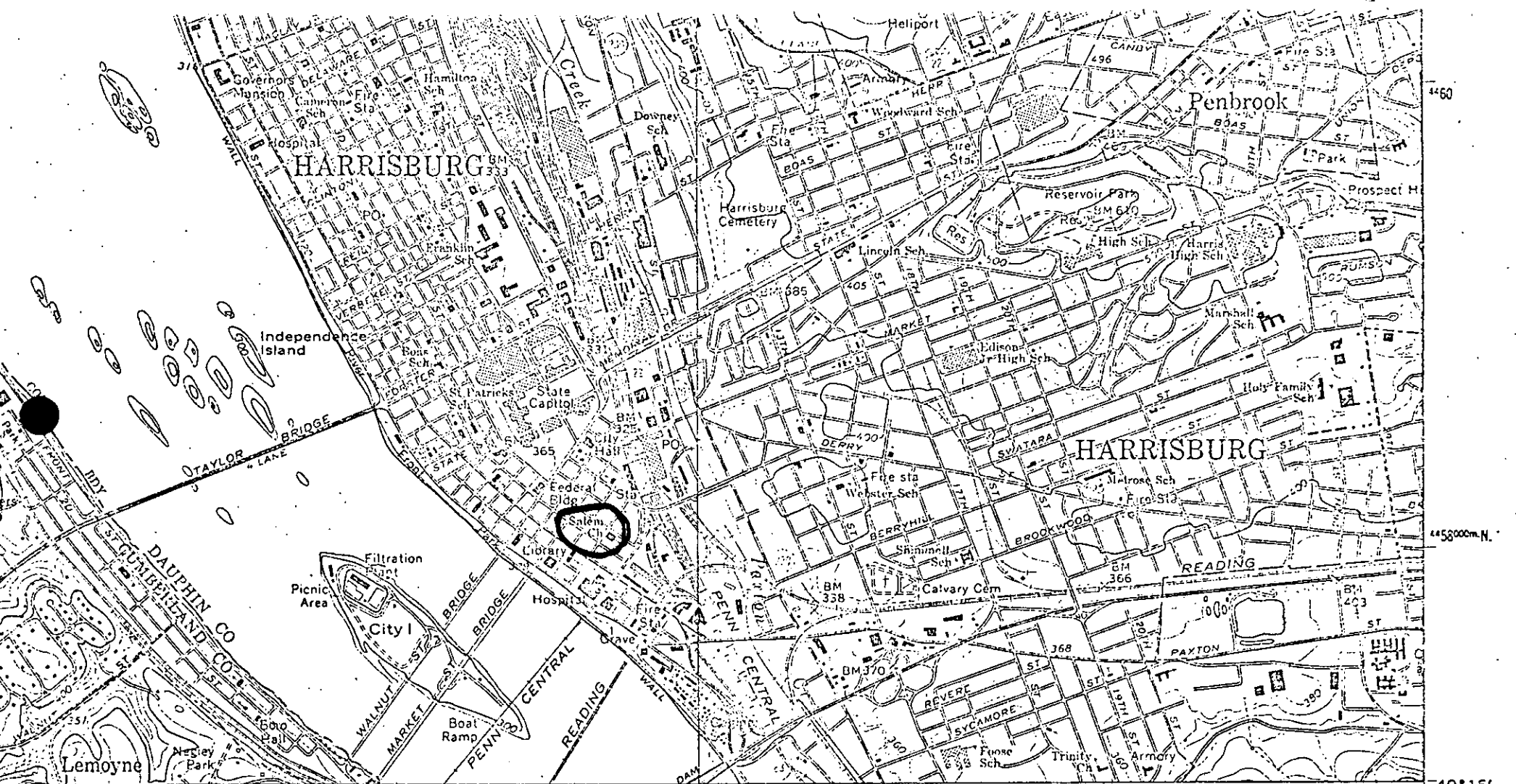
DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Primary highway, hard surface ————
- Secondary highway, hard surface ————
- Light-duty road, hard or improved surface ————
- Unimproved road ————
- Interstate Route (thick red circle)
- U. S. Route (red circle)
- State Route (thin red circle)

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS
 Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1968. Field checked 1969
 Supersedes Army Map Service map dated 1947

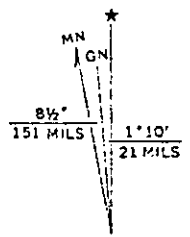
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grid based on Pennsylvania coordinate system, south zone
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 18, shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
 Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

HARRISBURG WEST, PA.
 SW/4 HARRISBURG 15' QUADRANGLE
 N4015—W7652.5/7.5

1969

AMS 5664 IV SW—SERIES V831



UTM GRID AND 1969 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

