

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 Tabernacle Baptist Church

AND/OR COMMON

German Evangelical Zion Lutheran Church

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Capital and Herr Streets

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Harrisburg

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

17th

STATE

Pennsylvania

VICINITY OF

CODE
42

COUNTY

Dauphin

CODE

043

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 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 type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Trustees, Tabernacle Baptist Church c/o Walter Wax

STREET & NUMBER

660 Boas Street, Townhouse Apartments No. 1618

CITY, TOWN

Harrisburg

VICINITY OF

STATE
Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Dauphin County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Front and Market Streets

CITY, TOWN

Harrisburg

STATE
Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

1974

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

William Penn Memorial Museum

CITY, TOWN

Box 1026, Harrisburg

STATE
Pennsylvania

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Tabernacle Baptist Church was constructed in 1886 adjoining an earlier 1863 frame church. The frame church was replaced by a three story brick parsonage in 1897 and the two buildings joined together by a one bay, two story section.

The present Tabernacle Baptist Church is a two story brick building designed in a modified Gothic style. A three story square bell tower set in the south east gable serves as the main entrance to the sanctuary. Doors located in the east and south sides of the tower are recessed with stone tracery in the arches. A similar door is located in the west end of the gable. Windows are also of pointed arch design and are arranged in pairs around the first and second story levels. The central windows on the gable facade feature elaborate stone tracery work. The first story window on the east and west sides of the building are round arch with simple molded lintels. Large oval windows with stone tracery are located in the 3rd story of the tower. Square pilasters set off each pair of windows. Pilasters are also located at the corners of the building and tower. A finely detailed series of brick corbelling accentuates the cornice and 2nd and 3rd story levels of the bell tower. The gable corner opposite the bell tower features a small turret topped by a cross-gabled roof and finial.

The interior floor plan of the church has the sanctuary located on the second story level. A heavy carved wooden staircase leads from the tower entrance to the rear of the sanctuary. The interior appointments of the sanctuary have been altered over the years, but the original stained glass windows with German inscriptions are still extant. The exterior of the building has not been seriously altered and at present is in a good state of repair.

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 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 1886

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Tabernacle Baptist Church was originally built by a German Lutheran congregation. Over the years, the German congregation has moved from the area which is now largely a Black neighborhood. The church, however, still remains an integral and important component of the neighborhood community.

Tabernacle Baptist Church is a good example of Gothic design. Of particular note are the stone tracery work, corbelling and stained glass windows. The present congregation is planning to refurbish the building.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

8. Statement of Significance

Church records do not reveal the names of the architect or contractor.

The church, presently known as the Tabernacle Baptist Church, was originally built by a German Evangelical Lutheran congregation. The difficulties in relation to divine services in the English and German language had led to an amicable separation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in 1842. Various other buildings were used by the German congregation until the present church was constructed in 1886.

Over the years, the German congregation moved from the area which is now largely a black neighborhood. The church was acquired by the Tabernacle Baptist congregation in 1967 and once again is an integral and important component of the neighborhood community.

Although the Tabernacle Baptist Church does not compare in style or grandeur to the large uptown churches of Harrisburg, it does possess a sophistication in design which is uncommon in the area's small churches. The church is an excellent example of 19th century Victorian architecture. Of particular note is the fine brick work. Greek-key frets accentuate the upper level of the bell tower and brick corbeling is located on the gables and cornices. The stained glass windows are original and reflect the church's origins in their German inscriptions and dedications.

The church is located in a neighborhood of small 19th century residences of a very modest nature. It's architectural style has made it a local landmark as well as a religious and social focal point. The present congregation has undertaken a general refurbishing of the building in conjunction with a local urban renewal program.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

UTM REFERENCES

A	_____	_____	_____	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

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

William K. Watson, Historic Sites Survey June, 1975

ORGANIZATION

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

DATE

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:

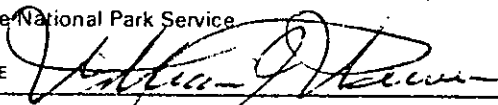
NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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



TITLE Executive Director, PA Historical & Museum Commission

DATE July 7, 1975

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

V E R

300
Sheets 1



17'30" 46 Old Uptown Harrisburg Hist. Dist.

11 Tabernacle Baptist church

461 PENNBROOK 1.9 MI.

460

45 PENNBROOK 1.9 MI. TO INTERSTATE 76 29 MI. TO INTERSTATE 76

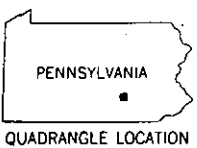
4458000m.N.

0.3 MI. TO INT. 83

40° 15' 76° 52' 30"

INTERIOR-GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. - 1972 340000m.E

1 MILE



- ROAD CLASSIFICATION
- Primary highway, hard surface
 - Secondary highway, hard surface
 - Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
 - Unimproved road
 - Interstate Route
 - U. S. Route
 - State Route

HARRISBURG WEST, PA. (2 QUADS)
 SW/4 HARRISBURG 15' QUADRANGLE
 N4015—W7652.5/7.5

1969

AMS 5664 IV SW—SERIES V831

(STELTON) 5664 III NE