## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES MYENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE.

The Allegheny Baptist Church is a one story frame structure, rectangular in form with a square tower. Its clean lines follow the classical revival style and the pleasing tower adds a sense of harmony. The front of this church faces south and is approached by four steps of cut stone to the wide central entranceway. On each side of this wide entrance is a flat pilaster 12'6" in height, 1'10" in width with a plain moulding cap 8 3/8 high. Each corner of the church is ornamented by plain pilasters 14'6" height matching those on the entrance. The opening of the entrance is 12'6" wide and 10'8" high.

The exterior of the church is covered with white pine lap siding. The foundation is cut sandstone. The church is three bays by four with windows of four over four.

The entrance is surmounted by a plain molding and the entire front of the church is surrmounted by a plain wooden frieze. On each side of the double doors in the recess is a vertical panel, being of about 2/3 height of the doors. To the east and west of the recess in the doorway is placed a small door.

The belfry is placed near the front of the roof and rises about 22' above it. It has a wooden base which is 3' high, surmounted by plain moulding which in turn is surmounted by the body of the tower. Each corner of the tower has plain pilasters. These enclose louvered rectangular windows topped by circular mouldings. The peaked roof is topped by a lightining rod.

The interior is simple being only one large room. The pulpit platform in the front of the church is 8' wide and 12' long.



| PERIOD              | * * * AR               | REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CF | IECK WAND TORUS HELDAN |                     |
|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| PREHISTORIC         | ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | COMMUNITY PLANNING      | LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | X_RELIGION          |
| 1400-1499           | ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC    | CONSERVATION            | LAW                    | SCIENCE             |
| _1500-1599          | _AGRICULTURE           | ECONOMICS               | LITERATURE             | SCULPTURE           |
| 1600-1699           | *ARCHITECTURE          | EDUCATION               | MILITARY               | SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| 1700-1799           | ART                    | ENGINEERING             | MUSIC                  | THEATER .           |
| <b>_35</b> 800-1899 | COMMERCE               | EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT  | PHILOSOPHY             | TRANSPORTATION      |
| 1900-               | COMMUNICATIONS         | INDUSTRY                | POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    | OTHER (SPECIFY)     |
|                     |                        | INVENTION               |                        |                     |
| SPECIFIC DAT        | ES 1847 - 49           | BUILDER/ARCI            | HITECT                 |                     |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Aaron Benedict, from Stockbridge, Massachuestts, was a zealous adherent of the Allegheny Baptist Church and started an organization of the society in the village of Pleasantville. John Tenant and wife, Mrs. David Copeland, Aaron Bendict and wife and Mrs. Ira B. West were first members in the new congregation. The building was constructed between August 21, 1847 and January 6, 1849 when the church was dedicated.

The Baptist organization continued until 1890 although their last paster retired in 1879. Following 1890 the building was obtained by the Free Methodist congregation.

The architect for the church was Mamley Colton Beebe.

The Allegheny Baptist Church of Pleasantville is an excellent example of a simple Greek Revival structure little altered since its construction in 1847-49.

## MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Historic American ilding Survey. Pennsylvania Pa. 52

Historical Album of Venango County, 1805-1955, p. 40.

Statz, Charles M. The Architectural Heritage of Western Pennsylvania. Pittsburgh: Univ. of Phg. Press, 1936, p. 217, 246.

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