

ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS AND HERITAGE NOMINATION FORM

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY - DATE ADDED:

1. NAME

Historic: Blountsville Baptist Church
and/or Common: _____

2. LOCATION

Street & Number: 270 College St.
City, Town: Blountsville
State: AL County: Blount

---Vicinity of: _____
Zip: 35031-

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"/> Commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> Educational
<input type="checkbox"/> Site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> In process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> Government
	<input type="checkbox"/> Being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Military
			<input type="checkbox"/> Museum
			<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: Blountsville Baptist Church
Street & Number: P. O. Box 280
City or Town: Blountsville State: AL
Email Address: _____

Telephone: () - _____
Zip: 35031-

5. FLOOR PLAN & SITE PLAN

(Attach sketched floor plan and/or site plan.)

6. DESCRIPTION

(See attached instructions for specific guidelines on completing the description.)

CONDITION

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed |

CHECK ONE CHECK ONE

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Altered | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved Date Moved |

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

The Blountsville Baptist Church is a T-shaped one-story brick veneer church building with a cross gable composition shingle roof. All elevations are finished with red/orange brick set in stretcher bond. The building faces east and has a three by five bay core with a perpendicular two-story rear wing that extends one bay to the south and five bays to the north of the core. A modern L-shaped activity building addition was constructed to the south of the rear wing in 1992. The projecting center bay of the façade has a gable parapet with a decorative corbelled cornice and a tall arched opening. The arch is constructed of sandstone and buff-colored brick and recesses back into the façade in three steps and enframes a large round stained glass window and a modern anodized aluminum frame entrance. The spandrel between the window and entrance is faced with red/orange brick set in a herringbone patterns with diamond-shaped stone inserts. A sandstone lintel above the door is flanked by cast stone stylized Norman style capitals at each of the steps in the arch. The outer bays of the façade also have decorative corbelled cornices and each has a single tall, narrow window with green stained glass.

The south elevation has an entrance at its eastern bay and four windows at its western bays, all of which are set within round arched openings. The entrance is flanked by buff-colored brick pilasters with capitals similar to those at the façade. The entrance arch has a stone and buff-colored brick arch and a stone tympanum. The entrance door and frame are modern anodized aluminum replacements. Buff-colored arches and frames and stone sills enclose the window openings that extend almost the full height of the elevation. Each of the multi-light metal-framed windows is glazed with stained glass. The north elevation is similar to the south elevation. The first floor of the exposed southern bay of the rear wing has an entrance similar to that of the south elevation but wider and slightly more elaborate in design. A single six-over-six light window is centered above the entrance at the second floor level. The modern activity building addition extends to the south of the rear wing and is architecturally compatible with the church. The three southern bays of the addition project slightly under a front-facing gable roof and the face of the northern bay is flush with the rear wing under a side gable roof. The three southern bays have tall arches of contrasting tan-colored brick enframing rectangular six-over-six windows at the lower level and arched six-over-six windows with transoms at the upper level. The spandrel between the windows is finished with red/orange brick set in a herringbone pattern. The east bay of the addition has a recessed entrance at its lower level with a single six-over-six window at the upper level. The northern bays of the rear wing are similar to the southern bay, with an entrance at the southern bay flanked by similar six-over-six windows. The north elevation of the wing has a single entrance at its eastern bay with a plain metal door and is accessed by a set of brick steps. Remaining bays have windows similar to the east elevation. The west elevation of the rear wing is similar to its north elevation and has a similar entrance at its fourth bay and similar windows in remaining bays. A flat metal canopy wraps the lower level of north and west elevations of the addition.

The interior plan consists of a large sanctuary with a lobby to the east and offices and classrooms within the rear wing to the west. The sanctuary has a balcony to the east and a dais, pulpit, and baptistry to the west. A series of laminated wood perpendicular arches support a timber roof. Walls are finished with smooth plaster and the floor is carpeted.

The building retains its overall historic design and appearance and continues to function for its original congregation. Alterations have included the replacement the entrance doors. The building is in generally good condition.

7. SIGNIFICANCE

(See attached instructions for specific guidelines on completing the significance.)

PERIOD

- Prehistoric
- 1400-1499
- 1500-1599
- 1600-1699
- 1700-1799
- 1800-1899
- 1900-

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE-CHECK AND EXPLAIN BELOW

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific |
| <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> social history |
| <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> funerary art | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | |

SPECIFIC DATES: 1956

BUILDER/ARCHITECT: Martin J. Lide

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Blountsville Baptist Church is architecturally significant as an example of a mid-twentieth century church, the design of which was based on a stylistic interpretation of the Perpendicular style of church architecture by Birmingham architect Martin J. Lide. The building was constructed in 1956 and continues to serve its original congregation.

The History of Blountsville Baptist Church
Billie Ann Standridge, Church Historian

The earliest known record of the Blountsville Baptist Church is a deed, dated July 26, 1859, made by the executors of the estate of John Fowler. This deed grants "rights and title" to the lot of land where on the meeting house of the aforesaid Baptist Church in said town now stands. The deed states that this land and building were given by John Fowler in his lifetime to the Baptist Church to occupy the basement floor and the Masonic Lodge to occupy the upper floor. John Fowler died in 1849 so it is assumed this church was meeting prior to 1849. The property is where the Masonic Lodge now stands. It was deeded to the lodge in 1903.

Minutes from the Warrior River Baptist Association in 1893 and 1894 show the pastor at Blountsville to be H. W. Head and the church clerk was C. Turner. The Warrior River Baptist Association was organized about 1858 and in 1906 the name was changed to Blount County Baptist Association. Minutes from 1900 show W. H. Absher as pastor with R. B. Sims as church clerk. The church had 89 members.

About 1903-1905 the church was moved across to the opposite corner where the building was built that had the double front stairs. The stairs caused problems because it was very difficult to carry a casket into the church. Another problem was the fact that water rose in the basement. However, the church remained on that location for about fifty years.

During that time many important things occurred in the life of the church. The first annual session of the Blount County Women's Missionary Union was held at Blountsville Baptist Church in 1912. Blountsville appears to have begun having two preaching Sunday's per month about 1912. Sometime after 1940, the church employed a full time minister. In 1927 the church adopted the BYPU and the Co-operative program. In November 1922 a committee was appointed to have electric lights installed in the building.

In March 1950 a building committee was appointed to make plans for a new building. By 1952 the church had begun a building fund by "membership canvass," raising, picking and selling cotton, programs and dinners. The church moved into the new building April 22, 1956, It had been constructed at a cost of \$70,000 but only \$20,000 was owed at the time of completion. Much volunteer labor was used in the actual construction.

In 1956 the Blount County Baptist Association split and the Friendship Missionary Baptist Association was formed. Blountsville Baptist Church was an active participant in the new association. Indeed the first annual meeting of the Friendship Association was held at Blountsville Baptist Church in September 1956. The organizational meeting had been held at Cleveland Baptist Church on November 29, 1955.

On September 28, 1991 ground was broken for a new addition to our building, including kitchen, dining room, restrooms and Sunday school space upstairs. This portion was completed at a cost of \$175,000 and the church remains debt free. Many members of the church gave generously of their time and money to make this possible. A great amount of the labor was done by volunteers and the furniture and appliances in the kitchen and dining room were donated by various members and friends of the church. The building was completed in May of 1992.

Architecture
David B. Schneider

The Blountsville Baptist Church is a mid-twentieth century stylistic interpretation of the Perpendicular style of church architecture. Designed by Birmingham architect Martin J. Lide, the stylistic embellishments include the archway at the building's façade with its interpreted Norman style pilaster capitals and the perpendicular laminated arches found in the sanctuary.

8. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Davis, Jr., Robert Scott. A Blountsville Picture Book. Blountsville, AL: Blountsville Historical Society. 1999.
Heritage of Blount County. Oneonta, AL: Blount County Historical Society. 1989.
Heritage of Blount County Alabama. Clanton, Alabama: Heritage Publishing Consultants, Inc., 1999
Powell, George. Blount County, Glimpses of the Past. Oneonta, AL: Junior Blount County Historical Society. 1981.
Rogers, William Warren, et. al. Alabama: The History of a Deep South State. Tuscaloosa, AL: University of Alabama Press, 1994.
Standridge, Billie Ann. "The History of Blountsville Baptist Church."

9. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreage of nominated property: <1
Quadrangle name: Blountsville

Enclose map showing location of property. (city or county map, state highway department map, or USGS map)

10. FORM PREPARED BY

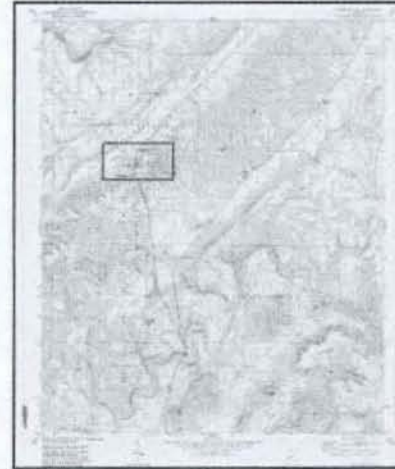
Name/title: David B. Schneider (assisted by members of the Blountsville Historical Comm.)
Organization: Schneider Historic Preservation, LLC Date: August 5, 2007
Street & Number: 411 East 6th Street Telephone: (256) 310-6320
City or Town: Anniston State: AL Zip: 36207-
Email Address: dbschneider@bellsouth.net

11. PLEASE SUBMIT COLOR IMAGES OF THE PROPERTY WITH THIS FORM:

Images are essential to the review process. They can be 4x6 color prints or digital images on a CD. Please see the "Instructions for Completing an AR Form" for more details on images or contact the AHC at 334.230.2687.

Topo Map

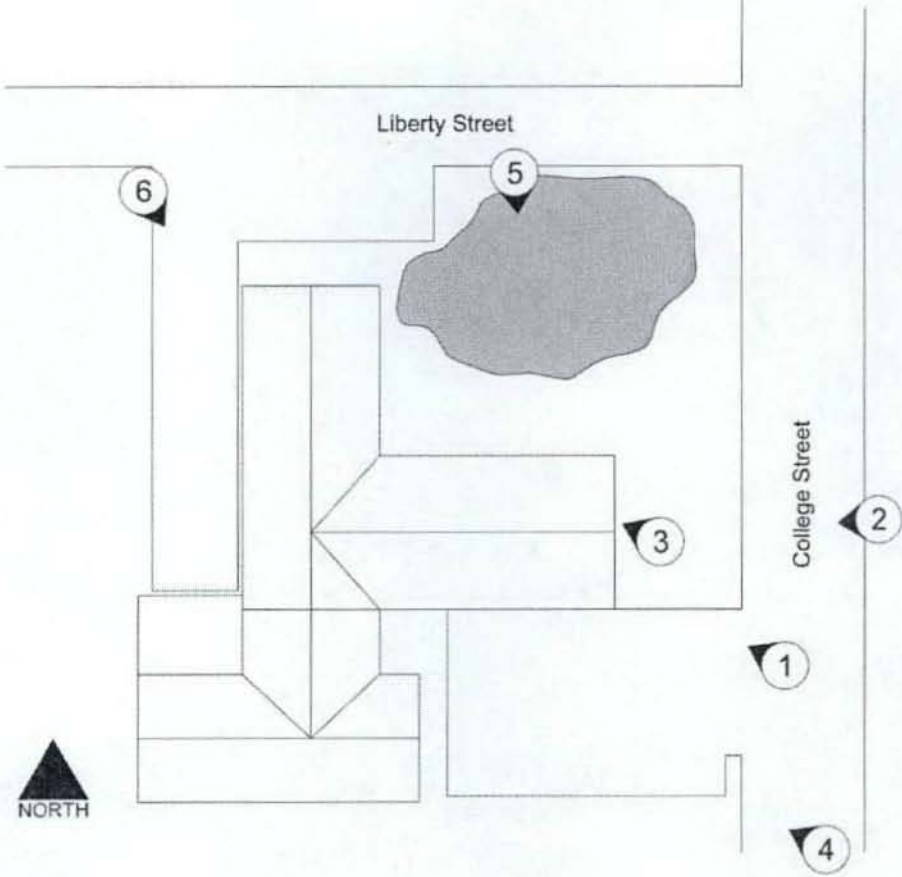
General Location Maps



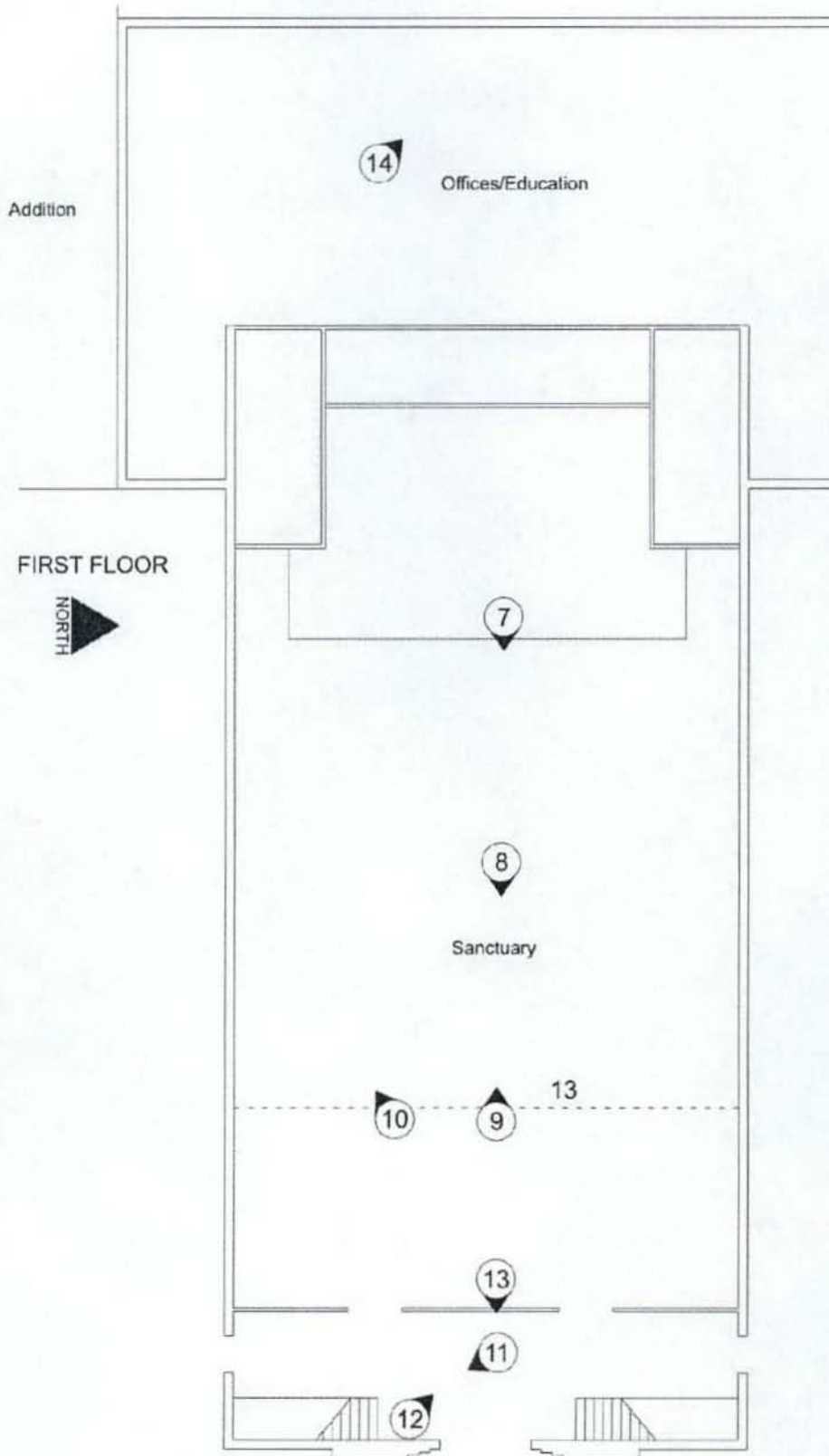
Blountsville Quadrangle
16 / 537841 E / 3771192 N
Created 1969, Revised 1986



Siteplan
(Not to Scale)



Floorplan Sketch
(Not to Scale)



Photographs:

1. Blountsville Baptist Church
2. Blountsville, Blount County, AL
3. David B. Schneider, Schneider Historic Preservation, LLC
4. July 2007
5. 411 E. 6th St., Anniston AL 36207
6. Exterior, east façade (right) and south elevation, camera facing northeast
7. Photo #01

6. Exterior, east facade, camera facing west
7. Photo #02

6. Exterior, east façade, detail
7. Photo #03

6. Exterior, east façade, detail
7. Photo #04

6. Exterior, east façade, detail
7. Photo #05

6. Exterior, east façade, detail
7. Photo #06

6. Interior, 1st floor, sanctuary, camera facing east
7. Photo #07

6. Interior, 1st floor, sanctuary, camera facing east
7. Photo #8

6. Interior, 1st floor, sanctuary, camera facing west
7. Photo #09

6. Interior, 1st floor, sanctuary, camera facing southwest
7. Photo #10

6. Interior, lobby, camera facing southeast
7. Photo #11

6. Interior, lobby, camera facing northwest
7. Photo #12

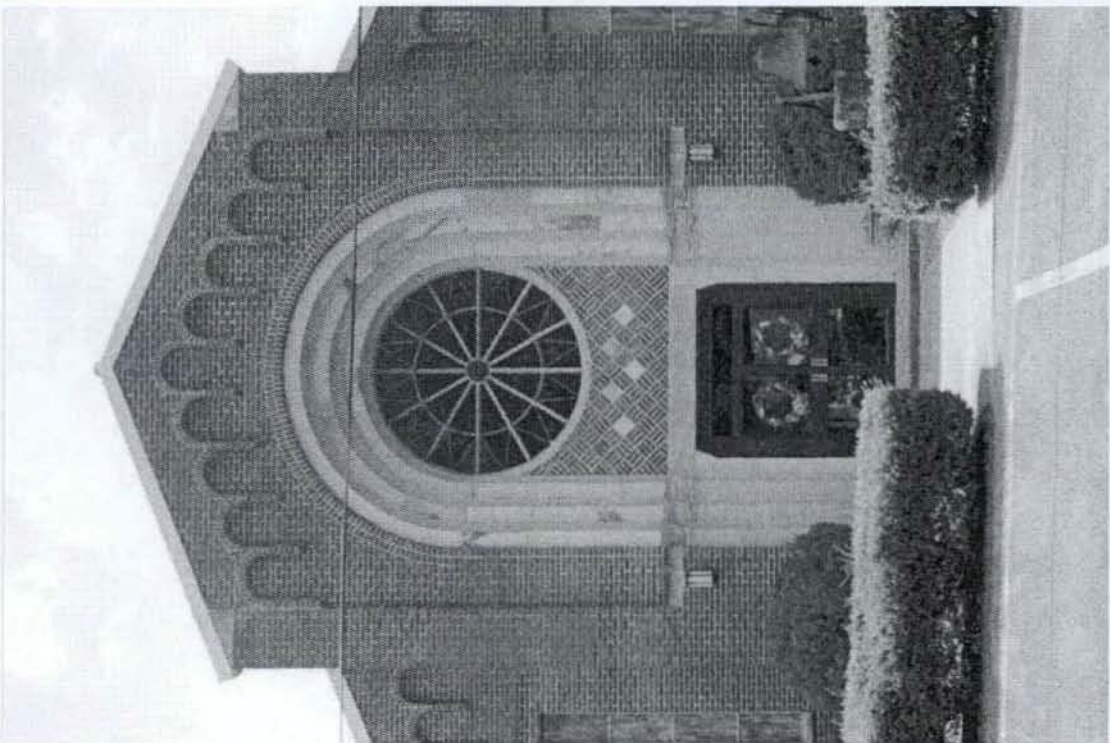
6. Interior, lobby, detail of stained glass window, facing east
7. Photo #13

6. Interior, classroom at rear wing, camera facing northwest
7. Photo #14

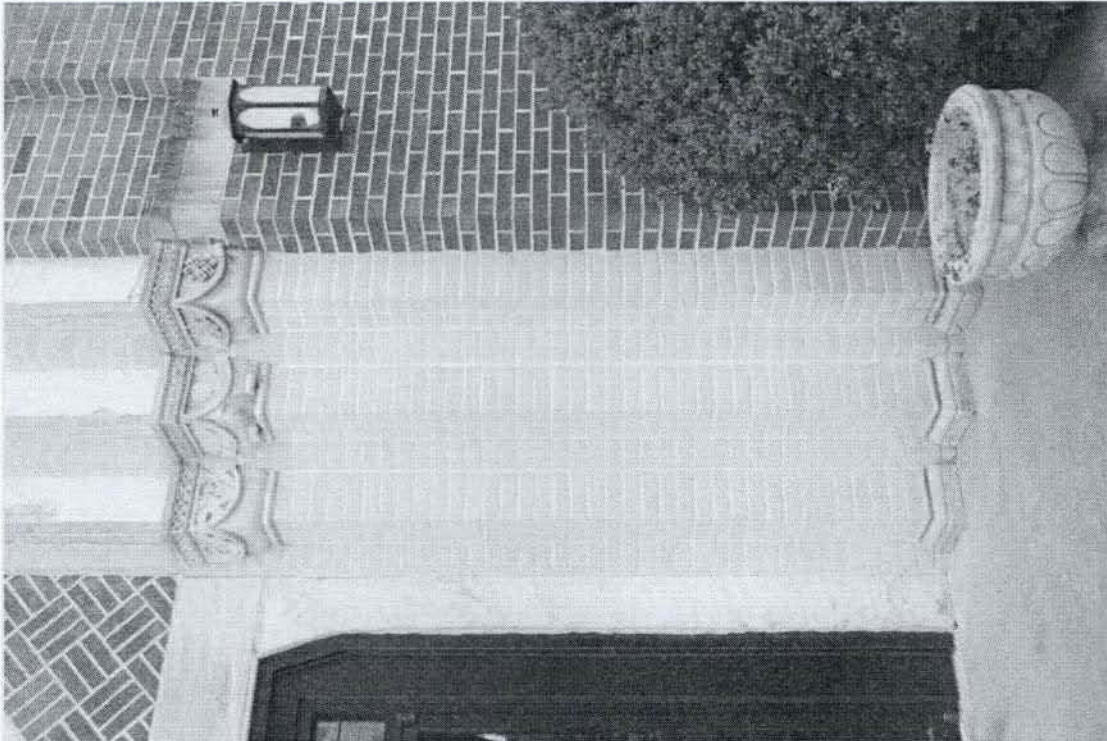
6. Artist's rendering, circa 1952
7. Photo #15



6. Exterior, east façade (right) and south elevation, camera facing northeast
7. Photo #01



6. Exterior, east facade, camera facing west
7. Photo #02



6. Exterior, east façade, detail
7. Photo #03



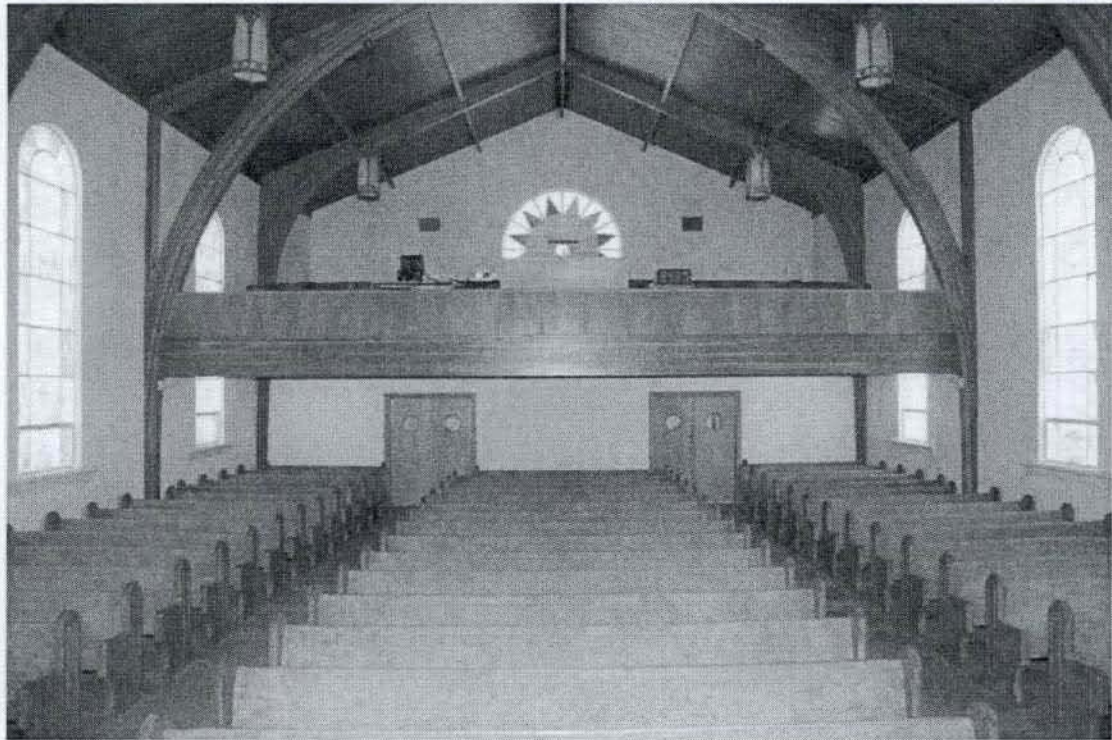
6. Exterior, east façade, detail
7. Photo #04



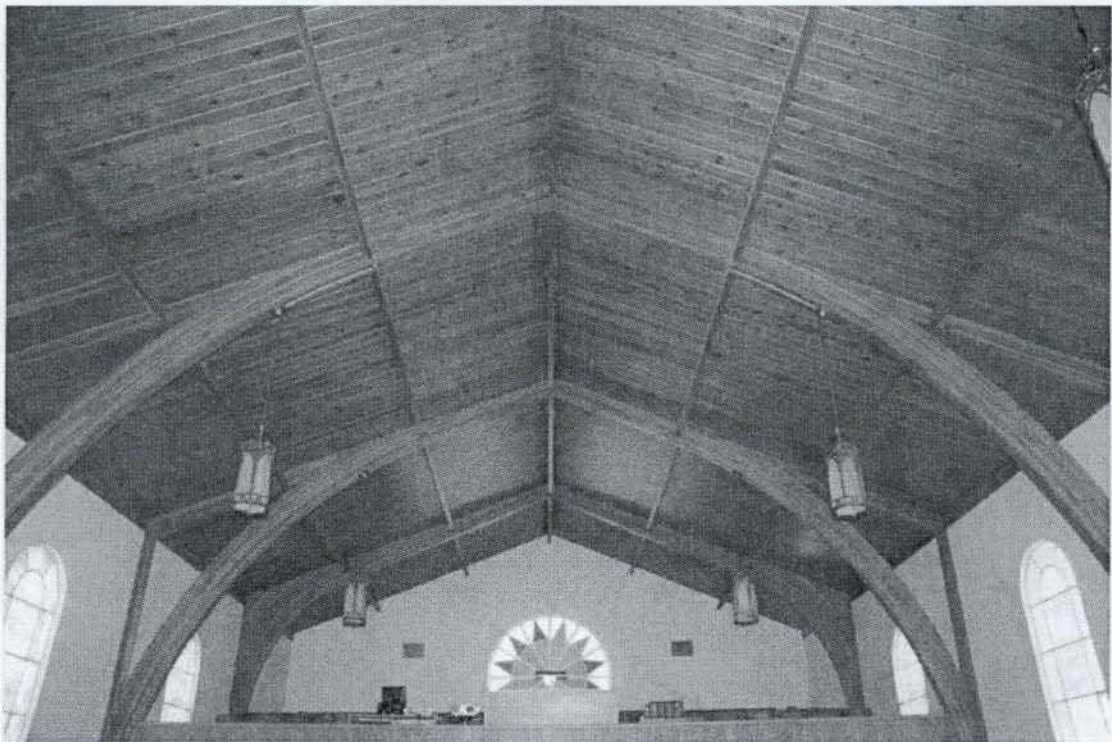
6. Exterior, east façade, detail
7. Photo #05



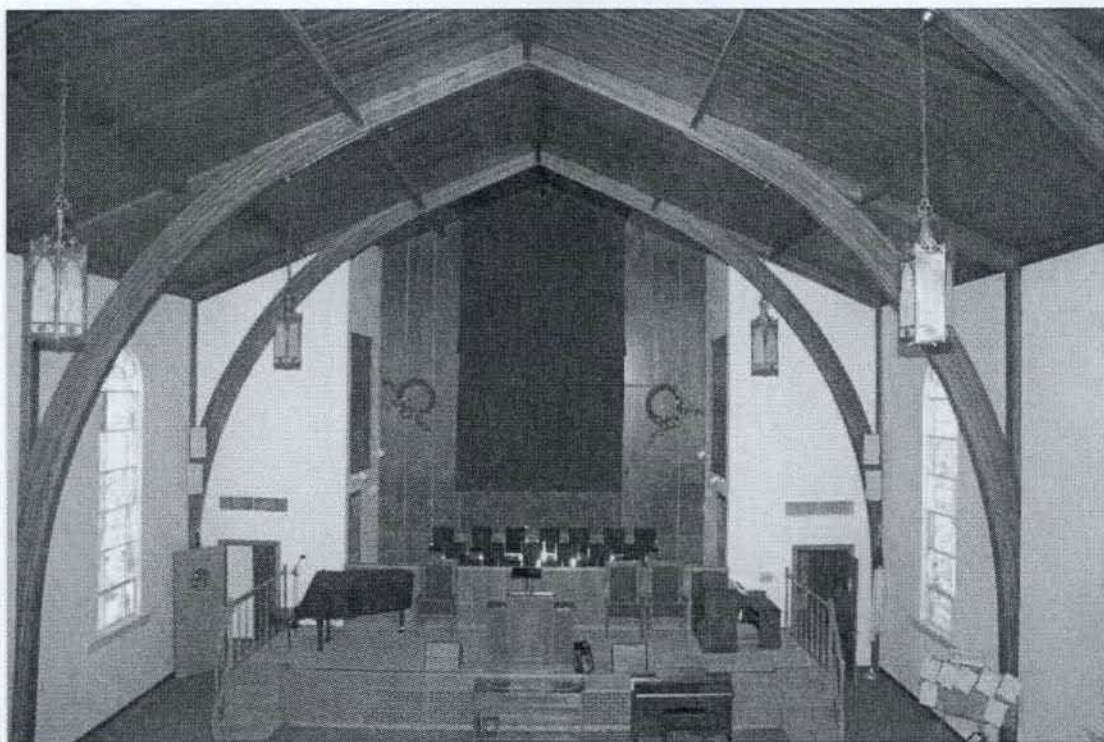
6. Exterior, east façade, detail
7. Photo #06



6. Interior, 1st floor, sanctuary, camera facing east
7. Photo #07



6. Interior, 1st floor, sanctuary, camera facing east
7. Photo #8



6. Interior, 1st floor, sanctuary, camera facing west
7. Photo #09



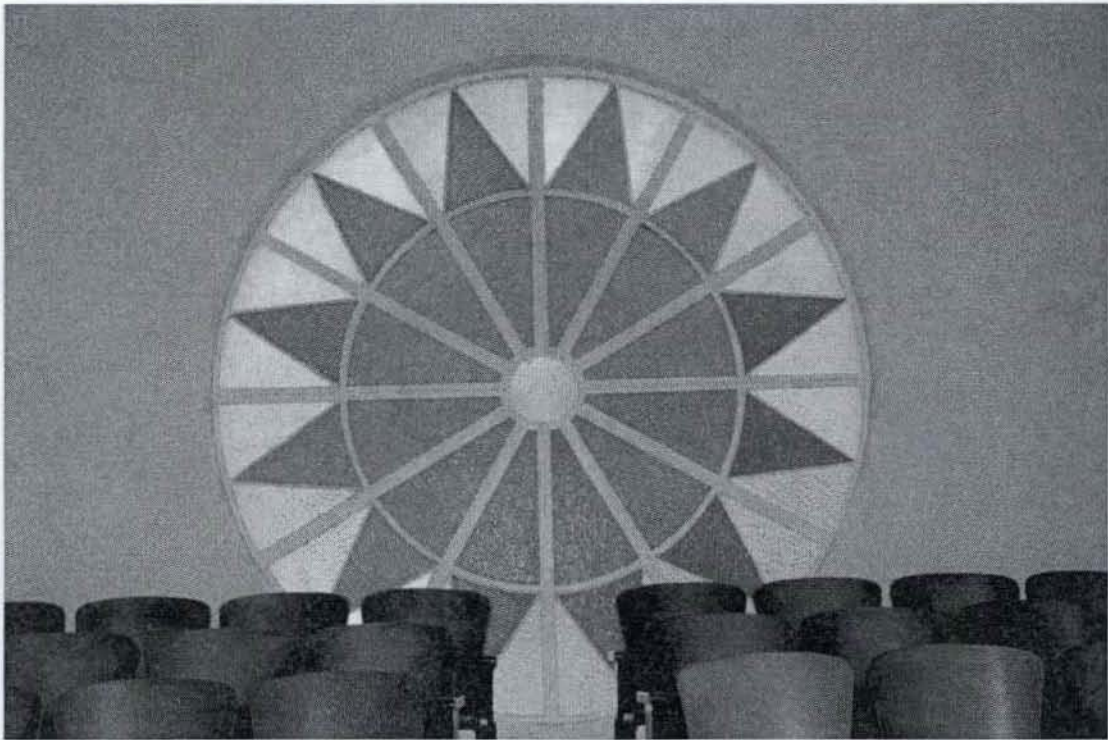
6. Interior, 1st floor, sanctuary, camera facing southwest
7. Photo #10



6. Interior, lobby, camera facing southeast
7. Photo #11



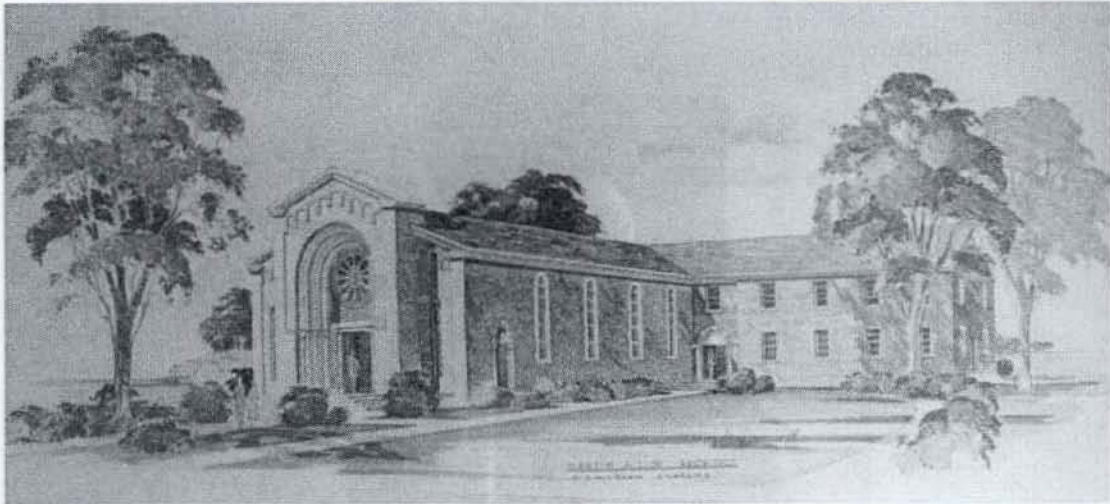
6. Interior, lobby, camera facing northwest
7. Photo #12



6. Interior, lobby, detail of stained glass window, facing east
7. Photo #13



6. Interior, classroom at rear wing, camera facing northwest
7. Photo #14



- 6. Artist's rendering, circa 1952
- 7. Photo #15