

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 First Presbyterian Church

AND/OR COMMON Rock Church

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER 212 East North Street

CITY, TOWN

Marshall

VICINITY OF

#4 - Hon. William J. Randall

STATE

Missouri 65340

CODE 29

COUNTY Saline

CODE 195

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

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Members of the First Presbyterian Church

STREET & NUMBER 212 East North Street

CITY, TOWN

Marshall

VICINITY OF

STATE

Missouri 65340

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Office of Recorder of Deeds, Saline County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Marshall

STATE

Missouri 65340

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE Missouri State Historical Survey

DATE

1975

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Department of Natural Resources, P. O. Box 176

CITY, TOWN

Jefferson City

STATE

Missouri 65101

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

---

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

The First Presbyterian Church, 212 East North Street, Marshall, Missouri, is an irregular-plan, one-story, Early Gothic Revival design building facing north. There is a bell tower at the northwest corner of the building, an annex to the east and another addition to the south. The over-all dimensions of the building are 103 feet, north-south, and 74'6" east-west, including the 35 foot east wing. The tower is 42 feet high with a shallow cornice topped by crenelation.

The exterior walls are yellowed local sandstone, 22 inches thick, laid up in broken ashlar with buttresses. The wall surface is rough and the beds and joints of the stones are hammered. All window and door sills are cut, white limestone.

The east and west walls of the auditorium have four pointed arch windows which are 4'7" wide at the sills and 10 feet high and equally spaced along the walls. Each window is divided by a mullion into two, pointed arch openings with a trefoil window centered above. The north end of the east wall has a fifth, smaller, pointed arch window. The windows have geometrically patterned stained glass.

Centered above the northern main entranceway is one large pointed arch window, similar to the side windows, except it is larger and has a quatrefoil opening at the top. To the east of this doorway is a small, pointed arch window.

The double-leafed front entrance occupies an almost Tudor-arched opening. A secondary doorway, also in a Gothic-arched opening, is centered on the north face of the corner tower. The entrance doors are glazed with clear leaded glass. The transoms above these doors are wood paneled with quatrefoil motifs in relief.

Louvered, pointed arch openings occur in the upper portion of the bell tower on all four sides. On the north and west sides of the tower there is a round window approximately half-way up the height of the tower. The west side has a small, leaded glass, pointed arch window on the first story level.

The east and south additions have a similar Gothic Revival design--the east addition being of stone construction matching the original building and the south addition being of stuccoed masonry construction. All additions have the same Gothic arched openings as the original portion of the building. The east wing also has stone buttresses making this most visible addition a harmonious unit with the original building.

The steeply pitched gable roof is surfaced with asphalt shingles. A double-flue chimney is located at the southeast corner of the original building. One flue is constructed of sandstone, the other of stuccoed brick. Both flues have chimney pots. These chimneys serve the heating system--one furnace under the auditorium and another under the east addition. In the basement the stone and brick foundations are partially reinforced with concrete.

On the interior the two north entrances give access to a 10 foot wide vestibule.

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MARSHALL, MO.

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Condition and Status

The church building is presently in excellent physical condition. No repairs are currently needed. The membership appreciates its historic church building and wants to take measures--such as securing National Register enrollment--to insure that the church is recognized and preserved.

Site

East North Street parallels the church property to the north and Bell Avenue parallels the property to the east. A parking lot is located south of the property. Neighboring buildings include the 1904 parsonage and a filling station located to the west. Across the street to the north are two small cottages, which the church purchased several years ago to provide a protective buffer zone for its property, and a lumber yard. The parsonage, being of later date and altered, is not being included in the nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

FOOTNOTES

1. John R. Hall, Mrs. J. C. Egan, Mr. and Mrs. William Elder, editors, History of Saline County (Marceline, Missouri: Walsworth Publishing Co., 1967), p. 117.
2. Session Records, First Presbyterian Church, Marshall, Mo., April 3, 1927.
3. John R. Hall, et al., op. cit., p. 117.
4. The Democrat-News [Marshall, Missouri], June 5, 1971, p. 1.
5. Ibid.

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At the east end of the vestibule there is a stairway leading to the balcony which is the same size as the vestibule. A stairway from the balcony gives access to the bell tower.

The auditorium has a seating capacity of about 400. It is a large, high-ceilinged space featuring the nine art glass windows and the open timber, Gothic style truss work of the roof exposed below the ornate, pressed metal ceiling. The original pulpit, altar and oak pews are still in place. The woodwork, including the wainscoting and the balcony railing, is dark, varnished wood, some of it featuring the trefoil design in relief. The walls are mostly surfaced with ornate, pressed metal painted off-white.

Alterations

Much of the original integrity of the building remains intact. Major alterations include:

1. Replacement of the original wooden roof shingles with new cedar shingles.
2. A late 1890s addition to the south,<sup>1</sup> housing classrooms, kitchen and access to the basement.
3. A 1927 eastern addition<sup>2</sup> consisting of a classroom, pastor's study, "Little Chapel" and social hall. Extensive repairs to the building were also made at this time. This addition is mentioned in the 1967 county history as having been built from stone matching the stone of the original structure. The stone had been quarried for construction of a railroad culvert abutment, but when the proposed railroad failed to materialize the stone was left unused in a pile on a local farm. This material was retrieved for use in constructing the eastern ell and the stone does match the original structure.<sup>3</sup>
4. A wooden spire adding about 40 more feet to the height of the tower was removed in the 1890s.<sup>4</sup> This feature added significantly to the visual impressiveness of the building and should be reconstructed.
5. A stone finial atop the front gable wall is no longer in place.<sup>5</sup>
6. Also appearing in an old view of the church are small, dormer ventilators in the gable roof--one above each of the large Gothic windows. These are no longer present.
7. Changes have been made to the heating system, adding floor grates in the side aisles of the auditorium. An air conditioning system has been installed.

# 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 1871-1873 BUILDER/ARCHITECT John H. Maurice and Peter Dickinson, Architects, St. Louis

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Constructed in 1871-1873 the First Presbyterian Church, Marshall, Missouri, is significant for its architectural style, interior detailing and the degree of original integrity still intact. It is the oldest surviving church building in Marshall, Missouri.

In its locale the First Presbyterian Church building is a unique example of a cut stone church in the Early Gothic Revival style. The interior finishing of the walls in pressed metal is unusual in Saline County. The leaded glass windows were reputedly made by Hoptcroft and Krigle, Kansas City, Missouri.<sup>1</sup>

The congregation was organized in April, 1840, when the Missouri Presbytery met in Columbia and appointed a committee to organize Presbyterian churches at Marshall and Arrow Rock. The congregation initially met at the county courthouse. Then prior to 1860 William B. Sappington donated a lot to the church "and another was purchased on the south side of the southeast corner of the public square, being a double corner lot, and, in 1860, a fine frame church building, 40 x 90 feet in size, and costing about \$2,500, was built...."

The life of the church was disrupted by the Civil War. During the "Marshall fight" in 1863 a cannonball of General Joseph O. Shelby's troops went through the building and another struck it. This earlier church building was commandeered by the U. S. soldiers who used it for a barracks and stables. Then in 1864 the county courthouse burned and the county court took over the Presbyterian church building as a courthouse. From December, 1866, the building was also used by the board of education as a school. During these years the congregation ceased to meet regularly for worship.

After the completion of the new county courthouse in 1868 the church property was returned to the elders, but in the years of hard use by troops, the county and the school, it had become "quite dilapidated." The building was repaired but shortly thereafter the congregation decided to sell it.

The congregation then began to meet again in a local meeting room, "Flynn's Hall," and grow in number. In about 1871 the decision was made to build a new church of more substantial building materials and at that time the Gothic Revival design in stone was selected and construction on the new church building began.<sup>2</sup> The cost of the new building was about \$8,000.<sup>3</sup>

A contemporary account published in the local newspaper reports that the architects for the new church building were Maurice and Dickinson of St. Louis.<sup>4</sup>

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John H. Maurice and Peter Dickinson, Architects, 111 N. 7th Street, St. Louis, Missouri, are listed in the St. Louis city directories for 1872-1876. In 1878 John H. Maurice is listed alone and his firm continued to be listed in the directory into the mid 1880s.<sup>5</sup> Maurice is described as a "prominent architect..." by Walter B. Stevens in his publication on St. Louis history.<sup>6</sup>

Edward Dance was the contractor for the stone building and J. W. Thompson was the mason.<sup>7</sup> The stone for the church was quarried on the property of R. H. Hawpe near Marshall.<sup>8</sup>

A history of the church was written in 1906 by J. L. Woodbridge, an elder in the congregation, giving biographical and professional information on the early pastors who have served the congregation.<sup>9</sup> The building has been in use since 1873 although it was not completely finished then. The dedication service was held on November 12, 1882 when the debt on the property was completely paid off.<sup>10</sup>

Through the years the congregation provided good maintenance for the building attesting to its present good state of repair. In 1971 the congregation observed a centennial celebration of the erection of its second church building.<sup>11</sup>

FOOTNOTES

1. Based on personal correspondence between Mrs. George W. Bagby, President, Friends of Arrow Rock, and M. Patricia Holmes, March 31, 1976.
2. John R. Hall, Mrs. J. C. Egan, Mr. and Mrs. William Elder, editors, History of Saline County (Marceline, Missouri: Walsworth Publishing Co., 1967), pp. 113-115.
3. History of Saline County, Missouri (St. Louis: Missouri Historical Company, 1881), p. 526.
4. Saline County Progress, December 22, 1871, p. 3.
5. Edwards' . . . annual directory to the . . . city of St. Louis (St. Louis, Missouri: Southern Publishing Company, 1870-1872 editions), passim. Gould's St. Louis City Directory (St. Louis: R. L. Polk, 1873-1876, 1878-1885, editions), passim.
6. Walter B. Stevens, St. Louis The Fourth City, 1764-1909 (St. Louis - Chicago: The S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1909), Vol. II, p. 822.

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7. Saline County Progress, December 22, 1871, p. 3.
8. Ibid.
9. J. L. Woodbridge, History of the Presbyterian Church in Saline County, Missouri (Marshall, Mo.: Democrat-News Printing Co., 1906), p. 33.
10. Ibid.
11. The Democrat-News [Marshall, Missouri], June 5, 1971, p. 1.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES**

1. Bagby, Mrs. George W., President, Friends of Arrow Rock. Personal correspondence with M. Patricia Holmes, March 31, 1976.
2. The Democrat-News [Marshall, Missouri], June 5, 1971.

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	15	483225	4329103	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 1. Mrs. George W. Bagby, president

ORGANIZATION Friends of Arrow Rock, Inc. DATE November 11, 1975

STREET & NUMBER 526 East Arrow Street TELEPHONE 816/886-6371

CITY OR TOWN Marshall STATE Missouri 65340

**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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Director, Department of Natural Resources and State Historic Preservation Officer DATE

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

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ITEM NUMBER 11 PAGE 1

2. M. Patricia Holmes  
Research Associate  
Office of Historic Preservation  
Department of Natural Resources  
P. O. Box 176  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

February 19, 1976  
314/751-4096

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3. Edwards'...annual directory to the...city of St. Louis. St. Louis, Missouri: Southern Publishing Company, 1870-1872 editions.
4. Gould's St. Louis City Directory. St. Louis: R. L. Polk, 1873-1876, 1878-1885 editions.
5. Hall, John R., Mrs. J. C. Egan, Mr. and Mrs. William Elder, editors. History of Saline County. Marceline, Missouri: Walsworth Publishing Co., 1967.
6. History of Saline County, Missouri. St. Louis: Missouri Historical Company, 1881.
7. Saline County Progress, December 22, 1871.
8. Session Records, First Presbyterian Church, Marshall, Mo., April 3, 1927.
9. Stevens, Walter B. St. Louis The Fourth City, 1764-1909. St. Louis-Chicago: The S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1909.
10. Woodbridge, J. L. History of the Presbyterian Church in Saline County, Missouri. Marshall, Mo.: Democrat-News Printing Co., 1906.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Marshall, Missouri  
UTM REFERENCES 15/483225/4329103  
USGS 15' Quadrangle "Marshall, Mo."  
1940 Scale: 1:62500

Form No. 10-301  
(Rev. 10-74)

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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HISTORIC First Presbyterian Church

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**2 LOCATION**

CITY, TOWN Marshall VICINITY OF COUNTY Saline STATE Missouri

**3 MAP REFERENCE**

SOURCE United States Geological Survey "Marshall, Mo." Quadrangle

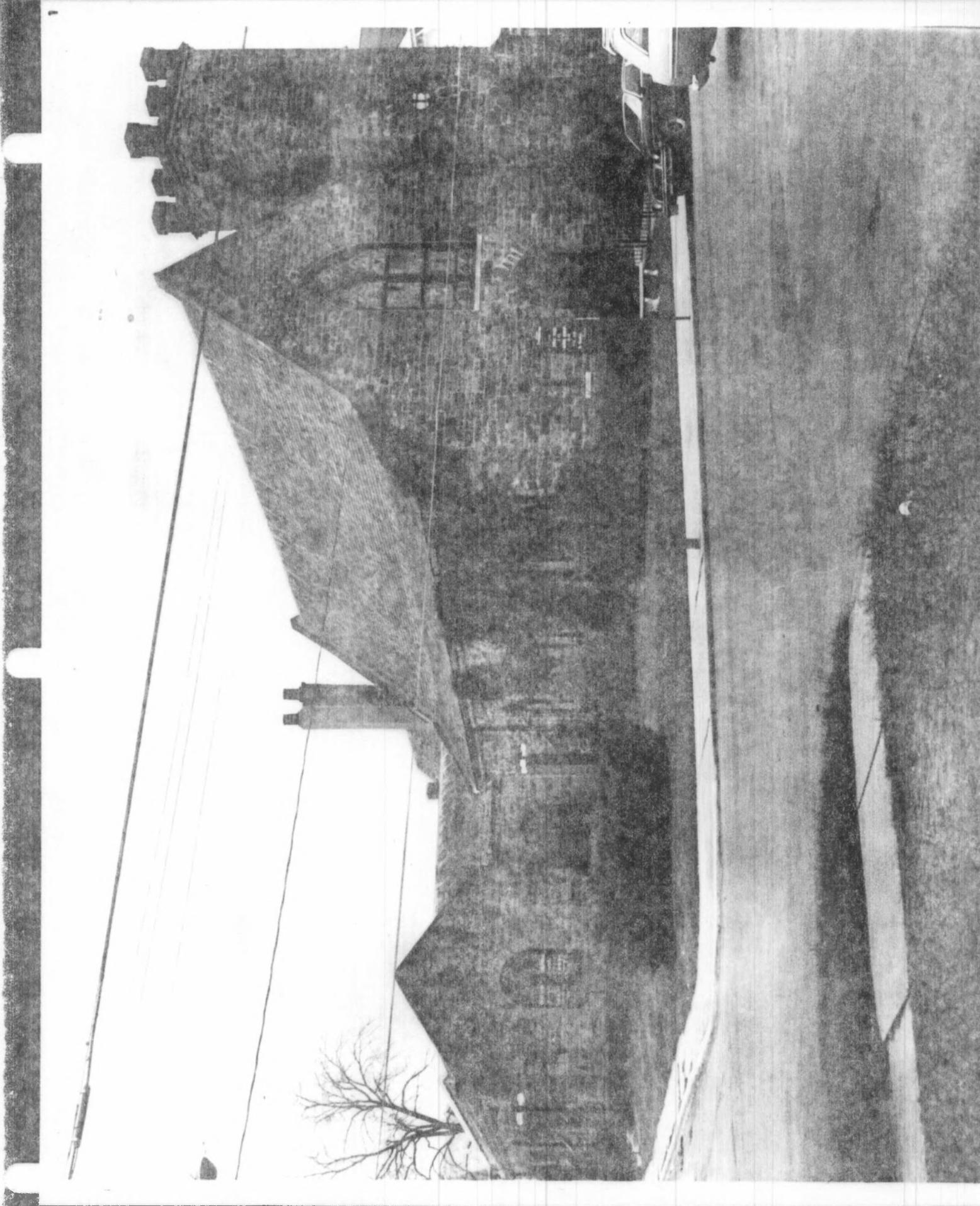
SCALE 1:62500 DATE 1940

**4 REQUIREMENTS**

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES

INT: 2986-75



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## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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HISTORIC

First Presbyterian Church

AND/OR COMMON

Rock Church

### 2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Marshall

—VICINITY OF

STATE Missouri

COUNTY Saline

### 3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Robert C. Gibbs

DATE OF PHOTO September, 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Robert C. Gibbs Studio, Marshall, Missouri 65340

### 4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

View from the northeast, looking southwest.

PHOTO NO. 1



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PHOTO CREDIT

Robert C. Gibbs

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Robert C. Gibbs Studio, Marshall, Missouri 65340

DATE OF PHOTO September, 1975

**4 IDENTIFICATION**

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

View from the southwest, looking northeast.

PHOTO NO. 2



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## 2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Marshall  
VICINITY OF

STATE Missouri COUNTY Saline

## 3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Robert C. Gibbs

NEGATIVE FILED AT Robert C. Gibbs Studio, Marshall, Missouri 65340

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Interior view of the east wall showing the pressed metal ornament  
and the Gothic style beams.

PHOTO NO. 3

