

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

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**1. Name of Property**

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historic name **Church of Christ**

other names/site number

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**2. Location**

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street & number **102 Main Street** \_\_\_\_\_ Not for publication

city or town **Perry** \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity

state **Illinois** code **IL** county **Pike** code **149** zip code **62362**

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**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this \_\_\_\_\_ nomination \_\_\_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property \_\_\_\_\_ meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_\_\_ statewide \_\_\_\_\_ locally. ( \_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Illinois Historic Preservation Agency**

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_\_\_ meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. ( \_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

\_\_\_\_\_  
American Indian Tribe

**Church of Christ**  
Name of Property

**Pike, IL**  
County and State

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**4. National Park Service Certification**

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I, hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other (explain):	_____	_____

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**5. Classification**

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Ownership of Property  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private  
 public-local  
 public-State  
 public-Federal

Category of Property  
(Check only one box)

- building(s)  
 district  
 site  
 structure  
 object

Number of Resources within Property  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>1</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>0</b> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>0</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>0</b> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>0</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>0</b> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>0</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>0</b> objects
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>1</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>0</b> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register **N/A**

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)  
**N/A**

**Church of Christ**  
Name of Property

**Pike, IL**  
County and State

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)  
**RELIGION/Religious facility**

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)  
**RELIGION/Religious facility**

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
**LATE VICTORIAN/Gothic**

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation **STONE/Limestone**

Roof **ASPHALT**

Walls **WOOD/Clapboard**

other **WOOD**

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Church of Christ**

Name of Property

**Pike, IL**

County and State

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**8. Statement of Significance**

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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

**ARCHITECTURE**

Period of Significance      **1880**

Significant Dates      **1880**

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)      **N/A**

Cultural Affiliation      **N/A**

Architect/Builder      **Shonen, E., Builder**

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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**Church of Christ**  
Name of Property

**Pike, IL**  
County and State

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.  
 previously listed in the National Register  
 previously determined eligible by the National Register  
 designated a National Historic Landmark  
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other

Name of repository

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**10. Geographical Data**

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Acreage of Property **Less than 1 acre**

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone Easting	Northing	Zone Easting	Northing
1	_____	_____	3	_____
2	_____	_____	4	_____

\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

Name of Property

County and State

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title **Kristine Camphouse**

organization

date **April 2006**

street & number **PO Box 5, 201 North Federal Street**

telephone **217/236-3038**

city or town **Perry**

state **IL**

zip code **62362**

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**Additional Documentation**

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Submit the following items with the completed form:  
Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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**Property Owner**

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(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name **Church of Christ, c/o Lori Berquist**

street & number **PO Box 145**

telephone

city or town **Perry**

state **IL**

zip code **62362**

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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Church of Christ, Pike County

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### **Narrative Description**

The Church of Christ building is located at 102 Main Street in Perry, Illinois, just one block east from the village's business district. The one-story, board-and-batten, Carpenter Gothic church sits slightly back from the street, southeast of the intersection of Cross and Main Streets. The plot of ground on which the building is situated is level so that the entire structure rests on the two-foot native limestone foundation. The stone is dressed on the east and north facing sides probably because those two sides have street exposure. The foundation was painted green c. 1957. The church is rectangular in plan and measures sixty-three by thirty-seven feet. From the top of the two-foot high limestone foundation, the sidewalls are thirteen feet tall. All the window and door openings have Gothic arches.

### **North Elevation**

The front (north) gable wall is dominated by the steeple that occupies the central seventeen feet of the wall. The steeple is divided in three vertical sections: tower, lantern, and spire. The tower projects three feet from the wall. At its base is an open blunt Gothic arch, which is seven feet wide at the base and twelve feet high at the peak. Arched paired doors with diagonal, three-inch beaded tongue and groove panels are recessed three feet, creating a protective hood above the twenty-one square foot landing at the top of seven concrete steps. Above the double doors is a filled blunt Gothic arch creating dimensions identical to the open arch. The corners are adorned with gable-topped pilasters. Within each cedar-shingled gable is a raised wood trefoil design. The east and west walls of the base each feature an arched one-and-one-half foot by seven-foot window with diamond-shaped lights that measure five-and-one-half inch by five-and-one-half inch outlined by blue stained-glass. The diamond-shaped lights are etched with floral patterns and the blue stained-glass lights have a repetitive geometric design. The light in the window peak is adorned by a red rose.

Directly above the entrance is a steeply pitched, asphalt shingled, false roof, which resembles a straight-sided mansard roof. It features scrolled brackets under the eaves and bargeboard within a steep gabled arch centered above the entry. A window is in the center of the front (north) wall.

A pent roof with a decorative frieze divides the tower from the lantern. Centered on each of the four sides of the lantern are louvered windows, each having wedding ring wood trim at the

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Church of Christ, Pike County

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bottom. The louvers are not original as revealed in an early photograph but were added c. 1945 to prevent birds nesting in the belfry. Small gabled dormers are centered above each louver.

The spire has a concave mansard roof that is the same height as the lantern. Decorative brackets are under the eaves. The roof does not peak but terminates in a gently sloped cap with eaves extending slightly beyond each of the four sides. A carved wood finial that is approximately four feet sets atop the spire. A bell that may have been used in the 1857 church building was cast in 1855 by the Meneely Corporation in Troy, New York, and remains in the bell house. A bell rope extends to the vestibule from where the bell can be rung.

Board-and-batten clad chimneystacks that mimic the steeple are located on the east and west gable wall corners. A small roof that resembles the spire caps each chimney. Presumably the wood chimneystacks are lined with brick because early photographs show brick chimneys extending several feet beyond the stack roofs. The exterior brick has been removed, as have the interior stoves that originally heated the church. Each flattop stove held a four-foot log and had a hollow horizontal cylinder above the firebox. A partial basement was dug and oil furnaces were installed in 1946 but later replaced with a gas furnace.

Two ten-foot by thirty-two inch windows are located in the front (north) gable wall mid—way between each chimney and the steeple. The upper sash features symmetrical fenestration and frosted geometric floral pattern dresses the four panes lower sash. Colored glass panes border each window.

**East and West Elevation**

The east and west elevations are identical and have four evenly spaced windows. All of the windows are identical to those in the north elevation.

**South Elevation**

A seventy-five by thirty—four inch single panel door is located in the southeast corner of the wall. The spandrel above the door has wood divisions that resemble tracery. The total door and arch height is eight feet and ten inches from floor to peak. Two windows, evenly spaced in the back (south wall), are identical to those in the north, east, and west elevations.



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Church of Christ, Pike County

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**Interior**

The interior has the original 1" x 6" pine flooring and plaster walls. All four walls have 32" faux grained, beaded, tongue and groove wainscoting finished with a double round chair rail. The four walls were originally painted white and stenciled at the top but are presently papered. The paper is peeling and moldy in the upper southwest and northwest corners due to failing flashing and roofing.

The front (north) central double doors open into the vestibule where there are small closets in the northwest and northeast corners. The northwest closet houses a hand pump situated over a well and, also, a ladder that accesses the attic and bell tower. The northeast closet is a broom closet. Directly opposite the exterior doors are arched, paneled double doors that open to the sanctuary. The doors were originally clad with black fabric; the fabric has since been replaced with plywood. A central aisle leads to the raised platform on which the lectern is situated. Also on the platform are two matching chairs and a bench framed in dark wood, cushioned with excelsior and upholstered with horsehair fabric. Both the lectern and settee are probably original furnishings. A trap door in the platform floor opens to the baptistery which has not been recently used because it leaks. The simple pulpit centered interior is also accessed through single doors on the east and west vestibule walls. On both sides of the central aisle are fifteen rows of pews. Each pew consists of two joined seven-foot sections, slightly angled at the center. The seat and back of each are constructed of 1" x 12" clear pine lumber, which is painted white. Rounded walnut molding accents the top of all the pews. The reverse of each back is faux grained and varnished as are the pew ends and legs, which are cut from one piece. Each pew arm is curved walnut and has a decorative carved shield on the outer end. There are aisles between the pew and the side (north and south) walls.

**Integrity**

The Church of Christ building has sufficient integrity for listing in the National Register. The church looks the same as it did since its construction. Outside of the chimney extensions, the only other exterior change occurred in 1981 when twenty-one panes of the original glass were broken during a hailstorm and replaced with translucent glass. An early photograph reveals that the board-and-batten siding was originally painted light gray and the trim painted darker gray. This scheme was intended to emulate the limestone with which Gothic-style cathedrals were historically constructed. A picture postcard message dated 1913 shows that the church building has been painted entirely white since, at least, the beginning of the twentieth century. The

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building was most recently painted in 1981, but the paint is failing badly and in some places the original gray color is revealed.

On the interior, the original pressed tin ceiling remains in place but is covered by a track ceiling that was installed in 1987 as were ceiling fans and new chandeliers. The original oil lamps along the sidewalls and two hanging chandeliers are intact. Other interior changes include partitioned Sunday school rooms in the northeast and northwest corners. The partitions are studded eight-foot corrugated fiberglass walls that can be removed without damaging any original material. Bathrooms and running water which were installed in 1961 and interior louvered window shutters that were recently added. The changes to the church since its construction are minimal and have not affected its integrity.

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Church of Christ, Pike County

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**Statement of Significance**

The Church of Christ building is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for architecture. The church is locally significant as a good example of the Carpenter Gothic style. The period of significance is 1880, the year the church was built. The church meets Criteria Consideration A for religious properties that have achieved significance for their architecture.

**Carpenter Gothic**

The Gothic Revival movement began in the late eighteenth century in England when Sir Horace Walpole built his medieval-inspired home, Strawberry Hill. The style, which was based upon the Gothic architecture of the Middle Ages, soon became synonymous with church architecture; moralists preferred its use for religious properties to the more secular Greek Revival style. During the 1840s the British Ecclesiological Society, originally the Cambridge Camden Society, influenced change in church architectural style outside the British Isles. The established Gothic Revival architecture in England is evidence that the Society had previously determined medieval art to be 'good' art and that gothic church architecture gave 'bodily form to her (the church) teaching.' The fourteenth century church was the preferred model and, even though the design was a parochial product, the Gothic Revival movement influenced American church architecture (Williams, Houses of God)."

The Gothic Revival style was popular in the United States from the 1840s to the 1880s. Episcopalian Richard Upjohn, whose career included "a long and distinguished succession of ecclesiastical commissions," (Stanton, P. 59) was a prominent American church designer who adapted the Gothic Revival style from the traditional stone building material to utilize the more available and affordable wilderness resource to create the "correct" gothic design in wood. Upjohn produced designs of churches that were (Morrow, p.2) "exemplars of the 'correct' sanctioned medieval model in simplified and less costly form. The simplifications included building in wood and then enriching the exterior walls with a system of doubled board-and-batten siding, appliques, and other cutout, built-up decorative treatments. The board-and-batten device was a Richard Upjohn innovation and a unique American contribution to the Gothic Revival Style." Gothic Revival architectural style buildings of wood construction and ornamentation gave rise and meaning to the phrase Carpenter Gothic. The characteristics of the style, as defined by architectural historian Phoebe Stanton (p.268) are, ". . .the bargeboards, the board-and-batten exterior, the slenderness of its parts, and the acute angle of the roofs belong to

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wood and to American sensibility. The pattern of the English medieval parish church had traveled far and been greatly modified in its passage but its essentials had not been lost.” Upjohn’s Carpenter Gothic building plans were supplied gratis to poor parishes and the “high style” Episcopalian design (Williams)”seems not to have been confined by region or denomination but may have acquired various denominational peculiarities”. The Church of Christ building in Perry, Illinois exhibits Carpenter Gothic characteristics including board-and-batten construction and Gothic-arched openings. The Gothic gable and arch detail is reinforced in repeating patterns of raised wood trim applied to the north (front) elevation and under the east, south, and west eaves. The church displays an emphasis on vertical lines and patterned woodwork, which are additional indicators of Carpenter Gothic architecture.

### **History of Perry**

The village of Perry was platted on land originally owned by Edward Boone Scholl, a grandnephew of frontiersman Daniel Boone. “Boone” Scholl, as he was known, was born in Kentucky in 1801, and came to north Pike County, Illinois, in 1831. It was apparently his intention to settle the area because, in 1834, he surveyed and plotted a village to be called Booneville. The description that was filed on May 7, 1834, at the county seat read “N. 81 E. 4 chains and 45 links from 1/4 section corner on line between section 21 and 28 in township N. 65 chains to a stone, thence S. 16.5 chains to a stone, thence, W. 16.5 chains to a stone at the beginning.” Perhaps he again decided to follow the frontier when in 1836 he sold the town to Joseph King. The village was renamed to honor Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry at some point thereafter.

Many early Perry citizens were Virginians who made their way to northern Pike County after being temporary residents in Tennessee and Kentucky. Many were hoping to become landowners and perhaps were seeking familiar hilly terrain. A Perry resident (now deceased) spoke of his grandfather who walked across the Central Illinois prairie to settle in a hazelnut thicket because he was seeking wood and water. Some immigrants may have had abolitionist leanings. German immigrants, to whom the Carpenter Gothic style may have been familiar, populated the area over a number of years often beginning their journey west via the Erie Canal. The 1872 Pike County atlas describes Perry Township as being “. . . finely situated in the northern part of Pike County and is almost equally diversified with timber and prairie land. Much of the surface is rolling and traversed by small creeks, and besides being in a high state of cultivation it contains several mineral springs”.

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Church of Christ, Pike County

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**Church of Christ History**

As the village became established so did the church. Early church history has been passed down by Mrs. Mary (Eugene) Dorsey (1877-1963) who was the granddaughter of Dr. and Mrs. W. D. C. Doan. Mrs. Doan was the daughter of Nicholas Hobbs at whose home a group met in about 1837 for the purpose of organizing a church. Meetings were held in private homes until 1839 when the congregation erected an 18'x24' house of worship in Perry on the NE quarter, section 28. Traveling preachers served the congregation in the early years. In April 1843, the great revivalist, Elder William Brown of Kentucky, held a protracted meeting. Crowds were so large that the side was removed from the building and a shed addition made giving the structure a capacity of 500.

Apparently the congregation continued to increase in number because in 1853 Charles Dorsey, a church member, sold to the trustees Lot 4, Block 1 in the Thompson addition. A 34'x50' "commodious house of worship" seating 400 and costing \$2,000.00 was built at this location in 1857. A photograph reveals that the building might stylistically be described as simplified Greek Revival. Dorsey came to Pike County from Raleigh, North Carolina. He acquired many acres north of Perry and established a prize winning and profitable livestock breeding business. His four sons continued the business taking prizes in many state fairs and expositions including the 1893 Chicago World Fair and the 1904 St. Louis World Fair. The Dorsey family must have become prominent and influential church members because a seven member building committee appointed in 1879 included Dorsey brothers Alex, John, and Bennett. The present building, designed to accommodate a 500 member congregation and costing \$4,000.00, resulted from the committee recommendation and was completed January 1, 1880, only 23 years after the previous church was constructed. Church records indicate that the 1857 building was "removed" so that the new building could be constructed at the same location. A January 17, 1880 Versailles, Illinois, newspaper indicates E. Shonen as the contractor for the Perry Church of Christ building. There is no record of an architect or the origin of a building plan. The building is situated on Main Street one block east of what was a thriving business district. Its physical prominence suggests a very strong community relationship and influence during the period of significance.

Early church records indicate dissention among congregation members and between certain preachers and the congregation. Clark Braden, who was church minister from 1874-1876, found the church to be "out of order and running down." He determined it was necessary to categorize church members into four classifications and to establish disciplinary measures. Most cases of discipline were the result of "luke-warmness." Braden published a tract called "Are We a Sect?"

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Church of Christ, Pike County

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in which he asserted that leading church members were “bigoted, dogmatic, and selfish.” A “meeting of impartial Christians” became necessary to investigate the conflict but church records are incomplete so it is not known why one half of the congregation summoned the other half to chancery court in 1890. The cause may have had to do with the purchase of an organ. The church building has been unoccupied since 2003 because the very small congregation was unable to meet financial obligations.

**Architectural Comparisons**

Another Carpenter Gothic, board-and-batten church building in Perry is the Presbyterian, which was constructed in 1874. The building fits the English parish church description, having been built in a natural setting on the edge of the village. The building displays Gothic characteristics in the steep roofline and lancet windows. The louvered belfry is perched on the roof and the polygonal steeple sets atop the bell house. The building is less ornamented and smaller than the Church of Christ building, but it is a good candidate for listing in the National Register. Carpenter Gothic church buildings may have been common during the latter decades of the nineteenth and the early decades of the twentieth century, but few of the board-and-batten buildings remain. Dwindling congregations unable to provide necessary maintenance may be a reason that there is few standing today. The Church of Christ building in Perry, fortunately, has retained its integrity, is an excellent example of the style, and merits National Register of Historic Places listing.

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Church of Christ, Pike County

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Stanton, Phoebe B.  
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1997

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Church of Christ, Pike County

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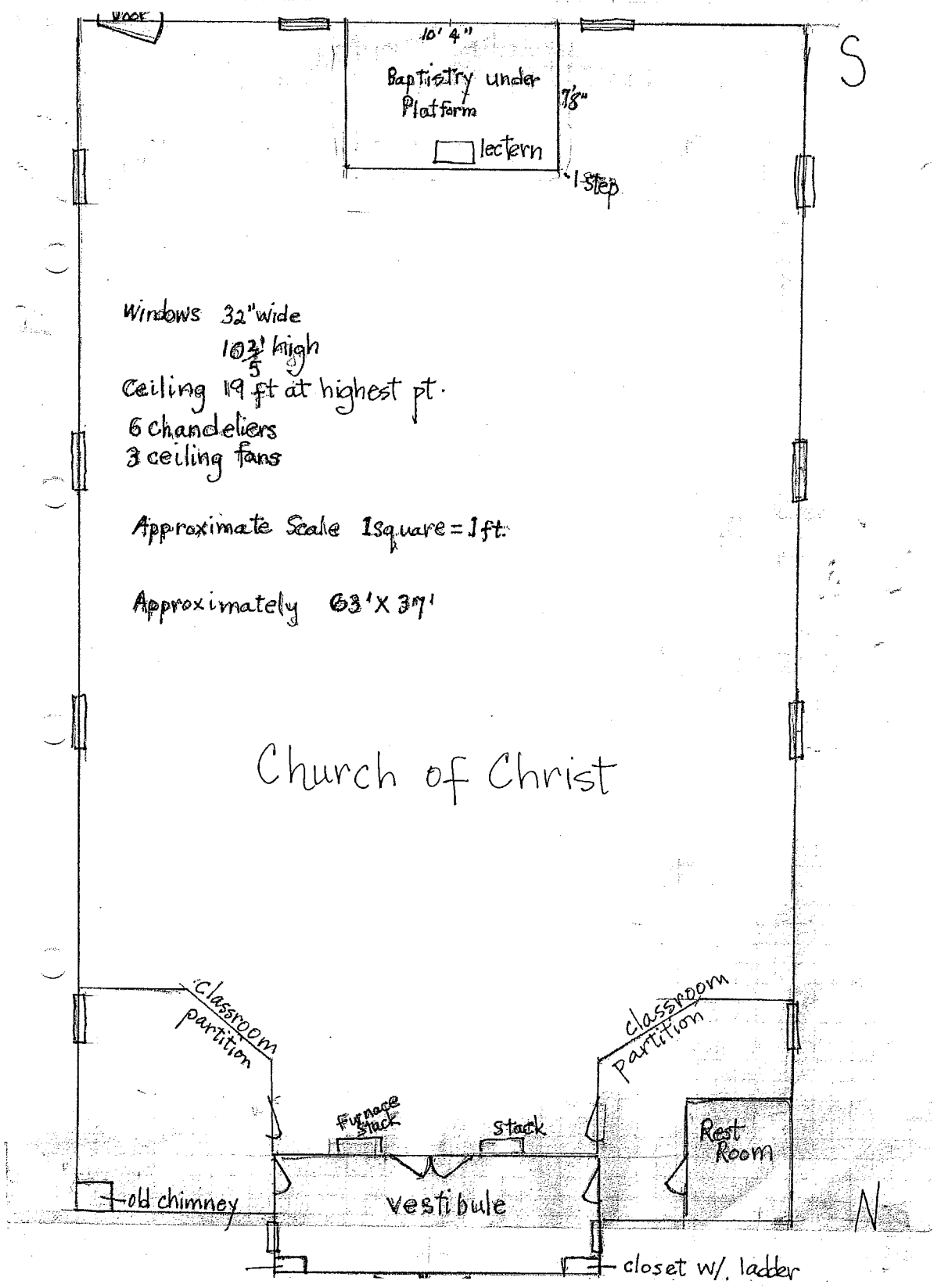
Verbal Boundary Description

The Church of Christ is located in Pike County in Perry, Illinois, at 102 Main Street in Lot 4, Block 1 in the Thompson Addition.

Boundary Justification

The listing includes the church and the property historically associated with it.

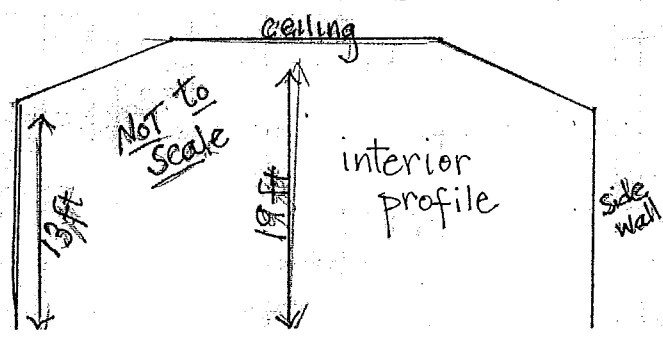


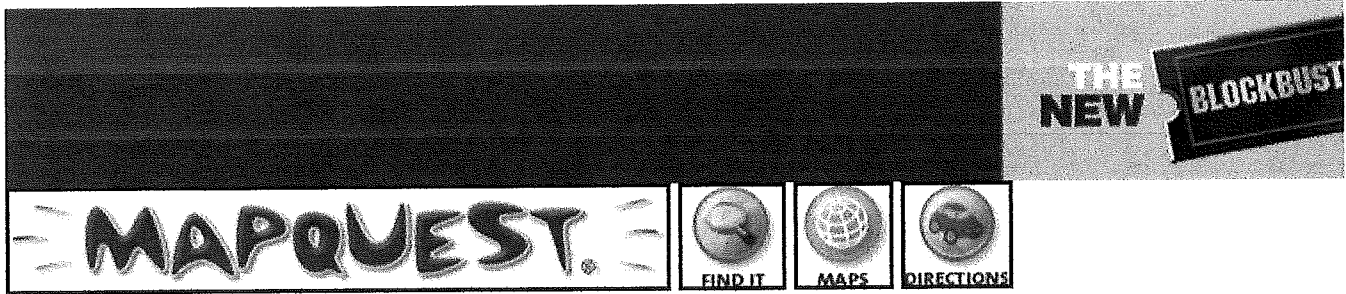


Windows 32" wide  
 10 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>5</sub>' high  
 ceiling 19 ft at highest pt.  
 6 chandeliers  
 3 ceiling fans

Approximate Scale 1 square = 1 ft.  
 Approximately 63' X 37'

# Church of Christ





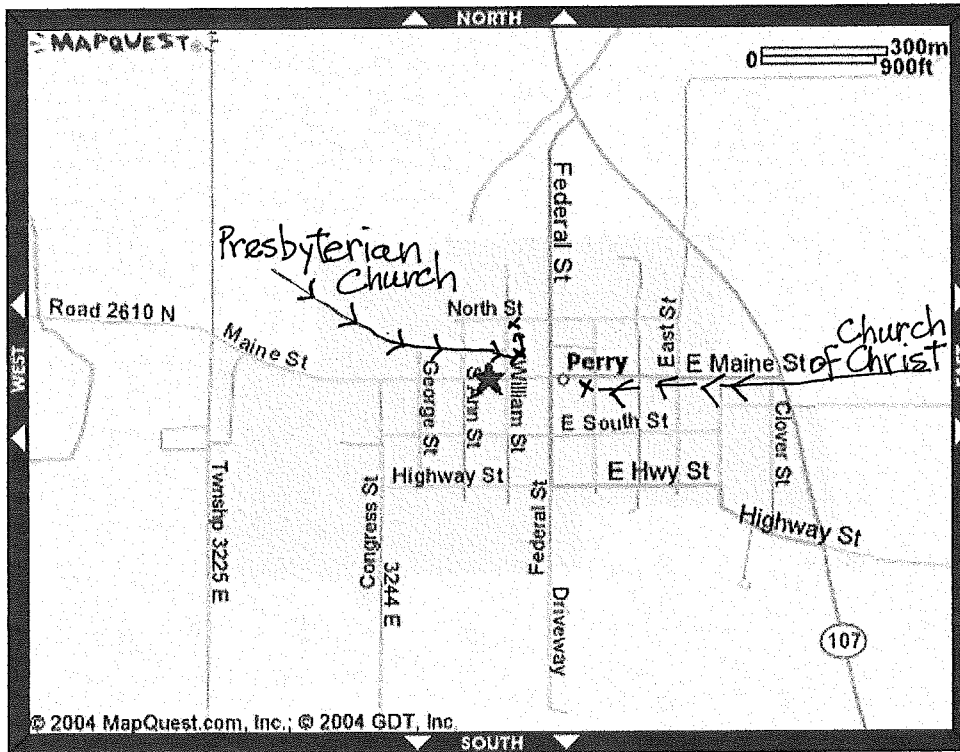
# Maps

[Print](#) | [E-Mail](#) | [Send to Phone](#) | [PDA](#) | [Revise](#) | [New Map](#) | [Directions To](#) or [Directions From](#)

[200-298] Main St Perry, IL 62362, US - [Hotel Offers](#) - [Flight Offers](#)



**Find Nearby:**  
(e.g., Theaters)

 Or  


**Get Directions** To  **Above Location**

Address or Intersection

City

State/Prov.

### Perry offers:

- Select -

**Expedia: Flight D.**  
Find a Flight that Work and Save with Web Far [www.Expedia.com](http://www.Expedia.com)

**Find Cars at carn**  
Actual Prices & Photos 20,000 New & Used [www.carmax.com](http://www.carmax.com)

**Cheap Online Flig**  
LowestFare.com Can Fi Low Prices On Round-T [www.lowestfare.com](http://www.lowestfare.com)

**Illinois Homes**  
Search Listings & REAL Get Into Your Dream H [www.RealEstate.com](http://www.RealEstate.com)

**Car Hotel**  
Create a Vacation Pack With CheapTickets@, I [www.CheapTickets.c](http://www.CheapTickets.c)

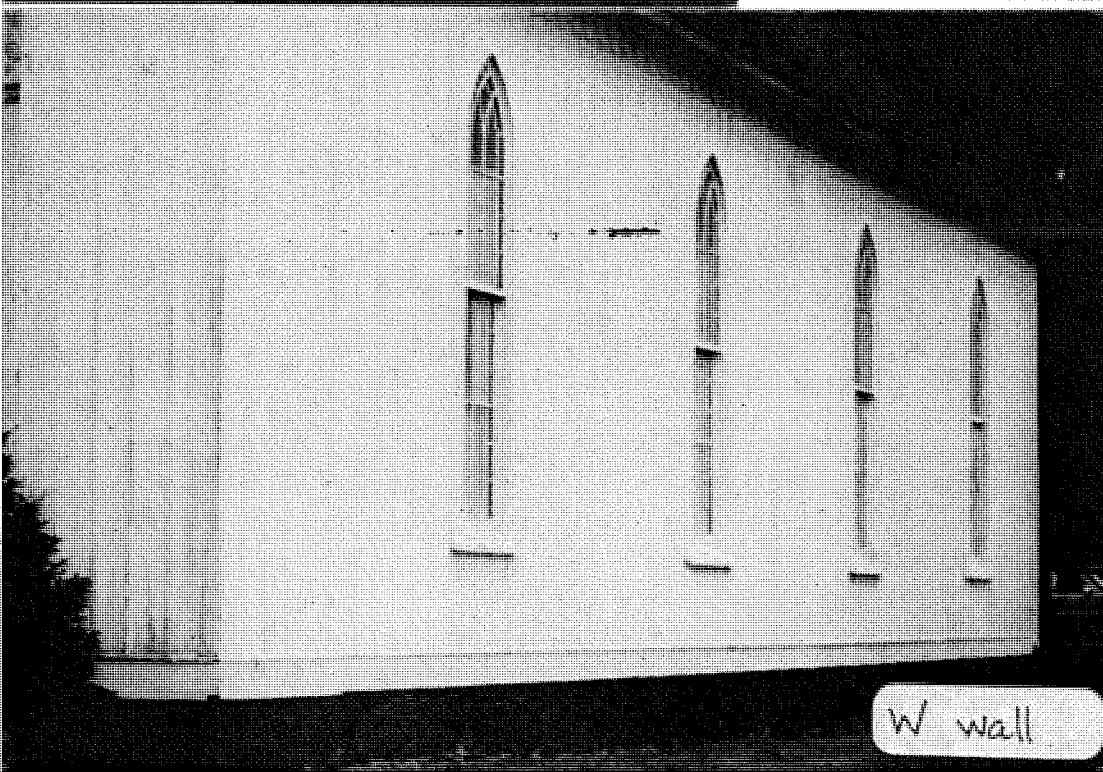
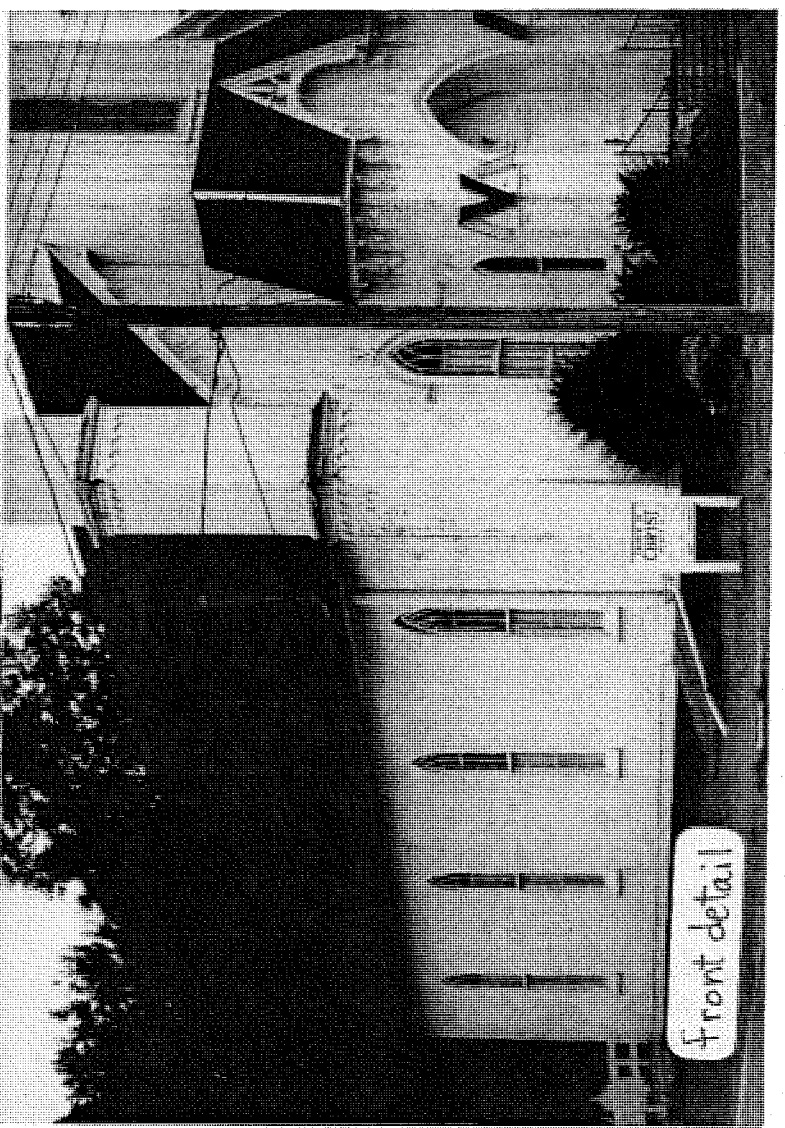
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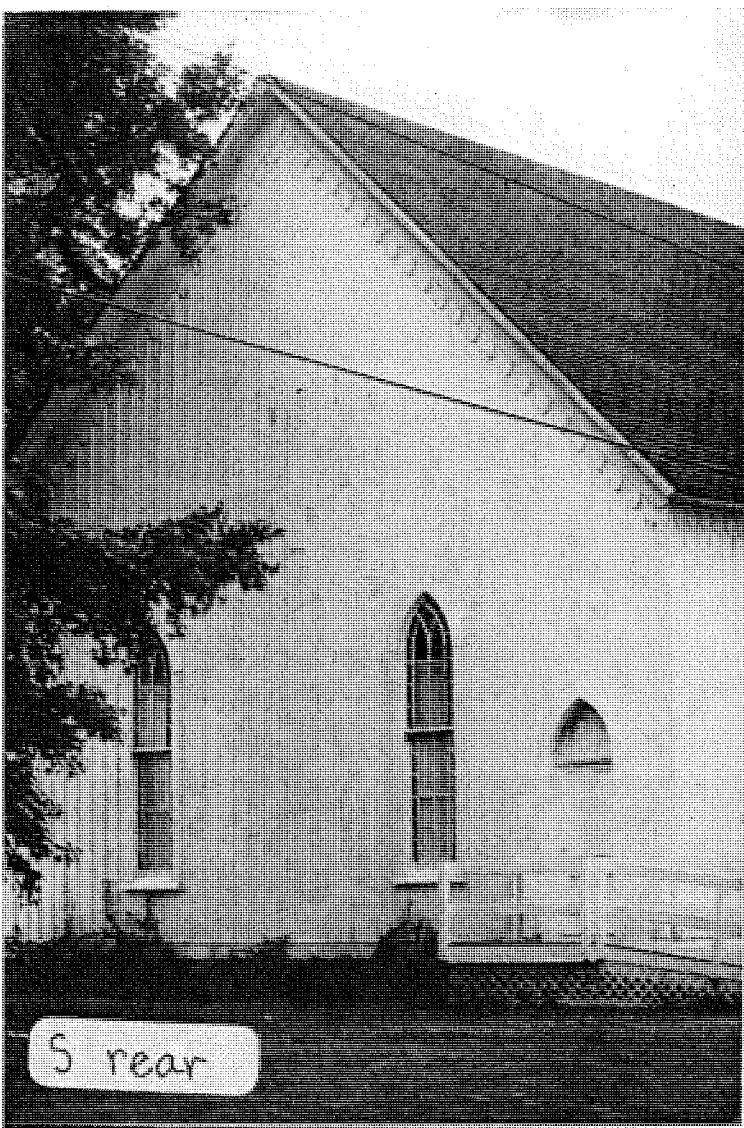
### Other Offers:

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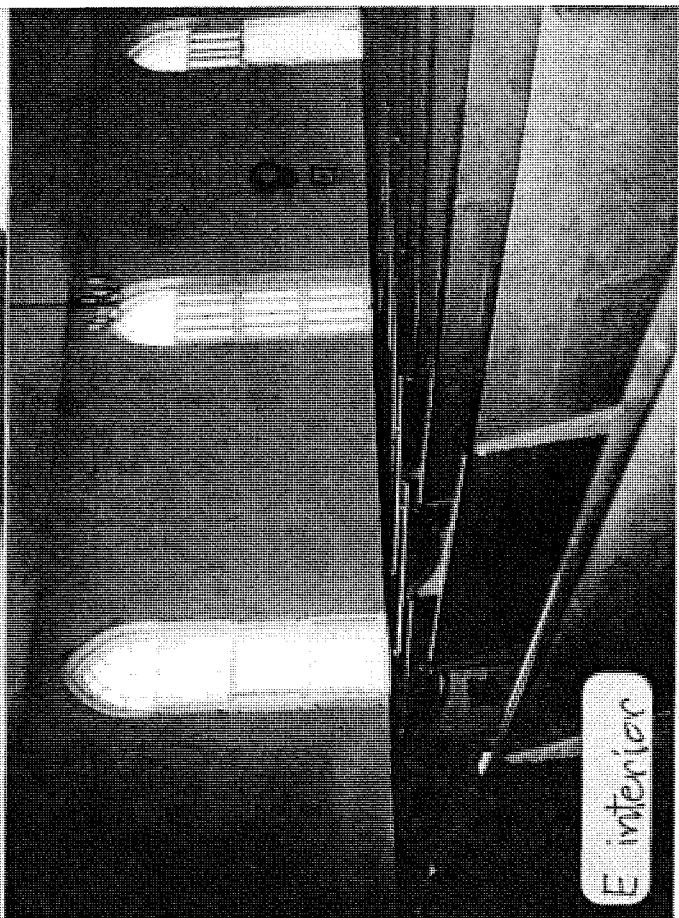
### Perry offers:

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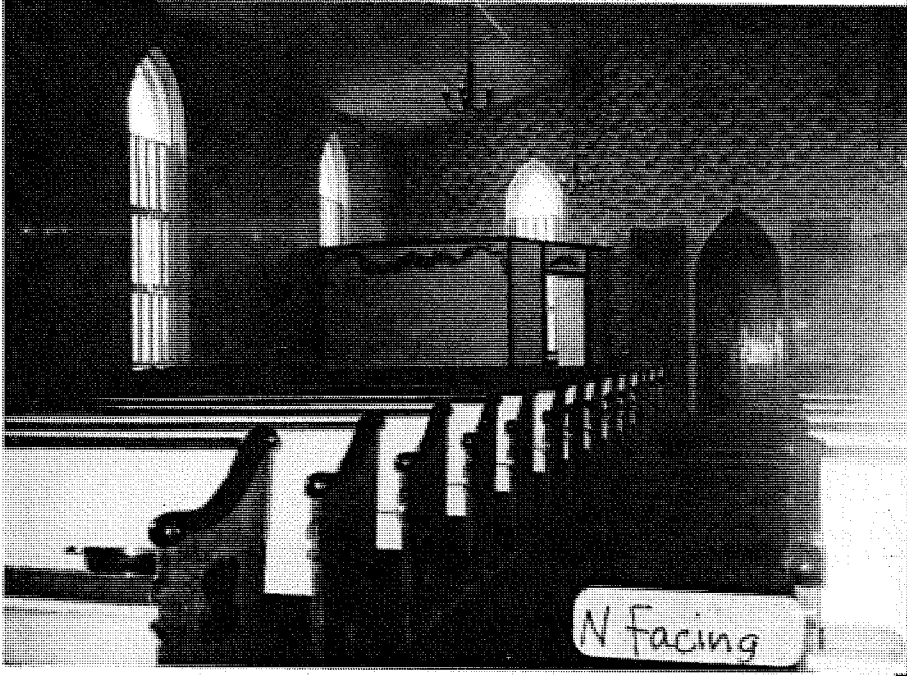




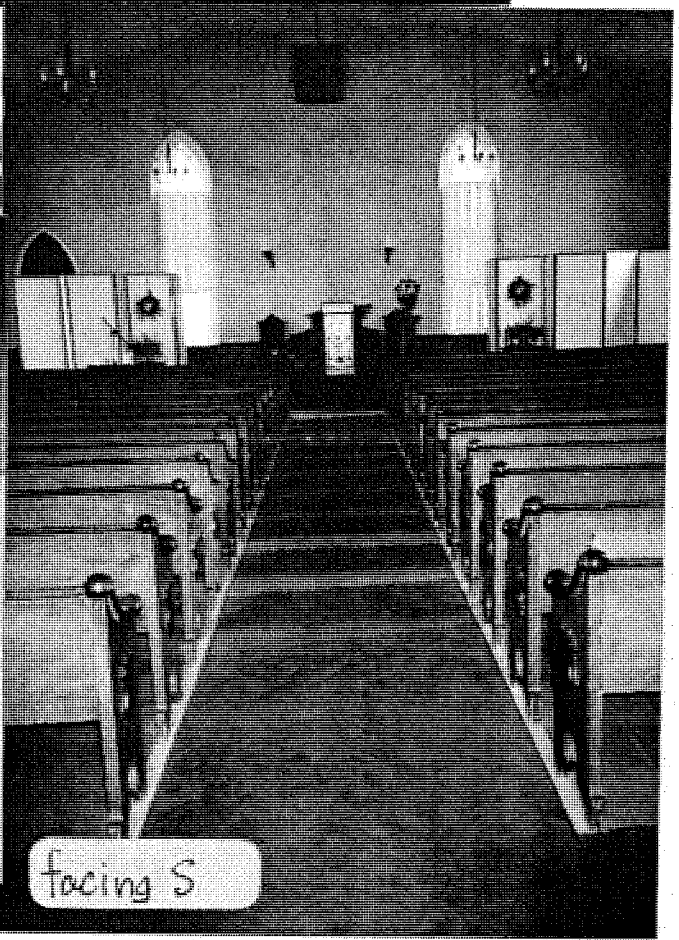
S rear



E interior



N Facing



facing S