

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

OMB No. 1024-0018, NPS FORM
RECEIVED 2280

OCT 24 1996
NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties or 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 information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classifications, 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.

1. Name of Property

historic name First Presbyterian Church

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number East Main Street [] not for publication

village Waterloo [] vicinity

state New York code NY county Seneca code 099 zip code 13165

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this [X] 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 [X] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant [] nationally [] statewide [X] locally. ([] See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Handwritten Signature]

16 Oct 96

Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation

Date

NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

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
State or federal agency and bureau

Date

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby, certify that this property is:
- [X] entered in the National Register.
- [] See continuation sheet.
- [] determined eligible for the National Register. [] see continuation sheet.
- [] determined not eligible for the National Register.

[Handwritten Signature]
Signature of keeper

Date of Action

11.29.96

Entered in the
National Register

[] removed from the National Register.

[] other: _____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property/Category of Property/Number of Resources within Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

(check box)

(do not include previously listed resources in the count)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	1	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site		sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure		structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object		objects
		1	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: NA

NAME OF RELATED MULTIPLE PROPERTY DOCUMENTATION FORM:

NA

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

Current Function

RELIGION; CHURCH

RELIGION; CHURCH

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Materials

(enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN; Romanesque Revival

foundation stone
walls brick with limestone trim
roof asphalt shingles
other

Narrative Description

See attached continuation sheets.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

First Presbyterian Church
Waterloo, Seneca County, New York

Section 7, Description, page 1

Description

The First Presbyterian Church is located on the south side of East Main Street in the historic core of the village of Waterloo. Formerly a bustling center of commerce on the Cayuga-Seneca branch of the Erie Canal, Waterloo continues to serve as the commercial, civic, social and educational center for the surrounding, predominantly rural region of northern Seneca County. The surrounding neighborhood consists primarily of residential buildings, many of which date from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. However, extensive alterations to some of the older houses as well as several modern intrusions and vacant lots preclude the creation of an historic district according to National Register standards. The historic commercial core of the village is located several blocks to the west. The nomination includes the 1850-51 main body of the church as well as an attached chapel dating from 1880-81. There are no outbuildings located on the nominated property; the filled-in and paved-over bed of the former Cayuga-Seneca Canal is located directly behind (south of) the church.

Constructed in 1850-51, the church is a monumental, Romanesque Revival style brick edifice. The 104' x 65' rectangular superstructure, embellished with smooth-cut limestone trim, rests on a slightly raised, random ashlar foundation and is surmounted by a gable roof (sheathed with standing seam metal) with simple wood trim and a corbelled brick cornice. Two soaring, square, 90' tall corner towers with octagonal spires flank the symmetrical front facade. Fenestration throughout the building is regular; tall, narrow, round-arched, stained-glass windows predominate along with several massive rose windows.

The front facade is dominated by the aforementioned towers and a large rose window centrally placed above the main entrance. The round-arched, double-leafed, main entrance is flanked by two round-arched, secondary doorways. All three doorways are distinguished by attenuated, Doric columns in antis.

A small, one and one-half story chapel was added to the east elevation of the church in 1880-81. Like the main block, the chapel features a corbelled brick cornice, tall, narrow,

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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

First Presbyterian Church
Waterloo, Seneca County, New York

Section 7, Description, page 2

stained-glass windows and round-arched door and window openings.

The interior survives substantially intact; the sanctuary features original plaster walls, wainscoting and three sections of butternut pews. The altar is located at the south (rear) end of the sanctuary; the choir loft, located in an elegantly finished balcony at the north end of the sanctuary, is lit by the front rose window and two flanking, tall, round-arched, stained-glass windows.

There are no outbuildings located on the nominated property.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark an "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.
[X] C Property that 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 pre-history or history.

Area of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1850 - 1909

Significant Dates

1850-51; 1880-81; 1909

Criteria Considerations: NA

- [X] A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
[] B removed from its original location.
[] C a birthplace or 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.

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

na

Cultural Affiliation

na

Architect/Builder

unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

See attached continuation sheets.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Becker, John E. A History of the Village of Waterloo. 1949.
Sweet, Ruth H. The First Presbyterian Church, Waterloo: The First 150 Years. 1967.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): Primary location of additional data:

- [] preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested [x] State historic preservation office
[] previously listed in the National Register [] Other State agency
[] previously determined eligible by the National Register [] Federal agency
[] designated a National Historic Landmark [] Local government
[] recorded by Historic American Building Survey [] University
[] Other:

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

First Presbyterian Church
Waterloo, Seneca County, New York

Section 8, Significance, page 1

Statement of Significance

The First Presbyterian Church is architecturally significant as a distinguished example of Romanesque Revival style religious architecture in Waterloo. Built in 1850-51 and expanded in 1880-81 with the addition of a chapel (and remodelled again in 1909 with the addition of memorial stained-glass windows), the imposing brick edifice is distinguished by a variety of features associated with the Romanesque Revival idiom, such as round-arched door and window openings and corbelled brick cornices. The present church is the second permanent house of worship erected by Waterloo's Presbyterian society. The first church was built in 1824, shortly after the completion of Cayuga-Seneca Canal (a branch of the Erie Canal) through the village. The congregation vacated their original church in 1850 to erect a new facility during the heyday of the canal era in Waterloo.

The first services of Waterloo's Presbyterian congregation were held in both the former Central Schoolhouse and the County Courthouse as early as 1821. An elegant, Federal style frame church was built in 1824 to house the expanding congregation. The congregation quickly outgrew their original quarters, particularly during the heyday of the canal era in New York State and at the height of religious revivalism occurring in the "Burned Over District" of Central and Western New York during the mid-nineteenth century. In 1850 the Federal style church was sold, a large lot on the north bank of the canal in a fashionable section of East Main Street was acquired, and a new house of worship was promptly erected. The architect is unknown, but the construction was undertaken by Henry C. Vreeland, identified at the time as "Master Builder." Completed in April 1851, the final cost of the building amounted to approximately \$26,000.

The congregation prospered and continued to expand after the Civil War; by 1880 they began construction of a chapel set back from and attached to the east elevation of the main body of the church. The design and decoration of the chapel remains in keeping with the Romanesque Revival style mode of the original church. The final historic building program

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First Presbyterian Church
Waterloo, Seneca County, New York

Section 8, Significance, page 2

undertaken by the church was the addition of memorial stained-glass windows in 1909.

Although the size of the congregation dwindled during the mid-to late twentieth century, the church remains a relatively vital house of worship in the community as well as an imposing and architecturally distinguished local landmark in the village.

First Presbyterian Church, Waterloo, Seneca County, NY

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than one

UTM References

A. 18/348086/4751608

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary coincides with legal lot lines of the nominated parcel as identified on the attached county tax map.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to encompass the full extent of land historically and presently associated with the church.

11. Form Prepared By:

contact: Nancy L. Todd, Program Analyst
organization NYSHPO, Division for Historic Preservation date July 1996
street & number Peebles Island, PO Box 189 telephone 518-237-8643
city or town Waterford state NY zip code 12188-0189

Research submitted by: Margaret E. Patsos, First Presbyterian Church

Additional Documentation

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)

Property Owner

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

name _____
street & number _____
city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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.).

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY First Presbyterian Church
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Seneca

DATE RECEIVED: 10/24/96 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/05/96
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/21/96 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/08/96
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 96001386

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 11-29-96 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



First Presbyterian Church
waterloo, Seneca Co

Photo & Neg: ~~W~~ N. Todd, UPETH, 1996

Front (north) facade



First Presbyterian Church

Waterloo, Seneca Co

Photo & neg: N Todd, OPRHP, 1996

Detail, main entrance



First Presbyterian Church
Waterloo, Seneca Co.

Photo & Neg: N Todd, OPRHP, 1996

Chapel



First Presbyterian Church
Waterloo, Seneca Co.

Photo & Neg: N. Todd, OPRHP, 1996

Sanctuary



NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SENECA FALLS QUADRANGLE NEW YORK-SENECA CO. 7.5 MINUTE SERIES PLANIMETRIC NE 1/4 GENEVA-15' QUADRANGLE



First Presbyterian Church Waterloo, Seneca Co. Seneca Falls Quad Zone 18; 1:24,000 E: 318086 N: 4761608

Seneca Falls Quad

Prepared and published in 1978 by the New York State Department of Transportation, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration.

Map base from 1953 U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute quadrangle.

Map revisions made using 1978 aerial photography, construction plans, official records and other sources. Features revised include: highways and other transportation facilities; civil boundaries; recreation sites; hydrography; and buildings. Grey tint indicates intensively developed areas in which only landmark buildings are shown.

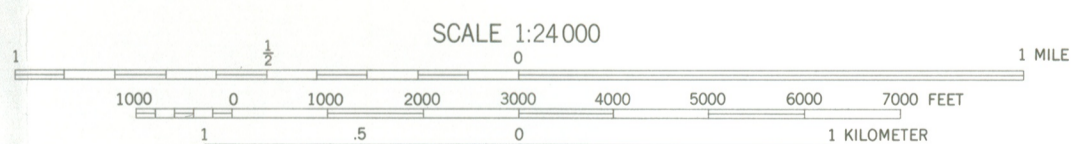
Revisions may not comply with National Map Accuracy Standards.

Correspondence concerning this and other maps of the Department of Transportation should be directed to: Map Information Unit, New York State Department of Transportation, State Campus, Albany, New York 12232.

1978 revisions by V.A. Scholz & F.G. Califano



QUADRANGLE LOCATION



Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum.

1000-meter ticks based on the New York Transverse Mercator grid. Between 72° and 78° West Longitude, this grid is identical to Zone 18 of the Universal Transverse Mercator grid. Areas east of 72° and west of 78° are direct mathematical extensions of Zone 18.

10,000-foot ticks based on the New York Plane Coordinate grid, Central Zone.

SPECIAL TOPOGRAPHIC EDITION

Contours, at 10-foot intervals, shown unrevised from 1953 U.S. Geological Survey map. Datum is mean sea level.

INDEX TO 1:9600 (1" = 800') MAP COVERAGE

BOUNDARIES: State, County, Town or City, Incorporated Village

ROADS: Touring Route markers, State, U.S., State Highway number and limit, County road, Interchange number, Divided highways and streets, Wide mall, Narrow mall or barrier, Undivided highways and streets, 4 or more lanes, Less than 4 lanes, Vehicle track; trail