First Presbyterian Church
202 Broadway
Madison
Jefferson County
Indiana

HABS No. IN-95

HABS
IND,
39-MAD,
36-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

FIRST PRESBYTEPIAN CHURCH HABS No. IN-95

Location: 202 Broadway, Madison, Jefferson County, Indiana.

USGS Madison West Quadrangle, Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 16.640170.4288410.

Present Owner/ Occupant: First Presbyterian Church.

Present Use: Church.

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General Statement:

1. Architectural Merit and Interest: Although the interior has been remodeled, this building retains its plain, but competent example of Classical revival exterior.
2. Condition of Fabric: Good

Description of Exterior:

1. Overall Dimensions: The two-story, rectangular, three-bay front building is approximately fifty-six feet wide by eighty-two feet long. The tower projects approximately eight feet and is approximately twenty feet across the front. There is a small projecting bay on the east end of the santuary above the roof of the addition.
2. Foundation: Stone forming a watertable.
3. Wall construction, finish and color: Common bond brick, painted white, with a stone string course at the second floor line. There are pilasters at the front corners and pilasters along the side walls forming bays for the windows. The pilasters have plain stone capitals, with returns on those at the rear corners. The addition to the east is brick, painted white, with the continuation of the stone string course at the first floor line. There is a stone string course near the top of the wall just above a soldier course. The addition to the north is concrete and brick, painted white.

   Tower - The tower is brick, painted white, extending to a cornice. Above the cornice, set back, is a square-shaped element with horizontal clapboard siding with pilasters at

the four corners. The wooden capitals of the pilasters have a horizontal wooden architrave above. There is an octagonal wooden cupola above this.

4. Structural system, framing: Brick, load-bearing walls with timber framing. Framing in the tower is four large, wooden columns, angled, supporting large timber beams. There are large cross-braced members at the perimeter walls supporting the upper structure.

5. Porches, stoops, bulkheads, etc.: At the main entrance on the west there are eleven stone steps, with an iron railing on each side above a low stone wall that projects above the steps along the string. There is an iron railing in the center of the steps. The steps splay at the starting point. There is a large, iron lamppost on each side of the steps.

6. Chimneys: There is a brick chimney with projecting brick cap near the center of the north and south walls, each projecting through the roof. There is a large, square, brick chimney on the east end of the addition.

7. Openings:

   a. Doorways and doors: The main entrance in the center of the west facade opens into a stair vestibule. The large, wooden-framed entrance has a deep jamb and head recess with raised wooden panels. The large, approximately twelve feet all, wooden doors have double-raised panels. The double doors part in the center and

slide into a pocket on each side of the opening. There is a pair of wooden-framed doors behind the sliding doors that each have fifteen light panels; with a twenty-one light transom panel above. There are wooden surrounds and a stone sill. There is a double doorway on the south side of the building at the first floor that opens into a center hallway. The wooden doors have six-light glass panel above a wooden panel. The deeply recessed jamb and head have wood paneling and there is a four-light transom panel above. The opening has a stone sill, wooden threshold and wooden surrounds.

b. Windows and shutters: Wooden windows on the first floors have eight-over-eight and one-over-one, double-hung, light sashes. The deeply recessed interior jambs and head are wood with wooden stools. On the exterior are stone sills and brick flat arch lintel. There is hardware for shutters.

   The large wooden windows on the second floor have one-over-one, single-hung sashes, with leaded, stained glass. There is a transom above that pivots horizontally. The splayed jambs have wide, heavy wood trim. There is a stone sill and lintel.

c. Louvres: There is a wooden framed, fixed louvre on the four faces of the lower wooden part of the tower, and in the north, south, east and west faces of the octagon cupola.

8. Roof:

a. Shape, covering: The gable roof is covered asphalt shingles. There is a hipped roof on the bay at the east end. The addition has a flat roof with asphalt covering.

b. Cornice, eaves: The boxed cornice on the sides extends across the gable in the front and there is a raking cornice. There are cornice returns on the east end and a rake board on the gable. The built-in gutter has metal downspouts. Cornices on the tower are boxed in.

c. Dormers, Cupolas, Towers: There is a copper bulbous-like dome above the octagonal wooden cupola, on the belltower, that is capped with a finial. The copper has turned patina.

Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans:

a. Basement: There is a small basement under the addition on the east side of the church. It has stone walls, a concrete floor and houses mechanical equipment.

b. First floor plan: The first floor is entered on the south side through a double doorway, and thru an addition on the north side. The doorway opens into a center hall with two pair of double doorways on the right leading into a large room across the entire width of the building. This large room has two iron columns near the center and has some modern folding

door partitions. There are two double windows on the south wall. A doorway on the east wall leads into a hallway of the addition that has classrooms along the east side. On the left side of the center hall, near the entrance, is a double doorway leading into the kitchen. There is a window on the south wall and a doorway on the north wall leading into the parlor. Behind the kitchen on the west is a storage room that has a window on the north wall and two double doorways on the east wall leading into the center hall. A doorway near the northwest corner of the room leads into a stairway opening to the second floor. To the north of the center hallway is an addition containing church offices.

c. Second floor: The second floor is entered from the main entrance on the west facade, through a double doorway. Immediately through the doorway are eleven steps extending across the width of the vestibule that end at a landing. There is an iron railing at the wall on each side and a brass railing in the center of these steps. At the landing is the center and up one step a large double doorway opens into the sanctuary. at either side of the landing is a small double doorway leading into stair vestibules, which is up one step. The large sanctuary has four windows on each the north and south walls and a doorway near the southeast corner on the east wall leads into an addition of

classrooms. The heavy, wooden pews are in the center with an aisle on each side between another row of pews. There are side aisles along the north and south wall. At the east end there are two steps up to a dais with the pulpit in the center. The choir and organ are separated by a rail behind the pulpit. In the center of the east wall hangs a large, red curtain that is covering paneled woodwork and the organ chamber, in a recess. The raised-panel woodwork is in poor condition. The stair vestibule on the north side has a stairway leading from the first floor. There is evidence on the wall that a stairway formerly led to the second floor. The stair vestibule on the south side has a stairway leading to the balcony. Each vestibule has a window on the west wall.

d. Balcony: The small balcony projects out into the sanctuary and extends across the width of the church. There is a double doorway leading from the stair vestibule into the balcony. There is another double doorway in the stair vestibule, on the north wall that leads into the base of the tower, which is used for storage. The north stair vestibule does not extend to the balcony level. There is a small room at the balcony level occupying the space, which houses an electronic chime. A double doorway on the south wall leads into the tower store room.

2. Flooring: All floors on the first floor are covered with carpet except the kitchen which has asphalt tile. The wooden floors on the second floor and balcony are all carpeted, all being red except the balcony which is a multicolor floral.
3. Walls and ceiling finish: Walls and ceilings on the first and second floor are plaster, painted. In the sanctuary there is a simple projecting plaster frieze around the room with a cyma reverse molding at the ceiling. The ceiling is recessed about two feet from the wall forming a large, rectangular coffer in the center. The edges of the coffer have plaster moldings. There is a large, brass candelabrum, electric lighting fixture with eighteen candle lites in two rows, handing in the center of the coffer. There are two-lite matching wall sconces between each window. There is a wooden wainscot in the large east room on the first floor.
4. Doorways and doors: The deeply recessed doorways in the vestibule have raised panel jambs and soffit trim and large wooden surrounds with plinth blocks. The wooden mortise-and-tenon doors have one double-raised panel with molding at the edges of the panels. The doorways to the sanctuary are similar but the doors are a solid panel wood with nailhead trim around the perimeter. Wooden doors on the first floor have double-raised panels.

5. Stairways: The stairway on the south has a closed-string stair with vertical wood paneling and handrail enclosing the stringer. The rail begins at a newel post on the second floor and extends along the winder stairs to the head, turns and ends at the wall. The three-run stairway on the north is similar.

6. Special Decorative features, trim and cabinetwork: The wooden railing across the front of the balcony has recessed panels. The heavy wooden pews, stained dark, have velvet-covered cushions.

   The wooden railing separating the choir and the pulpit has a large newel post on each end, with turned balusters extending a short distance to a large supporting post with a know on top. There are four such posts across the railing. There is a wooden handrail on top of the balusters, between newel posts and supporting post. The railing is all painted except the handrail which is stained. There is evidence the rail has been modified from its original form, which extends at right angles to the front along the sides.

7. Mechanical equipment:

   a. Heating: Modern forced-air heating system

   b. Lighting: Modern lighting fixtures.

Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The church sits on the northeast corner of the intersection of Broadway and West First Street, facing west. Across the street to the west

are residences and on the south is Indiana Vocational Technical College, formerly the Madison High School. On the east across the alley is the Talbot Garden and one-half block to the southeast is Shrewsbury House.

There is a small paved courtyard with an iron fence along the west side at the north side of the church. Along the south side of the church, approximately ten feet out, is a concrete retaining wall with cap. There is low planting on the top of the contained earth. There is a large coniferous tree on each side of the front steps. Three concrete steps with an ornamental iron railing lead through the retaining wall to the doorway on the first floor at the south side.

Prepared by: John P. White
Project Supervisor

July 1978

Project Information:

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey in cooperation with Historic Madison, Inc. and the Indiana Historical Society. Under the direction of John Poppeliers, Chief, H.A.B.S., and Kenneth L. Anderson, Jr., Principal Architect, the project was completed during the summer of 1978 at the Historic American Buildings Survey Field Office, Madison, Indiana, by John P. White, Project Supervisor (Associate Professor, Texas Tech University); John Hopkins, Project Historian (Skidmore College); and Student Assistant Architects Richard Berliner (Rhode Island School of Design); Jon Lourie (University of Maryland); Eric Swanson (Rensselar Polytechnic Institute): and Peter Whitehead (State University of New York at Buffalo).

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PHOTOGRAPHS

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