LANDMARK SURVEY

IDENTIFICATION

Street Address:	632 West Main Street
Map and Parcel:	29-1
Census Track & Block:	1-303
Present Owner:	First Baptist Congregation
Address:	632 West Main Street
Present Use:	First Baptist Church
Original Owner:	Delevan Baptist Church
Original Use:	Church

BASE DATA

Historic Name:	Delevan Baptist Church (CMRA)
Date/Period:	12 October 1883
Style:	Victorian Romanesque
Height to Cornice:	
Height in Stories:	1
Present Zoning:	M-1
Land Area (sq.ft.):	12,980
Assessed Value (land + imp.):	$71,500

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

First Baptist Church is an excellent example of Victorian Romanesque style. The building is rectangular in form, three bays wide by six bays long. A high single-storey facade fronts on Main Street, but because of ground slope, the main floor is raised above a full-storey basement at the sides and rear. Construction is brick, common bond on the facade, American elsewhere. A square, projecting tower of brick forms the central bay on the entrance facade. Above the peak of the roof gable, the tower supports a large octagonal lantern on a square base, both of wood. The lantern is decorated with attenuated corner pilasters and is covered with a domed roof. Matching projecting towerlets stand at the facade corners and rise slightly above the roof eaves. The main structure is covered with a gable roof of red, composition shingle. Eaves are finished with a white-painted, projecting wood cornice above a corbel-arch-supported brick overhang. Projecting piers suggestive of pilasters separate the bays along the side wall of the main floor and serve to buttress the high walls. A corbelled-brick water table separates the basement from main floor. Main floor windows, one each bay, are high, semi=circular headed, double-hung sash with leaded stained glass. Basement windows are large, six-over-nine-light, double-hung sash. Main entry is through paneled, double doors, with segmental-arch lintel, in the base of the tower. A single window, like other main-floor windows is located in the tower above thedoor. A low, wrought iron fence, with alternating tall and short pikes, and gothic-motif gateposts, surrounds the church yard.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

Builders and Mechanics Liens (Co. DB82-458 and 83-76) give the date of completion of the Delevan Baptist Church as October 12, 1883 and its cost $6,098.60 plus $120.00 for extra ceiling work. John C. Sinclair was the builder. In 1864, 800 black Baptists were dismissed from the old Baptist Church in town, and in August 1868, the black Baptist congregation purchased lot #6 of the Delevan property (Co. DB68-76) for their place of worship. Their church was the old Delevan Hotel, built in the 1820's by General John H. Cocke as a temperance hotel and named after a certain Delevan, an "eminent reformer of Albany, N.Y." The hotel had also been called "Mudwall", from either an adobe or terre pise wall surrounding the property or from the clay-like appearance of its stucco walls. (Plat, DB64-172).

SIGNIFICANCE

The Delevan Baptist Church, organized in 1864, is the oldest black congregation is Charlottesville. It took its name from the temperance hotel on this site which served as its first meeting place. The present church building is the only example of the Romanesque Revival remaining in Charlottesville.

CONDITIONS

Good

UTM: 17/720300/4212015

SOURCES

City and County Records
Early Charlottesville

NPS Form 10-900-a
(3-82)

OMB No. 1024-0018
Exp. 10-31-84

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet | Item number | Page 8 of 9

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Charlottesville Multiple Resource Area
State Virginia

Nomination/Type of Review			Date/Signature
71. Enderly Servants' Quarters	Substantive Review	Keeper	Ret
		Attest	
Resent Ret. 72. C & A Ry Co.-Va. Public Service Co.	Substantive Review	Keeper	reject Dubie 1/10/84
		Attest	
Resent R 73. Sparks-Garrett House	Substantive Review	Keeper	Ret CD Ret 1-10
		Attest	
74. Pitts-Inge	Substantive Review	Keeper	Linda McClelland 10-21-82
		Attest	
75. Wheeler House	Substantive Review	Keeper	Ret
		Attest	
76. Wheeler-Dyer House	Substantive Review	Keeper	Ret
		Attest	
77. Paxton Place	Substantive Review	Keeper	Linda McClelland 10-21-82
		Attest	
78. Hotel Gleason/Albemarle Hotel, Imperial Cafe	Substantive Review for	Keeper	accept Patrick Andrus 8/10/83
		Attest	
Resent R 79. Holsinger-Thomas Building	Substantive Review	Keeper	Ret CD Ret 1-10 CD
		Attest	
80. Delevan Baptist Church	Substantive Review	Keeper	Linda McClelland 10-21-82
		Attest	

ATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

nited States Department of the Interior
ational Park Service

Delevan Baptist Church (Charlottesville MRA)
VIRGINIA

Working No. 9/7/82-2435
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.1.83
Date Due: 10/7/82 - 10/22/82
Action: ✓ ACCEPT 10/21/82
___ RETURN ___
___ REJECT ___
Federal Agency: ___

___ resubmission
___ nomination by person or local government
___ owner objection
___ appeal

Substantive Review: ___ sample ___ request ___ appeal ✓ NR decision

Reviewer's comments: Good example of Style, Rom. Revival
Exception under A, not developed sufficiently

Recom./Criteria Accept C
Reviewer L McClelland
Discipline Arch. Hist
Date 10/21/82
___ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: ___ technical corrections cited below
___ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category Ownership Status Present Use
Public Acquisition Accessible

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes ___ no

7. Description

Condition
___ excellent ___ deteriorated
___ good ___ ruins
___ fair ___ unexposed

Check one
___ unaltered
___ altered

Check one
___ original site
___ moved date ___

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

___ summary paragraph
___ completeness
___ clarity
___ alterations/integrity
___ dates
___ boundary selection

8. Significance

Period | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates | Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

_____ summary paragraph
_____ completeness
_____ clarity
_____ applicable criteria
_____ justification of areas checked
_____ relating significance to the resource
_____ context
_____ relationship of integrity to significance
_____ justification of exception
_____ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____
Quadrangle name _____
UMT References

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state ___ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title date

13. Other

_____ Maps
_____ Photographs
_____ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-35

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet

Architectural And Historic Survey

Graphics

Please refer to the map in the Multiple Property Cover Sheet for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000882

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Delevan Baptist Church

MULTIPLE NAME: Charlottesville MRA

STATE & COUNTY: VIRGINIA, Charlottesville

DATE RECEIVED: 5/30/08 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/13/08
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 82001802

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 _____DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Additional Documentation Accepted

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept

REVIEWER Edson Beall DISCIPLINE History

TELEPHONE _____ DATE 7-2-08

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

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

7. Architectural Description (additional information):

Located at 632 West Main Street, at the corner of 7th Street in Charlottesville, the cornerstone for the First Baptist Church (now the Delevan Baptist Church) was laid in 1877 and the building completed in 1883. This rectangular three-bay brick building is an excellent example of the Romanesque Revival style and features a projecting brick square entrance tower topped by an octagonal wooden lantern on a square base. The main entry is at the base of the tower through paneled double-leaf doors with a segmental-arched lintel. Matching projecting brick towers stand at the façade corners and rise slightly above the roof eaves. The gabled roof is clad in asphalt shingles. The six-bay sides of the brick building are articulated into bats by projecting piers that also serve to buttress the high walls, and contain double-hung, round-arched stained-glass windows and a corbelled brick cornice. The rear of the building has a hip-roofed rectangular apse with a taller gable-roofed projecting. A corbelled brick water table separates the basement level from the main floor. The basement level windows contain square-headed six-over-nine double-hung windows.

8. Significance Statement (additional information):

Originally listed as part of the Charlottesville Multiple Resource Area nomination, the Delevan Baptist Church was placed in the Virginia Landmarks Register on October 20, 1981 and in the National Register of Historic Please on October 21, 1982.

First Baptist Church, now known as the Delevan Baptist Church, is directly related to the African-American community that was growing in the eastern portion of the proposed Fifeville-Castle Hill Historic District by the 1870s and is a significant contributing resource and visual landmark within this area. Black Baptists who had formerly worshipped at Charlottesville's white First Baptist Church purchased the property on which the Delevan Hospital stood (formerly known as "Mudwall") in 1868 and began construction in 1877 of what would be called the First Colored Baptist Church, completed ca. 1883. Although several other Baptist congregations split off from the "first" church, this building made a bold statement for the African-American community in downtown Charlottesville. It stands today as the only institutional building within the proposed district's boundaries and would have been convenient to the growing number of African-Americans in the Fifeville and Castle Hill neighborhoods.

RECEIVED 2280
MAY 30 2008
NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

L. Preston Bryant, Jr.
Secretary of Natural Resources

Department of Historic Resources
2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23221

Kathleen S. Kilpatrick
Director

Tel: (804) 367-2323
Fax: (804) 367-2391
TDD: (804) 367-2386
www.dhr.virginia.gov

May 29, 2008

Mr. Paul Loether
Chief, National Register of Historic Places and National Historic Landmarks Programs
National Park Service 2280
National Register of Historic Places
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20005

RE: Continuation Pages for the Following:
Fauquier County resources: Dakota, The Oaks, and North Wales
City of Charlottesville resources: Benjamin Tonsler House and Delevan Baptist Church
Albemarle County resources: Redlands, Morven, Christ Church Glendower, Monticola, Estouteville, Plain Dealing, Esmont, Edgemont, Mountain Grove, Westcote, Clifton, Cocke's Mill, Walker House, Guthrie Hall, Sunnyfields, High Meadows, The Rectory, Pine Knot, and Blenheim

Dear Mr. Loether:

The enclosed continuation pages are to be added to the ends of all the above referenced individual resources previously listed in the National Register of Historic Places. In the last few years, there have been three historic districts surveyed which have included these resources in their inventories. Therefore, I am providing extra documentation to go along with the currently listed nomination material as it has been documented under the each resource within the inventories if the larger districts. None of this information changes, in any way, the current listing, but is strictly additional documentation for your files.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. My direct phone line is 804-367-2323 at extension 102.

Sincerely,

Jean McRae, Historic Preservationist
National and State Register Program Coordinator

Enclosures

Administrative Services
10 Courthouse Avenue
Petersburg, VA 23803
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Fax: (540) 857-7588

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