

Site Inventory Form
State Historical Society of Iowa
 (November 2005)

State Inventory No. 50-00710

New Supplemental

Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.) 50-01703

Relationship: Contributing Noncontributing

Contributes to a potential district with yet unknown boundaries

National Register Status:(any that apply) Listed De-listed NHL DOE

9-Digit SHPO Review & Compliance (R&C) Number _____

Non-Extant (enter year) _____

1. Name of Property

historic name First Presbyterian Church

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 220 N. 2nd Ave. E.

city or town Newton

vicinity, county Jasper

Legal Description: (If Rural) Township Name _____ Township No. _____ Range No. _____ Section _____ Quarter of Quarter _____

(If Urban) Subdivision Original Plat

Block(s) 11

Lot(s) 7&8

3. State/Federal Agency Certification [Skip this Section]

4. National Park Service Certification [Skip this Section]

5. Classification

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

If Non-Eligible Property		If Eligible Property, enter number of:	
Enter number of:		Contributing	Noncontributing
—	buildings	<u>1</u>	—
—	sites	—	—
—	structures	—	—
—	objects	—	—
—	Total	<u>1</u>	—

Name of related project report or multiple property study (Enter "N/A" if the property is not part of a multiple property examination).

Title Downtown Newton, Iowa

Historical Architectural Data Base Number 50-010

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

06A01 RELIGION/church

06A01 RELIGION/church

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

06D LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY/Tudor Revival

foundation 10B CONCRETE/Poured

walls (visible material) 03 BRICK

roof 16 CLAY TILE

other _____

Narrative Description (SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS, WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" representing your opinion of eligibility after applying relevant National Register criteria)

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended | A | Property is associated with significant events. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended | B | Property is associated with the lives of significant persons. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended | C | Property has distinctive architectural characteristics. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended | D | Property yields significant information in archaeology or history. |

County Jasper
City Newton

Address 220 N. 2nd Ave. E.

Site Number 50-00710
District Number 50-01703

Criteria Considerations

- 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.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

02 ARCHITECTURE

Significant Dates

Construction date 1924 check if circa or estimated date
Other dates, including renovation 1979, 1989

Significant Person

(Complete if National Register Criterion B is marked above)

Architect/Builder

Architect Vorse, Kraetsch & Kraetsch
Builder W. W. Smith

Narrative Statement of Significance (SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS, WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography See continuation sheet for citations of the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form

10. Geographic Data

UTM References (OPTIONAL)

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

See continuation sheet for additional UTM references or comments

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Larry Ray Hurto, Commissioner
organization Newton Historic Preservation Commission
street & number 101 W. 4th St. S.
city or town Newton state IA date 06-01-12
telephone 641-792-2787 zip code 50208

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION (Submit the following items with the completed form)

FOR ALL PROPERTIES

- Map:** showing the property's location in a town/city or township.
- Site plan:** showing position of buildings and structures on the site in relation to public road(s).
- Photographs:** representative black and white photos. If the photos are taken as part of a survey for which the Society is to be curator of the negatives or color slides, a photo/catalog sheet needs to be included with the negatives/slides and the following needs to be provided below on this particular inventory site:

Roll/slide sheet # _____	Frame/slot # _____	Date Taken _____
Roll/slide sheet # _____	Frame/slot # _____	Date Taken _____
Roll/slide sheet # _____	Frame/slot # _____	Date Taken _____

- See continuation sheet or attached *photo & slide catalog sheet* for list of photo roll or slide entries.
- Photos/illustrations without negatives are also in this site inventory file.

FOR CERTAIN KINDS OF PROPERTIES, INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING AS WELL

- Farmstead & District:** (List of structures and buildings, known or estimated year built, and contributing or noncontributing status)
- Barn:**
 - A sketch of the frame/truss configuration in the form of drawing a typical middle bent of the barn.
 - A photograph of the loft showing the frame configuration along one side.
 - A sketch floor plan of the interior space arrangements along with the barn's exterior dimensions in feet.

State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Use Only Below This Line

Concur with above survey opinion on National Register eligibility: Yes No More Research Recommended
 This is a locally designated property or part of a locally designated district.

Comments: _____

Evaluated by (name/title): _____ Date: _____

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Continuation Sheet**

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Related District Number 50-01703

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First Presbyterian Church	Jasper
Name of Property	County
220 N. 2nd Ave. E.	Newton
Address	City

5.

6. Classification, cont'd.

The First Presbyterian Church is considered a building and counted as a contributing resource to the Newton Downtown Historic District.

7. Description

Site Description

The First Presbyterian Church is located at the eastern fringe of the historic downtown of Newton, IA in Jasper County. The church is sited on a tight parcel of land in the northwest quadrant of the intersection of N. 2nd Ave. E. and E. 3rd St. N. A vacated alley abuts the church on the north. A large parking area, also owned by the church, is located on the north side of the alley and a public sidewalk provides access to the building on the south and east.

Property Description

The First Presbyterian Church is a single-story 63-foot by 122-foot brick building constructed on a concrete foundation. The building is visually defined by its monumental scale, additive massing, massive tower with buttresses, decorative brickwork beneath the pointed arch over the main entry, and false timbering beneath the east gable.

The church form is generally a Greek cross. Arched stained glass windows grace the north and south facades of the church edifice. A two-story rectangular addition 26 feet by 40 feet was made to the west side of the church in 1989; an elevator was installed which opens to Fellowship Hall, the outdoor alley, and the sanctuary level. In 1979, the basement was remodeled at a cost of about \$50,000. The kitchen was "completely changed," and the ceiling was lowered.

The church bell, cast in West Troy, NY, was purchased in 1857 and transported to Newton by train and by ox cart for use in the congregation's first church. It was used to call the community to celebrate, fight fires, and to worship.

Integrity Considerations

The First Presbyterian Church retains a high level of historic integrity. Of particular importance is the retention of the elements which define its Tudor Revival influence, namely the massive tower with its buttresses, false timbering, and its sense of monumentality.

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8. Statement of Significance

The church is considered a contributing resource to the Newton Downtown Historic District. The resource is significant under Criterion C as well-preserved example of sacred architecture exhibiting a strong Tudor Revival influence.

The First Presbyterian Church meets the requirements of Criterion Consideration A as a religious property that does not derive its primary significance from its function as such.

First Presbyterian Church has a connection to Frederick Louis Maytag (1857-1937), founder of The Maytag Company and community benefactor, inasmuch as it was he who donated the church organ. His wife, Conradena "Dena" Bergman Maytag (1859-1934), was an active member of the church.

Historical Background

Newton was platted as the Jasper County seat in 1847. The commercial district grew up around the courthouse square with the earliest buildings, which commonly housed both commerce and dwellings, constructed of wood. The development of the downtown from its platting in 1846 to c.1890 is tied to its status as the county seat and the 1867 arrival of the Mississippi-Missouri Railroad. The character of the commercial downtown is recorded in images of the contiguous brick commercial Italianate buildings surrounding the courthouse square.

Beginning in the 1890s, it was industry, specifically the washing machine industry, that drove Newton's economy and the commercial success of its downtown. Due to the success and longevity of the Maytag Company, its history presents the greatest impact on Newton's downtown commercial district. From 1890-1920, a period in Maytag history marked by the company's incorporation and the development of the first electrically powered washing machine, a number of significant buildings were constructed in the Newton Downtown District. The addition of these buildings (and others) introduced a 20th century architectural sensibility to the district; moving the visual character away from the Late Victorian era Italianate style that had previously dominated the streetscapes.

During the decade of 1920 to 1930, Newton's population nearly doubled. The period is marked by the Maytag Company's ascension to the nation's leading manufacturer of washing machines. The economic prosperity brought by the company's success is reflected in the Newton Downtown Historic District with the construction of some of its most important buildings including the First Newton National Bank (1920) and the Maytag Hotel (1926). First Presbyterian Church was also constructed during this period and, like the Maytag Hotel, its construction was directly tied to the Maytag family.

The visual character and composition of the downtown district remained generally constant through the Depression era and war years – a period when industry and commerce (including the Maytag Company) were focused on surviving and on supporting the war effort. The boom that came in the wake of Maytag's 1946 introduction of the automatic washing machine was apparent in the Newton Downtown Historic District by the mid-1950s. Between about 1954 and 1963 the downtown buildings underwent dramatic alteration, a nearly wholesale removal of the Italianate façades and replacement

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8. Statement of Significance, cont'd.

with those reflecting a mid-20th century Modern aesthetic. Buildings altered during at that period line the streetscapes of the district. In addition to the Victorian era buildings that were re-faced during this time, a number of new buildings were constructed, their stylistic character reflective of the era.

Although the washing machine industry in Newton is now a thing of the past, its mark on the Newton Downtown Historic District is undeniable.

Property History

This congregation, Old School Presbyterian, dates from 1854. On August 18, 1855, the church was organized with ten charter members. The society was incorporated March 1, 1859, with J. S. Hunter, John C. Wilson, and Thomas McCord as trustees. The first church was built in 1865 on this location at a cost of \$6,000; it was of brick, 35 feet by 60 feet in size. It was dedicated February 23, 1868, the sermon being delivered by Rev. W. R. Marshall, of Marion, IA. In 1878, the membership was 75.

A second church edifice was constructed in 1889, and dedicated December 22 of the same year, debt-free. Total cost of that building was \$4,875. In 1912, the valuation of the church property, including manse, was \$14,000. There were 200 members at that time.

In 1922, under the leadership of the pastor, Dr. W. R. Moore, a building committee was formed consisting of Roscoe Bradt, Mrs. B. A. Miller, Tom Buchanan, Harry Nelson, and Ralph Smith. A finance committee with Mrs. W. W. Smith as chairman, Ruth Campbell, C. A. Hogle, and A. T. Guthrie began raising money. A local contractor, W. W. Smith, was appointed superintendent of construction. The original plan was to erect a \$12,000 building, but as enthusiasm mounted and a vision of what was needed and desirable expanded, the cost of \$12,000 was forgotten. The present church was finally constructed at a cost of \$80,000.

To help meet the cost of building \$15,000 was borrowed from the Board of National Missions. This loan had been reduced to \$9,000 by 1937. At that time there was a total of \$2,250 interest in arrears. This was settled by a payment of \$10,000 from the Dena B. Maytag Trust Fund. By 1937 the church was paid for.

First Presbyterian Church's cornerstone indicates the construction of the present church was commenced in 1924. The church was designed by architects in the firm Vorse, Kraetsch & Kraetsch, 911 Savings and Loan Building, Des Moines, IA, in a Tudor Revival style. It was dedicated in November 1924. Rev. P. T. Amstutz, of Detroit, gave the dedicatory sermon. The church organ was a gift from F. L. Maytag.

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11. Additional Documentation – Maps

USGS 7.5 MINUTE TOPOGRAPHIC MAP – NEWTON – 1995



(MAP SOURCE: www.trails.com)

The location of the Newton Downtown Historic District, to which the resource is a contributing resource, is indicated by the outlined and highlighted area.

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11. Additional Documentation – Maps

PARCEL MAP – 2011



(MAP SOURCE: Jasper County Assessor)

The location of the building is indicated by an arrow and shading.

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11. Additional Documentation – Photographs



(IMAGE SOURCE: Fred Chabot – 2010)

View of the north and east sides of the building looking southwest.

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11. Additional Documentation - Photographs



(IMAGE SOURCE: Fred Chabot – 2010)

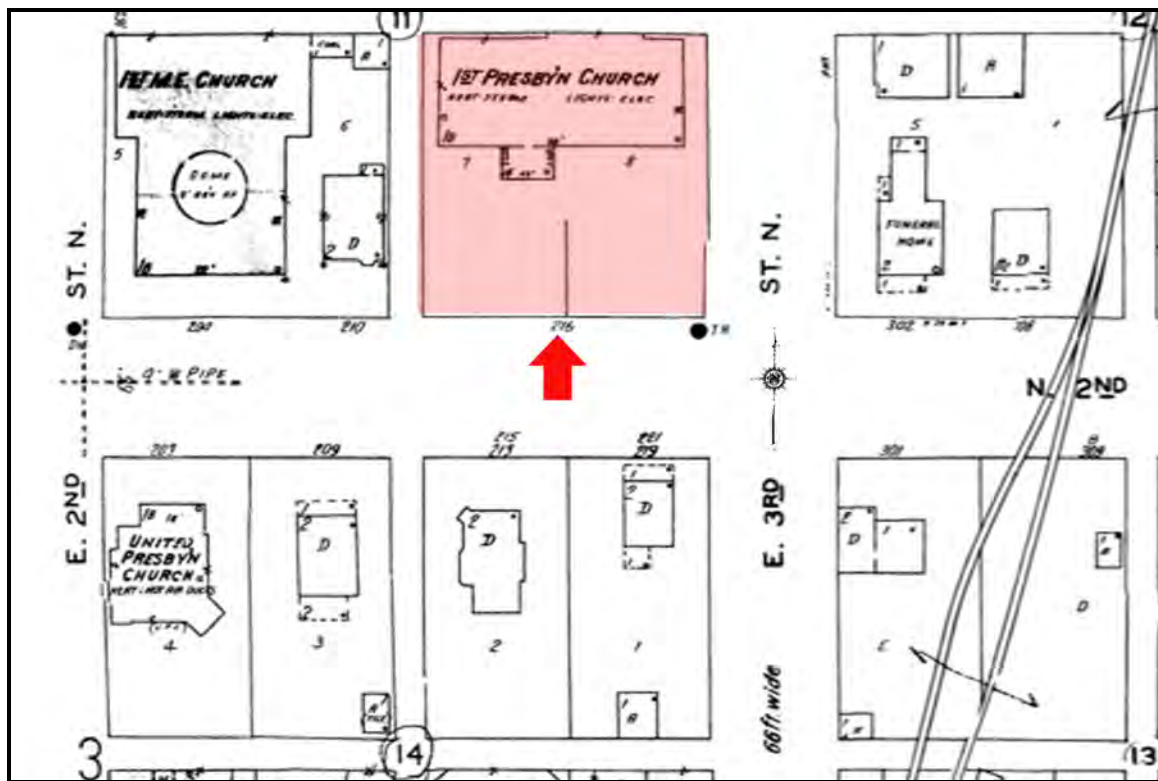
View of the south and east sides of the building looking northwest.

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11. Additional Documentation, cont'd.

FIRE INSURANCE MAP – 1927



(MAP SOURCE: Sanborn Company Fire Insurance Map, 1927)

The arrow marks the location of the building at 220 N. 2nd Ave. E.

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11. Additional Documentation, cont'd.

HISTORIC IMAGES – ca. 1940



(IMAGE SOURCE: Larry Ray Hurto Collection)

Postcard photo by the L. L. Cook Co., Milwaukee shows "FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH"
at 220 N. 2nd Ave. E. ca. 1940.

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9. Major Bibliographic References

[B. C. Berg, comp.] OUTLINE OF THE HISTORY OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NEWTON, IOWA. [1945]

John Daehler, comp. *The Maytags: A Collection of Family Historical Material*. Booklet one. 1982.

First Presbyterian Church, Newton, Iowa 1989 Directory. Cleveland, TN: Presbyterian Publishing House Church Directory Service.

Mrs. G. E. Greene, Reva Meredith, and Marian Speake. *A History of First Presbyterian Church - Newton, Iowa - 1855-1955*. [1955]

Rev. J. F. Hinkhouse and Rev. W. M. Evans, eds. *One Hundred Years of the Iowa Presbyterian Church*. Cedar Rapids, IA: Printed by Laurance Press Company, 1932.

The History of Jasper County, Iowa. Chicago: Western Historical Company, 1878.

Larry Ray Hurto, comp. and ed. *A History of Newton, Iowa*. Dallas, TX: Curtis Media Corporation, 1992.

Gen. James B. Weaver, ed. *Past and Present of Jasper County, Iowa*. 2 volumes. Indianapolis, IN: B. F. Bowen & Company, 1912.

Wendell Wendt et al. *150th Jubilee: First Presbyterian Church - Newton, Iowa - 1855-2005*.

The Newton Daily News, December 18, 1926; August 10, 1957.

Internet resources

Jasper County Assessor www.iowaassessors.com

National Register of Historic Places www.nps.gov

Iowa State Historic Preservation Office

Database of Iowa resources www.iowahistory.org
Berry Bennett, Inventory & Information Management

Topographic Maps

Source for USGS Topographic maps www.beacon.schneidercorp.com