

Project #: 92.018  
 Organization: Ironbound Educational & Cultural Center (IECC)  
 Project Name: IECC  
 Project Location: Ironbound, 1 block east of Penn Station  
 City: Newark  
 County: Essex  
 Site Contact (phone #): Richard Pereira (201/465-1133)

**USES & INTERPRETATION**

Historic Use: Religion, church  
 Present Use: Recreation/Culture, public assembly space and offices  
 Proposed Use: Recreation/Culture, theater and museum, gift shop, offices, art gallery, restaurant.  
 Proposed Interpretation: no formal interpretive program; church building will be generally returned to its pre-fire (June 11, 1988) appearance

**DATES**

Completion of Earliest Extant Construction: 1849  
 Commencement of Design (or Construction): 1848 (cornerstone)  
 Completion of all Significant Construction: 1890's Catholic remodelling included rear addition, addition of limestone portico, application of exterior stucco, replacement of steeple with domed tower. ca.1920 rectory.  
 Source - Register Form; HSR; Other(specify): Register Nomination Form

**REGISTER STATUS: SR 3/20/84 NR 10/24/91**

Contributing or Individual: individual (rectory contributing to church)  
 Historic Site/District/Thematic Name: (Old) Mt. Carmel Church, R.C.  
 Common or Other Names: Church of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Second Reformed Dutch Church, Ironbound Educational & Cultural Center.

**SIGNIFICANCE: local.** The significance of the church is primarily architectural, although in its current fire damaged and partially renovated state it lacks many of the features which account for this significance. Additional significance in the area of religion is gained by association with Mother Cabrini, the first American Saint, who conducted a parochial school in the rectory. The building was initially designed as a Dutch Reformed Church by architect-builder-politician-parishioner William H. Kirk and was constructed out of brick and stone with a tall steeple. The church was extensively remodelled in the 1890's to suit the tastes and liturgical needs of new owners -- Italian Catholics. A fire in 1988 destroyed the 1890's domed tower, the entire roof, and a good portion of the interiors. The primary surviving feature is the 1890's limestone portico.

**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:** The church and rectory are located near Newark Penn Station adjacent to a small triangular piece of open land and are relatively free-standing due to the location of parking lots to the rear and side. The buildings are on the edge of a busy section of Ironbound, a Portuguese immigrant enclave with an increasing Hispanic population, which contains a lot of restaurants.

The church is a simple gable roofed masonry structure, rectangular in plan, with a full width cross-gable rear addition. A pedimented portico with a sparse entablature projects forward at the front door (capitals are composite order). The tower base is situated above the

front door; the tower element is clearly missing. Building interior exhibits recently completed renovations (non-historic) such as painted murals on ceilings, marble wainscoting, painting and decorative woodwork, terrazzo floors and new balcony constructions. The overall dimensions of the worship space are intact.

The rectory faces the street bordering the small triangle and thus exists at a splayed angle with the church building. Set back from the street at the narrow space between the two buildings and behind the rectory is a stalled construction site, part of the IECC's plans for a museum. The rectory is a three story brick and limestone structure with marble steps and cast iron treatments at first floor fenestration and second floor balcony. Interiors were renovated for office use long ago.

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**PHYSICAL CONDITION** Comments apply only to church building which is the subject of this application.

**Structural:** good. roofs largely rebuilt after fire, masonry walls straight and true, structure not damaged by fire had been recently improved in 1987.

**Exterior Envelope:** fair. stucco cracks, isolated areas of masonry damage, paint peeling off of metal cornice, side doors missing and boarded up, graffiti prevalent at street side.

**Roof:** good. asphalt shingles recently installed after 1988 fire

**Interiors:** good. main space recently renovated, other spaces awaiting finishes.

**Mechanical Systems:** good. heat and electric recently installed and fully operational.

**Threats:** no serious threats at present

**Specific Comments:** none

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**PROJECT PLANS** (specify past or proposed): Work is exactly 1/2 past and 1/2 proposed. The goal is rehabilitation of the church. Applicant had completed a lot of work just prior to the June 12, 1988, fire. Past work requested for reimbursement herein does not include any 1985-88 work items which were destroyed by the fire. Proposed work does include reconstruction of items which were destroyed by the fire.

**Stabilization (to be funded):** no

**Rehabilitation (to be funded):** past: demolition debris removal related to construction prior to fire and demolition/clean-up after the fire; new asphalt roof; masonry repairs; interior woodwork/trim; new doors; reconstruction of stained glass and other fire damaged windows; interior painting. proposed: reconstruction of 1890's tower with dome which was destroyed by fire; restoration of metal cornices; exterior painting; reconstruction of missing exterior wood doors and hardware; stained glass restoration and addition of lexan for protection; application of synthetic stucco (e.g. "Dryvit") if acceptable.

**Restoration (to be funded):** no

**Improvements (to be funded):** past: new heating and plumbing; new electrical wiring and lighting.

**Other Immediate Plans** (not in scope to be funded): completion of interior improvements within church; addition of glockenspiel at two locations on tower.



Maintenance Plans (not in scope to be funded): no formal plan; IECC will perform routine maintenance as needed.

Other Long Range Plans (not in scope to be funded): improvements and modifications to public park in front of buildings -- to be renamed "Portugal Plaza." Completion of new construction between the two buildings.

Current Stage of Work to be Funded (check):

<input type="checkbox"/> research/planning	<input type="checkbox"/> contract documents	<input type="checkbox"/> construction
<input type="checkbox"/> schematic design	<input type="checkbox"/> code review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> completion
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> design development	<input type="checkbox"/> bidding/negotiation	

Historic Structure Report (cite): NO

Preservation Plan, active (cite): NO

Archaeological Report (cite): NO

Public Access (interior) exc gd fr pr: good

Public Access (exterior) exc gd fr pr: good

Number of Visitors (annual): applicant's estimate of over 100,000 no doubt includes liberal counting of people attending festivals in front of the building.

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COMMENT on Quality & Appropriateness of Past & Proposed Project Planning:

**Proposed Work:** For historic preservation work proposals are inadequately researched and poorly planned. Glockenspiel (not requested for funding) which will be put on tower does not belong there historically, yet it will be the central focus of IECC's presentation of "the immigrant experience."

**Past Work (match spent & other work since '85):** Only the new roof, heating, plumbing and electrical improvements, and post-fire demolition can be assumed to be eligible for reimbursement. Other work will require more intensive on-site discussions with applicant -- some may not be in compliance with Standards. Most of the interior finishes and features are new and definitely exhibit a false sense of historical development.

**Use:** Programmatic plans are extremely interesting and appear to be of value for the local community. Expansion of plans will benefit a larger audience. As a historic preservation project, however, the intensive use is causing ahistorical modifications which are inappropriate.

**Interpretation:** The programs represent admirable goals for which the buildings are merely vehicles. However, applicant is interested in historic uses such as Mother Cabrini's parochial school, and will probably interpret this.

**Research/Planning/Archaeological Reports:** none

**A/E Contract Documents:** Past A/E documents, such as they are, were briefly reviewed at project site. Documents prepared by David Abramson appeared poorly conceived for a preservation project, but the IECC's directive to Abramson is unknown. None of the documents looked to be acceptable by NJHT standards.

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CONSTRUCTION BUDGET & SCHEDULE:

Project Budget: \$800,664

Grant Request: \$400,332  
 Match Spent: \$400,332  
 Committed Match: -0-

Comment on Adequacy of Matching Funds: the match is spent. Due to insufficient documentation of conditions prior to execution of past work, it is difficult to determine if all of it is eligible (see comments above).

Request as % of Project Budget: 50%

Request as % of Annual Operating Budget: 200%

Non-construction as % of Project Budget: 13%

Percent of Work Completed (spent/proposed): 50%/50%

Project Schedule (Realistic?): completion by December '93 is feasible, but A/E team would have to be assembled and commence work immediately.

Comment on Relationship of Cost to Work (both past & proposed): past work is extremely difficult to gauge because invoices do not fully detail the scope. Estimates for proposed work do not appear to have been generated by any established formulas or with the assistance of cost estimators knowledgeable on preservation.

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#### ABILITY OF APPLICANT

Organizational Ability of Applicant & Consultants (comment): Applicant lists 5 professional staff, 6 support staff, and 31 volunteers. The organization appears to be active in municipal politics, and apparently has the support of various key individuals. The IECC was established in 1975 to provide direct services for the disadvantaged, minorities, children, senior citizens and other residents with disabilities. The IECC's most popular course is English as a Second Language for Adults. Project Mngmnt Ability of Applicant & Consultants (comment): previous track record indicates that applicant has the ability to complete large capital projects.

Contracted Professionals & Consultants: none at present

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#### PREVIOUS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Did Applicant Apply Previously?: NO

Is Applicant a '90 or '91 Grantee?: NO

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SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS ON ANY ASPECT OF THE PROJECT: Given the past interior work (outside scope of this grant request) this project probably cannot be funded.

#### COMMENTS NOT ADDRESSED IN OTHER SECTIONS:

Fire insurance paid \$315,000 which was insufficient to cover the loss estimated at \$650,000.

This proposal does not fit the definition of a historic preservation project -- the changes are not responsive to the historic context. However, the intense drive, commitment, and ambition of the executive director should be applauded.

Survey Completed By: Bill Dupont

Date of Visit: 29 September 1992

Contact(s) at Site: Richard Pereira, Executive Director, IECC





State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

TRENTON 08625

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

APR 29 1978

Dr. William Murtagh  
Keeper of the National Register  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation  
Service  
18th and C Streets, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240

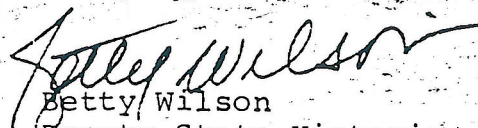
Dear Dr. Murtagh:

I am pleased to nominate the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church,  
Newark, Essex County to the National Register of Historic  
Places.

This nomination has received approval of the State  
Review Committee for Historic Sites.

Should you want any further information concerning this  
application, please feel free to contact the staff of the  
Office of Historic Preservation, 109 West State Street,  
Department of Environmental Protection, Trenton, New Jersey  
08625, telephone (609) 292-2023.

Sincerely,

  
Betty Wilson  
Deputy State Historic  
Preservation Officer

BW:dm

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS.

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Second Reformed Dutch Church/(Old) Mt. Carmel Roman Catholic Church  
AND/OR COMMON

Church of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel/Ironbound Educational and Cultural  
Center

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

178-184 Edison Pl., at McWhorter St. and Ferry Street NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Newark

VICINITY OF

10th

STATE

New Jersey

CODE  
34

COUNTY  
Essex

CODE  
013

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Social Service

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Joseph Costa

STREET & NUMBER

25-29 Bruen Street

CITY, TOWN

Newark

VICINITY OF

STATE

New Jersey

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Essex County Hall of Records

STREET & NUMBER

High Street at Market Street

CITY, TOWN

Newark

STATE

New Jersey

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory (#2186.78)

DATE

1977

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Office of Historic Preservation, 109 West State Street

CITY, TOWN

Trenton

STATE

New Jersey



# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

As originally constructed in 1848, the Second Reformed Dutch Church of Newark was a rectangular Greek Revival style brick religious edifice having a slightly projecting center tower with frame belfry and spire. Probably at first with a three bay front and five bay sides, a large rear section with gable roof perpendicular to the main unit appears to have been added later (ca. 1870-1890). The fenestration of the main unit is divided by simple pilasters at the front and linear facades. The roof is gable with a pediment and originally dentil coursing beneath the eaves.

Apparently extensively altered on the interior when the Roman Catholic Church purchased the property in 1890, exterior alterations were also conducted at that time. These alterations include the Neo-classical portico, stucco facing, domed tower, entrance facade changes including window shortenings and the introduction of pediments and the second story square windows flanking the round center windows.

The church faces north fronting Edison Place at its corner with McWhorter Street which latter runs along the left of the church as one faces its facade. This corner is adjacent to slightly diagonal Ferry Street, the principal business street of the lively polyglot Ironbound section. Ferry Street and Edison Place form 2 sides of a triangle enveloping Peter Francisco Park, bordered on the 3rd side by the street flanking the east (rear) facade of Penn Station. As one leaves Downtown, crossing under the monumental elevated portion of station structure, entry is made to the Ironbound section looking where the triangular lines cover funneling on the vista, dominated by old Mt. Carmel Church on slightly higher ground.

The church, much as originally designed in 1848-49, is pictured on page 537 of Joseph M. Flynn's 1904 book The Catholic Church in New Jersey. Accounts of the church's considerable alteration by Catholics after the 1890-91 purchase appear to make this picture obsolete before the 1904 book, but a reasonable resemblance to the church's original appearance. It is possible that some exterior changes followed after the interior changes necessary to liturgical change from Protestant to Catholic.

The church as originally built was of the continuum of Georgian-Federal-Greek Revival-Anglo Norman, probably best described as of the Greek Revival Period. It was constructed of brick. (The architect William H. Kirk built other "classical" churches in brick - a year later the nearby, simpler Greek Revival style Union Street Methodist, now Providence Baptist; the 1851-57 Trinity Methodist at Warren and Wilsey Streets; the Greek Revival Old Bergen Church in Jersey City and the Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church - National Register 1976, p.473 and 467).



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Newark

Essex County New Jersey 034

CONTINUATION SHEET	DESCRIPTION	ITEM NUMBER	PAGE
		7	2

The church featured a facade with a slightly protruding center tower with, originally, a center spire of total height being 120'. There was originally no portico. The main sanctuary level was several steps above street level, with a full basement (at least now) under the church consisting predominantly of a rectangular social hall with stage and patterned metal flat ceiling, and ten 5-inch cast iron columns.

One pedimented window at the first floor equivalent flanked the main entrance on each side in the facade wall with a rectangular window above each. The pedimented entrance has a round window above at the second floor equivalent. The square tower, about 1/3 of the church's total width of 48', originally rose to frame staging below the spire proper. Each side of the church under the main roof (peaked parallel to the church's length) has 5 large plain rectangular 2-story equivalent windows, now boarded up, suggesting 5 bays, but no major other structural effects such as buttresses were used to create actual bays. Windows 2 and 4 extend downward with doorways to steps, comprising 2 of the 3 McWhorter Street side entrances. To the rear of this main roofed section of approximately 80' length is a perpendicular transverse gable of the same height covering the balance of the church to the straight rear wall, an additional distance of about 26' making the original length a total of about 110'. Excluding a minor rear appendage off to the side the width was and remains, throughout, about 48'.

The sanctuary/chancel area proper, exclusive of former pew area, does not coincide with the location of the exterior transverse gabled roof; but it is unknown whether this was always so. The pew area was approximately 63' long along the main aisle from inside the vestibule doors under the rear loft to the main front wall, within which latter the chancel extended within a wide flat-curve "proscenium" type arch, this being about 10 feet north of the bottom or northern most part of the transverse roof gable. At the chancel rear, the chancel extended another 11' X 20' width as a semi-circular, semi-domed apse behind which was a 5' wide interior walk across areas to the inside of the rear exterior wall. This left moderate size rooms (suitable for drama or dressing rooms) flanking the chancel end on both sides and on 2 floors, with a walk across on the upper level "backstage" also.



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CONTINUATION SHEET DESCRIPTION ITEM NUMBER PAGE 3

The semi-circular apse is flanked by fluted marble-simulated Corinthian pilasters. To the sides are lesser arches on flat wall above removed side altars, semi-domed niches remaining, with these side arch's outer curves coming to rest on matching half-pilasters. Above are the slightly protruding chambers which held organ pipes, now empty. There are, in all, 4 vacant statue niches, outside of the former main altar chancel semi-circular recess.

Across the rear is a probably original choir loft gallery with dark wood balustrade intact which includes, at its center, a full semi-circular spindled balustrade projection out over the main aisle.

Like the exterior, many basic lines and fine shapes remain to the interior, even if it is much more bereft of fittings which makes its reuse refurbishing quite achievable but without fidelity of much detail.

Alongside the church, separated from it by a small yard on the church's west, is the former Rectory, an early 20th Century Neo-classical structure amenable principally for its main facade as the other sides are plain aged red brick. The edifice, circa 1920 or perhaps earlier, is of buff-yellow brick on the second and third floors, with some of the brickwork patterned, while the first floor is apparent limestone in fine cut courses although the same stone has some deliberate rough hewn blocks at the short basement level. The building is comparatively narrow, only 3 evenly spaced classically outlined windows across the front which on the first floor has the entrance, with low stone arched top, off center under the left windows. To the rear is a buff-yellow matching brick garage, virtually touching the church. Although the Rectory does not compare with the church in significance, it is a harmonious architectural and functional companion to it.

A handsome 4-column portico of limestone was added in the early 20th century by the Catholics; spaced so that 2 columns were closely spaced from each other on either side of the entry steps. Corinthian capitals adorn the columns with the portico topped by a typical pediment. The double door entrance has a separate round window at the level above it but within the portico.

# 8: SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW		
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES 1848 BUILDER/ARCHITECT William Kirk

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Originally the Second Dutch Reformed Church (1848-1890) and later the Mt. Carmel Roman Catholic Church (1890-c.1954) and location of the first parochial school in Newark, the building is a representative example of the Greek Revival style as produced by architect William Kirk.

Architecture

One of three extant church edifices in Newark designed by William Kirk, the Second Dutch Reformed Church is a good example of the Greek Revival format as constructed by master builders in New Jersey and is the least altered of Kirk's buildings in the city.

William H. Kirk was a noted builder/architect of the firm of Kirk and Kirkpatrick of Newark. Credited with building approximately a dozen churches in New Jersey from 1839-1858, primarily in the Greek Revival form, the Second Dutch Reformed Church (Mt. Carmel Roman Catholic Church) is representative of the buildings they designed. Although altered, Mt. Carmel Church still manifests substantial features of the original building.

William H. Kirk was an architect, builder/contractor, supplier, statewide politician, and a legislator and churchman who was (among other things) a member of this church (Reformed) and its Sunday School Superintendent. He is among the earliest Newark and New Jersey area prolific architects of many masonry churches, contemporary to and following noted Moses Dodd and Minard Lafever locally. Especially was he an obvious disciple of the latter (Lafever) -- in 4 architectural styles (2 Anglo Norman--Early Romanesque), Greek Revival and Gothic Revival. He is also credited with several porticoed Greek Revival county courthouses, all believed demolished, including that of Hudson County. A competent architect who left some mundane works as well as masterpieces, his architectural designing career was by the Civil War, diminished in relation to his great civic, political, contracting and supply businesses. He is reputed to have had cement mines near Kingston N.Y.--where both he and Lafever also designed buildings.



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Essex County  
Newark  
New Jersey 07102

CONTINUATION SHEET SIGNIFICANCE      ITEM NUMBER 8      PAGE 2

Most notable of Kirk's surviving work is the great brownstone Gothic--North Reformed Church, 1857-59 adjoining Mutual Benefit Life on Broad Street facing Washington Park, Newark. He did the 1852 simpler, similar Reformed Church by the Belleville Bridge. Especially noted and charming is his red brick, white columned, gold domed, 1839 Greek Revival church of the Presbyterians at Basking Ridge. By 1841, he had completed another very notable Greek Revival Church for Jersey City's most historic congregation--Old Bergen Reformed. Several blocks from old Mt. Carmel in Newark's Ironbound, he did the simple Greek Revival Union Street Methodist -- 1850, while his Trinity Methodist of 1851-57 copied Lafever's churches in New York, Newark and Kingston---(simplified).

Education

The Mt. Carmel Roman Catholic church was the first Italian Catholic parochial school in (Arch) diocese of Newark---a work of the first American Saint, Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini.

Religion

The Second Dutch Reformed Church was a cultural (religious) focal point for Newark citizens in the second half of the 19th century. When purchased by the Roman Catholic diocese in the 1890's this edifice continued to reflect the beliefs of its congregation although the religious and social ethnicity had changed as a result of Italian immigration brought on by rapid industrialization in Newark.

South of Bergen County and Belleville, the regionally strong Dutch Reformed Church was relatively slower and later in growth, with most of Newark and its west-southwest environs dominated much more by early Presbyterians. The Second Dutch Reformed Church of 1848-49, therefore, comparatively within Newark, was an early church of that denomination.

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CONTINUATION SHEET SIGNIFICANCE ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 3

Upon the congregation's move to a newer (destroyed) church on Pacific Street and New York Avenue, the Roman Catholics, under Bishop Winand Wigger, bought the property in 1890 to serve a new Italian national parish, there being many Italians then in-migrant to the neighborhood. The Church was renovated more compatibly to Catholic liturgy and Italian tastes. Mt. Carmel Church parish shifted location slightly and a new church was built 1954 on Oliver Street, (where its street feast days still flourish), with the outgrown old building held by the parish for many years more as an out post.



**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Newark Daily Advertiser. 9/26/1848, 5/8/1849, 5/10/1849.  
 Flynn, Joseph. The Catholic Church in New Jersey. Morristown, N.J., 1904. (p. 537).  
 Schnall, Kenneth. A Survey of Ecclesiastical Architecture Built in Newark from 1810-1965.  
 Records of Mount Carmel Roman Catholic Church.

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY one acre (minus)

UTM REFERENCES

A	18	570570	4509200	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property occupies city block 183, lot 6 and is approximately 100' X 200' in size.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Richard Pereira and Donald W. Geyer (Revisions by T. Karschner, Office of Historic DATE Preservation)

Ironbound Educational and Cultural Center

STREET & NUMBER

178-184 Edison Place

CITY OR TOWN

Newark

TELEPHONE

(609) 292-2028

STATE

New Jersey

**12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ LOCAL XX

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

Deputy STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Joseph Wilson*

TITLE Deputy Commissioner  
 Department of Environmental Protection

4/29/78  
 DATE

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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

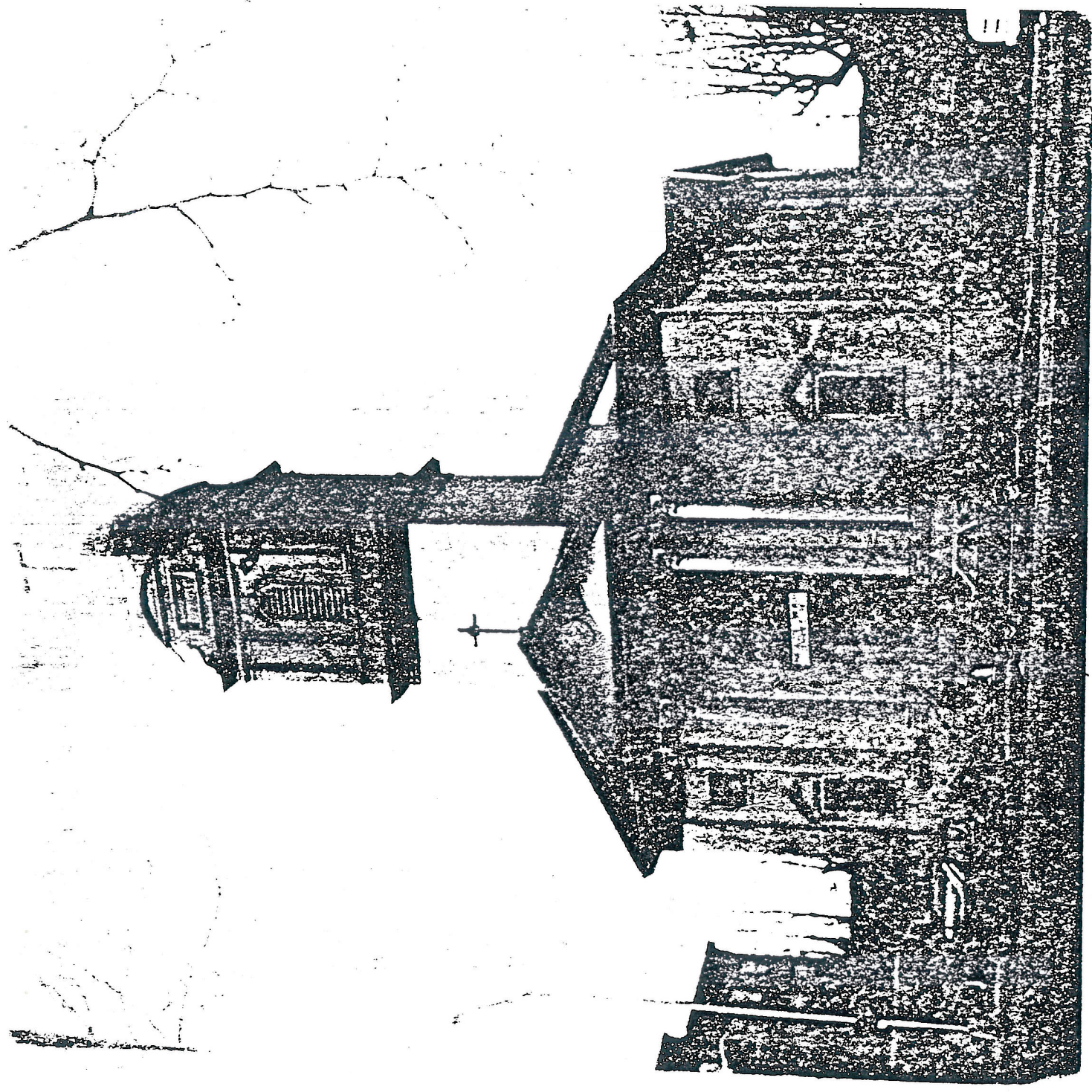
DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

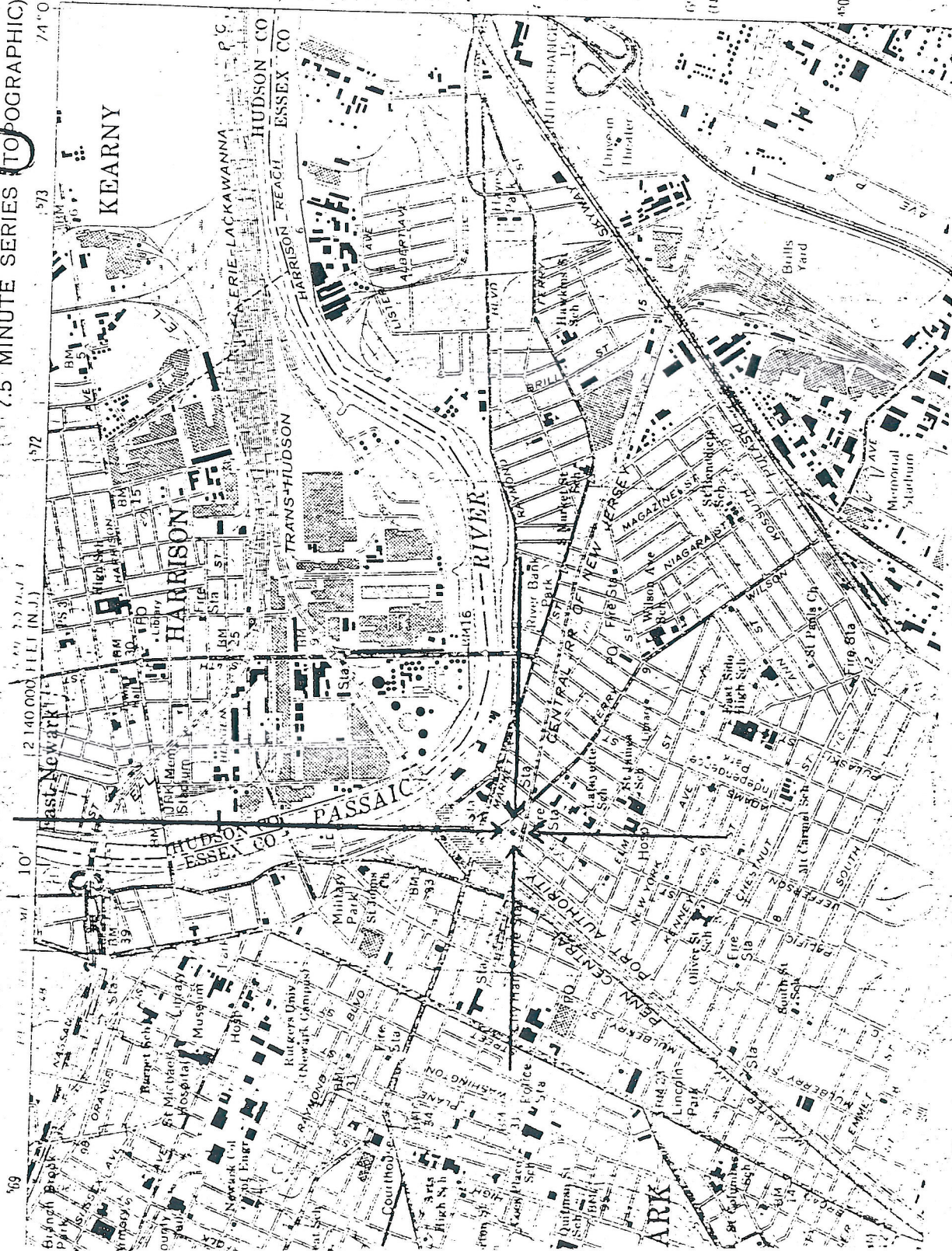






ELIZABETH QUADRANGLE  
 NEW JERSEY - NEW YORK  
 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

14° 07' 30" N  
 40° 45' W



Mt. Carmel Roman Catholic  
 Church / Our Lady of Mt.  
 Carmel  
 Newark  
 Essex County  
 New Jersey

UTM References:  
 18-5-70-570  
 15-00-200

690109 HCT  
 (H.J.)

408

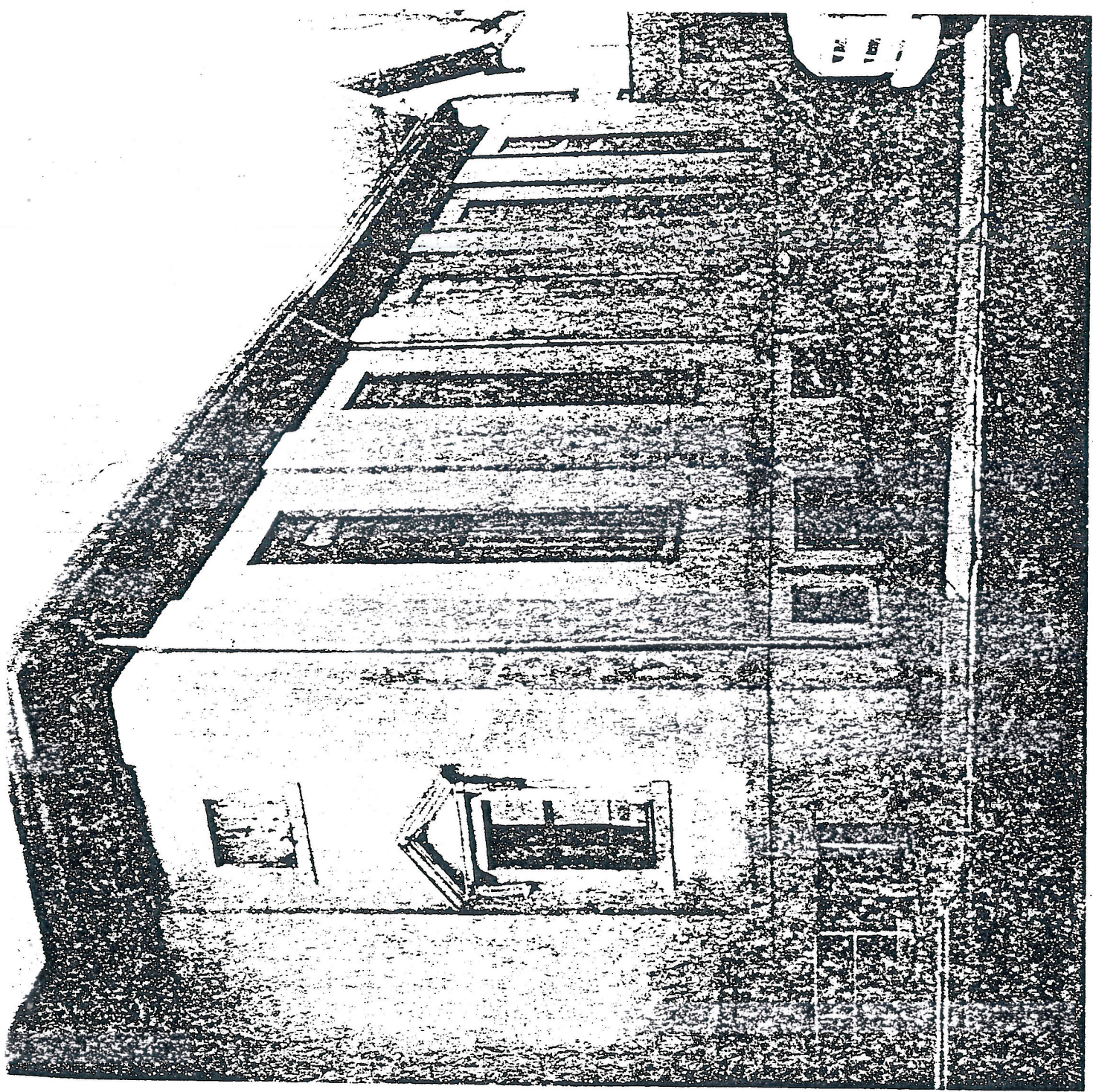
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church  
Newark  
Essex County  
New Jersey 031  
view of front facade  
camera view NW  
Neg at:  
Richard Perelra 178-194 Edison Pl.  
Newark NJ



100 - 1007

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church  
Newark view of east side  
Essex County camera view SW  
New Jersey 031  
Neg at:  
Richard Pereira, 178-184 Edlison Pl.  
Newark, NJ



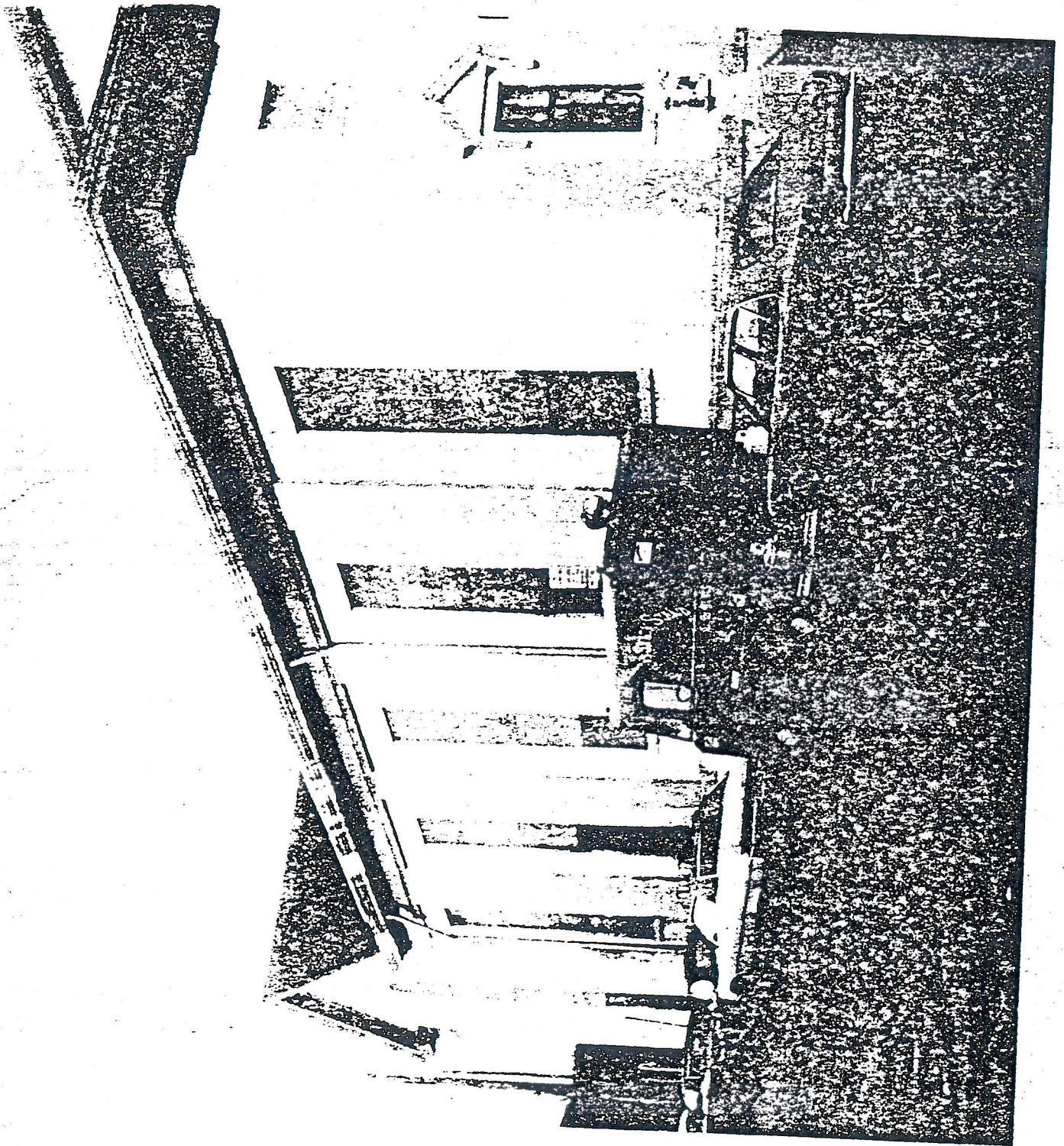




WPA - 1917

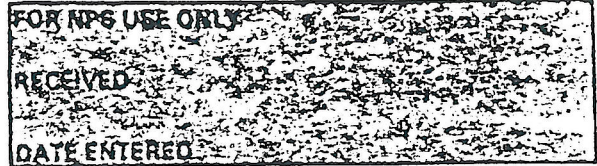
Our lady of Mount Carmel Church  
Newark  
Essex County  
New Jersey 0311  
view of west side  
camera view NE

Phot. at:  
Richard Pereira, 178-184 Edison Pl.  
Newark NJ





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Second Reformed Dutch Church/Mt. Carmel Roman Catholic Church  
Newark  
Essex County, New Jersey

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

Addendum

The Mount Carmel Church (nee Second Reformed Dutch Church) has firm historical connections with immigration history of Newark. During the last decade of the 19th century thousands of southern and eastern Europeans migrated to the industrial cities of the Eastern United States. This migration is reflected in Newark by the purchase by the Catholic Diocese of Newark of the former Second Dutch Reformed Church in 1890. This religious facility provided comfort and assistance to the many Italians who settled in the Ironbound section of Newark (so-called because of its boundaries physically determined by the surrounding heavy industrial facilities). The Mount Carmel Church functioned as an initial step in the Italian immigrant's perception of a cultural identity and unity within their new society. The church provided comfort and valuable assistance in helping its predominately Italian immigrant congregation adjust to the new environment.

By the 1950's the Ironbound area had substantially deteriorated, but a new era of ethnic history rose out of the decay. Emigrants from Portugal began settling in the 1960's and today Newark has the second largest Portuguese population in the United States, concentrating primarily in the Ironbound area.

Terry Karschner  
1/1979

The attached National Register Inventory-Nomination form is being returned to your office for clarification of the information indicated below. PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WHEN THE NOMINATION IS RESUBMITTED.

7 Description: Please provide documentation to show how the existing structure is a substantially intact Wm. Kirk ~~design~~ design; OR:

8 Statement of Significance: If the existing structure conveys significant associations with the late 19<sup>th</sup>-early 20<sup>th</sup> c. immigrant Italian-Catholic community, please provide some historic information on this context during these years. The significance as now explained does not apply to existing structure as much as it does to 1848 original

9 Bibliography: \_\_\_\_\_

10 Geographical Data -- Acreage: \_\_\_\_\_

UTM Reference(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal Boundary Description: \_\_\_\_\_

12 Certification: \_\_\_\_\_

Photographic Coverage: see # 7 above.

Map Coverage: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to Joe Towner

on the National Register staff, telephone 202/343-6401

Thank you for your attention to the above items.

Bill Lebovich in  
Chief, Branch of Registration

Date: 1. 8. 79  
~~12/20/78~~



Property Second Reformed Dutch Church  
State N.J. Working Number 5.17.78.3105

**TECHNICAL**

**CONTROL**

Photos 3  
Maps 1

*pl*  
*OK* 5.18.78

Described as significant for ~~representative~~ as one of local area architect & typical Reformed Church, few associations with early Dutch Reformed community, & for later use by associations with changes resulting from Italian ~~to~~ Catholic

**HISTORIAN**

*Shapiro*  
10-9-78  
? accept

Despite alterations, representative ~~design~~ design by William Kirk. Strong historical associations as well.

**ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN**

*accept*  
*Krawman*  
11.13.78 6.30.78

immigration. Though farm is not so matter - I believe significance rests with 1890's people & building changes. NJ emphasis on early

**ARCHEOLOGIST**

**OTHER**

**HAER**

Inventory \_\_\_\_\_  
Review \_\_\_\_\_

**REVIEW UNIT CHIEF**

*Retiree*  
*L. Becker 12.20.78*

**BRANCH CHIEF**

**KEEPER**

National Register Write-up \_\_\_\_\_ Send-back \_\_\_\_\_ Entered \_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Register Entry \_\_\_\_\_ Re-submit \_\_\_\_\_

INT:2106-74

although altered, 2nd Dutch Reformed  
church seems justifiably nominated as a  
design by Wm Kirk.

Language such as:

"representative example of 19th. Revival  
style as produced by architect Wm Kirk."

"One of 3 extant church edifices." by Kirk

"least altered of Kirk's buildings in the  
city."

justifies listing even ~~to~~ with  
stucco, portico.

- Strong historical ~~to~~ associations with  
catholics, school, etc.

Brookman

11-13-78