

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Kansas	
COUNTY: Ellis	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
First Presbyterian Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
100 West Seventh Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Hays

STATE Kansas	CODE 67601	COUNTY: Ellis	CODE 051
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**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
First Presbyterian Church and Society

STREET AND NUMBER:  
100 West Seventh Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Hays

STATE: Kansas	CODE 67601
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**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Register of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Ellis County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:  
Hays

STATE: Kansas	CODE 67601
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**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
NONE

DATE OF SURVEY:  
 Federal  
 State  
 County  
 Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Hays

STATE: Kansas	CODE 67601
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STATE: Kansas
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The old First Presbyterian Church is a simple rectangular one-story structure. The exterior walls are of native stone blocks laid in a random ashlar pattern. The hand hewn blocks give a rustic, massive appearance to the building.

The roof is a steeply pitched gable covered with wood shingles. The cornice is constructed of undecorated wood members. A small overhang occurs on all sides. The gable ends are continuations of the stone end walls.

The window openings are simple with arched heads. The central window on the north end is a broad double panel with a semicircular arch of rough hewn stone blocks. Flanking this window are two smaller openings with pointed cut stone arches which give a Gothic flavor to the building. Four identical windows are placed on the west wall. Colored glass is used in all windows. A small tri-part emblem bearing the date "1879" is located in the north gable end.

Old pictures reveal that the original entrance was on the north end, where the large double window is now placed. The entrance was changed when the square tower and east wing were added in 1911-1913. For a time access was gained through the east side of the tower. But with the construction of the brick edifice in 1922-1926, an entrance was made through the north wall of the tower. The present brick chimney on the west wall is not original; old photographs show a chimney at the south end. A small cupola or bell tower was situated at the north end of the structure prior to the additions of 1911-1913.

The building, which is in the Gothic style, is a good example of an early vernacular building with added architectural detailing.

Only the original stone portion together with the 1911-1913 addition and tower are covered by this nomination form, the abutting 1922-1926 section of the church is not included.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century  
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1879

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |                                      |   |   |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal     | <input type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric    | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic       | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry    | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                        | Western settlement                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture    | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                      | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape   | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian            | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art            | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature  | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                        | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce       | <input type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                 | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music       |   | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   |                                      |   | _____   |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The First Presbyterian Church in Hays was organized on May 27, 1873, by Rev. Timothy Hill, the Presbyterian superintendent of missions for Kansas. The founding members, seven women and one man, were under the determined leadership of Mrs. A. M. Wilson.

The city of Hays had been established in 1867 and in its early years it attracted the rough and restless elements of the frontier. These people and the attendant vice and violence distressed the religiously inclined minority in Hays. To combat what they regarded as a bad influence on the community, both the Presbyterians and the Methodists began church services on a regular basis in 1873. Rev. Donald Sutherland from Nova Scotia was the first Presbyterian minister in Hays, serving from November, 1873, to November, 1874.

In 1879 the Presbyterian congregation purchased three lots at the southwest corner of Seventh and Main from Henry Cass for \$125.00 and erected a small stone church. The minister at that time was Rev. Abram Steed.

In 1911-1913 an annex to the east and a square tower were added to the structure. The stone used for the additions was from St. George's Episcopal Church at Victoria which had been built for George Grant's Victoria colony of English aristocrats. By 1911 the British colonists had long since departed and the church stood unused so the Presbyterian congregation at Hays purchased and dismantled it. The annex was dedicated April 27, 1913. Much of this east wing was removed in 1922 when construction started on a large brick church alongside the stone building. After the dedication of the new sanctuary in 1926, the old stone structure was used for Sunday school.

Presently the congregation is formulating plans to construct a new sanctuary in another part of Hays. A large group of members as well as many other townspeople would like to see the original 1879 stone church preserved. National Register listing is regarded as an important step toward that goal.

The Presbyterian congregation was the first to be officially organized in Hays (1873) and, according to some sources, the first in western Kansas. The stone church erected in 1879 is believed to be the first permanent church building in Hays, and

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Kansas	
COUNTY	
Ellis	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

8. perhaps in western Kansas. It is one of only a very few buildings in Hays which predate 1880. The church also had ties with nearby Fort Hays. Some of the military personnel attended worship services and other church activities, some of the soldiers were married there and for others funeral services were held.
  
9. Wilson, Rev. John, "History of the Presbytery of Osborne," (n. p., 1888), p. 5.  
Winter, Mrs. Maureen, editor, Indians to Industry (n. p., 1967), p. 32.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<p>9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES</p> <p>"First Presbyterian Church to Observe 85th Anniversary," <u>Hays Daily News</u>, May 4, 1958.</p> <p>"First Presbyterian Church, Seventy-fifth Anniversary," (Hays, Kansas, Hays News Print, 1948).</p> <p>"Hays Church is 80 Years Old," <u>Ellis County News</u>, May 21, 1953.</p> <p>Hill, Rev. Timothy, "Historical Sketch of the Presbyterian Church in Kansas" (n. p., 1876), pp. 34, 35.</p> <p>History of the State of Kansas (Chicago, A. T. Andreas, 1883), p. 1292.</p> <p>"Presbyterians Have First Permanent Church in Hays," <u>Hays Daily News</u>, June 25 1967.</p>																																									
<p>10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA</p> <p>LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>CORNER</td> <td>LATITUDE</td> <td>LONGITUDE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NW</td> <td>0 . . . . .</td> <td>0 . . . . .</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NE</td> <td>0 . . . . .</td> <td>0 . . . . .</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SE</td> <td>0 . . . . .</td> <td>0 . . . . .</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SW</td> <td>0 . . . . .</td> <td>0 . . . . .</td> </tr> </table> <p>LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>DEGREES</td> <td>MINUTES</td> <td>SECONDS</td> </tr> <tr> <td>38</td> <td>52</td> <td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>99</td> <td>19</td> <td>52</td> </tr> </table> <p>APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: One acre</p> <p>LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>STATE:</td> <td>CODE</td> <td>COUNTY:</td> <td>CODE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>STATE:</td> <td>CODE</td> <td>COUNTY:</td> <td>CODE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>STATE:</td> <td>CODE</td> <td>COUNTY:</td> <td>CODE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>STATE:</td> <td>CODE</td> <td>COUNTY:</td> <td>CODE</td> </tr> </table>		CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	NW	0 . . . . .	0 . . . . .	NE	0 . . . . .	0 . . . . .	SE	0 . . . . .	0 . . . . .	SW	0 . . . . .	0 . . . . .	DEGREES	MINUTES	SECONDS	38	52	16	99	19	52	STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE	STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE	STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE	STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
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<p>11. FORM PREPARED BY</p> <p>Richard Pankratz, Planner Charles Hall, Architectural Consultant</p> <p>ORGANIZATION Kansas State Historical Society</p> <p>DATE July 14, 1972</p> <p>STREET AND NUMBER: 120 West Tenth Street</p> <p>CITY OR TOWN: Topeka</p> <p>STATE Kansas 66612</p> <p>CODE 20</p>																																									
<p>12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION</p> <p>As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <i>Nyle H. Miller</i> Nyle H. Miller</p> <p>Title Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society</p> <p>Date July 18, 1972</p>																																									
<p>13. NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION</p> <p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p>Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p>Date</p> <p>Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date</p>																																									