

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM COMMERCIAL/INSTITUTIONAL PROPERTY

County Hays Site No. 44
City/Rural San Marcos Date: Factual 1908 Est. Adtns: 1953
Historic Name First Baptist Church Architect/Builder
Address 219 Martin Luther King Dr. Contractor
Owner First Baptist Church Historic Use Church
Legal Desc. pt lot 14, blk 16, Original Town of S.M. Present Use Vacant
Property Type Institutional Subtype Religious Stylistic Inf.

Integrity of: location X design setting X materials workmanship association X feeling X

History of Property Constructed in 1908, this church served as both a religious and social center for the community, used for commencement exercises for the San Marcos Colored School until integration of area schools. It was vacated in 1986 after a new structure was built and is currently under renovation. A mural behind the baptistry, executed by Mrs. Henry Kyle, depicts the Jordan River and was commissioned by a committee of women from the church. The roof of the church was lowered in 1936. Additional alterations in 1953 included the application of siding and new concrete steps. It is not known when the front porch was altered.

Areas of Significance (include justification) Architecture, Social History

An important example of the type of structure constructed by African-American congregations. Served as an important center for social activities of all kinds in the Dunbar neighborhood.

Bibliography (include oral histories) manuscript files of Dr. Elvin Holt of San Marcos

Surveyor Ralph Newlan Date Surveyed 10-20-95

Photo Data: Roll/Frame 002:36 Slides 3

Designations: NR RTHL HABS Local Other

PRIORITY: High X Medium Low

Location

X original location
 moved (specify date)
 N building faces (N/S/E/W)

Stories

2 specify # (1,2)

Construction

X frame
 solid brick (specify color)
 solid stone (specify color)
 specify other

Plan

 open plan
 X Auditorium Plan

Exterior Walls

 stone (specify type)
 stucco
 synthetic siding
 red brick
 buff brick
 polychromatic brick
 wood siding
 terra cotta ornamentation
 party wall construction

X Asbestos Siding

Ground Floor

5 specify # of bays
 X symmetrically arranged
 asymmetrically arranged
 cast iron pilasters
 fixed sash display windows
 aluminum sash
 single-door entry

X double-door entry
 multiple-door entry
 recessed central entry (# of doors)
 stairway door (specify placement)
 transom (specify visible or covered)

canopy

 wood
 metal
 rod supported
 chain supported
 wall braced
 specify other

Rear Elevation

 on alley
 loading dock
 loading door
 windows
 single-door entry
 specify other

Upper Floor

 specify # of bays
 symmetrically arranged
 asymmetrically arranged

windows

X specify # (2/2 - 4/4)
 X flat-arched
 segmentally arched
 X round-arched
 hood moldings
 lintels
 voussiors
 X wood sash
 aluminum sash

 metal casement windows
 (light configuration)
 X singlelight aluminum sliders

Parapet

 (specify # of parts)
 corbelled brickwork
 decorative brickwork
 metal letters
 brick letters
 pressed-metal cornice
 painted detailing
 date and name (specify)
 specify other

Roof

 hipped roof
 X gable roof
 flat roof
 X standing seam metal

 chimneys or flues
 specify other

Other

X -flanking hippedroof towers on north elevation.
 X -raised basement framing is constructed of rusticated concrete block piers.
 X -interior chimney (brick) flue for heating system.