

Ref 76001399

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Ohio
COUNTY:	Cuyahoga
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	3-17-76

1. NAME

COMMON:	Pilgrim Congregational Church United Church of Christ
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:		2592 West 14th Street	
CITY OR TOWN:		Cleveland	
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:		20 - James V. Stanton	
STATE:	CODE:	COUNTY:	CODE:
Ohio	039	Cuyahoga	035

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<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
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Social Service</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:	Pilgrim Congregational Church United Church of Christ . . .		
STREET AND NUMBER:	2592 West 14th Street		
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE:	
Cleveland	Ohio	039	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:	Cuyahoga County Building		
STREET AND NUMBER:	1219 Ontario		
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE:	
Cleveland	Ohio	039	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:	designated Cleveland Landmark		
DATE OF SURVEY:	1973	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> State
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:	Cleveland Landmark Commission		
STREET AND NUMBER:	City Hall		
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE:	
Cleveland	Ohio	039	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Ohio
COUNTY: Cuyahoga
ENTRY NUMBER:
DATE:

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input 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

This is a large institutional church building in the Richardsonian Romanesque style. The main part of the church is basically square, with large rose windows in the gables facing east and north. The east entrance is a semi-circular arch over 22 feet in diameter leading to a recessed porch which opens into vestibules at each corner. There is a tower approximately 150 feet tall at the northeast corner and a smaller one at the southeast. The towers have round-headed lancets, rose windows, corner turrets and pyramidal roofs. The south side of the building is the Sunday school wing, which also has a gabled facade and large arched window on the east.

A contemporary description summarizes the interior arrangements: "The extreme length of the building, on (14th Street), is 132 feet, and its depth, on Starkweather Avenue, is 120 feet, with a projection of eight feet additional for the organ.

"The building covers 15,520 square feet. It contains 16 rooms on the ground floor, 12 rooms on the main floor, 15 rooms on the gallery floor, a total of 43 separate apartments, besides ample halls, vestibules, etc. Its cubic contents are 720,000 cubic feet. The auditorium will seat comfortably . . . a total of 1,250. The Sunday-school rooms are separated from the church auditorium only by a sliding partition, by means of which the two apartments may be thrown together for special services . . .

"The lower floor of the entire structure is given to the social and institutional work. It contains a reading room and library, 30x30 feet; . . . a finely equipped gymnasium (since subdivided), 58x26-1/2 feet; recreation rooms, dining and social room, 49-1/2x52 feet; Boys' Brigade armory, 30x33 feet; kitchen, 22-1/2x22 feet, with pantry and serving room; ladies' parlor; beside engine and boiler rooms. The ceiling of the ground floor rooms is eleven feet high, the entire floor being only two feet below the level of the ground."

The sanctuary (auditorium) itself is a lofty square space framed by four great semi-circular arches. Originally these arches were studded with electric bulbs, but they were removed in the 1950s in favor of a more indirect lighting system. The four arches terminate in smaller arches forming ribbed pendentives at the corners. The main ceiling culminates in a leaded glass dome 24 feet in diameter, artificially illuminated from above. The west arch frames the chorus and organ space, 19 feet deep. The pulpit and chancel occupy the southwest corner of the sanctuary, and the seats are arranged in a fan-like pattern. Across the north and east sides stretches the gallery.

The large rectangular two-story Sunday school room which opens into the sanctuary on the south is an impressive architectural space, with a coved ceiling and a gallery on three sides leading to additional classrooms. Its interior finish is virtually intact, although the sliding

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE		Ohio
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(Number all entries)

Pilgrim Congregational Church

7. DESCRIPTION

partition has not been opened for years. In the great framed attic space over the sanctuary the cables and pulleys for lifting the partition can be seen, as well as the upper surface of the glass ceiling dome.

Apart from redecoration, the sanctuary and the institutional rooms as well have been largely unaltered. Many of the stained glass windows have been repaired over the last five years. Much of the mechanical equipment, which was advanced for its day, is still in use. In 1920 a large but architecturally nondescript Community House with a new gymnasium, shower rooms and bowling alleys was added to the south of the original structure.

8. 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) 1893-1894

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The Pilgrim Congregational Church is an important early institutional structure specifically designed for social and community work. While the exterior design is an excellent example of the Romanesque style and the sanctuary proper is a superior accomplishment in architectural space and decoration, two-thirds of the original structure is devoted to the educational, social and community work. At the time it was called "an epoch-making church building."

The church traces its origins to the establishment of a Sunday school in University Heights, as the area was known, in 1854. The University Heights Congregational Church was organized in 1859. The first building was erected in 1865-1870. The present building was begun in 1893 and dedicated in 1894. It became Pilgrim Church at that time. The structure cost about \$150,000, and it was the first building on the west side of the river in Cleveland to use electricity. The architect was Sidney R. Badgley, who was active in Cleveland from 1887 to 1916. The contractor was Jacob Schade. The glass dome was designed by Elizabeth Parsons.

The first institutional work began in 1873 with the establishment of recreation rooms for the young men in the vicinity to keep them out of the saloons. When the Church Institute was organized as a department of the church in 1894, it maintained Fine Arts, History and Travel Clubs, a Literary Society, Boys' Brigade, Sewing School, a Gymnasium for men, boys, women and girls, and classes in book-keeping, business arithmetic, penmanship, piano and vocal music. In 1899, at the request of the commissioners of the Paris Exposition, an exhibit was sent abroad and praised as the "finest example of an institutional church."

The church claims to be the first in Cleveland to participate in or to initiate a Visiting Nurse program, the organization of Women's Suffrage, the community fund campaigns which developed into the Community Chest, and teen-age canteens during World War II. It continues this historic tradition today with a Police Athletic League program, Head Start classes and a senior nutrition program.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Historical Sketches of Our Twenty-five Churches and Missions
(Cleveland, 1896), 90-97.
Cleveland Plain Dealer, July 7, 1893, and November 22, 1894.
Our First One Hundred Years - Pilgrim Church (Cleveland, 1959), 5-8.
Cleveland Landmarks Commission.
Cleveland City Directories.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

UTM:
17 442/230 East 4591/730 North

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Less than one**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Eric Johannesen, Preservationist

ORGANIZATION: **Western Reserve Historical Society** DATE: **March 1975**

STREET AND NUMBER:
10825 East Boulevard

CITY OR TOWN: **Cleveland** STATE: **Ohio** CODE: **039**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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:

National State Local

Name *Sam H. Pritz*

Title *S.H.P.O.*

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

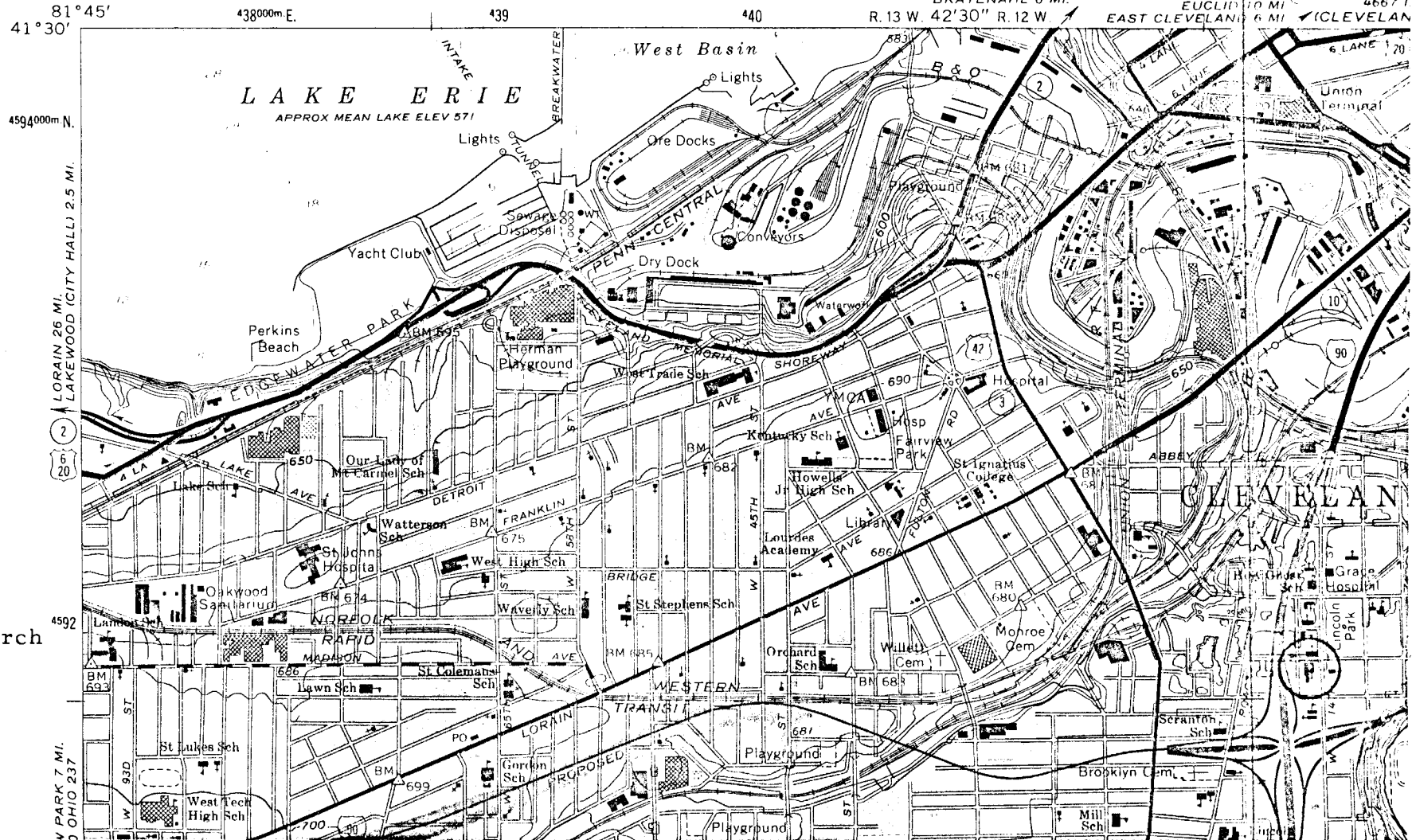
ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



Pilgrim
Congregational Church

17 442/230 East

4591/730 North

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Ohio	
COUNTY Cuyahoga	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON:		Pilgrim Congregational Church - United Church of Christ	
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 2592 West 14th Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Cleveland			
STATE:	Ohio	CODE	COUNTY:
		039	Cuyahoga
			CODE
			035
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT:		Eric Johannesen	
DATE OF PHOTO:		1975	
NEGATIVE FILED AT:		Western Reserve Historical Society	
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. East facade, with 1920 addition at left, looking northwest.			

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			CODE
			035
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT:		Eric Johannesen	
DATE OF PHOTO:		1975	
NEGATIVE FILED AT:		Western Reserve Historical Society	
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. Interior of sanctuary, looking northwest.			

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Pilgrim Congregational Church - United Church of Christ			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 2592 West 14th Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Cleveland			
STATE: Ohio	CODE 039	COUNTY: Cuyahoga	CODE 035
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Eric Johannesen			
DATE OF PHOTO: 1975			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Western Reserve Historical Society			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. Basement engine room, showing 1894 mechanical equipment.			

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PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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PHOTO CREDIT: Eric Johannesen			
DATE OF PHOTO: 1975			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Western Reserve Historical Society			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. East facade and north elevation, looking southwest.			

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE		Ohio	
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Pilgrim Congregational Church United Church of Christ			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 2592 West 14th Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Cleveland			
STATE: Ohio	CODE 039	COUNTY: Cuyahoga	CODE 035
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: U. S. G. S. Cleveland South Quadrangle			
SCALE: 1:24,000			
DATE: 1970			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

April 2, 1976

Pilgrim Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
2592 West 14th St.
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

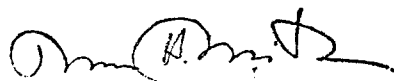
Dear Sirs:

I am pleased to inform you that the Pilgrim Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, 2592 West 14th St., Cleveland has been entered in the National Register of Historic Places by the National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior.

The nomination was made in connection with a state plan to identify and document prehistoric and historic places in Ohio which qualify for National Register status under provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. All nominations are approved by the Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board.

Enclosed is information explaining the purposes and goals of the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,



Thomas H. Smith
Director, Ohio Historical Society
State Historic Preservation Officer

THS:jp
enclosure

X.c: Cleveland Landmarks Commission
Mayor of Cleveland
Eric Johannsen, Western Reserve Historical Society

Ohio Historic Preservation Office

Ohio Historical Center I-71 & 17th Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43211 (614) 466-87

Ohio Historic Preservation Office

National Register of Historic Places File Checklist

The following materials are contained in this file of the National Register form for:

Name: Pilgrim Congregational Church

County: Cuyahoga

Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form

Multiple Property Nomination form

Photographs

Photographs (copies)

USGS maps

USGS maps (copies)

Sketch map(s)/figure(s)/exhibit(s)

Correspondence

Other _____