

The History of a Black Presbyterian Church

“Since the minister was one of the few trained people in the Negro group, most of them found it necessary to devote much of their time to aiding their people’s struggle for social and political rights.”

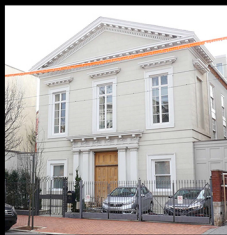
—Andrew E. Murray, *Presbyterians and the Negro: A History*

Reflection

The leaders of Lombard Central Presbyterian Church faced many barriers. Throughout the years all have advocated for education and civil rights in their communities.



■ Original location of First African Presbyterian Church at 7th and Bainbridge Street. The congregation moved to West Philadelphia on Girard Avenue.



■ Original building of Lombard Street Central Presbyterian Church near 9th Street.



■ Current building of Lombard Central, relocated in 1939 to Powelton Avenue by John Coleman.



■ In 2008, while the original Lombard Central sanctuary was being converted into a “luxury” home, Stephen Gloucester’s remains were discovered and relocated to Old Pine Presbyterian Church behind PHS.



■ Burial marker for Stephen Gloucester, first pastor of Lombard Street Central, 1802-1850.

“Heirs According to the Promise – Galatians 3:29.”