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NPS Form 10-900 <u>OMB No. 1024-0018</u> (Rev. 10/90)		
United States Department of the I National Park Service	interior	
National Register of Historic Pla Registration Form	INTERAGENCY RESOURCE - NATIONAL PABK SEI	S DIVISION RVICE
This form is for use in nominating or requesting determ instructions in <u>How to Complete the National Register of</u> Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in th If any item does not apply to the property being docume architectural classification, materials, and areas of s instructions. Place additional entries and narrative in typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete al	of <u>Historic Places Registration Form</u> (N ne appropriate box or by entering the in ented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." significance, enter only categories and tems on continuation sheets (NPS Form 1	ational Register formation requested. For functions, subcategories from the
1. Name of Property		
historic name Emmanuel Episcopal Church		
other names/site number	·	
2. Location		
street & number Main Street		<u>not for publication</u>
city or town Eastsound		vicinity
state Washington code WA county	San Juan code 055	<u>zip code 98245</u>
forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property I recommend that this property be considered significan sheef for additional comments.) MMM Manufacture Signature of certifying official Mary Thompson, State Historic Preservation Officer State or Federal agency and bureau		( See continuation
In my opinion, the propertymeetsdoes not meet for additional comments.)	the National Register criteria. (	See continuation sheet
	the National Register criteria. (:  Date	See continuation sheet
for additional comments.)		See continuation sheet
for additional comments.) Signature of commenting or other official	Date	See continuation sheet
for additional comments.) Signature of commenting or other official State or Federal agency and bureau	Date	See continuation sheet

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration For	m			
Property NameEmmanuel Episc	opal Church			
County and State San Juan, Washington			Page _2	
5. Classification				
Ownership of Property	Category of Property	No. of	Resources w	ithin Property
<u>X</u> private	<u>X</u> building(s)	- contri	ibuting 🗕	noncontributing
public-local	district	1		<u>1</u> buildings
public-State	site			sites
public-Federal	structure		•	structures
	object			objects
		_1		<u>    1  </u> Total
Name of related multiple proper (Enter "N/A" if property is not multiple property listing.)	rty listing: t part of a			ng resources previously ional Register:
<u>N/A</u>		<u>_N/A</u>		
6. Functions or U Historic Functions (Enter categories from instruct Religion/Religous Facility Church	(ions.)	Current Functi (Enter categor <u>Chruch / Pari</u>	ies from inst	tructions.)
7. Description Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instruct		Materials (Enter categories fr		ons.)
No Style : Victorian		foundation <u>Stone</u> walls <u>Horizontal La</u>	ap Siding	
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·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	roof <u>Cedar Shingle</u>	s	
		other		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Continuation sheet #1 - Statement of Architectural Classification.

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form

Property Name Emmanuel Episcopal Church

County and State San Juan, Washington

Page 3

8. Statement of Significance Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- X A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- \_\_\_\_\_ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- \_\_\_\_ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

X A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

\_\_\_\_\_ B removed from its original location.

\_\_\_\_ C a birthplace or a grave.

- \_\_\_\_ D a cemetery.
- \_\_\_\_ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- \_\_\_\_\_F a commemorative property.

\_\_\_\_ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions.) 	Period of Significance 1885-1907	Significant Dates N/A
Exploration/Settlement		
	Cultural Affiliation	
Significant Person	Architect/Builder Sidney R.S. Gray, Designer	·
	Michael S. Donohue, Builder	

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form	
Property Name_ <u>Emmanual Episcopal Church</u>	
County and State <u>San Juan, Washington</u>	Page <u>4</u>
9. Major Bibliographical References	
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this for	m on one or more continuation sheets.)
Previous documentation on file (NPS):	Primary location of additional data:
<pre> preliminary determination of individual listing</pre>	State Historic Preservation Office
(36 CFR 67) has been requested	Other State agency
previously listed in the National Register	Federal agency .
previously determined eligible by the National Register	Local government
designated a National Historic Landmark	University
<pre> recorded by Historic American Buildings</pre>	X Other
Survey #	Specify repository:
<pre> recorded by Historic American Engineering</pre>	Emmanuel Episcopal Parish of Orcas Island
Record #	
10. Geographical Data Acreage of property <u>Less than one</u>	
UTM References 1 <u>1/0</u> <u>5/0/6/9/0/0</u> <u>5/3/9/3/2/8/0</u> 3 / ///// Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting	Northing
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2 4	
See conti	nuation sheet
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on	
Verbat boundary bescription (bescribe the boundaries of the property on	a continuation sneet.)
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a c	
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11. Form Prepared By	ontinuation sheet.) '
11. Form Prepared By name/title <u>Mrs. Emery B. Emmes, Vestry Clerk</u>	, 
11. Form Prepared By name/title <u>Mrs. Emery B. Emmes, Vestry Clerk</u> organization <u>Emmanuel Episcopal Parish of Orcas Island</u>	, date <u>April 22, 1994</u>
11. Form Prepared By name/title <u>Mrs. Emery B. Emmes, Vestry Clerk</u> organization <u>Emmanuel Episcopal Parish of Orcas Island</u> street & number <u>P.O. Box 8 Main Street</u>	, date <u>April 22, 1994</u> telephone <u>(206) 376-2352</u>
11. Form Prepared By name/title <u>Mrs. Emery B. Emmes, Vestry Clerk</u> organization <u>Emmanuel Episcopal Parish of Orcas Island</u>	date <u>April 22, 1994</u> telephone <u>(206) 376-2352</u>
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11. Form Prepared By     name/title Mrs. Emery B. Emmes, Vestry Clerk     organization Emmanuel Episcopal Parish of Orcas Island     street & number P.O. Box 8 Main Street     city or town Eastsound     Additional Documentation	date <u>April 22, 1994</u> telephone <u>(206) 376-2352</u> state <u>Wa</u> zip code <u>98245</u>
11. Form Prepared By     name/title Mrs. Emery B. Emmes, Vestry Clerk     organization Emmanuel Episcopal Parish of Orcas Island     street & number P.O. Box 8 Main Street     city or town     Bastsound     Additional Documentation     Submit the following items with the completed form:	date <u>April 22, 1994</u> telephone <u>(206) 376-2352</u> state <u>Wa</u> zip code <u>98245</u> ation.
11. Form Prepared By     name/title Mrs. Emery B. Emmes, Vestry Clerk     organization Emmanuel Episcopal Parish of Orcas Island     street & number P.O. Box 8 Main Street     city or town Eastsound     Additional Documentation     Submit the following items with the completed form:     Continuation Sheets     Maps     XX A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's local	date <u>April 22, 1994</u> telephone <u>(206) 376-2352</u> state <u>Wa</u> zip code <u>98245</u> ation.
11. Form Prepared By     name/title Mrs. Emery B. Emmes, Vestry Clerk     organization Emmanuel Episcopal Parish of Orcas Island     street & number P.O. Box 8 Main Street     city or town Eastsound     Additional Documentation     Submit the following items with the completed form:     Continuation Sheets     Maps     XX A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's local A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large act     Photographs	date <u>April 22, 1994</u> telephone <u>(206) 376-2352</u> state <u>Wa</u> zip code <u>98245</u> ation.
11. Form Prepared By     name/title Mrs. Emery B. Emmes, Vestry Clerk     organization Emmanuel Episcopal Parish of Orcas Island     street & number P.O. Box 8 Main Street     city or town Eastsound     Additional Documentation     Submit the following items with the completed form:     Continuation Sheets     Maps     XX A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's loca     A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large act     Photographs     XX Representative black and white photographs of the property.	date <u>April 22, 1994</u> telephone <u>(206) 376-2352</u> state <u>Wa</u> zip code <u>98245</u> ation. reage of numerous resources.
11. Form Prepared By name/title <u>Mrs. Emery B. Emmes, Vestry Clerk</u> organization <u>Emmanuel Episcopal Parish of Orcas Island</u> street & number <u>P.O. Box 8 Main Street</u> city or town <u>Eastsound</u> Additional Documentation Submit the following items with the completed form: Continuation Sheets Maps XX A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's loca A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large act Photographs XX Representative black and white photographs of the property. Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)	date <u>April 22, 1994</u> telephone <u>(206) 376-2352</u> state <u>Wa</u> zip code <u>98245</u> ation. reage of numerous resources.
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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service	RECEIVED 41	
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet #1	NOV 8 1994	
Section number7 Page1 Emmanuel San Juan	EINTERADARIN CHURESOURCES DIVISION Count NAMENIAL RARK SERVICE	

Emmanuel Episcopal Church, located on the northern shore of Eastsound on Main Street in the village of Eastsound, Orcas Island, San Juan County, Washington, is a simple yet elegant wood frame structure built in 1885, Victorian in form without the adornment of detail . The 12:12 gable roof structure with cedar shingles, forms a basic gable façade on the north and partially angled roof structure on the south, to provide protection against the southerly storm winds. Round stained glass windows on the north and south, with Victorian peaked double hung windows on the east and west façades complete the plain but attractive fenestration. Horizontal lap siding over diagonal sheathing with corner eave and cornice details completes the exterior cladding. The structure rests on post and pier foundation with massive cedar girders and floor joists enclosed by continuous frieze boards. Except for the roofing, all exterior surfaces are painted white.

The building forms a basic cruciform 22 feet wide and 84 feet long. Access to the narthex is through double doors from a shallow covered entry porch with picket rails and wood stairs to an entry walk four feet to grade. The south end of the church is built on a large rock outcropping extending dramatically on the edge and above the sea. A parish hall and a bell tower have been added in later years, but are generally softened by trees and shrubbery and so detract little from the simple elegance of the historic structure.

The interior of the church includes the basic ecclesiastical elements of narthex, nave, and altar. Pews provide seating for more than a hundred people. The raised altar, detailed in vertical and diagonal cedar boards, is flanked by a lectern on the east and a pulpit on the west sides of the sanctuary. Detailed

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_7 Page \_\_\_\_2

Emmanuel Episcopal Church San Juan County, Washington

scissor trusses with center vertical members supporting exposed cedar sheathing boards form the basic roof structure. The walls are cement plaster over wood lath on 2 x 6 cedar studs 12 inches on center. Vertical wood wainscot with detailed chair rails completes the architectural wall ornamentation.

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Emmanuel Episcopal Church San Juan County, Washington

#### THE PARISH HALL

Property west of the church was given by Fred Meyer who owned the building across the road, now known as The Outlook Inn. In December 1947, The Rt. Rev. Stephen F. Bayne, Bishop of Olympia, sent an architect to study the grounds for the hoped-for Parish House.

The new hall was begun in 1948 with monies raised by St. Agnes Guild bazaars, teas, recitals and other money-making activities. The first Guild meeting in the new hall was held on July 10th, 1951.

Fr. George Pratt commuted from Abbotsford, British Columbia to serve the parish in Eastsound. Building of the hall and fence to the west was done by the firm of Winters, Shoen & Clow.

In October, 1951 Mr. Wilbur Johnston gave a gift of lumber and labor for the back porch of the hall.

The annual payment of \$600.00 to repay a loan from the Diocese was made up of Guild funds from the annual Guild sale each July. Features in the Parish Hall were gifts and memorials. The fireplace is a memorial to Mr. Harding Gow Sr. from his family; the Children's Altar and implements were the gift of Mrs. Curtis Bailey. The Guild room is used for choir robes and Guild supplies and storage as well as a dressing room for brides and wedding parties.

#### THE BELL TOWER

Was built in 1967 as a gift to Emmanuel Church. As the plaque reads, "This bell and tower are placed here to the glory of Almighty God, by Roderic M. and Mrs. Dorothy Olzendam".

The bell that signals the beginning of services, peals for weddings and tolls for deaths was cast in Holland.

The tower itself is placed on the west side of the church building and straddles the ramp walkway to the Parish Hall door and west entrance to the church. Its style and design complement the church and narthex.

#### THE NARTHEX

This structure was added with the porch and stairs in the 1950's. Its function is shelter from the weather, a place to gather before services, hang coats and hats, and receive greetings and service bulletins from the usher.

The original pair of outside doors close it from the sanctuary and the two stained glass windows are in memory of two young men, who served as altar boys at Emmanuel Church, killed in action during the war in Vietnam.

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Emmanuel Episcopal Church San Juan County, Washington

#### THE ENTRY PORCH

Built in the 1950's as shelter from rain and Eastsound winds, largely by donated labor and materials. The design was chosen to complement the existing church structure and was later repeated in building the bell tower. Emmanuel has been blessed through the years by members of many building professionals and architects who have donated their time and talents to the various projects associated with the church buildings.

With the Parish Hall building underway, plans were made to put lights and oil furnaces in the church itself - previously lighted by oil lamps and heated with pot-bellied wood stoves.

The maintenance of the buildings and gardens is largely a product of volunteer labor to this day. Many of the plantings have been gifts and are memorials given by members , of the parish.

The Celtic-cross garden in the west lawn is a memorial site for the ashes of departed parishioners, placed there by the Priest and family members. Though unmarked, the lawn areas around the church are also burial sites, used in the late 1880's and early 1900's.

NPS Form 10-900-a 1024-0018 (8-86)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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Name of Property \_ Emmanuel Episcopal Church

County and State San Juan County, WA

Emmanuel Episcopal Church is significantly associated with the earliest settlement of the San Juan Islands by British-born emigrants. The building is the earliest church in the San Juan Islands, and as such, commemorates the first settlement period like no other historic property in the islands. Although concurrent settlement of the San Juan Islands by American and British citizens culminated in a peaceful alignment of British (Canadian) and American lands, the British character of the islands is strongly evident, due in part to historic remnants such as the Emmanuel Episcopal Church. Although the exterior reflects periods of remodeling and addition which have diminished the building's architectural merit, sufficient historic fabric remains to evoke the period of significance.

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Emmanuel Episcopal Church San Juan County, Washington

#### **Historical Background**

Emmanuel Church began with a romance and a dream. The romance began across the sea when love blossomed between Sidney Robert Spenser Gray, a red-haired Englishman, product of Eton and Oxford and a student of painterJames Abbott McNeill Whistler, and Alma Mecklenberg, daughter of the reigning duke of Mecklenberg-Schwerin, which had recently become a part of the German state. Both families were aghast at the love affair, the Mecklenburgs at the thought of an alliance below their own level of nobility, the Grays at the idea of their son marrying a foreigner, particularly a German. Consequently, when the marriage took place without parental consent, both bride and groom were disinherited and they crossed the Atlantic to begin their life together on a new continent, sustained only by funds the bridegroom had previously managed to deposit in the bank under his own name. In the course of searching for a place to settle, Sidney Gray at the age of thirty, sporting red side-whiskers and filled with energy and vision, arrived on Orcas Island where he was authorized by the Diocesan heirarchy in Seattle to serve as a lay missionary for the Episcopal Church. The landscape of the island with its forests and pastures, its hills and valleys carpeted with familiar wildflowers, struck a poignant note in Gray's English heart, and it was not long before he was envisioning a picturesque village modeled on those of his native countryside, with separate schools for girls and boys, thriving businesses and nearby farms and, as the hub of the community, a charming English church. From this dream, Emmanuel Church came into being.

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet #2

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Emmanuel Episcopal Church San Juan County Washington

#### The Location

The island that so appealed to Sidney Gray in 1883 was one of the largest in the archipelago comprising the San Juan Islands of the United States and the Gulf Islands of Canada. For many years ownership of the chain was disputed between the United States and England, being settled finally in 1872 when Kaiser Wilhelm was engaged to arbitrate and set the boundaries. Orcas Island was rich in Indian lore, and when Spanish explorers discovered it. members of the peaceful Lummi tribe were in residence, Indian wars over fishing grounds had ended, and smuggling had become less commonplace that formerly. The earliest settlers, drifting in from Canada and the eastern United States, became squatters on the land that suited them, many of them taking Indian wives. The first official survey was completed in 1874 and claims to land began to be filed soon after. The first patent on land was granted to Charles W. Shattuck, who had come west as part of the gold rush to California and to the Fraser River valley. In the course of his trips back and forth by ox-cart, he had rowed over to Orcas Island to investigate the hunting. Finding deer and elk, he pitched a tent on the beach and sold deer meat and hides to traders in Victoria. subsequently securing a boatload of lumber to build a small cabin. He then married an Indian woman, built a store whose customers were primarily Indians, and later became Eastsound's first postmaster and a Justice of the Peace. He is assumed to have been the first white settler in Eastsound.

By 1873 forty people comprised the entire population of Orcas Island; however, as settlers wrote home about the beauties of the place, the population increased rapidly. Newcomers settled into a quiet frontier life, clearing land, farming, and rearing families, traveling by foot, wagon, or boat to enjoy social

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet #2

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Emmanuel Episcopal Church San Juan County, Washington

visits with neighbors. In such a setting, it is not surprising that considerable dismay was expressed when it was learned that a waterfront lot had been purchased from Charles Shattuck by a man who intended building a saloon. Staunchly backed by island residents, Sidney Gray led the crusade against the project, and eventually the saloonkeeper departed and the land in question was donated by Charles Shattuck as the site for an Episcopal church, thus transforming the threat of a demoralizing influence into a constructive community asset. Here, sitting on the rock where the splashing of waves is punctuated by the calls of gulls, the church has, for more than a hundred years, served as a focal point for Orcas Island, uplifting residents and visitors alike.

Design

Inspired by Sidney Gray's memories of a village church in England, Emmanuel Church was erected in the Victorian style without the characteristic detailed ornamentation. The builder was Michael Donahue, who was assisted by carpenter Ed King and other men of the island. Funds were raised by Sidney Gray, who quietly delved into his own money to supplement contributions from islanders and from the Episcopal Board of Missions.

The plan of the building is a basic cruciform 22 feet wide and 84 feet long. Access to the narthex is through double doors opening from a shallow covered porch with picket rails and six wooden stairs descending to a concrete walk. At either end of the narthex is a stained glass window dedicated to a former altar boy, both of whom were killed in action during the war in Vietnam. The south end of the church rests upon a large rock outcropping extending dramatically from the sea. A parish hall was added at the west side of the nave in l951, incorporating a large meeting room with fireplace, three huge windows looking out upon the sound, a kitchen, restrooms, and a storeroom. This addition is of historical importance in providing facilities not only for church gatherings but for

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet #2

		Emmanuel Episcopal Church
Section number8	Page	Eastsound, Washington

community groups of all kinds to whom the church has long extended its hospitality. Surrounded by generous plantings, the addition in no way detracts from the historic structure. A bell and tower were added at the west side of the church building in 1967, coordinating in design with the entry to the parish hall.. **The Setting** 

## Orcas Island is eighty miles north of Seattle, separated from the Puget Sound area by the Strait of Juan de Fuca on the south. An aerial view of the island looks much like a pair of saddle bags bulging with assorted contents and joined by a narrow strip of land a mile and a half wide. Separating the two bags is a body of water known as East Sound. Charles Shattuck pitched his tent on the beach at the northern end of the sound and moved slightly inland to build his cabin. Later arrivals settled nearby, creating a cluster of buildings that became known as the village of Eastsound. At the southern edge of the village, on the rocky promontory above the water, stands Emmanuel Church, a gabled white building that has long served as a landmark to boaters heading up the sound toward the village.

Although the church windows look out on splashing waves and whirling gulls, the building is surrounded on the front and sides by lawn and plantings devotedly maintained through the years by parishioners. An ancient yew tree attests to Sidney Gray's dream of an English village church, rhododendrons have been planted as memorials to departed parishioners, and a bed of crocuses in the the shape of a Celtic cross marks the beginning of spring, later blossoming with other flowers throughout the seasons. The views from the windows are framed by lilacs and hawthorn and a white picket fence along the road borders a bed of tulips and hyacinths in the spring , later supporting masses of climbing red roses. A bench in the churchyard provides a place to contemplate the peaceful surroundings or to listen to the crashing waves on the rocks below.

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Emmanuel Episcopal Church Eastsound, Washington

The churchyard is bordered on the east by the building that was originally the first grocery store in Eastsound. After serving in several roles, it was ultimately acquired by Emmanuel Parish in 1978 and converted into church offices and meeting rooms, designated Benson Hall after the Reverend Glion Benson, who served the parish from 1956 to 1974. An experienced seaman, Father Benson traveled by boat and plane to minister to the various islands and Mrs. Benson, born in England, contributed her gardening skills to the landscape setting of Emmanuel Church.

#### The Materials

The church building is constructed of fir and cedar native to the Pacific Northwest but its furnishings represent influences far beyond. Two prie dieux date from the time of Sidney Gray, and eleven brass lamps hanging over nave and altar came around Cape Horn. The altar rail and a Bishop's chair bearing the date 1670 came from a church in England that was bombed during World War II. Numerous other accoutrements were given as memorials, notably the crucifix hanging above the chancel crossing, the processional cross., and the stained glass windows. Marble plaques in the nave near the sanctuary memorialize early settlers.

#### Workmanship

The building was constructed by the local carpenters and artisans who lived on Orcas Island in 1885. The style is typical of its period and setting, simple and functional. Although it has been characterized as "the best example of English Gothic church architecture in the Northwest", a more accurate designation would classify it as Victorian, without the decorative detail so often associated with Victorian architecture. The gabled roof is covered with cedar shingles and the foundation is supported by massive girders of cedar. Although seasonal parishioners from Seattle have at various times offered to supply

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet #2

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stained glass for the six narrow windows flanking the nave, the offers have been resolutely resisted by year-round residents who feel the seascape to be an important element in the unique character of the church.

#### Feeling

Visitors driving through Eastsound are invariably impressed by the historic little church set among lawn and trees and make a point of visiting it in the course of their stay, inquiring as to its origins and history. The sound of waves crashing on the rocks below gives dramatic emphasis to the serenity of the churchyard, where it is possible to sit on a bench and watch the activity of sea and beach while listening to the sounds of a service or of organ practice emanating from within.

#### Association

The activity of Emmanual Church has always reflected the fortunes of Orcas Island. During the six years in which the island enjoyed a thriving fruit industry, Emmanuel Church was the center of community activity. When bank failures doomed the industry and the Rev. Sidney Gray left for a parish in Illinois, the church was served by the Rev. John William Dickson, who also managed churches in Westsound and on Shaw Island, towing his horse on a scow behind a rowboat in order to make his rounds. After the Panic of I907, the island and Eastsound declined. Irrigation was introduced into eastern Washington, making possible the establishment of large-scale orchards, and the development of the railroad and improved highways made it cheaper to transport fruit by land than by sea. When Father Dickson left, the church stood empty, with no vicar for twelve years. At the end of this time, the Diocese of Spokane was reorganized and the newly retired Archdeacon Henry J. Purdue came to Orcas Island to live, and was

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet #2

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persuaded to serve as vicar. After another twelve years, he retired again, and once more the church stood empty.

During this period the ladies of St. Agnes' Guild moved into action, determined not to let the church fall into total disrepair. With bazaars, teas, recitals, and other money-making activities, they raised enough to have the building reshingled and ultimately to build the parish hall. Meanwhile , the church was being served by commuting clergymen, the Rev. Oliver Drew Smith, who came from Mount Vernon from 1942 to 1949, and the Rev. George Pratt, who commuted from Abbotsford, British Columbia, from 1951 to 1953. In 1954 the Rev. Pratt was moved to the parish at Everson and Blaine and the Rev. Johnson West, who was then serving there, was sent to Orcas Island, where he served as vicar for two years. When Father West became an Air Force chaplain in 1956, the Rev. Glion Benson came to Orcas Island, where he made the rounds of all the islands in a converted whaling vessel known as The Royal Cross, a gift of the Daughters of the King in the Seattle-Tacoma area. Father Benson had a ship's mast erected in the churchyard, from which signal flags were flown during services, a landmark still visible from boats approaching Orcas Island.

When, sadly, Father Benson was felled by a heart attack, the Rev. Edward Leche took his place as Vicar of San Juan Islands Mission and, when Emmanuel Church became a separate mission, he continued to serve until 1974 when the Rev. Johnson West retired from the Air Force and returned as vicar, serving for ten years. During this period Emmanuel Church became a parish. In 1980 Father West initiated an exchange of pulpits with the Rev. Robert Nichols of Lyndoch, South Australia, thus enabling the Orcas Island congregation to expreience the worldwide essence of the Anglican Communion. In 1984 the Rev. Robert Howell came from the San Francisco Bay Area to serve as rector until 1987, after which the Rev. Patterson Keller, of Cody, Wyoming, became the rector.

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Emmanuel Episcopal Church San Juan County, Washington

Of immediate interest to visitors is the sign at the front of the church, announcing services not only for the Episcopal (Anglican) congregation but also for the Lutheran and Roman Catholic congregations of the island, who share the church for their activites. In recent years the island Jewish community has also shared, using the Parish Hall for their annual Seder. In the summer months during the height of the tourist season, weekly concerts of various instruments including the church organ are held on a weekday at noon for the enjoyment of the community. Thus this historic little church continues in its unique role as a picturesque landmark and a focal center for community activities.

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Emmanuel Episcopal Church San Juan County, Washington

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### ESTABLISHMENT OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCHES IN THE SAN JUAN ISLANDS

The church at Friday Harbor on San Juan Island, now St. David's, began with a Christ--mas service in Valley Church. (It was actually San Juan Valley Community Church, formally a Presbyterian church built in 1882.)

Fr. George Foster Pratt of Abbotsford, British Columbia, was holding services on Orcas and Lopez Islands at the time.

By February of 1951, arrangements had been made for weekly services in Valley Church.

The Rev. Johnson E. West succeeded The Rev. George Pratt as Vicar of the San Juan Islands. He served congregations on San Juan, Lopez and Shaw Islands.

The Rev. Johnson West was succeeded by Fr. Glion T. Benson in 1956 as Fr. West returned to active military service.

Services for the new parish of St. David's, Friday Harbor, were begun in a suite of rooms in Friday Harbor's business area. On August 26th, 1954, the formal opening of St. David's Parish Office and meeting rooms occurred. The center of operations was to be Emmanuel Church, Eastsound, with all mission finances being handled from there.

On October 11th, 1957, The Rev. Canon Walter W. McNeil, Archdeacon of the Diocese of Olympia, gave lots 38-39-40-41 at the corner of Marguerite and Park Streets in Friday Harbor to be used to build St. David's Church. At first, services were held in what is now the Vicarage. By June 16th, 1963, the present church building was completed and dedicated by Bishop Lewis and Archdeacon Walter McNeil. John Dickson was the architect and much of the labor was furnished by men of the congregation. The Rev. John Armstrong Dicks was sent to Friday Harbor to share in the work there with Fr. Glion Benson.

Following Fr. Benson's retirement, The Rev. Edward D. Leche was assigned to become Vicar of the San Juan Islands Mission on April 1st, 1967.

The original church building was used for Sunday School and as a Parish Hall and later became a Vicarage and office.

Fr. Benson continued to serve at Emmanuel Church in Eastsound until Fr. Johnson West returned from military service to become Vicar on August 1st, 1974.

St. David's Church, Friday Harbor is a wooden building. The narthex was added in 1972. The altar is a former hatch cover; an eight-foot Alaska cedar log was transformed into a carved Christus Rex by a Lopez artist, Bruce Callman and stands by the wall behind the altar. The feeling of St. David's is like that of a seaport structure, Friday Harbor being a port. The church stands on the hill above town facing the sea and port activities.

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Emmanuel Episcopal Church San Juan County, Washington

Grace Church, Lopez Island, like other San Juan Island Episcopal churches, was built with the help of many dedicated Islanders.

It stands atop Humphrey Head, a small A-frame building with five stone buttresses on each side. Among his other talents, Fr. Benson was a man skilled with blasting powder and was able to prepare the site and thus obtain the stone for the foundation and buttresses. Logs for the roof trusses and Parish Hall came from cedar logs blown on to the shore by big storms. Local men hauled them to a sawmill to be cut into logs. The Parish Hall is finished with half-logs and made to look as though they were actually growing outdoors.

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Emmanuel Episcopal Church San Juan County, Washington

### OTHER CHURCHES OF THE SAN JUAN ISLANDS

#### ORCAS ISLAND

Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Eastsound, established 1885, is the oldest church building in the San Juan Islands.

Eastsound Methodist Church, established late in 1886, built by Peter Bastian, was active at the Main Street and North Beach Road site until 1960 when it was sold and demolished and the congregation built a new church of stone further east on Madrona Street, Eastsound. It is now a Baptist congregation and maintains the name of Orcas Island Community Church.

The Lutheran Church in the San Juans meets on Sundays, sharing the facilities of Emmanuel Episcopal church.

St. Francis Roman Catholic Church also presently uses Emmanuel Church but is building on property at North Beach and Mt. Baker Roads.

The Episcopal church in Westsound was built in 1895 and burned in 1924. It was unused at the time of the fire because of the drastic decline in the Orcas Island commercial fruit industry causing many people to leave the Island. The church was built by local men in the area of Westsound.

The church stood on the hill beside the road, a white, wooden structure with a group of steps up to the entrance on the east side of the building.

The Rev. John William Dickson conducted services in Eastsound and at Westsound. His home was on Shaw Island and every Sunday morning he rode his horse to his scow, loaded the horse into the boat and rowed to Orcas Island to conduct services. The horse served him with Island transportation, enabling him to conduct services, minister to the parish, conduct the finances of the church and offer leadership to the community.

The Rev. Dickson left the Islands in 1904.

Thw Westsound church was never consecrated and upon Bishop Huston's instructions the cross and furnishings were removed and put into storage.

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Emmanuel Episcopal Church San Juan County, Washington

#### SAN JUAN ISLAND

Friday Harbor has St. David's Episcopal Parish, St. Francis' Roman Catholic Church and Rectory as well as other denominations meeting in homes, store fronts and temporary locations around the Island.

In earlier years, Friday Harbor had both a Methodist church and Presbyterian church, both white, wooden buildings of Northwest style, shingle roofs and both had roofmounted belfry towers. They stood on the hills above the port but are no longer there.

### LOPEZ ISLAND

Lopez Island Valley Church is a wooden, one-story church similar to Emmanuel Church on Orcas Island. The bell tower is attached to the building to the right of the entrance. It was built by J.A. Paine about 1895.

### SHAW ISLAND

There are no church buildings on Shaw Island.

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Emmanuel Episcopal Church San Juan County, Washington

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY

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  A complete inventory of church records and inventory of church vessels and appointments. (i.e. sacred items, furniture, linens, etc. many still in use).
- 2. <u>IT CAME TO PASS IN THE SAN JUAN ISLANDS</u> by Roderic M. Olzendam. Thomas Binford, publisher, Portland Oregon, 1978. pp. 1-22.
- 3. <u>MORE THAN 100 YEARS OF MINISTRY</u> The Episcopal Church in Western Washington, the Diocese of Olympia. Published by the Diocese as a contibution to the celebration of the 100th anniversary of Washington statehood.

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Emmanuel Episcopal Church San Juan County, Washington

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the East quarter corner of Government Lot 3, Section 14, Township 37 North, Range 2 West, W.M., thence South  $0^{\circ}14'11''$  West, 439.42 feet, to an existing monument at the South edge of Main Street, Eastsound, Washington. Thence South  $89^{\circ}25'53''$  West, 143.25 feet to the true point of beginning; thence continuing South  $89^{\circ}25'53''$ West 231.85 feet, thence South  $0^{\circ}14'11''$  West, 85 feet more or less to the line of ordinary high tide; thence Easterly along said line of high tide to the East property line of Emmanuel Church; thence North  $0^{\circ}14'11''$  East, 133 feet more or less to the above true point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

Nomination boundaries are based upon the legal description which has always been associated with the church and immediate grounds.