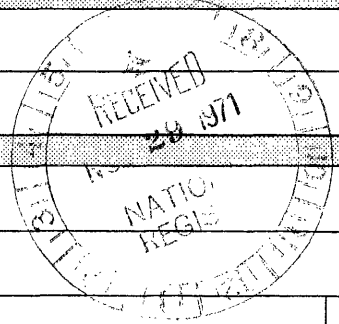


PH0022128

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
APR 14 1972	



1. NAME

COMMON:
Warder-Totten House
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Lutheran Church Center

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
2633 16th Street, NW.
CITY OR TOWN:
Washington
STATE: _____ CODE: _____ COUNTY: _____ CODE: _____
District of Columbia 11 District of Columbia 001

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 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:
Lutheran Council
STREET AND NUMBER:
315 Park Avenue South
CITY OR TOWN: _____ STATE: _____ CODE: _____
New York New York 31

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Recorder of Deeds
STREET AND NUMBER:
6th and D Streets, NW.
CITY OR TOWN: _____ STATE: _____ CODE: _____
Washington District of Columbia 11

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Proposed District of Columbia Additions to the National Register of Historic Properties recommended by the Joint Committee on Landmarks
DATE OF SURVEY: March 7, 1968 Federal State County Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
National Capital Planning Commission
STREET AND NUMBER:
1325 G Street, NW.
CITY OR TOWN: _____ STATE: _____ CODE: _____
Washington District of Columbia 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE
FOR NPS USE ONLY
APR 14 1972

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Warder-Totten House (the Lutheran Church Center) is the only structure designed by the firm of H.H. Richardson remaining in the District of Columbia. Originally commissioned by Warder in 1885, the building was reconstructed on its present site in 1925 by Totten and now faces west at 2633 16th Street between Euclid and Fuller Streets Northwest in the Meridian Hill section of the District. The original house is more or less L-shaped although quite irregular in plan. At the northeast end of the building are an annex and studio which originally existed on the lot (the home of Totten).

The northwest and southwest wings form a right angle and are connected on the front facade by a semi-circular tower containing an entrance. The northwest wing is approximately 33 feet long (2 bays) on the west side which is parallel to 16th Street and projects 30 feet (2 bays) from the tower. The southwest wing extends south from the tower approximately 35 feet (2 bays) on 16th Street side and is about 55 feet deep (4 bays) on its south side. The north side of the building is longer and extends back about 170 feet. A one-story open arcaded wall added by Totten extends out from the northwest wing across the front of the building. The Warder House is four stories high plus basement; the annex is three stories and the studio, two stories high.

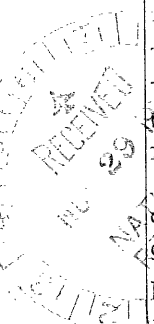
Although the massing, heaviness, and the fenestration are very Richardsonian in character, the detailing shows the influence of 16th Century French and Byzantine motifs. Unlike many Richardsonian structures which are of rough granite, the Warder-Totten house is of smooth sandstone. There are two main entrances to the building--one (which is now closed) on the west facade of the northwest wing and the other in the tower.

The first story of the west facade of the northwest wing contains a door and two straight-topped rectangular windows divided by stone mullions. The round-arched portal contains ornamented extrados, capitals and tympanum the detailing of which has been attributed to John Galen Howard. The door itself is a replica of the original which was donated to the Smithsonian's National Museum by R.P. Whitty who had the contract to demolish the building. (Totten tried unsuccessfully to persuade the Smithsonian to return the door, and thus was forced to make a plaster cast of the original) The second floor windows of the west facade are rectangular, 1/1 light windows with stone mullions and rectangular transoms--a common feature of Richardsonian Romanesque. Above the transom is a band of egg and dart molding. The third story contains rectangular windows with stone mullions but no transoms; again egg and dart molding is found above the windows. The fourth story contains three small rectangular 1/1 windows in the gable; above each window is a red flower motif and above this a voussoir motif. The line of the gable is accented by a band of egg and dart molding and a decorative stylized lion head is found above the copper guttering on the northern corner of the gable.

The fenestration of the south facade of the northwest wing is similar to that described on the front. This type of fenestration is continued on the tower except for the top story which contains ornamented capitals between each window and a stylized voussoir motif above each window and under the roof of the tower.

The west facade of the south wing is the most varied. The third story contains two centered-arched arcades separated by heavy, short columns with ornamented capitals. The fourth story contains an arcade with straight-topped arches separated by thin columns on pedestals with decorated capitals and an ironwork balustrade that is not original. (Continued on Form 10-300a)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

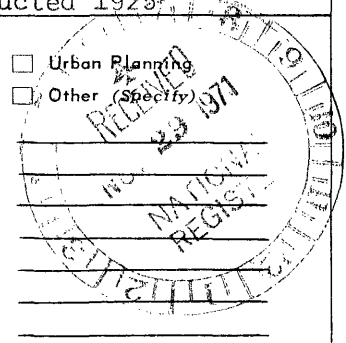
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) Commissioned 1885; reconstructed 1925

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 type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Joint Committee on Landmarks has designated the Warder-Totten House (Lutheran Church Center) a Category II landmark of importance which contributes significantly to the cultural heritage and visual beauty of the District of Columbia. Benjamin Warder commissioned the firm of H.H. Richardson in 1885 to design the house at 1509 K Street NW. The design of the house, however, can be more directly attributed to Richardson's assistants George F. Shepley and Charles A. Coolidge than it can be to Richardson himself. This is evident in the 16th Century French and Byzantine detailing as well as the choice of a smooth-faced sandstone for the exterior. The massing, the fenestration, and the use of arches however, are characteristic of Richardsonian Romanesque. The house was razed in 1923 and the materials bought by Major George Oakley Totten, Jr., a prominent Washington architect. In 1925, Totten reconstructed the house at 2633 16th Street NW in the Meridian Hill section of the District of Columbia. Of four Washington buildings designed by the firm of H.H. Richardson, the Warder-Totten house is the only surviving structure.

Benjamin H. Warder, a wealthy farm implement manufacturer moved to Washington, D.C., from Springfield, Ohio, in 1885 after the firm of Warder, Bushnell and Glessner merged with International Harvester Company. In March of 1885, Warder commissioned the firm of H.H. Richardson to design his Washington home which he and his family occupied in 1887. (It is of interest to note that in May of the same year his partner Glessner also commissioned Richardson to design his Chicago home.)

Henry Hobson Richardson (1838-86) was an architect of major importance in the development of American architecture. He first studied at Harvard and then went to Paris where he studied architecture at the Ecole des Beaux Arts. His Romanesque style came to be known as "Richardsonian Romanesque" and was much imitated, especially after his death. Richardson also had a profound influence on the work of Root and Sullivan.

Major George Oakley Totten, (1866-1939) an admirer of the Warder house, happened by the building the day it was being demolished, and bought the materials with the idea of reconstructing it later. Totten, a prominent Washington architect, was chief designer of the office of the Supervising Architect of the Treasury until 1898 when he resigned to establish an independent practice. Totten developed a large and successful practice. Mrs. John B. Henderson commissioned him to design many buildings in Meridian Hill in a successful effort to develop the area as a center for legations. These structures include the Ecuadorian Embassy and the Inter-American Defense Board (the Pink Palace).

(Continued on Form 10-300a)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hitchcock, Henry Russell. The Architecture of H.H. Richardson and His Times. Massachusetts: MIT Press, 1961.

Pamphlets published by the Lutheran Church Center including "History of the Lutheran Church Center." (1954)

Information from files of Mrs. Ruth Blackburn, National Lutheran Council.

Information from files of National Collection of Fine Arts.

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
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	38	55	25
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	77	02	10
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 21,788 square feet

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Suzanne Ganschinietz, Architectural Historian

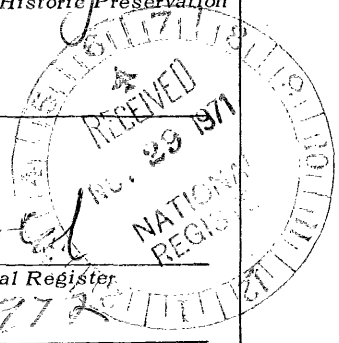
ORGANIZATION: National Capital Planning Commission DATE: 1 July 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:
1325 G Street, NW

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 11

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u><i>[Signature]</i></u></p> <p>Title <u>Deputy-Mayor Commissioner</u></p> <p>Date <u>APR 14 1972</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u><i>Robert M. Utley</i></u> Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>4/14/72</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u><i>[Signature]</i></u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>April 5, 1972</u></p>
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
COUNTY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
APR 14 1972	

(Number all entries)

7. Description - Warder-Totten House

At the rear of the building, the entrance to Totten's original house still remains: the door and windows are embellished with Neo-classical motifs.

The red tile saddleback roof has ornamental copper work along the cornice line; the roof of the tower is capped by an ornamental finial. The original decorative cresting along the top ridge of the roof has disappeared. There have been several changes in the roof line of the northwest wing; the roof above the arcade on the west facade of the southwest wing has been changed from its original overhang, and one chimney to the south of the tower has been removed.

In addition to the changes in the roof mentioned above, the only other major change to the front facade is the closing of the entrance under the building and the replacement of the solid wall in front by an arcaded wall which extends 15 feet beyond the building to the south and allows for a drive in front of the house.

When Totten reconstructed the house, he did not follow the original interior floor plan but instead remodeled the interior using some of the original woodwork to accommodate three "apartments de luxe" (one to a floor). A mantle and overmantle were donated to the National Museum. (This mantle together with the portal mentioned above are now stored in the Smithsonian's warehouse in Suitland, Maryland).

8. Significance

In 1925 Totten reconstructed the house on 16th Street in front of an existing studio and house which he had built in 1919 and 1921. Although the exterior was rebuilt as accurately as possible, the interior was altered to accommodate an apartment house with each of the upper floors containing one apartment. After the death of Totten, the building was purchased by Henry Slaughter who continued to use it as an apartment house. In September of 1946, it was purchased by the Kabat-Kaiser Institute and remodeled to accommodate a clinic. The National Lutheran Council purchased the house in 1953, remodeled the structure and installed air-conditioning.

