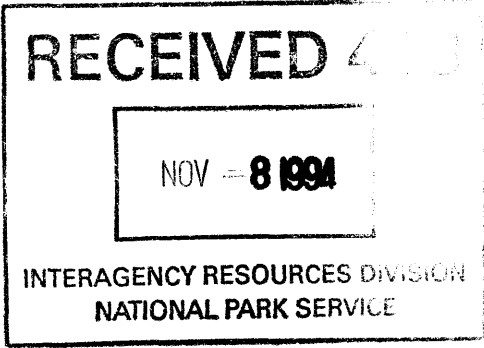


1440



NPS Form 10-900
OMB No. 1024-0018
(Rev. 10/90)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Christ Episcopal Church
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 210 Fifth Street SW not for publication
city or town Puyallup vicinity
state Washington code WA county Pierce code 053 zip code 98371

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Mary M. Thompson 10/12/94
Signature of certifying official Date
Mary Thompson, State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:) _____

Carel D. Shree 12-14-94

Signature of Keeper Date of Action

Property Name Christ Episcopal Church

County and State Pierce Co., Washington

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5. Classification

| Ownership of Property | Category of Property | No. of Resources within Property | |
|---|---|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| | | contributing | noncontributing |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <u>1</u> | <u> </u> buildings |
| <u> </u> public-local | <u> </u> district | <u> </u> | <u> </u> sites |
| <u> </u> public-State | <u> </u> site | <u> </u> | <u> </u> structures |
| <u> </u> public-Federal | <u> </u> structure | <u> </u> | <u> </u> objects |
| | <u> </u> object | <u>1</u> | <u> </u> Total |

Name of related multiple property listing:
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

No. of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register:

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
church

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
church

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Tudor Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)
foundation CONCRETE
walls BRICK
STUCCO
roof ASPHALT
other COPPER (tower roof)

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Property Name Christ Episcopal Church

County and State Pierce Co., WA

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.)

- 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.)

- 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.)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1926-1957

Significant Dates

1926

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Harold C. Whitehouse & Ernest V. Price

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

Property Name Christ Episcopal Church

County and State Pierce Co., WA

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Christ Episcopal Church records

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than one acre

UTM References

| | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|------------------|-----------------|---|----------|---------------|---------------|
| 1 | <u>110</u> | <u>515311815</u> | <u>52263915</u> | 3 | <u>1</u> | <u>111111</u> | <u>111111</u> |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing | | Zone | Easting | Northing |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|----------|---------------|---------------|---|----------|---------------|---------------|
| 2 | <u>1</u> | <u>111111</u> | <u>111111</u> | 4 | <u>1</u> | <u>111111</u> | <u>111111</u> |
|---|----------|---------------|---------------|---|----------|---------------|---------------|

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lauren McCroskey, on a draft by Katherine Gronen
 organization WA SHPO date 9-29-94
 street & number 111 21st Ave. SW telephone (206) 586-2901
 city or town Olympia state WA zip code 98504

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

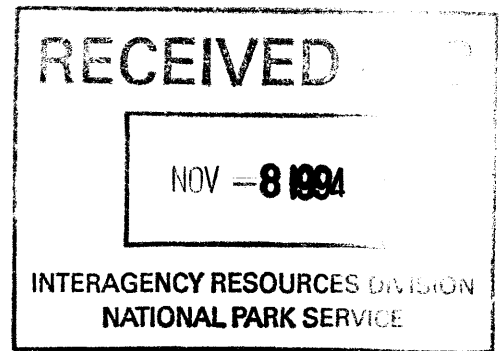
name Parish of Christ Episcopal Church telephone _____
 street & number 210 Fifth St. SW state WA zip code 98371
 city or town Puyallup

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Name of Property Christ Episcopal Church
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Christ Episcopal Church is located in Puyallup, a community situated approximately six miles southwest of the major port city of Tacoma. Occupying a corner lot in a middle class neighborhood of late Victorian and Craftsman style houses, the church is a stylistic contrast of Tudor Revival inspiration. The building features an immediate landscape of flowers, lawns, trees and shrubs, with the north and west elevations closely aligned with the property boundaries; a parking lot is located at the north side of the church. Overall floor plan dimensions are 109.1 feet by 60.7 feet.

The church is generally characterized as a gabled nave with cross-gabled volumes at the north and south ends. Wall construction consists of hollow clay tile resting on a poured concrete foundation; exterior walls are veneered with variegated bricks punctuated by clinker bricks. Gable peaks have a half-timbered treatment consisting of flat, wood balusters set into a stucco ground. Wood brackets appear to support the simulated half-timbering. Wood bargeboards project slightly beyond the soffit line and are decorated with tracery designs. Gable peaks feature Tudor pendule/finials. The north gable of the sanctuary also features bargeboards, however the wall surface is entirely brick and contains a rose window. Adding to the Tudor character, the roof is steeply pitched, rising seventeen inches in one foot. Originally sheathed in cedar shingles, the roof is now clad with asphalt shingles.

Inclined soldier bricks form a continuous drip course around the church, interrupted only by simple buttresses that terminate just above the sill line. Cast concrete is used sparingly for buttress caps and moldings. Major windows in the gable ends rest on soldier-coursed sills. All windows are leaded casement types; those in the nave and sanctuary feature stained glass depicting the major events in the life of Christ. Aside from the entry windows, all windows were designed by the Charles A. Connick Studios of Boston, the latest of which is the rose window installed in 1959. The east nave windows were given as memorials in the 1930s.

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When completed in 1926, the north (sanctuary) end of Christ Church lacked the cross-gabled addition that is present today. Whitehouse and Price' 1926 design anticipated this addition by locating the original building to the south end of the lot, thereby allowing for expansion at the north end. The north elevation originally terminated in the same half-timbered treatment found on all four east-west gables. The 1957 addition extended the sanctuary slightly, creating offices and a vesting room in the north end, and a two-story space to house the guild room and enlarged kitchen along the west side of the nave. The newly extended sanctuary was fitted with a rose window depicting "Christ the King."

These newer sections of the church mirrored the Tudor theme established in the original building: all veneering was done with identical brick and upper gables were treated with half timbering, brackets and decorative bargeboards, in the same manner as other gables.

A bell tower rises from the intersection of the nave and northeast gable. The a-symmetrical feature is slightly buttressed and terminates in an open arch containing the 1889 bell used in the original church. Constructed in 1960, the tower again repeats the gothic precedents of the original design through the use of open brickwork, buttressing and a pointed arch. The truncated spire is roofed with a standing-seam copper roof.

Entry into the nave is through a polygonal vestibule located at the intersection of the nave and southeast gable. Surrounding the entrance doors are stained glass windows depicting St. Francis of Assisi's "Canticle to the Sun." These windows were designed in 1980 by the Judson Studios of Los Angeles, California.

The continuity of design evident on the church's exterior is carried into the interior as well. Here, the steeply-pitched roof accommodates an open, beadboard ceiling supported by beamed rafters. The nave ceiling features scissor trusses, incorporating extended king posts, and decorative iron straps that secure truss junctures. The chancel (sanctuary) is articulated by laminated

wood beams,

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Name of Property Christ Episcopal Church
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slightly arched. All wood elements, including casement windows are natural finish douglas fir, while wall surfaces are white plaster. Interior furnishings include a pulpit, lectern, and altar, all of natural wood finish. The organ chamber is located high on the east wall of the sanctuary, above the offices.

All hardwood maple flooring, as well as oak pews and lighting fixtures in the parish hall are original. Wooden folding doors located between the parish hall and the sanctuary permit expansion of the sanctuary space. The parish hall reflects the same open ceiling and truss system as the nave and features circular iron chandeliers originally located in the nave. A stage is located at the west end. Rooms found on the first floor (west) side are a kitchen, guild room, sacristy, two restrooms and a hallway. The second floor on the west side contains classrooms, nursery and choir room. End rooms are accessed by short stairways from the upper hall. The heating system is located below the stage area in the south wing. The workroom, conference room, storage, and two additional restrooms are located in the north wing (1957).

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Christ Episcopal Church derives its significance from architectural values based on picturesque, English ecclesiastical design of the early twentieth century. Most importantly, the building belongs to an important body of work associated with one of the Pacific Northwest's major practitioners of Tudor Revival design, Whitehouse and Price. The firm dominated Episcopal church architecture in the inland northwest during the first half of the twentieth century, a scope of work defined by eclectic gothic composition, attention to detail, and a harmony of both interior and exterior design elements. Consistent with many Whitehouse and Price designs, Christ Church reflects the far-sighted approach of its designers who anticipated, planned for and executed additions and refinements later incorporated into their original buildings.

History

Prior to construction of the nominated church in 1926, Episcopal services for the community were conducted in a modest, gothic style, frame building that occupied a lot on Stewart Street, the present site of a 7-11 store. Built around 1886, the earlier church was a response to a growing Episcopal mission first begun in 1854 in Portland under the Missionary Jurisdiction of Oregon and Washington Territories. As funds became scarce and a full-time priest was not available, the Puyallup parish foundered in the 1890s. Because of a population influx of Germans and Scandinavians, primarily of Lutheran tradition, the number of communicants also dwindled. These factors spelled the closure of Christ Church in the late 1890s.

By the 1920s efforts to rejuvenate Christ Church were underway, resulting in a greatly expanded Sunday School program with an unprecedented number of pupils. With the arrival of several devoted families that played pivotal roles in church outreach and community service the parish grew steadily into a body of eighty-five communicants, ninety Sunday School pupils, nine teachers, a choir and a guild of seventy members. Facing a limited seating capacity of seventy-five in the existing church, efforts to secure a new and larger building were escalated.

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Name of Property Christ Episcopal Church
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Former minister of Christ Church and retired Bishop of Spokane Lemuel Wells hired the Spokane architectural firm of Whitehouse and Price to execute plans and specifications for a new church. Bishop Wells paid for the drawings himself, announcing to the congregation at one service, "Here is your plan free of charge, now go ahead and build it." Although the chosen lot was found to be inadequate for the projected building, arrangements were quickly made to purchase an adjacent lot, with the added decision to reverse the positions of the church and parish house to allow for future expansion.

With work complete, services in the new Christ Church were held on December 26, 1926. In 1927, the original frame church was sold for \$6000.00 to ease the burden of debts incurred from the new building. For a short time the old church was used by a Mormon congregation before it was torn down in 1933.

Projected to meet parish needs for sixty years, the new church was already feeling pressure to expand following the post-World-War-II boom years. Under the leadership of the Reverend Harold E. Cooper, plans were made to enlarge the sanctuary to the north, as anticipated in the 1926 construction, as well as to add a larger kitchen and second story Sunday School rooms. The continuity of the original design was ensured with the selection of the firm of Whitehouse and Price.

The seamless transition between the original nave and the expanded sanctuary was accomplished through the use of identical brick and simulated half timbering on the cross-gabled addition. Whitehouse and Price also designed the bell tower erected in 1960. The church of today has never departed from the theme and composition established by the firm's 1926 design and is, therefore, a culmination of the architects' vision over four decades.

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Whitehouse and Price, Architects

Harold C. Whitehouse, a New England native, moved to eastern Washington around 1907, where he worked for established architect John K. Dow. After joining the Episcopal church, Whitehouse was inspired by Bishop Lemuel Wells' campaign for a great Episcopal Cathedral in Spokane. So taken with the cathedral project was Whitehouse that he quickly enrolled at Cornell University to complete a degree in architecture -- in only two years time. Upon graduation in 1913, he partnered with Ernest V. Price, a fellow Cornell graduate who had arrived in Spokane in 1911. A number of acclaimed projects, including the Tudor Revival style Hutton Settlement orphanage of 1918, secured the firm's stature for the much-anticipated building of a great Episcopal cathedral in Spokane.

Whitehouse's exposure to medieval architecture during a European tour in 1923 became evident in his prompt application of gothic principles. Their greatest achievement, the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, is a spectacular blend of English and French Gothic Revival elements, a building distinguished nationally among a small group of Gothic Revival cathedrals. Begun in 1926, St. John's is contemporary with the nominated Christ Church, the latter an interesting commentary on the breadth of the firm's work during these important years.

Whitehouse and Price was one of the seminal architectural firms in Spokane and the inland northwest up through the 1950s, winning numerous major commissions for Episcopal church projects throughout the Pacific Northwest, as well as contracts for other denominations. Their works are diverse, ranging from the Art Deco style City Ramp parking garage and the municipal colosseum in Spokane, to a number of residential projects, over two hundred schools, and a catalog of approximately forty church designs for Washington, Idaho and Oregon. School projects, collegiate buildings and residential commissions characterized much of the firm's work. Whitehouse and Price garnered most of their church commissions between 1930 and the 1950s, designing a total of eighty churches in the Pacific Northwest.

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Their architectural approach to church building may be characterized as a totality of design, wherein complete plans were drawn for both exterior and interior details, as well as parish houses and additions that might not be built for years to come. Whitehouse, himself a skilled woodcarver and certified craftsman of metal ecclesiastical works, designed ecclesiastical furnishings which were gradually added as funds became available. For example, at St. John's Cathedral, a movable transept altar and pulpit bonnet originally designed by Whitehouse have been added in recent years.

Another quality of the Whitehouse and Price buildings is their harmonious and eclectic blending of various Gothic Revival details. As a result, few buildings are academic replicas of regional European Gothic styles -- although most, as a whole, are evocative of the English Gothic period. Whitehouse' attention to detail was best expressed in his desire to achieve a purity of style in St. John's Cathedral. Here, in order to emulate the medieval prototype, he dispensed with the 20th-century conventions of exterior down spouts and instead concealed them internally in structural piers.

Considered a master of Tudor Revival architecture, Harold Whitehouse left a considerable number of churches bearing this stylistic influence. Another western Washington example is the Church of the Epiphany in Seattle, an earlier (1911) Tudor style church incorporating flattened Tudor arch windows, gable trusses and a square tower which dominates the entry. An early and well known, eastern Washington work is the Hutton Settlement orphanage (1918), a Tudor style complex of administrative and residential buildings evocative of the English countryside.

Whitehouse and Price continued to design churches of gothic inspiration into the 1940s and 1950s. These compositions reflect a sleeker modernist approach using stylized details. Two Spokane examples include the Central Lutheran Church (1945), and St. John's Lutheran Church (1950), both of which reflect the firm's adept handling of the gothic idiom during the modernist movement. Aside from the Puyallup building, the firm's other church commissions in western Washington represent a later phase, the bulk of which were

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designed between the late 1930s and 1960s. Located approximately sixty miles southwest of Puyallup, St. David's Church in Shelton (1946) is a brick design which also bears the firm's signature Tudor Revival motif.

The nearest expressions of the firm's work are Christ Episcopal Church parish hall (1926) and Trinity Presbyterian Church (1923), both in Tacoma. These are Gothic Revival buildings faced with brick; integrity levels are good, however, Trinity Church has been inappropriately repointed with thick mortar joints. St. Matthew's Church, also in Tacoma, was designed considerably later in 1956, as was St. John's Chapel in Olympia (1937). The latter, a Gothic Revival building of buff-colored brick, has been mostly absorbed by the modern and dominant church of today.

Puyallup Churches

The architectural values of Christ Church stand apart from other religious buildings in Puyallup. Most local churches were built within the last twenty-five years or have received additions or alterations which are not compatible with their original designs. Only two other churches are older than or contemporary with Christ Church: Peace Lutheran Church at 214 Pioneer Street, built in the 1880s, is a Victorian frame design that has been resided, but otherwise stands intact.

Other churches built after Christ Church include the All Saints Catholic Church which reflects good exterior integrity and modest gothic detailing and the New Testament Church (204 4th Avenue SE) is a fine example of the Neo-Classical (Greek Revival) style. None of these, however, reflects the Tudor Revival style exhibited by Christ Church. The only other example of Tudor Revival style architecture in the community is the Northwest Showman's Club (427 Meridian). This two story building features Tudor arches, multi-pane, grouped windows, concrete quoins and bay windows. A two-story club hall extends toward the rear of the building.

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Puyallup's Christ Church compares favorably with Whitehouse and Price' Tudor Revival projects and is one of the earliest examples of their work in western Washington. Though built less than fifty years ago, the church's addition and tower are highly representative of the firm's talents for contextual design, thoughtful planning, and long-term commitment to church building projects.

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Section number 10 Page 1
Name of Property Christ Episcopal Church
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Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is contained within Lots 1-3 of Meeker's first addition to the city of Puyallup.

Boundary Justification

Nomination boundaries are based on the original, urban legal description which has always been associated with the church.

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Name of Property Christ Episcopal Church
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PHOTOGRAPHS

No. 1 Photographer: Lee Thomas
 Date: Late 1940s
 Location of negative: Christ Church files
 Camera is at the NE corner, across the street, looking
 SW, showing front of the church and the entrance. This
 is the building before the addition was built.

The photographs numbered 2 through 6 were taken by Kathy Bradford
in October, 1993. Negatives are at Christ Church.

- No. 2 Camera is facing NW showing the exterior of the parish
 hall.
- No. 3 Camera is facing west, showing the front entrance.
- No. 4 Camera is facing NW and shows the bell tower and north
 wing.
- No. 5 Camera is southwest of the church, showing the west side
 of the building.
- No. 6 Camera is east of the building facing the NE corner.
 This angle shows the bell tower detail and north gable.