

SURVEY-INVENTORY FORM  
COMMUNITY CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

1. NAME Longview Community Church, St. Helen's Addition  
Historic

and/or Common Foursquare Gospel Church

2. LOCATION

UTM References: Rainier, WA-OR Scale: 1:24,000  
Zone 10 Easting 503180  
Northing 5107660  
- not for publication

Street & Number 416 Twentieth Avenue

City, Town Longview - vicinity of

State Washington County Cowlitz

3. CLASSIFICATION

Ownership: public private both  
Status: occupied unoccupied work in progress  
Present Use: agriculture commercial educational entertainment government  
industrial military museum park private residence  
religious scientific transportation other:

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

Name Foursquare Gospel Church c/o Pastor Donald MacDonald

Street & Number P.O. Box 235

City, Town Longview - vicinity of State Washington

98632

5. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Blaine, Cora, Member of Foursquare Gospel since 1933. Personal Interview. Longview March, 1985.  
Longview City Directory. R.L. Polk & Co. Seattle. 1926, 1929, 1931, 1933, 1936, 1946. Deposited in Longview Public Library. Longview.  
Piper, Jane, Daughter of Rev. E. H. Gebert. Charter Member of Longview Community Church. Longview. March, 1985.

6. FORM PREPARED BY

Name/Title Michael L. Neuschwanger, Architectural Apprentice

Organization City of Longview Urban Services & Permits Department Date March 24, 1985

Street & Number 1525 Broadway Telephone 577-3330

City or Town Longview State Washington

98632



## SURVEY-INVENTORY FORM

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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1. NAME Longview Community Church, St. Helen's Addition

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7. DESCRIPTION - continued

on the exterior by the coupled windows of four bays in the side elevation. Three diminutive gabled vents set in the roof mark the central bays of the nave.

The interior of the sanctuary is vaulted, with the plaster ceiling lining the underside of the scissored, collared trusses. The plaster vaults are articulated by show-beams, trimmed in wood, marking each bay. The sanctuary has hardwood floors, plaster walls, and a raised chancel floor, which has been altered. The plaster ceiling has also been altered in recent years. It has been sprayed with plaster. The entry porch foundation and walls have been reconstructed in concrete block, in the original position.

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8. SIGNIFICANCE

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a. History

and Wesley Vandercook, Chief Engineer for Long-Bell.

The classically influenced St. Helen's Addition Church was consistent with the scale and style of the hundreds of one story frame bungalows developed by Long-Bell in the outlying additions. Another more Classical, wood frame church, the St. Rose Catholic Church, was also built in the St. Helen's Addition along Lake Sacajawea. This church was demolished to allow construction of a modern church. Other larger structures in the community were typically constructed of masonry. Thus, the St. Helen's Church is the largest and most important surviving example of a wood frame structure dating from Longview's settlement period.

The Longview Community Church was chartered in 1923, as the first church in Longview, the Rev. E. H. Gebert, whose ministry in Longview began with the inception of the church, spanning 36 years, held evening services in the St. Helen's Addition. Sunday school classes were also held in the mornings at the church. The satellite concept, however, was not successful for the institution, due to a lack of attendance at the church.

"Members were disappointed when the people in that part of the city - the lowest income area - did not want to attend services there, saying it implied that they weren't good enough for the main church in the more fashionable part of town."<sup>1</sup>

By 1933, the Full Gospel Bethel Temple was holding services under the ministry of Rev. Chester Hoffman in the sanctuary. The Bethel Temple had previously met in the home of Rev. Hoffman and in the vacant side slot of the Longview Community Store, across the street from the St. Helen's Church. The Bethel Temple was re-organized in 1934, as a Foursquare Gospel Church. Courthouse records indicate that Foursquare Gospel eventually purchased the church from Longview Community Church in 1945. It has been the home of the church continuously since that time. Despite noted alterations, the church bears a high degree of integrity with respect to its original appearance.

<sup>1</sup> John M. McClelland, Jr., R.A. Long's Planned City, the Story of Longview, Bicentennial Edition, Longview. Longview Publishing Co. 1976, p. 157