

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

37

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.

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1. Name of Property

historic name First Christian Church of Rialto

other names/site number _____

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2. Location

street & number 201 N. Riverside Avenue not for publication N/A
city or town Rialto vicinity N/A
state California code CA county San Bernardino code 071 zip code 92376

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Stephen D. Mickel 1-2-03
Signature of certifying official Date

California Office of Historic Preservation

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

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4. National Park Service Certification

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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

Edson R. Ball 2/20/03

___ other (explain): _____

Edson R. Ball

Signature of Keeper Date of Action

=====

5. Classification

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Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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

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6. Function or Use

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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>Religion</u>	Sub: <u>Religious Facility</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>Recreation and Culture</u>	Sub: <u>Museum</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th Century Revival: Late Gothic Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

roof Composition Shingle

walls Wood: Shingle

Stucco

other Stained Glass

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

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8. Statement of Significance
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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 1907

Significant Dates 1907

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Patterson, H.M.

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

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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(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

Name of repository: Rialto Historical Society, 201 N. Riverside Ave, Rialto

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property .13

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	11	465960	3773405	3	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____
	<input type="checkbox"/> 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 Janet Hansen, M.A.

organization Hansen Historic Resources Consulting date September 21, 2002

street & number 1328 La Loma Drive telephone (909) 793-8583

city or town Redlands state CA zip code 92373
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Additional Documentation
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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)

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

name Grace Vargas, Mayor, Rialto City Hall, City of Rialto

street & number 150 S. Palm Street telephone (909) 820-2689

city or town Rialto state CA zip code 92376
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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

First Christian Church of Rialto
name of property
San Bernardino, CA
county and State

Narrative Description:

Summary Paragraph

The First Christian Church building combines the late Gothic Revival style with elements of the Craftsman style. It measures 37 x 70 feet and fills most of its .13 acre lot. The one-story wood frame church rests on a raised concrete foundation and has a full basement and attic. The front gable roof is sheathed with composition shingle and features two lower side gables. The raised foundation of the building is finished with rough stucco, while the body of the building is sheathed with redwood shingles. The entire building is painted white. The corner tower, pointed arch windows and louvered vents, and stained glass characterize the Gothic Revival style. Craftsman elements include the wood shingle exterior, overhanging roof eaves with decorative brackets, and stickwork. The building was constructed on a prominent corner within a residential neighborhood located two blocks north of the community's downtown core. It faces west onto Riverside Avenue; this historic avenue was laid out as part of the original town site and featured a "double drive" and median. At the time the church was constructed the street was not paved. Today Riverside Avenue has a turfed and landscaped median, parkways, mature trees, sidewalks and curbs. The residential neighborhood immediately surrounding the church is primarily developed with residences dating from ca. 1900-1930s. Just north of the church is a Sunday School annex building (1955) which sits on a separate parcel and is not part of this nomination. The two buildings share a common parking lot which is located to the east and is paved with asphalt. With the exception of a few small shrubs, landscaping on the property is minimal. The church and Sunday School annex buildings are owned by the City of Rialto and leased and operated by the Rialto Historical Society (since 1974). The church has had very little alteration since its construction and retains a high degree of integrity.

Exterior

The most prominent feature of the church is the three-story square bell tower located at the southwest corner. At the third story of the tower, louvered vents terminate into four narrow pointed arch dormers. Decorative finials adorn the tower roof apex and dormers as well as the other roof pitches of the church (rebuilt and/or repaired in 1998). The main entrance to the church is recessed within the first floor of the bell tower and is reached via an arched opening on the west facade. A concrete stairway, which opens to the north and south, provides access to the entrance. These stairs (ca. 1955) replaced the original wood porch, which faced directly west. The porch features a wood floor and rough textured stucco walls and

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 2

First Christian Church of Rialto
name of property
San Bernardino, CA
county and State

ceiling. The set of wooden entry doors is oriented northeast, on axis with the church pulpit. To the right of the main entrance is a single door which opens into a stairway that leads to the tower. A simple wooden railing was added to the first story arched opening on the south side of the tower some time after 1930. A wooden church sign is located just below this opening (ca. 1955).

Fenestration on the church building includes tall pointed arch louvered vents beneath the roof gables on all elevations at the attic level. The north, south and west facades include pointed arch stained glass windows at the main level. The basement level, east (rear) elevation, and east end of both the north and south side elevations feature both wood frame double hung and casement windows with operable transoms. In 1979-80, basement windows on the south side of the tower and north of the tower on the west façade were enclosed and finished with stucco.

At the east (rear) elevation of the church a set of concrete stairs leads down to the basement. Sanborn maps from 1907 and 1911 indicate that a small one-story porch was added to shelter the entrance to the basement. This porch was expanded (ca. 1955) to a covered walkway to connect the church with the Sunday School annex. Entrance to the basement and open area between the buildings is secured with a wrought iron fence (1973). A mechanical equipment enclosure is located south of the stairs (date unknown).

The south side elevation features a porch which is sheltered by a sloping roof extension. The wood stairs (rebuilt in 1998) open to the west and provide access into the main level of the church. A set of concrete stairs beneath the porch leads to the basement. The north side elevation features a brick chimney.

In 1998, the church building was re-roofed, carriage lights were added to the front rear and south side entrances, and the redwood shingles were stripped and repainted white. Physical evidence from that time, and historic photographs, indicate that the church was always painted white.

Interior

The interior of the church is remarkably intact and appears to retain the original floor plan. The full basement level includes a kitchen, pantry, and restrooms at the east end and two rooms at the west end which originally functioned as the secretary's room, library and reading room (now exhibit space for the Historical Society). A large open room is located in the central area of the basement which accommodated Sunday school classes and other church gatherings (now exhibit/meeting space for the Historical Society).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 3

First Christian Church of Rialto
name of property
San Bernardino, CA
county and State

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The church sanctuary measures 37 x 54 and accommodates approximately 150 people. It is a version of the "Akron Plan," so named because it was first used at the Methodist Episcopal Church (1870) in Akron, Ohio. Characteristic of the plan it features a sloping floor and a semi-circular arrangement of curved pews (facing northeast) which focus on the corner pulpit and choir alcove. To the rear of the pulpit is the baptismal. A balcony is located in the southwest corner of the sanctuary and follows the curve of the pews. (Note that is was also characteristic of the Akron Plan to use roll up partitions to divide a large church auditorium into classroom and sanctuary sections. The First Christian Church of Rialto did not incorporate this features as the classes were held in the basement.)

Behind the balcony is the tower room. It was originally used as a classroom, but is now storage space. Historically, the tower did not have a bell. The existing bell, from the old Catholic Church in Bloomington, a nearby community, was donated to the Rialto Historical Society and installed ca. 1997.

The ceiling of the sanctuary has a vaulted ceiling with decorative vents to allow for air circulation. A row of metal rosettes with small lights circles the entire sanctuary above the stained glass windows before getting to the line of vaulting.

Stained glass windows in groups of three are located on the north, south and west walls, with a second grouping of two on the north wall. They represent "Christ in the Temple" (north), "Christ in the Garden" (west) and "The Good Shepherd" (south). Other smaller stained glass windows are located throughout the sanctuary. The windows were apparently donated by various families of the church; historic research did not determine the artist(s).

To the east of the sanctuary are numerous closets/storage rooms and two rooms which originally served as the pastor's study and ladies' parlor (now used for weddings as the groom's and bride's rooms respectively). Access to the unfinished attic is via a built-in ladder in the hallway east of the sanctuary.

In 1979-80, the City of Rialto completed a restoration project of the church. The original solid oak church pews and stained glass windows were removed, repaired, and re-installed. Interior woodwork in the sanctuary was repaired or replaced in kind. The original set of front doors was refinished. Electrical wiring and plumbing were updated and heating, air conditioning, and fire sprinklers were installed.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 4

First Christian Church of Rialto
name of property
San Bernardino, CA
county and State

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Statement of Significance

The First Christian Church of Rialto, constructed in 1907, is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as an excellent example of a sophisticated architect designed building, and an excellent example of the late Gothic Revival style in the City of Rialto. The property also meets Criteria Consideration A: Religious Properties, because it is significant for its architectural and design qualities and not for religious doctrine. This nomination is for the church building only and does not include the Sunday School annex building which is located on a separate parcel to the north.

The First Christian Church building was owned by the church from its construction until 1964. At that time, Dr. and Mrs. Merlin Hendrickson, long time residents of Rialto, purchased the church and adjacent Sunday School annex to save them from pending demolition. Protecting the church became a major concern of preservation minded Rialto residents. In July 1971, Dorothy C. Galley approached the City to see if they would partner in these efforts. That same year Ms. Galley organized the Rialto Historical Society, the main purpose of which was to preserve the church. Dr. and Mrs. Hendrickson donated the buildings to the historical society. In order to fund the needed restoration, in 1974 the City of Rialto accepted the buildings as a gift and then leased them back to the Historical Society. In 1979-80, the church building was restored using Community Development Block Grant Funds. On October 21, 1980 the Rialto City Council unanimously voted to rename the church the "Kristina Dana Hendrickson Cultural Center" in honor of Dr. Hendrickson's daughter who died in 1967 of leukemia. The buildings now function as the Historical Society Museum. The church is also used as meeting space and for weddings.

Background

As part of the Southern California land boom of the 1880s, the Semi-Tropic Land and Water Company was organized in 1887 by officers of the Los Angeles National Bank, when the Santa Fe Railroad made plans to build a line connecting San Bernardino and Los Angeles by way of Pasadena. Rialto was among the many new town sites laid out along the track. That same year, a group of Kansas Methodists came to Southern California looking for a location for a Methodist college and chose Rialto. Several of the Methodist families settled in the town site. Although the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 5

First Christian Church of Rialto
name of property
San Bernardino, CA
county and State

Methodist college was never established, Rialto quickly became one of the boomtowns of the decade and was advertised throughout the country by the Semi-Tropic Land and Water Company. By 1904 Rialto had a population of about 1,000 and boasted its tree lined streets, a large hotel, several business blocks, fine residences, a grammar school, five packing houses, fraternal lodges, and two churches.(1)

The town's third church, the First Christian Church, was organized on October 8, 1905 under the leadership of H.E. Wilhite, pastor of the First Christian Church of San Bernardino. The twenty-six member congregation quickly moved to incorporate and make plans for construction of a church. In March 1906, they purchased a lot on the corner of Second and Riverside Avenue for the church site.(2) The next month, on April 5, an eight-member board of trustees was formed and officers were elected, with J.R. McKinley serving as the chair.(3) At that same meeting, a building committee was formed to help select plans for the church. On May 15, the Articles of Incorporation were drafted.

Newspaper articles regarding construction of the new church began on May 29, 1906 with coverage of the groundbreaking, and continued through July 7, 1907 when the church was formally dedicated.(4) During the early months of the church's history, and until the church was completed, services were held in the Loyal Mystic Legion Association Hall (commonly known as the L.M.L.A. Hall) on Riverside Avenue. This was the lodge of the Order of the Mystic Legion, a fraternal organization. Visiting ministers from surrounding cities came to preach to the congregation until August 31, 1906, when the church board extended an invitation to Oscar Sweeney of Ord, Nebraska to serve as reverend. Within a month Reverend Sweeney accepted the call and he and his wife arrived in Rialto in late October - in time to help with plans for the new church.(5)

Construction of the church began on November 12, 1906 as reported in the newspaper, " a force of men started at work today on the concrete wall and basement of the new Christian Church." (6) A brief history of the church, written on the occasion of its 50th anniversary, indicates that most of the labor and materials were donated by parishioners and members of Rialto's other churches. While newspaper accounts did not confirm this, they did identify Ed Barnard as the supervising carpenter.(7)

By late January of 1907 the foundation and basement were completed and the framework of the building was started. During the same month, J.R. McKinley, Oscar Sweeney and Ed Barnard made a trip to Riverside to contract for furnishings for the church including door and window casings.(8) The church history includes

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 6

First Christian Church of Rialto
name of property
San Bernardino, CA
county and State

=====

the recollections of one church member who hauled chairs and the pulpit by horse and wagon from the Cresmer Manufacturing Company of Riverside.(9)

The church was completed in early July 1907 with the dedication ceremony held on July 7. A full-page column appeared in the *San Bernardino Sun* the day before describing the church interior in detail. This same article identified the architect as H.M. Patterson of Los Angeles.

The dedication ceremony was a day-long event which drew parishioners from all three of Rialto's churches as well as from neighboring communities. Three services were held during the day, and lunch and dinner were served. The morning service was presented by Charles C. Chapman, pioneer orange grower of Fullerton and President of the California Christian Missionary Society.(10) The evening service was held by Harold Bell Wright, reverend of the First Christian Church of Redlands and well-known best selling author.(11) By the end of the day \$4,500 had been raised to pay off the remaining debt on the church construction, which reached approximately \$9,000.

Architectural Significance

The First Christian Church of Rialto is an excellent example of a sophisticated architect designed building in Rialto. It is interesting to note that neither *A History of Rialto* (1999, 3rd ed.) nor the City's Historic Resources Survey (1990) include a discussion of, or identify architects working in the area. However, historic photographs of buildings dating from circa the 1880s through the 1930s indicate a level of sophistication of design to suggest some were architect designed; this is particularly true of civic and public buildings. Commercial and retail buildings tended to be modest in scale and design. This is also generally true of residential development although some larger homes were built, particularly before the turn of the century. It is important to note that Rialto remained a small town until the post World War II Period. The population in 1950 was only 3,156, while today it is over 80,000. As the older civic and public buildings outgrew their usefulness, new buildings were constructed and the historic were demolished. The First Christian church now remains as the most outstanding architect designed building from the City's early years of development.

Rialto developed like many Southern California towns during and immediately after the boom of the 1880s. In these early years, buildings were constructed to attract new residents and house settlers from the Midwest. Development occurred primarily

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 7

First Christian Church of Rialto
name of property
San Bernardino, CA
county and State

=====
along and adjacent to Riverside Avenue, the main access street through the town.(12) Designs for the early buildings followed the prevailing styles of the period and ranged from Queen Anne to Gothic Revival. The grand three story, 42-room Queen Anne style Hotel Del Rialto was built in the late 1880s (burned 1907). North of the hotel the two story office of the Semi-Tropic Land and Water Company was constructed (demolished). The wood frame Gothic Revival style Rialto School was constructed in 1890 (remodeled). In 1892 two churches were built: the Romanesque Revival Congregational church (demolished) and the Gothic Revival Methodist Church (still in use). By 1898 there were 35 residences in Rialto, including cottages and two-story homes in the Queen Anne and Folk Victorian styles.

After the turn of the century Rialto's architecture reflected the aesthetics of the Arts and Crafts period. The most notable public buildings constructed at this time were the Prairie style Rialto Grammar School (1907; demolished, 1953) and the Late Gothic Revival First Christian Church (1907). The church was unique for its incorporation of Craftsman elements. Residential development continued both to the east and west of Riverside avenue and numerous modest Craftsman residences were built alongside Victorian era cottages.

By the 1920s the Spanish Colonial Revival style gained immense popularity in Southern California and was used in the design of the Rialto Junior High School (1923; demolished, 1970) and City Hall (1929; demolished, ca. 1961). The Craftsman style continued to be popular into the 1920s and was the favored style for residential construction. The Craftsman Rialto Woman's Club (1925, still in use) was also built in 1925. This clubhouse, along with the First Christian Church, appear to be the only two public buildings in Rialto which utilized the Craftsman style.

The architect for the First Christian Church was H.M. Patterson of Los Angeles.(13) Patterson was born in Ashland, Ohio and opened a practice in Butte, Montana in 1880. Early in his career he moved to Los Angeles and continued working there as an architect until his death in 1928. According to his obituary in *Architect and Engineer*, Patterson was a specialist in church design. Among his most noted works are the imposing Gothic Revival style Immanuel Presbyterian Church at 3300 Wilshire Boulevard in Los Angeles, the Romanesque Revival First African Methodist Church (1930) at 1449 West Adams Street in Los Angeles, and the Italian Romanesque Revival First Congregational Church (1914) at Cedar and Third Streets in Long Beach. Patterson also apparently designed buildings in the Town of Pony, Montana, listed as a National Register Historic District (1987).(14)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 8

First Christian Church of Rialto
name of property
San Bernardino, CA
county and State

=====

In Patterson's First Christian Church of Rialto, he combined the late Gothic Revival style with elements of the Craftsman aesthetic. The building, much more modest in size and scale than his Los Angeles area churches, was designed for a small but growing church population. Gothic Revival architecture in America was aimed at reviving the spirit and forms of Gothic Architecture of the High Middle Ages in Europe. The style was popular during the period from ca. 1830 to the 1880s, and was primarily applied to residences and churches. The Gothic Revival style appeared later on the West Coast, even early into the 20th century. The construction of the First Christian Church in 1907 coincides with the popularization of the Craftsman style. The style was developed as a regional expression of the architecture of the Arts and Crafts period (ca. 1895-1918) and was typically used on residences and some public buildings. The style emphasized quality craftsmanship both interior and exterior, the use of natural materials such as wood and stone, and relating the building to the natural surroundings. Elements of the style incorporated into the design of the First Christian Church include the wood shingle exterior, overhanging eaves with decorative brackets, and stickwork.

At the time of the construction of the First Christian Church, Rialto had two other buildings in the Gothic Revival style. The First Congregational Church (1892) at 190 N. Olive Street (now Rialto Bible Fellowship) is simpler in design and reflects the aesthetics of the Victorian era. A flat roofed addition was made to the north elevation of the church sometime between 1911 and 1927, and the interior has been extensively altered. The Rialto School (1890) was also of wood-frame construction. The school featured a massive body, almost resembling a large residence, with a three story Gothic tower. The tower was later removed and the building was remodeled and relocated for use as apartment building.

At the time of construction of the First Christian Church, the *San Bernardino Sun* described it as "one of the most complete church edifices to be found in any community twice the size of Rialto." (15) It remains the most prominent historical architect designed building in the city. In their well-known book *A Guide to Architecture in Los Angeles and Southern California*, David Gebhard and Robert Winter list the church among only four buildings recognized in Rialto, calling it, "a fine Craftsman version of a wood Gothic Revival church." (16)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 9

First Christian Church of Rialto
name of property
San Bernardino, CA
county and State

Notes:

1. Luther A. Ingersoll, *Century Annals of San Bernardino County, 1769 to 1904* (Los Angeles: L.A. Ingersoll, 1904), 619-622.
2. This date is taken from the Historical Society church files, which include the original deeds. A *San Bernardino Sun* newspaper article from April 11, 1906 indicates that the church was originally planned to be built at Second and Olive streets, on lots donated by church elder J.R. McKinley.
3. Board members included M. Wesley Smith, L.W. Klinker, Dr. D.B. Crediford, J.E. Weller, Merton Brimmer, J.W. McKinley, Edward Slade, and A.R. Litts.
4. Rialto did not publish a local newspaper at that time, but the *San Bernardino Sun* provided coverage of the town's events. A list of articles used is included in the Major Bibliographical References section of this document.
5. *San Bernardino Sun*, 30 September 1906, Part II:1; 31 August 1906, 5; 3 November 1906, 5.
6. *San Bernardino Sun*, 13 November 1906, Part II: 1.
7. First Christian Church, Rialto, California, "50th Anniversary Service of Rededication." Program, 18 May 1958; *San Bernardino Sun*, 25 January 1907, Part II: 1.
8. *San Bernardino Sun*, 29 January 1907, Part II: 1.
9. The Cresmer Manufacturing Company worked as contractors for many buildings within the City of Riverside including the First Congregational Church of Riverside at 3504 Mission Inn Avenue, listed in the National Register of Historic Places.
10. Chapman came to California by way of Austin Texas in 1894. He settled in Los Angeles and then Fullerton, where he was one of the areas most successful and well-known orange growers. His fruits were packaged under the prestigious Old Mission brand. Chapman was active in numerous business, civic, social and religious organizations in California. He apparently assisted with the dedication of over forty churches.
11. Harold Bell Wright was the author of best selling books including *The Shepherd of the Hills* (1907), *The Winning of Barbara Worth*, (1911) *The Eyes of the World* (1916). For more information on Wright see: Lawrence V. Tagg, *Harold Bell Wright: Storyteller to America* (Tucson: Arizona, Westernlore Press, 1986).
12. Development was primarily in the area between the Santa Fe tracks and Foothill Boulevard (then San Bernardino Avenue) and between Sycamore and Willow Avenues. The First Christian Church is within this area.
13. This architect has only recently been determined as a result of research to prepare this nomination. Interestingly, an early newspaper article indicates that the original plans for the church were discarded and new plans selected, *San Bernardino Sun*, 4 October 1906: 8. A later article indicates that the surface of the newly selected church was to be stucco, but after a meeting of

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8,9 Page 10

First Christian Church of Rialto
name of property
San Bernardino, CA
county and State

14. the building committee, the decision was made to use wood shingles, *San Bernardino Sun*, 3 April, 1907, Part II: 1.
15. Henry F. Withey and Elsie Rathburn Withey, *Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased)* (Los Angeles: Hennessey & Ingalls, 1970:reprint), 460. For information on the Pony Historic District see the National Register of Historic Places web site, www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com.
16. *San Bernardino Sun*, 7 July 1907, Part II: 1.
David Gebhard and Robert Winter, *A Guide to Architecture in Los Angeles & Southern California* (Santa Barbara: Peregrine Smith, Inc., 1977), 399.

Major Bibliographical References:

Brown, John Jr., and James Boyd. *History of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties*, 1922.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 11

First Christian Church of Rialto
name of property
San Bernardino, CA
county and State

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October 4, 1906, 8

November 13, 1906, 5

January 25, 1907, Part II: 1.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 12

 First Christian Church of Rialto
name of property
 San Bernardino, CA
county and State

=====
Geographical Data

Boundary Description

Lot numbered twenty four (24) in Block numbered Two (2) according to MAP OF TOWN OF RIALTO, as per plat recorded in Book 4 of Maps, Page 10 of records of San Bernardino County.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire lot, which has been historically associated with the First Christian Church building.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section _____	Page <u>11</u>	<u>First Christian Church of Rialto</u>
		<u>name of property</u>
		<u>San Bernardino, CA</u>
		<u>county and State</u>

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Additional Information: Photographs

Name of Property: First Christian Church of Rialto
 City & State: Rialto, California
 Photographer: Charles McLaughlin
 Date of Photograph: ca. 1910
 Location of Original Negative: Rialto Historical Society
 View of photograph: West (main) façade and south side elevation looking northeast.
 Photograph Number: 1

Name of Property: First Christian Church of Rialto
 City & State: Rialto, California
 Photographer: Charles McLaughlin
 Date of Photograph: 1930
 Location of Original Negative: Rialto Historical Society
 View of photograph: West (main) façade and south side elevation looking northeast.
 Photograph Number: 2

Name of Property: First Christian Church of Rialto
 City & State: Rialto, California
 Photographer: Janet Hansen
 Date of Photograph: July 6, 2002
 Location of Original Negative: Rialto Historical Society
 View of photograph: West (main) façade and south side elevation looking northeast.
 Photograph Number: 3

Name of Property: First Christian Church of Rialto
 City & State: Rialto, California
 Photographer: Janet Hansen
 Date of Photograph: July 6, 2002
 Location of Original Negative: Rialto Historical Society
 View of photograph: West (main) façade looking east.
 Photograph Number: 4

Name of Property: First Christian Church of Rialto
 City & State: Rialto, California
 Photographer: Janet Hansen
 Date of Photograph: July 6, 2002
 Location of Original Negative: Rialto Historical Society
 View of photograph: West (main) façade and north side elevation looking southeast.
 Photograph Number: 5

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section _____ Page 12

First Christian Church of Rialto
name of property
San Bernardino, CA
county and State

=====
Name of Property: First Christian Church of Rialto
City & State: Rialto, California
Photographer: Janet Hansen
Date of Photograph: July 6, 2002
Location of Original Negative: Rialto Historical Society
View of photograph: Close up of tower on south side elevation, looking west.
Photograph Number: 6

Name of Property: First Christian Church of Rialto
City & State: Rialto, California
Photographer: Janet Hansen
Date of Photograph: July 6, 2002
Location of Original Negative: Rialto Historical Society
View of photograph: North side elevation looking east.
Photograph Number: 7

Name of Property: First Christian Church of Rialto
City & State: Rialto, California
Photographer: Janet Hansen
Date of Photograph: July 6, 2002
Location of Original Negative: Rialto Historical Society
View of photograph: South side and east elevations looking northwest.
Photograph Number: 8

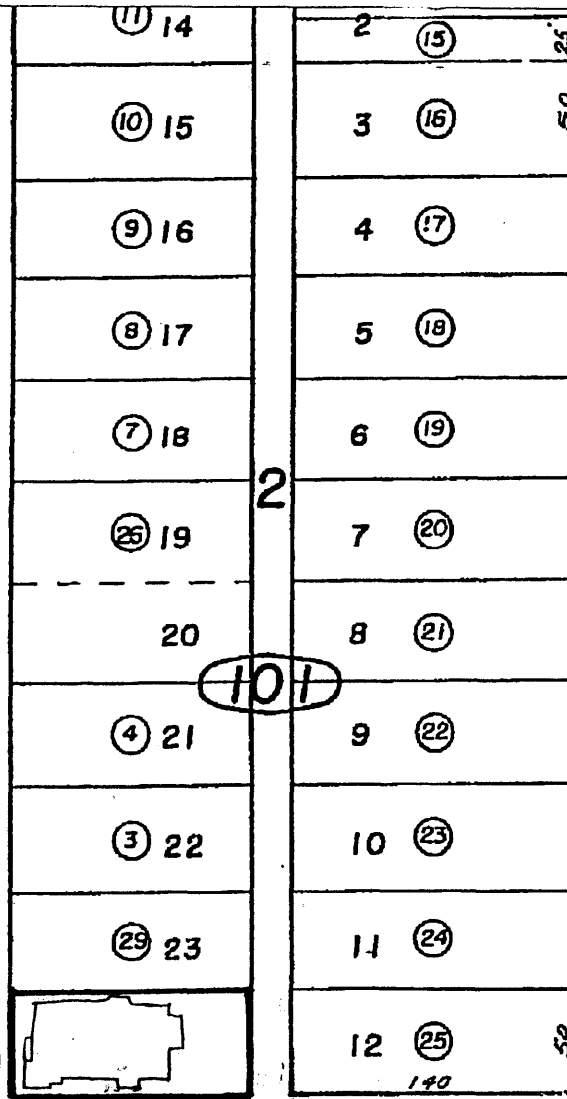
Name of Property: First Christian Church of Rialto
City & State: Rialto, California
Photographer: Janet Hansen
Date of Photograph: July 6, 2002
Location of Original Negative: Rialto Historical Society
View of photograph: East (rear) elevation looking west.
Photograph Number: 9

Name of Property: First Christian Church of Rialto
City & State: Rialto, California
Photographer: Robert Hughbanks
Date of Photograph: ca. 1985
Location of Original Negative: Rialto Historical Society
View of photograph: Interior of sanctuary looking northeast at the pulpit and choir
alcove from the balcony.
Photograph Number: 10



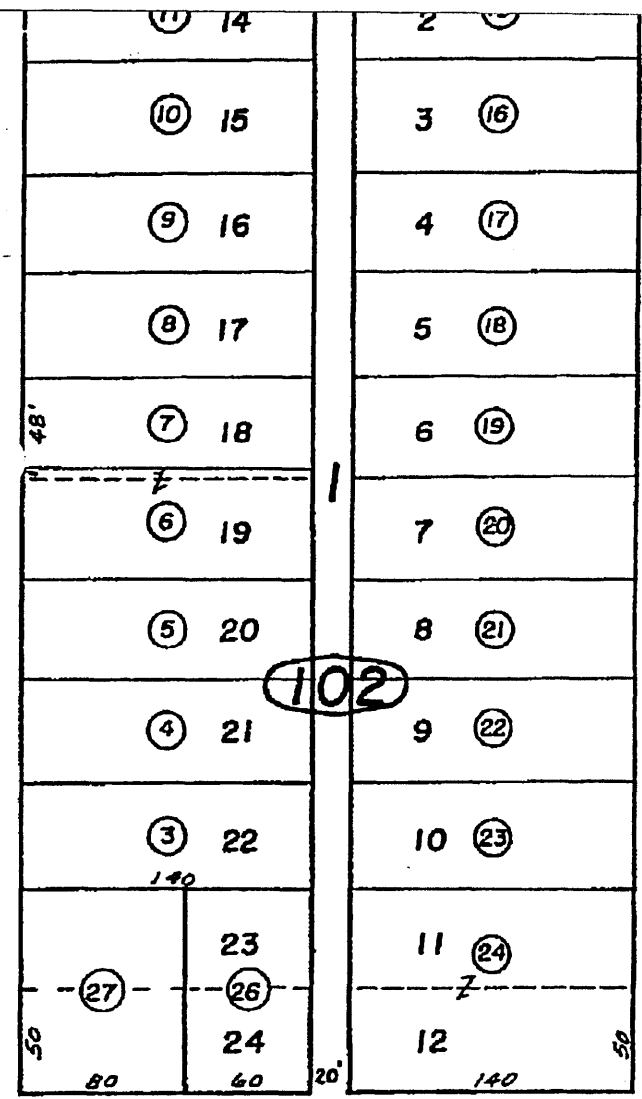
RIVERSIDE AVENUE

CHURCH



SECOND STREET

OLIVE AVENUE

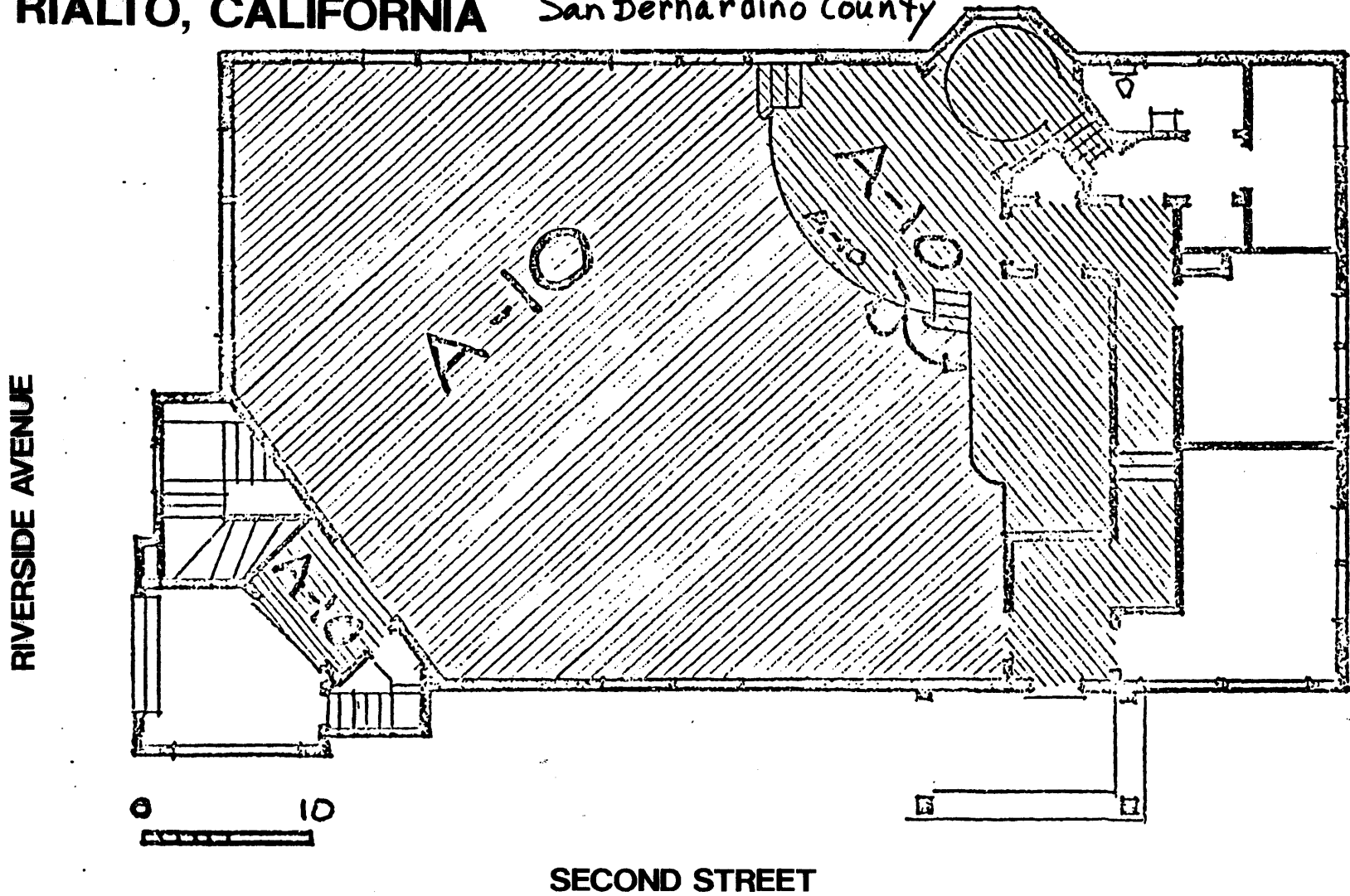


DATE AVENUE

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF RIALTO
RIALTO, CALIFORNIA
San Bernardino County

LOCATION MAP

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF RIALTO
RIALTO, CALIFORNIA *San Bernardino County*



GROUND-FLOOR PLAN