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7.	DESCRIPTION								
					(Chec	k One)			
	CONDITION	Excellent	🕅 Good	📋 Fair	Det	eriorated	🗌 Ruins	Unexposed	
	CONDITION		(Check O	1e)			(Che	ck One)	
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The frame Church of the Good Samaritan, with its traditional cruciform <u>plan</u>, is approximately <u>90 feet in length</u> from entrance to chancel end. The distinctive feature of the building is its <u>framing system</u>, in which braced scissors roof trusses span roughly 24 feet.

Exterior walls are covered with shiplap siding. The seven bays and transept of what was originally the north elevation are marked by pointed arch windows and intervening shallow "buttresses" of decorative character. The west end of the original orientation is blind but for a simple, circular "Rose" window over the pointed arch entry. Woodwork applied in the framework of a belfry over the transept crossing repeats the Gothic arch motif. A Greek cross variant surmounts the belfry. Openings are covered with plain colored, leaded glazing.

The church appears not to have been altered significantly since its construction in 1889. In the fall of 1970 it was moved one block north of its historic location to City property overlooking Central Park. There it was sited on a full concrete basement to serve contemporary needs. All of the woodwork is intact, but the furniture has been removed. The building will continue to be operated under City sponsorship as an arts center.



SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
门 Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
15th Century	17th Century	🕅 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicab	le and Known) 1889		
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	eck One or More as Appropri	ate)	
Abor iginal	Education	Political '	📋 Urban Planging
Prehistoric	Engineering	🗙 Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
Historic	lindus try	losophy	
Agriculture	Invention	Science	
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Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	Military	Theater	
Conservation	Music	Transportation	
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			<u> </u>

The Church of the Good Samaritan, built in the "<u>Gothic" style in 1889</u>, is historically significant to Corvallis. Episcopal missionaries arrived in the community, then known as Marysville, Oregon Territory, as early as 1853. The church was the second permanent structure erected by Episcopal clergymen in that Willamette Valley town.

The Good Samaritan congregation was constituted in 1872 by Bishop Benjamin Wistar Morris, a Pennsylvania native and son of Samuel W. Morris of Revolutionary ancestry. Having been consecrated missionary bishop for Oregon and Washington, The Reverend B. W. Morris arrived in Oregon in 1869 and subsequently founded some of the state's distinguished churches, hospitals and schools.

The architectural significance of the church lies in the fact that it is an intact example of a simple type of vernacular Gothic once common in the vicinity.

The striking feature of the building is the <u>roof-truss system</u>. Local tradition has it that the framing was the work of men who, only four years earlier, had completed a pioneer railroad from Corvallis to Yaquina Bay on the Oregon Coast. The Oregon Pacific Railroad, which traversed more than 50 miles through the Coast Range, went into receivership about the time the Church of the Good Samaritan was constructed. It is likely that the builder of the church adapted his scissors trusses from plates in a handbook such as the <u>Kidder-Parker Architects' and Builders' Handbook of 1884</u>. Neither architect nor builder has been identified to date.

The church has not been used for ecclesiastical purposes since 1959, when the Parish moved to new property, taking with them certain of the furniture. Subsequently, the church was adapted for use as a community arts center. A land use conflict necessitated its recent relocation.

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