

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Oregon	
COUNTY: Multnomah	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER MAR 29 1972	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: The Old Church

AND/OR HISTORIC: Calvary Presbyterian Church

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 1422 S. W. 11th Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Portland

STATE: Oregon 97201 CODE: 41 COUNTY: Multnomah CODE: 051

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 type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Meeting, lecture, recital hall

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: The Old Church Society, Inc.

STREET AND NUMBER: 1422 S. W. 11th Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Portland STATE: Oregon 97201 CODE: 41

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Multnomah County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Portland STATE: Oregon 97204 CODE: 41

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Statewide Inventory of Historic Sites and Buildings

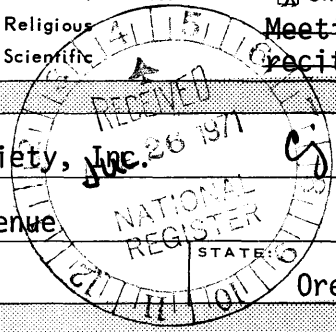
DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Parks and Recreation Section, State Highway Division

STREET AND NUMBER: Oregon State Highway Building

CITY OR TOWN: Salem STATE: Oregon 97310 CODE: 41

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Oregon

COUNTY: Multnomah

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER: MAR 29 1972

DATE:

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Calvary Presbyterian Church, built in Portland in 1882-1883 after a design by prominent local architect Warren H. Williams, is generally acknowledged to be the prime example in wooden construction of High Victorian Gothic architecture in the state. Under authority of a local ordinance, the building was designated a Portland Historical Landmark in March, 1970. The building has been partially restored by The Old Church Society, Inc. It is operated by the Society as a meeting, lecture and recital hall.

"The Old Church" is believed to have been the most elaborate of a number of similar vernacular churches built in Portland during the 1870s and 1880s. Of its type, it is the sole survivor, and it is the oldest church standing in the city. Covered with board and batten siding and finished with Gothic ornament, buttresses, pointed arch openings and window tracery, the church measures 75 by 112 feet atop a full basement. The dominant space in the rectangular plan is the preaching hall, or sanctuary, from which there extend a gallery, office, chapel, classroom and utility areas. The distinctive feature of the exterior is a louvered belfry tower and spire on the southwest corner which marks the point of access into the vestibule and sanctuary. A porte cochere which sheltered an entry adjacent to the vestibule on the south end was removed in recent years. The structure is to be replaced in the course of restoration.

Interior trim is adapted from Gothic and Italian Renaissance styles. The vaulted plaster ceiling of the sanctuary is decorated with gilded wooden ribs and is supported by two cast iron columns spaced amid the center pews. Forming a screen at the back of the chancel on the east wall of the sanctuary are pipes and fittings of the original Hook and Hastings organ which is still operable and used regularly in recitals.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Oregon	
COUNTY Multnomah	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
MAR 29 1972	

(Number all entries)

CALVARY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2. Location

The property is located in NE 1/4 sec. 4, T. 1 N., R. 1 E., of the Willamette Meridian, in Multnomah County, Oregon.

Lots 5 and 6, Block 244, Portland.

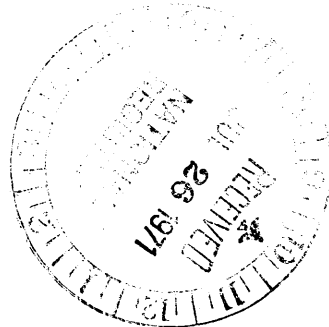
6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Portland Historical Landmark

Designated March 1970
(Survey prepared by Portland Chapter, A.I.A., 1965)

Portland Historical Landmarks Commission
City of Portland
1220 S. W. 5th Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97204

Code: 41



SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1882-1883

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 Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

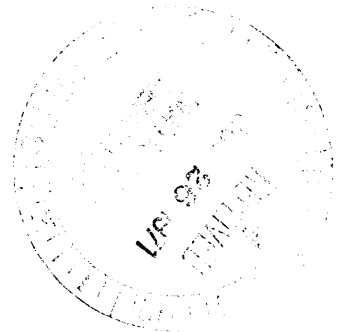
Formation of the Calvary Presbyterian Church and Society in 1880 was a propitious moment in the growth of the Presbyterian Church in Portland. Although missions and Sunday Schools had earlier expanded into residential neighborhoods, the original congregation had not been considered large enough to support additional Societies before this time.

William S. Ladd, Portland pioneer of 1851, and a banker and promoter of important early Oregon enterprises, donated a site for the new building at S. W. 11th Avenue and Clay Street. Society trustees included men prominent in local affairs: Captain George J. Ainsworth, shipping and railway magnate; bankers William M. Ladd and Charles E. Ladd, sons of the donor of the property; and Henry J. Corbett.

When preliminary drawings for the church were discarded as too expensive, Warren Heywood Williams, the leading Portland architect of the day, offered to contribute a design and supervise construction. W. F. Lewis was hired as builder. The cornerstone was laid in September 1882, and construction was completed in the following year at a cost of approximately \$36,000.

Warren Heywood Williams was born in New York City in 1844. In 1850 he emigrated with his father, Stephen Heddon Williams, an architect, to San Francisco. The young Williams learned architecture from his father. He started as a draftsman and later became a partner. News of the first great fire in Portland, in December 1872, drew Williams to the Oregon port, where he quickly established a reputation as a stylist. For a time he worked with builder E. M. Burton. A long professional association with H. W. Corbett began in 1874 with the design of Mr. Corbett's mansion. His documented designs of the 1870s and 1880s included Portland's most substantial business blocks and fashionable residences. Of his surviving works, Villard Hall on the University of Oregon campus in Eugene executed in the style of the Second Empire Baroque, and Calvary Presbyterian Church in Portland in the High Victorian Gothic style are among the important examples of late 19th century architecture in Oregon.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (April 1968), 1-2.

Ross, Marion Dean, "125 Years of Building," AIA Journal, Vol. 49, No. 6 (June 1968), 125.
 Nelson, Lee H., "Architects of Oregon: Piper and Williams," The Call Number, Vol. 20, No. 2 (Spring 1959), 4-15.
 "'The Old Church,' Portland's Oldest Standing Church Building" (Portland: Oregon Historical Society bulletin, 1968), 3 pages.
 Vaughan, Thomas, and McMath, George A., A Century of Portland Architecture (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1967), 43-45, 41-42.
 "Portland, Ore., Campaign Launched to Save Carpenter Gothic Church," Preservation News

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

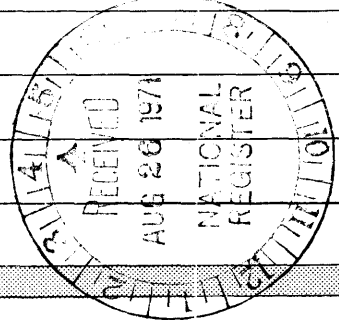
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "	45 ° 30 ' 55 "	122 ° 41 ' 04 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "			
SE	° ' "	° ' "			
SW	° ' "	° ' "			

HR
10524640
5040010

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: ca. 0.25 acres

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



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Elisabeth Walton, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: Oregon State Highway Division DATE: July 1971

STREET AND NUMBER: State Highway Building

CITY OR TOWN: Salem STATE: Oregon 97310 CODE: 41

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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:

National State Local

Name: R. C. [Signature]

Title: State Highway Engineer

Date: 11 20 1971

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest A. Connelly
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 MAR 29 1972

Date: _____

ATTEST:

William [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: JAN 18 1972