

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED 2280

RECEIVED

607

JUL 29 2016

JUL 26 2016

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

by SHPO

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" on the appropriate line or by entering the information requested. If an 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 COTTAGE GROVE AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 1050 24th Street N/A not for publication

city or town Des Moines N/A vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Polk code 153 zip code 50311

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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.)

[Signature]
Signature of certifying official/Title
State Historical Society of Iowa
State or Federal agency and bureau

26 July 2016
Date

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

Signature of certifying official/Title
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that the 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)

Signature of Keeper
Patrick Andrews

Date of Action
9/12/2016

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
Name of Property

Polk County, Iowa
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many lines as apply)
Category of Property (Check only one line)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal
- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

The City Beautiful Movement and City Planning in Des Moines, Iowa, 1892-1938

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility

SOCIAL/civic

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/
Classical Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE
walls STONE/limestone
roof SYNTHETICS
other Glass

Narrative Description

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

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
Name of Property

Polk County, Iowa
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" on one or more lines 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" on all the lines that apply)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or 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
SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1903-1954

Significant Dates

1903
1918
1954

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Shockley, Clinton P.

(See continuation sheet)

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

9. Major Bibliography References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
Name of Property

Polk County, Iowa

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 | 15 | 4 45 6 50 | 460 5 13 5 |

Zone Easting Northing

2 | --- | --- | --- |

Zone Easting Northing

3 | --- | --- | --- |

Zone Easting Northing

4 | --- | --- | --- |

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 William C. Page, Public Historian <page@dwx.com>
organization Presbytery of Des Moines Covenant Council date November 27, 2015
street & number 520 East Sheridan Avenue (Page) telephone 515-243-5740 (Page)
city or town Des Moines state Iowa zip code 50313-5017

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 SHPO or FPO.)

name Presbytery of Des Moines
street & number 2400 86th Street, Suite 20 telephone 515-276-4991
city or town Urbandale state Iowa zip code 50322

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 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 Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 1

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church is a large masonry building. It possesses three components: the Sunday School Wing, Main Block, and Porte-Cochere. (See Figure 9.) The Sunday School Wing is the earliest of these components, having formed part of a 1903 church building whose sanctuary was subsequently demolished. Begun in 1917, the Main Block was completed in 1918 and stands on the site of the demolished sanctuary, architecturally joined to the Sunday School Wing, which remained when the 1903 sanctuary was demolished. Circa 1954, the Porte-Cochere was erected at the rear of the building. The 1918 improvements included cladding the south elevation of the Sunday School Wing with limestone veneer to match the Main Block, so that the south facade of the building enjoys a unified design. The setting of the church is urban-residential. The condition and integrity of the church are very good.

SITE

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church is situated on an unusual trapezoidal-shaped site. The configuration of this site is integral to the building's architectural design. This 0.625-acre site is fronted by 24th Street on the east and Cottage Grove Avenue (the namesake of the building) on the south.

The distinctive shape of this site results from the property's situation on the diagonally configured Cottage Grove Avenue, which runs northwest to southeast. The diagonal section of this street forms a remnant of the Military Road from Des Moines to Fort Dodge, Iowa, established during the 1840s and 1850s. The diagonal route provided the shortest distance between Des Moines in central Iowa and Fort Dodge in northwest Iowa. This diagonal configuration became an anomaly as Des Moines' grid of streets expanded.

When the University Land Company laid out that section of Des Moines where the church is located in the 1880s, the company preserved the military road diagonal layout in its plat. Drake University, founded in conjunction with this land company, built its campus several blocks to the northwest. Some subsequent additions to Des Moines likewise incorporated the diagonal layout of the military road in their platting, but others did not, so that by the early 20th century, only remnants of this early overland route remained intact.

By the time Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church acquired the title to three parcels of land in the late 19th century, Cottage Grove Avenue had become an artery from downtown Des Moines to residential sections of the city in the northwest. Carpenter Square, a small, triangular-shaped parcel platted by the University Land Company's First Addition and located where Cottage Grove Avenue intersects Kingman Boulevard near the church, provides an urban public amenity, directly across the street to the south from the church's newly acquired property. Kingman Boulevard formed an impressive residential thoroughfare with a parkland median separating an east and a west trafficway. Finally, the City of Des Moines acquired Drake Park, a city block-sized public park located at the intersection of 24th Street and Cottage Grove Avenue and directly across the street from the church to the east. All of these public amenities encouraged quality residential

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 2

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

improvements; and, by the early 20th century, this section of Des Moines had become a well-developed and choice urban neighborhood. As a newspaper account noted:

The church is admirably situated from the viewpoint of anyone interested in civic improvement. On the east it faces Drake park, a square block of playground and recreation land, laid out by the city in artistic walks and landscape gardening. To the south is a miniature park, triangular in shape, formed by the diagonal intersection of Cottage Grove avenue and Kingman boulevard. The three improvements will make a breathing spot that will be distinctive in the city. (*Des Moines Sunday Register*, November 25, 1917)

Since then, a street re-alignment has occurred at the intersection of Cottage Grove Avenue and 24th Street, which considerably increased the lawn on the south elevation of Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church. This is evident in comparing a 1917 photograph, which accompanied the newspaper story quoted above, and the view today. (See Figure 8.)

In the 1960s, the construction of the John MacVicar Freeway (Interstate 235) substantially altered land use south of the church. Scores of houses were removed from this neighborhood and massive excavation created a huge linear ditch for the freeway's right-of-way. The freeway became a barrier for intercourse between land to the north and land to the south. In the early years of the 21st century, I-235 was completely rebuilt, including a new interchange about two blocks from the church at Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway and 19th Street. The new configuration of this interchange includes attractive parkland and landscaping and has opened up a more convenient access to the church and its surrounding neighborhood.

EXTERIOR

Main Block

As it stands today, the Main Block is the largest component of the Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church. It was designed by Clinton P. Shockley, a Waterloo, Iowa, architect. The Main Block features 2-story, steel frame construction clad with masonry walls and covered with a roof supported by steel trusses. It rests on a concrete block foundation and is faced with Bedford, Indiana, limestone on the south, east, and southeast elevations. Limestone veneer also clads a podium for the Main Block and wraps around a portion of the north and west elevations of the building. The Rowat Stone Company of Des Moines supplied this limestone veneer. (Neubauer: II-9) The north facade of the Main Block is faced with brick, now painted creamy yellow. A flat, membrane roof, installed several years ago, covers both the Main Block and the Sunday School Wing.

The Main Block's front facade is its most distinctive feature. Three elevations form this front facade. The southeast elevation is narrow and blunt-shaped and stands at the apex the Main Block's wedge-shaped

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 3

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

footprint. (See Figure 8.) The south elevation and the east elevation—mirror images of each other—flank the southeast elevation. When viewed from the approach along Cottage Grove Avenue (the way the design is intended to be seen), the building, therefore, reveals itself as a symmetrical composition. The placement of a massive niche, centered in the southeast elevation and rising full-height within it, calls further attention to the southeast elevation's role as the fulcrum of this symmetry. A large, freestanding column stands in front of this niche. It supports a basin for growing plants and further accents the fact.

The south and east elevations feature five bays and stand on a podium. Four fluted pilasters define the three center bays. The pilasters rest on plain plinths and are capped with simple capitals. Three tall, keystone-arched windows are recessed between these pilasters. The pilasters support a heavy and stylized entablature featuring a simple architrave and frieze with a cornice about 12 inches in depth. A high parapet caps the entablature. Each of the parapets features three raised panels.

Both the south and east elevations include prominent entryways flanking their central three bays. Each entryway features limestone door surrounds and a cornice supported by scrolled corbels framing paired doors of paneled wood and surmounted by tall transoms with colored glass in leaded comes. Two steps lead up to the doors on the east elevation. Four steps lead up to the doors on the south elevation. A small window is situated above each of these entryways.

The east elevation includes a 2-story wing setback from it. The parapet capping this wing is slightly shorter than the one on the east elevation proper. The wing possesses two bays with 1/1 double-hung wood sash with colored glass filling them on both the first and second floors.

The south elevation includes a 2-story wing setback and angled from it. This is the Sunday School Wing as described below.

Each of the primary elevation parapets bears words cut into the limestone. The south and east elevations read "Cottage Grove Ave Presbyterian Church." The southeast elevation reads, "Ye Shall Know the Truth And/The Truth Shall Make You Free." These words are cut into the center panel of each parapet.

The niche is a semi-circular, full-story recession sunk in the southeast elevation. A molded label and keystone frame the arch, which caps this niche. The interior of the niche is capped with a shell-shaped canopy. A cast concrete pedestal supporting a basin stands free of the niche in front of it.

A cornerstone is situated about five feet above grade where the south and southeast elevations meet. The numeral "19" is cut into the south elevation limestone, and the numeral "17" is cut into the southeast elevation limestone to commemorate the beginning construction of the church in 1917.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 4

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

Sunday School Wing

Shockley's design for Cottage Grove's redevelopment called for the facing of the south elevation of the Sunday School Wing with the same Bedford limestone as the Main Block. This was implemented, and today the viewer gains the impression that both components of the redeveloped church are of contemporary construction.

The Sunday School Wing possesses two stories, four bays on the south elevation, seven bays on the west elevation, and four bays on the north elevation. The wing is situated like the Main Block on a podium. In addition to sharing the same limestone veneer as the Main Block, the south elevation also features an entablature similar although simplified in design.

The west and north elevations of the Sunday School Wing reveal their late 19th century construction. Quoins worked in brick decorate the northwest corner of this wing and run up the first and second stories. Window openings fill all of the bays on the west and north elevations. On both elevations, the first and second floor windows feature segmental arched lintels. The window openings on the first floor retain their original height but feature replacement 1/1 double-hung sash faced with combination metal storm windows and screens. The window openings on the second floor have been foreshortened with a reveal of inset brick and are filled with replacement 1/1 double-hung sash, also faced with metal storm windows and screens. The two window openings on the south side of the first floor have been infilled completely with brick.

A tall, brick chimney stands on the northwest corner and ventilates the building's heating system. This chimney is now painted a creamy yellow color, as are the rest of the building's brick walls.

Porte-Cochere

A porte-cochere is attached to the north elevation of the church. Constructed circa 1954 and designed by architects Wetherell, Harrison & Wagner, it provides a protected entryway to the church from a parking lot on the north side of the site. This entryway is the one receiving the most use today. The architects called this feature a "panoply." The congregation subsequently used this term to reference it.

The porte-cochere features a vestibule of masonry construction projecting about 15 feet from the north elevation of the Main Block and Sunday School Wing. This vestibule is clad with creamy yellow and tan colored brick. A pair of wood-paneled doors centers the north elevation of the vestibule and is surmounted by a single-pane transom. Tall windows stand on the east and west elevations of the vestibule. Steel posts support the flat-roofed canopy of the porte-cochere. The canopy includes six overhead lights to illuminate the vehicular drive-through. Although both the design and the materials of the porte-cochere are distinctively different from that of the church, the placement of the porte-cochere at the rear of the church building renders it visually unobtrusive.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

Page 5

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

INTERIOR

Within the interior, it is impossible to distinguish between the building's 1903 and 1918 components because they are seamlessly integrated. Aware, however, of the building's evolution, certain quirks reveal it. The floor plan of the building is highly irregular. Because of the Main Block's wedge-shaped footprint, not one of its spaces is configured as a rectangle. The Main Block's angular junction with the Sunday School Wing adds further irregularity to this floor plan. Finally, the first and second floors of the Sunday School Wing differ in elevation from the first and second floors of the Main Block. As a result, variously located half-flights stairs are needed in certain corridors to compensate for these differences in height.

Main Block

The Main Block includes the sanctuary, library, offices, and rest rooms.

The sanctuary is the largest space in the entire building and features a modified Akron plan design. The floor plan is wedge-shaped with its apex situated at the southeast corner of the building. The sanctuary floor slopes downward from the rear of the room to the front. Ten ranks of pews are arranged in semi-circles articulated for worshiper access by aisles located on the sides of the room and two aisles, which divide each row of pews into three sections. Three large windows featuring colored glass panels with geometric and floral designs are situated on each side of the sanctuary. A large and decorative ventilation grate is situated in the middle of the ceiling. This device originally worked in conjunction with a ventilation system, driven by motor, which remains in place in the basement boiler room. Four heavy chandeliers with colored glass panels illuminate the sanctuary and coordinate in color and design with the large windows described above. A flight of three steps near the front of the room leads to a platform, where a communion table is located. A pulpit and a lectern flank this platform. An arch recessed area is situated behind this platform. Over the years, some changes have occurred at the front of the sanctuary. Originally, the pulpit was centered in front of the chancel with a choir loft behind it. In 1936, reredos (a wood paneled wall at the rear of the chancel) was installed as a memorial to Helma Eastberg Johnson by her family. (Program Bulletin) (See Figure 12) The pulpit was subsequently replaced with a communion table and a pulpit installed to its left and a lectern to its right. This is the present configuration of the chancel. A balcony wraps around the rear and side walls of the sanctuary.

A fellowship hall and stage, two kitchen areas, and restrooms are situated in the basement beneath the sanctuary. The rest of the Main Block's interior is given over to offices, classrooms, a library, and mechanical areas. Corridor floors are generally of terrazzo construction, with carpeted wood floors elsewhere, including the sanctuary. Wall surfaces are of plaster. Ceilings vary from plaster to later-installed acoustical tile. Woodwork throughout the first floor of the Main Block is "quartered white oak with silver gray finish" ("Services of Dedication"), an unusual decorative treatment for the period and complimentary to

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 6

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

the building's light-colored stone exterior. The woodwork on the second floor of the Main Block is of oak with natural finish.

Sunday School Wing

The original 1903 floor plan of the Sunday School Wing remains unknown. In 1954, its first floor took on its present-day configuration with the construction of the Norman E. Bishop Chapel, a church lounge, and a kitchenette. In 1954, the second floor of the Sunday School Wing was constructed, as reported locally:

A new floor will be constructed between the main floor and the roof. It will have two large rooms for the kindergarten and primary department. (*Des Moines Tribune*, October 10, 1953)

Until then, the interior of the Sunday School Wing lacked a second floor, as an early 1950s photograph of the space shows.

The Norman E. Bishop Chapel features light-colored mahogany wall paneling, crown molding, and five rows of pews divided by a central aisle. The congregation faces to the west. Four stained glass windows representing Saints Mathew, Mark, Luke, and John, each with his iconographic symbol, are situated on the south wall. Linoleum tile clads the floor. A pair of baffles, constructed of vertical wood members, flanks the communion table and lectern, both of which are situated on a raised platform at the front of the chapel. These baffles and this platform visually differentiate this chancel area from the rest of the room. The ceiling is clad with acoustical tile and features recessed lighting.

The church lounge is the largest room on the first floor of the Sunday School Wing. It includes a faux fireplace on its north wall and light-colored wood paneled walls. The ceiling is clad with acoustical tile and features recessed lighting. Both the chapel and the lounge feature Midcentury Modern styling in the light colors used for woodwork and the smooth surfaces of the paneling. A kitchenette is situated to the east of the lounge. Since the 1980s, CROSS Ministries, a social services agency, has occupied the offices on the north end of the Sunday School Wing. (See Section 8.) The second floor of this wing features three Sunday School classrooms and several offices.

Porte-Cochere

Mottled green-colored flagstone clads the floor of the vestibule. As with its exterior, the porte-cochere's interior has a Midcentury Modern feeling to its design. Because the flagstone floor is set lower than that of the church building itself, a short flight of steps leads up to its first floor.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 7

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

FUNCTION AND FUTURE USE

Until 2014, the Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church housed a worshipping congregation of the same name. In that year, the congregation voted to dissolve because of its small size. The building continues to house CROSS Ministries, a social service mission of the Presbytery of Des Moines, and two Sudanese congregations, whose members emigrated to the United States following recent civil wars in Sudan and South Sudan, Africa.

The Presbytery of Des Moines, the corporate title-holder of this property, is presently planning the rehabilitation of the Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church under the leadership of a covenant council. The plan calls for the building to continue its existing uses, including CROSS Ministries (a social service mission of the Presbytery of Des Moines for no- and low-income persons to prevent homelessness and food insecurity) and the two Sudanese congregations mentioned above. The plan also calls for the relocation of the presbytery's offices to the Cottage Grove church from its present suburban location, and for the expansion of social, educational, and community center activities under consideration. Thus, the church building, as described by a newspaper in 1918, will continue its original purpose "to form a very effective community center for recreational and improvement purposes." (*Des Moines Sunday Register*, November 25, 1917)

CONDITION AND INTEGRITY

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church is in very good condition. The building has remained occupied its entire life and continues to be maintained. While it is true that the last several decades witnessed deferred maintenance on multiple fronts—plumbing, heating, and general repairs—a new roof, a new boiler, and a massive interior clean-up project recently have begun to redress these issues.

The Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church possesses good to excellent integrity according to the National Register's seven qualities.

The property's integrity of *location* is excellent, remaining on its original site.

The integrity of the building's *design* is very good. The essential elements of this building—its limestone veneer and trimwork, colored glass windows, and interior surfaces remain intact.

The *setting* of the building is good. Drake Park, Kingman Boulevard, and the surrounding Drake residential neighborhood have preserved their late 19th and early 20th century physical characteristics. Although the construction of the Des Moines Freeway (I-235) in the 1950s razed many houses to the south and southeast, since the late 20th century, the neighborhood has benefited from homeowners

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 8

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

interested in the preservation of this older section of Des Moines, so that a sense of revitalization is evident today.

The integrity of this building's *materials* is very good. The original quality of these materials included excellent durability so that, in spite of some deferred maintenance and settling of approach steps to the building, these original materials continue to function. The building's plumbing needs major work, as a century of use has taken a toll on it. As mentioned elsewhere in this nomination, a new roof and a new boiler have recently augmented the building's utility.

The *workmanship* evident in the building is best seen in its exterior masonry and colored glass windows and in its interior woodwork and terrazzo floors. The integrity of these architectural elements is excellent.

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church retains an excellent historic *feeling*. The building's classically inspired exterior continues to bespeak with clarity its early 20th century origin and the then *au courant* influence in Des Moines of the City Beautiful Movement on its design.

The Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church possesses excellent quality of *association*. Viewers from the building's period of significance would immediately recognize it and its surroundings.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 9

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

(continued)
Segner, B. F.
Wetherell & Harrison

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church is significant, locally and under National Register Criterion A, because it calls attention to this institution's historic agenda of community service. Since at least 1918, this church committed itself to progressive ideals, serving as a center for non-parochial neighborhood gatherings, education, and recreation and, through its pastor and members, leading social reform in the broader community. The Classical Revival styling of the building radically broke with the design of the congregation's two earlier edifices on the site and symbolized this commitment.

The Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church is significant, locally and under National Register Criterion C, because it calls attention to the creative powers of Clinton P. Shockley, its architect. Further, the building is significant for its Classical Revival styling, which contributed to the advancement of the City Beautiful Movement in Des Moines, Iowa.

The period of significance for this property, under National Register Criterion A, is 1903-1939, the time within the National Register's 50-year rule when the building contributed to historic community service. The period of significance for this property, under National Register Criterion C, is 1903-1954, the time when the edifice was built, redeveloped, and subsequently remodeled. The years 1903, 1918, and 1954 are significant dates for the same reasons. The property possesses one contributing resource, the edifice itself. Criteria Consideration A obtains for this resource because it is owned by a religious organization. Criteria Consideration A has been satisfied because this property derives its primary significance from its architectural distinction and historical contributions to community betterment.

The Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church fulfills the registration requirements of Section F within "The City Movement Beautiful and City Planning in Des Moines, Iowa 1892-1938" MPD because it directly illustrates the City Beautiful Movement in Des Moines: 1) during its period of significance, 2) through its semi-public use, and 3) in its employment of limestone cladding worked on a monumental scale in Classical Revival styling.

BACKGROUND

Originally known as the Sixth Presbyterian Church, the congregation changed its name in 1910 to Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church. This institution has occupied multiple houses of worship over the years, including canvas tents at two different locations and a commercial building (all near the present site) and three different houses of worship on this very site. The present edifice was completed

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 10

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

in 1918 and incorporates within itself the remnants of a 1903 brick church. The following paragraphs outline these various houses of worship:

Tents

Gathered in 1888 by Rev. W. J. Young, the congregation originally worshiped in tents and a commercial building near the present site of the church. (*Des Moines Register*, June 26, 1895)

1893 Brick Church

The foundation for the first permanent church edifice was laid in 1889. Completed in 1893 at a cost of \$15,000 and known as the Sixth Presbyterian Church, the building featured a Late Gothic Revival design. (*Des Moines Tribune*, November 6, 1954) According to one newspaper account: "The building is a veneered brick building and the walls are very light." (*Ibid.*, June 26, 1895) (See Figure 7.) Fire destroyed this building early in the morning on June 25, 1895. A contemporary newspaper described this fire and the building it destroyed:

At 2 o'clock this morning an alarm of fire was turned in for the Presbyterian Church, on the corner of Twenty-fourth street and Cottage Grove avenue. . . The building had been struck by lightning and a large piece of it was knocked into the street. . . The building is a veneered brick building and the walls are very light. . . The pastor was W. J. Young, who built the church some four or five years ago. . . The church is practically a total loss. It was built at a cost of perhaps \$5,000. The insurance could not be learned. The roof and all the woodwork was gone at 3 o'clock, and the walls appeared as if about to fall in. (*Ibid.*, June 25, 1895)

The building was valued at \$12,000 but was only partially insured. (*Ibid.*, June 26, 1895)

1903 Brick Church

In the wake of this disaster, the congregation worshipped in makeshift quarters until erecting a new edifice, completed in 1903, on the same site. This building featured masonry construction and resembled the 1893 building in design and size. (See Figure 7.) The west and the north elevations of the 1903 building remain visible today for the reason described below. These elevations feature common red brick, now painted creamy yellow, and feature segmental arched windows, which point to their 1903 construction date. Some ten years after its construction, structural flaws were discovered in the 1903 building. (Neubauer: II-11)

1918 Present Church

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 11

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

The congregation adopted a hybrid plan to address the problem created by the structural flaws noted above. The eastern part of the 1903 building (housing the sanctuary) was demolished and the Main Block of the present-day church (housing a new auditorium) took its place. The western part of the 1903 building remained as the Sunday School Wing for classrooms. (During the construction of the Main Block, it served as the worship center for the congregation. [*Des Moines Sunday Register*, November 25, 1917]) All of this redevelopment occurred in 1917-1918 as designed by Clinton P. Shockley, an architect from Waterloo, Iowa, and as built by B. F. Segner, a Des Moines contractor.

Today, the Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church should be considered a 1918 building because of the Main Block's construction and substantial remodeling of its 1903 component in that year.

PROGRESSIVE IDEALS AND SOCIAL REFORM

Early 20th Century

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church is of historical significance because of its contribution to Progressive ideals of social reform and community service during the early 20th century. According to a newspaper account at the time of this building's dedication:

COMMUNITY CENTER CHURCH

This church is not a church; it is an establishment. It will be a community center. The people of the neighborhood will realize that they have a place for all kinds of meetings. The pastor is a friend of the human race and he will want the people to appreciate the church without regard to creed or condition. The church will be more than local in its influence. It will be everything to the neighborhood for it has all the facilities of a modern club house with all the dignified appurtenances of a house of worship. There is nothing about it which seems to say, "This is a church." Everything seems to say, "This is a home." (*Waterloo Evening Courier*, March 19, 1918, reprinted from the *Des Moines Capital*)

In this concept of a community center church, the newly enlarged Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church reflected the ideals of a Progressive movement within the Presbyterian Church at the time. In 1910, the General Assembly, the governing body of the national church, had adopted the "Social Creed of the Churches," a statement developed by the Federal Council of Churches urging American Christians to work to improve such social problems as alcoholism, crime, urban blight, child labor, and other social ills of the era. The force of this movement subsequently declined somewhat within the national church following World War I, but a strong commitment to these tenets remained at Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church during the 1920s and 1930s.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 12

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

Already in 1910, this institution had changed its name from Sixth Presbyterian Church to Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church. This name-change emphasized the congregation's commitment to a specific physical place and the tenet that charity begins at home.

The architecture of Cottage Grove's new church building dramatically broke with this congregation's two earlier edifices and signaled its commitment to these Progressive ideals. Although other churches in Des Moines might have engaged in such activity in Des Moines during the early 20th century, none expressed its commitment in such a striking way as to design a house of worship as an expression of it.

The viewer easily can corroborate the veracity of the 1917 newspaper report, quoted above, by viewing the Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church as built in 1893 and 1903 (see Figure 8) and as it stands today. Indeed, "There is nothing about it which seems to say, 'This is a church.' Everything seems to say, 'This is a home.'" No Christian cross adorns the exterior of the building. No bell tower, steeple, Gothic-arched feature, or other ecclesiastical motif traditionally associated with church design embellishes the building. True, the exhortatory maxim "Ye Shall Know the Truth and/The Truth Shall Make You Free" is cut into the limestone frieze on the southeast elevation of the building, but the force of this exhortation stresses moral rectitude rather than Christian theology. Then too, the many large colored glass windows embellishing the sanctuary feature patterned designs entirely devoid of religious symbolism.

The dedication of the new Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church in 1918 provided the congregation an opportunity to reaffirm its commitment to mission. The congregation raised sufficient money at this time to retire all of indebtedness for the construction of the new building. Headlined "Large-Fund Subscribed," one newspaper reported: "More than \$18,000, the remainder of the money needed to clear the church of indebtedness was raised during the service." (*Des Moines Register*, May 13, 1918) This accomplishment should be seen against the backdrop of World War I then being waged by America abroad and of financial restraint, which usually accompanies such uncertain times.

Following the war and under the leadership of Rev. William Burton Sanford, who had led the campaign to construct the 1918 building, the Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church moved forward in its mission to promote civic and social reform

Early in the 1920s, a public policy issue arose, in which the church played a leading role. From its beginnings, the church had enjoyed a close relationship with nearby Drake University. The Presbyterian Church's traditional respect for education attracted many members of that institution's faculty to join and other professionals in Des Moines were similarly attracted to the church, including A. J. Baker, Iowa State Attorney General. When a threat to the City of Des Moines' efforts to introduce land-use zoning emerged in the early 1920s, this educated and civic-minded congregation rose in its defense. The issue revolved around the proposed construction of a gas station across the street from the church.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 13

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

The city was in the process of establishing restricted residential zoning in the area and denied an application by the Manhattan Oil Company to erect a service station within the proposed district (which included the church). Manhattan appealed the city's ruling to district court, which sustained Manhattan's appeal. Subsequently, the City of Des Moines, with Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church as an intervener, appealed the case to the Iowa Supreme Court. The appeal relied on the police power of cities and the practice of eminent domain. In a lengthy opinion, the court in 1922 ruled in favor of the city and church, setting an early precedent in favor of zoning and against the 19th century philosophy of *laissez faire*. (*City of Des Moines v. Manhattan Oil Co.*) As an early test case for zoning law in Iowa, this decision reinforced growing pressure for public control of urban development.

During the 1923-1939 pastorate of Rev. James Thompson Mordy, the church continued to implement its stated mission of community service. Mordy served as the sometime president of the Negro Community Center of Des Moines. Organized in 1917 to serve African-American officers and enlisted men at Fort Des Moines, the Negro Community Center evolved into a social services agency based in a neighborhood near the church. The center provided a public library, a well baby clinic sponsored by the Public Health Nursing Association, and a meeting place for clubs, cooperatives, and fraternal groups. "In one year one hundred and twenty-five such groups held meetings there in addition to the activities carried on by the Center." ("Negro Community Center," 188) The center's board generally included both white and black members. (*Ibid.*) Mordy's service to the Negro Community Center reflected Cottage Grove's support for that agency's efforts. Today, the heir of this organization is Wilkie House, a non-profit community center serving neighborhood education, recreation, and social needs.

During Mordy's pastorate, the church availed its facilities to neighborhood youth for activities, sponsoring a student orchestra, a basketball team, and educational programs of various sorts. A 1928 photograph pictures more than sixty children outside the church. (See Figure 15.) While other churches in Des Moines no doubt offered some programs like these to local youth, most lacked facilities such as a gymnasium or the financial capability to organize activities like these on such a scale.

In 1939, Rev. Mordy answered the call of a large Presbyterian congregation in South Pasadena, California, and left Cottage Grove. His departure, coupled with the growing war clouds in Europe and the Pacific and the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, marked the end of Cottage Grove's early 20th century era of social reform.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 14

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

Social Reform: Late 20th and Early 21st Centuries

Following World War II, the Cottage Grove congregation entered a new era of endeavor, undertaking substantial improvements to its physical plant. During the 1960s and 1970s and continuing to the present day, the church refocused on its traditional mission of social reform.

By the late 1940s, the church building required updating. The interior of the Sunday School Wing still remained without a second floor. The congregation lacked a chapel for small gatherings and a lounge for informal events. The automobile had replaced walking to church for many members, and the church lacked an adequate parking lot. With all of this in mind, the church in 1952 called Rev. Edward P. Ingersoll to its pulpit from Scotts Bluff, Nebraska, where he had successfully led a \$140,000 church building program. Under the leadership of Ingersoll and key members of the congregation, Cottage Grove launched the major infrastructure improvements, as outlined in Section 7 of this nomination.

Following this era of infrastructure improvement, Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church reaffirmed its tradition of social reform during the 1960s and 1970s. This focus continues to the present day. Although this era stands outside the period of significance of this nomination, the following information calls attention to the force of this tradition on the congregation's ministry.

New challenges to the church arose in the 1960s and the 1970s, as the congregation recognized that it had become an inner-city institution. According to one church observer:

At the beginning of our church, there was criticism because it was started on the outskirts of the city. Then, we found in the '60s a problem with the building of the Freeway. It divided many streets from easy access to the church. By this time many of our members no longer lived in the immediate church area. Many buildings and apartments were torn down to make way for the Freeway. We lost some of our members to other churches nearer where they had moved. We now found our church bordering the inner city.

Over the years, with all these changes, there developed a need to reach out to these people in the neighborhood. (Anonymous)

To this end, the social action task force of the church established in the late 1960s a school breakfast program for children attending Grant and Bird Elementary Schools. These public institutions were located near the church and served low-income neighborhoods, whose children sometimes lacked food to eat for breakfast. Trinity United Methodist Church (NRHP as Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church) at 1548 8th Street in Des Moines had started a similar program for Moulton Elementary School one year earlier.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 15

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

The program at Cottage Grove was sponsored by federal, state, and local funds with volunteer assistance from five other local churches. Volunteers were encouraged to breakfast with the children and get to know them. ("Plan Free Breakfasts For Pupils") According to one volunteer:

There would be average around 30 kids, sometimes more. But even in the wintertime there would be 20-30 there. Five or six of us would work each of the school days. All together we would have 20 volunteers or so. Some worked three, four, or five days a week. I suppose I worked three or four times a week depending on the workload at the office. (Ralph Schilling)

During the 1970s, Rev. David Reeves, the church's pastor, conceived the idea of CROSS Ministries, a non-profit homelessness prevention agency, sponsored by the church. Rev. Robert B. Cook was subsequently called as an associate pastor and charged with developing the program. Since 2010, this agency also has operated an alternative hours food pantry for people in need. In the meantime, Cook left Cottage Grove to establish ministry work for the people of El Salvador.

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church later responded to another contemporary social need. In 1993, the State of Iowa began to provide services to Sudanese immigrants to the United States who had fled civil war in their African homeland. Today, Iowa has one of the largest populations of these immigrants in the nation. During the 19th and early 20th centuries, the Presbyterian Church had been active in missionary work in Sudan, and many of these immigrants had been raised as Presbyterians. When they arrived in Iowa, Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church became a "home place" for large numbers of them to gather and worship under the leadership of the Rev. Dr. David Madsen.

ARCHITECTURE

The Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church calls attention to the creative powers of Clinton P. Shockley, one of Iowa's leading architects during the early 20th century, and his ability to manipulate architecture and landscape to monumental effect. The use of Classical Revival styling and an ingenious site plan resulted in a significant contribution to the City Beautiful Movement in Des Moines, Iowa. In the 1950s, the architectural firm of Wetherell and Harrison designed improvements to the church in Mid-Century modern styling.

Shockley's design incorporated the remnants of a 1903 building into this building so seamlessly that only careful examination reveals its disparate origins. As a result, the present edifice should be considered a 1918 building. Shockley also manipulated to great advantage the property's irregularly-shaped site to achieve a monumental sense of place for the building, adding an important contribution thereby to the City Beautiful Movement as it was unfolding in Des Moines during the early 20th century.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8

Page 16

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

Clinton P. Shockley

Clinton P. Shockley (1879 or 1880-1927) was born in Vinton, Iowa. He graduated from Chicago’s Armor Institute of Technology in 1907 and claimed discipleship with the “Chicago School of Architecture.” (Shank: 148) Shockley returned to Iowa following his education in Chicago, worked briefly for an architectural firm in Waterloo, and subsequently set up his own practice there. Shockley joined the Iowa Chapter of the American Institute of Architects in 1910.

In 1915, Shockley collaborated with Mortimer B. Cleveland, Waterloo’s pre-eminent architect of the era, to design the Iowa Building for the Panama-Pacific Exposition in San Francisco. It appears that Shockley left Iowa in 1918 but returned in 1920 to resume his practice in Waterloo. He remained in that city until his untimely death in 1927 at the age of 47.

Religious institutions form an important part of Shockley’s *opus*. The following table lists them.

RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONAL DESIGNS BY CLINTON P. SHOCKLEY

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date of Construction and Notes</u>
Hospital (Roman Catholic)	Waterloo, IA	c. 1907 (consulting assistant)
Walnut Street Baptist Church	Waterloo, IA	1908, eclectic, red brick w/tower, NRHP
Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church	Des Moines, IA	1918, Classical Revival, limestone
First Presbyterian Church	Atlantic, IA	1918, Late Gothic Revival, brick w/tower
First Presbyterian Church	Waterloo, IA	1923, Late Gothic Revival, brick w/tower
First Presbyterian Church	Ottumwa, IA	1927, Late Gothic Revival, brick w/tower

Sources: Shank & church websites.

Although Shockley did not study in Europe (or evidently travel abroad), like so many other Americans of his generation, the heritage of Western civilization profoundly influenced his aesthetics. Shockley’s churches—particularly his four known Presbyterian churches (all in Iowa)—show the influence of Historicist and Classical Revival styling then so popular in the United States. First Presbyterian (Ottumwa), First Presbyterian (Waterloo), and First Presbyterian (Atlantic) exemplify Late Gothic Revival ecclesiastical styling and feature bell towers, brown-colored brick, stone trim, and steeply pitched roofs. Shockley’s design for the Walnut Street Baptist Church (Waterloo) shows the influence of the Chicago School of Architecture to which Shockley claimed discipleship. It includes a soaring bell tower.

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian (Des Moines) stands in marked contrast to all of these edifices. It is the only church within Shockley’s known ecclesiastical *opus* clad in light-colored rather than dark-

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 17

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

colored materials. It is the only one without any reference whatsoever to a bell tower. It is his only church without any visual reference whatsoever to a roof, let along a steeply pitched one as with the others.

This brief summary of Shockley's known church commissions illustrates his usual designs for these buildings. Set against this body of work, Shockley's design for the Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church bespeaks that institution's desire to build a new house of worship, stripped of Christian iconography and befitting its commitment to non-parochial community service. Another measure of Shockley's architectural prowess, as noted elsewhere in this nomination, can be seen in his ability to work successfully within these parameters.

Shockley's commission with the Cottage Grove congregation faced other design challenges. These included an irregularly shaped site and the necessity of incorporating the remnant of an earlier building into the new church edifice. Shockley's solutions to these problems provide another yardstick to measure his professional ability.

As to Cottage Grove's selection of Shockley as its architect (or even knowledge of his existence), the motivation for that decision must be credited to the Rev. Dr. William Burton. Having served as the pastor of a church in Waterloo, undoubtedly aware of Shockley's commission for the Walnut Street Baptist Church in that city, and called to the pastorate of Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church in 1915, Sanford must have recommended Shockley to the Des Moines church's building committee.

Classical Revival Styling

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church is a fine example of Classical Revival styling in Des Moines, Iowa. This influence is best seen in its use of limestone veneer, pilastered elevations, stylized entablature, and symmetry. The achievement of symmetry is particularly notable given the site's irregular shape.

By 1917, Shockley was well conversant with the standard elements of Classical Revival styling. As noted above, he already had collaborated with Mortimer B. Cleveland in the design for Iowa's House at the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco. (See Figure 13.) Indeed, the side elevation of that limestone veneered building—with its pilastered wall, tall windows, stylized entablature, high parapet with engraved inscription, and planter boxes to hold growing plants—provides a model for Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church. The treatment of symmetry stands as a major difference between the two buildings.

Indeed, symmetry—the *sine qua non* of Classical Revivalism—posed the biggest challenge for Shockley at Cottage Grove. As thrifty Presbyterians, the church's building committee likely recognized the utility of preserving the Sunday School Wing for continued use—or perhaps Shockley had suggested it. In any case, the preservation of this remnant had to be taken into account. Furthermore, the site was irregularly shaped

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 18

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

and possessed limited space. All these factors constrained Shockley's options. No easy solution as at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco would work for Shockley here. (See Figure 13.)

Shockley achieved symmetry at Cottage Grove by reconfiguring the earlier sanctuary's footprint by turning it on its heel. The footprint of the 1903 sanctuary was rectangular and faced south. Shockley's sanctuary featured a wedge-shaped footprint with its front facade oriented to the southeast. (Compare Figures 5 and 6.) This device enabled Shockley to create a massive facade comprised of a narrow central elevation (the blunt end of the wedge) flanked by mirror elevations. (See Figure 8.) This deft solution created a front facade of tripartite symmetry on an asymmetrically shaped site. A massive niche in the blunt end of the central elevation accents this classical composition and lends a Beaux Arts feeling to the composition. As one contemporary account noted:

Our requirements demanded that all available ground space be utilized in the very best advantage and the completed building demonstrates how this was accomplished also how, by careful study, a building may be planned to conform with an irregular shaped lot and yet be practical and symmetrical in plan as well as monumental in design. ("Description of Church Edifice")

While it is not known now whether the floor plan of the 1903 sanctuary featured an Akron plan, Shockley's design for the new sanctuary included a modified version of it. The sanctuary's wedge-shaped footprint and curving banks of pews nicely rhymed with that design. There are, however, no spaces adjacent to the sanctuary, which can be joined with or set apart from it by moveable partitions, as in the fully developed Akron concept.

An honest critique of Shockley's design achievement at Cottage Grove requires further comment. Notwithstanding the successful design of the building's exterior and sanctuary, the efficiency of the interior suffered under Shockley's floor plan. As noted in Section 7 of this nomination, the floor heights of the Main Block and the Sunday School Wing do not align, so that various flights of short stairs, landings, and corridor configurations are necessary to articulate the interior for pedestrians and deliveries. This layout—compounded by the oddly angled junction of the Main Block and Sunday School Wing—has challenged both newcomers as they learn to navigate the church and latter-day architects devising handicap accessibility for the building.

In passing, it should be noted that Classical Revival styling was not a particularly unusual design for church edifices built during the early 20th century in Des Moines. First United Methodist Church (1908, NRHP) in downtown Des Moines is the largest example in the city. With its massive portico and dome, the building looks like a temple of worship even without other Christian symbolism. Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church stands in marked contrast to these peers. Its concept of symmetry stands quite apart from the standard norm; and, with its lack of Christian symbolism, the casual viewer might mistake the building for a public library, school, government office, or financial institution. No other Classical Revival-styled church

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 19

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

edifice in Des Moines compares with it. As discussed elsewhere in this nomination, the Cottage Grove congregation consciously intended this new design to distinguish it from its predecessors and to signal the new building's progressive purpose.

City Beautiful Movement

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church is significant as furthering the aesthetics and goals of the City Beautiful Movement as it evolved in Des Moines, Iowa. The building stands as a notable example of Classical Revival design in the Drake University neighborhood and continues to serve as an agent of social reform in the community. In this way, Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church expanded the influence of the City Beautiful Movement beyond Des Moines' downtown core and made it relevant in a domestic setting.

The most notable public buildings associated with the City Beautiful Movement in Des Moines include:

NOTABLE PUBLIC BUILDINGS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CITY BEAUTIFUL MOVEMENT N DES MOINES

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date of Construction and Notes</u>
Public Library of Des Moines	Downtown	1900-03, stone clad
Former U.S. Post Office	Downtown	1909-1910, limestone clad
Municipal Building	Downtown	1910-11, limestone clad
Municipal Court & Public Safety Bldg.	Downtown	1918-20, limestone clad
U.S. Court House	Downtown	1926-1929, limestone clad
Argonne Armory & World War Memorial Bldg.	Downtown	1934, limestone clad

Source: Barbara Beving Long, 1988b, pp. F-II-2 & F-II-3.

Other public and semi-public buildings also played a role in the movement's success:

OTHER PUBLIC AND SEMI-PUBLIC BUILDINGS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CITY BEAUTIFUL MOVEMENT N DES MOINES

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date of Construction and Notes</u>
First Methodist Episcopal Church	Downtown	1905-08, limestone clad, semi-public
West High School Addition (nonextant)	Near West Side	1903, limestone clad, public
East High School	515 E. 13 th St.	1911, limestone clad, public
Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church	1050 24 th St.	1918, limestone clad, semi-public

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 20

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

As these two tables show, most of these improvements cluster downtown. Within this context, Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church stands distinct as a semi-public institution located beyond this core. In its role as a "Community Center Church," this institution carried the aesthetics and social service mission of the City Beautiful Movement into an outlying residential neighborhood, thereby furthering the movement's presence and effectiveness in the City of Des Moines.

Following World War I, the Cottage Grove congregation continued its commitment to rational urban development as outlined above in the discussion of the *City of Des Moines v. Manhattan Oil Co.*

Landscape Architecture

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church is of landscape architectural interest because of its landscape design. Of odd shape and limited space, Shockley maximized the potential of this difficult site to enhance the vista offered by its location along Cottage Grove Avenue. This route from downtown Des Moines to the western environs of the city originated as the overland military route from Des Moines to Fort Dodge during Iowa's pioneer era. The diagonal configuration of the route provided the shortest distance from Des Moines to Fort Dodge in the northwest part of the state. Over the years, piecemeal reconfiguration fragmented the diagonal layout of this route in Des Moines, but that portion adjacent to Cottage Grove church has remained intact. (See Figure 2.)

As designed by Shockley, the massive body of the Cottage Grove church stands as a landmark along the vista formed along Cottage Grove Avenue. Shockley's placement of a full-story classically influenced niche at the apex of this massive edifice further emphasizes its role in the streetscape and provides a delicate foil to the heavy mass of the building. His placement of a cast concrete column and basin in front of the niche provides further accent, particularly when set with bright colored plantings in season.

Contemporary viewers recognized the distinctive quality of Shockley's landscape design, as the following newspaper report attests:

The new Presbyterian church, corner of Twenty-fourth and Cottage Grove avenue, of which Rev. W. B. Sanford is pastor, is making great progress toward completion. The church bears the name of Cottage Grove Presbyterian church. The appearance is unusual. The church is on a street corner and yet the lay of the land has enabled the architect to bring some unusual results. The outside finish is white stone. The inside is gray oak. The rear part of the church represents a reconstruction but it is none the worse for that. (*Waterloo Evening Courier*, March 19, 1918, reprinted from the *Des Moines Capital*)

The irregular shape of the church's site provided Shockley the opportunity to create a building of monumental presence. Shockley placed the building's east and south elevations paralleling those of the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 21

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

streets they faced. Thus, the edifice fills its site and, coupled with its massing and limestone surfaces, commands the viewer's eye when approaching from the city center and achieves the stature of a local landmark.

The then popular Akron Plan for sanctuary design aided Shockley in this scheme. This concept called for a curvilinear arrangement of pews instead of the traditional arrangement of pews in straight rows. The Cottage Grove congregation's willingness to break with tradition enabled Shockley to design the sanctuary floor plan in conformance with its wedge-shaped site. All other spaces in the Main Block, including corridors, offices, and other rooms occupy those pieces of the floor plan left over, regardless of the odd shapes they sometimes assume.

TITLEHOLDER OF PROPERTY

The Presbytery of Des Moines holds the title to this building. In the Presbyterian Church (USA), presbyteries (regional governing units within the national church) hold title to church property.

REPRESENTATION IN OTHER CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEYS

In 2001, Robert Vogel, Historian, and J. Straka of Bear Creek Archeology, Inc., prepared an Iowa Site Inventory form for this building. This report found that the Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church was National Register-eligible under Criterion C as "an outstanding specimen of Classical Revival [a.k.a. Beaux Arts elsewhere in this report, *ed.*] architecture and the property's association with broad trends and patterns is sufficient to support a finding of significance based solely on its architectural design values (ASCS 1955)." (Vogel and Straka: 1) Ralph J. Christian, historian with the State Historical Society of Iowa, concurred with this finding on October 26, 2001.

POTENTIAL FOR HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Although the site's potential for archaeological significance is, as yet, unexplored, the substantial disturbance to the site limits its potential for discovery.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH, REGISTRATION, AND TREATMENT

This report recommends further research concerning the importance of this building in relationship to the City Beautiful Movement and how it evolved in Des Moines during the early years of the 20th century. The

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 22

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

Vogel and Straka report, referenced above, notes this linkage. The church was erected during the same era as the Civic Center Historic District, the largest and most tangible expression of this movement in Des Moines.

Further research might flesh out the historical significance of the building in terms of its community service and emphasis on social justice, activities of long standing for the congregation.

Shockley and Jennie Redfearn Shockley (1884-1961), his wife, had two children, Pauline Shockley Lamson (1912-1989) and Clinton P. Shockley, Jr., (1915-1989). Although these children have passed away, genealogical research might discover living grandchildren, who might have information concerning their grandfather's professional work.

SELECTION OF HISTORIC NAME

Since the present edifice substantially has altered most of the visible characteristics of the 1903 building, the name Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church is the appropriate historic name for this property rather than Sixth Presbyterian Church, this congregation's original name.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author acknowledges with appreciation the assistance of the Presbytery of Des Moines, Cottage Grove Administrative Commission, Cottage Grove Covenant Council, and CROSS Ministries.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9 Page 23

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

PRIMARY SOURCES

Anonymous

n.d. Handwritten MS circa 1970. Archives of Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church deposited at the offices of the Presbytery of Des Moines, Iowa.

Baldwin, Sara Mullin

1929 *Who's Who in Des Moines, Biographical Sketches of Men and Women of Achievement*. Robert M. Baldwin Corporation, Des Moines, IA.

Brigham, Johnson. *History of Des Moines and Polk County, Iowa*. Chicago: The S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1911.

City Directories [Des Moines]

Various Collection of the Public Library of Des Moines.

City of Des Moines v. Manhattan Oil Co.

1922 "City of Des Moines (Cottage Grove Ave. Presbyterian Church et al., interveners) v. Manhattan Oil Co. et al. *The Northwestern Reporter*, Vol. 184, 823-831.

Des Moines Tribune

1895 "Early Morning Fire." June 25, 1895.

Des Moines Register

1895 "Will Probably Rebuild." June 26, 1895.

Des Moines Sunday Register

1917 "A Fine Improvement at Twenty-Fourth And Cottage Grove Avenue." November 25, 1917.

Des Moines Register

1918 "Church Dedicated To Public Service." May 13, 1918.

Des Moines Tribune

1953 "Cottage Grove Schedules Remodeling." October 10, 1953.

Des Moines Tribune

n.d. "Plan Free Breakfasts For Pupils." Circa 1969. Archives of Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church at offices of the Presbytery of Des Moines, Des Moines, Iowa.

Interior, The

1899 Feature article about the ordination and installation of Rev. Charles Lee Reynolds, first installed pastor of Sixth Presbyterian Church (now Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church). Vol. 30, October 26, 1899. Western Presbyterian Publishing Company.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9 Page 24

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

Iowa Architects File; Community Programs Bureau; State Historical Society of Iowa; Des Moines, Iowa.

“Negro Community Center”

1938 *The Annals of Iowa*, Volume 21, Number 3, Winter, 1938. State Historical Society of Iowa.

Polk County Assessor Office; Property Record Card.

Program Bulletin

1936 Accompanying the memorial dedication of the reredos in the sanctuary of Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church.
Collection Des Moines Public Library.

“Services of Dedication”

1918 Booklet privately printed for dedication of Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church on May 19, 1918.
Archives of Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church at offices of the Presbytery of Des Moines, Des Moines, Iowa.

SECONDARY SOURCES

Anonymous

2013 “Facility Inspection Tour Report.” Results of a building inspection of the church, September 11, 2013.
Xerox copy. Archives of Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church at offices of the Presbytery of Des Moines, Des Moines, Iowa.

City of Des Moines

1995 “Community Preservation Plan—An Element of Des Moines Comprehensive Plan.” Department of Planning, Des Moines, Iowa.

Ivey, Paul Eli

1999 *Prayers in Stone: Christian Science Architecture in the United States, 1894-1930*. Urbana and Chicago, University of Illinois Press.

Kostof, Spiro

1987 *American by Design*. New York, Oxford University Press.

Long, Barbara Beving

1983 “Des Moines Center of Iowa: Survey of Historic Sites.” Prepared for Des Moines Plan & Zoning Commission and on file at City of Des Moines and State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines.

Long, Barbara Beving

1988b “The City Beautiful Movement and City Planning in Des Moines, Iowa 1892-1938.” National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form. On file, State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines, Iowa.

Meikle, Jeffrey L.

2005 *Design in the USA*. Oxford (England) and New York, Oxford University Press.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9

Page 25

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

Neubauer, John C., editor

1982 "From Keokuk On" The History of The Cottage Grove Area." Privately published by the Drake Neighborhood Association.

Page, William C.

2015 "Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church Technical Advisory Network Report." Prepared for Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission and on file Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church Archives, Presbytery of Des Moines, Des Moines, Iowa..

Shank, Wesley I.

1999 *Iowa's Historic Architects, A Biographical Dictionary.* Iowa City, Iowa, University of Iowa Press.

Vogel, Robert, and J. Straka

2001 "Cottage Grove Avenue Church." Iowa Site Inventory Form within "Architecture/History Survey of Properties in the Interstate 235 Corridor in the City of Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa." Report on file at the State Historical Society of Iowa. (In the body of this report, it refers to the building as the "Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church," its correct name.)

MAPS

Sanborn Map Company

Des Moines, Iowa: 1884, 1891, 1901, 1920, 1950, 1957.

United States Geological Survey; Des Moines SE Quadrangle; 1956, photorevised to 1976.

ORAL HISTORY

Schilling, Ralph

2016 Informant interview with William C. Page, Public History, January 26. Schilling and Johanna Schilling, his wife, joined Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church in 1953. Schilling is a retired mechanical engineer and shared information about the construction of the church, its congregation and pastors, and its programming.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 10 Page 26

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots 119, 120, 121 & S 40F Lot 122 SD Lots 2 & 4 OP
NW 1/4 SEC 5-78-24

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

Contains all of the land historically associated with the property.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 10 Page 27

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
1050 24th Street
Des Moines, IA 50311
Looking northwest
William C. Page, Photographer
June 1, 2014
2. Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
1050 24th Street
Des Moines, IA 50311
Looking northwest
William C. Page, Photographer
November 9, 2015
3. Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
1050 24th Street
Des Moines, IA 50311
Looking southwest
William C. Page, Photographer
June 1, 2014
4. Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
1050 24th Street
Des Moines, IA 50311
Looking southwest
William C. Page, Photographer
June 1, 2014
5. Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
1050 24th Street
Des Moines, IA 50311
Looking northeast
William C. Page, Photographer
June 1, 2014
6. Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
1050 24th Street
Des Moines, IA 50311
Looking southeast (sanctuary)
William C. Page, Photographer
June 1, 2014
7. Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
1050 24th Street
Des Moines, IA 50311
Looking west northwest (sanctuary)
William C. Page, Photographer
June 1, 2014
8. Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
1050 24th Street
Des Moines, IA 50311
Looking west (Norman E. Bishop Chapel)
William C. Page, Photographer
June 1, 2014
9. Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
1050 24th Street
Des Moines, IA 50311
Looking northwest (church lounge)
William C. Page, Photographer
June 1, 2014

Printed on HP Premium Plus Photo Paper, high gloss,
paper using HP 84/85 ink.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

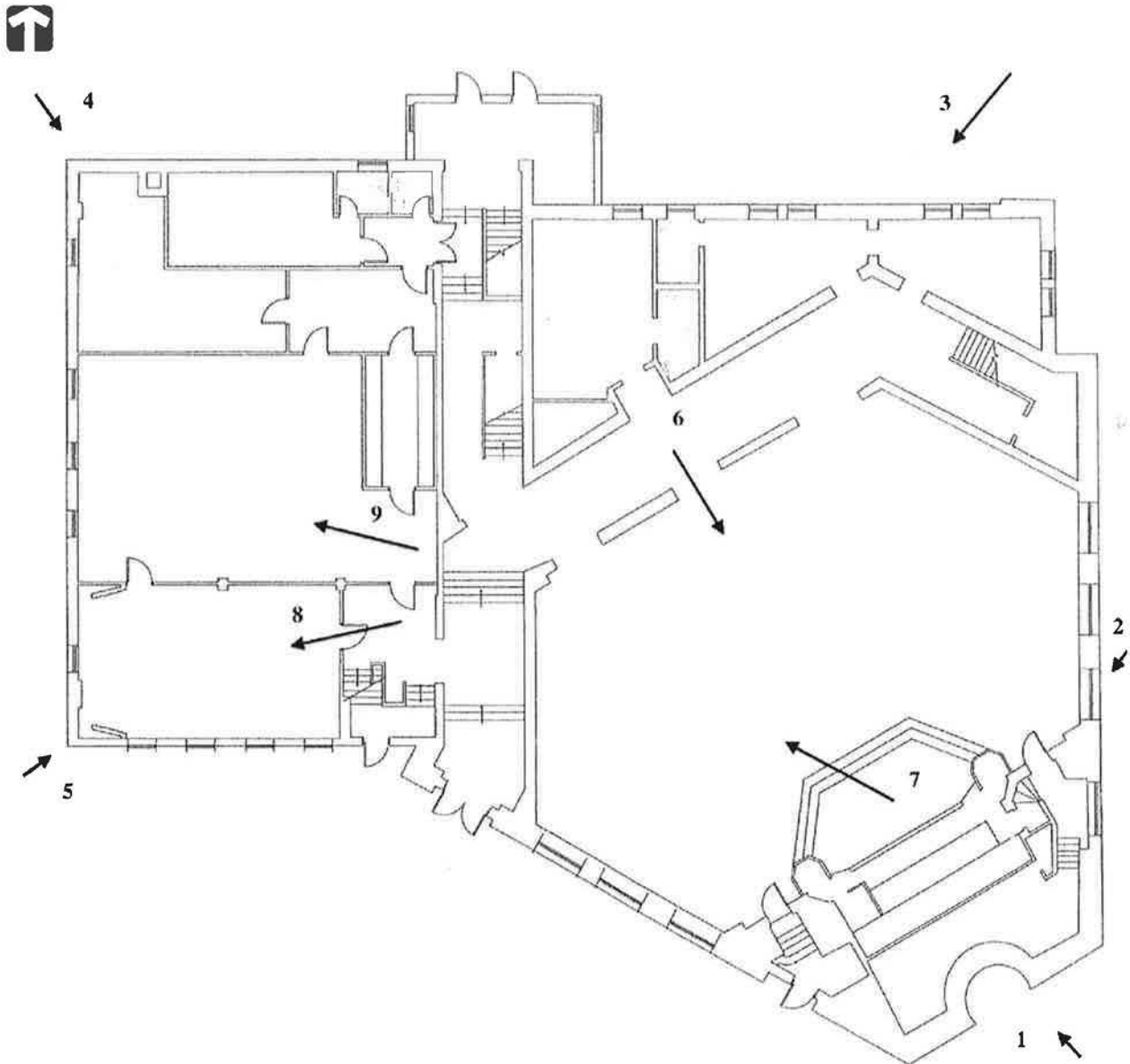
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 10 Page 28

CFN-259-1116

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

PHOTO KEY



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number Embedded Images

Page 29

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

MAP & BOUNDARIES

ARROW LOCATES PROPERTY



Figure 1

The arrow locates the property. Heavy lines outline its boundaries.

Source: Des Moines City Assessor Office, 2014.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number Embedded Images Page 30

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

AERIAL VIEW & COMPONENT PARTS

ARROW LOCATES PROPERTY



Figure 2

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church is located on an irregularly shaped parcel with Cottage Grove Avenue on the southwest and 24th Street and Drake Park on the east. A parking lot is situated to the north of the church and is included in the nomination. The 1903 Sunday School Wing appears as a rectangle in this view. The irregularly shaped 1918 Main Block stands adjacent to it on the east. The Porte-Cochere is just visible at the back of the edifice where the other two components abut one another.

Source: 2016 Pictometry, photo dated 2014.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number Embedded Images

Page 31

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

ENVIRONS

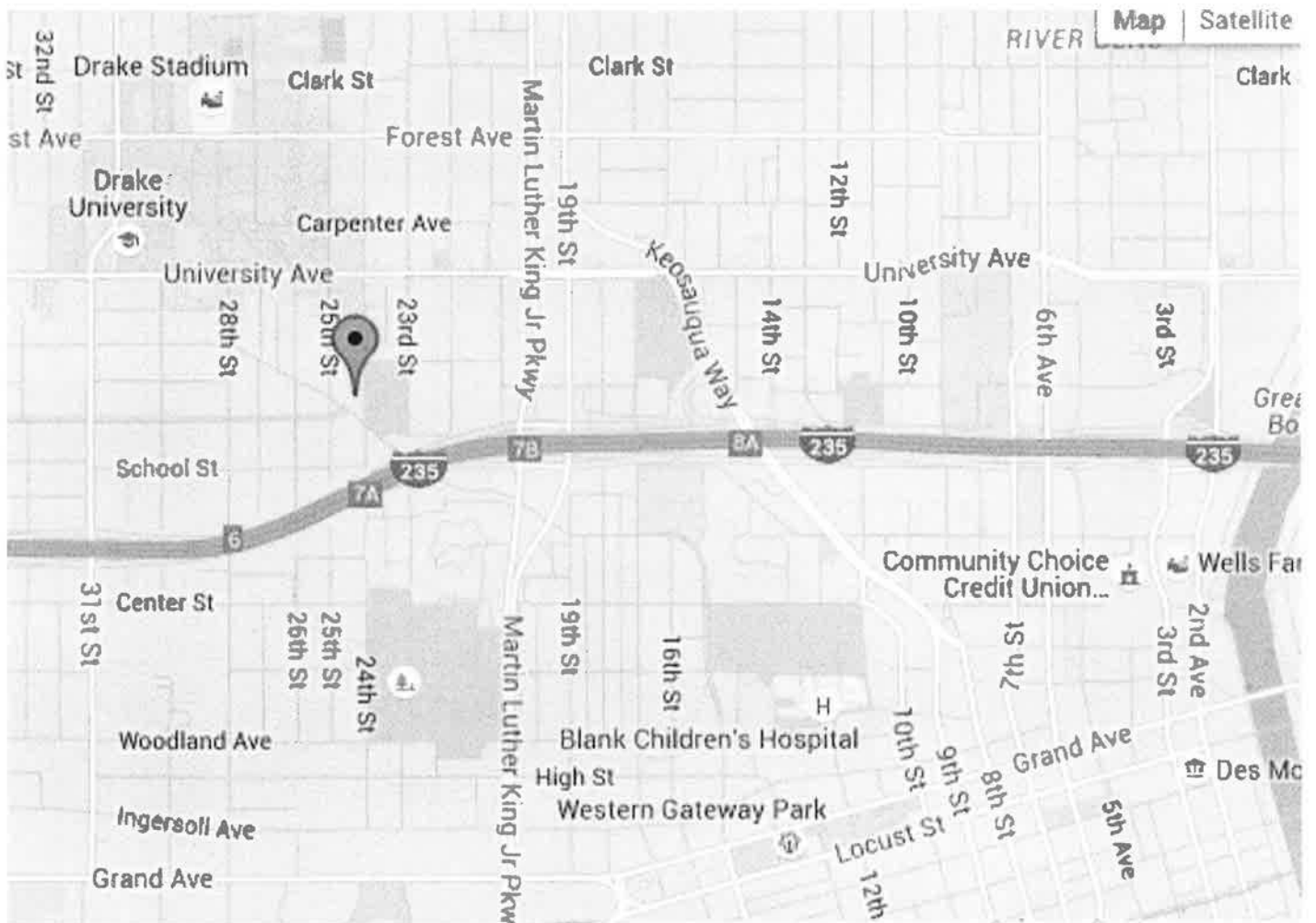


Figure 3

This map locates Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church (organ arrow) within its near northwest side of Des Moines. Drake University is situated a few blocks to the north and the Des Moines Freeway (Interstate 235) runs a few blocks to the south.

Source: Google Earth, 2015.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number Embedded Images

Page 32

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

PROPERTY IN 1901

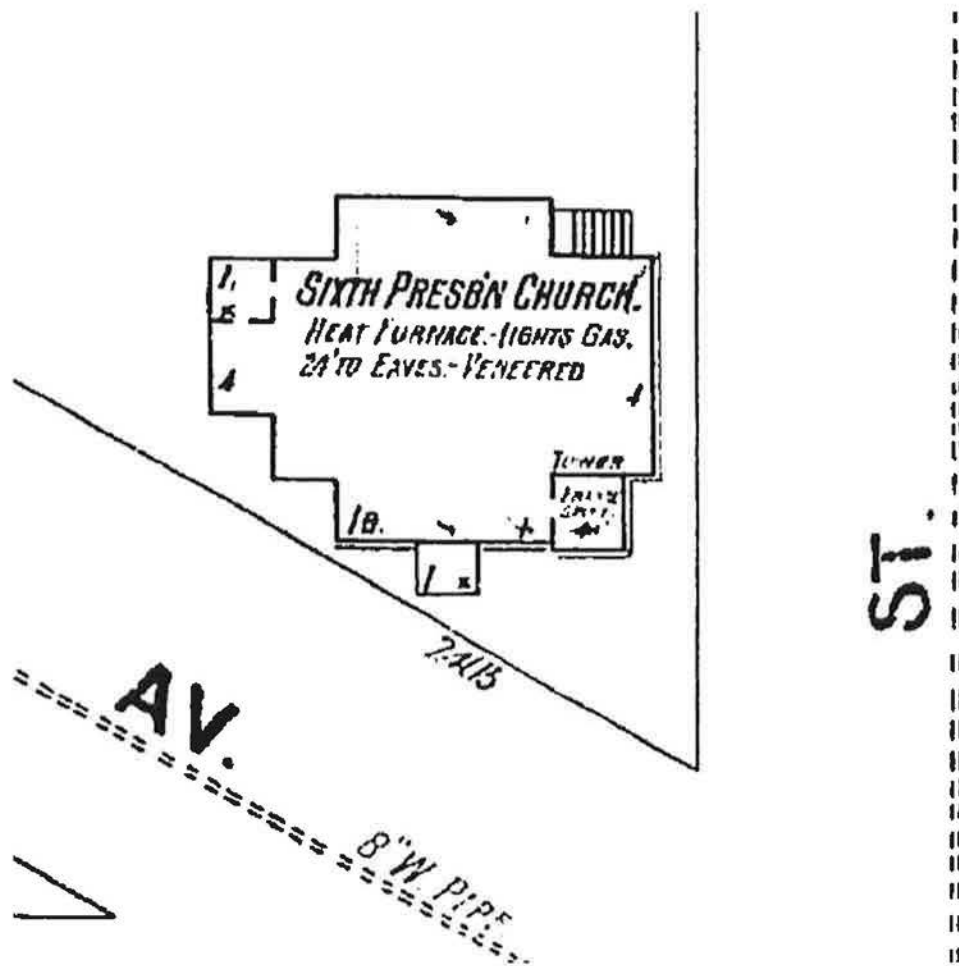


Figure 4

This map pictures the nonextant 1893 church building. It sits with minimal setback from Cottage Grove Avenue. A bell tower stands on the southeast corner of the building a prominent feature when approaching it from downtown Des Moines.

Source: Sanborn Map Co., "Des Moines, Iowa, "1901, Sheet 34.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number Embedded Images

Page 33

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

PROPERTY IN 1920

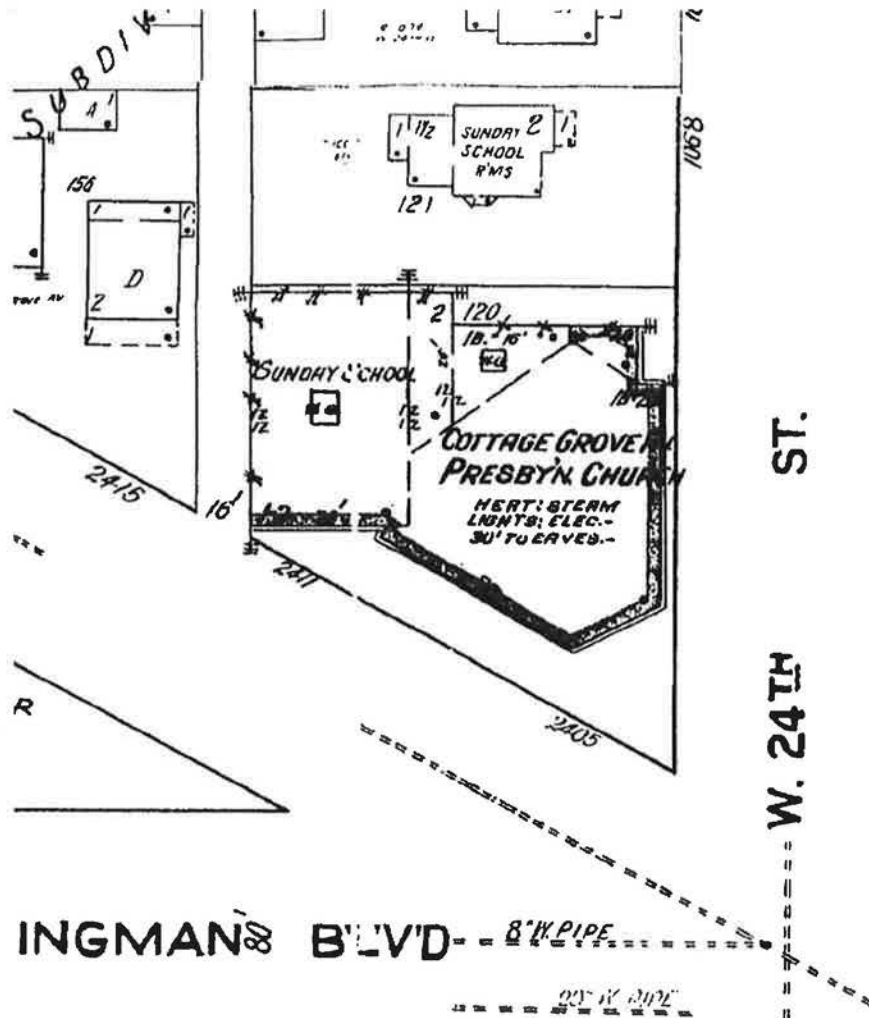


Figure 5

This map pictures the church as enlarged in 1917. The heavy lines indicate limestone veneer. By this time, the congregation had acquired a 2-story dwelling to the north, which houses Sunday School rooms. The church building itself sits tight to both Cottage Grove Avenue and 24th Street on this drawing.

Source: Sanborn Map Co., "Des Moines, Iowa," 1920, Sheet 64.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number Embedded Images

Page 34

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

PROPERTY IN 1957

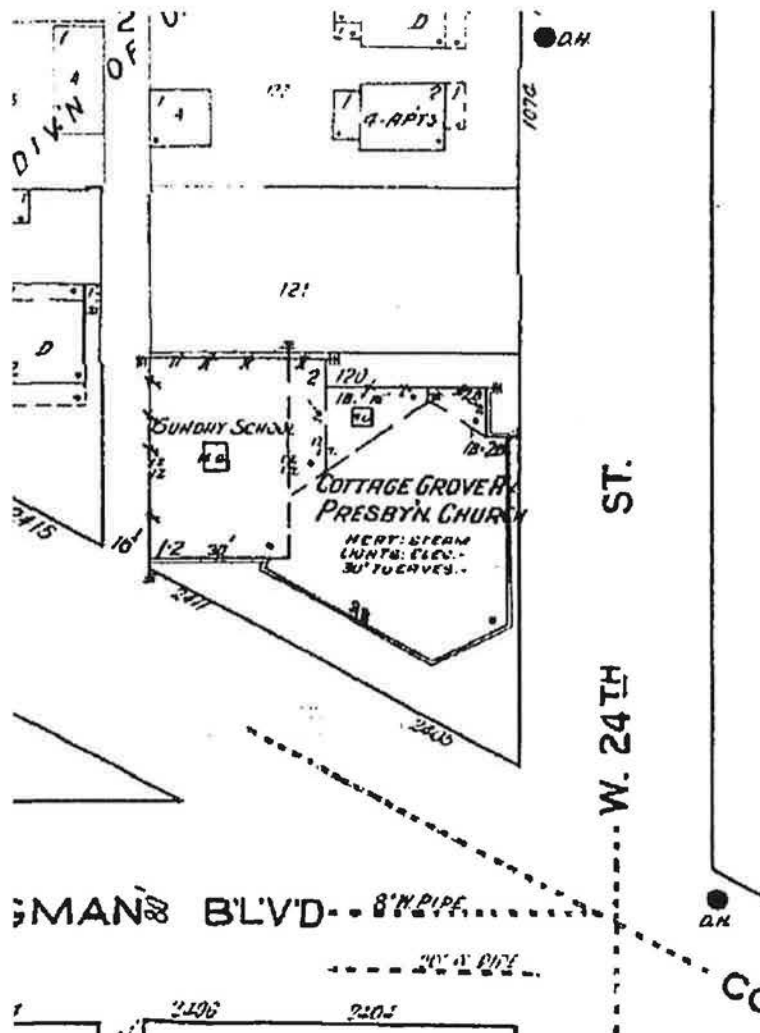


Figure 6

The church building remains as it was in 1920, but the dwelling with Sunday School rooms north of the church has been razed and used as a parking lot. At one time, the church acquired a manse for its pastor, but this building, noncontiguous to the church itself, subsequently was sold.

Source: Sanborn Map Co., "Des Moines, Iowa," 1920-Republished 1957, Sheet 64.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number Embedded Images Page 35

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

EARLIER ON-SITE CHURCH BUILDINGS

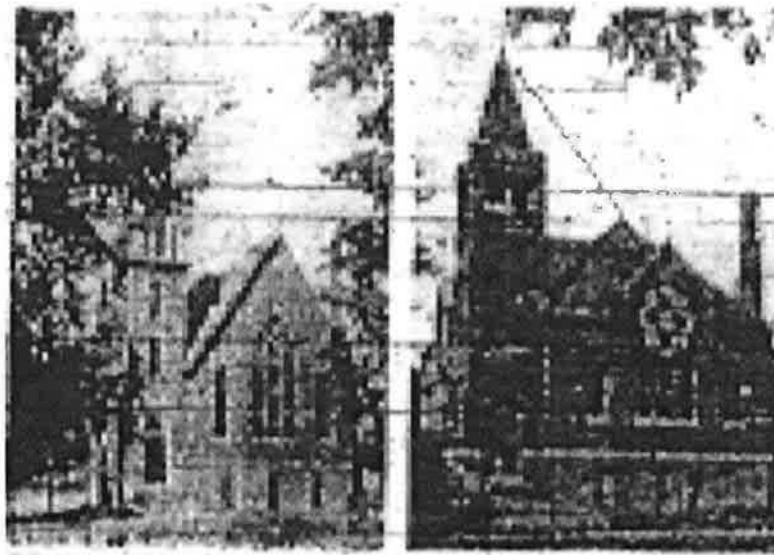


Figure 7

Although of poor quality, these two newspaper photographs picture the former houses of worship of Sixth Presbyterian Church on this site. Begun in 1889 and completed in 1893, the building on the left was destroyed by fire in 1895. The building on the right was completed in 1903 and partially razed in 1917 to construct the present building. Both churches were faced with brick and featured steeply pitched roofs and bell towers.

Source: *Des Moines Tribune*, November 6, 1954.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number Embedded Images Page 36

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

PRESENT CHURCH 1917

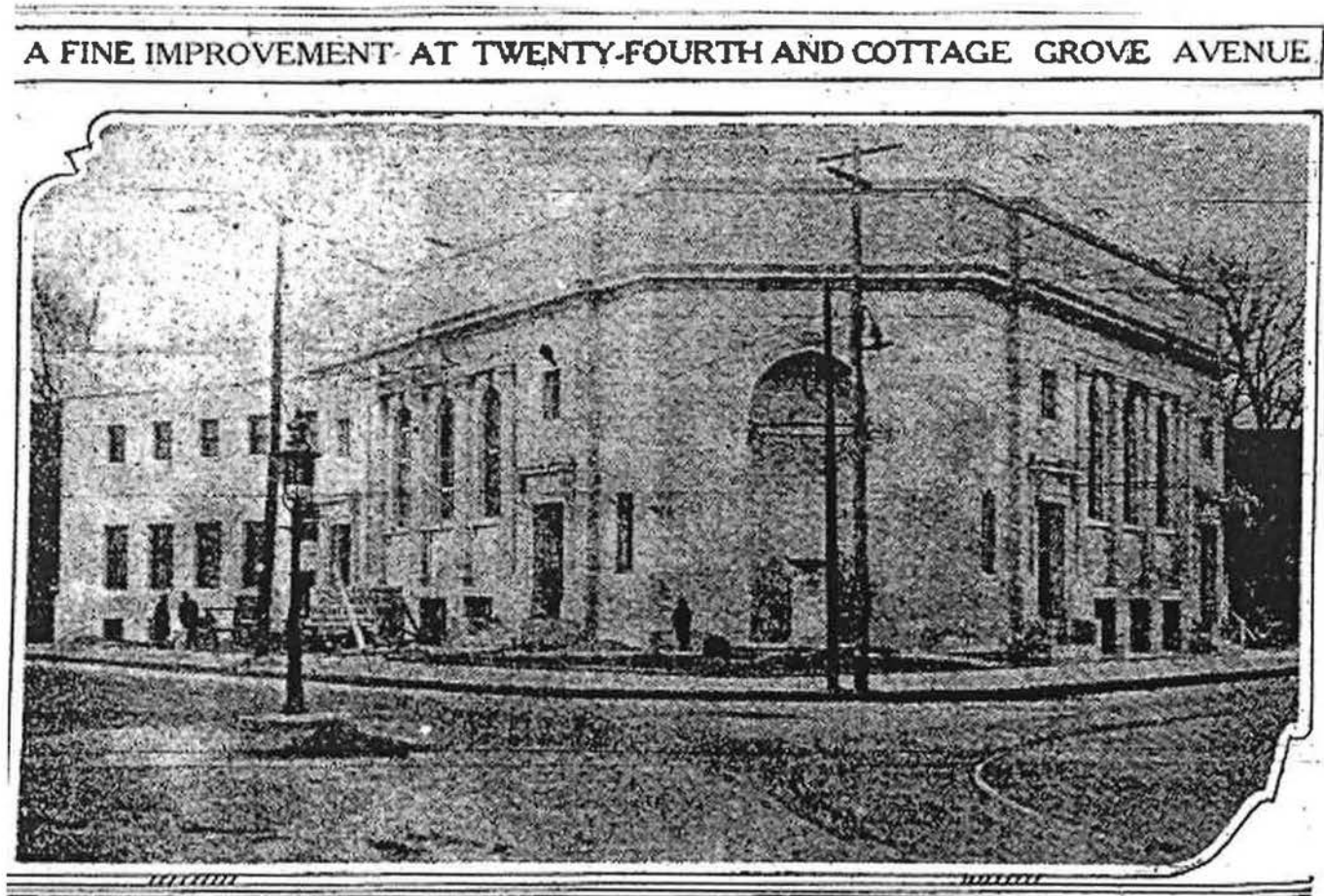


Figure 8

In addition to showing the church nearing completion, this photograph pictures the site before major changes occurred to it. The south lawn in front of the church adjacent to Cottage Grove Avenue has substantially increased in size since 1917. This can only have occurred by a change in the Cottage Grove Avenue right-of-way. Other changes include the removal of the streetlight and island in the middle of its intersection with Kingman Boulevard (center left) and the removal of the streetcar tracks (lower right), which jog from Cottage Grove to 24th. The unsightly telephone poles also have been removed. Finally, the photo nicely illustrates how the church's architect, Charles P. Shockley, made full use of the available land and sited his new building tight to the public right-of-way.

Source: *Des Moines Sunday Register*, November 25, 1917, Page 1.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

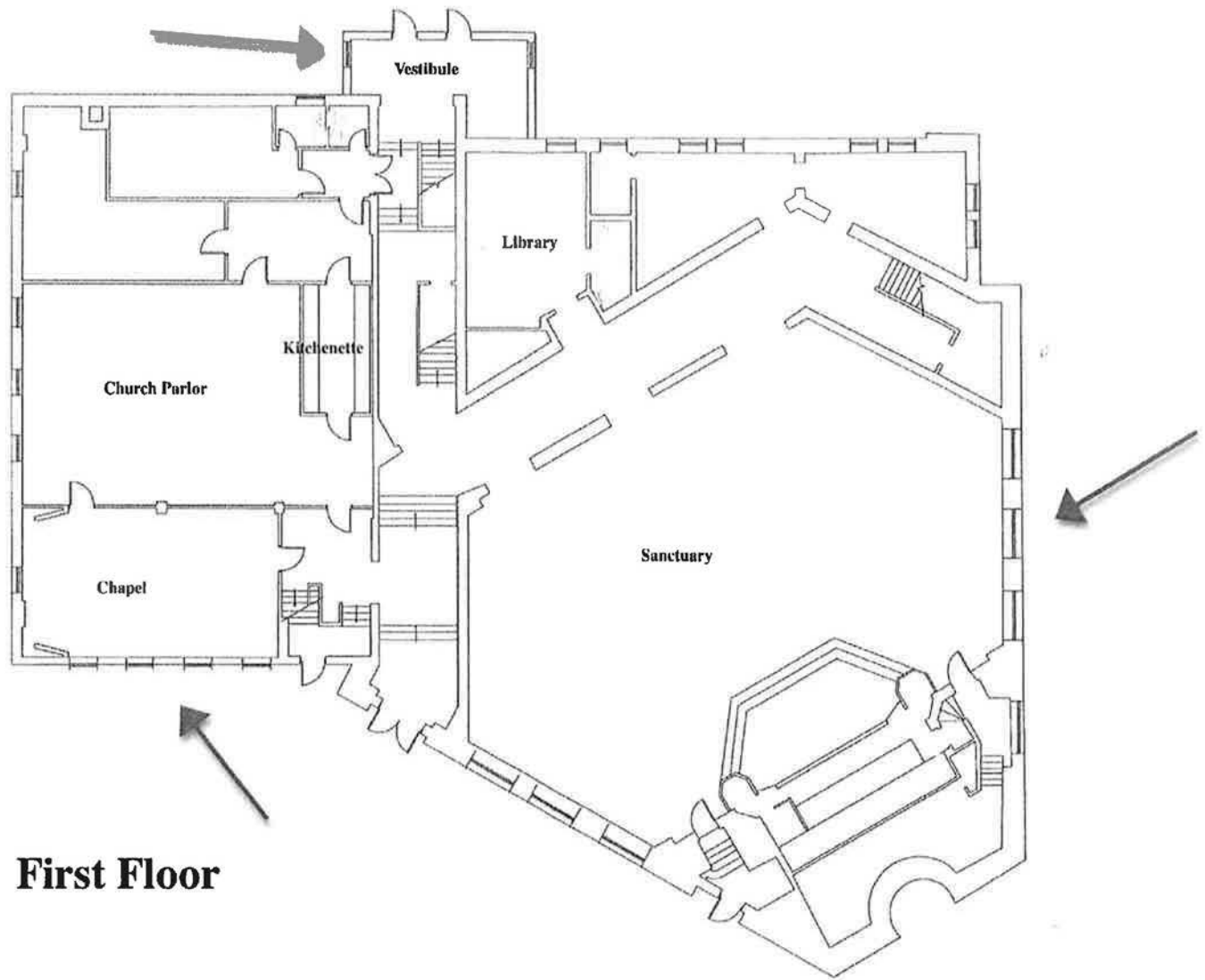
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number Embedded Images

Page 37

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

FIRST FLOOR PLAN



First Floor

Figure 9

Arrows locate this building's components: Main Block (right), Sunday School Wing (lower left), Porte-Cochere (upper left)

Source: William J. Ludwig and Associates, 2000.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

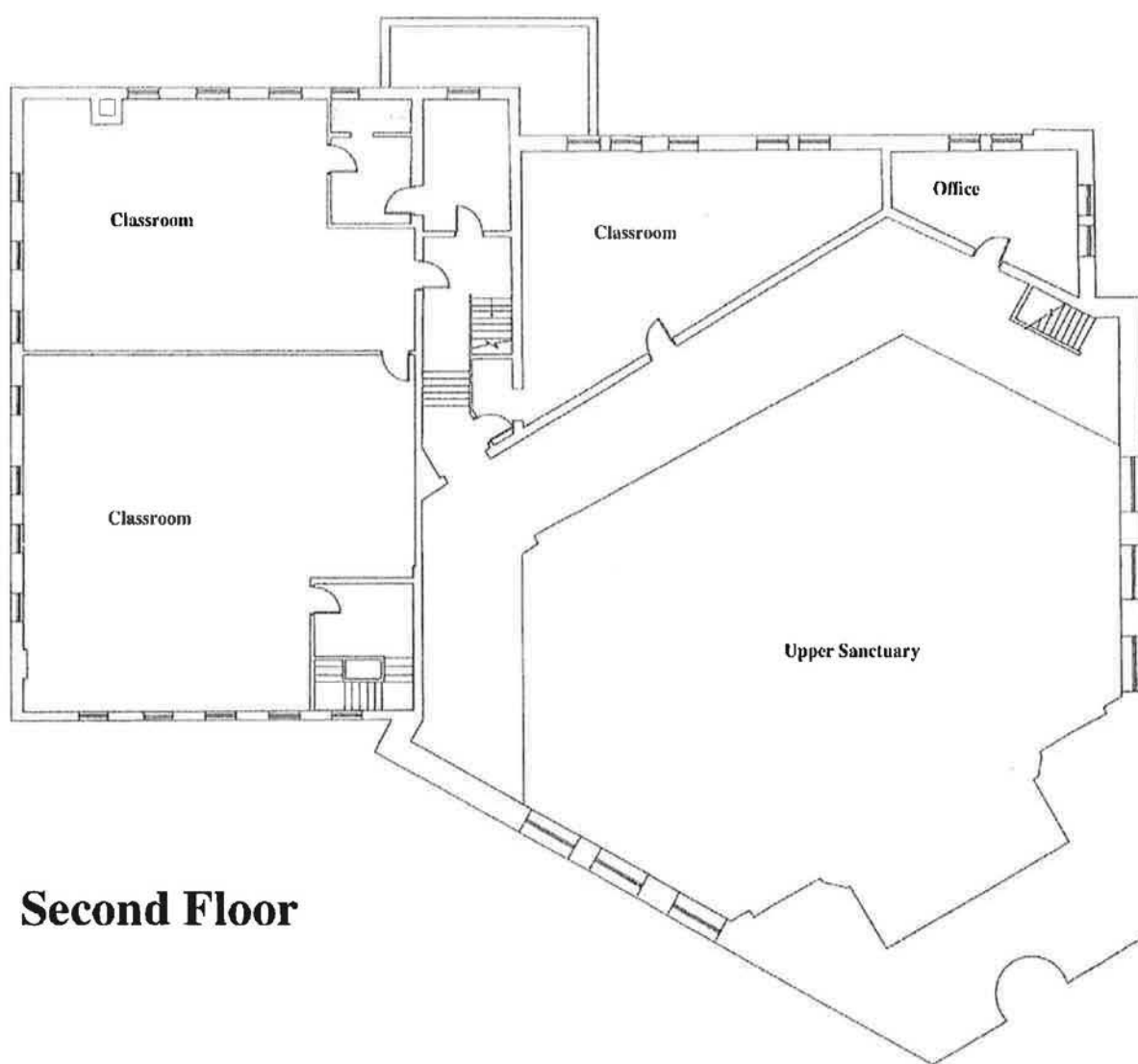
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number Embedded Images

Page 38

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

SECOND FLOOR PLAN



Second Floor

Figure 10

Source: William J. Ludwig and Associates, 2000.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

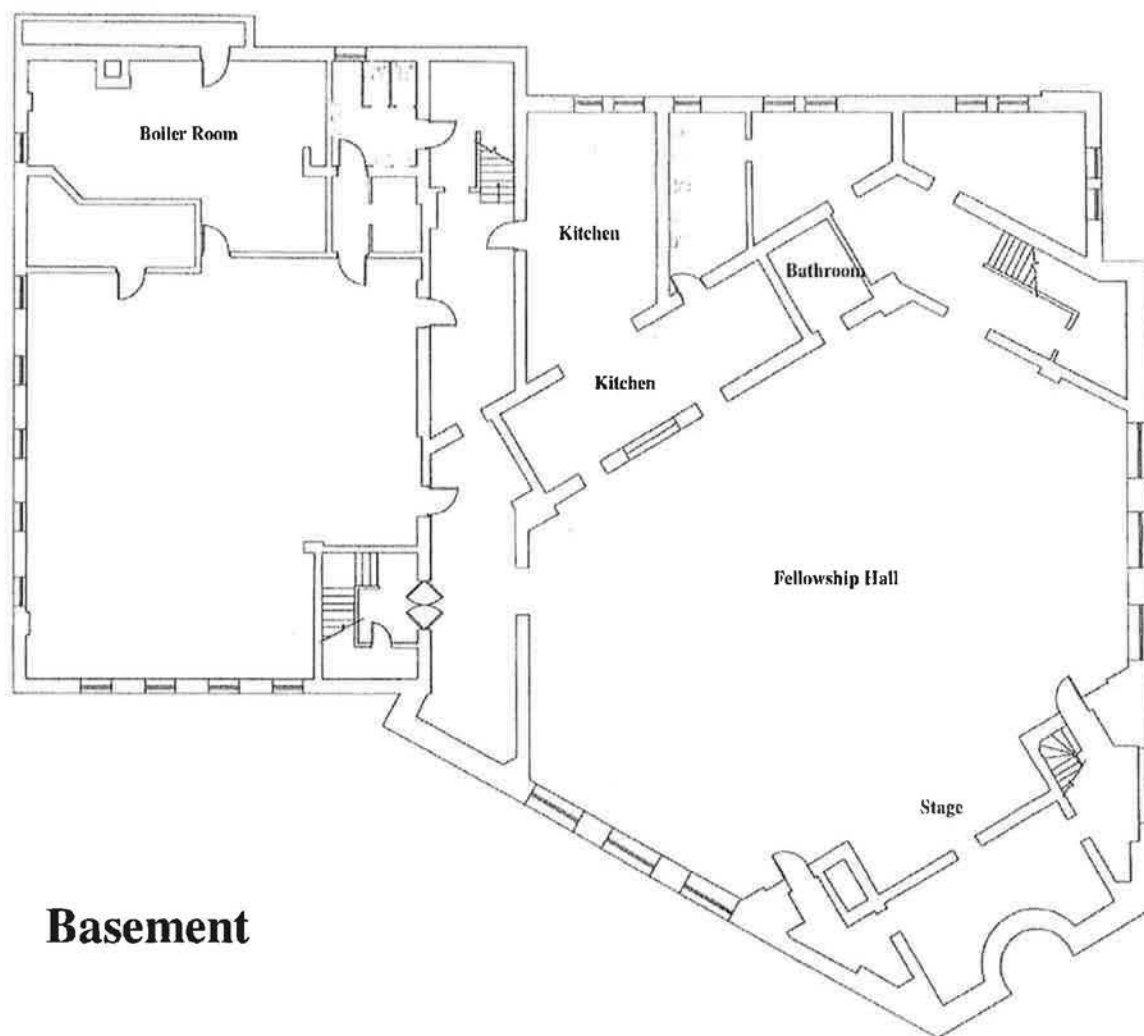
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number Embedded Images

Page 39

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN



Basement

Figure 11

Source: William J. Ludwig and Associates, 2000.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number Embedded Images Page 40

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

REREDOS IMPROVEMENT - 1936

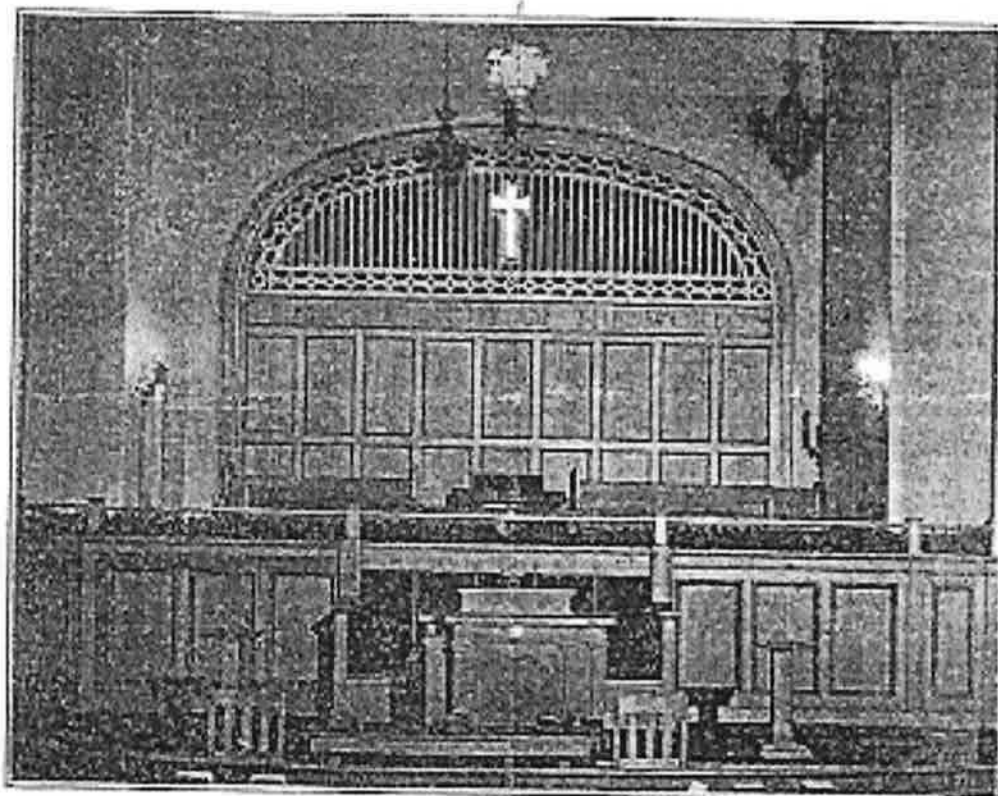


Figure 12

In 1936, the rear of the chancel was remodeled with the installation of wood panel reredos (the screen at the rear of the chancel). This view shows the pulpit centered in front of the choir rail. The pulpit was later removed and replaced with a communion table flanked by a pulpit on the left and a lectern on the right—the present configuration of the chancel.

Source: Des Moines Public Library, Ephemera Files Collection, "Sixth-Churches-Presbyterian" folder.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number Embedded Images Page 41

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

IOWA'S HOUSE PANAMA-PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION



Figure 13

Mortimer B. Cleveland, in collaboration, with Clinton P. Shockley, designed this building to serve as "Iowa's House" for the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco. This contemporary postcard pictures the building. No doubt Shockley shared this or like images of the building with the Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church building committee as a testament of his capability. Perhaps this influenced the committee to adopt Classical Revival styling for its new church design. In any event, the Classical Revival styling of the two buildings shared much in common and contributed to the growing City Beautiful Movement across the nation.

Source: Author's Collection.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number Embedded Images Page 42

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

Description of Church Edifice

The erection of a suitable church edifice on this prominent corner called for the solution of an unusual problem. Our requirements demanded that all available ground space be utilized to the very best advantage and the completed building demonstrates how this was accomplished also how, by careful study, a building may be planned to conform with an irregular shaped lot and yet be practical and symmetrical in plan as well as monumental in design.

The Classic style of architecture was chosen not only because of its beauty and simplicity in design and detail, but also for the reason that this style was well adapted to the plan and suitable for the location.

The entire exterior of the building is of Bedford stone, foundation walls of concrete and the large expanse of roof and ceiling is supported on large steel trusses. The interior trim and furnishings are of quartered white oak with silver gray finish and the walls are finished in lead and oil paint.

The most modern system of heating, plumbing and ventilation has been installed. The ventilating system is what is known as the fan system. The fresh air is brought into the building directly from the outside, heated by means of tempering coils and forced into the auditorium through ducts, by a large electric driven fan which insures the auditorium being well ventilated at all times, winter and summer.

The plan and arrangement of the building provides for every thing required for a successful church institution, including its gymnasium, showers, toilets, and aside from the auditorium includes a ladies' rest room, pastor's study, committee rooms, choir room, a large dining and social room with stage, coat, store, kitchen and toilet rooms.

The Sunday school is accommodated in the old building which will be remodeled to meet the needs of this important department of church work.

The entire building is intended to serve the whole life of the community and today will be dedicated to God for the service of humanity, humanity.

We desire to express our appreciation of the service rendered by all who have had a part in the construction of this beautiful church building.

To those whose gifts have made it possible.

To the Architect, the Contractors and the Workmen who have in sincerity wrought upon this building we express our gratitude.

The Architect was Clinton P. Shockley, Waterloo, Iowa.

The Contractor was B. F. Segner of Des Moines, Iowa.

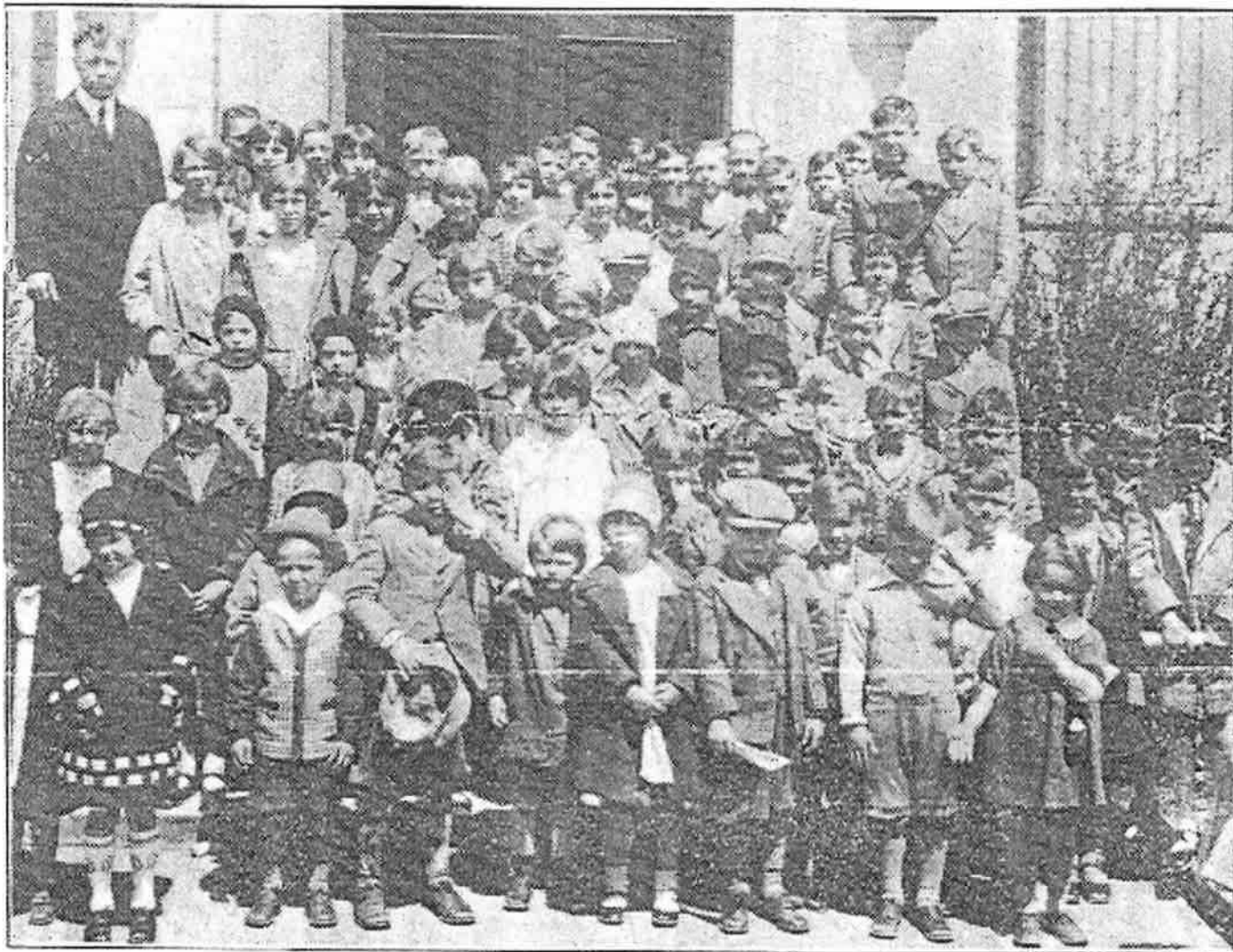
Figure 14

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number Embedded Images Page 43

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Polk County, IA.

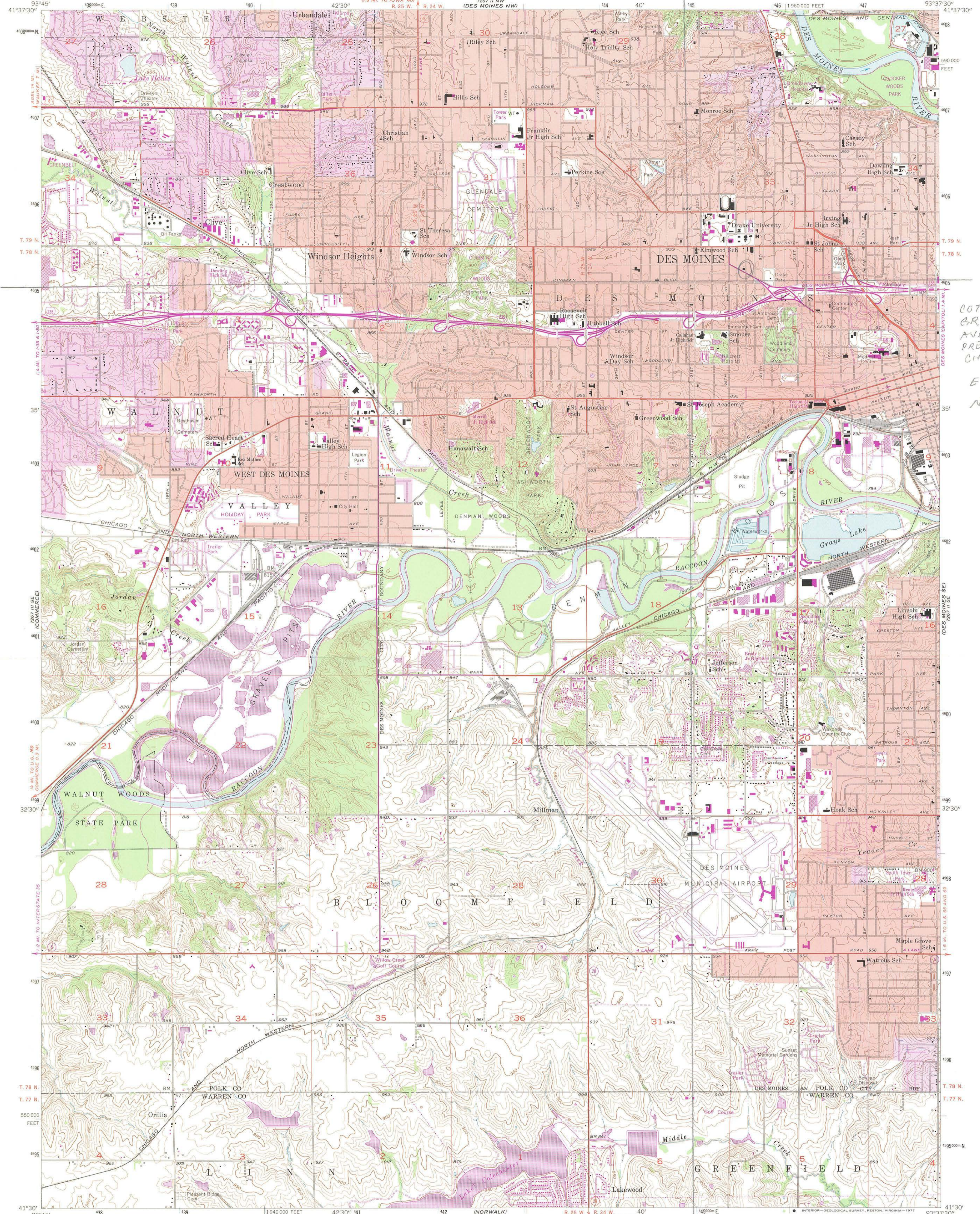


OUR JUNIOR CONGREGATION

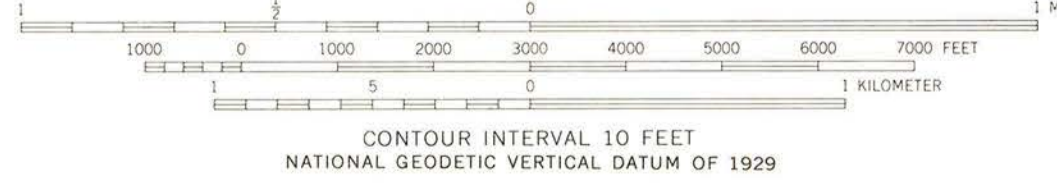
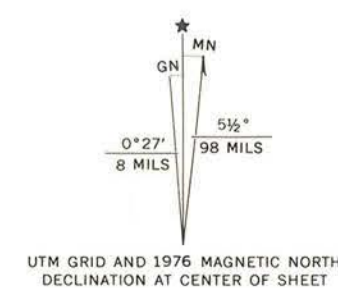
Figure 15

The pastorate of Rev. James Thompson Mordy (upper left) brought many neighborhood youth to the church, attracted, as shown in this 1928 photograph, by its programs and facilities

Source: *Cottage Grove Greetings*, Volume 1, Number 4, May, 1928. Archives of Presbytery of Des Moines.



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey in cooperation with Polk County and City of Des Moines
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Iowa Geodetic Survey
Topography from aerial photographs by Kelsch plotter
Aerial photographs taken 1956. Field check 1956
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Iowa coordinate system, south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 15, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
City boundaries of Des Moines, West Des Moines, Clive, Urbandale, and Windsor Heights are in litigation
Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs taken 1967, 1971, and 1976. This information not field checked
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
AND IOWA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, IOWA CITY, IOWA 52240
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



DES MOINES SW, IOWA
SW/4 DES MOINES 15' QUADRANGLE
N4130—W9337.5/7.5
1956
PHOTOREVISED 1967, 1971, AND 1976
AMS 7267 II SW—SERIES V876

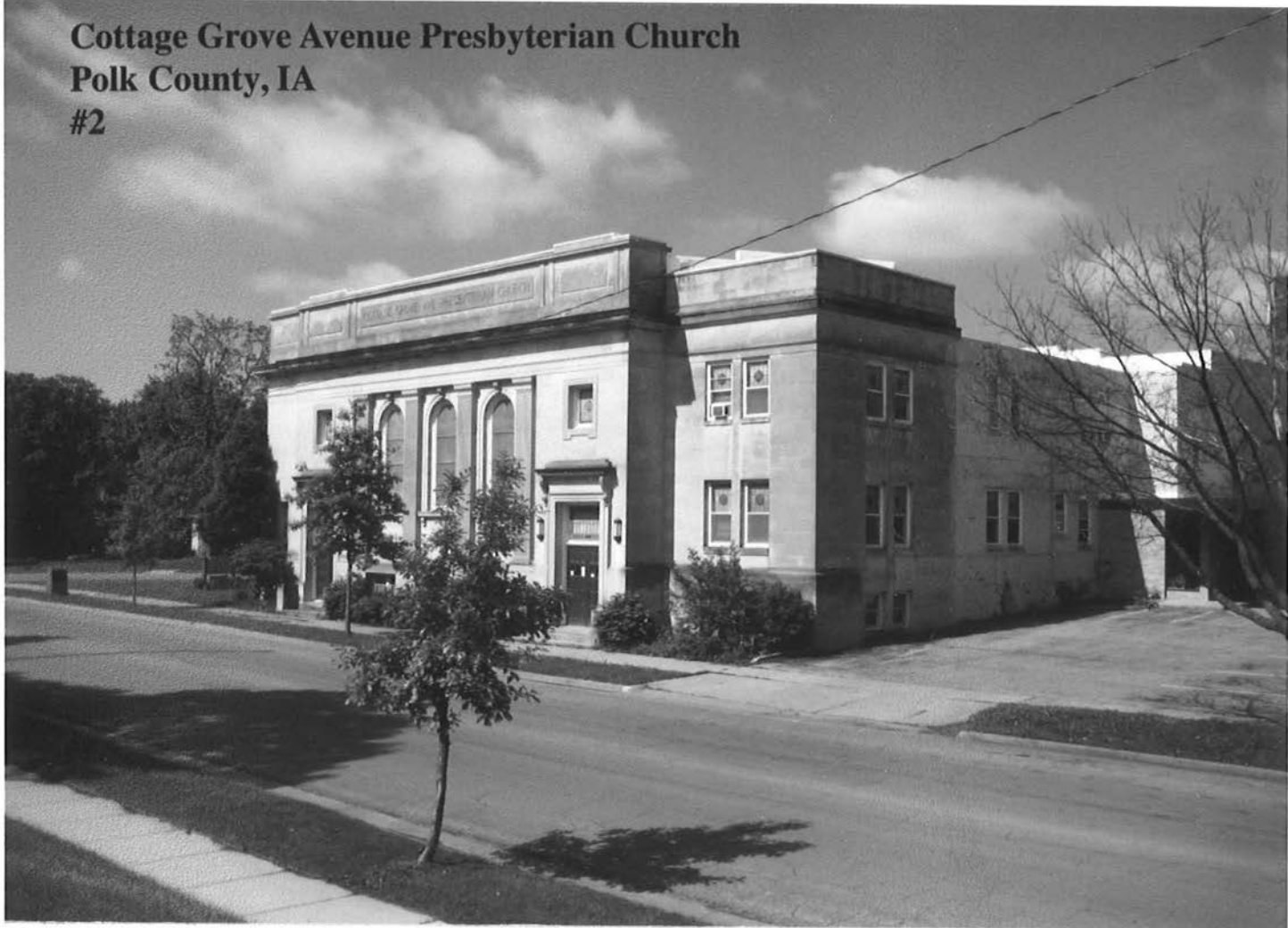
Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
Polk County, IA

#1



**Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
Polk County, IA**

#2



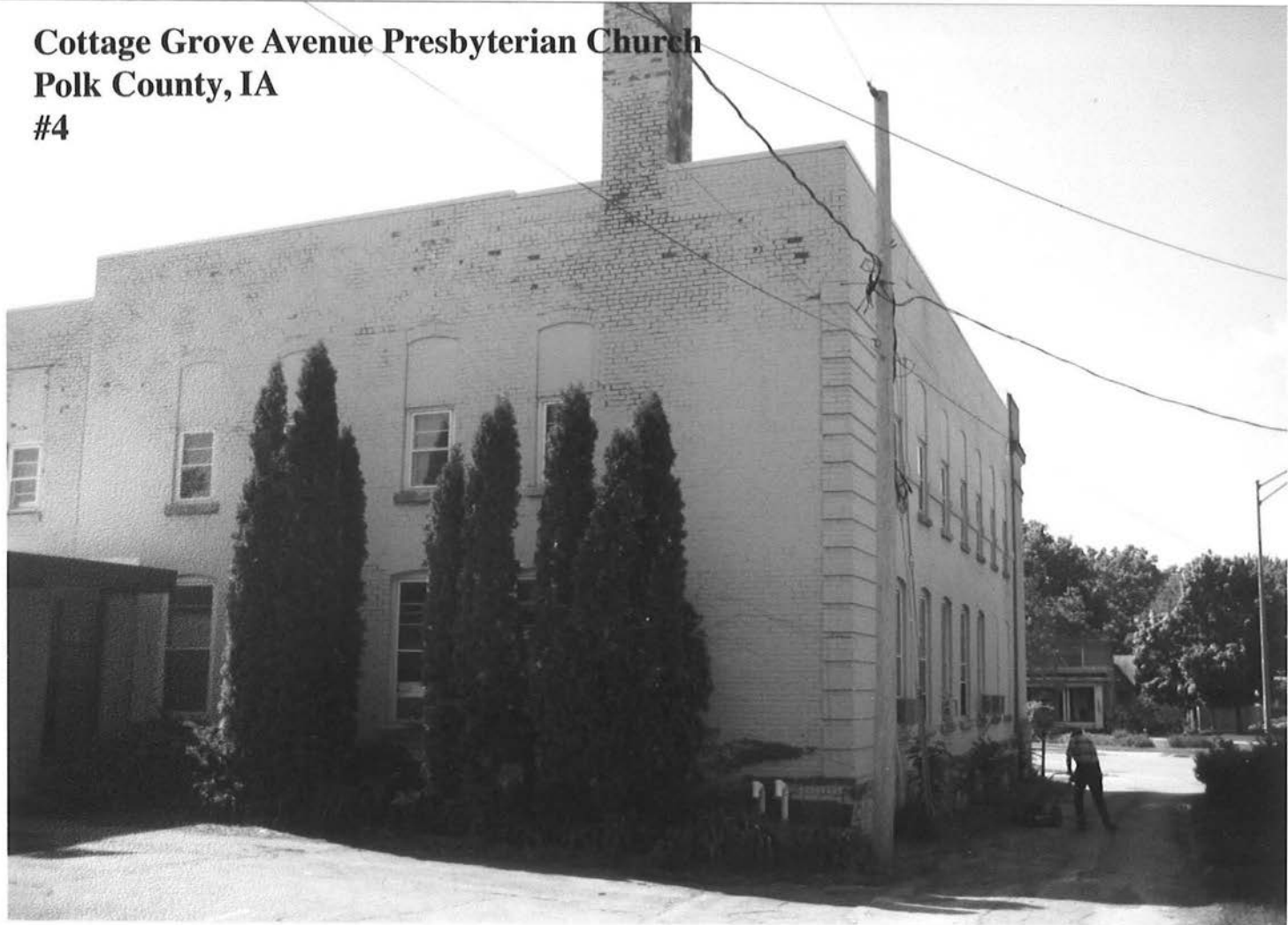
**Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
Polk County, IA**

#3



**Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
Polk County, IA**

#4



**Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
Polk County, IA**

#5



Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
Polk County, IA

#6



**Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
Polk County, IA**

#7



**Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
Polk County, IA**

#8



Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
Polk County, IA

#9



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church

MULTIPLE NAME: The City Beautiful Movement and City Planning in Des Moines,
Iowa 1892--1938 MPS

STATE & COUNTY: IOWA, Polk

DATE RECEIVED: 7/29/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/18/16
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/02/16 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/13/16
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000607

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 9/12/2016 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept A&C
REVIEWER Patrick Andrews DISCIPLINE Historian
TELEPHONE _____ DATE 9/12/2016

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

**CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT
NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION
EVALUATION REPORT FORM**

RECEIVED

JUN 06 2016

by SHPO

As a participant in the Certified Local Government Program (CLG), the Historic Preservation Commission is required to review and comment on proposed National Register nominations of properties within its jurisdiction. The State is required to provide the CLG with a 60-day period for the review prior to a State Nominations Review Committee (SNRC) meeting. This form must be received by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) five days in advance of the State Nomination Review Committee (SNRC) meeting.

(Please print clearly)

Historic Property Name: Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church
Address: 1050 24th Street
Certified Local Government Name: City of Des Moines
Date of public meeting for nomination review: 5/18/16

Applicable Criteria: (Please Check the Appropriate Box)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Criterion A (Historical Events) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Criterion C (Architecture) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Criterion B (Important Person) | <input type="checkbox"/> Criterion D (Archaeological) |

Please check the following box that is appropriate to the nomination (Please print clearly).

- The Commission recommends that the property should be listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
- The Commission recommends that the property should not be listed in the National Register for the following reasons: _____
- The Commission chooses not to make a recommendation on this nomination for the following reasons: _____
- The Commission would like to make the following recommendations regarding the nomination: (use additional sheets if necessary): _____

Official Signatures Required Below

Historic Review Board Chair or Representative

Print Name: Jason Van Essen

Approved Not Approved

Signature: _____

Chief Elected Official

Print Name: T. M. Franklin Courne

Approved Not Approved

Signature: _____

Professional Evaluation

Print Name: Paula Mohr

Approved Not Approved

Signature: _____

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF
CULTURAL AFFAIRS

MARY COWNIE, DIRECTOR
CHRIS KRAMER, DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TERRY E. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR
KIM REYNOLDS, LT. GOVERNOR

RECEIVED 2280

JUL 29 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

IOWA
ARTS
CENTER

July 26, 2016

PRODIGE
IOWA

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief
National Register and National Historic Landmarks
1201 Eye St. NW, 8th Fl.
Washington D.C. 20005

STATE HISTORICAL
SOCIETY OF IOWA

Dear Mr. Loether:

STATE HISTORICAL
MUSEUM OF IOWA

The following National Register nomination(s) from Iowa are enclosed for your review and listing if acceptable.

IOWA HISTORICAL
LIBRARY ARCHIVES

- Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, 1050 24th Street, Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa
- Coggon Public School, 408 E Linn Street, Coggon, Linn County, Iowa

STATE HISTORIC
SITES

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Foster
National Register Coordinator
State Historical Society of Iowa

STATE HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
DIVISION OF IOWA

IOWA
HISTORICAL
FOUNDATION