



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If 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 Walnut Street Baptist Church

other names/site number Faith Temple Baptist Church

2. Location

street & number 415 Walnut Street [NA] not for publication

city or town Waterloo [NA] vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Black Hawk code 013 zip code 50703

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).

Patricia Orunkin DSITPO 7-14-00
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of 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): _____

Edson H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

8/16/00
Date of Action

Walnut Street Baptist Church
Name of Property

Black Hawk, Iowa
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	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

NA

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH C. AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY

AMERICAN MOVEMENTS

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls BRICK

roof ASBESTOS

other GLASS

Narrative Description

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

Walnut Street Baptist Church
Name of Property

Black Hawk, Iowa
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

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.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical 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):

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1908

Significant Dates

1908

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

SHOCKLEY, CLINTON P.

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Walnut Street Baptist Church
Name of Property

Black Hawk, Iowa
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 [1]5 [5]5[4]7[9]0 [4]2[3]0[5]7[0]
Zone Easting Northing

2 []
Zone Easting Northing

3 []

4 []

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Patrica A. Eckhardt

organization Eckhardt Research date June, 2000

street & number 514 N. Linn Street telephone 319-338-3386

city or town Iowa City state Iowa zip code 52245-1275

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the complete 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 Bold Mission Inc.

street & number 415 Walnut Street telephone 319-234-0854

city or town Waterloo state Iowa zip code 50703

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

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Walnut Street Baptist Church
Black Hawk County, Iowa

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION AND CONSTRUCTION HISTORY

Summary Statement

Walnut Street Baptist Church, designed by Clinton P. Shockley, was constructed in 1908. The building exhibits the influence of a combination of contemporary architectural styles and trends of the early 20th century including the English Arts and Crafts movement and the Chicago School with minor indications of the academic tradition of the Beaux-Arts. It is constructed of brick with stone and concrete trim. There are two stories over a raised basement in most sections. The triangular plan conforms to the triangular lot and allows for a variety of interior spaces of different sizes and shapes.

Detailed Description

Exterior

Walnut Street Baptist Church is a red brick church of unusual shape and size. It was constructed in 1908 and designed by the Waterloo architect Clinton P. Shockley to house a large and prestigious Baptist congregation. Generally triangular in shape, its exterior is asymmetrical in every aspect. Each façade is different. Even the tower is placed off center.

The recessed main entrance is at the southwest corner of the triangle under a square pavilion with small gables in the parapet above the cornice. There are two doors, one facing west and one facing south. Segmental arches under flat cornices with keystones emphasize the entrances. There are three semicircular shapes. The first is on the upper roof at the west-end, which houses the skylight. A two-story semicircular wing is fitted to the west end of the auditorium and a second one-story semicircular wing opens to the north. The tall, narrow tower is on the south side not seeming to emphasize anything, but it actually rests on the lobby to the main sanctuary.

The design of this complex building is held together with a variety of architectural devices and motifs. The first is the use of a stringcourse above the windows of the partly raised basement, complemented by the cornice at the top of the second floor. The repeated use of motifs such as a pediment with side extensions containing an oculus and other repeated devices such as heavy window cornices and spandrels help unify the design as well. The windows are an important organizing device. They are treated in pairs or groups and are joined between the two upper

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Walnut Street Baptist Church
Black Hawk County, Iowa

stories with spandrels reminiscent of those of Louis Sullivan and the Chicago School. They have similar cornices and sills and are aligned on all stories. This keeps the complicated facades looking neat and organized, and unifies the diverse facades. The building is topped with a cornice with a few breaks for gables of different kinds. The roof is as complex as the shape of the building.

The tall, narrow tower is not located over an entrance or over the auditorium, but rather over the entrance vestibule to the auditorium. It clearly identifies this unusual building as a church and serves the purpose of any church tower: to identify the church as a church and to help locate it from a distance.

Interior

The plan of the church is roughly triangular (see sketch plans on a following page), and it fits tightly on the triangular lot. It contains over 30,000 square feet of floor space. At the heart of the triangle is the rectangular auditorium with a half-octagonal sanctuary at its east end. All other spaces flow from this one. This space is surrounded by a second floor gallery on three sides. The tall roof has a skylight.

Along the southwest side of the sanctuary and connecting all of the parts of the church is a broad corridor, which leads from the front entrance at the northwest corner through to the offices in the southeastern corner. This corridor exists on all floors giving the large church efficient traffic flow between the different parts of the church and the entrances.

The semicircular wing to the northwest opens on the sanctuary on both floors and was originally designed for the Sunday school. The upper floor is raked. This wing can be closed off from the auditorium with sliding doors. A one-story semicircular wing to the north has folding doors opening each of its two rooms to the auditorium. Most spaces open on to the auditorium space, a contemporary development in church interior plans. This is a change from the more traditional housing of classrooms in a wing separated from the main sanctuary. There is a baptismal pool beneath the altar with windows placed as the front of the sanctuary, but a view into the tank is limited to only a few pews in the front. The stained glass windows in the sanctuary and along the corridor are all of the same geometric design. They employ gold tones accented with tiny squares of dark green or red.

The southeastern point of the triangle houses the offices. The second entrance for the building is in this section on the southwest façade. The entrance and windows of this part are configured

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Walnut Street Baptist Church
Black Hawk County, Iowa

slightly differently, but with stylistic similarities to the rest of the building. This area has been expanded to increase office and choir storage spaces (Fire Insurance Map page 8).

Integrity

The integrity of the church is threatened at present due to water damage. The tower foundation is undermined, and the leaking roof has caused great damage to the interior walls, ceilings, and windows. The present owners of the building purchased the church after the original congregation decided to build a church on the outskirts of town. The small African-American congregation appreciates its facility, but it has few resources with which to undertake the necessary repairs. Grants and aid of all kinds are now being sought for the replacement of the roof, tower stabilization, window repair, and plaster repair.

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Walnut Street Baptist Church
Black Hawk County, Iowa

Historic Photo, ca. 1908

Published in "Dedication of the Second Building for the Walnut Street Baptist Church, Waterloo, Iowa, October 11-18, 1908," published in the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Present Building, Walnut Street Baptist Church, Waterloo, Iowa," 1958.



**SECOND BUILDING WALNUT STREET BAPTIST CHURCH, ERECTED 1908
CLINTON SHOCKLEY, ARCHITECT CHARLES WASSON, BUILDER**

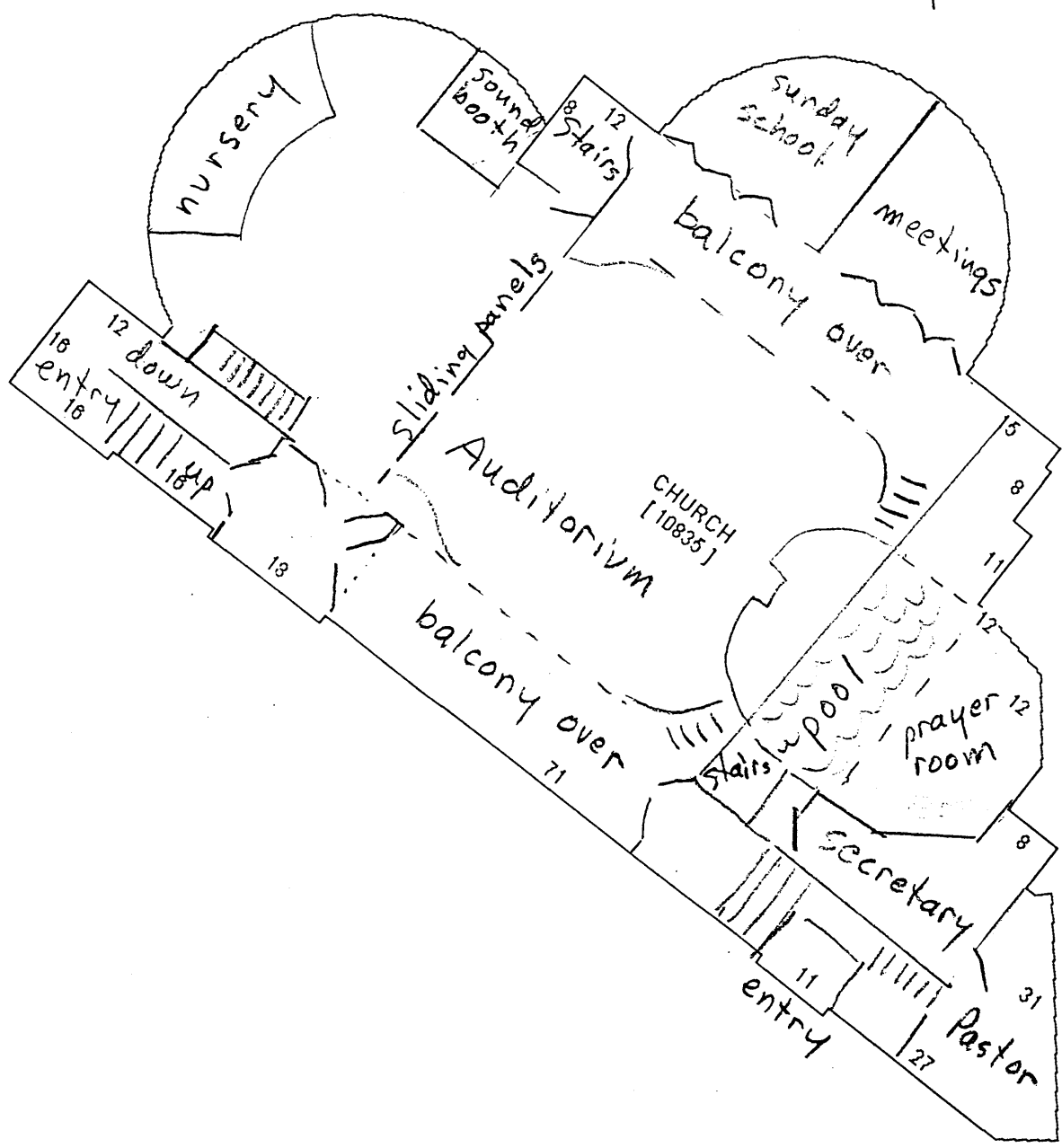
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Walnut Street Baptist Church
Black Hawk County, Iowa

Sketch Plan of First/Main Floor
Drawn by Patricia Eckhardt, 1999



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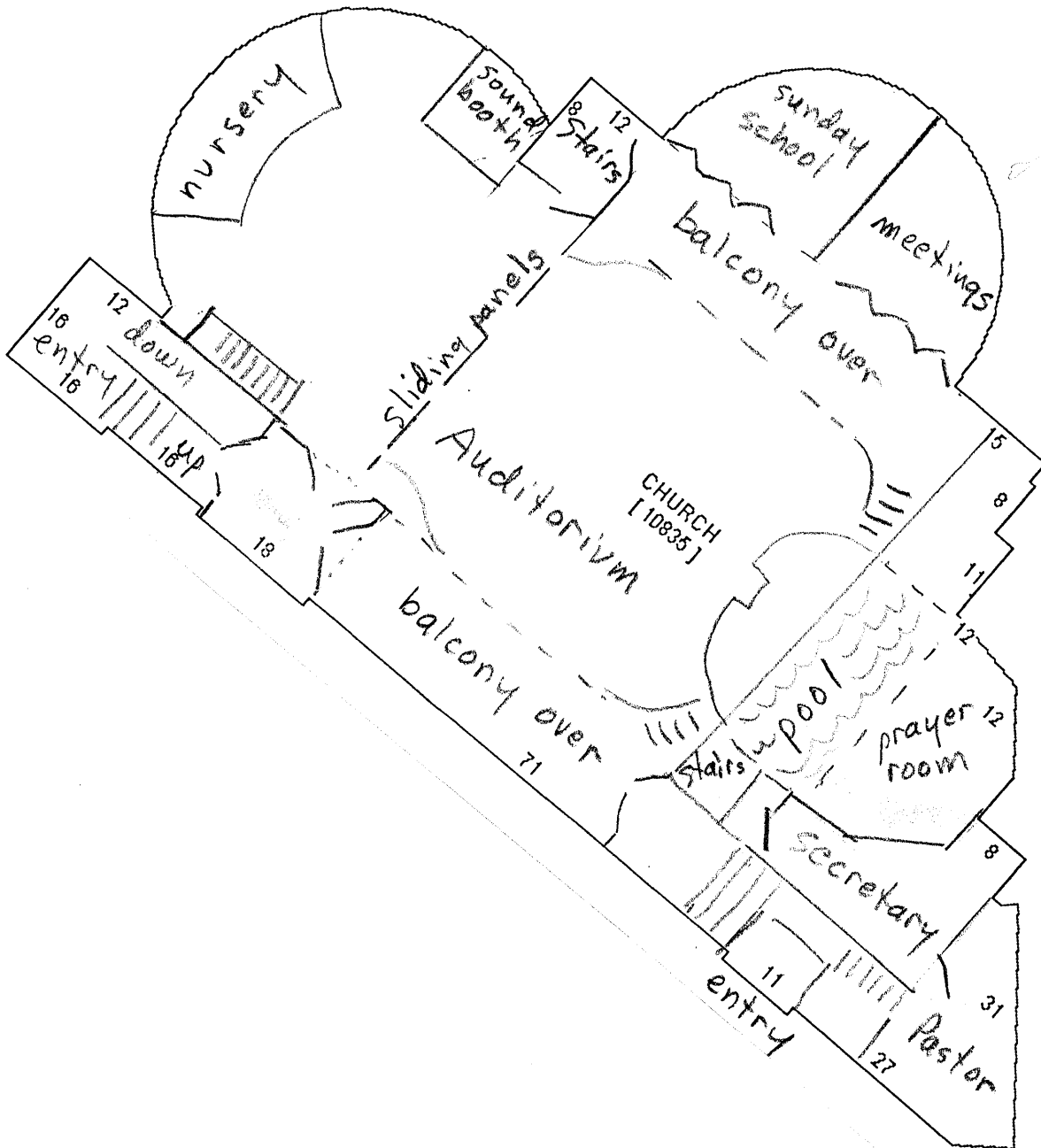
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Walnut Street Baptist Church
Black Hawk County, Iowa

Sketch Plan of First/Main Floor

Drawn by Patricia Eckhardt, 1999



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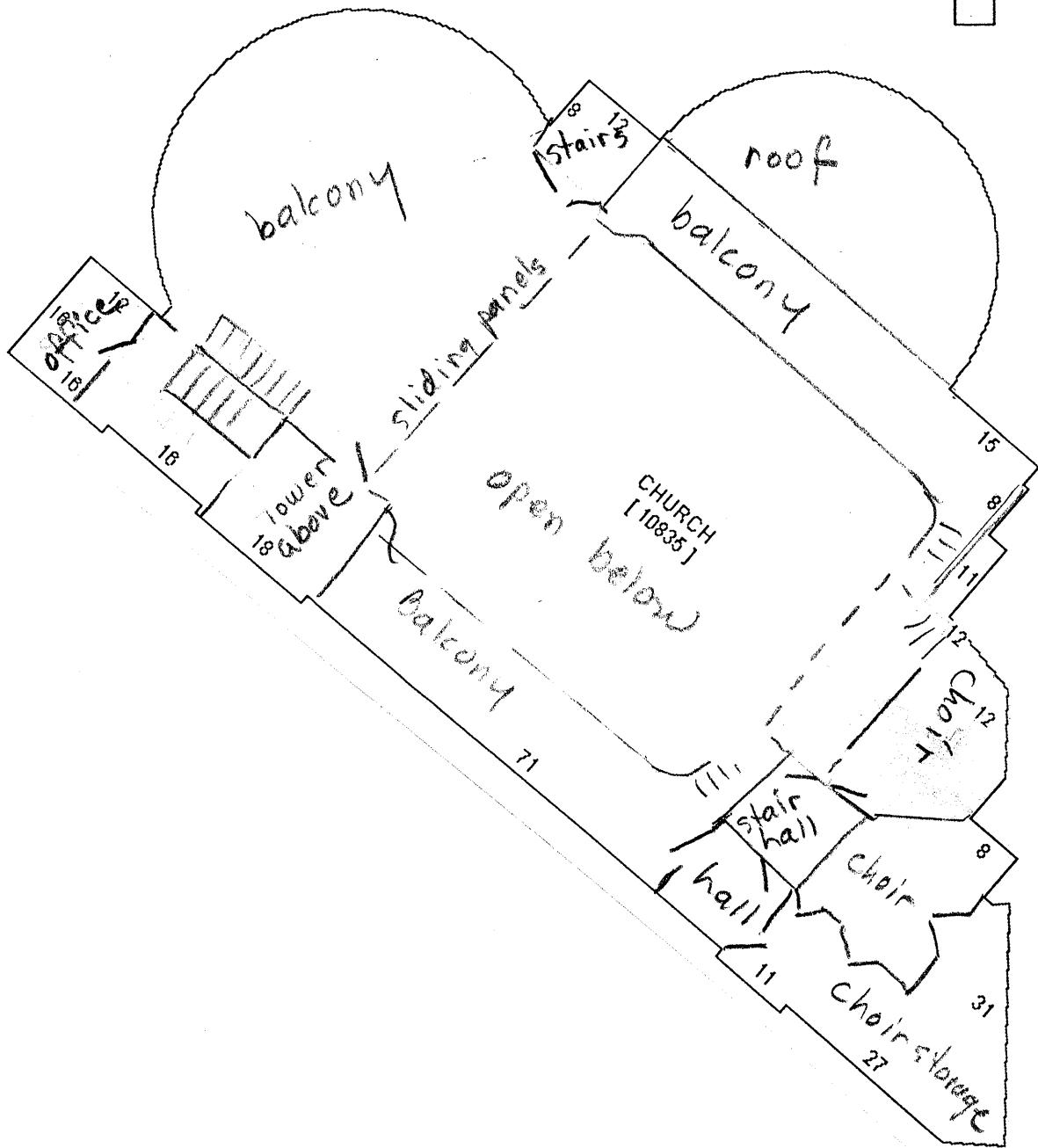
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Walnut Street Baptist Church
Black Hawk County, Iowa

Sketch Plan of Second Floor

Drawn by Patricia Eckhardt, 1999



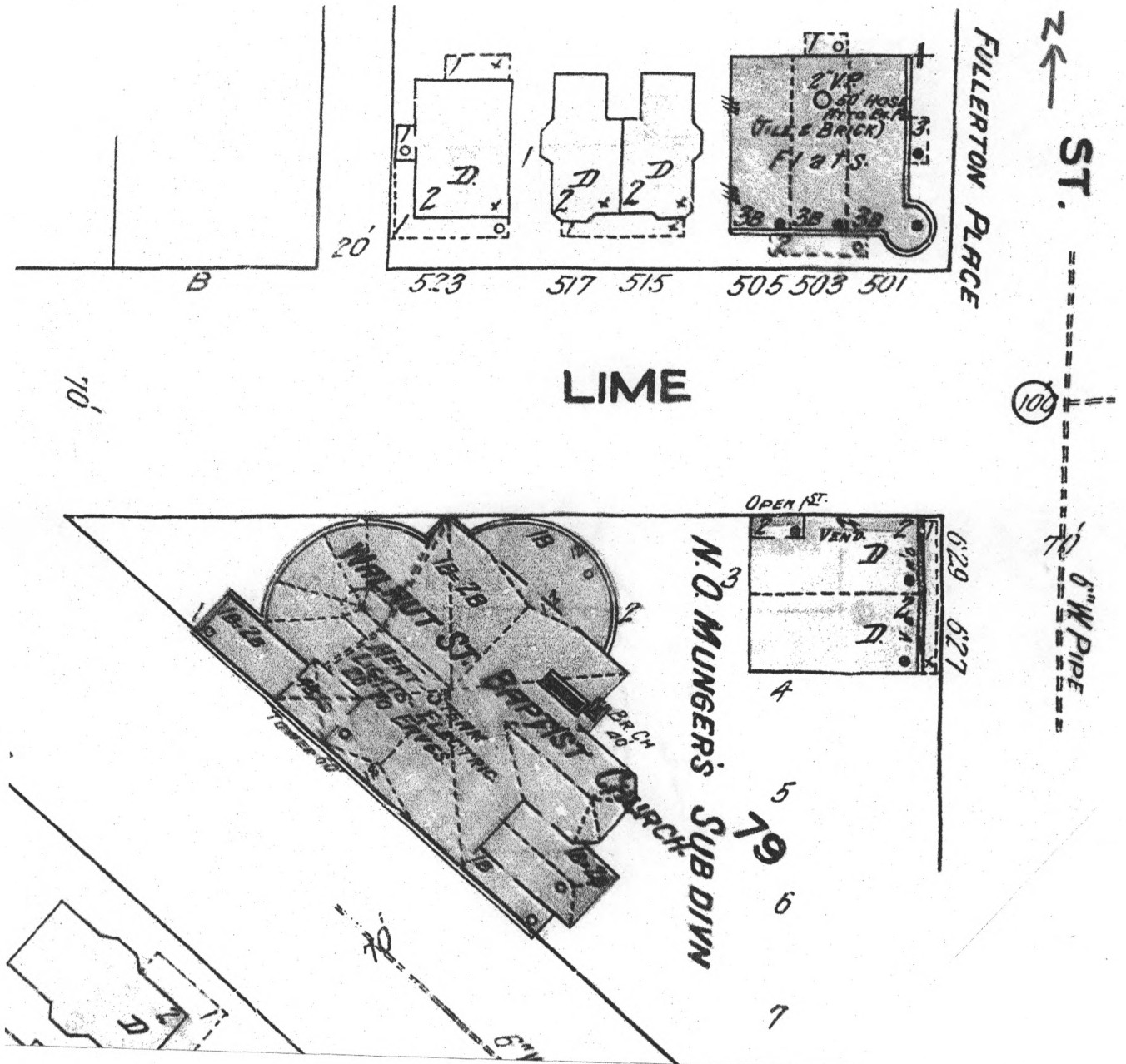
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Walnut Street Baptist Church
Black Hawk County, Iowa

Walnut Street Baptist Church, Fire Insurance Map of Waterloo, Iowa, 1910



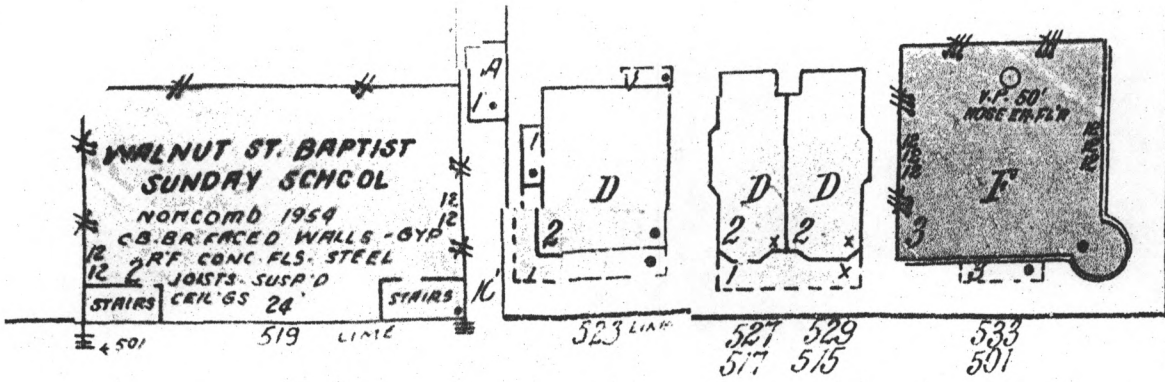
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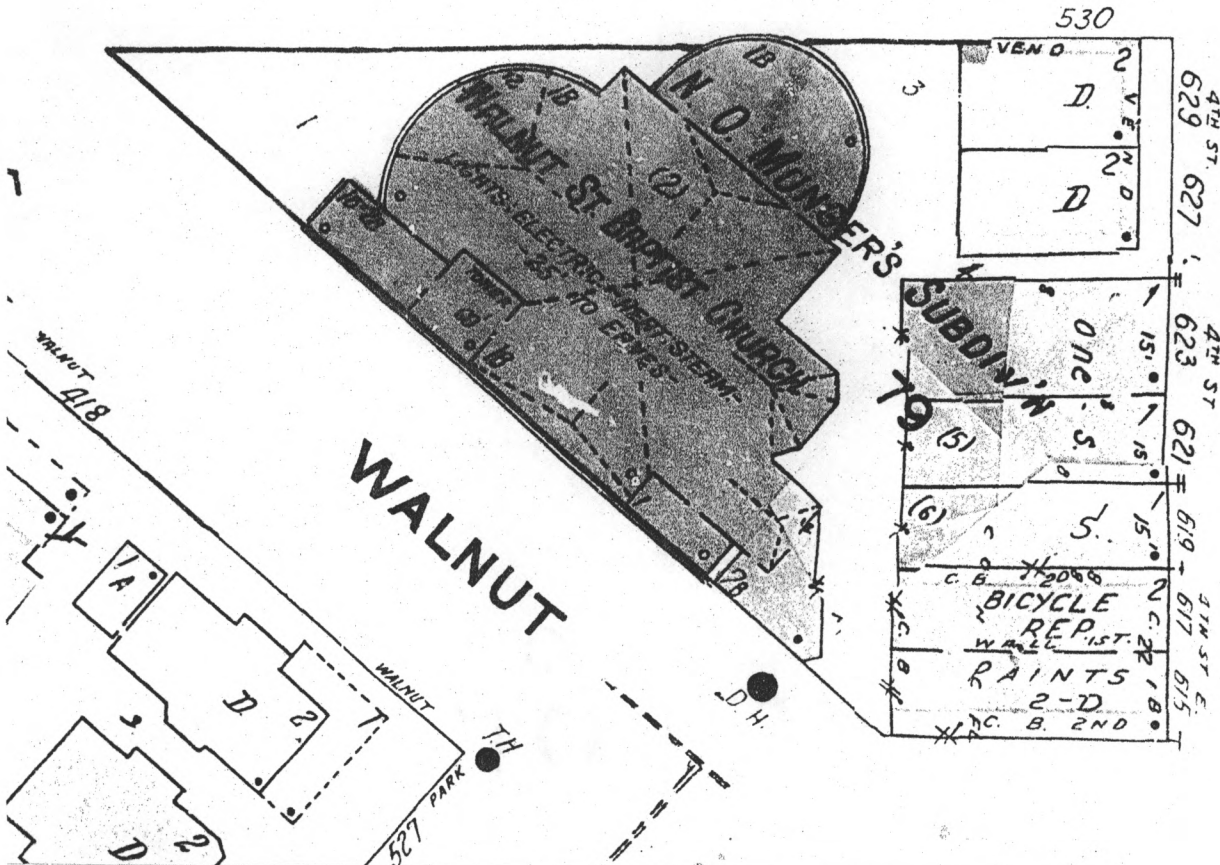
Walnut Street Baptist Church
Black Hawk County, Iowa

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Walnut Street Baptist Church, Fire Insurance of Waterloo, Iowa, 1935+
Office addition on the southeast corner



LIME



4TH S.

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Walnut Street Baptist Church
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Location Map
USGS Map of Waterloo, Iowa



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Walnut Street Baptist Church
Blackhawk County, Iowa

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE, Criteria C

Summary Statement

The Waterloo, Iowa architect, Clinton Phillip Shockley, designed Walnut Street Baptist Church, in 1908. It is an example of the early modern style with Arts and Crafts elements. The church was identified as a Key historic structure in a survey of the proposed Walnut Street Historic District.

Significance and Historical Contexts

Introduction:

The Walnut Street Baptist Church was originally home to Faith Baptist congregation, which constructed it as their second church on this site in 1908. When Faith Baptist congregation constructed a new church at the edge of town in 1971, they sold their Walnut Street church to Bold Mission Inc., another Baptist congregation, which named their church Faith Temple Baptist Church. The church falls within a proposed historic district determined after an historical and architectural survey of the northern portion of Waterloo in 1992.¹ It was determined individually eligible for nomination to the national Register at the time, but a district nomination has not yet been prepared. The proposed historic district, which adjoins downtown Waterloo, is presently in poor condition, but the current restoration of Walnut Street Baptist church will help in the rehabilitation of the whole neighborhood.

Clinton Phillip Shockley, Architect:

Waterloo architect Clinton Phillip Shockley, designer of Walnut Street Baptist Church, received formal training at the Armour Institute of Technology and gained experience with others informally known as the "Chicago School of Architecture." He opened his office in Waterloo in 1906. He and Mortimer Cleveland were by far the best-qualified architects in Waterloo and were able to obtain the important commissions that formerly went to out-of-state architects. Walnut Street Baptist church was certainly an important commission. Other work by Shockley in Waterloo include the Roman Catholic hospital in Waterloo where he served as consulting architect, First Presbyterian Church, the Elks' Building, the Insurance Building, Hansen's Overland Automobile building (now a TV station), and the Waterloo, Cedar Falls & Northern

¹ Rebecca Conard and Jan Nash, "Walnut Street Historic District, Waterloo, Iowa, A National Register of Historic Places Evaluation," Submitted to Waterloo Historic Preservation Commission by PHR Associates, 1992.

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**Walnut Street Baptist Church
Blackhawk County, Iowa**

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Terminal and Office Building. Shockley, together with Cleveland, designed the Iowa Pavilion at the 1915 Panama-Pacific Exposition in San Francisco.²

The complex design and the style of the Walnut Street Baptist Church make it unique. It does not look like Shockley's other church designs such as his Gothic Revival First Presbyterian Church only a block away. Rather than the usual symmetrical basilica church, This triangular form (certainly influenced, if not required, by the shape of the lot) allowed the architect to explore form and function, and find a new way to serve the ritual and activities of the church. Contrasting with the complex form, the church has an orderly and calm appearance in spite of its corners and contrasting shapes. The turn of the century (20th) American idea that form should follow function first expounded by Louis Sullivan, freed Shockley from too literal an interpretation of style. In spite of its unusual form, the church exhibits the early modern desire for function combined with the Arts and Crafts striving for simplicity.

The Church does not fit comfortably into an architectural style category. Architectural historians surveying Waterloo architecture in the past have placed it in the Prairie School category for lack of any other category.³ But it does not exhibit the characteristics of the Prairie Style outlined by Wilson or Berry.⁴ Rather, it is a unique mixture of styles which embodies not only the conservative and quiet aspects of the Arts and Crafts aesthetic, but mixes in other competing architectural styles from the early 20th century. The use of classical pediments and oculi, for instance, reflects the influence of the Beaux-Arts style. The top of the tower with its gables and pyramidal roof is another Beaux-arts feature. The Beaux-arts approach uses the entire history of architecture as a source book. The abstract geometric stained glass windows are one element, which seems to have been influenced by the Prairie School in their color and design. The spandrels between the windows of the first and second floor follow similar treatments developed by the Chicago School for commercial buildings, those of Louis Sullivan specifically. The description of the Walnut Street Baptist Church as being in the "Old English Style", presumably referring to the Arts and Crafts Style, gives us an important clue to its architectural sources and helps explain its builder's intention. This style description was published in the dedication Program and in the newspaper description of the church. It probably came from the building committee or the architect himself.⁵

² Wesley I. Shank, *Iowa's Historic Architects, A biographical Dictionary*, (Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 1998), pp. 148-149; and Barbara Bevin Long. Long, Barbara Bevin, "Waterloo, Factory City of Iowa – Survey of Architecture and History," prepared for the City of Waterloo, Iowa by Midwest Research of Des Moines, 1986.

³ Long and Conard.

⁴ Richard Guy Wilson and Sidney K. Robinson, *The Prairie School in Iowa*, (Ames: Iowa State University Press, 1977); and H. Allen Brooks, *The Prairie School, Frank Lloyd Wright and his Midwest contemporaries*, (Toronto: University of Toronto Press).

⁵ "Description of New Sanctuary" (Over photo – "New Walnut Baptist Church to be Dedicated Sunday."), *Waterloo Semi-Weekly*, Friday, October 9, 1908, and "Fiftieth Anniversary of the Present Building, Walnut Street Baptist Church, Waterloo, Iowa, October 5-10, 1958, booklet.

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Walnut Street Baptist Church
Blackhawk County, Iowa

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Complicating the “what style is it” question is that this building is a church, and it looks like a church. Ecclesiastical architecture has its own iconography and its own history of style. Gothic is the usual style for churches with some Romanesque Revival and Classical styles thrown in. Walnut Street church does not reflect those styles. Neither does it look like any churches by Prairie School architects with the exception of St. Paul’s Methodist Church in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. St Paul’s, 1910-1914, was originally designed by Louis Sullivan, but his design was never completed, and the project was taken over by Elmsley. The two churches have some similar elements, but Sullivan could not have influenced Shockley. Rather, Shockley’s church might have influenced Sullivan, since its design was earlier by several years. Other churches by Prairie School architects are completely different in design from Walnut Street Baptist Church. William Steele’s First Congregational Church in Sioux City, 1918, is stripped-down Byzantine. Methodist Episcopal Church in Evanston Illinois, 1915, is a modernized gothic. Marshalltown Church of Christ is an A-frame with a cross gable roof.⁶

The Arts and Crafts Style was really not a style. Originating in England, it was popular in the United States in the early 20th century. While a modern movement, it looked to the past and to nature for inspiration. It sought simplicity and honesty in architecture. It is usually thought to be a major esthetic source for the Prairie Style, Stickley, and the Bungalow Style,⁷ but it was not restricted to those American developments alone. There are several examples of Arts and Crafts style buildings in Iowa, which reveal more direct English influence in the state. The Grey House at Four Mounds Estate outside Dubuque is an example of a Baillie Scott (or Voysey) inspired house. Another example, more appropriate for comparison in that it is a church, is Trinity (First) Presbyterian Church in Indianola, designed by Proudfoot and Bird of Des Moines in 1900.

First Presbyterian Church, like Walnut Street Church, abandons the usual Gothic, Romanesque or Classical styles. Although the two churches are not at all alike, they both incorporate the Arts and Crafts spirit and aesthetic. Trinity Church reflects English models more closely than does Walnut Street Church. Its stepped gables and mock arrow slits are examples of the Arts and Crafts Movement’s love of things Medieval and add humor as well as an “Old English” aura. The interior reveals a new working out of the auditorium church plan combined with a thoughtful planning for the needs of those attending services such as traffic patterns, cloakrooms, and etc. as well as providing effective ritual space. The interior color scheme of golds, mauves, and greens and the abstracted floral designs of the windows are in keeping with the Arts and Crafts Esthetic. Another small church by Proudfoot and Bird, St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Harlan, Iowa, 1898, represents an example of the English Gothic Revival style associated with the Arts and Crafts Movement in England.

⁶ See Wilson and Brooks for photos illustrating these comparisons.

⁷ Wilson, p. 6.

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Walnut Street Baptist Church
Blackhawk County, Iowa

**Louis Sullivan, George G. Elmsely, and Others, St. Paul's Methodist Church,
Cedar Rapids, 1914, Ill. from Chiat, p. 159.**



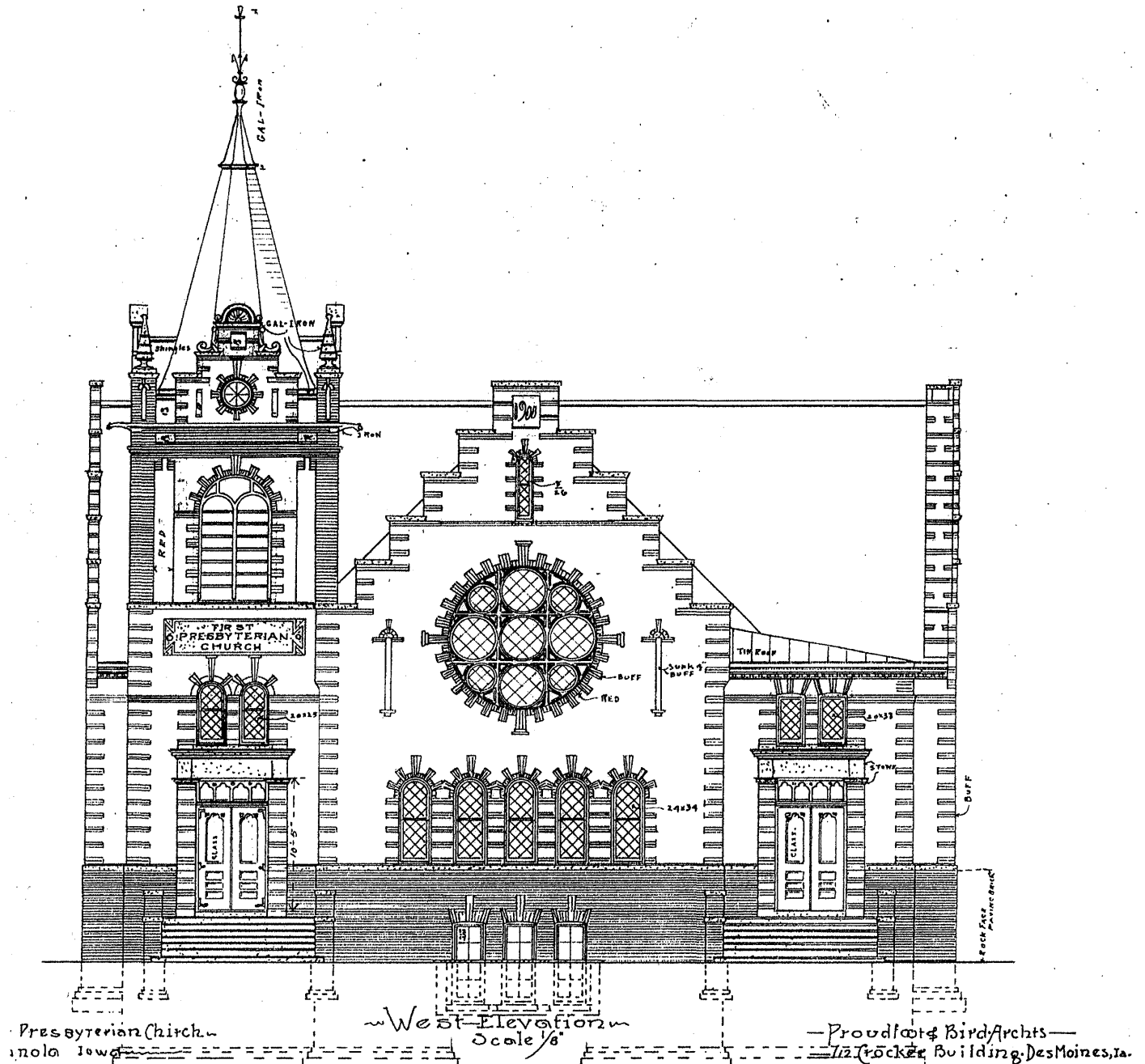
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Walnut Street Baptist Church
Blackhawk County, Iowa

Proudfoot and Bird, Trinity Episcopal Church, Indianola, Iowa, 1900
Façade Drawing from original plans at Brooks Borg Architects and Engineers,
Des Moines, Iowa



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Blackhawk County, Iowa

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SOURCES

“Baptist Church to be Dedicated,” *Waterloo Daily Times-Tribune*, Sat, October 10, 1908.

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Brooks, H. Allen, ed. *Prairie School Architecture, Studies from ‘the Western Architect,’* Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1975.

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Chiat, Marilyn J. *America’s Religious Architecture, Sacred Places for Every Community.* New York: John Wiley And sons, Inc., 1997.

Conard, Rebecca and Jan Nash, “Walnut Street Historic District, Waterloo, Iowa, A National Register of Historic Preservation Evaluation,” submitted to Waterloo Historic Preservation Commission by PHR Associates, 1992.

“Description of New Sanctuary” (Over photo – “New Walnut Baptist Church to be Dedicated Sunday.”), *Waterloo Semi-Weekly*, Friday, October 9, 1908.

“Fiftieth Anniversary of the Present Building, Walnut Street Baptist Church, Waterloo, Iowa, October 5-10, 1958, booklet.

“Dedication of the Second Building for the Walnut Street Baptist Church, Waterloo, Iowa, October 11-18, 1908,” published in the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Present Building, Walnut Street Baptist Church, Waterloo, Iowa,” 1958.

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Walnut Street Baptist Church
Blackhawk County, Iowa

Waterloo City Directories, 1908-1925.

Waterloo, Iowa, Fire Insurance Maps, 1897, 1900, 1910, 1918.

Williams, Peter W. *Houses of God, Region, Religion and Architecture in the United States.*
Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1997.

Wilson, Richard Guy and Sidney K. Robinson. *The Prairie School in Iowa.* Ames: Iowa State
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Walnut Street Baptist Church
Black Hawk County, Iowa

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

Boundary consists of lot 1 in the Block 79 of the Cooley Addition, N. O Mungers Subdivision, City of Waterloo, Iowa.

Verbal Justification

This boundary encloses the original property on which the Walnut Street Baptist Church was constructed.

PHOTOGRAPHS

The following pertains to all photographs:

Photographer - Patricia Eckhardt

Date Taken - July 12, 1999

Location of original negatives - Faith Temple Baptist Church

1. Main entrance looking east
2. Office entrance and southwest façade looking north
3. Tower looking north
4. One-story wing looking southwest
5. East façade along alley looking south
6. Auditorium looking southeast
7. Auditorium looking northeast
8. Corridor on main floor of office wing looking southeast toward office entrance
9. Second floor Sunday school wing showing separate rooms with rakes floors looking southwest
10. Lower level meeting hall looking northwest
11. Meeting rooms in one-story wing opening on to auditorium looking northeast