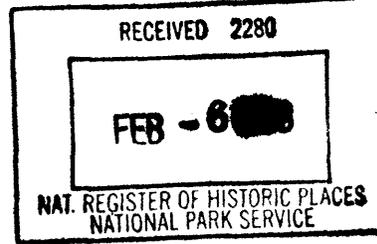


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



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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 United Presbyterian Church of Shedd

other names/site number Valley Rose Chapel

2. Location

street & number 30045 State Highway 99East  not for publication

city or town Shedd  vicinity

state Oregon code OR county Linn code 043 zip code 97377

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.)

Jane Hamrick January 16, 1998  
Signature of certifying official/Title Deputy SHPO Date  
Oregon State Historic Preservation Office  
State of 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 A. Beall Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 3-5-98

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**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

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**UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SHEDD (1892)**

30045 State Highway 99E  
Shedd, Linn County, Oregon

**COMMENTS OF THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE**

The building erected in 1892 by the United Presbyterian Church at Shedd, an agricultural trading center at the heart of Oregon's western Willamette Valley, is a notably intact example of pattern book architecture in the Gothic Revival style. It meets National Register Criterion C as the best representative of its type and style in the crossroads community and it is one of the best preserved in Linn County generally. The church also is proposed for nomination under Criterion A in the area of religion as a connecting link to the origins of the United Presbyterian Church. Shedd developed as a stop on the Oregon and California Railroad after 1871. At the older rural settlement of Oakville, seven miles to the northwest, the United Presbyterian Church of Oregon had been founded in the merger of two dissenting presbyteries in 1852. This development had led to formation of the United Presbyterian Church of North America six years later. After the last of the early congregations outlying Shedd had disbanded in 1888, the national Board of Church Extension sought to fill the void. Two lots were purchased at Shedd in 1891, and a building apparently based on *Church Plans*, a plan book produced by Benjamin and M. Charles Price, was erected and dedicated the following year. For the next 50 years, the building at Shedd was the focal point of the unified Presbyterian Church locally.

The nominated area of about a third of an acre [100 x 130'] is defined to include the two lots historically associated with the Presbyterian Church in Shedd. The east side of the parcel, however, is occupied by a non-historic 1950-vintage single family residence, now a rental house, which is counted a non-contributing feature. Sanborn maps indicate the house stands where a wagon and carriage shed stood in the historic period. The rental house is reported to have been constructed in part of material salvaged from the old shed. The house that was acquired for a church parsonage stood off site, a block to the northeast. It is no longer standing. The church was vacated when the dwindling congregation disbanded about 1944. At present, it is rented as a wedding chapel and meeting hall. The current private owner has reintroduced traditional ornamental plantings to the property.

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The church presents its principal face to "A" Street, facing north, and its secondary frontage is on the Pacific Highway (U.S. 99E). It is a compact cruciform mass modeled on a Latin cross and rises to a height of one story from a high post and pier foundation. The shingled cross-gabled roof is of medium pitch. The overall ground plan is roughly 40 feet square with the regular geometric form broken at the northwest corner by a square entry tower and belfry and at the northeast corner by a shed-roofed entry hall.

The exterior is clad with drop siding and trimmed conservatively with water table belt course, plain corner boards and frieze boards, a boxed cornice, and decorated bargeboards with a simple interlace motif at the apex. The belfry tower volume has a steep hip roof with pedimented cornice that is surmounted by an open belfry, now empty. The belfry, in turn, is capped by a pyramidal steeple and spike finial. The lancet openings which are the identifying motif of buildings in the Gothic Revival style are found on all elevations except the south, which is of blind. Typical window assemblies are tall double-hung windows with two-over-two lights and pointed arch transoms having geometric patterned tracery. The large opening in the north wall is created of paired windows with a single arched transom.

The interior is chiefly sanctuary space, the long axis of which runs west to east, with the chancel platform centered on the wall of the south arm of the cross. Opposite the pulpit, in the north arm of the cross, is an anteroom that can be closed off by an original paneled partition door that is raised and lowered by means of counter weights. Openings to both anteroom and chancel alcoves are semielliptical arched. The ceiling is enclosed and has a central coffer from which the original illumination fixture of wrought iron is suspended. The interior is fully finished with tongue-and-groove millwork of Ponderosa pine for vertical wainscot, upper wall, ceiling, and variegated paneling. For example, a blind lancet arcade on the wall of the chancel is finished with diagonal tongue and groove panels. Trim work is in contrasting redwood. All of the wood work is stained except in the anteroom, where the original surfaces have been overpainted. This application discusses the likely arrangement of semicircular seating recommended by the plan book and documents certain other early furnishings and accessories. The preparer also discusses the long tradition of ecclesiastical architecture in the Gothic mode and how, in churches arising from the Protestant Reformation, spatial organization was modified to place emphasis on preaching over ritual.

The first episode of alteration followed sale of the property by the United Presbyterian Church in 1946. About 1950, the main entrance was closed and access was diverted to a secondary entrance in the northeast corner. At the same time, windows in the west facade fronting the

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highway were altered. A bathroom was added to the northeast corner entry hall with the result that the stairs were rebuilt to approach from the east instead of from the north. The present owner, Bradley Perkins, acquired the property in 1988. Beginning in 1991, work was undertaken to reverse the non-historic alterations. The main entrance was reinstated and a replacement double-leaf door was fabricated to match the original. Historic photographs show that, originally, there were no stair railings, but the existing railings required by code are in the Gothic spirit. In 1991, too, the sanctuary windows in the west facade were restored.

The Presbyterian Church has strong roots in Linn County, Oregon. Following the 1847 massacre of the mission family at Dr. Marcus Whitman's mission to the Indians at Waiilatpu, located in the high Columbia plateau country of what is now eastern Washington, the Reverend Henry Spalding, who had been in charge of one of the Presbyterian-backed mission outposts, was welcomed by the settlement of Presbyterians in Linn County. It was Spalding who organized the first Presbyterian church in the county, at Calapooia, now Brownsville, in 1849. At Union Point, near Brownsville, in the same year, the Reverend Wilson Blain established the Associate Reformed Church, which called upon its adherents to observe a stricter version of Calvinism. As early as 1846, the Reverend Thomas Kendall had settled in Linn County, a few miles northeast of the future town of Shedd, from which base he operated as a circuit-riding minister. Kendall organized at Oakville, to the northwest, a second dissenting presbytery known as the Willamette Associate Presbyterian Church. In 1852, Blain and Kendall joined their two jurisdictions as the United Presbyterian Church of Oregon, forerunner to the United Presbyterian Church of North America, which was formed in 1858.

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property (Check only one box)

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

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

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

Contributing Noncontributing buildings sites structures objects 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

N/A

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility

RELIGION/religious facility

SOCIAL/meeting hall

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

Gothic Revival

foundation Stone

walls Weatherboard

roof Shingle

other Brick

Wood

Narrative Description

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

Please see continuation sheet

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Shedd United Presbyterian Church

Lincoln County, OR

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**Summary Description**

The Shedd United Presbyterian Church is a vernacular interpretation of a wood-frame Gothic Revival Church of the late Victorian period, distinguished by extensive interior woodwork. Built in 1891- 92, the 1500 square foot church is characterized by Gothic elements of style - a cruciform plan, side steeple/bell tower with entry and open belfry, wide gables with decorative trusses on the principal facades, and Gothic lancet-shaped windows with stained glass lights. The exterior of the church is possessed by considerable ornamental wood trim detail, and the Gothic theme is carried throughout with the uniquely adorned pine and redwood clad interior. The church is located in a small rural community, in a mixed neighborhood of wood-frame homes, dating to the late 19th and early 20th centuries, and small commercial buildings. The building fronts north on a corner double lot adjacent to State Highway 99E, which prior to the construction of Interstate 5, was the main north-south route in western Oregon. Also along this highway through Shedd are several vernacular wood-frame buildings, including another church, a WOW hall, and a Masonic lodge. The property is in good condition, possessing all seven aspects of integrity, and has retained its original appearance.

**Narrative Description**

The church's plan conforms to a Latin cross. The one-story, balloon-framed building rests upon a high timber post and beam foundation. The high foundation contributes to the sense of vertical emphasis. This rugged foundation consists of massive rough sawn timbers supporting the exterior walls and the 2" x 12" floor joists. Rough sawn 8" x 10" posts transfer the structural loads and the entire weight of the building to fieldstone pads, set in the bearing soil. Close observation indicates that the foundation has performed well over the years, as there are no obvious sags anywhere on the lower portions of the building. The building is clad to the high water table line with vertical drop siding, 6 1/2" to the weather. This same type of siding is applied horizontally above the foundation for the entirety of the building. The building's corners are finished with 1" x 5" cornerboards, with chamfered edges and angle bead. The walls terminate at the eave with frieze and rake boards, and bed moulding. All gables have openwork trim with tympanums of simplified geometric tracery, collar ties and collar braces. The walls are 28' high to the ridge, and have boxed eaves with a pitched soffit and slight overhang. The medium pitched intersecting gable roof is covered with wood shingles.

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Shedd United Presbyterian Church

Linn County, OR

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The steeple, located on the northwest corner of the building is 45' high, according to an 1898 Sanborn map, and consists of a bell tower, open belfry, and pyramidal spire with spike finial. The bell tower is square in shape with paired paneled church doors, and a lancet shaped stained glass transom window above, on the north elevation. On the west elevation of the tower, there is a full-length window in a lancet shaped opening. Clad in the same siding as the body, the wall of the tower terminates in gables on each side, in transition to the steep hip roof and the belfry. The belfry is open and is framed on each side by two square chamfered columns, with Doric capitals and elliptical arches, with a balustrade containing five square balusters per side and a top rail. Shaped modillions can be seen under the cornice of the spires's projecting eaves. The spire is pyramidal-shaped, with hip roof and cedar shingle roofing. A circa 1950 photograph exhibits the use of fishscale shingles, two bands of four courses each, between the courses of plain shingles on the spire. A decorative spike finial with ball ornament, resting on a pellet moulding cap, completes the tower. The original bell now resides in the Valley United Presbyterian Church in Portland, Oregon.

The entry through the bell tower was restored to its historic placement in 1991, after having been relocated to the west elevation c. 1950. At the same time, the secondary entry was altered, when a small bathroom was added. This entry originally faced north, and now faces east. The double leaf front entry door has raised panels, and was selected on the basis of historic photographs, which indicate a similar style was employed. The rear entry door has raised panels with two lights in the upper section. All entry doors are nonhistoric, purchased in 1991 from Rejuvenation House Parts in Portland, as were bathroom and hardware fixtures for these doors. The access stairs, containing six wooden steps, and the wooden rails leading to both entries are nonhistoric. Historic photographs indicate no hand rails were utilized.

There are 7 windows, all in lancet shaped openings. The windows are 2 over 2 double-hung sash clear glass with wood muntins, with a lancet shaped stained glass in the stationary upper portion. The stained glass is of relatively simple design with several colors represented, and a cross motif portrayed in the tracery. The windows on the principal facade are coupled in a double lancet style. Beneath the outside window sills lie the decorative console brackets. The outer window trim is 1" x 6", topped on the outer edges with a fluted 1" x 3" moulding. The upper sash stiles have a ogee curve on the bottom outer edges. Three single windows face west, with one in the steeple, two single windows face east, and the south elevation is blind. The two windows facing west, located in the nave, were rebuilt in 1991, at the time the entry was moved from that side. The Eugene Planing Mill provided the windows, moulding was custom milled

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Shedd United Presbyterian Church

Linn County, OR

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at Monitor Mill Works, of Monitor, OR, and the necessary stained glass replacement pieces came from Kline Glass of Portland.

The original masonry red brick chimney, approximately 12" x 12", is corbeled on the top 4 courses, and is located on the north slope of the roof on the east cross axial. The chimney, which originally served a wood stove, is no longer used.

The church is Latin cross in design, with a side steeple entry narthex, anteroom, nave, and raised chancel for the location of the pulpit. The chancel portion of the nave is raised 15" with two steps on each side, and is 6' deep from front to the back wall, occupying the southernmost space of the nave. The raised portion is on two levels defined by an elliptical shape, with no rail separating chancel from nave. The southeast corner of the nave was also raised, one step, and accomodated an organ. The main entry, through the steeple, opened into the narthex, where the rope for the church bell once hung. From that room, one could enter the anteroom to the east, or the church nave to the south. There is a secondary entry, into a small vestibule, which contains a large cast iron sink, and wall cabinets. A bathroom has been added, where the original secondary entry was located. According to personal interviews and historic photos, there were never pews used in this church, as bowback chairs were in evidence.

There are four interior doors, three of which are original. The most significant is a 16 foot wide raised panel (36 panels) partition door located in an alcove between the nave and the anteroom. It is elliptically arched, and raises up vertically, counterbalanced with sections of railroad rails. This massive door is stained on the nave side and painted white on the anteroom side. The hardware on this door is nonhistoric, antique replacement, purchased in 1991 at Rejuvenation House Parts in Portland. The original interior door leading from the vestibule entry to the anteroom has moulded raised panels and original hardware. The round knob and escutcheon are of a flat, ornamental bronze, and has been identified as a circa 1885 match to a style manufactured by P & F Corbin, of New Britain, CT. The door leading from the sanctuary to the back entry is an oversized original raised panel door, complete with the original ornamental bar handle hardware. It has a self-closing exposed torsion spring mechanism in the jamb, with heavy iron hinges. The door from the back entry vestibule to the bathroom is not original, and matches the back entry door.

The doors and windows are trimmed with the darker stained redwood to contrast with the more natural colored pinewood paneling. The doors and windows are trimmed with

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Shedd United Presbyterian Church

Linn County, OR

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1" x 5" boards. The windows have a sill and apron, with decorative moulding between the sill and apron.

The interior walls are entirely paneled with solid white pinewood, tongue and groove, quirk-beaded boards. The darker trim boards used are redwood. This identification was conducted via microscopic analysis, by Dr. Barbara Gartner of the Oregon State University Forestry Department. She stated the pine is very likely Ponderosa species. The redwood base moulding of 10" gives way to a pine 3 1/2" stand of vertical wainscoting topped by a redwood horizontal 4" wainscot cap. Above this the 3 1/2" exposed width pine boards are placed on the diagonal within lancet-shaped darker stained redwood trim boards. A dark trim board arches across the upper outline of this paneling on the south wall, and over the stained glass windows on the east and west walls, to create an elliptical arch matching the large rear door. Above this, the boards stretch vertically to the ceiling and are captured by the dark trim boards (1" by 5"), crown moulding, and another trim board on the ceiling. An arcade of blind arches distinguish the back wall of the chancel, with five lancet-shaped panel sections trimmed in the dark redwood moulding. Each arch is infilled with diagonal pine boards of varying directions, with the spandrels infilled with vertical boards. The pine boards angle both directions, similar to herringbone pattern, to infill the narrower center arch. The moulding trim "springs" from 10" wide pilasters topped with wood Doric imposts. The centrally placed wainscoting boards on the apse wall are raised a bit higher, possibly suggestive of an altar. Historic photographs verify the authenticity of this original woodwork design. In the anteroom the wall treatment is a little different, with similar base, wainscoting, and horizontal trim cap. In this room pilasters with the Doric order rise above the horizontal trim, with the diagonal and herringbone patterns infilling them. A wide trim piece separates this portion from the vertical placement of the remaining wood paneling.

The ceiling is comprised of the pinewood paneling, trimmed with the darker redwood boards. Approximately a 10' by 10' area in the center of the ceiling is coffered. This detail features trim pieces arranged octagonally around the center ceiling plate for the lighting fixture, with 8 dark trim boards radiating to the interior hip portion of the coffer. These hip panels are interspersed with dark trim boards approximately every 2 feet. The east and west portions of the ceiling, contain less trim detail, and are paneled with the white pine. The south and north portions of the nave ceiling have a barrel vaulted appearance, three feet deep, and are trimmed with both the light and dark woods. Interior hips in the front upper corners above the chancel, caused by the roof valleys, add to the visual interest.

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Shedd United Presbyterian Church

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The flooring is vertical grain softwood, tongue and groove strip, with a 3 1/2 " exposure.

Chromatically, the interior spaces are entirely wood stained, with the exception of the anteroom, where all surfaces are painted white. The two wood species utilized for the wall and ceiling paneling were stained light and dark shades, to contrast and accentuate the interior Gothic features. The lighter stained pine panels are juxtaposed within the distinctive arcaded outlines, emphasized by the use of the darker, redder redwood trim. The floors are a dark, natural wood stain, as are all the doors. The stained glass windows display a multitude of colors, with shades of rose pink, green, and yellow predominating. Judging by historic photographs, the original exterior body color was white, with white trim.

The central wrought iron branched light fixture is said to be original and is configured in such a manner that it could have held candles. It is now electrified. Where the light is attached to the ceiling is an iron rosette on a round wooden base. As this church was dedicated in 1892, none of the electric pendant lights with bell shades are original. The present shades are nonhistoric, but based on an early historic photograph, and replicate the historic style at the time of electrification of the structure. The entry light is nonhistoric, but of period design, as are the ceiling fixtures in the vestibule and the anteroom. The building has had many electric wall outlets added, sound speakers in the upper rear corners of the nave, with flood lights above them. The back entry contains a nonhistoric sink in place of the missing historic element. The small bathroom includes a toilet (commode), and an nonhistoric, period corner sink, purchased in 1991 from Hippo Hardware in Portland. The back entry sink and toilet were purchased in 1991 from Famillian Northwest in Portland. A hot water heater is located in the attic space. A new forced air heating system with heat pump was installed in 1991. Nonhistoric cast iron vents and air intakes were installed in the floors at that time.

A nonhistoric, non-contributing rental house rests on the eastern boundary of the property, constructed circa 1950. It's located at the site of the historic wagon shed , per the Sanborn maps of 1898 and 1908. The house is a 1500 square foot, one-story, wood frame building. A parsonage was purchased on December 4,1896 "as a place of residence for the minister of the Shedd United Presbyterian Church." It was located a block northeast of the church, with the express purpose that it be used only as a church parsonage. This home served as the church parsonage until the sale of the

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Shedd United Presbyterian Church

Linn County, OR

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church in 1945, and at that time was purchased by the retired minister and his family. This house has since been razed.

Present owner hired a landscape architect to design a period landscape, and has planted street trees, many roses, and flowering period perennials. A row of daylilies mark the south boundary of the property, and a bed of iris occupy a portion of the southwest corner.

The first private parties to own the church after closure changed the main entry of the church to the center of the nave, facing west toward the highway, to accomodate their antique shop. At this time the windows on this wall were also altered, and the window openings were lowered. This was done in circa 1950. In 1991, the present owner changed the entry back to its historic location, using nonhistoric materials for doors, porch, and skirting, using historic photographs for guidance. In filling the wall where the doors vacated, new windows were custom made, according to historic photographs and personal interview information. Firwood paneling was used to fill the opening, as the owner had been told that it was the predominant wood used on the walls. All the interior finish work/paneling is original with this minor exception. In 1991, the bathroom was added to the northeast corner, the rear entry door was moved to the east facade, and new entry steps were added at both locations. The heating system, speakers and flood lights were installed in 1991.

The shingle roof is in poor condition, and needs to be replaced. The southeast valley portion of the roof is showing some deflection, suggesting that there is deterioration of the structural members. There has been some water damage to a portion of the interior boards, darkening them, and causing some streaking in the wood. In one wall of the bell tower entry some of the wood paneling is rotted away and needs replacement. The overall effect of this damage is negligible in light of the extensive use of wood, and the excellent condition of the vast majority of the wood surfaces.

The present owner, Bradley Perkins, is a graduate of the University of Oregon School of Architecture. Mr. Perkins would like to rehabilitate this church to its appearance in the historic period. He plans to replace the wood shingle roof in kind, and repair any wood surfaces that are damaged. He would like to replace the bell in the belfry, with the hope of finding a bell from the original period. The building is currently rented for use as a rural wedding chapel, and also used as an occasional meeting hall.

3. 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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Religion

Period of Significance

1892 - 1945

Significant Dates

1892

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

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**Summary Paragraph**

The Shedd United Presbyterian Church is a graceful, wood-frame Gothic Revival church, bestowed with a substantive role in local history. It is situated in Linn County, Oregon, one of the most significant locations for The United Presbyterian Church and its history. In 1852, just a few miles from Shedd, the first United Presbyterian Church in the entire world was formed as the result of the merger of two Linn County branches of the Presbyterian faith. Forty years later, the Shedd congregation would be established, drawing believers from these very congregations, as Shedd, Oregon was located in the geographic hub of this pioneer church activity. Shedd was originally created predominantly as a railway stop, eventually growing into a bustling little town, complete with its own blacksmith, flour mill, and town cobbler. It was this very cobbler who sold a parcel of his property in 1891 to the United Presbyterian Church to build a new house of worship for the local Presbyterians. The locals contributed their money and labor to create a fine example of Gothic Revival church building. Vertical and picturesque, this church is defined by its cruciform-shape, side steeple, steep-pitched roof with decorative trusses, and lancet-shaped windows. The church possesses much detail in the craftsmanship, as the interior is ornately paneled in two varieties of wood, neither available in large quantities locally - white pine and redwood. The Shedd United Presbyterian Church qualifies for nomination under Criterion C, for its distinctive architectural character, embodied by the attention to, and the pride of detail and quality in the craftsmanship of the woodwork, and the good condition of its current state of preservation. This building also meets the qualifying factors for nomination under Criterion A, in the area of religion, regarding its association with, and its evolutionary relationship to the heritage of the Presbyterian Church of Linn County.

**Statement of Significance**

The Presbyterian Church of North America migrated west to the Oregon country with Dr. Marcus Whitman in 1838. His contemporary, Rev. Henry Spalding, was invited to join a Linn County settlement of Presbyterians after they learned of his escape from the Whitman massacre in 1847.<sup>1</sup> He organized the first Presbyterian Church in Linn County at Calapooia (Brownsville) at the request of local settlers in the year 1849.<sup>2</sup> At this time "...the county (Linn) extended south to the present

<sup>1</sup>Haskin, Leslie. Linn County, Oregon Pioneer Settlers: Their Firwood Churches and Church History. Richard Milligan. Albany, OR, 1983. p 10

<sup>2</sup>Harrison, Glenn. Early Presbyterianism in the West, Linn Geneological Society, Albany, OR, 1997, p. 2

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Shedd United Presbyterian Church

Linn County, OR

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California border and east to the Rocky Mountains.”<sup>3</sup> In the same year, Rev. Wilson Blain from Indiana established an Associate Reformed Church near Brownsville in an area that became known as Union Point. Another influential figure in the evolution of Linn County Presbyterianism was Rev. Thomas Kendall. He arrived in Linn County, via Oregon City in 1846, established a donation land claim near the current town of Shedd, and preached the faith as a circuit rider. A widower, he travelled with his two young daughters, one in front and the other sitting behind him on the horse. He was a learned man, having graduate degrees from two eastern schools. On July 9, 1850 Rev. Kendall organized a church at Oakville, a rural area 7 miles northwest of Shedd. This church was known as the Willamette Associate Presbyterian Church. The families of the Associated Reformed Presbyterian and the Associated Presbyterian Churches came to Oregon in wagon trains in the 1840’s and 1850’s.<sup>4</sup> These Covenanters and Dissenters “kept alive the stricter interpretation of Presbyterian faith in Scotland.”<sup>5</sup>

Consideration of a unified Presbyterian church was often discussed by these pioneer men of faith. Life in the rugged West necessitated hardships unknown to the genteel churches in the East. These men submitted their vision for church unity before the Associate Synod in the east, and received a reply to “act as the Lord gives you light.”<sup>6</sup> Much discussion and consideration was given to this issue over the next year, and on September 17, 1852, adoption of a resolution stating, “we do agree and resolve henceforth to unite in one body, to be known as the United Presbyterian Church of Oregon, trusting that the two bodies in the United States east of the Rocky Mountains will approve our course...”<sup>7</sup> On October 20, 1852, Reverends Blain and Kendall met in the home of Rev. Blain and merged their two Presbyteries into one United Presbyterian Church of Oregon. “This merger in far-off Oregon led to the establishment nationally of the United Presbyterian Church of North America in 1858”<sup>8</sup>, which occurred six years after the Oregon decision. September of 1854 saw another Presbyterian church organized by Rev. Kendall on his land claim, known locally as Kendall’s Bridge, as the bridge crossed the Calapooia River at this point. This church/school disbanded in 1880. In 1856, Rev. Kendall started the Harmony

<sup>3</sup>Harrison, Glenn . Early Presbyterianism in the West, Linn Geneological Society, Albany, OR, 1997, p.3

<sup>4</sup>Duncan, Robert C. . Covananteers by the Willamette: United Presbyterian Pioneers in Albany and Linn Oounty , Kennewick, WA : Presbyterian Church, 1972, p. 47

<sup>5</sup>Thrift, Boyd . A History of The United Presbyterian Church of Oregon, San Francisco Theological Seminary, 1941, p. 1ff

<sup>6</sup>Federal Writers Project. History of Linn County, p. 75

<sup>7</sup>Ibid. p.76

<sup>8</sup>Freeman, Olga Samuelson . A Guide to Early Oregon Churches, Eugene, OR, 1976, p..62

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Presbyterian Church, northwest of the present town of Halsey, which later disbanded in 1888. Reverend Kendall died in 1870, and is buried at the Oakville Cemetery. In the geographic center of this church activity was the location of the future community of Shedd.

Shedd took its name from Captain Frank Shedd, who bought the Joseph Hite Donation Land Claim from Pleasant Robnett in the spring of 1865. The claim extended north from the present town of Shedd along either side of today's Highway 99E and the Southern Pacific Railroad.<sup>9</sup> The economy of the day was dependent on the railroad, and a town could be conceived or destroyed by these critical and timely decisions. Such was the case for Shedd. In 1871, The Oregon and California Railroad plotted a course through the Willamette Valley, and Shedd's Station, as it was originally known, was born. With the advantage of a railway system, the community expanded rapidly, but, alas, the small community of Boston, 2 miles to the east, died.<sup>10</sup> Shedd's Station, later known as Shedd's, and finally Shedd, was platted in 1871 by Lawrence Higgins.

The earliest examples of church building in Linn County were located in the rural countryside. The areas the settlers had left in the east already had a settlement pattern that would soon similarly possess the western lands. Transportation system networks dictated population density, and the many small communities clustered around railroad routes grew. Thus the prevalence of the village church changed the former pattern of rural churches. The 1890 census of larger towns in Oregon, published in the 1891 Albany State Rights Democrat, stated the population of Albany was 6927 residents, and Eugene was at 3036. Nearby Junction City posted 1280 residents. The Oregon and California Railroad connected all 3 of these communities, along with Shedd. The first church in Shedd's Station was the Methodist Episcopal Church, organized in 1852, and building/dedicating a church building for church use only, in 1872. Another Linn County church, the historic Methodist Episcopal Church in Halsey, was built in 1876, and remodeled to a cruciform shape with side steeple and horizontal siding at a later date. The nearest Presbyterian congregations (Kendall's Bridge and Harmony) disbanded in 1880 and 1888, leaving a void to meet the spiritual needs of the local Prebyterians. In 1891, the Board of Church Extension of the United Presbyterian Church of North America purchased a double lot, Block 2, Lots 10 and 11, from Nels and Lena Halverson, for the sum of \$100, for the purpose of building a Presbyterian Church in the community of Shedd. Mr. Halverson

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<sup>9</sup>Carey, Margaret Standish. Shedd. Calapooia Publications, Brownsville, OR, 1978, p. 23

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 26

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operated the local shoe and harness shop. The church was organized by Rev. A.M. Acheson, pastor of the Willamette United Presbyterian Church in Oakville, and Rev. T. J. Wilson, of the disbanded Harmony church, and elders Jos. C. Brown and A. Sutherland, the latter becoming one of the first elders of the new church. Research conducted by Portland, OR architect/preservationist, Sheila Finch-Tepper, suggests a close similarity to two church plans in the Price brothers' plan book, Church Plans, reprinted in 1906.<sup>11</sup> Perspective No. 272 displays a church elevation and Latin cross floor plan, with side tower, lanceted windows, and a semicircular seating pattern, closely resembling the Shedd church. The historic entryways are identical to this Price plan. It appears the local carpenters may have used this plan as a basis for their design and inspiration. "These publications (pattern books), provided a source of designs for carpenters and congregations in the West and from these books carpenters would freely include or excluded various elements as they saw fit."<sup>12</sup> The church was built entirely of volunteer labor, with fieldstones for the foundation and timber for the lumber hauled by teams of horses from nearby fields, rivers, and foothills.<sup>13</sup> According to a 1955 interview, the "old residents can recall...that as the square-towered structure took shape, the head carpenter forbade his men to sing or whistle."<sup>14</sup> The original minister was Rev. H. L. Hood, whose tenure at the church extended from 1892 to 1902. An early organist was Miss Anna McCormick. The church was dedicated February 26, 1892. The first minutes of a sessions (elders) meeting were dated June 26, 1892, as told by Robert McCormick, born in 1943, and the last baby baptized at the Shedd church.<sup>15</sup>

The interior was beautifully finished in woods, with an ornate pulpit using two types of wood with elaborate carving. It is presently in private hands. "The pulpit platform was covered with a wine colored Brussels carpet bought by the Ladies Aid, who raised money by sewing carpet rags..."<sup>16</sup> The seats, described as kitchen chairs by Anna Duncan Bagley, (who was the last woman married in the Shedd United Presbyterian Church), were bowback straight chairs, arranged in semicircular fashion.<sup>17</sup> Collection plates were wine colored, velvet-covered dipper shaped containers with long handles.

<sup>11</sup> Finch-Tepper, Sheila. Personal communication, June 1997

<sup>12</sup> Render, Lorne Edgar. Gothic Revival Churches on the West Coast Before 1890. UO Architectural Thesis, Eugene, OR, 1967, p.87

<sup>13</sup> E.M. Younie. "What I remember" letter, Linn County Courthouse Files

<sup>14</sup> Schillios, R.H. newspaper article photocopy, stamped 12/25/55, Linn County Courthouse Files

<sup>15</sup> McCormick, Robert. Oral history, April 1997

<sup>16</sup> E.M. Younie. "What I remember" letter photocopy, Linn County Courthouse Files

<sup>17</sup> Bagley, Anna Duncan. Oral history, April 1997

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The bell was inherited from the disbanded Harmony church. Cast in a foundry in Troy, New York, the date 1878 is inscribed on the bell. "The bell was shipped around the horn on a sailing vessel and came via Oregon's only highways at that time, the Columbia and Willamette Rivers."<sup>18</sup> After the Shedd church disbanded, the bell was donated to the Valley United Presbyterian Church in Portland, Oregon, where it presently resides. This same newsletter stated, "The baptismal bowl has somewhat the same history, being brought by covered wagon to Halsey, then to Shedd, to Glencullen, then to Valley..."<sup>19</sup>

In a pamphlet published by Linn County, stated facts about Shedd in 1895, mention 1 schoolhouse, 3 churches, 2 grain warehouses, and 1 flour mill. The county population stood at 25,000. In regard to the issue of religion, it was noted, "All the prominent Denominations are well represented and the population is essentially a moral and religious one. Infractions of the law are uncommon; homicide almost unknown."<sup>20</sup>

Anna Bagley stated that there was both a Sunday School service and a worship service. Tall folding screens were used in the two south corners of the nave to create rooms for the younger children. The teenagers met in the chairs on the east side of the nave, and the adults met in the anteroom.<sup>21</sup>

The Sanborn map of 1898 shows a small building, likely a privy in the northeast corner of the lot. The 1908 and 1938 Sanborns maps show a wagon shed extending the width of the two lots, occupying the east end, next to the alley. December 4, 1896, Lucy Wright, a widow, sold Lots 5 and 6, Block 1 "for the consideration of a sum of \$650 to her paid ... as a place of residence for the the of the minister of Shedd United Presbyterian Church of North America."<sup>22</sup> At one time the church also owned the home directly to the south, and used it for Ladies Aid meetings and church potlucks, as it seemed inappropriate to use the nave for such purposes.<sup>23</sup> By the end of the 1930s, the Shedd congregation was sharing a pastor with the Oakville church. "Gradually, the self-supporting United Presbyterian congregation was reduced to a few families who found taxes and \$400 a year to the minister, plus his free parsonage,

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<sup>18</sup>Valley Presbyterian Church Newsletter. Linn County Courthouse Files

<sup>19</sup> Ibid

<sup>20</sup> "Pointers 1895", Linn County, Oregon,

<sup>21</sup> Bagley, Anna Duncan, Oral history, April 1997

<sup>22</sup> Deed , Linn County Courthouse, Vol 57, p. 439

<sup>23</sup> Bagley, Anna Duncan, Oral history, April 1997

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too burdensome.”<sup>24</sup> In 1945, due to a dwindling congregation, and lack of funds to support the physical demands of a church, the Shedd United Presbyterian Church disbanded. On September 29, 1945, the United Presbyterian Church of Shedd, as Trustees, deeded the property back to the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

The property came under the ownership of F.E. and Marian Marshall in 1946, when the United Presbyterian Church of North America by Trustees of General Assembly sold Lots 11 and 12, Block 2. Shortly after that time, Marian Marshall (Winney) converted the church to use as an antique business, altering the original entry to the west side, and adding a two-story “apartment” to the east interior portion of the building.<sup>25</sup> The apartment was later dismantled, and the present owner restored the entry to its historic location. Another owner also used the building as an antique shop until February 10, 1988, when the present owner, Bradley Perkins, purchased the church. He is a graduate of the University of Oregon School of Architecture, and has an interest in rehabilitating the building. The church congregation disbanded circa 1944. Presently the church is used as a wedding chapel, with the minister from the historic Oakville Presbyterian Church conducting ceremonies whenever available.

The noncontributing rental house, built circa 1950, to the east of the church was constructed using parts of the carriage shed for the church.<sup>26</sup> The parsonage was purchased by the minister and his family for \$10 in 1945, living there until the widow and her invalid son sold the house for \$10, March 21, 1951. Three weeks later, in their home in Albany, both perished of asphyxiation as the result of an open gas pilot light.<sup>27</sup> The Shedd parsonage has since been razed. The house to the south of the church was sold for \$10 in May of 1945 to a private party.

The Gothic Revival style of church architecture found widespread acceptance in the United States beginning in the mid nineteenth century. This style was distinguished by many architectural scholars as more inspirational, moral, and propitious. “The Gothic revival ... was the only instance in history of a moral revolution in art.”<sup>28</sup>

The earliest example of a Gothic Revival style of church architecture in Oregon dates

<sup>24</sup> Schillios, R.H. newspaper article photocopy, 12/25/1955, Linn County Courthouse Files

<sup>25</sup> Perkins, Bradley. Oral history, March 1997

<sup>26</sup> Staff report. Linn County Historic Resource Commission, July 18, 1988

<sup>27</sup> Death Certificate. Linn County Records, April 10, 1951, Vol. 220, pp. 494-96

<sup>28</sup> Stanton, Phoebe B. The Gothic Revival and American Church Architecture, The John Hopkins Press, Baltimore, 1968, p.331

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from 1846 - the Catholic Church in St. Paul. Constructed of brick, with a Latin cross plan that implemented buttresses, and pointed arches, it is a "remarkably early example of a Gothic Revival church built on the West Coast, not only Oregon."<sup>29</sup> From 1859, well into the early 1900's, the Gothic Revival remained a favored style in Oregon following upon the heels of the 19th century English return to Gothic, and its romantic characteristics. Plans ranged from rectangular with facade-centered steeples to L-shaped or cruciform. Steeples, bell towers, lanceted windows, and decorative bargeboards were exemplary architectural elements. The vast majority of these early Oregon churches were relatively small, and constructed of wood, presumably due to its abundant supply on the West Coast. The 1880's saw moderate changes in the Oregon wooden Gothic Revival church. "A more picturesque design is one difference from the earlier churches and can be partially attributed to the asymmetrical facade. Also, a greater use of surface articulation is evident."<sup>30</sup> In the late 1880's, employment of an architect or use of East Coast architectural pattern books became more prevalent. The result of employing these plans was subject to the knowledge and skill of those who were involved in the building project, often displaying a "provincial quality evident in the West Coast designs."<sup>31</sup> Other churches in the Pacific Northwest bear a remarkable resemblance to the Shedd church, suggesting the same plan book may have been used, or churches may have shared their plans with one another. One such example is the Bayview United Methodist Church, of Bayview, Skagit County, WA. It was built in 1888, and displays a side tower with gablets and open bellfry, cruciform plan, and similar lanceted windows.<sup>32</sup> In Linn County, other examples of Gothic Revival church architecture were being built, the most spectacular being commonly known as Albany's "Whitespires." Comprised of a side steeple, lanceted windows, and wide gables, it too, was a United Presbyterian Church, and was built at its present location in 1891.

The decision to build a Gothic cruciform church in Shedd was a natural choice, due to the local trends of church building at the time. We can only propose that the determination to build the church using a cruciform plan was based on its symbolic representation. The strong pioneer faith of the Shedd Presbyterians trusted upon the Christian belief that Christ's death on the cross bought their eternal salvation.

<sup>29</sup> Render, Lorne Edgar. Gothic Revival Churches on the West Coast Before 1890. UO Architectural Thesis, Eugene, OR, 1967, p.37

<sup>30</sup> Ibid., p.53

<sup>31</sup> Ibid., p.87

<sup>32</sup> Pearson, Arnold and Esther. Early Churches of Washington State. University of Washington Press, Seattle and London, 1980, p. 40

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Therefore the use of this highly significant symbol of their faith was a natural determination for this new building project; a subtle, but constant reminder of God's grace. Architect E.A. Sovik agreed with the post-Reformation philosophy that viewed the worship center as a community or family, gathering together in one accord, merging the church leaders and the congregation. He believed the chancel and nave should not be separated, to allow no division among the people.<sup>33</sup> In the post-Reformation period, churches used much more clear glass, a departure from the era of visual separation from the surrounding community.<sup>34</sup>

Architecturally, this church possesses all the characteristics definitive of the late 19th century West Coast Gothic Revival church. It evokes images of verticality, is quite picturesque, and the interior suggests the sublime nature of the dark gothic, with its natural stained all wood surfaces. The steep-pitched roof, with its decorative trusses, lanceted windows, and side steeple, combine with the lavish display of ornamental detail in the use of the wood. The interior wood paneling is particularly unique, in that two unusual varieties of wood were used, redwood and white pine. The entire wall and ceiling surfaces are covered with these woods, portraying Gothic forms to create a strong decorative statement. The coffered ceiling is beautifully executed, with its complicated framing and trim. The 36-section raised panel partition door, with its counter-weighted system for raising, is an outstanding example of the craftsmanship in carpentry attributed to the builders of this era. The Gothic Revival architectural style has remained a favored choice for some time, and in accordance with an author on the subject, "the human soul seeks ... the familiar description of an old Gothic church - rather rough, but broad, peaceful, and alive."<sup>35</sup>

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<sup>33</sup> Sovik, E.A., A.I.A. The Shape of our Places of Worship, "Protestant Church Buildings and Equipment", May 1960, p. 1

<sup>34</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 3

<sup>35</sup> Clark, Kenneth. The Gothic Revival, Richard Clay & Sons, Ltd., Suffolk, Great Britain, 1928, p. 285

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**Verbal Boundary Description**

Township 13S, Range 3W, Section 7, Block 2, Lots 11 and 12, in the original plat of the town of Shedd. The property is otherwise identified as Tax Lot 3200 at said location. The non-historic residence situated at the east end of the parcel is non-contributing.

**Verbal Boundary Justification**

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Shedd United Presbyterian Church.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.3 acre (100 x 130 ft.)

Halsey, Oregon 1:24000

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

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	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
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 Elizabeth E. Fox

organization \_\_\_\_\_ date June 8, 1997

street & number 1191 Rose Street telephone (541) 998-8018

city or town Junction City state OR zip code 97448

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 Bradley C. Perkins

street & number 829 NW 19th telephone (800) 642-1892

city or town Portland state OR zip code 97209

**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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**Photograph 1 : May 19, 1997 : west elevation**

**Photograph 2 : May 19, 1997 : oblique, south and east elevations**

**Photograph 3 : May 19, 1997 : east elevation**

**Photograph 4 : May 19, 1997 : oblique, north (main) and west elevations**

**Photograph 5 : April 5, 1997 : oblique, north and west steeple views**

**Photograph 6 : May 19, 1997 : window, east elevation**

**Photograph 7 : May 19, 1997 : gable trim detail, east elevation**

**Photograph 8 : April 5, 1997 : interior of nave, chancel area**

**Photograph 9 : April 14, 1997 : interior of nave, partition door**

**Photograph 10 : May 19, 1997 : wide angle interior of anteroom**

**Photograph 11 : April 14, 1997 : interior of nave, ceiling view**

**Photograph 12 : April 5, 1997 : interior of nave, hardware on NE door to second entry**

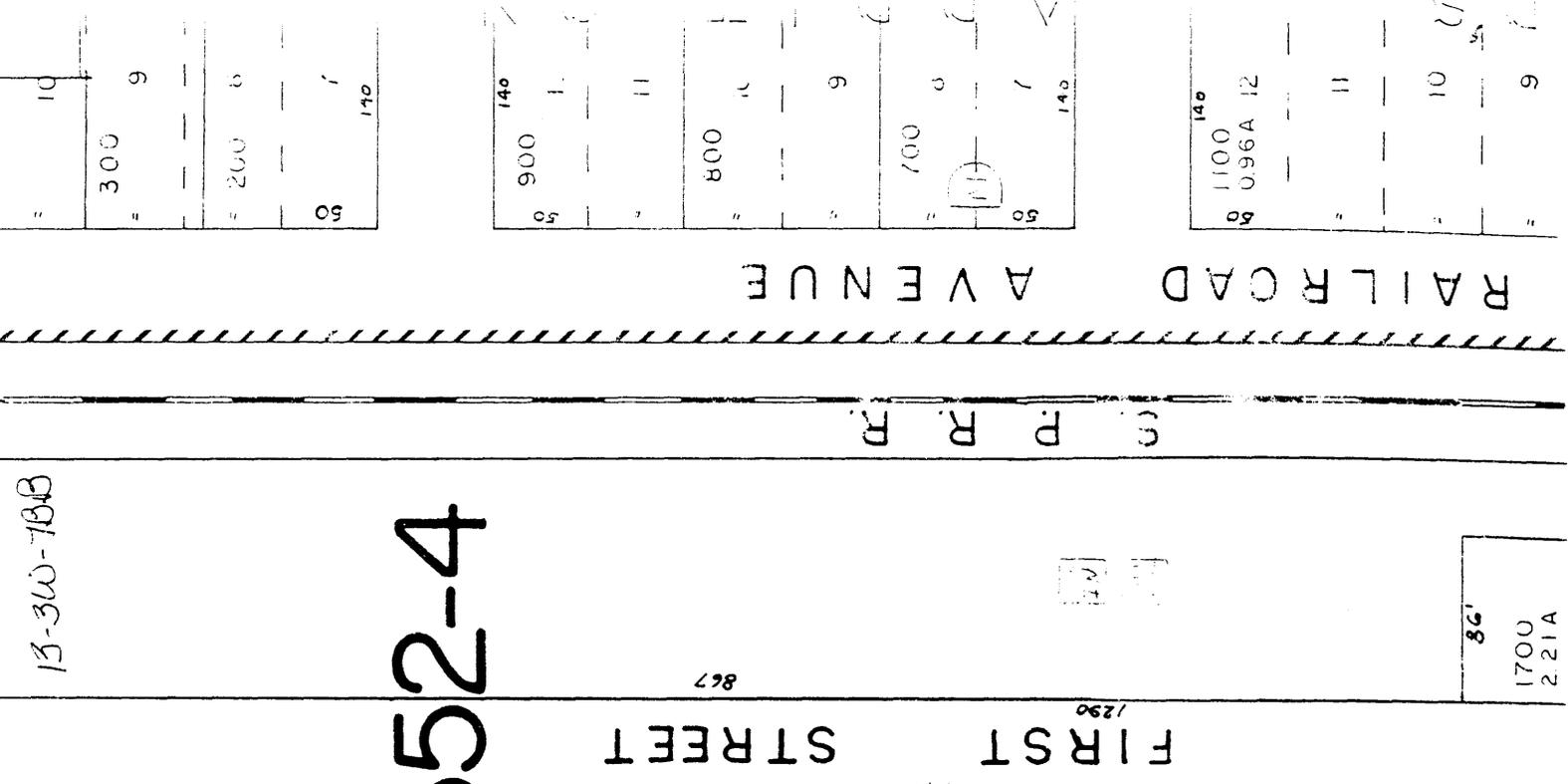
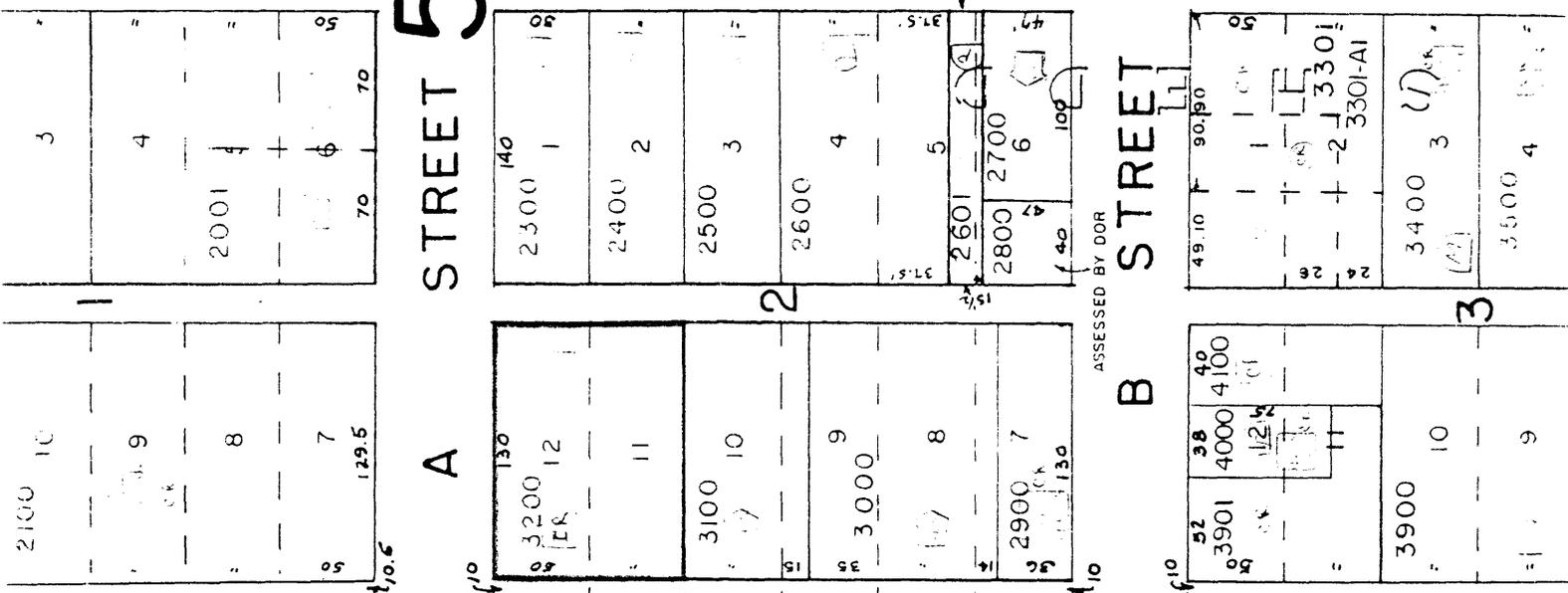
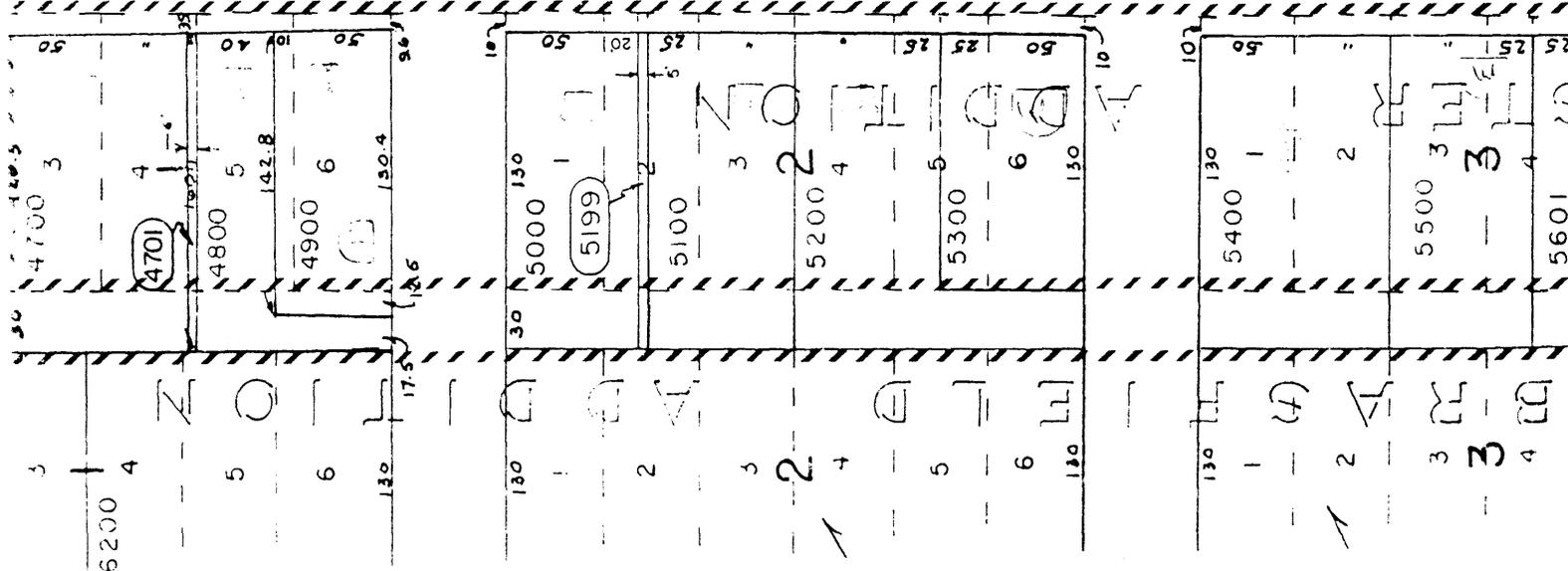
**Photograph 13 : April 14, 1997 : interior of narthex, hardware on door to anteroom**

**Photographs 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, and 13 were taken by Mary Gallagher**

**Photographs 5, 8, and 12 were taken by Elizabeth Fox**

**The property owner is in possession of all the black and white negatives :**

**Bradley Craig Perkins  
829 NW 19th  
Portland, OR 97209  
(800) 642-1892**



# STREET 552-4

13-3W-10B

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AY)



FLOOR PLAN & PLOT PLANS/DETAILS

JULY 18, 1970  
SCALE 1/8"=1'

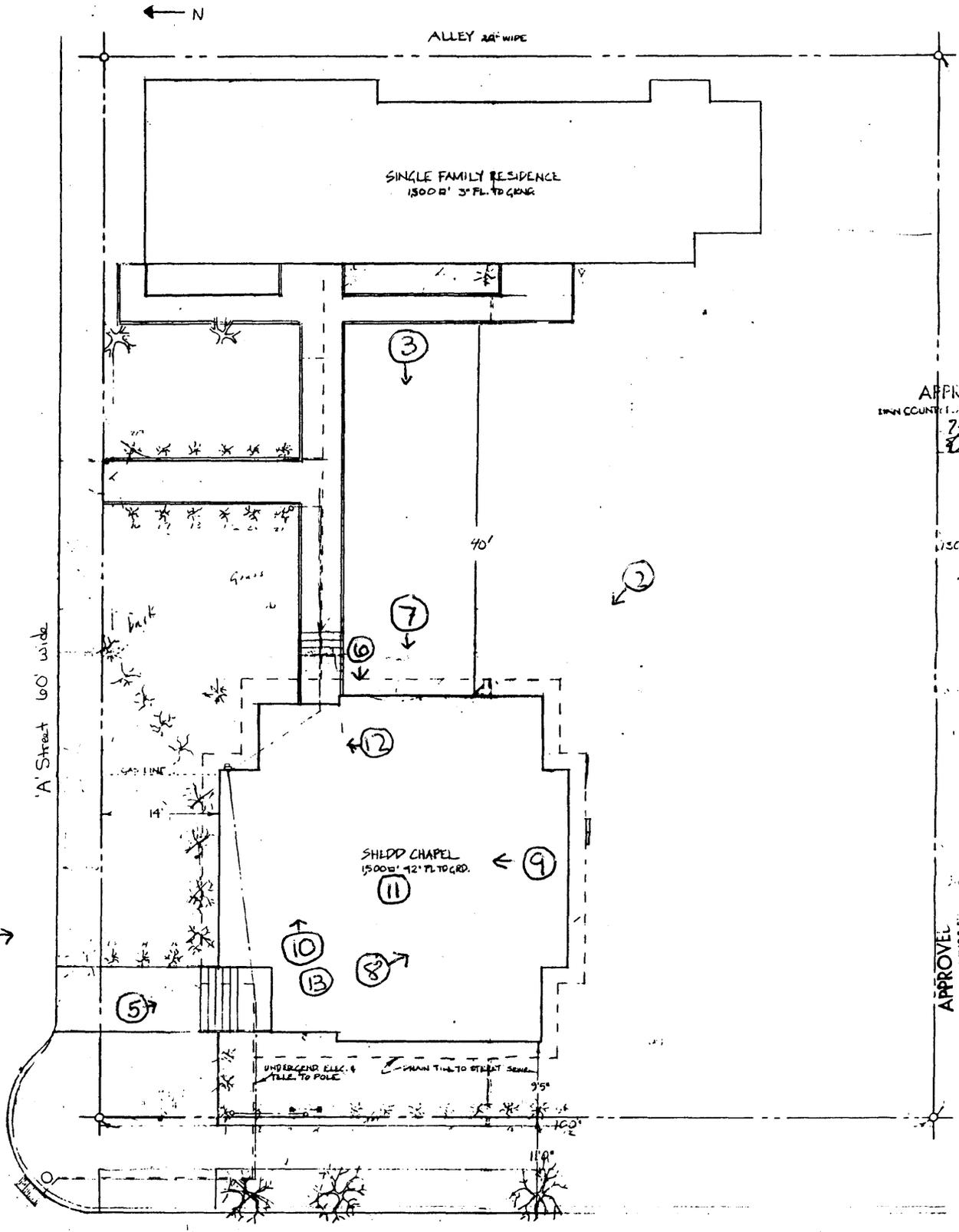
PRESERVATION DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

DESIGNER, RESTORATOR, OWNER-BRAD PEBBLES  
257 EAST 5TH #2 - EUGENE, OREGON 97401

SHEDD CHAPEL OF ROSES

SE CORNER A ST & HWY 99E  
SHEDD, OREGON

1 of 1  
PLANT No. B91-7552 B



HIGHWAY 99 E. 80' WIDE

PLOT PLAN SCALE 1/8"=1'

APPROVED  
LINN COUNTY PLANNING & ZONING  
DATE 7-25-70

APPROVAL  
LINN COUNTY PLANNING & ZONING  
DATE  
SIGNED  
P.O. BOX 100, ALBANY, OH 45911

