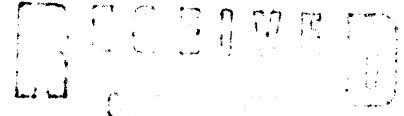


1762

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name St. James Episcopal Church other names/site number

2. Location

street & number SW corner 1st Ave E & S 3rd St not for publication city, town Oskaloosa vicinity state Iowa code IA county Mahaska code 123 zip code 52577

3. Classification

Table with 3 columns: Ownership of Property, Category of Property, and Number of Resources within Property. Includes sub-rows for Contributing and Noncontributing resources.

Name of related multiple property listing: Architectural & Historical Resources of Oskaloosa, IA Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet. Signature of certifying official State Historical Society of Iowa Date 10/24/91

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet. Signature of commenting or other official Date State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this 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 the Keeper Date of Action 12/13/91

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/Religious Structure

RELIGION/Religious Structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th & 20th Century Revival:
Late Gothic Revival

foundation Limestone
walls Brick

roof Asphalt Shingles
other Stone Trim

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

St. James Episcopal Church (1901) is a Gothic Revival style building constructed of deep red chipped brick with limestone trim. It is located on the southwest corner of 1st Avenue East and South 3rd Street, two blocks east of the Square, and one block south of the Paradise Block Historic District. The church nearly fills the 60' x 120' lot. It has a north/south orientation, with the main entrance on the east side, and a massive 45' bell tower with crenellated roofline at the northeast corner. The east/west wing on the south is the "old" Episcopal church that was moved to the southern part of the lot to allow room for construction of the new building. The old church, to be used as Sunday School rooms, was veneered with brick to match the new building. Windows and doors throughout are topped by pointed Gothic arches. Brick buttresses have stone caps, matching the stone used for string courses on the tower and across the end of the chancel. A single chimney is located near the northwest corner of the old church. The rusticated surface formed by the chipped brick provides an interesting texture in contrast to the smooth stone. Original plans call for the brick to be laid in Flemish bond, but it was actually laid in running bond. Additional textural interest is found on the shingled gable ends. The windows have leaded diamond shaped lights, and all trim is painted russet to blend with the brick.

Tracings for this building, signed Frank E. Wetherell, and dated May 26, 1901, are available in the office of Wetherell & Ericsson. The firm of Wetherell & Harrison provided plans for remodeling in 1959. Since Frank E. Wetherell retired from active practice in 1931, it is unlikely that he was involved with the remodeling. It was done in such a manner however, as to be non-intrusive to the original design.

Originally a residence (parish house) sat on the lot to the west. This has been removed, providing an expanse of green lawn next to the church. A concrete ramp has been added to the west elevation to provide handicapped accessibility, but it is not intrusive. Immediately south of St. James is the brick 1st Baptist Church (1854-56). Directly across the street to the north is St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church (brick) from 1937, and the 1st Presbyterian Church (1881) was across the street north and one block west (that building was torn down when the new Presbyterian church was constructed in the 400 block of High Avenue East). St. James stands out from the other churches because of the color and texture of the brick exterior.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

ARCHITECTURE

1901

1901

Cultural Affiliation

N.A.

Significant Person

N.A.

Architect/Builder

Wetherell, Frank E. (Arch)

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

St. James Episcopal Church is significant under Criterion C as the first Episcopal church designed by Frank E. Wetherell (1901). It meets Criterion Consideration A as a good example of Gothic Revival ecclesiastical design from the turn of the century. Wetherell became well known in later years for his Episcopal churches around the state (St. Mark's in Des Moines is usually mentioned along with St. James as good examples). While St. James was under construction, the newspaper noted that Wetherell had "closely adhered to Episcopal traditions and history in his plans. He has carefully studied the subject that was placed before him and the plans that he has submitted and that have been adopted, are the result of many weeks of research and study." (Oskaloosa Herald, 6 June 1901)

This building was designed after Wetherell returned to Oskaloosa from Peoria, but before he moved to Des Moines, and represents the early period of his development. In 1896 he had produced a drawing for a proposed new church that was included in the Oskaloosa Times Souvenir that was similar to the church built in 1901, but not identical. The 1901 design included two elements that were favorite devices of Wetherell: Brick laid in Flemish bond; and chipped brick to create a rusticated exterior surface. The Flemish bond was not carried out. This church set the precedent for future plans by Wetherell, and established him as a church architect.

St. James meets the integrity requirements set out in the Multiple Property Document under the "Works of Frank E. Wetherell: 1892-1931" context.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Oskaloosa Herald, 6 June 1901.

Watkins, Kirk (Ed.), The Oskaloosa Times Souvenir.
Oskaloosa, IA: The Times Co., 1896.

Tracings from the files of Wetherell & Ericsson, Des Moines, IA.

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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property Less than one acre.

UTM References

A

15	5	3	0	0	2	0	4	5	7	1	2	7	0
Zone	Easting						Northing						

B

Zone	Easting						Northing						

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Original Plat, Blk 30, Lots 1 & 2, City of Oskaloosa.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

This is the area historically associated with this resource.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Molly Myers Naumann, Consultant (515) 682-2743
organization Oskaloosa Historic Preservation Comm. date June 1991
street & number City Hall, P.O. Box 1010 telephone (515) 673-8361
city or town Oskaloosa state Iowa zip code 52577

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

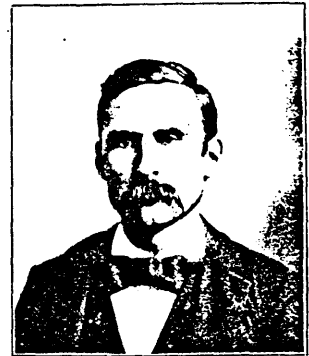
National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

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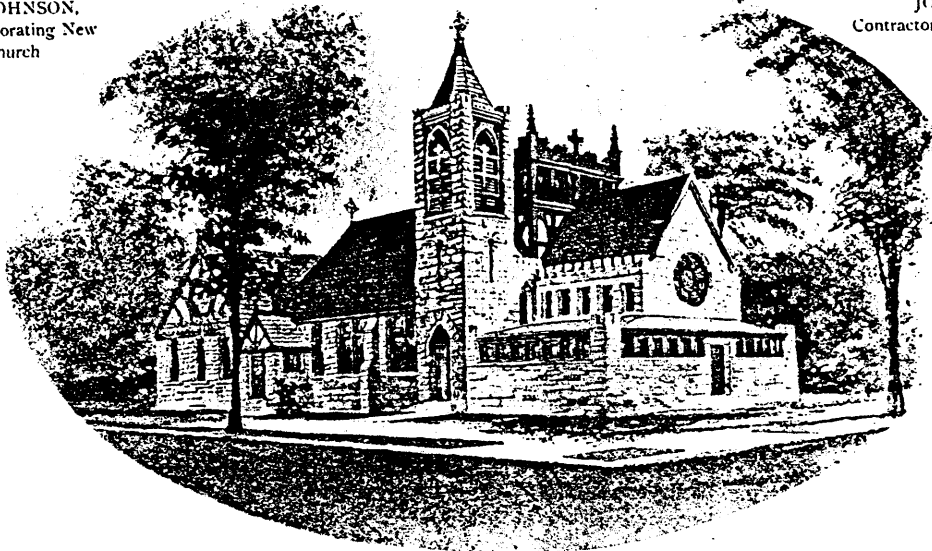
CFN-259-1116



Wm. H. JOHNSON,
Contractor Decorating New
M. E. Church



JOHN R. GIER,
Contractor for New M. E. Church



PROPOSED NEW EPISCOPAL CHURCH

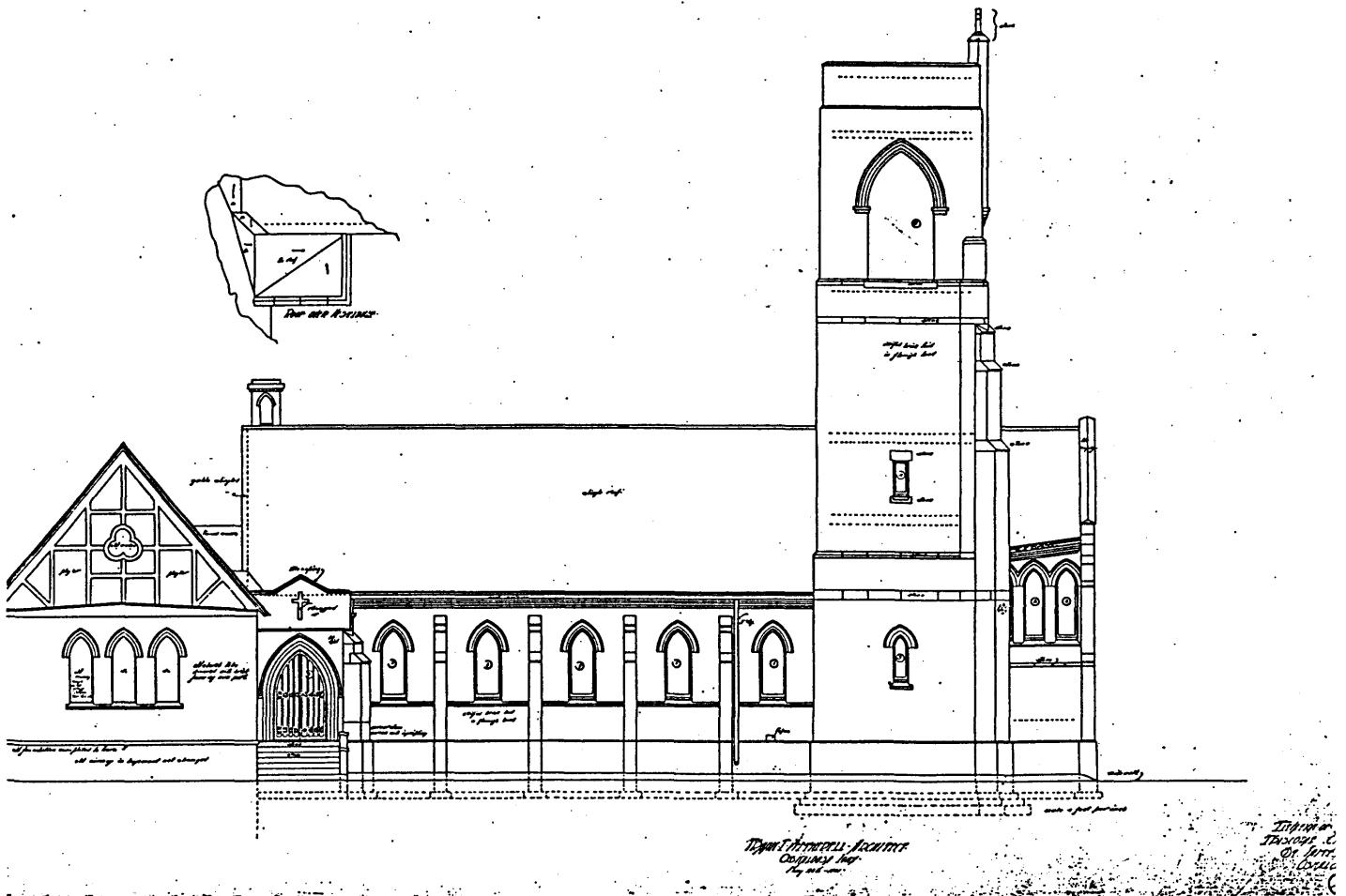
The Oskaloosa Times Souvenir, 1896.

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National Park Service

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CFN-259-1116



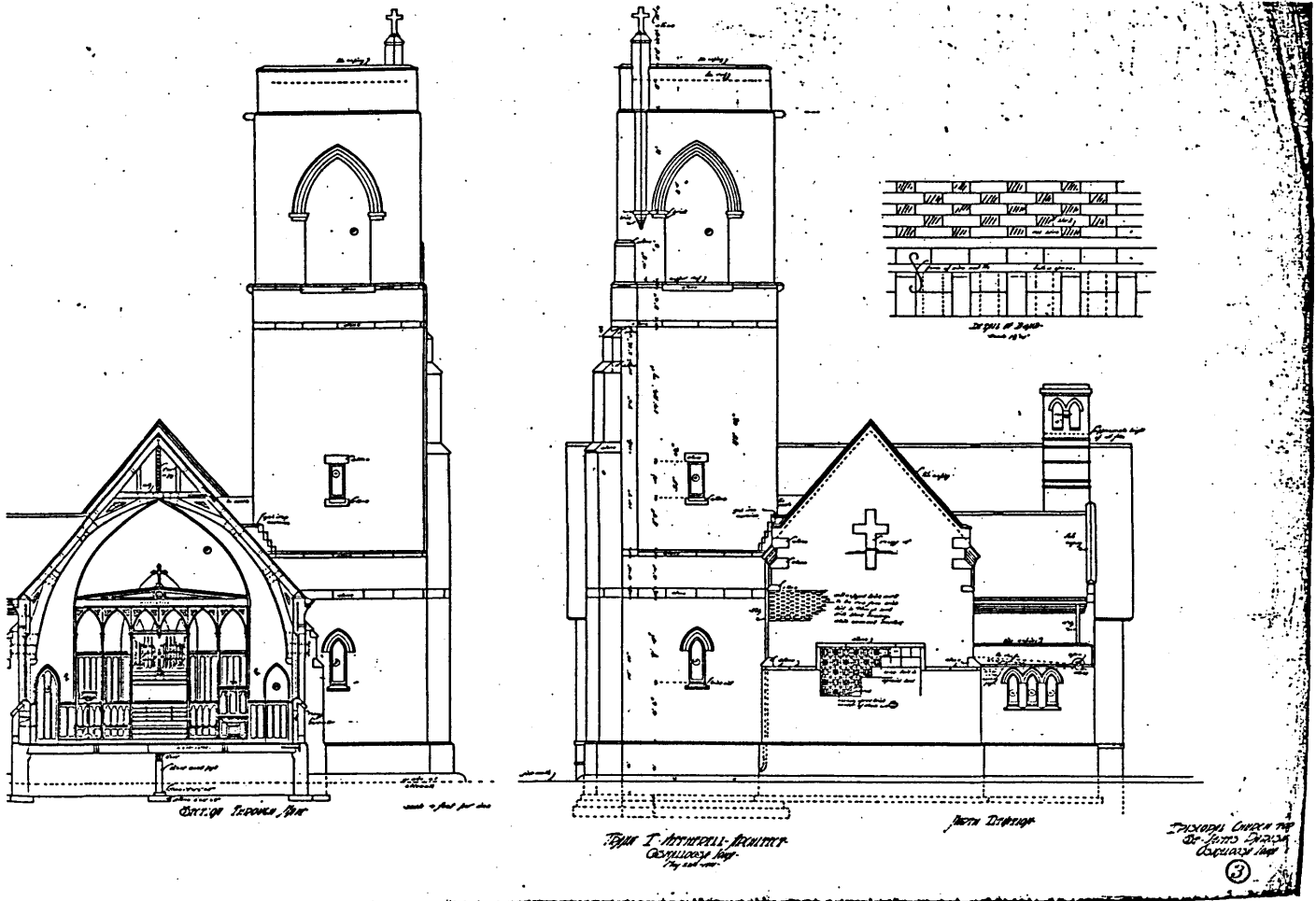
St. James Episcopal Church, East Elevation.
(Frank E. Wetherell, 26 May 1901)

United States Department of the Interior
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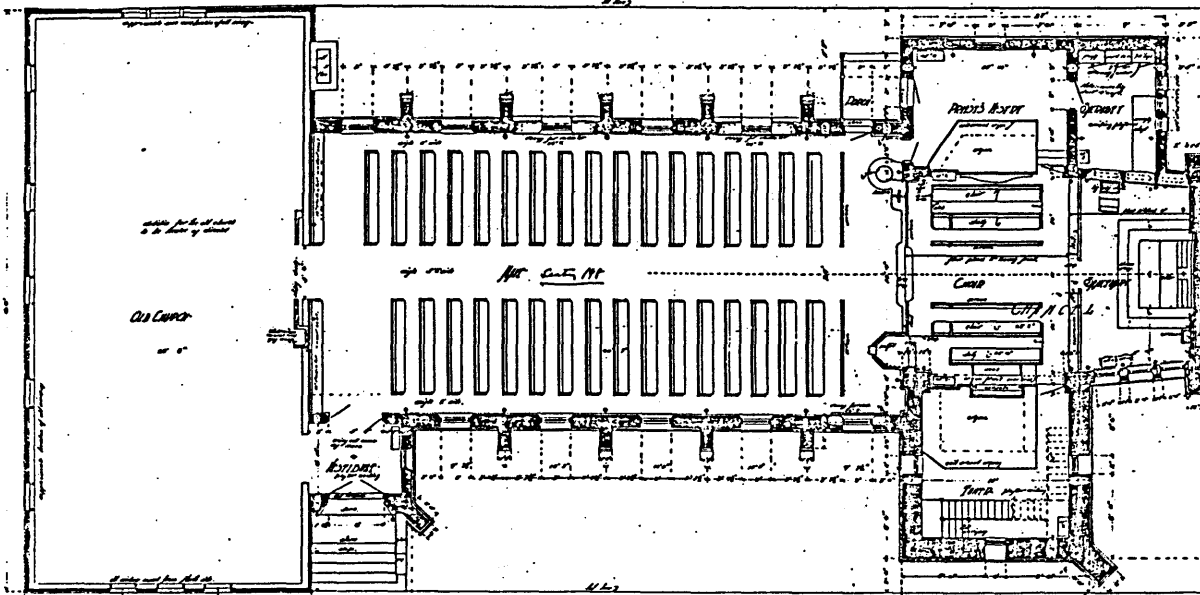
St. James Episcopal Church
Cross Section of Sanctuary and North Elevation.
(Frank E. Wetherell, 26 May 1901)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Frank E. Wetherell, Architect
Copyright 1901

*True Copy
Drawing Unit
for 4th Street
Church*
②

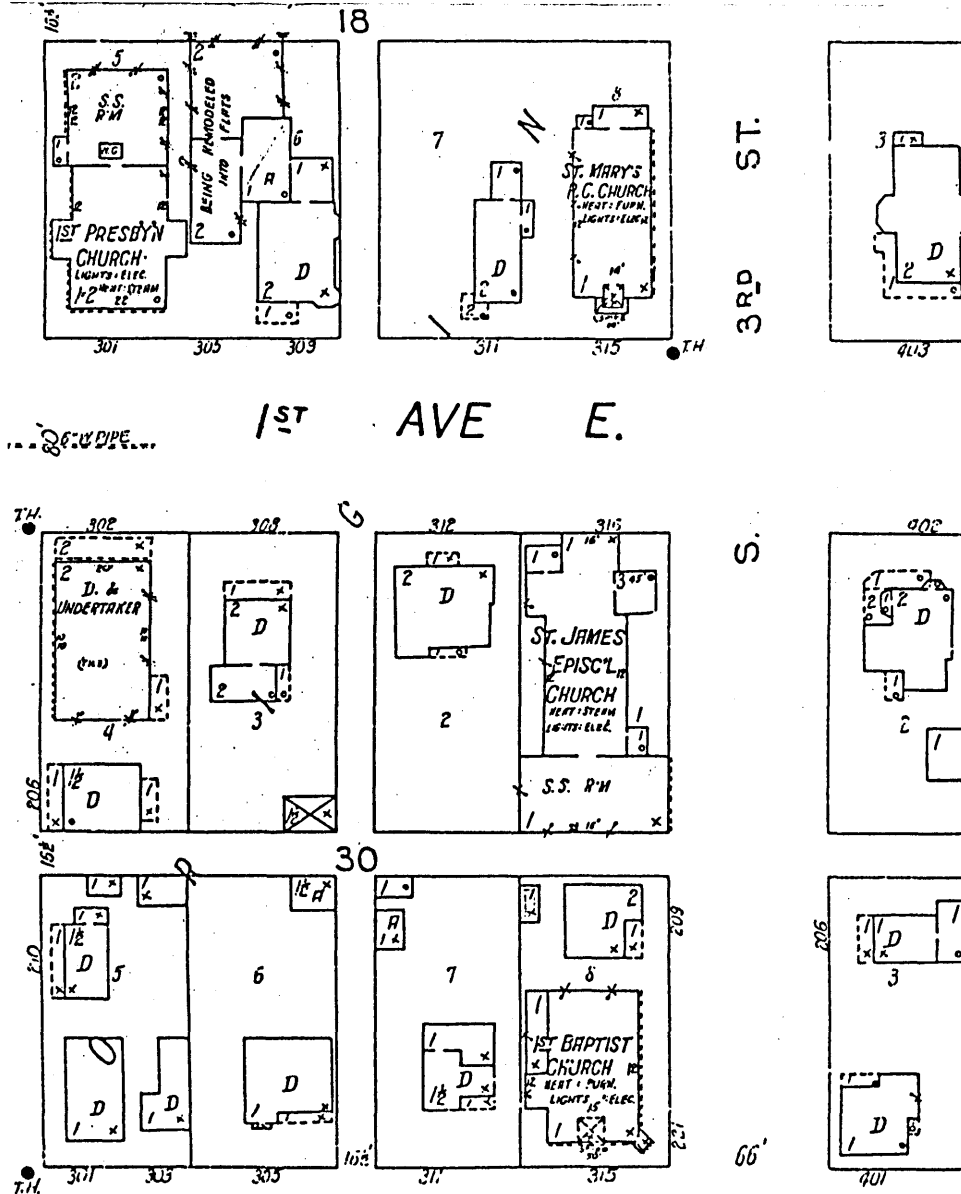
St. James Episcopal Church, Floor Plan of main level.
(Frank E. Wetherell, 26 May 1901)

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

CFN-259-1116



St. James Episcopal is one block south of High Avenue (Paradise Block). Note three other churches within one block: 1st Presbyterian, St. Mary's R.C., and 1st Baptist. The building in Block 18 immediately east of the Presbyterian church "being remodeled into flats," is another Wetherell design, C.L. Barnhouse Music Publishing Building. The Barnhouse building may also be a Register eligible property.