

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only
received JUN 28 1984
date entered AUG 1 1984

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic First Evangelical Church of Albany

and/or common Albany Open Bible Standard Church

2. Location

street & number 1120 S.W. 12th Ave.

N/A not for publication

city, town Albany

N/A vicinity of Congressional district Fifth

state Oregon

code 41

county Linn

code 043

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	N/A being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Albany Open Bible Standard Church

street & number 1120 S.W. 12th Ave.

city, town Albany

N/A vicinity of

state Oregon 97321

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Linn County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Albany

state Ore on 97321

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title State of Oregon Inventory
of Historic Properties

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1979

federal state county local

depository for survey records 525 Trade St. S.E.

city, town Salem

state Oregon 97310

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved	date 1908
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The First Evangelical Church of Albany, erected between 1875 and 1876, was designed in the Gothic Revival style. Moved to its present site in 1908, it retains much of its original fabric.

Located on one acre southwest of the city center, the property occupies all of Block 2 of the Mennonite Addition to the City of Albany, Linn County, Oregon. Originally, the first structure in the area, it was relocated from the site of the current National Guard Building, which was built in its place. It now stands amid a well-kept residential district.

Constructed between August, 1875 and September, 1876, the First Evangelical Church is a rectangular, steeply-pitched, gabled structure, whose elevations are sheathed in shiplap siding. Originally distinguished by a fine, classically-detailed steeple (removed in 1908), the elevations still convey many of their classical details. These include boxed, raking cornice, paneled cornerboards with capitals, four-over-four, double-hung windows with pedimented cornice moldings, bull's-eye window on the front (north) elevation (now closed), and Gothic arched window and door frames on the front elevation. Alterations have occurred from the period of its relocation. The steeple was not replaced, the building raised for a full basement, and the sanctuary remodeled by the addition of a balcony and apsidal projection.

Other changes include the shingling of the south elevation, addition of an exterior door on the east elevation, the removal of a Gothic arched door on the front (north) elevation, the removal of traceried panels from the existing front elevation entrance and window, the addition of two, square windows (now closed) at the attic level, and the addition of a gabled entrance porch and stair on the front (north) elevation.

On the interior, rows of pews flank the center aisle. A choir, added c. 1908, is fronted by a balcony composed of vertical tongue-and-groove paneling, and horizontal panels. Tongue-and-groove paneling is also used to frame the exit doors to the vestibule. Below the balcony are two rooms, located on either side of the vestibule. The roof is flat and walls are plain with the addition of a wainscot. Vertical paneling has been added to the north facing interior wall behind the choir.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		
Specific dates	1875-1876	Builder/Architect	Unknown	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The First Evangelical Church of Albany, constructed between 1875 and 1876, is significant to the city as a fairly intact example of Gothic Revival architecture. It is additionally significant for its associations with several local religious organizations in Albany and is the oldest standing church in the state originally associated with the Evangelical Church.

The Reverend James Crossman arrived in the Albany area around 1864. He was the first missionary of the Evangelical Church in Oregon. Dividing his time between Salem, Albany and Corvallis, Reverend Crossman was followed by the Reverend Josiah Bowersox, who was responsible for the erection of the church. Property for the building was purchased in early 1875, at 4th and Lyons Street, in Albany, and construction continued into 1876. Eventually, the congregation voted to sell the church and relocate to other quarters. The Mennonite congregation moved the building to its current site in 1908, and placed it on a higher foundation. The steeple, removed for the relocation was not replaced. Afterwards, the property was sold to the congregation of Trinity Nazarene Church, who owned it until 1958.

In 1958, the Albany Open Bible Standard Church purchased the building, and is the current owner. The Open Bible Standard Churches were originally composed of two revival movements. One was the Bible Standard Conference, founded in Eugene, Oregon in 1919 under the leadership of Fred Hornshuch. The other, the Open Bible Evangelistic Association, was found in 1932 in Des Moines, Iowa, by John R. and Louise H. Richey.

During 1938 to 1947, Frank W. Smith served as General Chairman and united the operations of the groups. E.S. Fulton, of Eugene, served as General Chairman from 1947 to 1953. He organized various departments of the groups, established a headquarters building, and laid the basis for an organizational structure.

R. Bryant Mitchell has served as Chairman since 1953. During these past ten years the departmental structure has been completed, national association with other groups has been established and Open Bible Standard Churches have been given a place of national influence.

At the time of their union the two groups had a constituency of seventy churches and two hundred and ten ministers. Since this union, thirty years ago, the operations have extended to five geographical divisions with two hundred and sixty churches, ten departments, and seven hundred and fifty ministers. The missionaries minister in nine foreign countries. Three Bible Colleges train ministers in the United States of America and five operate in mission fields.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Albany Democrat-Herald newspaper Sept. 22, 1972 pg. 8; Albany, Oregon
 Minutes of the Mennonite Church
 Pike, John W., Preachers of Salvation: The History of the Evangelical Church.
 Milwaukie, Oregon, Evangelical Church of North America, 1984.

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Albany, Oregon

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	0	4	9	0	9	3	0	4	9	4	1	3	3	5
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing			

C

Zone		Easting				Northing			

D

Zone		Easting				Northing			

E

Zone		Easting				Northing			

F

Zone		Easting				Northing			

G

Zone		Easting				Northing			

H

Zone		Easting				Northing			

Verbal boundary description and justification The First Evangelical Church occupies all of Block 2 of the Mennonite Church Addition to Albany, Linn County, Oregon and is further described as Tax Lot 1300, an area approximately 200' by 98' in dimension.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state None code county code

state None code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Raymond M. Estes, Pastor

organization Albany Open Bible Standard Church date February, 1984

street & number 1120 S.W. 12th Ave. telephone 926-2778

city or town Albany state Oregon 97321

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date June 7, 1984

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

date 8-1-84


Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

FIRST EVANGELICAL CHURCH OF ALBANY

Continuation sheet

Item number

8

Page

2

For NCRS use only

received

data entered

Steeped in the Reformation, the early Evangelical Church derived from the Pietist movement from central and southern Germany in the late 17th and 18th centuries.

Parallel movements in the United States were organized by Jacob Albright (1759-1808) and Phillip William Otterbein (1720-1813). They founded the early Evangelical United Brethren Church, respectively, which were eventually united to become the Evangelical United Brethren Church, later the Evangelical Church of North America.

Doctrinally derived from the Wesleyan-Armenian tradition, the services are non-liturgical.

According to John W. Pikes history, the basic purpose of the Evangelical Church is:

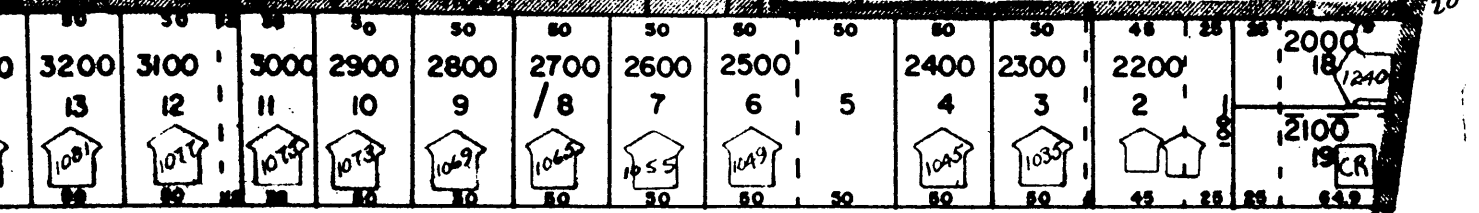
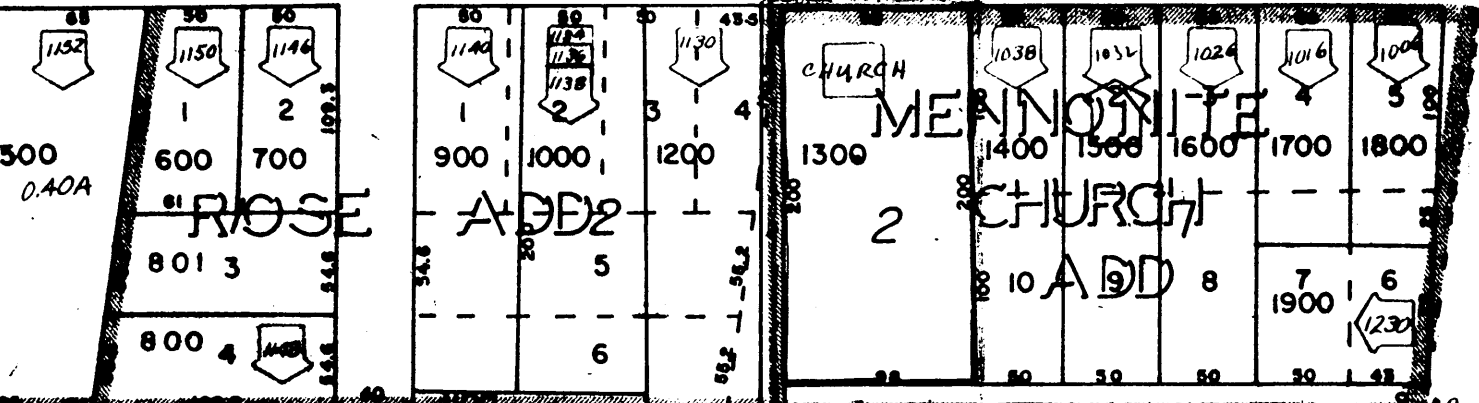
"To evangelize and to establish individuals in a personal relationship with Christ. This is accomplished primarily by preaching the "Good News" of the Gospel, by fostering warm and friendly Christian fellowship within the local church, by visitation, and through an evangelistic outreach that wins the lost to Jesus Christ."

TAX LOT: 1300 Acct # 142154

11-4W-12DB

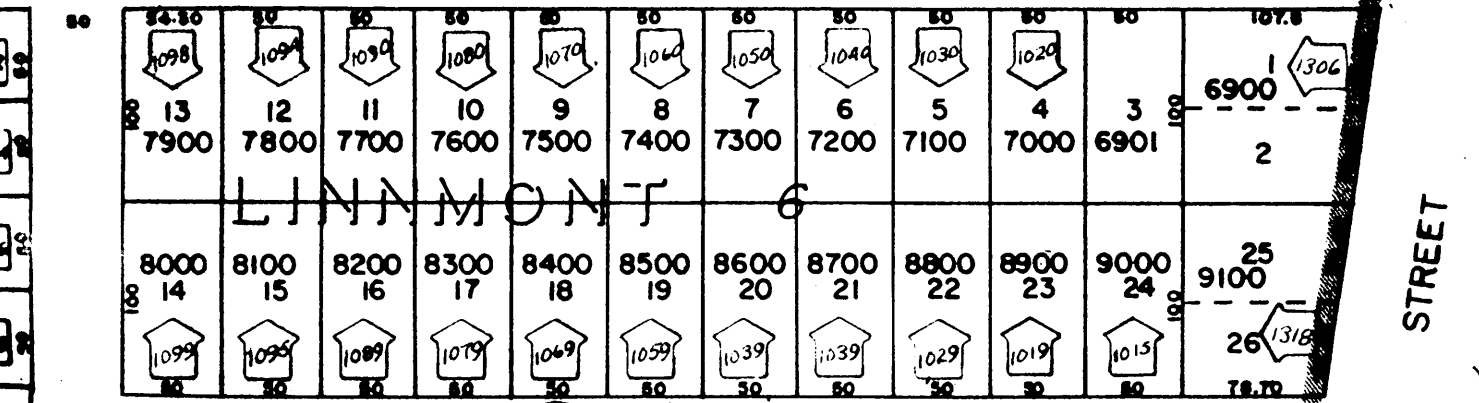
TWELFTH

AVENUE



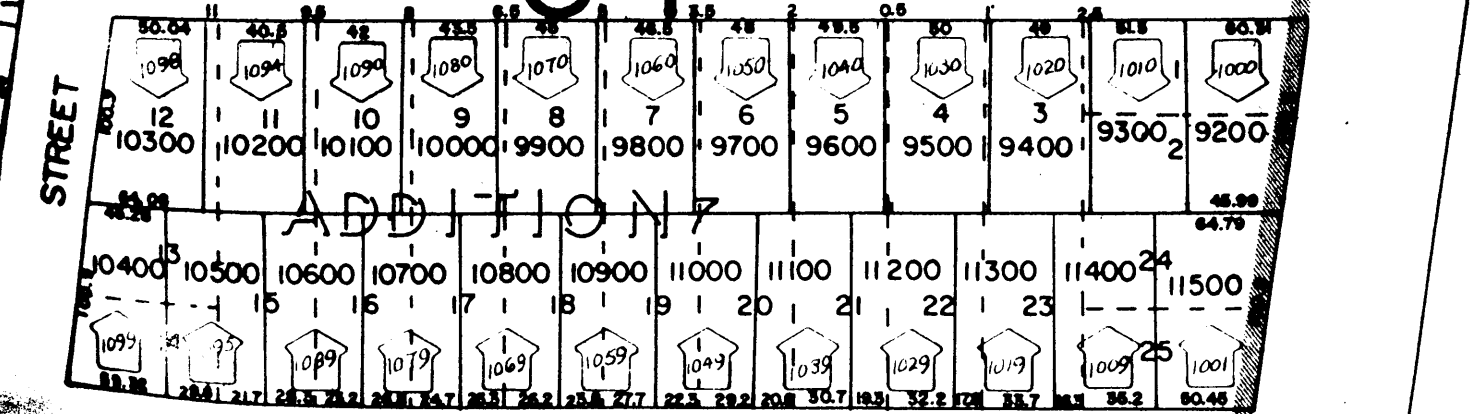
W. THIRTEENTH

AVENUE



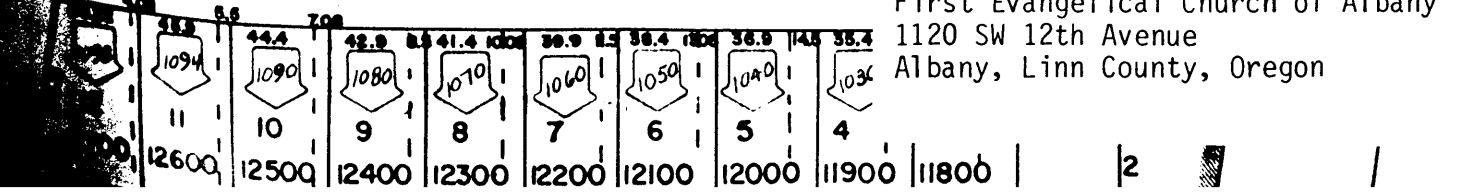
W. FOURTEENTH

AVENUE



W. FIFTEENTH

AVE



First Evangelical Church of Albany
1120 SW 12th Avenue
Albany, Linn County, Oregon