FINAL

United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

86

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

# 1. Name

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# 7. Description

#### Condition

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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance Built in 1878, the Church of the Good Shepherd is a one-story Victorian Carpenter Gothic building entered through two pointed-arch doorways in a 75 or 80 foot, spire-topped tower on the southwest corner. It seems larger than its actual 26' by 57' base; on the 35' north and south facades the eye is drawn upward by pointed arch stained glass windows and by the predominantly vertical board and batten siding, divided by a decorative border from the horizontal lower part. This pattern continues on the tower, binding it stylistically to the body of the church, and on the sides, where the horizontal prevails (the vertical portion being reduced to a slender band at the top). Gothic Revival style is reflected in the entrance-ways with their

Gothic Revival style is reflected in the entrance-ways with their wooden tracery, in two large stained glass windows on the facades and eight smaller ones on the sides (all with lancet heads, set in small quarries), in trefoil louvered vents, in tiered hollow wooden buttresses which "support" both church and tower, and above all in the 75' tower itself. At its second story level a cornice of dentils projects over a balcony louvered on all four sides by two sections of three tiers, each repeating the downwardpointing decorative motif of the siding. This distant relative of medieval monastery chimneys gives ventilation while excluding sun and rain. From the interrupted roof of the square tower emerges a smaller, hexagonal one whose delicate louvers are set into four slim, pointed arch-ways. These points extend up into the lower roof of the spire, with its three bands of decorative shingles and long metal sheath (all repeating again the pattern already noted in the siding and tower tiers) narrowing to the tip which supports a Celtic cross.

Inside, the prevailing Gothic style is complemented by rounded lines probably more nautical than classical in origin. The main stained glass window is flanked by two matching Gothic panels, but enclosed by a semicircle. Thick, redwood, inverted-keel arches encasing the white pine, open timber ceiling repeat the round line but cross with Gothic tracery in the high peak. The upper portion of the 16' walls was prepared for frescoing never done; the walls at pew height are varnished redwood. An elaborate front panelling forms the sanctuary and gives access through pointed arches to a robing area on one side and the sacristy (added originally as a Sunday School building, probably in 1890) on the other. The interior furnishings (original except for the pews) all preserve the Gothic style. A Renovation Report by Charles Hall Page (carried out in 1978 with a

A Renovation Report by Charles Hall Page (carried out in 1978 with a grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation) pronounced the exterior "in remarkably good condition for a 100 year old wood structure... [with] none of the areas of deterioration... of a major nature" and the interior "in quite good condition". The exterior is virtually unchanged since 1878. Work has been contracted to restore the original cedar shingle roof and plans are being made to repaint in the original colors (light grey with darker grey trim to highlight the decorative elements). A Guild Hall was built on the north-east corner of the lot sometime before 1917 and a small pastor's house on the north-west shortly after. These were renovated and consolidated into a single Parish Hall in 1959. Other adjacent property remains single-family residential. The only significant alteration of the interior took place in 1957 when new pews and a central aisle replaced two side aisles and long central pews with smaller ones attached to side walls at a 30° angle; the chancel was rearranged to make access central rather than lateral. The front panelling may not date from 1878 (it blocks FHR-8-300A (11/78) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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7. <u>Description</u> (continued): the foremost stained glass windows on the sides), but its style and material match the central window above perfectly, and the height of its placement seems to argue that some such backdrop was at least planned. This panelling had been painted in the early 1960's but the original redwood was recently uncovered.

## 8. Significance

Peried 	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehlatoric archeology-hlatoric agriculture architecture art commerce communications		<pre> iandscape srchitecture  iaw  iiterature  military  music t philosophy  politics/government</pre>	<ul> <li>X religion</li> <li>acience</li> <li>scuipture</li> <li>sociei/</li> <li>humanitarian</li> <li>theater</li> <li>transportation</li> <li>other (specify)</li> </ul>
Specific dates	1878	Builder/Architect G.	W. French/Charles	L. Bugbee

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) The Church of the Good Shepherd, built in 1878, is the oldest remaining church building in Berkeley, and the oldest in continuous use by its founding congregation in the entire East Bay. It is an outstanding example of the Gothic Revival architecture popular in the late 19th century, strikingly similar to at least two other coastal churches of the same period (with one and perhaps both of which it also has historical links) -- Old St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Benicia, from 1858 (Colonel Julian McAllister, its designer and one of the first commandants of the Benicia Barracks, was perhaps the brother of the Reverend A, A. McAlister, the navy chaplain/founder of Good Shepherd) and the Menocino Presbyterian Church already on the National Register of Historic Places, from 1868 (designed by the same architectural firm, S. C. Bugbee & Son, Good Shepherd being clearly a slimmer and more delicate version of its earlier cousin).

The San Francisco firm of Bugbee & Son was widely known in the Bay area. The City Hall in Oakland and the Stanford, Crocker, and Colton mansions in San Francisco number among their many accomplishments. Samuel C. Bugbee having died in 1877, Charles L. Bugbee, the son, is listed as sole architect for Good Shepherd, but he worked from plans used ten years earlier in Mendocino. The modest size of the church, with seating for 212, and its position at the end of the distinguished firm's history (Bugbee is no longer in the San Francisco Directory after 1879) both explain the delicacy and harmonious beauty of Good Shepherd in comparison with its forbears and contemporaries -- its slim windows and peaks echoing the louvers of the upper tower, its pointed trim motif repeated four times over, its stained glass emphasized by recessed bays and pointed vault by keel-shaped arches.

Planned, built, and paid for in four months, Good Shepherd has despite a congregation of fluctuating size contributed for over one hundred years to the community in which it stands. At the time of its dedication it was deemed "the best and cheapest of its class" at \$2,600, "improving the social life" of the Victorian settlement of wharves, houses, and industry known then as Ocean View (in that same year incorporated with the university to become the city of Berkeley). The congregation (including such prominent early Berkeleyans as Anna Head, headmistress, H. N. Marquand, editor of the Berkeley Advocate, and Z. B. Heywood with his thirteen children, many of them prominent in Berkeley public life) was influential in mediating disputes which arose from that early union of east and west Berkeley. Its thousand-pound Blymer bell was used for a fire alarm from 1882 until the advent of electricity in 1894. A Guild Hall and Pastor's Cottage were built sometime after the turn of the century, and in 1959 these were consolidated to make a larger Parish Hall available for neighborhood functions. In recent times, through the celebration of its centennial, publication of a historical calendar, and neighborhood historical walking tours, it has functioned as a base for building community and helping Berkeley citizens realize the need to recover their history.

#### 0 Major Bibliographical Deferences

	rt. The Building			
Berkeley Advoca	<u>te</u> . Files, 1877- 1865 to present	-1897. <u>Berl</u>	celey Gazette	. Files, 1894-1905.
West Berkeley No.	<u>ews</u> . Files, 1892	2, 1894-95.		
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FHR-8-300A (11/78) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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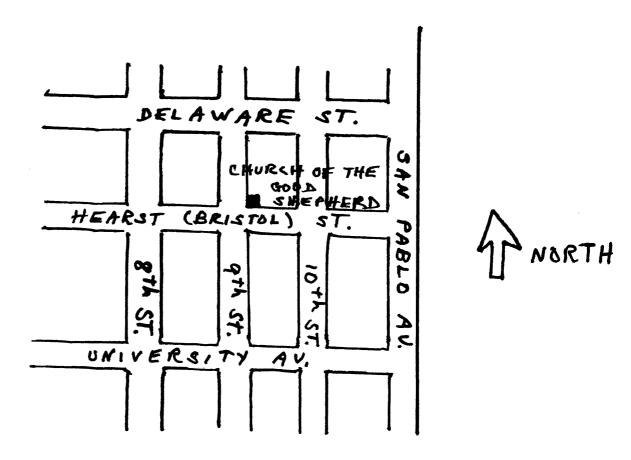
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CONTINUATION SHEET

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parallel with said line of Hearst Ave. 55 feet; thence southerly along the said line of Hearst Ave. 55 feet; thence southerly along the said line of Ninth St. 100 feet to the point of beginning.



Church of the Good Shepherd 1001 Hearst St. (formerly Bristol) Berkeley, California (corner of 9th & Hearst)