

Landmarks Preservation Board

Seattle Historic Building Data Sheet

1. Name (common or present and/or historic) Capitol Hill Methodist Church
2. Street and Number 128 - 16th Ave. E. Block Lot Year Built 1906
3. Present Owner Capitol Hill Methodist Church Present Use Worship & community activities
4. Interim Owner(s) Seattle Methodist Interim Use(s)
5. Original Owner Protest Original Use same as present
6. Architect Builder
7. Assessed Value: Building Land Assessors File No.
8. Classification:
- | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied | Open to Public: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Site | <input type="checkbox"/> Private | <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Structure | <input type="checkbox"/> Both | <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Object | | in progress | Hours <u> </u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | | <input type="checkbox"/> Threatened by demolition | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown | |
9. Neighborhood Information:
- A. Compatibility With Neighborhood
- Structure Yes ☒ No
- Use Yes ☒ No
- B. Importance to Neighborhood
- Great X
- Moderate
- Minor
- C. Architecturally Strong Neighborhood
- Comments Capitol Hill is one of
- the strongest neighborhoods in the
- City with respect to architecture
- and character.
10. Special Research Sources (Be Specific, list name or item and where found)
-
-
-
11. Cross Street Reference
- 16th East and East John
12. Photos Attached & Photographer

14. Significance

A. Major Significance

- ☒ Historical
- ☒ Architectural
- ☐ Engineering
- ☒ Cultural
- ☐ Geographical
- ☐ Archaeological

B. Level of Significance

- ☐ National
- ☒ State
- ☒ Community

C. Statement of Significance (Be specific, history, personages, events, etc.)

This building was built by the second oldest congregation in the city -- the Seattle Methodist Protestant congregation. Its founders include Capt. John Denny and his wife, Sarah (who contributed the congregation's original land) and Daniel Bagley (the congregation's first minister). It was while serving as the minister of this congregation Rev. Bagley directed the formation of the school that became the University of Washington.

Many of the persons significant to Seattle and Washington history have been baptized and married in this building.

This property satisfied the following criteria of Ordinance 102229:

Section 6:

- (1) has significant character, interest or value, as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the City, State or Nation; or is associated with the life of a person significant in the past; or
- (3) exemplifies the cultural, political, economic, social or historic heritage of the community; or
- (5) embodies those distinguishing characteristics of an architectural-type or engineering specimen; or
- (7) contains elements of design, detail, materials or craftsmanship which represent a significant innovation; or
- (9) owing to its unique location or singular physical characteristic, represents an established and familiar visual feature of the neighborhood, community or city.

Surveyor Signature _____ Date _____

Reviewed: _____

Historic Preservation Officer

Date

10/15/12

13. Physical Description

A. Style of Architecture

Eclectic/Gothic

B. Construction Material

Wood and sandstone -
slate roof.

C. No. of Stories

Two plus basement

D. Condition

Excellent _____

Good X

Fair _____

Poor _____

E. Exterior Desecration of
Original Design

None or little X

Moderate amount _____

Considerable _____

F. Architectural worth at
Example of Its Style

Exceptional _____

Excellent X

Good _____

Fair _____

Poor _____

G. Notable Features: (Be specific, i.e., detailing, craftsmanship, proportions, materials, colors, interior, etc.
Refer to Guidelines of Landmarks Preservation Board).

This structure is a well executed and interesting turn-of-the-century interpretation of Gothic architecture on the exterior.

It is interesting to compare the external form and external expression of internal forms with the First Church of Christ, Scientist, which is just a block away down 16th Avenue East. This building also houses a Protestant demonination and a strong effort was made to incorporate into it the auditorium type of space (as opposed to nave or cruciform space) in which again emphasis is placed on the congregation meeting in worship and emphasis on the clergy or a symbolic element is reduced to a minimum. It is intriguing to see how this space has been worked into what is externally, roughly a cruciform structure. The auditorium is located on the bias internally, rising up to a dome contained in a mansard-type roof. The main auditorium was originally surrounded with a series of semi-open Sunday School spaces, many of which have now been closed off and have become separated from the original concept of a series of inter-related spaces. The external treatment of stonework and arches is worthy of note and the building with its high roofs, its corner tower and its adjoining parsonage makes an important ensemble in the Capitol Hill urban fabric.

The stained/leaded glass dome and windows are extensive and incorporate in their structural design the major symbols of the world's major cultures... the Yin-Yang of the Far East, the wheel of fortune of the Middle East (and U. S. Indians), the pillars of Heaven of the Eastern Europeans, etc.

The sandstone blocks are large and fitted (with mortar). The foundation is firm so that the building has suffered no racking or movement that has required repair.

Landmarks Preservation Board

Nomination Form

NAME (present) CAPITOL HILL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

(historic) FIRST METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH

ADDRESS 128 16TH AV E.

NOMINATION AS:

- ☒ Building
- ☐ Site
- ☐ Structure
- ☐ District
- ☐ Object

NOMINATED UNDER CRITERIA (ORDINANCE 102229)

☒ (1) has significant character, interest or value, as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the City, State or Nation; or is associated with the life of a person significant in the past; or

☐ (2) is the site of an historic event with a significant effect upon society; or

☒ (3) exemplifies the cultural, political, economic, social or historic heritage of the community; or

☐ (4) portrays the environment in an era of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style; or

☒ (5) embodies those distinguishing characteristics of an architectural-type or engineering specimen; or

☐ (6) is the work of a designer whose individual work has significantly influenced the development of Seattle; or

☐ (7) contains elements of design, detail, materials or craftsmanship which represent a significant innovation; or

☐ (8) by being part of or related to a square, park or other distinctive area, should be developed or preserved according to a plan based on a historic, cultural or architectural motif; or

☒ (9) owing to its unique location or singular physical characteristic, represents an established and familiar visual feature of the neighborhood, community or city; or

☐ (10) has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in pre-history or history.

NOMINEE Samuel R. Windsor

address 711 23rd ave E.

phone 323-1285

Reviewed [Signature]

Historic Preservation Officer

date 06/28/76

NOMINATION DATE 25 June, 1976

BOARD SPONSOR _____

date _____