

Historic
Resource
Inventory
CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON



1-012-01021

1021 S.W. Twelfth Avenue

Portland, Block F, Lot 3, East 85' of Lot 4, East 25' of Lot 6
QUARTER SECTION MAP #: 3128
Downtown Community Association

ORIGINAL NAME: *First Church of the Nazarene*

ORIGINAL FUNCTION: *Church*

DATE BUILT: 1926

STYLE: *Twentieth Century Gothic*

ARCHITECTURAL PLANS BY: *Hatch, Raymond W.*

ORIGINAL OWNER: *First Church of the Nazarene*

TAX ASSESSOR'S ACCOUNT #: R-66773-6230
ZONING: RXZS

Rank III

SPECIAL FEATURES AND MATERIALS:

Salmon-colored brick. Off-white glazed terra cotta at entrance.

SPECIAL F/M - SIGNIFICANT ALTERATION:

Portion above first floor completed in 1946.

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: *Architecture*

937 947

445

1-012-01021

Architecture: Glazed terra cotta was used as an exterior sheathing material and for individual decorative elements in buildings in Portland from about 1900 to 1930. Terra cotta blocks (which are similar in size and configuration to concrete blocks but have decorative glazed faces) were made by pressing fine clay into plaster molds. The clay blocks were then glazed, dried, and fired.

Because terra cotta was fireproof, lightweight and, compared to carved stone, inexpensive to produce, it was the favored material for the large commercial structures built during Portland's era of rapid growth. However, cast stone ornament (concrete), developed in the late 1920s, was even less expensive, and gradually gained popularity over terra cotta. Later, with the introduction of mass-produced aluminum and glass-wall systems, the use of decorative masonry ceased altogether.

Although most glazed terra cotta buildings in Portland are found in and around the downtown retail core, there are numerous schools and apartment buildings with glazed terra cotta decoration scattered throughout the metropolitan area.

ORIGINAL BUILDING PERMIT #: 171144

MAJOR ALTERATIONS: 1946/297872/Walter E. Kelley

Present owner as of May 1981: First Unitarian Society of Portland
MAILING ADDRESS: 1011-21 S.W. Twelfth Avenue, Portland 97205

No Preservation Funding

Score - Design/Construction: 4
Score - Historical: 5
Score - Rarity:
Score - Environment: 6
Score - Integrity: 10
Score - Intrinsic: 9
Score - Contextual: 16
Score - Total: 47.5

~~934~~ 948

445