

Historic
Resource
Inventory
CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON.



2-268-01819

1819 N.W. Everett Street

Couch's, Block 172, Lots 1-4
QUARTER SECTION MAP #: 3028
Northwest District Association

ORIGINAL NAME: First Church of Christ, Scientist

ORIGINAL FUNCTION: Church
OTHER FUNCTIONS: Community Center

DATE BUILT: 1911

STYLE: Twentieth Century Classical

ARCHITECTURAL PLANS BY: Beman, Solon Spencer

ORIGINAL OWNER: First Church of Christ, Scientist

TAX ASSESSOR'S ACCOUNT #: R-18021-5530

ZONING: RH

DESIGNATION: Landmark, National Register

HISTORIC DISTRICT: Nob Hill (potential)

SPECIAL FEATURES AND MATERIALS:

Oculus-lighted, domed central space with barrel-vaulted wings. Masonry walls are faced with smooth faced cut stone. Segmental-arched windows with spandrel panels. Plain roof and belt cornices. Entrance portico.

2-268-01819

SPECIAL F/M - SIGNIFICANT ALTERATION:
Mechanical penthouse at rear.

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture, Religion

Religion: This building was the first permanent home of the earliest Christian Science congregation established in Portland. The congregation traces its beginnings to 1895. At the time it sold the building the congregation numbered some 100 persons.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Sheldon, George C., National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, 1978.

Present owners, as of March 1981: First Church of Christ, Scientist
MAILING ADDRESS: c/o Northwest Service Center, Inc., 1813 N.W. Everett
Street, Portland 97209

No Preservation Funding

Negative: 104-5 (12)

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM
COUNTY: MULTNOMAH COUNTY

HIST. NAME: First Church of Christ, Scientist
COMMON NAME: NW Service Center
ADDRESS: 1819 Northwest Everett Street
CITY: Portland
OWNER: First Church of Christ Scientist
ADDRESS: 1819 NW Everett, Portland, OR
97209

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1909
ORIGINAL USE: Religious: church
PRESENT USE: Commerce: professional
ARCHITECT: Beman, Solon Spencer
BUILDER: Horstra, John R.
THEME: Culture: religious
STYLE: Classical

T/R/S: TIN R1E S33
MAP NO.: 3028 TAX LOT: NA
ADDITION: Couch's Addition
BLOCK: 172 LOT: 1-4; 6-7
ZONE: RH QUAD.: Portland
ASSESSOR NO.: R180215530

RESOURCE TYPE: Church
CONDITION: Good
MOVED (DATE):

Old Address:
RANK: Portland Landmark, National Historic
Register

PLAN TYPE/SHAPE: Rectangular
FOUNDATION MATERIAL: Concrete
ROOF FORM & MATERIALS: Gable; domed
central section; barrel vault wings
WALL/FRAME: Stone

NO. OF STORIES: 3
BASEMENT: Yes

PRIMARY WINDOW TYPE: Fixed-pane; stained glass; hopper
EXTERIOR SURFACING MATERIALS: Stone

DECORATIVE FEATURES: Domed core roof flanked by two wings; main entrance is sheltered by a colonade of Tuscan columns; oculus-lighted; masonry walls faced with smooth-faced cut-stone; segmental-arched window with spandrel panels; stained glass windows; crown on dome; series of wood and glass entrance doors.

EXTERIOR ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS (DATED): Addition of exterior mechanical penthouse over elevator on rear of building.

NOTEWORTHY LANDSCAPE FEATURES: Street trees, low shrubs around perimeter.

ASSOCIATED FEATURES: None

SETTING: The building is located on the north side of N.W. Everett Street between N.W. Eighteenth and N.W. Nineteenth Avenues. Area is characterized mainly by mixed use. A small yard is located between the building and the sidewalk.

RECORDED BY: Donovan and Associates
Prohaska and Associates

SHPO INVENTORY NO.: P-121
DATE: August 1991

2471

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC RESOURCES
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM
COUNTY: MULTNOMAH COUNTY

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Architectural: National Historic Register Property. The subject property is significant for its association with Solomon S. Beman, a Chicago architect, who is attributed with designing the First Church of Christ, Scientist as well as for its historic associations with development of the Church of Christ Church.

Historical: The property is associated with the following families or organizations: The First Church of Christ, Scientist of Portland.

HISTORY OF THE PROPERTY

The First Church of Christ, Scientist, was the first permanent home of the earliest Christian Science congregation established in Portland "following the fundamentalist precepts and spiritual healing practices of Mary Baker Eddy, who reorganized the Christian Science movement in Boston in 1879, the domination's premier congregation in Portland traces its beginnings to 1895. The congregation dedicated its Church in 1911."

According to Arthur Spencer, "a formally organized group began meeting in 1895 in the then-new Dekum Building downtown at Southwest Third and Washington. In 1900 this body acquired a modest building at Northwest Twenty-Third and Irving. They soon outgrew this site and for a time used the Scottish Rite Cathedral at Southwest Morrison and Fifteenth. In 1909 the cornerstone was laid for our landmark at Northwest Eighteenth and Everett and the building opened in 1911. The congregation met there until 1978..."(Spencer: 1986).

For several decades the First Church of Christ, Scientist in Portland filled the church to capacity in the 1200 seat auditorium. As the City expanded and the number of Christian Science congregation grew, the First church membership declined to approximately one hundred persons. The Northwest Service Center evolved as a new use for the older building.

ARCHITECT OR BUILDER;

Solomon Spencer Beman (1853-1914), born in 1853 in Brooklyn, began his architectural career as an apprentice in Richard Upjohn's New York office. Richard Upjohn is best known for his work in the Gothic Revival Style. From New York, Beman moved to Illinois in 1879. George Pullman and the Proctor and Gamble Company employed him designing new town developments, the most noteworthy known as "Ivorydale." In the 1880s, Beman built many multi-storied structures in the Midwest, as well as suburban residences for the wealthy.

Among the most famous buildings designed by Beman was the Mines and the Merchants Building and the Merchants Tailors Building, examples of the Beaux Arts Classicism style, which characterized that Exposition. Due to its prominent position at the event and its design, the Merchants Tailors Building became a model for Christian Science churches all over America, including six in Chicago which Beman designed himself.

This church was not the first Beman had designed for the Christian Scientists. He advised the Mother Church project in Boston, which was completed in 1906.

ADDRESS: 1819 Northwest Everett Street
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**OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC RESOURCES
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM
COUNTY: MULTNOMAH COUNTY**

Sources: National Register of Historic Places Nomination, May 1978 by
Sheldon, George C.

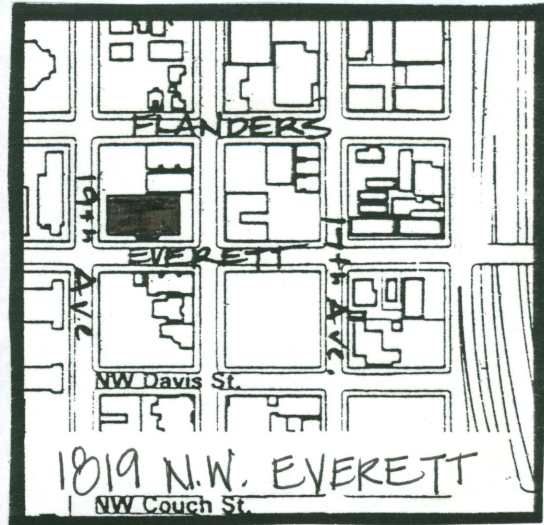
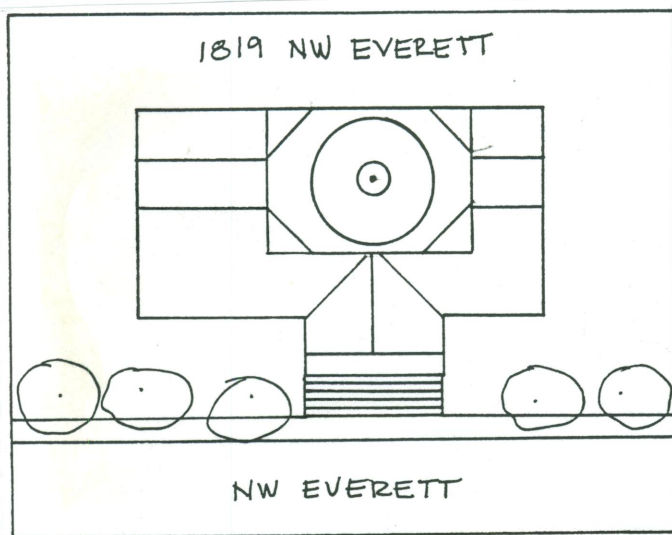
Spencer, Arthur, *Northwest Examiner*, December 1986, p. 19

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NEGATIVE NO.: Roll 26 #16

DATE: 4/1/91



RECORDED BY: Donovan and Associates
Prohaska and Associates

SHPO INVENTORY NO.: