

DEPARTMENT OF  
CITY PLANNING  
OFFICE OF HISTORIC RESOURCES  
200 N. SPRING STREET, ROOM 620  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012-4801  
(213) 978-1200

CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION

RICHARD BARRON  
PRESIDENT  
ROELLA H. LOUIE  
VICE-PRESIDENT

TARA J. HAMACHER  
GAIL KENNARD  
OZ SCOTT

FELY C. PINGOL  
COMMISSION EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT  
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CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
CALIFORNIA



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INFORMATION  
(213) 978-1270

www.planning.lacity.org

Date: JUN 10 2014

Los Angeles City Council  
Room 395, City Hall  
200 North Spring Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Attention: Sharon Gin, Legislative Assistant  
Planning and Land Use Management Committee

CASE NUMBER: CHC-2014-507-HCM  
YORK BOULEVARD CHURCH OF CHRIST  
4908 YORK BOULEVARD

At the Cultural Heritage Commission meeting of **May 29, 2014**, the Commission moved to include the above property in the list of Historic-Cultural Monument, subject to adoption by the City Council.

As required under the provisions of Section 22.171.10 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code, the Commission has solicited opinions and information from the office of the Council District in which the site is located and from any Department or Bureau of the city whose operations may be affected by the designation of such site as a Historic-Cultural Monument. Such designation in and of itself has no fiscal impact. Future applications for permits may cause minimal administrative costs.

The City Council, according to the guidelines set forth in Section 22.171 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code, shall act on the proposed inclusion to the list within 90 days of the Council or Commission action, whichever first occurs. By resolution, the Council may extend the period for good cause for an additional 15 days.

The Cultural Heritage Commission would appreciate your inclusion of the subject modification to the list of Historic-Cultural Monuments upon adoption by the City Council.

The above Cultural Heritage Commission action was taken by the following vote:


Moved: Commissioner Louie  
Seconded: Commissioner Barron  
Ayes: Commissioner Irvine, Kennard, and Scott

Vote: 5-0

ENCLOSURE TO:

FOR THE DISTRICT COUNCIL TO ACT

DATE:

  
Fely C. Pingol, Commission Executive Assistant  
Cultural Heritage Commission

Attachment: Application

c: Councilmember Jose Huizar, Fourteenth Council District  
Charles J. Fisher  
GIS

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FAX: (213) 978-1275

INFORMATION  
(213) 978-1270

[www.planning.lacity.org](http://www.planning.lacity.org)

Date: **JUN 10 2014**

4908 York Boulevard LLC  
Attn.: Brock Harris  
1830 N. Taft Avenue  
Los Angeles CA 90028

**CERTIFIED MAIL**  
**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

CASE NUMBER: **CHC-2014-507-HCM**  
**YORK BOULEVARD CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**4908 YORK BOULEVARD**

As you will note from the attached copy of our communication to the Los Angeles City Council, the Cultural Heritage Commission has moved to include the above-referenced property in the list of Historic-Cultural monuments, subject to adoption by the City Council.

In due course, our transmittal will be given a council file number and will be referred to the Council's Planning and Land Use Management Committee for review and recommendation. If you are interested in attending the Council Committee meeting, you should call Sharon Gin at (213) 978-1074 for information as to the time and place of the Committee and City Council meetings regarding this matter. Please give Ms. Gin at least one week from the date of this letter to schedule this item on the Committee Agenda before you call her.

The above Cultural Heritage Commission action was taken by the following vote:

Moved: Commissioner Louie  
Seconded: Commissioner Barron  
Ayes: Commissioners Irvine, Kennard, and Scott

**Vote: 5-0**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Fely C. Pingol, Commission Executive Assistant  
Cultural Heritage Commission

Attachment: Application

c: Councilmember Jose Huizar, Fourteenth Council District  
Charles J. Fisher  
GIS

# Los Angeles Department of City Planning

## RECOMMENDATION REPORT

**CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION**
**CASE NO.: CHC-2014-507-HCM  
 ENV-2014-508-CE**
**HEARING DATE:** May 29, 2014  
**TIME:** 10:00 AM  
**PLACE:** City Hall, Room 1010  
 200 N. Spring Street  
 Los Angeles, CA  
 90012

 Location: 4908 York Blvd.  
 Council District: 14  
 Community Plan Area: Northeast Los Angeles  
 Area Planning Commission: East Los Angeles  
 Neighborhood Council: Historic Highland Park  
 Legal Description: Block G, Lot 2 of Highland Park  
 Electric Tract

**PROJECT:** Historic-Cultural Monument Application for the  
 YORK BOULEVARD CHURCH OF CHRIST

**REQUEST:** Declare the property a Historic-Cultural Monument

**APPLICANT/  
 OWNER:** 4908 York Boulevard LLC  
 ATTN: Brock Harris  
 1830 N. Taft Avenue  
 Los Angeles, CA 90028

**OWNER'S  
 REPRESENTATIVE:** Charles Fisher  
 140 S. Avenue 57  
 Los Angeles, CA 90042

**RECOMMENDATION That the Cultural Heritage Commission:**

1. **Declare the property** a Historic-Cultural Monument per Los Angeles Administrative Code Chapter 9, Division 22, Article 1, Section 22.171.7.
2. **Adopt** the staff report and findings.

 MICHAEL J. LOGRANDE  
 Director of Planning



 Ken Bernstein, AICP, Manager  
 Office of Historic Resources



 Lambert M. Giessinger, Preservation Architect  
 Office of Historic Resources

**Attachments:** Historic-Cultural Monument Application

## FINDINGS

- 1) The building "embodies the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen, inherently valuable for a study of a period style or method of construction" as an example of a Craftsman style church with Tudor Revival elements.
- 2) The building is "a notable work of a master builder, designer or architect whose individual genius influenced his age" in its design by the architectural firm of Train & Williams.

## CRITERIA

The criterion is the Cultural Heritage Ordinance which defines a historical or cultural monument as any site (including significant trees or other plant life located thereon) building or structure of particular historic or cultural significance to the City of Los Angeles, such as historic structures or sites in which the broad cultural, economic, or social history of the nation, State or community is reflected or exemplified, or which are identified with historic personages or with important events in the main currents of national, State or local history or which embody the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen, inherently valuable for a study of a period style or method of construction, or a notable work of a master builder, designer or architect whose individual genius influenced his age.

## SUMMARY

The York Boulevard Church of Christ was built in 1913 and designed by noted architectural firm Train & Williams. In 1912, York Valley was incorporated into the City of Los Angeles, the area was rapidly developed and the York Boulevard Methodist Episcopal Church, the subject property, was constructed a year later. The church was designed in the Craftsman style with Tudor Revival elements. This was a stylistic combination that would be seen in the residential and ecclesiastical architectural designs of the firm for years to come.

The church was constructed near the south-east intersection of York Boulevard and N. Avenue 49. The structure features a Greek-cross plan, with a central square massing with four wings coming off the central square of similar or equal length. The roof is gabled and crosses in the middle of the central mass of the structure. A crenelated, pyramidal tower rises from the north-western corner of the street façade. This tower also houses the main entrance to the church. The façade of the structure clearly features original Craftsman/Tudor elements, including:

- the detailed wooden brackets and windows;
- low-pitched, gabled roofs;
- Tudor-arched doorways and windows;
- crenelated tower.

Originally, the exterior was shingled in the areas currently covered in stucco. In 1935, the York Boulevard Methodist Episcopal Church went into foreclosure and title of the property was transferred to a bank. In 1936, while under ownership of the bank, the shingles were covered with stucco. Later that year, the newly formed York Boulevard Church of Christ leased the building and they were able to purchase it a few months later. Due to the early date of the installation of the stucco, the alteration has gained historical significance.

The architectural firm of Train & Williams designed many residential, commercial, institutional and ecclesiastical structures during their period of significance in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. They are considered master architects for their contributions to the architectural development of Los Angeles and their influence in popularizing the culture of the Craftsman style. Based in Pasadena, they designed mainly Craftsman style structures with influences of Tudor, Spanish, and Indigenous elements. One of their designs, the Jusdon Studios, is Historic-Cultural Monument #62. At the time of its construction in 1909, Robert F. Train and Robert Edmond Williams were directors of the architectural department of the Arroyo Guild.

### DISCUSSION

The York Boulevard Church of Christ historic property successfully meets one of the specified Historic-Cultural Monument criteria: 1) "embodies the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen, inherently valuable for a study of a period style or method of construction" and 2) is "a notable work of a master builder, designer or architect whose individual genius influenced his age."

The execution of design, use of high-quality materials, and attention to fine detail makes the subject property a unique representative of a Craftsman style church with Tudor Revival elements. For this and its design by architectural firm of Train & Williams, considered an important firm in the Craftsman era within the nation and California, the property qualifies for designation as a Historic-Cultural Monument.

### CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT ("CEQA") FINDINGS

State of California CEQA Guidelines, Article 19, Section 15308, Class 8 "*consists of actions taken by regulatory agencies, as authorized by state or local ordinance, to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of the environment where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment.*"

State of California CEQA Guidelines Article 19, Section 15331, Class 31 "*consists of projects limited to maintenance, repair, stabilization, rehabilitation, restoration, preservation, conservation or reconstruction of historical resources in a manner consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic buildings.*"

The designation of the York Boulevard Church of Christ property as a Historic-Cultural Monument in accordance with Chapter 9, Article 1, of The City of Los Angeles Administrative Code ("LAAC") will ensure that future construction activities involving the subject property are regulated in accordance with Section 22.171.14 of the LAAC. The purpose of the designation is to prevent significant impacts to a Historic-Cultural Monument through the application of the standards set forth in the LAAC. Without the regulation imposed by way of the pending designation, the historic significance and integrity of the subject property could be lost through incompatible alterations and new construction and the demolition of irreplaceable historic structures. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards of Rehabilitation are expressly incorporated into the LAAC and provide standards concerning the historically appropriate construction activities which will ensure the continued preservation of the subject property.

The use of Categorical Exemption Class 8 in connection with the proposed designation is consistent with the goals of maintaining, restoring, enhancing, and protecting the environment

through the imposition of regulations designed to prevent the degradation of Historic-Cultural Monuments.

The use of Categorical Exemption Class 31 in connection with the proposed designation is consistent with the goals relating to the preservation, rehabilitation, restoration and reconstruction of Historic buildings in a manner consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Commission took the property under consideration on March 20, 2014. Then, the Commission and staff of the Office of Historic Resources conducted a site visit on April 17, 2014.

Case Number:

**CHC-2014-507-HCM**

Determination Letter Mailing List

MAILING DATE: **June 10, 2014**

GIS/Fae Tsukamoto  
City Hall, Room 825  
**Mail Stop 395**

Council District 14  
City Hall, Room 465  
**Mail Stop 223**

4908 York Boulevard LLC

Attn: Brock Harris

4908 York Blvd.

Los Angeles, CA 90042

Charles J Fisher  
140 S Ave 57  
Highland Park, CA 90042

# HISTORIC-CULTURAL MONUMENT APPLICATION

TYPE OR PRINT IN ALL CAPITAL BLOCK LETTERS

## IDENTIFICATION

1. NAME OF PROPOSED MONUMENT YORK BOULEVARD CHURCH OF CHRIST
2. STREET ADDRESS 4908 YORK BOULEVARD  
CITY HIGHLAND PARK ZIP CODE 90042 COUNCIL DISTRICT 14
3. ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO. 5477-002-002
4. COMPLETE LEGAL DESCRIPTION: TRACT HIGHLAND PARK ELECTRIC TRACT, AS PER MAP IN BOOK 9, PAGE 162 OF MAPS FILED, IN THE OFFICE OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY RECORDER.  
BLOCK G LOT(S) 2 AND 3 ARB. NO. N/A
5. RANGE OF ADDRESSES 4904 THRU 4912 YORK BOULEVARD
6. PRESENT OWNER 4908 YORK BOULEVARD LLC, ATTN: BROCK HARRIS  
STREET ADDRESS 2235 HYPERION AVENUE CITY LOS ANGELES  
STATE CA ZIP CODE 90027 PHONE (323) 644-9081, EXT 100 EMAIL: BROCK@SILVERLAKEREALSTATE.COM  
OWNER IS: PRIVATE  PUBLIC
7. PRESENT USE VACANT RENTAL ORIGINAL USE CHURCH

## DESCRIPTION

8. ARCHITECTURAL STYLE CRAFTSMAN-TUDOR
9. STATE PRESENT PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE OR STRUCTURE (SEE OPTIONAL DESCRIPTION WORKSHEET)

(SEE DESCRIPTION WORKSHEET)



# HISTORIC-CULTURAL MONUMENT APPLICATION

NAME OF PROPOSED MONUMENT YORK BOULEVARD CHURCH OF CHRIST

10. CONSTRUCTION DATE: FACTUAL 1913 ESTIMATED \_\_\_\_\_
11. ARCHITECT, DESIGNER, OR ENGINEER: TRAIN AND WILLIAMS
12. CONTRACTOR OR OTHER BUILDER: OWNER BUILT
13. DATES OF ENCLOSED PHOTOGRAPHS AUGUST 22, 2011 AND JUNE 30, 2013
14. CONDITION:  EXCELLENT  GOOD  FAIR  DETERIORATED  NO LONGER IN EXISTENCE
- ALTERATIONS: RESTROOM STRUCTURE ADDED IN 1921, UNSPECIFIED CHANGES IN 1923, EXTERIOR COVERED WITH STUCCO IN 1936, INTERIOR WAS UPDATED SOMEWHAT IN 1949 & 1950.
15. THREATS TO SITE  NONE KNOWN  PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT  VANDALISM  PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT
16. IS THE STRUCTURE  ON ITS ORIGINAL SITE  MOVED  UNKNOWN
17. **SIGNIFICANCE**  
BRIEFLY STATE HISTORICAL AND/OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE; INCLUDE DATES, EVENTS, AND PERSONS ASSOCIATED WITH SITE (SEE OPTIONAL SIGNIFICANCE WORKSHEET) BUILT IN 1913 AS THE YORK BOULEVARD METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, THE BUILDING WAS DESIGNED BY THE FIRM OF ROBERT FARUQUAR TRAIN AND ROBERT EDMUND WILLIAMS. THE PARTNERSHIP IS WELL KNOWN FOR ITS WORK IN ARTS AND CRAFTS DESIGN AND THE CHURCH BUILDING REFLECTS MANY ASPECTS OF THAT GENRE IN ITS DESIGN AND EXECUTION. THE BUILDING IS EMBLEMATIC OF HOW THE ARTS AND CRAFTS MOVEMENT INFLUENCED ECCLESIASTICAL DESIGN DURING THE EARLY PART OF THE 20TH CENTURY. THE BUILDING RETAINS ITS INTEGRITY AS AN EXAMPLE OF THIS INFLUENCE IN SPITE OF THE ONE MAJOR CHANGE THAT WAS DONE TO THE EXTERIOR FACADE. THE ORIGINAL DESIGN FOR THE BUILDING HAD A SHINGLE FACADE THAT WAS PARTIALLY COVERED WITH STUCCO IN 1936. THE HALF-TIMBERING, HOWEVER, IS AN ORIGINAL FEATURE AND CAN BE FOUND IN OTHER TRAIN AND WILLIAMS BUILDINGS THAT WERE DONE DURING THE SAME PERIOD.
18. SOURCES (LIST BOOKS, DOCUMENTS, SURVEYS, PERSONAL INTERVIEWS WITH DATES) LOS ANGELES CITY BUILDING PERMITS PER ATTACHED. LA COUNTY ASSESSORS RECORDS, RECORDED DEEDS. CENSUS RECORDS, LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUBDIVISION MAPS, LOS ANGELES TIMES ARTICLES, CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF NORTHEAST LOS ANGELES BY MYRA FRANK AND ASSOCIATES AND THE YORK BOULEVARD SURVEY FOR THE HISTORIC HIGHLAND PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL, 2011

DATE FORM PREPARED NOVEMBER 20, 2013 PREPARER'S NAME CHARLES J. FISHER

ORGANIZATION OWNER AND TENANT REPRESENTATIVE STREET ADDRESS 140 S. AVENUE 57

CITY HIGHLAND PARK STATE CA ZIP CODE 90042 PHONE (323) 256-3593

E-MAIL ADDRESS: ARROYOSECO@HOTMAIL.COM

# DESCRIPTION WORK SHEET

TYPE OR PRINT IN ALL CAPITAL BLOCK LETTERS

THE YORK BOULEVARD CHURCH OF CHRIST IS A 1 STORY,  
NAME OF PROPOSED MONUMENT NUMBER OF STORIES

CRAFTSMAN-TUDOR, RECTANGULAR PLAN CHURCH BUILDING  
ARCHITECTURAL STYLE (SEE LINE B ABOVE) PLAN SHAPE (SEE CHART) STRUCTURE USE (RESIDENCE, ETC)

WITH A WOOD AND STUCCO FINISH AND WOOD TRIM.  
MATERIAL (WOOD SIDING, WOOD SHINGLES, BRICK, STUCCO, ETC) MATERIAL (WOOD, METAL, ETC)

ITS MULTI-GABLED AND HIPPED ROOF IS COVERED WITH ROLLED SHINGLES GLASS AND WOOD,  
ROOF SHAPE (SEE CHART) MATERIAL (CLAY TILE, ASPHALT OR WOOD SHINGLES) WINDOW MATERIAL

LARGE MULTI LIGHT DOUBLE HUNG WINDOWS ARE PART OF THE DESIGN.  
WINDOW TYPE (DOUBLE HUNG (SLIDES UP & DOWN), CASEMENT (OPENS OUT), HORIZONTAL SLIDING, ETC)

THE ENTRY FEATURES A SHALLOW PORCH WITH ARCHED CORNERS AND A SET OF CONCRETE STEPS LEADING TO IT  
DOOR LOCATION (RECESSED, CENTERED, OFF-CENTER, CORNER, ETC.)

WITH A LARGE DOUBLE GOTHIC ARCHED WOODEN DOOR. ADDITIONAL CHARACTER DEFINING ELEMENTS  
ENTRY DOOR STYLE (SEE CHART)

OF THE STRUCTURE ARE A FRONT AND REAR DOUBLE GABLE FACING THE FRONT TO THE LEFT OF A SQUARE TOWER OVER THE  
IDENTIFY ORIGINAL FEATURES SUCH AS PORCHES (SEE CHART); BALCONIES, NUMBER AND SHAPE OF DORMERS (SEE CHART);

MAIN ENTRANCE. THE TOWER HAS A SQUARED OFF MISSION STYLE PARAPET AND A PYRAMIDAL ROOF TOPPED BY A WEATHERVANE.  
NUMBER AND LOCATION OF CHIMNEYS; SHUTTERS; SECONDARY FINISH MATERIALS; PARAPETS, METAL TRIM; DECORATIVE TILE OR CAST STONE; ARCHES;

THERE IS A LOW GOTHIC ARCHED VENT AT THE CENTER OF THE MAIN FRONT GABLE WITH A NARROWER GOTHIC VENT REPEATED  
ORNAMENTAL WOODWORK; SYMMETRY OR ASYMMETRY; CORNICES; FRIEZES; TOWERS OR TURRETS; BAY WINDOWS; HALF-TIMBERING; HORIZONTALITY;

IN THREE SIDES OF THE BELL TOWER. A LARGE ARCHED STAINED GLASS WINDOW COVERED BY A VENTED SHADE IS IN THE WEST  
VERTICALITY; FORMALITY OR INFORMALITY; GARDEN WALLS, ETC.

FACING GABLE OPENING INTO THE MAIN SANCTUARY. A SECOND SQUARED OFF DOUBLE WOODEN SET OF DOORS LEADING TO  
ADDITIONAL DEFINING ELEMENTS

A BASEMENT AREA OF A COMMUNITY ROOM AND SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM, IS LOCATED TO THE RIGHT OF THE MAIN ENTRANCE.  
ADDITIONAL DEFINING ELEMENTS

THE SYMMETRICAL MAIN GABLE HAS VERTICAL HALF-TIMBERING WITH A HORIZONTAL STRIP BELOW THE VENT AND A SECOND ONE  
ADDITIONAL DEFINING ELEMENTS

AT THE BASE OF THE PEDIMENT. A BAND OF FIVE TALL, MULTI LIGHT WINDOWS CROSS THE FACADE DIRECTLY BELOW THE  
ADDITIONAL DEFINING ELEMENTS

PEDIMENT. TWO SMALLER WINDOWS ARE IN THE TOWER JUST BELOW THE VENT ON THE FRONT AND WEST SIDES OF THE BELL  
ADDITIONAL DEFINING ELEMENTS

TOWER. A SHALLOW CLAY TILE COVER ROOF IS OVER THE MAIN ENTRANCE. THE REAR FACING GABLE IS THE SAME AS THE FRONT,  
ADDITIONAL DEFINING ELEMENTS

WITHOUT THE HALF-TIMBERING. THE NAVE IS LOCATED TO THE LEFT OF THE FRONT GABLE AND IS SEMI-CIRCULAR TOPPED BY A  
ADDITIONAL DEFINING ELEMENTS

ROUNDED HIPPED GABLE END. A LARGER FIRST FLOOR SECTION BELOW THE NAVE HAS A SET OF WINDOWED DOUBLE WOODEN  
ADDITIONAL DEFINING ELEMENTS

DOORS AND A 12 LIGHT FIXED WINDOW TO THE LEFT. SMALL ANGLED BUTTRESS IS AT END OF THE FRONT FACADE UNDER THE  
ADDITIONAL DEFINING ELEMENTS

GABLE, BUT TO THE RIGHT OF THE NAVE SECTION, WHICH IS SET BACK FROM THE FRONT PEDIMENT. THE ROOF HAS WIDE EAVES  
ADDITIONAL DEFINING ELEMENTS

AND A SIMPLE BARGE BOARD, SUPPORTED BY DECORATIVE BRACKETS. THE MAIN GABLE IS TRANSVERSE.  
ADDITIONAL DEFINING ELEMENTS

SECONDARY BUILDINGS CONSIST OF A FREESTANDING ELECTRIC SIGN IN FRONT OF THE CHURCH, AT GRADE.  
IDENTIFY GARAGE, GARDEN SHELTER, ETC.

SIGNIFICANT INTERIOR SPACES INCLUDE AN ENTRY NARTHEX THAT OPENS UP TO A LARGE MAIN SANCTUARY WITH AN OPEN BEAMED  
IDENTIFY ORIGINAL FEATURES SUCH AS WOOD PANELING, MOLDINGS AND TRIM, SPECIAL GLASS WINDOWS,

CEILING, VARIOUS SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOMS, SMALL STONE FIREPLACE IN BASEMENT ROOM, SCRIPTURAL BEAM ABOVE NAVE.  
ORNATE CEILINGS; PLASTER MOLDINGS; LIGHT FIXTURES; PAINTED DECORATION; CERAMIC TILE, STAIR BALUSTRADES; BUILT-IN FURNITURE, ETC.

HISTORIC-CULTURAL MONUMENT APPLICATION

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
SIGNIFICANCE WORK SHEET**

TYPE OR HAND PRINT IN ALL CAPITAL BLOCK LETTERS

*Complete One or Both of the Upper and Lower Portions of This Page*

**ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE**

THE YORK BOULEVARD CHURCH OF CHRIST IS AN IMPORTANT EXAMPLE OF  
NAME OF PROPOSED MONUMENT  
CRAFTSMAN-TUDOR ARCHITECTURE  
ARCHITECTURAL STYLE (SEE LINE 8)

AND MEETS THE CULTURAL HERITAGE ORDINANCE BECAUSE OF THE HIGH QUALITY OF ITS DESIGN AND THE RETENTION OF ITS ORIGINAL FORM, DETAILING AND INTEGRITY.

**AND/OR**

**HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE**

THE YORK BOULEVARD CHURCH OF CHRIST WAS BUILT IN 1913  
NAME OF PROPOSED MONUMENT YEAR BUILT  
TRAIN AND WILLIAMS AND CRAFTSMAN ECCLESIASTICAL ARCHITECTURE WAS IMPORTANT TO THE  
NAME OF FIRST OR OTHER SIGNIFICANT OWNER

DEVELOPMENT OF LOS ANGELES BECAUSE THE CHURCH WAS ORIGINALLY BUILT IN 1913, AT A TIME OF EXTREME GROWTH IN THE NORTHEAST LOS ANGELES COMMUNITIES. THE MAIN PORTION OF THE YORK VALLEY WAS UNINCORPORATED UNTIL 1912, WHEN IT WAS ANNEXED TO LOS ANGELES AS A PART OF THE ARROYO SECO ADDITION, WHICH INCLUDED THE LARGE PORTION OF YORK VALLEY THAT WAS NOT A PART OF THE 1895 HIGHLAND PARK ANNEXATION OR THE 1899 GARVANZA ANNEXATION, AS WELL AS THE COMMUNITIES OF GLASSELL PARK AND HERMON, THE REMAINING PORTIONS OF MT. WASHINGTON, GARVANZA, CYPRESS PARK PARK, AND HIGHLAND PARK, AS WELL AS THE NORTHERN PORTION OF WHAT WAS THEN BAIRDSTOWN, NOW KNOWN AS EL SERENO. THE NEW CITY LAND WAS DEVELOPING RAPIDLY AND THE YORK BOULEVARD METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH WAS BUILT TO PROVIDE A SPIRITUAL HOME FOR THE MOSTLY MIDWESTERN MIGRATION THAT WAS QUICKLY POPULATING THE AREA AROUND IT. THE NEW CONGREGATION CHOSE THE ARCHITECTURAL FIRM OF TRAIN AND WILLIAMS TO DESIGN THEIR NEW HOUSE OF WORSHIP. THE FIRM WAS WELL VERSED IN CHURCHES, AND WAS TO DESIGN A NUMBER OF THEM AFTER THIS ONE, INCLUDING THE PLAZA METHODIST CHURCH ACROSS FROM THE OLD PLAZA (1926). THE BUILDING WAS ORIGINALLY CONSTRUCTED AS A SHINGLE CRAFTSMAN TUDOR, WHERE THE HALF TIMBERING WAS ACTUALLY WITHIN THE SHINGLE COVERED AREA. THIS IS A TECHNIQUE THAT THEY USED ON SOME OF THE FIRMS OTHER CHURCHES, AS WELL AS PRIVATE HOMES. IN SOME CASES THE FIRM WOULD EVEN INCORPORATE ECCLESIASTICAL THEMES INTO THEIR RESIDENTIAL DESIGNS. THE YORK BOULEVARD CHURCH WAS AN

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES**  
**SIGNIFICANCE WORK SHEET**  
CONTINUED

EXAMPLE OF THE USE OF DESIGNING A CHURCH THAT WOULD FIT IN WITH THE CONTEMPORARY LOOK OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD. THE CONGREGANTS WERE A CONSERVATIVE LOT THAT QUESTIONED MANY OF THE SOCIAL CHANGES THAT HAD BEEN OCCURRING SINCE WORLD WAR I. REVEREND H. E. CARLSON, THE LAST ME PASTOR AT THE CHURCH, IN A 1934 SERMON PUBLISHED IN THE LOS ANGELES TIMES, QUESTIONED THE VALUE OF PRESIDENT FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT'S WISDOM IN DEALING WITH THE EFFECTS OF THE GREAT DEPRESSION, WHILE POINTING OUT THAT GOD HAS A MUCH BIGGER PLAN FOR ALL: "THE 'NEW DEAL' HAS NOT RAISED THE PURCHASING POWER OF THE GREAT CLASS OF WORKING MEN. THINGS LOOK PRETTY DARK, BUT WE REMEMBER THAT GOD IS MAKING HIS ADVENT INTO A NEW DAY. HE IS ALWAYS ON THE SIDE OF THE COMMON GOOD. WHATEVER THE PLAN MAY BE WHATEVER THE PLAN MAY BE, FROM THE HUMAN STANDPOINT IT IS OF GOD. GOD IS WORKING OUT HIS HOLY PURPOSES FOR HUMAN WELFARE." THIS SERMON WAS DELIVERED AT A TIME OF TRIAL FOR THE CONGREGATION ITSELF. THE BUILDING FELL INTO FORECLOSURE AND THE TITLE WAS TRANSFERRED TO SECURITY FIRST NATIONAL BANK ON AUGUST 3, 1935. IT WAS THE BANK THAT HAD THE BUILDING STUCCOED OVER A YEAR LATER. IT MAY HAVE BEEN A MAINTENANCE ISSUE, BUT IT WAS PROBABLY TO MAKE THE BUILDING FIT IN MORE WITH THE DESIGN SCHEMES OF THE 1930S SO IT WOULD BE EASIER TO SELL. THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF THE AREA WERE CHANGING RAPIDLY AND THE ORIGINAL METHODIST EPISCOPAL CONGREGATION WAS LOSING MEMBERSHIP. THE ORIGINAL CONGREGATION WAS ABLE TO GET THE BUILDING BACK TWO MONTHS LATER, ON OCTOBER 15, 1936. THE BUILDING WAS THEN LEASED TO THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED YORK BOULEVARD CHURCH OF CHRIST AND DEEDED TO THE NEW CHURCH A FEW MONTHS LATER. THE OWNERSHIP WAS TO REMAIN UNCHANGED UNTIL JUNE 20, 2013, WHEN THE BUILDING WAS DEEDED TO THE CURRENT OWNER. THE NEW CONGREGATION MADE SOME CHANGES TO THE BUILDING, SUCH AS THE RECONFIGURATION OF THE NAVE TO ALLOW FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A BAPTISMAL FONT BEHIND A FALSE WALL THAT WAS ADDED BEHIND THE PULPIT. THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST DENOMINATION, LIKE THE BAPTISTS, PRACTICE FULL EMERSION BAPTISMS. THIS FEATURE HAS BEEN REMOVED AS PART OF WORK TO RESTORE THE NAVE BACK TO IT'S ORIGINAL CONFIGURATION. THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOMETIMES REFERRED TO AS THE M.E. CHURCH, WAS A DEVELOPMENT OF THE FIRST EXPRESSION OF METHODISM IN THE UNITED STATES. IT OFFICIALLY BEGAN AT THE BALTIMORE CHRISTMAS CONFERENCE IN 1784. THROUGH A SERIES OF DIVISIONS AND MERGERS, THE M.E. CHURCH BECAME THE MAJOR COMPONENT OF THE PRESENT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. THE LOCAL CONGREGATION HAD BEEN IN DECLINE FOR ABOUT A DECADE, AS MANY OF THE MEMBERS LEFT THE AREA. THERE WERE ALSO SEVERAL OTHER METHODIST

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CHURCHES IN THE AREA, ALL OF WHICH WERE SERVING INCREASINGLY SMALLER CONGREGATIONS. THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH, AND THE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH MERGED TO FORM THE METHODIST CHURCH IN 1939, ABOUT A YEAR AFTER THE SUBJECT SANCTUARY HAD BEEN SOLD TO THE CHURCH OF CHRIST. CHURCHES OF CHRIST ARE AUTONOMOUS CHRISTIAN CONGREGATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH ONE ANOTHER THROUGH COMMON BELIEFS AND PRACTICES, BASED ON THE NEW TESTAMENT. THEY CONSIDER ONLY THE BIBLE AUTHORITATIVE FOR DOCTRINAL BELIEFS, RATHER THAN ANY HUMAN COUNCILS, AND FOLLOW WHAT THEY BELIEVE IS THE PATTERN SET BY NEW TESTAMENT CONGREGATIONS ORIGINALLY ESTABLISHED BY THE AUTHORITY OF CHRIST. HISTORICALLY IN THE UNITED STATES, CHURCHES OF CHRIST WERE RECOGNIZED AS A DISTINCT RELIGIOUS BODY BY THE U.S. RELIGIOUS CENSUS OF 1906. PRIOR TO THAT, THE TAGS CHURCH OF CHRIST, CHRISTIAN CHURCH, AND DISCIPLES OF CHRIST ALL REFERRED TO THE SAME UNDENOMINATIONAL CHURCHES. THEY WERE ACTIVE IN AMERICAN FRONTIER SETTLEMENTS AND CITIES. THOSE LEADERS AND OTHERS HAD DECLARED THEIR INDEPENDENCE FROM VARIOUS DENOMINATIONS, SEEKING A FRESH START TO RESTORE THE DOCTRINES AND PRACTICES OF THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH, ABANDONING HUMANLY DEvised CREEDS WHICH THEY SAW AS A SOURCE OF DIVISION AMONG CHRISTIANS. THESE CHURCHES COMPRISE ABOUT 3,000,000 MEMBERS IN OVER 40,000 INDIVIDUAL CONGREGATIONS WORLDWIDE. THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 13,000 CONGREGATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES. OVERALL U.S. MEMBERSHIP WAS APPROXIMATELY 1.8 MILLION IN 2001 AND 1.9 MILLION IN 2008. ESTIMATES OF THE PROPORTION OF THE US ADULT POPULATION ASSOCIATED WITH THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST VARY FROM 0.8% TO 1.5%. ROUGHLY 1,240 CONGREGATIONS, WITH 172,000 MEMBERS, ARE PREDOMINANTLY AFRICAN-AMERICAN. 240 CONGREGATIONS WITH 10,000 MEMBERS ARE SPANISH-SPEAKING. THE AVERAGE CONGREGATION SIZE IS APPROXIMATELY 100 MEMBERS. IN 2000, THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST WERE THE 12TH LARGEST RELIGIOUS GROUP IN THE U.S. BASED ON NUMBER OF MEMBERS, BUT THE 4TH LARGEST IN NUMBER OF CONGREGATIONS. AT THE TIME OF PURCHASE, THE CHURCH OF CHRIST WAS A GROWING DENOMINATION AND THE BUILDING PROVED TO BE A GOOD FIT. ONE OF THE EARLY PASTORS AT THE CHURCH WAS REV. FORREST R. WALDROP. IN AN AUGUST 1941 SERMON, WALDROP GAVE A SERMON IN WHICH HE ELOQUENTLY STATED THE DENOMINATION'S POSITION ON THE FRACTURED STATE OF CHRISTIANITY, "IT WAS NOT CHRIST'S INTENTION THAT RELIGIOUS PEOPLES SHOULD BE SO GREATLY DIVIDED UPON THE SCRIPTURES. HE TAUGHT THE ONENESS OF HIS FOLLOWERS", WHICH WAS PUBLISHED IN THE LOS ANGELES TIMES THE FOLLOWING MORNING. THE NEW CONGREGATION MADE SEVERAL ALTERATIONS TO MAKE THE BUILDING MORE SUITABLE TO THEIR NEEDS.

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INCLUDING THE REDESIGN OF THE NAVE AND THE INSTALLATION OF THE BAPTISMAL FONT BEHIND THE PULPIT. THE DAIS WAS ALSO EXTENDED OUT AS WELL, PROBABLY TO MAKE UP FOR THE LOST SPACE BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE NEW WALL IN FRONT OF THE FONT. OTHER CHANGES, MOSTLY LIGHTING UPGRADES WERE MADE IN 1949 AND 1950. THERE WAS NO MORE WORK DONE ON THE BUILDING UNTIL AFTER THE LATEST SALE. THE CHURCH OF CHRIST CONGREGATION BEGAN TO DECLINE DURING THE LATTER PART OF THE 20TH CENTURY AND BY 2008 THERE WERE ONLY PRAYER MEETING AND SUNDAY SCHOOL LEFT AT THE SITE. THE CONGREGATION PUT THE BUILDING ON THE MARKET IN 2012 AND IT WAS SOLD TO THE CURRENT OWNERS IN JUNE OF 2013. THE CURRENT PLAN IS TO MAKE THE BUILDING INTO A DINNER/ENTERTAINMENT VENUE. EFFORT IS BEING MADE TO CONFORM TO THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIORS STANDARDS FOR THE WORK THAT IS BEING DONE TO MAKE THE BUILDING ADAPT TO ITS NEW USE. THE BUILDING IS THE ONLY ONE CONSTRUCTED AS A CHURCH BETWEEN EAGLE ROCK BOULEVARD AND AVENUE 56. IT IS A PRINCIPAL ECCLESIASTICAL OF THE ARCHITECTS TRAIN AND WILLIAMS AND REPRESENTS THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF THE EARLY SETTLERS IN THE YORK VALLEY AS A REFLECTION OF THEIR MIDWESTERN VALUES