

**OREGON CITY
PARK PLACE NEIGHBORHOOD
HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY 1990**

HISTORIC NAME: First Congregational Church of Park Place
COMMON NAME:
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 15824 S. Apperson
OWNER: Fred Eberly
OWNER'S ADDRESS: 2526 S. E. Ada Avenue, Milwaukie, Or. 97222
RESOURCE TYPE: Church
PRESENT USE: Vacant
THEME: Culture
ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Unknown
COUNTY: Clackamas
QUAD: Gladstone
T/R/S: 2-2E-20DD
TAX LOT: 2000
ADDITION Park Place
BLOCK: Part of Block E
LOT:
LOT SIZE: .11 acre
ZONE: RD-4 Two family

CHURCH/SCHOOL

DATE BUILT: c. 1871
STYLE: Vernacular
PLAN TYPE/SHAPE: Asymmetrical
NO. OF STORIES: 1
FOUNDATION MATERIAL: Post and beam
BASEMENT: No
ROOF FORM AND MATERIALS: Intersecting gable w/comp. shingles
WALL CONSTRUCTION/STRUCTURAL FRAME: Wood/stud
PRIMARY WINDOW TYPE: Fixed
EXTERIOR SURFACING MATERIALS: Wide lap siding w/corner boards,
rake boards
DECORATIVE FEATURES: Pointed-arch windows
OTHER: Gabled ell, e. elev.; interior chimney
CONDITION: Poor
EXTERIOR ALTERATIONS (DATE): Front porch removed (n.d.); garage
door added, e.elev., (n.d.)
NOTEWORTHY LANDSCAPE FEATURES: None

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

ADDRESS: 15824 S. Apperson

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It is not known when the First Congregation Church of Park Place was constructed, however, most sources indicate that it was originally located behind Abernethy Grange. Histories of the local schools state that the subject building was also used by the Park Place School District No. 48. According to Dan Thompson, author of Oregon City Public Schools: Our Heritage, the church building was constructed in 1871; another source, Robert Cartouche, author of Historic Park Place, indicates that the building was constructed in 1878. All sources agreed that the building was used as a school until 1892 when the second Park Place School was constructed on the site of the Grange. Shortly after the turn-of-the-century the building was moved to its current location at the intersection of Apperson and Forsythe.

Deed records indicate that the Grange property was sold to the School District in 1892. It was not unusual for a property owner to donate land for a school and/or church, and years later sell the property to the school district or congregation. In 1908 the land at Apperson and Forsythe was sold to the First Congregation Church in whose name it remained until 1958.

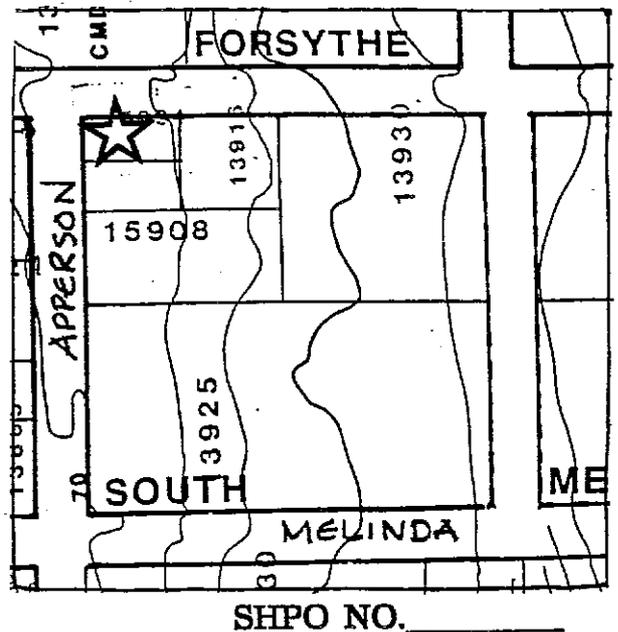
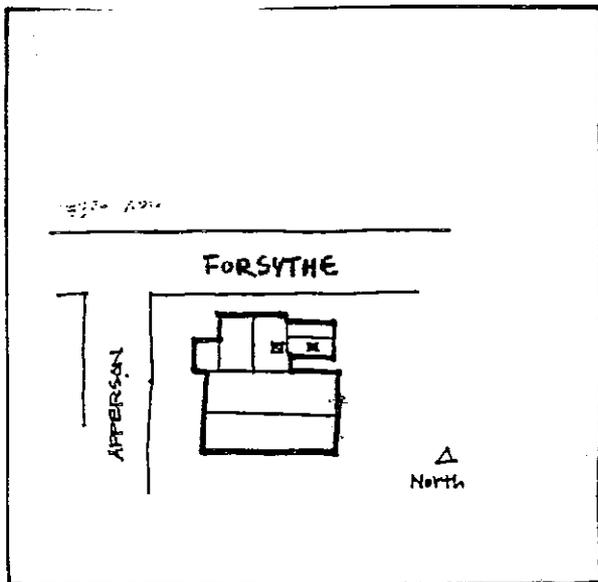
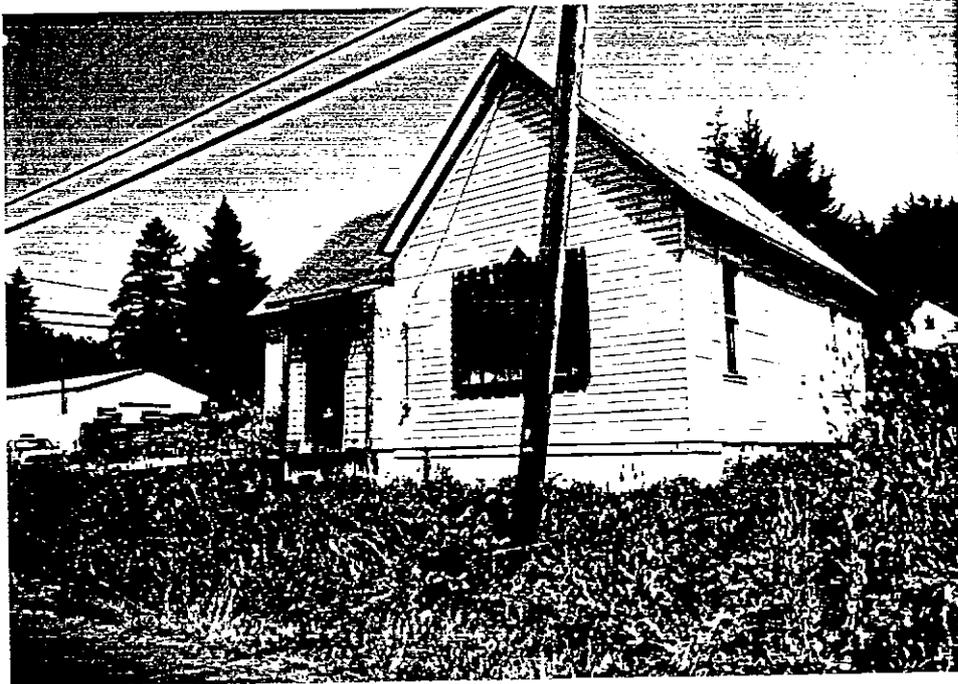
As constructed the subject building was a good example of a Vernacular style church. In Oregon the Vernacular style is based a simplified version of the Gothic Revival style. Salient features include the moderate to steeply pitched gable roof and dropped horizontal siding finished with corner and rake boards. Church buildings commonly had a simple steeple at the main entrance and pointed arch windows.

The Congregational Church building has been altered since the historic period. The windows are covered with boards, making it difficult to assess the type and condition. In addition the entrance has been altered and a garage door added to the rear elevation. Nonetheless, the Congregation Church building is an important element in Park Place, acting as a focus of community activity from the latter part of the 19th century through the historic period.

Sources: Cartouche, Robert. Historic Park Place, n.d.
Clackamas County Cultural Resource Inventory, 1984.
Enterprise Courier. 27 November 1964, page 9.
Oregon City Landmarks Inventory, Urban Growth Boundary, 1982.
Smith, Pearl. Interview w/ Paulette Merrill. August 1990.
Thompson, Dan. Oregon City Public Schools: Our Heritage.
TICOR Title Company records, Oregon City, OR.

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SITE PLAN AND PHOTOGRAPH: 15824 Apperson Street



NON-CONTRIBUTING FEATURES:

None

SETTING: On the corner of Forsythe and Apperson. Industrial warehouse across Forsythe and vacant lot across Apperson Street. Lot slopes to the east and is covered with blackberries.

RECORDED BY: Koler/Morrison

DATE: August 1990

SHPO NO. _____