

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

Historic name Church of the Holy Trinity

Other names/site number First Christian Church of Thayer

Name of related Multiple Property Listing N/A

2. Location

Street & number <u>117 North 5th Street</u>	N/A	not for publication
City or town <u>Thayer</u>	N/A	vicinity
State <u>Missouri</u> Code <u>MO</u> County <u>Oregon</u> Code <u>149</u> Zip code <u>65791</u>		

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria: A B C D

Toni M. Prawl MAY 15 2017
Signature of certifying official/Title Toni M. Prawl, Ph.D., Deputy SHPO Date

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Church of the Holy Trinity
Name of Property

Oregon County, Missouri
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION/Religious Facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/Multiple dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY
REVIVALS/ Late Gothic Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE
walls: STONE
CONCRETE
roof: ASPHALT
other: _____

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION ON CONTINUATION PAGES

Church of the Holy Trinity
Name of Property

Oregon County, Missouri
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1901-1902, c. 1950

Significant Dates

1902, c. 1950

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

UNKNOWN

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE ON CONTINUATION PAGES

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

Church of the Holy Trinity
Name of Property

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10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than one acre

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1 36.524313 -91.543636 3 _____
Latitude: Longitude: Latitude: Longitude:

2 _____ 4 _____
Latitude: Longitude: Latitude: Longitude:

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

_____ NAD 1927 or _____ NAD 1983

1 _____ 3 _____
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

2 _____ 4 _____
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (On continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (On continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth Franke and Gloria Wood, edits by Allison Archambo (MO SHPO)

organization _____ date Jan 2017

street & number 117 North 5th Street telephone 417-280-1746 or 417-280-6780

city or town Thayer state MO zip code 65791

e-mail forestcipher@yahoo.com or gf92@live.missouristate.edu

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:**
 - A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
 - A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Photographs**
- **Owner Name and Contact Information**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Church of the Holy Trinity
Name of Property

Oregon County, Missouri
County and State

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log:

Name of Property: Church of the Holy Trinity

City or Vicinity: Thayer

County: Oregon State: Missouri

Photographer: Jim Franke

Date
Photographed: July 13, 2016

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 17: Façade; Camera pointing southwest
- 2 of 17: façade; camera pointing south
- 3 of 17: 1950s addition façade, camera pointing southwest
- 4 of 17: entrance 1950s addition, camera pointing southwest
- 5 of 17: North elevation/1950s addition camera pointing southeast
- 6 of 17: west elevation/ 1950s addition camera pointing northeast
- 7 of 17: rear portion camera pointing east
- 8 of 17: south elevation camera pointing west
- 9 of 17: south elevation 1920s addition camera pointing west
- 10 of 17: south elevation 1920s elevation camera pointing southwest
- 11 of 17: façade/ primary entrance camera pointing west
- 12 of 17: Detail of the gable end camera pointing west
- 13 of 17: date stone detail camera pointing southwest
- 14 of 17: interior camera pointing southwest
- 15 of 17: interior camera pointing northeast
- 16 of 17: interior rafter detail camera pointing west
- 17 of 17: interior detail windows camera pointing east

Church of the Holy Trinity

Name of Property

Oregon County, Missouri

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Figure Log:

Include figures on continuation pages at the end of the nomination.

Figure 1: Map 117 North 5th Street, Thayer, MO (Source: Google Maps Accessed October 30, 2016)

Figure 2: Contextual Map (Map Source: Google Maps, Accessed October 2016)

Figure 3: Site Map: (Map Source: Google Maps, Accessed October 2016)

Figure 4: Image of the Dedication of the Church of the Holy Trinity, c. 1902.

Figure 5: Church of the Holy Trinity Consecration Document, c. 1902.

Figure 6: Image, First Christian Church c. 1920.

Figure 7: Abandoned Church, Located at 8th & Pine Streets, Thayer, MO.

Figure 8: First Baptist Church, 112 North Third Street, Thayer.

Figure 9: United Pentecostal Church 36.525279, -91.540895; Located at North 3rd & Market Streets, in Thayer.

Figure 10: Lighthouse of Greentown, 201 Gilbert Street, Thayer.

Figure 11: Chapel Hill Baptist Church located at 610 Chestnut Street, in Thayer.

Figure 12: Floorplan Upper level, 1901

Figure 13: Floorplan Lower level, 1901

Figure 14: Floorplan Upper level, 1920

Figure 15: Floorplan lower level, 1920

Figure 16: Floorplan Upper level, c. 1950

Figure 17: Floorplan lower level, c. 1950

Figure 18: Floorplan Upper level, 2016

Figure 19: Floorplan Lower level, 2016

Figure 20: Image, original stained glass window

Figure 21: Dates of construction.

Figure 22: Photo key

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

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Church of the Holy Trinity
Name of Property
Oregon County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

SUMMARY

The Church of the Holy Trinity is located at 117 North 5th Street, Thayer, Oregon County, Missouri. This graceful stone church is constructed in the Gothic Revival style. The church strongly reflects the time period in which it was constructed. This two and a half story front gable building has Gothic Revival influence evident in the intricate details and the emphasis on verticality with a central entrance flanked by triple lancet windows. The church building was constructed to meet the needs of the congregation with the guidance and support of the Missouri Episcopal Dioceses. The architect or builder of the church is unknown but, the architectural detailing and quality of the craftsmanship reflect on the ideals and needs of its congregation, the Missouri Episcopal Diocese, and the individual craftsmen that were hired to bring their vision to existence. The building was expanded overtime but the church retains its integrity. The Church of the Holy Trinity is an excellent example of the Gothic Revival style and is the only representation of this style in Thayer. It is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria C for ARCHITECTURE at the local level of significance.

SETTING

The Church of the Holy Trinity stands on the west side of North 5th Street near the intersection with Chestnut in Thayer, Oregon County, Missouri. (Figures 1 & 3) The structure exemplifies Gothic Revival architecture with influences of rural Ecclesiastical design.

The Church of the Holy Trinity is located a short distance from the railroad tracks and the historic commercial center of the community. Thayer was once a division point for the Frisco railroad.¹ The railroad played an important role in the development of Thayer and church of the Holy Trinity. Thayer is located in Oregon County which is located in the far southern portion of Missouri along the border with Arkansas. Historically the community was situated on the western bank of the Warm Fork of The Spring River.(Figure 2) Thayer has now expanded with much of the new construction happening to the east of the historic downtown. Thayer is located in the Ozarks. This is a hilly or mountainous region of Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma that is known for its natural beauty.

The Church of the Holy Trinity is situated west of the historic downtown and was built near the top of a hill in a residential portion of Thayer. The area where the church is located appears very much as it did historically. The church is constructed on a lot that slopes generally from south to north further adding to vertical emphasis of the church. (Photos 2 & 11 and Figure 3)

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The building faces east with its principal façade oriented on an east/west axis. The building is 2 and a half stories constructed primarily of stone set in a running bond masonry pattern with ruled raised ribbon mortar and hand-worked native stones. The structure is situated on a formed/ poured concrete foundation. The church has a full basement and four additions. (Figures 12-19, 21)

¹ Oregon County Place Names, 1928-1945, The State Historic Society of Missouri
http://shsmo.org/manuscripts/ramsay/ramsay_oregon.html Accessed 1-30-2017

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

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Church of the Holy Trinity
Name of Property
Oregon County, Missouri
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N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

The east elevation features a steeply pitched gable roof. (Photo 1) The gable end has rows of triangular and circular shaped wooden shingles forming geometrical repetitive pattern work, utilizing the arrow, round, and diamond cuts of wood shingles. In the center of the gable end is a rose window. The rose window is stained glass that features a six point stylized star set in a quatrefoil motif². (Photo 12)

The primary entrance is centrally located in this elevation. The historic double wood doors have a board and batten pattern. The entrance is flanked by triple lancet windows, the window openings are original but the windows and surrounds were replaced at an unknown date. The original windows are pictured in Figures 4 and 6. Each of the windows has three single fixed panes. The window surrounds display reproductions of decorative elements. A gabled hood shelters the entrance and features trefoils and quatrefoil cutout patterning with chamfered fretwork embellishments in the gable end and the bracket supports.³ The porch and entrance is located at the top of a rise of concrete steps, the height of these steps combined with the steeply pitched gable roof provide a sense of verticality when approaching the church building. The cornerstone is also located at the bottom left side of this elevation "HOLY TRINITY CHURCH ERECTED TO THE GLORY OF GOD A.D. 1901". (Photo 13)

Moving to the north elevation of the initial church building, is a short wall with two original stained glass windows that are evenly spaced in the stone wall on the primary level. (Photo 2) These stained glass windows are believed to be original to the structure. (Figure 20) They are tall gothic pointed arch windows with quarried, rubble faced, limestone sills. The windows are composed of colored leaded stained glass hung in a wooden arch frame and features a functioning lower pivoting transom set in square wooden sashes trimmed with bullseye rosettes. (Photo 10, note the operational windows) This description applies to all windows noted as original stained glass windows. The basement of the original building is accessible from this elevation with a small door and a simple wood awning over the doorway.

Continuing north is a large and significant addition constructed c. 1950. (Photo 3 and Figure 21) This elevation appears two stories in height because of the change in grade on this lot. The basement level is constructed of concrete and the upper level is faced with stone that is sympathetic the original church building. The openings on the lower level consist of a small one over one vinyl window located high on the wall north of a single entry door. The door is a modern 9-light metal door without ornamentation. There is a simple gabled hood over the entrance that is not original to the structure but was added at an unknown date to resemble the original hood found over the primary entrance. (Photo 4) The upper level of this portion of the addition is faced with rough cut stone laid in a pattern that replicates the stonework in original church building. The upper level has two evenly spaced, single six-over-six modern steel windows. The openings are pointed arches mimicking the window openings found in the original church building. The upper arched portion of each window is filled with quatrefoil patterned wood inserts similar to the windows found on the front of the church. The steeply pitched roof line in this portion of the building has exposed rafter tails that mimic the rafter tails in the original

² Kuilman, Martin, *Quadralectic Architecture* np

³ McAlester, Virginia Savage, "A Field Guide to American House" pg. 271

National Register of Historic Places
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Church of the Holy Trinity
Name of Property
Oregon County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

portion of the building. This addition is to the side and rear of the original church building and reflects a similar material used in the original portion of the church and therefore contributes to the Gothic Revival style, and the significance and integrity of the building.

The north (side) elevation of the addition is constructed primarily of poured concrete in the foundation and concrete block on the upper level. (Photo 5) The lowest level is painted white and has two small windows; the eastern window is a small fixed metal window. The window to the west is a one-over-one hung vinyl replacement window. On the upper story there are two metal pointed arch casement windows on the exterior, these windows have opaque hammered glass and complement with shape of the windows in the original church building. Behind these windows are vinyl six-over-six hung windows. The gable end on this portion of the building is faced with asphalt shingles and there is a single large window. The primary portion of the window is fixed; the upper is an operable steel multi-pane transom window.

The west (rear) elevation of the addition is constructed of a poured concrete foundation with concrete block in the upper portion. (Photo 6) There are two small one over one vinyl windows evenly spaced on the lower level of this elevation. There are also two single evenly spaced windows on the upper portion of this elevation. These two windows are metal pointed arch casement windows with opaque hammered glass on the exterior window and vinyl six-over-six hung windows located on the interior or behind the original windows. There is also a single nine-light metal door located on this elevation with a small set of wooden stairs leading to the door way. This door, a later addition, was placed in what was originally a window opening.

The rear elevation of the original church building was constructed to house the chancel that is partially visible from the rear of the building. (Photo 7) There is an original stained glass window (as described above) located on the north elevation. This portion of the building is shorter than the sanctuary portion of the building with angular walls and a high hipped roof. The majority of the chancel is now obscured by the baptistery addition at the rear of the building. (Figure 21) It is believed the baptistery was added to the church at approximately the same time as the large c.1955 addition. Inside this concrete block addition is the baptistery for the church. Another addition was constructed in 2009 that obscures the majority of the baptistery addition. The 2009 addition is constructed of wood and is small in scale. It was constructed at the rear of the building and is devoid of ornamentation there is a single door opening on the south side and has a sloping corrugated metal shed roof.

The south elevation of the original church building is constructed of the rough cut stone and has three evenly spaced pointed arch original stained glass windows (as described above). (Photo 8) There are also three small one over one vinyl window openings in the basement level of this elevation. There is also a small one-story cast concrete block addition that was constructed in approximately 1920. (Photo 9) The cast concrete is compatible with the rough cut stone but it is easily discernable as being constructed in a different time. There is a single metal door with a simple single light fixture located directly above the door on the east side of the addition. The door is accessible by a concrete ramp that leads from the street to the doorway. (Photo 10) The south side of the addition has a small gable roof with asbestos siding in the gable end rafter tails, and a single pointed arch window opening with a fixed wood multi-light window. A narrow concrete sidewalk leads up to this addition.

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Church of the Holy Trinity
Name of Property
Oregon County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

INTERIOR DESCRIPTION

Upon entering the original building from the primary entrance there is a small vestibule with minimal ornamentation. The vestibule was originally the cloak room to the left and access to the vestry to the right. The vestry was originally the prep area for the minister, and featured access to the nave and vestibule. The vestry was converted to a bathroom in an earlier renovation. The nave appears much as it did when it was used as a church. (Photo 14) The floors of the original building are constructed of tongue and groove pine boards. The walls are a combination of lath and plaster over stone with bead board wainscoting. The pews are no longer present, but the overall scale of the space clearly demonstrates its original use. The emphasis on verticality is illustrated though the high open ceilings are covered with bead board set at alternating diagonal sections framed with chamfered beams in the nave. (Photos 15 & 16) The gothic detailing is also observed through the pointed arches in all the original stained glass windows. (Photo 17) The chancel creates a large pointed arch inside the church space. The floor of the chancel is raised a step above the floor in the rest of the church building providing the sense of the space as separate from the nave. The sanctuary is highly intact and maintains its integrity. (Figures 12, 14, 16 & 18)

The basement of the original portion of the building is open and used for storage. It was originally used as a parish hall and classrooms. (Figure 13) After the large addition was constructed in the 1950s this area was used for the heating system and additional restrooms. The space is still used in this way. (Figures 15 & 17)

The 1950s addition to the right of the original structure was constructed to house an informal gathering area and offices. The upper level is now used as a residential space and has a kitchen, dining room, bedrooms and a bathroom (Figure 18). The lower level of this addition was used as the fellowship hall and additional offices. The area is now a self-contained two-bedroom apartment these alterations happened in the 1990s. (Figure 19)

To the left of the nave is a small 1920s addition, it was originally constructed for an additional entry to the sanctuary of the church building and provided a small foyer.(Figure 14) Later this area was altered to provide access to the c. 1955 concrete block addition constructed around the chancel (Figure 16). This c. 1955 concrete block addition was constructed to house the baptistery in addition to the full immersion baptismal, preparation, and waiting area; the area is divided with a small prep room and dressing rooms to the left of the steps that lead to the full immersion tub. The tub is located at the rear of the chancel through an opening in the rear wall of the original chancel. The opening is located approximately two feet above the chancel floor and centered in the rear wall. The baptismal is not visible because two bookshelves have been placed in the opening (Photo 14). This is a removable change and does not detract from the integrity of the church. A small wood storage area with metal roof covers an exterior portion the c. 1955 baptistery addition. Again this is a minor alteration to the rear of the building and does not impact the overall integrity of the building.

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Church of the Holy Trinity
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Oregon County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

INTEGRITY

The original portion of the Church of the Holy Trinity was constructed in 1901-1902, later in the 1920s a small addition was added to the south elevation allowing for a more gradual entrance into the church building. A narrow sidewalk approaches this entrance. Further, a 1950s addition was constructed to the north, greatly expanding the capacity of the building. The 1950s addition is large in scale, however great care was taken when it was constructed to match the stone and Gothic Revival style of the original building; because such care was taken the 1950s addition is a significant addition to the Gothic Revival styling of the building. Later in this same era a small, concrete block addition was added to the rear of the building allowing for the congregation to have access to a baptismal. The final wooden addition was added to the rear of the building in 2009 this addition is small and not visible from the street. In sum, the additions do not detract from the overall integrity and architectural significance of the Church of the Holy Trinity.

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Section number 8 Page 6

Church of the Holy Trinity
Name of Property
Oregon County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

SUMMARY

Church of the Holy Trinity located at 117 North 5th Street, Thayer, Oregon County is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the local level under Criteria C for ARCHITECTURE. This Gothic Revival Church was constructed in 1901-1902 and is an exceptional example of the only local instance of this style. The Church was originally constructed by the Episcopal Dioceses of Missouri for use by the Holy Trinity Mission in Thayer. Designed and erected as a religious property, the Church of the Holy Trinity meets National Register Criteria Consideration A relating to the nomination of religious properties to the National Register because it derives significance from the architectural styling. In the 1920s the original congregation could no longer support the church and the building was sold to the First Christian Church. The First Christian Church used the building from the 1920s until the 1990s. This congregation grew while using the building. The church was sympathetically expanded to include a fellowship hall and classrooms in approximately 1950. The building was also expanded to include a baptistery in c. 1955, a side entrance was added in c. 1920, and a small wood addition was constructed in 2009. Despite these change the Church of the Holy Trinity retains integrity and is an excellent local example of the Gothic Revival style. The periods of significance for the Church of the Holy Trinity are 1901-1902 construction and c. 1950 for the construction of the classroom addition.

ELABORATION

HISTORY OF THAYER

Thayer owes its existence to chance happenings and peculiar beginnings. Founded in 1885 as a Division Point for the Kansas City- Springfield and Memphis Railroad, the original plans called for the division point to be built in Mammoth Springs, Arkansas, a few miles south of Thayer. Thanks to a landowner who after learning of the railroads interest in his property, raised the asking price greatly, the surveyors found an alternative site, yet this was still not the present day site of Thayer. Surveyed plats and street plans drawn up back east in the railroad offices called for the city to be laid out on the east side of the tracks.⁴

Although Thayer was not incorporated until 1885, Thayer had already been inhabited since the construction of machine shops, repair buildings, and depot between the tracks and the river, the construction workers, railroad employees and their families built their homes within walking distance on the west side of the tracks. The temporary housing quickly turned into hotels, restaurants, and saloons along the front and main streets. By the time the official plans arrived the city was established on the wrong side of the tracks. The solution to this problem was to simply turn the plat maps over to accommodate the location on the west side of the tracks.⁵

⁴ Becker, Linda F. and Cydney E. Millstein, Phase 1 Ozark Native Rock Masonry Survey, Missouri State Historic Preservation Office, Jefferson City, MO. 1992. SWAS027 7-8

⁵ Becker, Linda F. and Cydney E. Millstein, Phase 1 Ozark Native Rock Masonry Survey, Missouri State Historic Preservation Office, Jefferson City, MO. 1992. SWAS027 8

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Church of the Holy Trinity
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N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Thayer was originally named Division and the name was later changed to Augusta to honor the wife of one of the town's founders, George Nettleton. Unfortunately there was already a town in St. Charles County Missouri with that name and US postal regulations would not allow post offices in different towns to have the same name. So, in 1886 the name was changed to Thayer in honor of a wealthy stockholder in the railroad, Nathaniel Thayer of Boston, Massachusetts.⁶

The railroad helped to maintain Thayer by providing industry and employment for the local residents. The original railroad eventually became part of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF). The BNSF still maintains an official presence in Thayer, with a small employee depot and offices, but the large machine shops and roundhouses that housed many of the jobs and workers are no longer extant.

CONSTRUCTION HISTORY

The church was constructed beginning with the cornerstone being placed on May 21st, 1901 and the church was consecrated on April, 9th, 1902.⁷ Construction of the church took just eleven months and was completed at a cost of \$2,500, and no loans were taken out by the congregation.⁸ The church was constructed on land that was donated by Mr. L. Garrett, a warden of the church.⁹

The planning for the church began much earlier; the Bishop of the Missouri Episcopal Dioceses pronounced Holy Trinity, Thayer an organized mission in the March 1891 edition of *Church News* a bulletin or newsletter published by the Episcopal Dioceses of Missouri.¹⁰ The short article goes on to note members of the founding committee L. Garrett, S. Westfall, Dr. D.T. Powell and Dr. Winston. A Dr. R.S. James started the Holy Trinity Mission, Thayer because it was a short distance from Mammoth Springs, Arkansas. The mission was founded just a few years after the founding of Thayer.

The railroad was intricate to the development of Holy Trinity. In the August 1895 edition of *Church News* from the Episcopal Dioceses of Missouri, the update about Thayer discusses the number and location of services. Additionally it notes "several railroad men and other citizens are regular attendants and the interest in and appreciation of the services seem (sic.) deepening."¹¹ This information seemed important to the Episcopal Dioceses of Missouri because it appeared in the church newsletter. In this same update it is noted that the bi-monthly church services are being held "in the double parlors of one of our energetic and zealous churchmen, Mr. L. Garrett, chief train dispatcher." Mr. Garrett was very important to the Holy Trinity Mission. He was part of the founding committee of the mission and would go on to donate the land for the construction of the church.

⁶ Becker, Linda F. and Cydney E. Millstein, Phase 1 Ozark Native Rock Masonry Survey, Missouri State Historic Preservation Office, Jefferson City, MO. 1992. SWAS027 8

⁷ *Church News*, June 1901 and May 1902. Provided by the Episcopal Dioceses of Missouri.

⁸ *Church News*, May 1902

⁹ *Church News*, May 1902

¹⁰ *Church News*, March 1891

¹¹ *Church News*, August 1895.

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Name of Property
Oregon County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

In most of the *Church News* articles about Thayer the railroad is mentioned. In June of 1901 as construction of the Church of the Holy Trinity was underway “Thayer is a railroad town, and there is a considerable substantial virility at the basis of the mission. At his visit the bishop confirmed two railroad officials.”¹² The connection to the railroad is later discussed in August of 1901 “Thayer being a railroad town is one of the best missionary points in the diocese.”¹³ The construction of this elaborate and beautifully detailed church in Thayer seems to be tied to the community’s location near the railroad and possibly a belief that the design of the church would continue to attract individuals to attend the church.

The June 1901 edition of *Church News* notes that the cornerstone was laid on May 21st 1901 by the Bishop of the Missouri Episcopal Diocese. In the article it projects the church will be 24 by 65 feet and will be constructed at an estimated cost of \$1,200. It is also noted that the church currently had \$850 on hand. The rest of the funds would be collected prior to the completion of the church. This update in *Church News* was used to solicit assistance from other members of the church: “At least \$300 additional will be needed for furnishings of the church, and if those who help themselves deserve help, the Church people of Thayer have good grounds for an appeal to those who want to put their gifts where they are sure to do a permanent good.”¹⁴

The Church of the Holy Trinity was constructed with close attention to detail. This attention carried over to the interior. A member of the church, John W. Leonard, donated the altar and reredos (ornamental wood or stone screen or partition wall behind an altar)¹⁵ in memory of his wife, Florence. Both were constructed by “Alfred Thieme, a Bavarian wood carver, living at West Plains, MO.”¹⁶ The altar was reported as being “a copy, in solid oak, of a marble altar in one of the New York churches.”¹⁷ In addition to these historic elements the interior of the church is replete with Gothic detailing. The dark wood bead board covered ceiling along with the detailed rafters and trim used throughout the interior help invoke the feelings of inspiration intended by the Gothic Revival styling.¹⁸

The church is discussed in the *Church News*: “The beautiful stone church is nearing completion; when furnished, it will be the most churchly edifice between Memphis, Tenn. and Springfield, Mo.”¹⁹ While, this statement was written as part of an effort to raise funds for the on-going construction of the building, it is nearly impossible to verify if this statement is true. On Wednesday April 9, 1902 the church in Thayer was formally consecrated by Bishop Tuttle of the Missouri Episcopal Diocese.²⁰ (Figures 4 & 5) The celebration was discussed in the May 1902 edition of *Church News*. The article goes on to discuss the church itself; “the church is a handsome gothic stone building.”²¹ Further the article declares the windows “are of rolled

¹² *Church News*, June 1901.

¹³ *Church News*, August 1901.

¹⁴ *Church News*, June 1901.

¹⁵ Merriam-Webster dictionary <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/reredos> Accessed 1/5/2017

¹⁶ *Church News*, January 1902

¹⁷ *Church News*, January 1902.

¹⁸ McAlester, 262

¹⁹ *Church News*, August 1901

²⁰ *Church News*, May 1902. And Tuttle, Daniel Sylvester. *Missionary to the Mountain West* np

²¹ *Church News*, May 1902.

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Cathedral glass of a pleasing design and agreeable combination of colors.”²² These windows are still in place and operational. (Figure 20)

The Church of the Holy Trinity was used by the Episcopal Church congregation until it was sold on April 5, 1923 for \$2,700²³ to the First Christian Church of Thayer. (Figure 6) The sale was due to a small congregation no longer able to maintain the church. The congregation that remained likely joined the St. Andrews in Mammoth Springs, Arkansas located about 2 miles south. The First Christian Church used the building from the 1920s until the 1990s during which time their congregation grew and they expanded the building to accommodate the congregation’s needs. Eventually in the 1990s the church building was sold and the building was converted to residential use. (Figures 18 & 19)

GOTHIC REVIVAL STYLE

The Church of the Holy Trinity was constructed in the Gothic Revival style. The style was a popular choice for churches constructed in the United States beginning in the 1840s and the influence of the Gothic style continues in the construction of religious structures.²⁴ The Gothic Revival style has an emphasis on verticality, pointed arches, and the use of trefoil and quatrefoil detailing²⁵. Churches constructed in the Gothic Revival style typically have pointed gables with detailing in the bargeboard.²⁶ It was not uncommon to see a Gothic Revival church constructed of wood however if brick or stone were used the materials would be typically be monochromatic.²⁷

Richard Upjohn is closely associated with the Episcopalian Church in the United States. His Carpenter Gothic style of construction was distributed throughout the United States via his popular plan book that was printed in the 1850s.²⁸ Additionally, Upjohn’s most well-known work is Trinity Church located in New York City.²⁹ In this era The Cambridge Camden Society was a group also known for influencing the construction of Episcopalian Churches throughout England and later their inspiration traveled to the United States.³⁰ The Cambridge Camden Society was interested in the style that churches were constructed; the group believed the architecture of the church buildings could be a representation of the church doctrine.³¹ The Cambridge

²² *Church News*, May 1902.

²³ Letter from Susan G. Rehkopf, Archivist and Registrar at the Diocese of Missouri of the Episcopal Church dated May 26, 2009.

²⁴ Massey & Maxwell, “Gothic Revival” 6-7

²⁵ McAlester, 266

²⁶ Whiffen, “American Architecture since 1780” 53

²⁷ Whiffen, 53.

²⁸ Upjohn, Richard, “Upjohn’s Rural Architecture: designs, working drawings, and specifications for a Wooden Church, and Other Rural Structures”. New York 1852, reprinted 1975

²⁹ Whiffen, 59. Extant, Trinity Church and Graveyard were designated as a National Historic Landmark on 12/8/1976.

³⁰ The Cambridge Camden Society was a group in Cambridge, England that was interested in returning the Church of England (and later the Episcopal Churches in the United States) back to the piety of the medieval era.

³¹ *A Few Words to Church Builders*” np

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Camden Society was influenced by the Medieval Gothic churches found in England as new churches were being constructed.³²

GOTHIC ELEMENTS OF CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Though it is impossible to know if the builders of this church used a specific plan or were constructing from other inspiration, it is clear from the Gothic detailing of this building that the builders were at least aware of the popular Gothic Revival style and they were influenced by the Gothic Revival style.

The Church of the Holy Trinity has many elements reflective of the Gothic Revival style. The building was constructed on a slope of a hillside; this coupled with the steeply pitched front gable add to the height and vertical appearance of the church building. The church also has a number of intricate details for example the hood over the front steps has quatrefoil elements. The front lancet windows support the sense of height and the attention to detail in the craftsmanship of the Gothic Revival style. The style is further articulated by the pointed arch windows found throughout the original church building and mimicked in the 1950s addition. Finally the Church of the Holy Trinity is constructed of a monochromatic native stone. This may illustrate that this stone was selected for this building and the significant 1950s addition to be representative of the style. Overall this building represents the Gothic Revival style.

OTHER CHURCH ARCHITECTURE IN THAYER

Thayer has a rich spiritual tradition with many established congregations and places of worship. The Church of the Holy Trinity is the only church in the community constructed in the Gothic Revival style. Below are comparisons to other churches found in Thayer.

The First Baptist Church located at 112 North Third Street is a side steeple plan stone church with minimal stylistic elements. Construction of the original church building began in 1912 and continued through 1917, with additions including a large addition constructed in 1979.³³ (Figure 8) While this is a handsome church, the modern addition is large and overwhelms the original portion of the building.

The United Pentecostal Church located at North 3rd and Market Streets in Thayer was constructed c. 1920 by Otto and Frank Eder. The United Pentecostal Church is also a stone church with a side steeple and a cross gable plan and minimal stylistic elements³⁴. (Figure 9) This church has had minor alterations with the changes to the windows and the application of stucco in the gable ends.

Another example of church architecture in Thayer is the Midway Pentecostal Church located at 201 Gilbert Street. Constructed in c. 1940, it was built by the Green Family for use as a church. This vernacular stone building has a central entry in a gable end plan with minimal stylistic elements.³⁵ (Figure 10) This church is a nice example of Ozark Rock construction. There is a

³² Williams, Peter W. "America's Religions: Traditions and Cultures" Urbana, University of Illinois Press. 1998. p 250-251.

³³ Becker, Linda F. and Cydney E. Millstein, Phase 1 Ozark Native Rock Masonry Survey, Missouri State Historic Preservation Office, Jefferson City, MO. 1992. SWAS027 E-10, 11.

³⁴ Ibid E-9, 13.

³⁵ Ibid D-24

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small weatherboard addition to the rear of the building and there have been minor changes to the doors and windows.

An abandoned stone church building is located at 8th and Pine in Thayer. This church was at one time utilized by the Organized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. It was built in c. 1930s, with a gable end plan, a raised basement, and little stylistic detailing. (Figure 7)³⁶ This building is another nice example of Ozark Rock construction.

Finally the Chapel Hill Baptist Church, located at 610 Chestnut it was built in 1936 with a 1952 addition. This stone church has a simple plan with an arched entry way and simple gable end plan with little architectural detailing.³⁷ (Figure 11)

All of these churches are extant and are constructed from native stone which was a common construction method in Thayer. However as illustrated by these examples none of these church buildings have Gothic Revival styling, the nominated property is the only example of a Gothic Revival Church in Thayer, Missouri.

CONCLUSION

The church of the Holy Trinity is an excellent example of the Gothic Revival style. In addition to being an excellent example of the style this is the only building constructed in the Gothic Revival style in the community of Thayer. This small church was constructed in a rural area with the intentions that the building would further the mission of the original congregation. The elements of Gothic Revival styling found in the Church of the Holy Trinity include the steeply pitched front gable end, the pointed arches of the windows, and the quatrefoil detailing found throughout the building. The Church of the Holy Trinity is the best and only representation of this style in Thayer, Missouri and is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the local level under Criteria C for ARCHITECTURE.

³⁶ Ibid D-34

³⁷ Ibid D-21, 22.

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Verbal Boundary Description:

Lot Dimensions 100 x 85, All of Easterly 100 feet of Lot 4 and the South 9 feet of the East 100 feet of Lot 1 in Block 10 in the First Addition to the City of Thayer, Missouri, located in the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 31, Township 22 North, Range 5 West.

Boundary Justification:

The boundaries of the nominated property include the legal parcel boundaries of the church.

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Figure 1: Map 117 North 5th Street, Thayer, MO (Source: Google Maps Accessed October 30, 2016) (Not to scale)

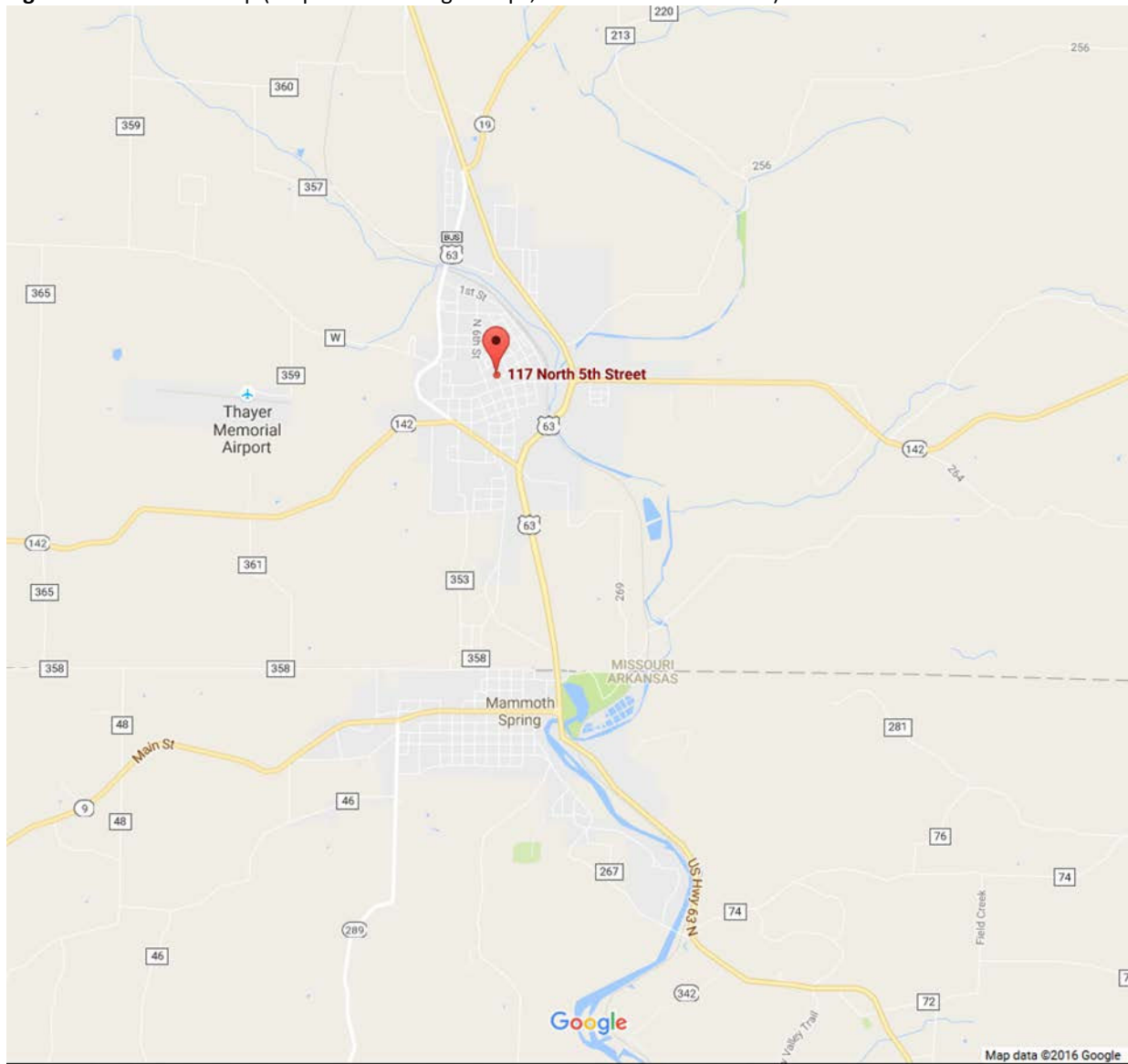


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Figure 2: Contextual Map (Map Source: Google Maps, Accessed October 2016)



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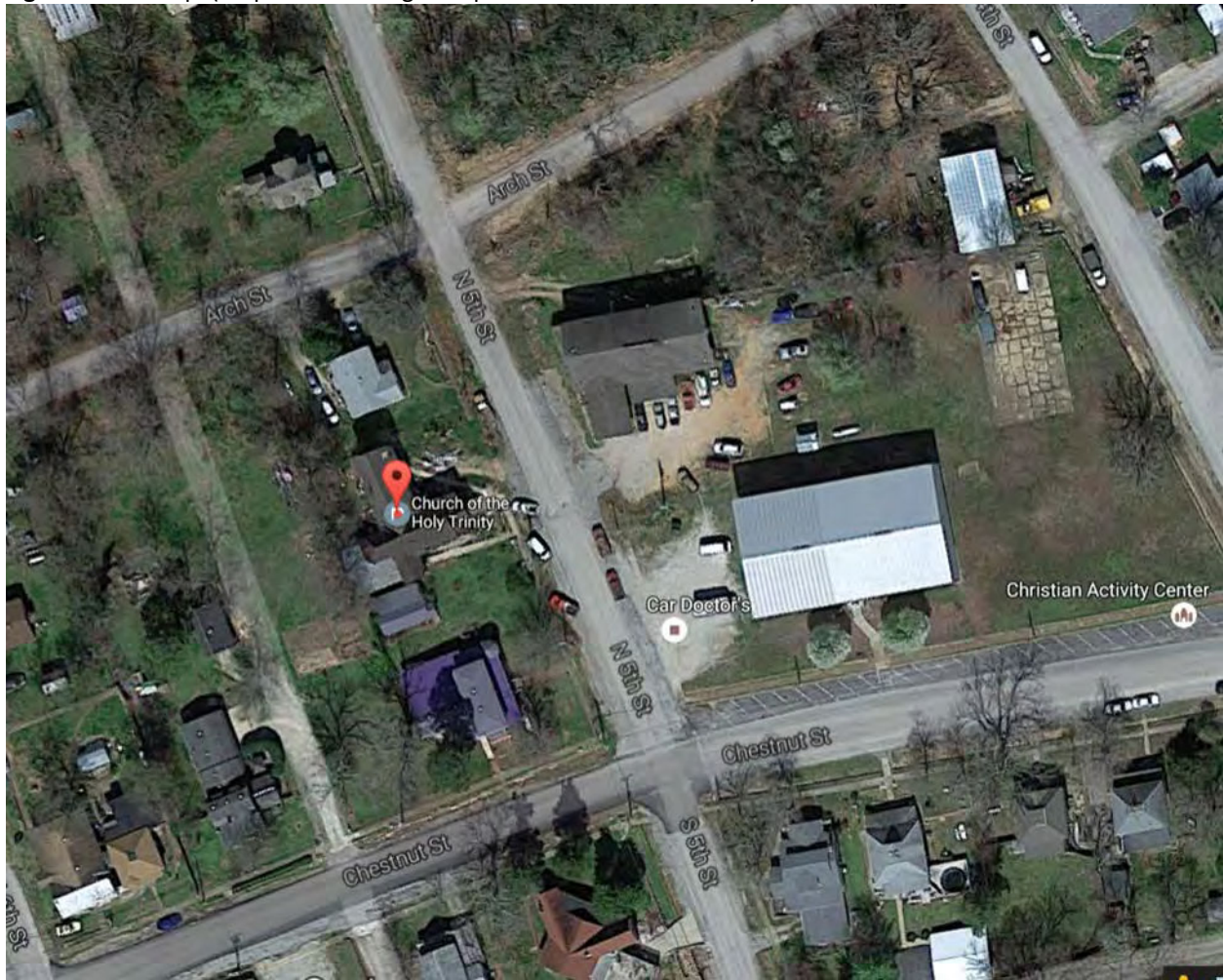
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Figure 3: Site Map: (Map Source: Google Maps Accessed October 2016)



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Figure 4: Image of the Dedication of the Church of the Holy Trinity, c. 1902.

Source: The Episcopal Church, Diocese of Missouri Archives, Sue Rehkopf archivist.

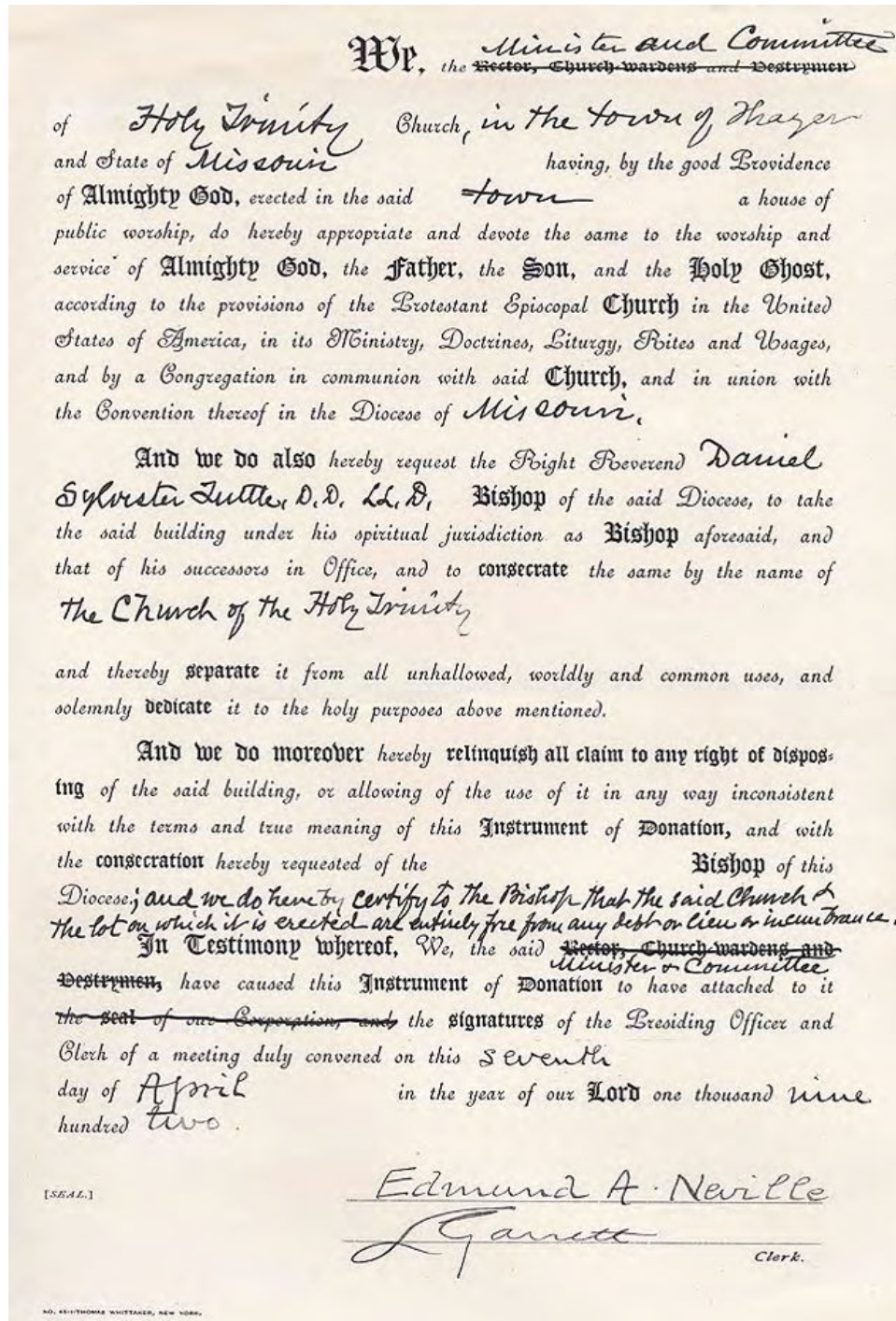


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Figure 5: Church of the Holy Trinity Consecration Document, c. 1902.
Source: The Episcopal Church, Diocese of Missouri Archives, Sue Rehkopf, Archivist.



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Figure 6: Image, First Christian Church c. 1920.
Source: From a private collection.



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Figure 7: Church in Thayer 36.520300, -91.546129, Organized Church of the Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Located at 8th & Pine Streets. Source: Kenneth Franke taken, 10/2016.



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Figure 8: First Baptist Church, 112 North Third Street, Thayer. Built between 1912 and 1917 the large addition was constructed in 1979³⁸. (Source Google, accessed 1/27/2017)



³⁸ Ozark Rock Survey

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Figure 9: United Pentecostal Church 36.525279, -91.540895; Located at North 3rd & Market Streets, in Thayer. Constructed c. 1920 by Otto & Frank Eder³⁹. (Photo Source Kenneth Franke Oct. 2016).



³⁹ Ozark Rock Survey.

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Figure 10: Lighthouse of Greentown, 201 Gilbert Street, Thayer. This Church building was constructed in 1923 by the Green Family⁴⁰. (Source Google streetview, accessed 1/27/2017)



⁴⁰ Ozark Rock Survey

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Figure 11: Chapel Hill Baptist Church located at 610 Chestnut Street, in Thayer. This church building was constructed in 1936 with a 1952 addition constructed by Charlie Angotti⁴¹. (Source Google streetview, accessed 1/27/2017)



⁴¹ Ozark Rock Survey

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Figure 12: Floorplan, Upper level, 1901 Source: Kenneth Franke, 2016

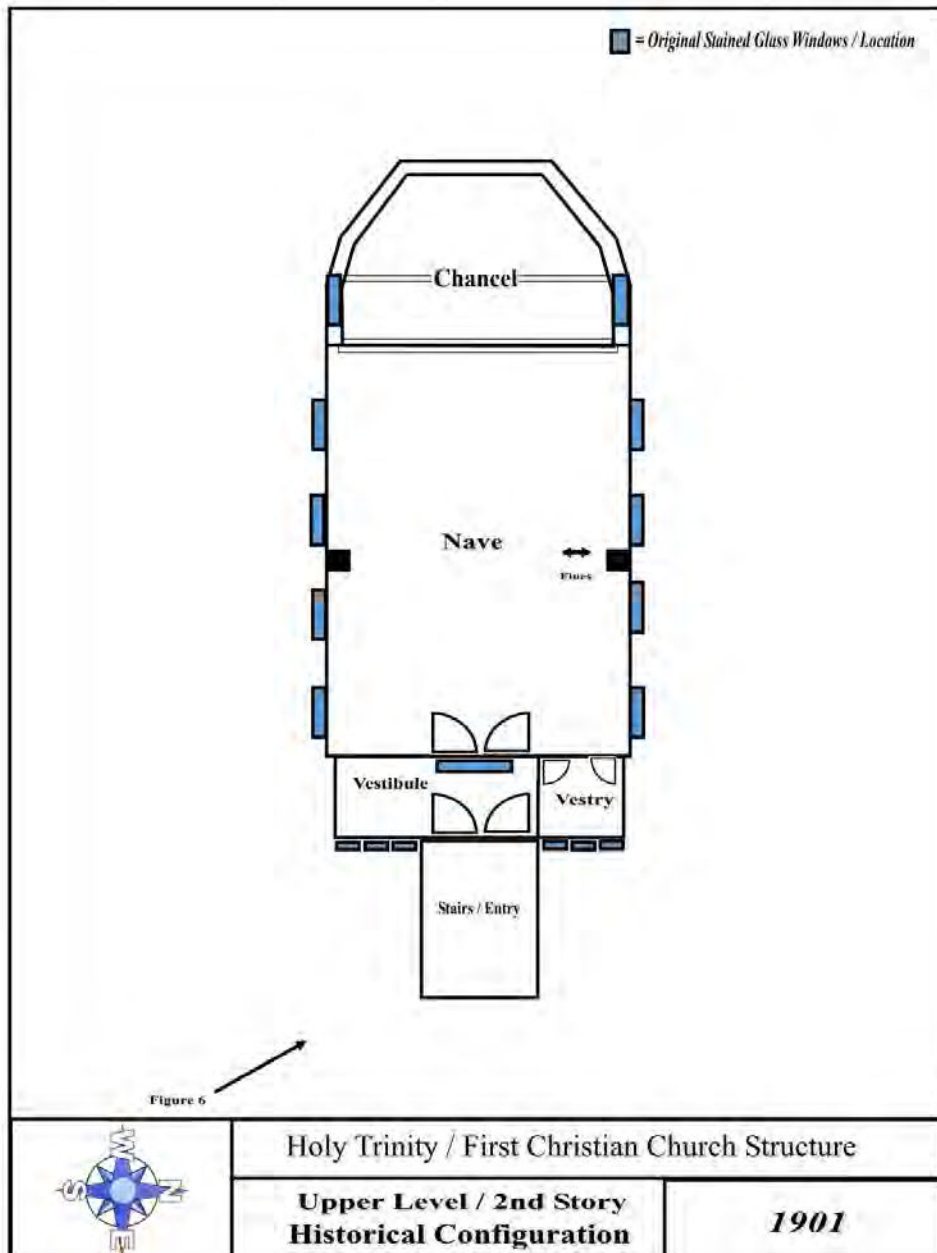


Figure Source: Kenneth Franke

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Figure 13: Floorplan Lower level, 1901 Source: Kenneth Franke, 2016

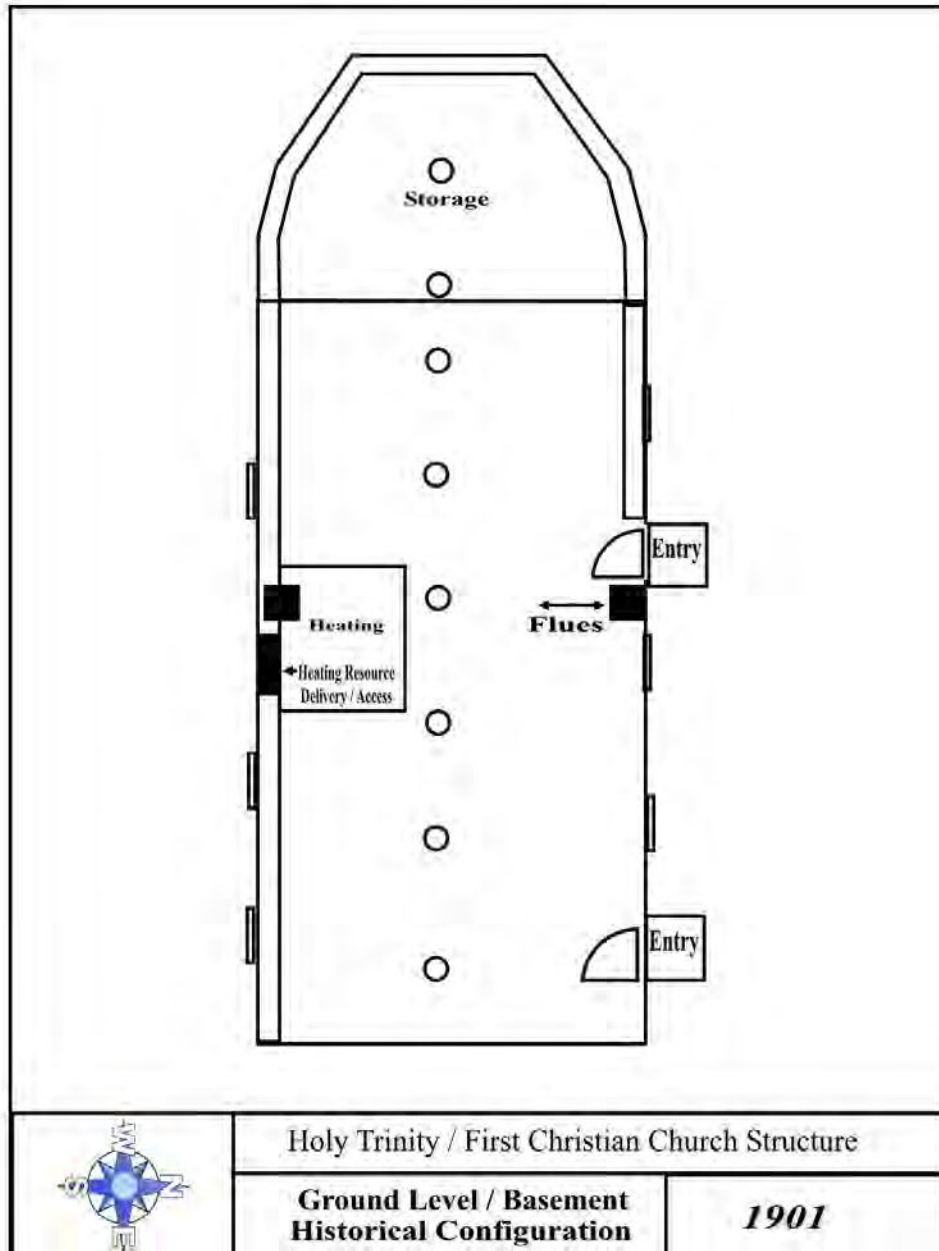


Figure Source: Kenneth Franke

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Figure 14: Floorplan Upper level, 1920 Source: Kenneth Franke, 2016

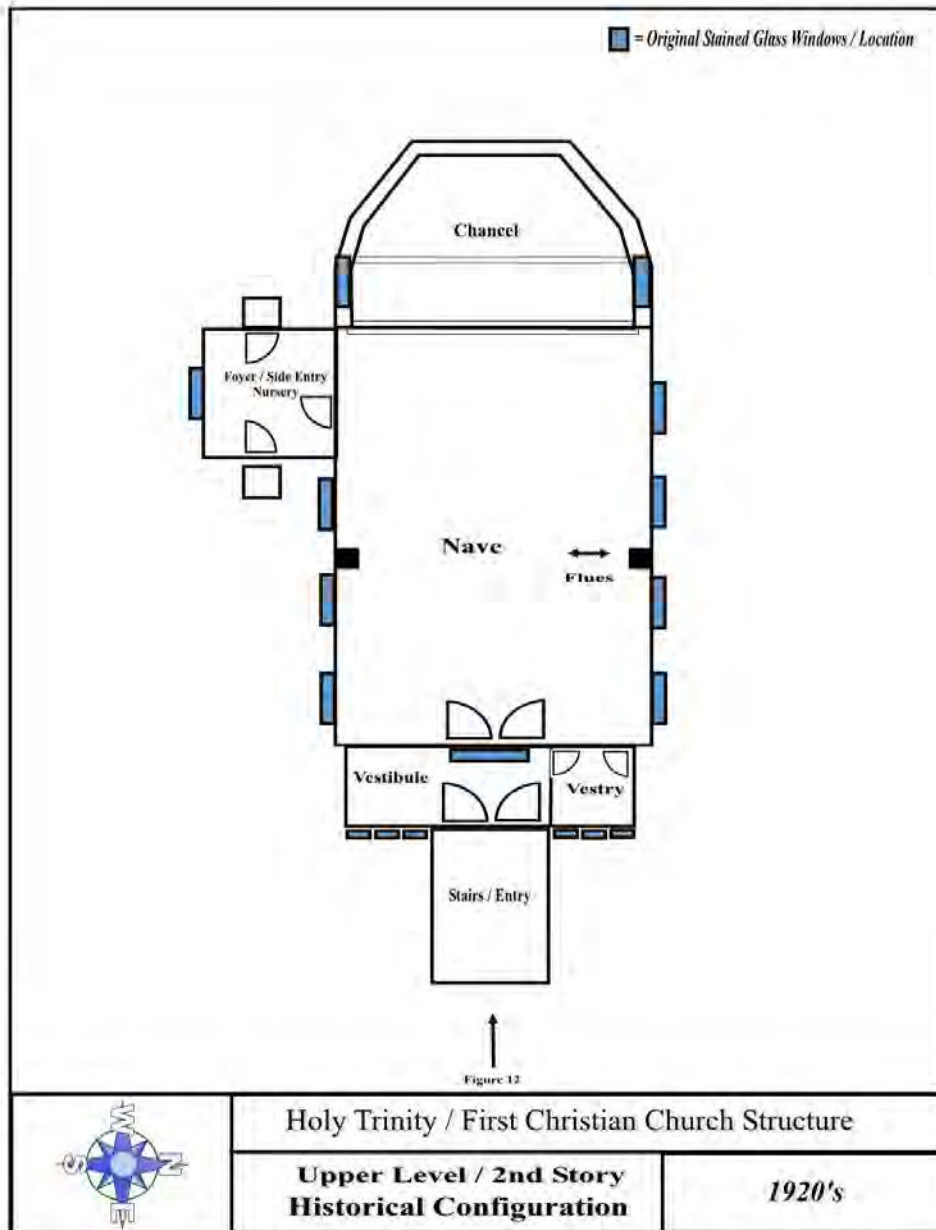


Figure Source: Kenneth Franke

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Figure 15: Floorplan lower level, 1920 Source: Kenneth Franke, 2016

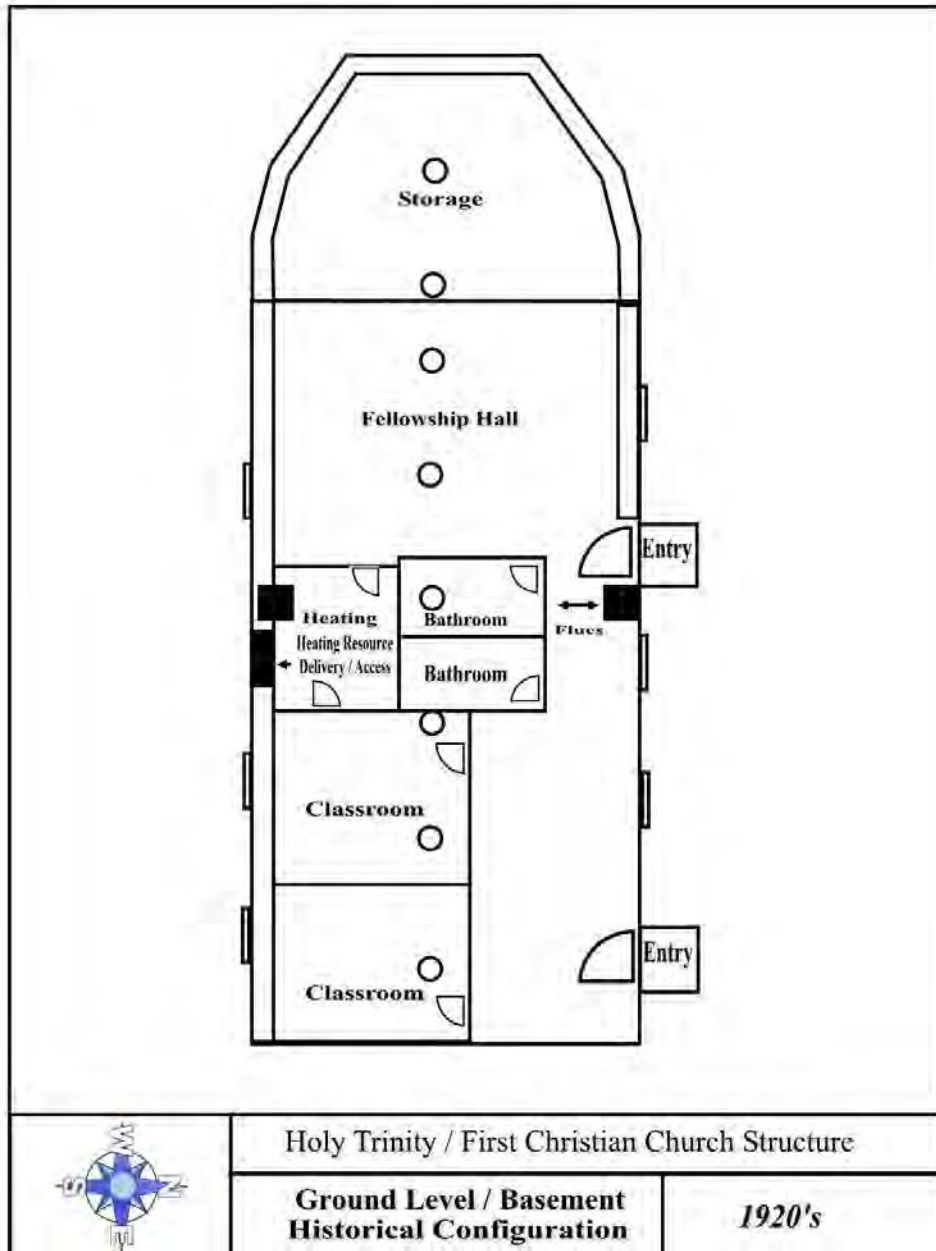


Figure Source: Kenneth Franke

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Figure 16: Floorplan Upper level, c. 1950s Source: Kenneth Franke, 2016

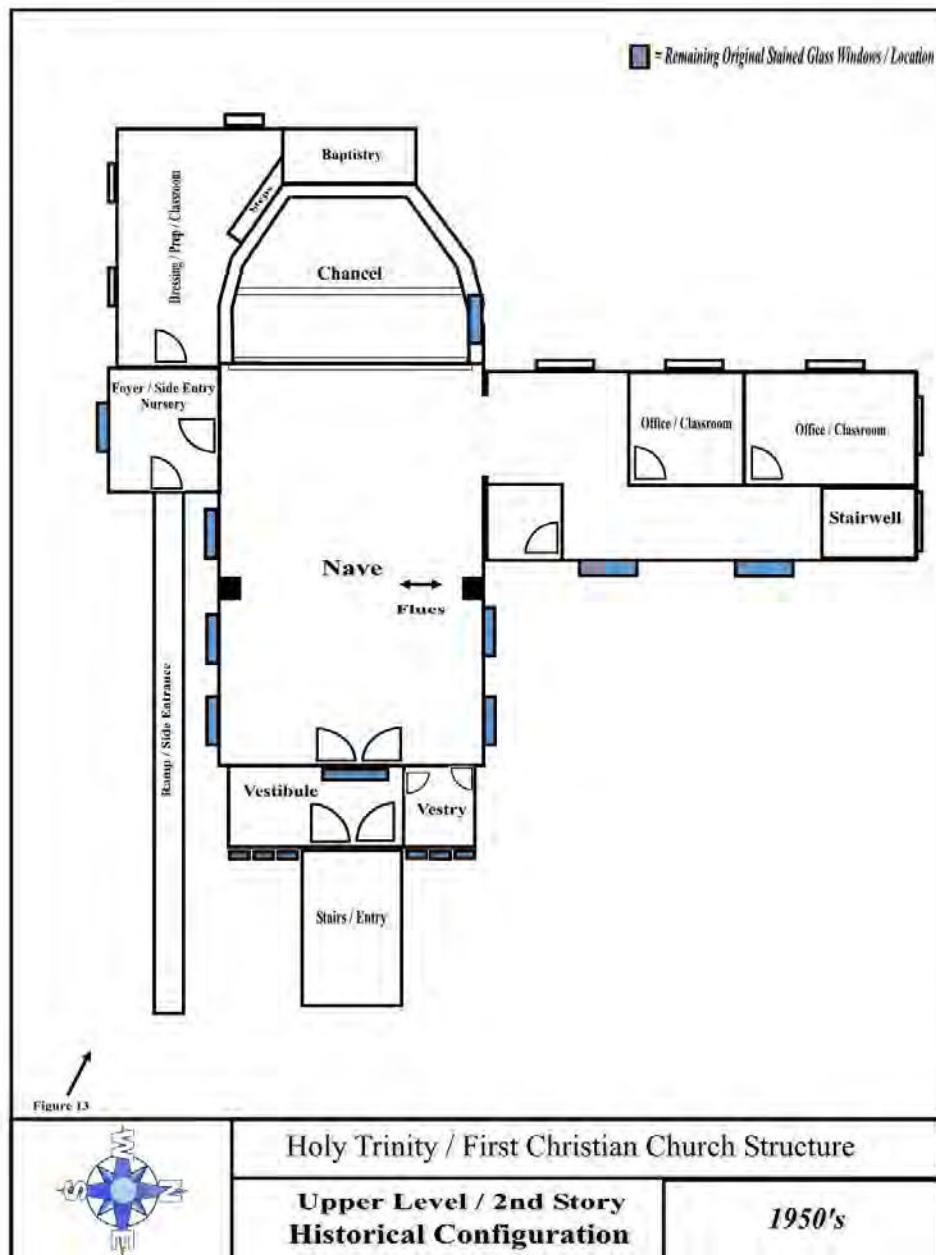


Figure Source: Kenneth Franke

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Figure 17: Floorplan lower level, c. 1950s Source: Kenneth Franke, 2016

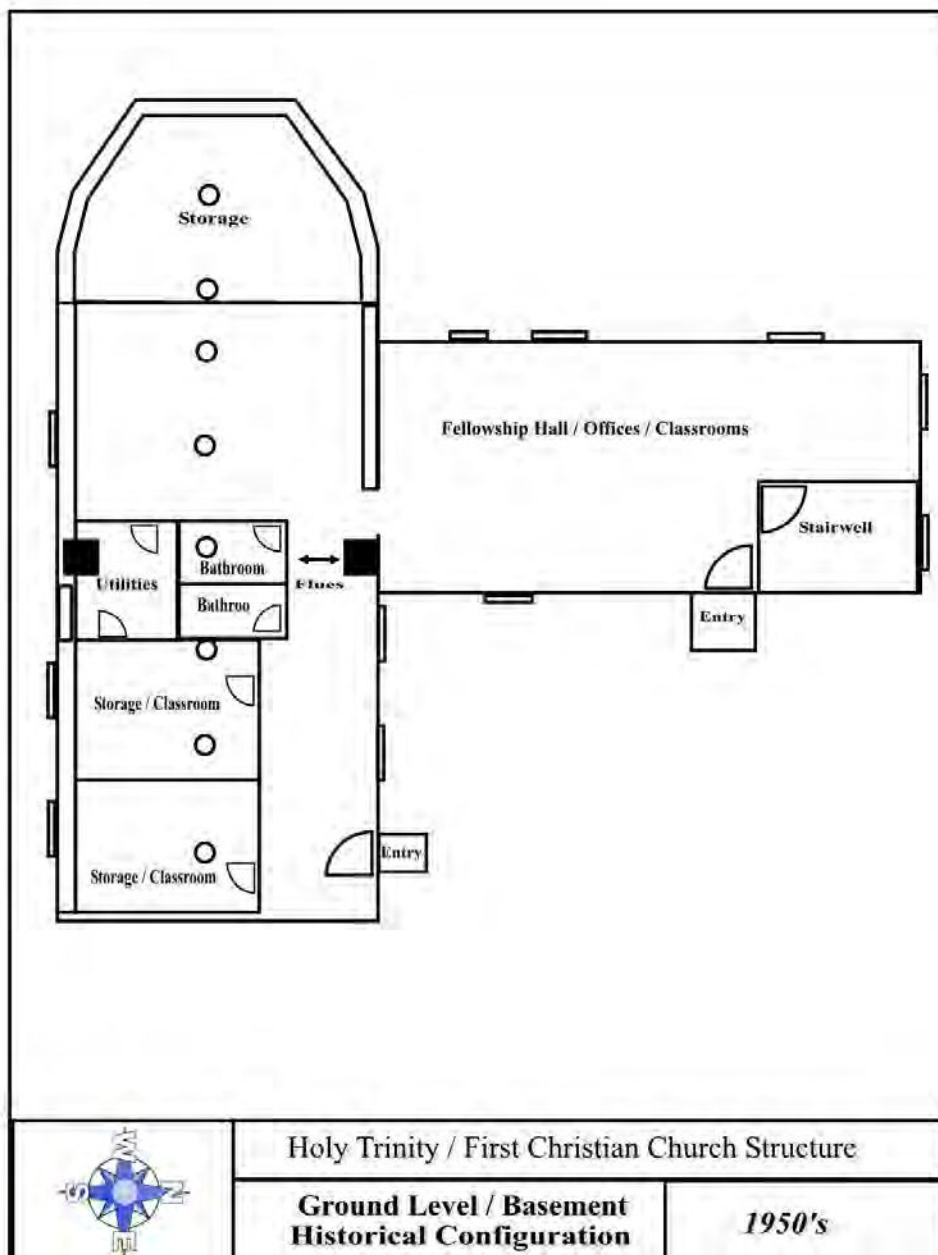


Figure Source: Kenneth Franke

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Figure 18: Floorplan Upper level, 2016 Source: Kenneth Franke, 2016

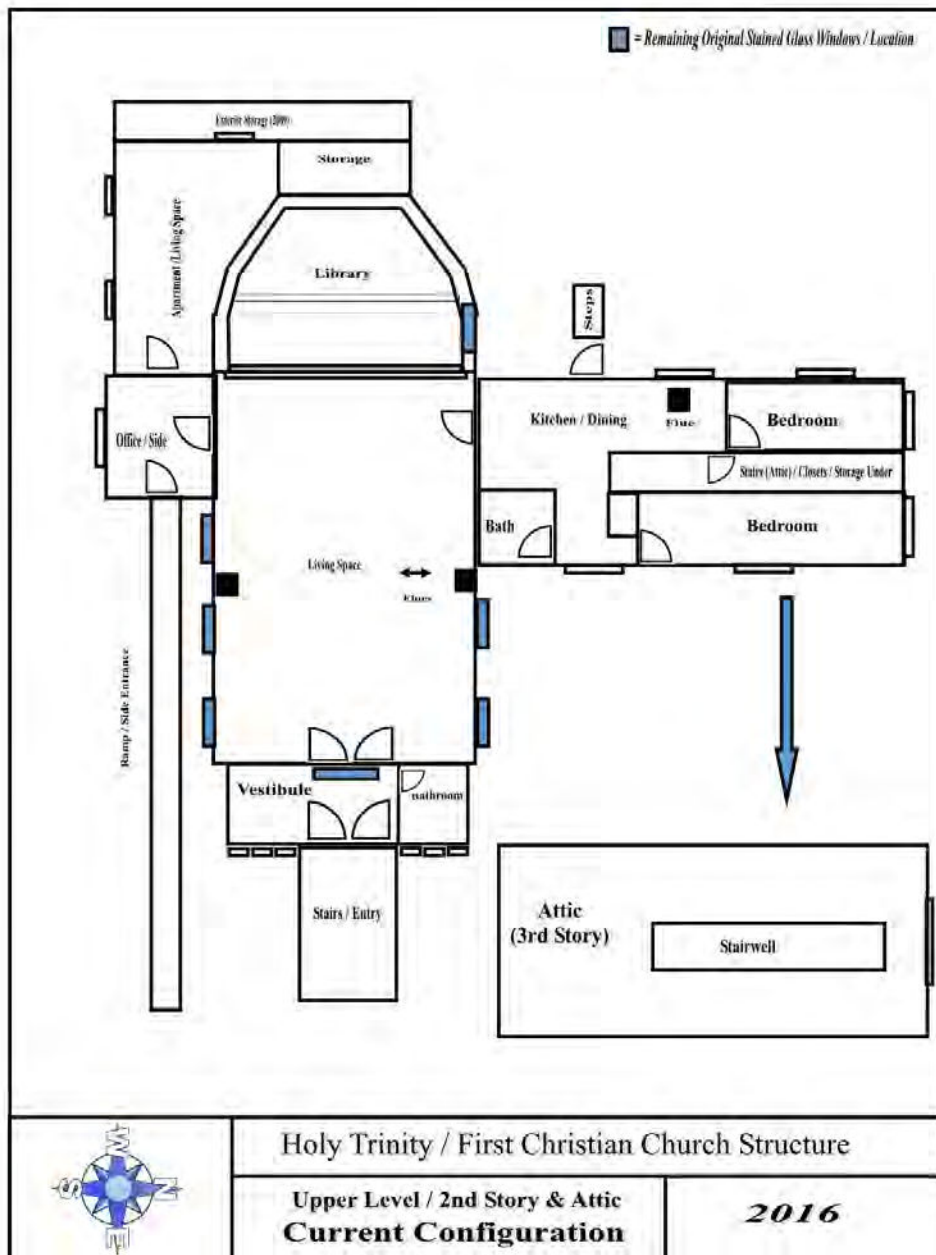


Figure Source: Kenneth Franke

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Figure 19: Floorplan Lower level, 2016 Source: Kenneth Franke, 2016

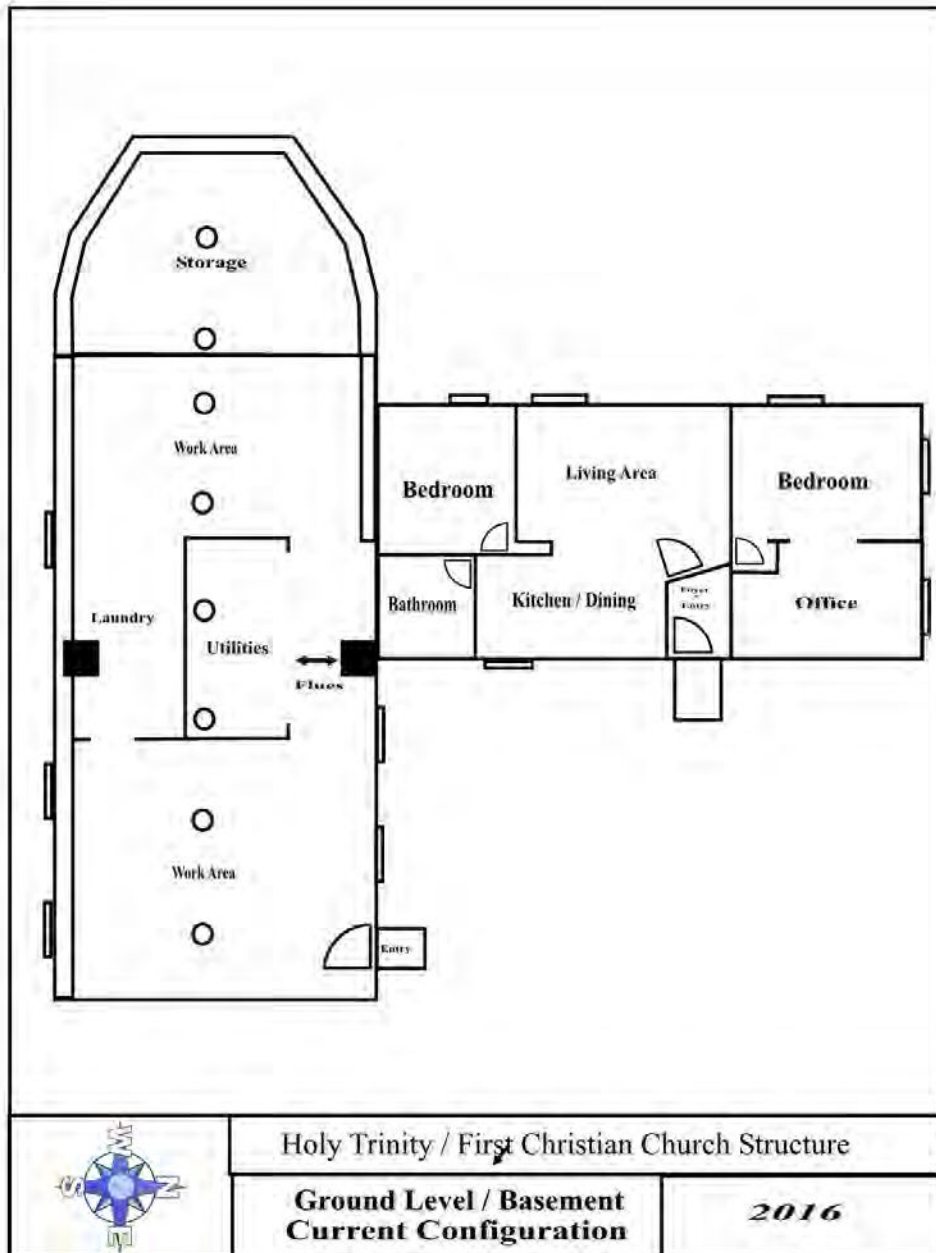


Figure Source: Kenneth Franke

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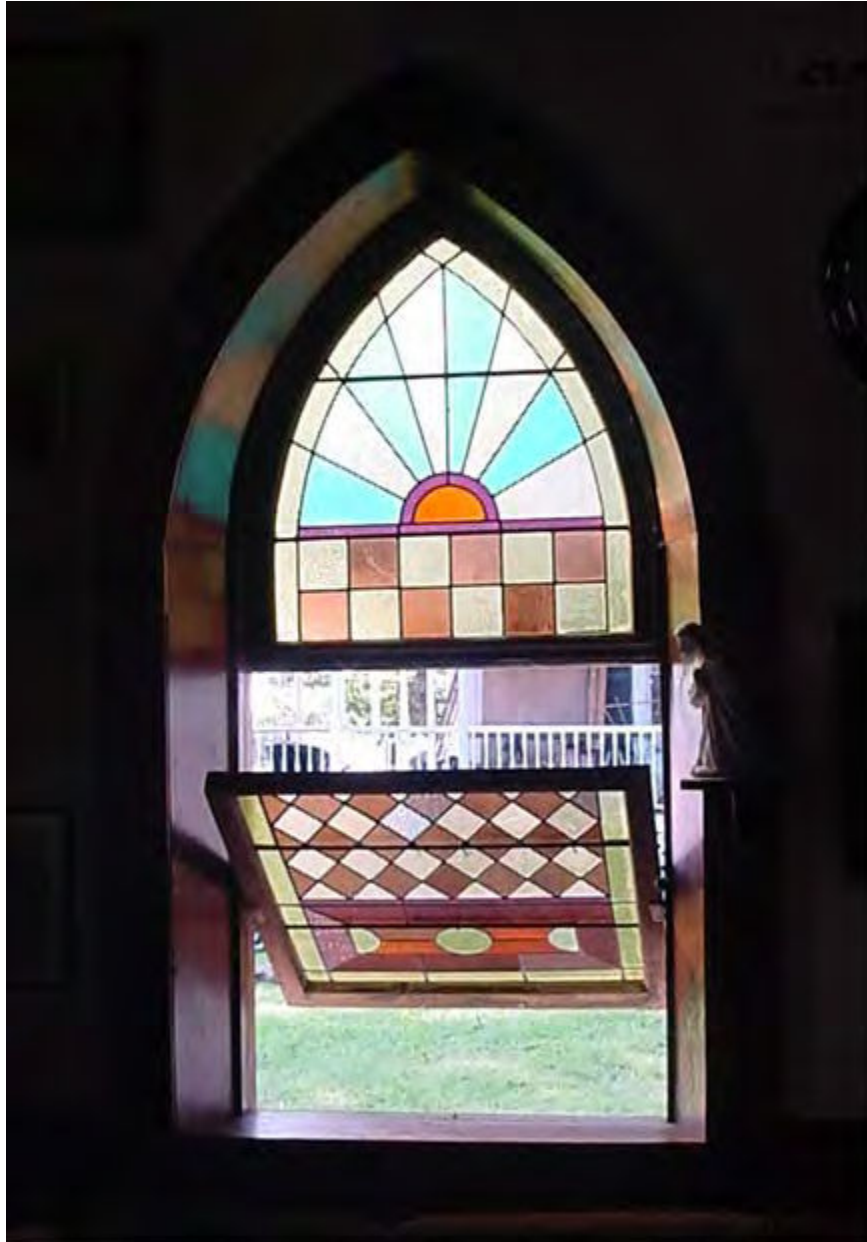
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Figure 20: Detailed window, (Source: Kenneth Franke, taken 10/16)



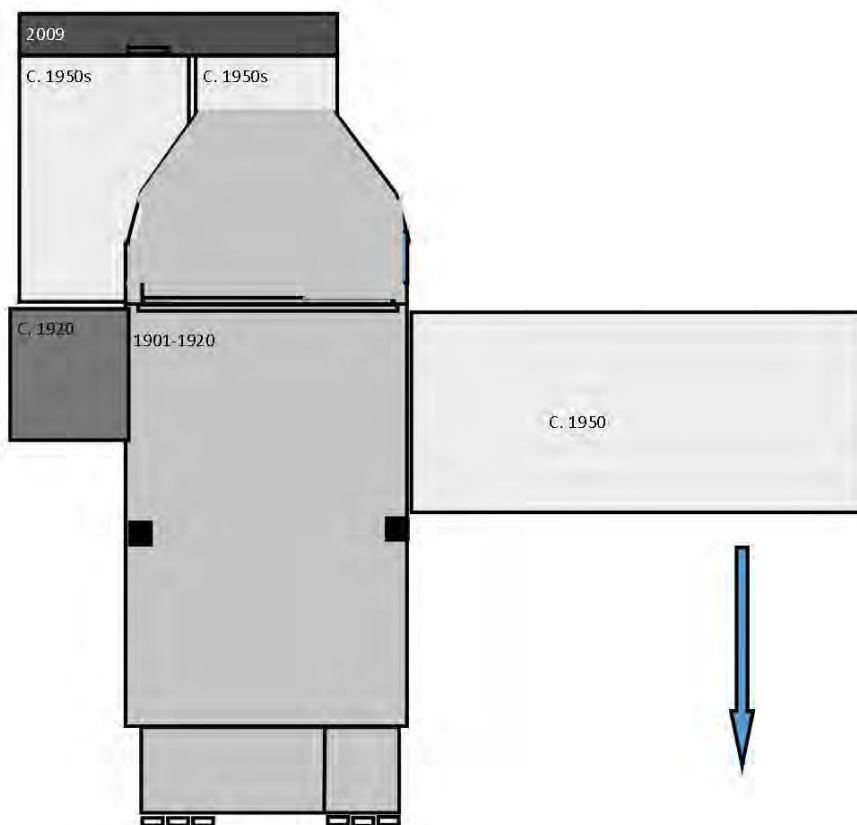
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Figure 21: Dates of Construction: Source Kenneth Franke adapted by Allison Archambo.

Figure 21



	Holy Trinity / First Christian Church Structure	
	Dates of additions Current Configuration	2016

Figure Source: Kenneth Franke

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Figure 22: Photo Key. Floor plans provided by Kenneth Franke edits by Allison Archambo

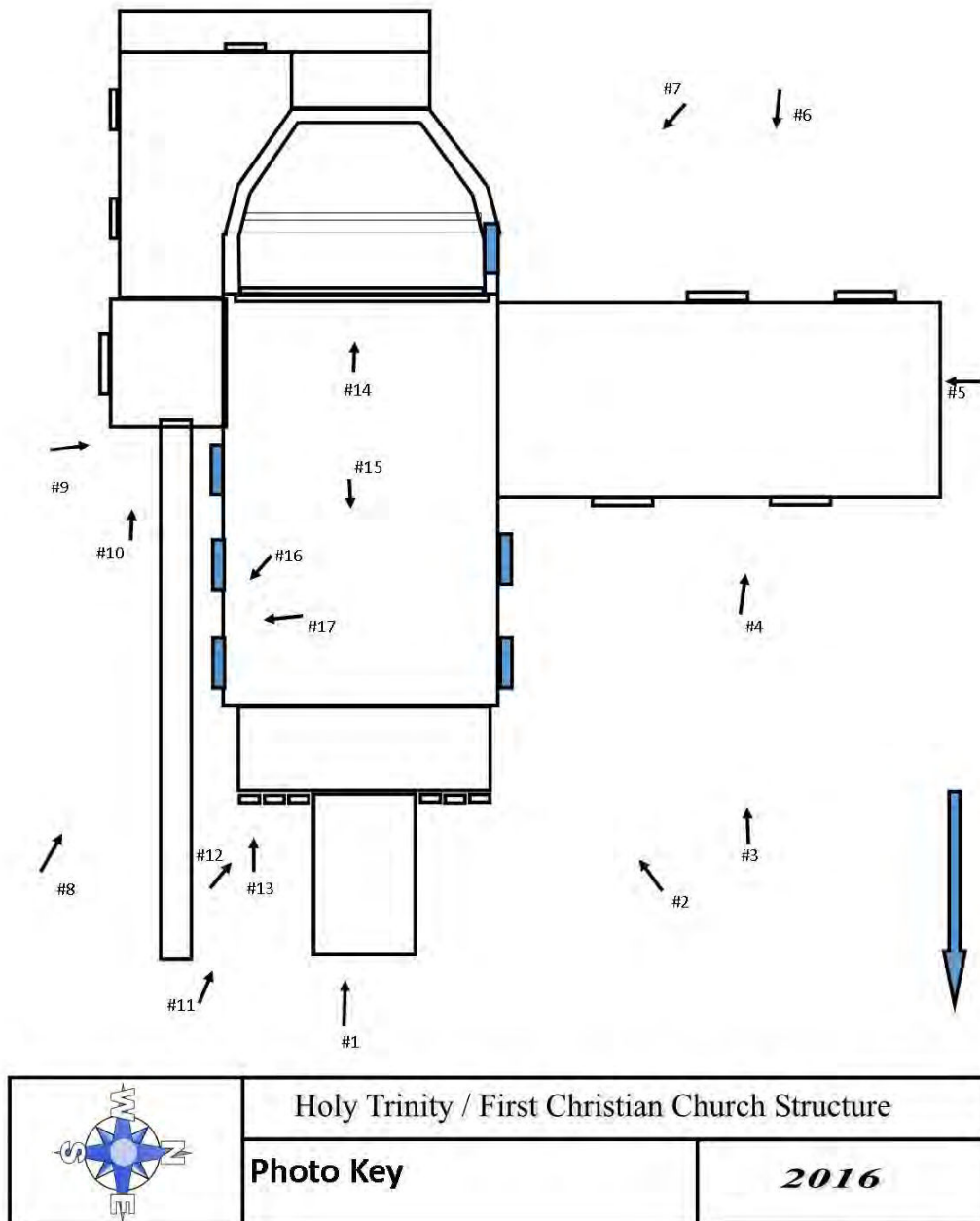


Figure Source: Kenneth Franke













A dark chimney pipe extends from the roof down to a metal vent cap on the roof surface.

An arched window with dark wood trim, partially open, showing a view of the interior.

A closed arched window with dark wood trim.

A dark door with a transom window, accessed by a set of wooden steps.

A multi-tiered birdhouse mounted on a tall, thin metal pole.

A single-tiered birdhouse mounted on a wooden post.

A small, rectangular window with dark trim, partially obscured by shadows.

A small, rectangular window with dark trim, located near the base of the door.

A vintage-style bicycle leaning against the side of the house.

A stone birdbath on a pedestal.

A blue metal lawn chair in the foreground.













ST. TRINITY
CHURCH
ERECTED TO THE GLORY OF GOD
A. D. 1901







