

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
PRIMARY RECORD

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____
NRHP Status Code 6Z

Other Listings _____

Review Code _____ Reviewer _____ Date _____

Page 1 of 21 Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) 111 Errett Circle

P1. Other Identifier: Garfield Park Christian Church

*P2. Location: ☐ Not for Publication ☒ Unrestricted

*a. County Santa Cruz

*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Santa Cruz, CA

Date 2018

c. Address 111 Errett Circle

City Santa Cruz

Zip 95060

d. UTM: _____

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number 00415101

***P3a. Description:**

111 Errett Circle (APN 00415101) contains a U-shaped church building on a circular parcel in Santa Cruz's Circles neighborhood. The church was constructed in three campaigns between 1958 and 1961 to house the congregation of Garfield Park Christian Church. Local draftsman Frank Barhite designed the church and John Guinan was the project's general contractor. The C-shaped subject building is comprised of a long one-story sanctuary that links two parallel subsidiary single-story wings. The primary range and subsidiary wings form a south-facing courtyard with arcades lining the perimeter. A two-story tower adjoins the sanctuary range in the central courtyard. The building is rendered in a vernacular interpretation of Ranch architecture, conveyed through its massing, materials, and modest features. Pointed and round-headed arches are recurrent forms throughout the building, framing windows, doors, and other openings. The building is clad in stucco and its wings are capped with asphalt-shingled gabled roofs. The roof's eaves have exposed rafter tails. The subject building is situated on a 1.6-acre circular lot at the center of a concentrically planned neighborhood in western Santa Cruz. The church spans nearly the entire diameter of the circular parcel; the remaining land is comprised of paved parking lots and the grassy central courtyard. (See Continuation Sheet, page 2).

***P3b. Resource Attributes:** (List attributes and codes) HP16: religious building

***P4. Resources Present:** ☒ Building ☐ Structure ☐ Object ☐ Site ☐ District ☐ Element of District ☐ Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Photo: View of subject building's courtyard and sanctuary's south façade, May 23, 2019.

P5a. Photo



***P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:** ☒ Historic

☐ Prehistoric ☐ Both
1958 – 1963 (Source: newspapers, building permit applications on file)

***P7. Owner and Address:**

Circle of Friends, LLC, 111 Errett Circle,
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

***P8. Recorded by:**

Page & Turnbull, Inc., 170 Maiden Lane,
San Francisco CA 94108

***P9. Date Recorded:** May 23, 2019

***P10. Survey Type:** Intensive

***P11. Report Citation:** None

***Attachments:** ☐ NONE ☐ Location Map ☒ Continuation Sheet ☒ Building, Structure, and Object Record

☐ Archaeological Record ☐ District Record ☐ Linear Feature Record ☐ Milling Station Record ☐ Rock Art Record

☐ Artifact Record ☐ Photograph Record ☐ Other (List): _____

Page 2 of 21

*Recorded by Page & Turnbull, Inc.

Resource Name or # 111 Errett Circle

*Date May 23, 2019

☒ Continuation

☐ Update

***P3a. Description (Continued)**

Property Description Overview

111 Errett Circle was constructed as a church and is situated on a circular parcel in the center of a concentrically planned neighborhood. The subject building has a U-shaped footprint, established by a primary east-west wing and two subsidiary wings projecting orthogonally from it (**Figure 1**). The wings partially enclose an ample central courtyard that is oriented south towards Woodrow Avenue and the ocean. The building's primary east-west wing spans nearly the entire diameter of the circular parcel and accommodates the building's largest and most publicly accessible interior spaces: the sanctuary and a gymnasium, separated by a vestibule. The two subsidiary wings contain various classrooms, offices, and restrooms.

The church is clad in rough-finish stucco and is sheltered with low-slung asphalt-shingle gable roofs. Other than a partial second story on the primary range and a church tower, the building is one-story. Given its prominence at the center of a concentric and radial street pattern, it can be approached from many directions. However, the courtyard lends the building its most public countenance. The multistory church tower is centered on the south façade of the primary range, extending into the courtyard away from the range's envelope. Covered passages run along the wings that form the courtyard's perimeter.

111 Errett Circle is rendered in the Ranch style, conveyed through elements such as its low-slung massing, rambling footprint, covered passages, shallow-pitch roof, and exposed rafter tails (**Figure 2**). Other features do not directly contribute to the subject building's Ranch style, but distinguish it as a church, including the recurring use of pointed arches, the church tower, and its spire. Various types of casement windows comprise most of the building's fenestration, varying in shape and size, as well as the orientation and location of operable parts. For the purposes of this architectural description, the building will be discussed by module; first, the primary range, then, the subsidiary wings.



Figure 1: Aerial photograph of subject building. Parcel outlined in orange. Source: Google Maps, 2019.



Figure 2: View of typical Ranch elements on subject building.

Exterior

The primary range is situated on an east-west axis on the northern half of the circular parcel. This range has an elongated rectangular footprint with public entrances on the north façade, from a parking lot, and on the south façade, from the large central courtyard. The building's two subsidiary wings are attached to the south façade, extending southward away from the primary range. This primary range has one story, except for the central three bays rising to a second story and the church tower that projects into the courtyard. This range of the building contains the sanctuary and gymnasium, and fenestration varies according to the interior space it enters. Windows and doors to the sanctuary, gymnasium, or vestibule have pointed-arch surrounds, while doors and windows to less public spaces are smaller with less embellishment.

The north façade of the primary range opens onto a parking lot. The long façade hints at symmetry, with a central entrance and second-story protrusion, but the fenestration is not organized into bays of equal width, nor is there an identical number of windows on either side of the entrance (**Figure 3 – Figure 4**). The entrance is marked by a projecting porch, with pointed arch openings and a shallow gabled roof. The primary door behind leads to the sanctuary vestibule and has a pointed-arch surround (**Figure 5**). To the west (right) of the entrance porch and clustered towards the center, five casement windows with pointed-arch surrounds illuminate the sanctuary. These windows are aluminum frame and have a large fixed center section, with smaller operable panels above and below. West of these five windows, a wide, uninterrupted expanse of stucco continues to the building corner, except for a small, fixed two-light aluminum window. A three-light aluminum casement window with operable bottom light is immediately east (left) of

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____

Page 3 of 21

*Recorded by Page & Turnbull, Inc.

Resource Name or # 111 Errett Circle

*Date May 23, 2019

☒ Continuation

☐ Update

the entrance porch, followed by eight large casement windows, with fixed center sections and operable panels above and below, each with a pointed-arch surround. The second story of the north façade contains three bays, centered above the projecting entrance porch (**Figure 6**). Each bay has a pointed arch surround, the left containing a door that leads out onto a small balcony and the two right containing three-light casement windows with operable bottom lights.



Figure 3: Oblique view of north façade, looking southeast.



Figure 4: Oblique view of north façade, looking southwest.



Figure 5: Primary entrance on north façade.



Figure 6: Second story on north façade.

The east façade of the building's primary wing encompasses the short end of its rectangular footprint (**Figure 7**). The façade has no windows or doors, but it is elaborated with two large piers that frame a large projecting cross and the text "Garfield Park" under the gable end. A stone planter is situated beneath these piers. To the south (left) of the large piers, a rectangular entrance with rounded corners leads behind one of the projecting subsidiary wings to the courtyard and the covered passage that runs along the south façade of the primary range (**Figure 8**).

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 4 of 21

*Recorded by Page & Turnbull, Inc.

Primary # _____

HRI # _____

Trinomial _____

Resource Name or # 111 Errett Circle

*Date May 23, 2019

☒ Continuation

☐ Update



Figure 7: East façade.



Figure 8: East façade with opening to covered passage.

A covered passage runs the length of the south façade, supported by square wood posts (Figure 9– Figure 10). For most of its span, the passage is open to the courtyard on the south. However, on the east and west ends of the façade, the passage is enclosed on the south where the projecting wings commence. The church tower marks the center of the south façade, and it has an open base with a large pointed arch opening. Like the north façade, the primary wing's south façade has symmetrical massing on either side of the center tower, but it has unsymmetrical fenestration. The façade's primary entrance, leading to the sanctuary vestibule, is centered on the façade under the church tower base. The entrance is a two-leaf, glazed aluminum door within a pointed arch surround. To the east (right), a three-light casement window with an operable bottom panel and an adjacent solid wood door lead to a secondary interior space. Further east, two large casement windows with fixed center sections and operable panels above and below have pointed arch surrounds and flank a solid wooden door. These windows and door lead to the gymnasium. To the west (left) of the central entrance and church tower, four similar large casement windows with pointed arch surrounds illuminate the sanctuary. Further west in the covered passage, obscured by the projecting wing, a two-leaf solid wood door leads to the sanctuary and two single-leaf wood doors lead to service spaces behind the sanctuary. The second story of the south façade encompasses the three-bay second-story block that fronts the north façade, as well as the church tower. The tower has a large suspended cross on its south wall and pointed arch windows on its side walls (Figure 11).



Figure 9: South façade.



Figure 10: View west through covered passage along south façade.



Figure 11: Windows on second story and tower.

The west façade is similar to the east façade, with two large piers framing a cross and text identifying the church's name (Figure 12). Two small windows are positioned north (left) of the piers, illuminating interior service spaces behind the sanctuary.



Figure 12: West façade.

The building's two wings project southward from the primary wing in telescoping, successively narrower sections. The west wing extends in four telescoping sections and the shorter east wing extends in three sections. The wings contain restrooms, offices, classrooms, and other secondary spaces.

On the west wing, the west façade is divided between the four telescoping sections (Figure 13). Each section has three bays and each bay has paired, three-light casement windows. The northernmost telescoping section also contains a solid wooden door, covered by a simple, gable-roofed porch. The east wing's south façade contains a trio of three-light casement windows (Figure 14). A covered passage runs along the wing's east façade (Figure 15). The façade has a somewhat irregular pattern of doors and few windows illuminating the interior. Thirteen single-leaf, solid or glazed wood doors along the façade lead inside, and three elongated, high fixed windows are positioned towards the north (right) end of the façade, illuminating restrooms.

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____

Page 6 of 21

*Recorded by Page & Turnbull, Inc.

Resource Name or # 111 Errett Circle

*Date May 23, 2019

☒ Continuation

☐ Update



Figure 13: West façade of west wing.



Figure 14: South façade of west wing.



Figure 15: East façade of west wing.

On the east wing, the west façade has a covered passage running along it (**Figure 16**). Like the courtyard-facing façade on the opposing wing, the west façade of the east wing contains numerous single-leaf doors and elongated restroom windows. The façade also has a paired, three-light casement window. The south façade of the east wing contains two paired three-light casement windows (**Figure 17**). The east wing's east façade is articulated with the three telescoping sections (**Figure 18**). The sections contain groupings of three-light casement windows, fixed two-light windows, and solid wood doors.

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____

Page 7 of 21

*Recorded by Page & Turnbull, Inc.

Resource Name or # 111 Errett Circle

*Date May 23, 2019

☒ Continuation

☐ Update



Figure 16: West façade of east wing.



Figure 17: South façade of east wing.



Figure 18: East façade of east wing.

Interior

The subject building's most significant and publicly visible interior spaces are the sanctuary and the gymnasium (previously the fellowship hall), which are located in the primary range. The subsidiary wings are more private and contain offices, classrooms, and restrooms.

A large sanctuary occupies half of the range's volume on the west end. The sanctuary is entered through a vestibule, a passage that runs between the center entrances on the north and south façades of the primary wing (Figure 19). The vestibule is carpeted and has gypsum board walls. The west wall is a wood and glass partition that looks into the sanctuary. A two-leaf aluminum frame glazed door enters the sanctuary in this partition. The sanctuary itself is oriented towards an altar on the room's west wall and the ceiling is vaulted, articulating the gabled roof above (Figure 20). The carpeted room has nine rows of upholstered wood pews, bisected with a center aisle. The side walls at the sanctuary's rear and the wood and glass partition to the vestibule are covered in acoustic tile squares, arranged in offset rows (Figure 21). At the front of the sanctuary, two steps lead to a raised altar. A recessed panel on the west wall contains a large cross. This cross is flanked by large wood frame panels that abut the wall's corners. The room's vaulted ceiling is supported with five wood pointed arch buttresses. The buttresses emphasize the room's volume and resemble a ship's hull. Interspersed between these buttresses, silver metal pendant lights hang from the ceiling (Figure 22). The ceiling is clad in plank wood.



Figure 19: Vestibule.



Figure 20: Sanctuary, towards alter.



Figure 21: Sanctuary, towards vestibule.



Figure 22: Pendant light.

A gymnasium occupies half the wing's volume on the east end (Figure 23). The gymnasium is accessed through a door off the covered passage around the courtyard. Like the sanctuary, the room has a vaulted plank wood ceiling, supported by wood pointed arch buttresses. However, the room is outfitted differently from the sanctuary to accommodate basketball and other activities.



Figure 23: Gymnasium.

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

Page 9 of 20

*Resource Name or # 111 Errett Circle *NRHP Status Code 6Z

B1. Historic Name: Garfield Park Christian Church

B2. Common Name: Circles Church

B3. Original Use: Church

B4. Present Use: Church

*B5. Architectural Style: Ranch

*B6. Construction History:

Construction at 111 Errett Circle commenced in October 1958. Frank A. Barhite designed the building and drafted the plans, while general contractor Jack Guinan carried out the project. The building opened in June 1959, comprised of the primary range and the beginning lengths of the two telescoping wings. These wings were later extended southward according to Barhite's plans. The west wing was extended between 1960 and 1961 and the east wing was extended between 1961 and 1963. At an undetermined date, before 1997, the fellowship hall was converted into a gymnasium.

(For a table of building permit applications, see Continuation Sheet, page 9).

*B7. Moved? ☒ No ☐ Yes ☐ Unknown Date: _____ Original Location: _____

*B8. Related Features: N/A

B9a. Architect: Frank Barhite (designer; not a licensed architect) b. Builder: Jack Guinan

*B10. Significance: Theme Neighborhood Development Area Santa Cruz
Period of Significance N/A Property Type Religious Building Applicable Criteria N/A

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

City of Santa Cruz

The indigenous Ohlone people occupied the land that would become Santa Cruz when the Spanish arrived in California in 1769. Beginning in the 1790s, the future city accommodated a Spanish mission and a secular pueblo, but the area remained sparsely populated until the 1840s, when American settlers began to arrive in the area, then under Mexican rule. By the time the American government took possession of California in 1848, a commercial center developed in the flatlands south of the former mission. As more settlers arrived, various industries developed in Santa Cruz, including a sawmill, a kiln, and a foundry.¹ Powder manufacturing and lumber became the city's primary early industries, and Santa Cruz County became a major supplier of wood to San Francisco as its northern neighbor developed into a major city.² The arrival of community services to Santa Cruz, such as churches, facilitated the city's growth into a comfortable residential community. Early churches included United Methodist Church, founded in 1848, and Calvary Episcopal Church, founded in 1862.

See Continuation Sheet, page 9.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) _____

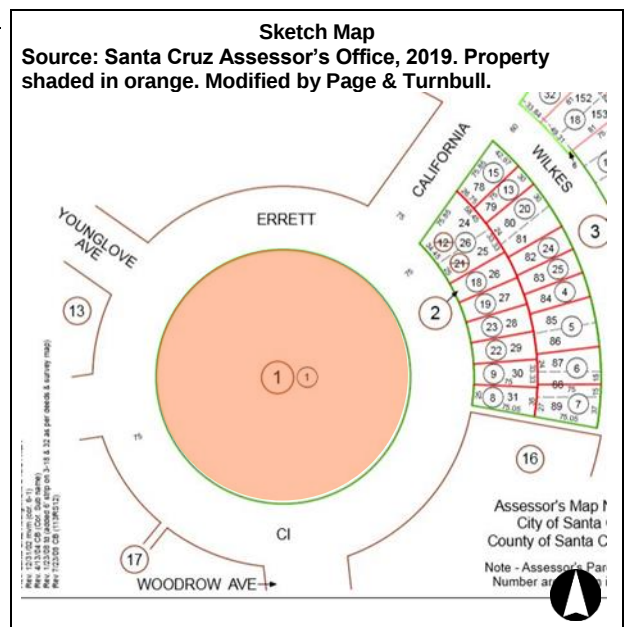
*B12. References: See Continuation Sheet, page 16.

B13. Remarks:

*B14. Evaluator: Robert Watkins and Christina Dikas, Page & Turnbull, Inc.

*Date of Evaluation: May 23, 2019

(This space reserved for official comments.)



¹ Charles Hall Page & Associates, Inc., "Santa Cruz Historic Building Survey, Vol. 1," Prepared for the City of Santa Cruz. (San Francisco, 1976), 9.

² Ibid., 10.

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____

Page 10 of 21

*Recorded by Page & Turnbull, Inc.

Resource Name or # 111 Errett Circle
*Date May 23, 2019 ☒ Continuation ☐ Update

***B6. Construction History (continued):**

Building permit applications on file at the City of Santa Cruz Planning & Community Development Department document the following construction efforts and alterations:

Date	Permit #	Owner	Description
10/16/1958	A5554	Garfield Park Christian Church	Construct new church building.
12/01/1960	A3126	Garfield Park Christian Church	Construct west wing addition as per original plans revised.
12/13/1961	8085	Garfield Park Christian Church	Construct 40' east wing section as per original plan.
08/31/1962	A8896	Garfield Park Christian Church	Remove existing stairway and install ladder for fire escape.
07/26/1963	A9790	Garfield Park Christian Church	Construct 22' x 46' addition to east wing of church classroom building.
06/18/1971	A17877	Garfield Park Christian Church	Install new wall to replace folding partition.
11/02/1971	A18216	Garfield Park Christian Church	Install acoustic tile in sanctuary.
02/13/1975	A21431	Garfield Park Christian Church	Interior remodel – enclose existing area for sound chamber for organ.
01/24/1980	A26663	Garfield Park Christian Church	Remodel bathroom in building.
10/02/1990	90-588	Garfield Park Christian Church	Modify existing exterior wall framing.

***B10. Significance (continued):**

Historic Context:

A railroad line connected Santa Cruz to nearby Watsonville and Gilroy in 1876, allowing Santa Cruz to be more accessible to tourists. In the 1880s, hotels, baths, and amusements were constructed to attract visitors who would sometimes stay weeks at a time. In 1894, the city received national publicity with an article in *Harper's Weekly* and by the turn of the century, Santa Cruz became one of the West Coast's major seaside resort towns.³ President Teddy Roosevelt visited Santa Cruz in 1903 and the Santa Cruz Boardwalk opened in 1907. Along with an increasing number of seasonal visitors, the year-round population increased as well. New residential neighborhoods developed in disarranged grids east and west of downtown, in the West Cliffs area and in Seabright. These neighborhoods were linked with a streetcar system.⁴

In 1915, a highway opened to Santa Cruz, changing the nature of tourism in the city. Visitors came for shorter periods of time, and auto camps, motels, and other car-centered accommodations were developed. While tourism slowed in the first decades of the twentieth century, the University of California system announced plans to expand with new campuses in 1957. In 1965, the University of California, Santa Cruz opened in the bluffs overlooking the city.⁵

Garfield Park Neighborhood

110 Errett Circle is located at the center of the Garfield Park area, a neighborhood in western Santa Cruz distinguished by its concentric and radial street plan. The west side of Santa Cruz remained largely undeveloped until the last decade of the nineteenth century. A large horse track, the Ocean View Race Track, opened adjacent to the present neighborhood around the 1870s and was the most extensive development in the environs.⁶ In the 1880s, Rev. David Walk of Tennessee, a leader in the Christian Church denomination, visited Santa Cruz and envisioned the city to be an ideal location for a religious encampment.⁷ The Christian Church was the third-largest Protestant denomination in the country and its leaders were expanding the church's presence in California. In 1889, the denomination looked to establish an annual retreat in California, partly inspired by the successful Methodist camp in Pacific Grove.⁸

Santa Cruz landowners F.A. Hihn, E.H. Robinson, and Abram T. King offered ten acres of land in the west side of Santa Cruz. They were eager to develop the land and proposed to build a college or hotel on the land, even if the church did not decide to use the property.⁹ On September 23, 1889, the Christian Church Convention accepted the 10-acre property, christening it Santa Cruz Christian Park, though the camp ultimately assumed the name Garfield Park, after the late President and Christian Church member James A. Garfield.¹⁰

By October of the same year, F.A. Hihn's development corporation had begun to lay out streets for Garfield Park. The religious encampment was designed with concentric streets and radial boulevards aligned to provide vistas of the community centerpiece, the tabernacle in the center of the development. The octagonal structure had a capacity of nearly 2,000 to accommodate the Christian Church's annual meetings. (Figure 24).

³ Charles Hall Page & Associates, 11.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ G. William Domhoff, "The Leftmost City: Power & Progressive Politics in Santa Cruz," *Who Rules America?*, January 2009, <https://whorulesamerica.ucsc.edu/santacruz/history.html>.

⁶ Margaret Koch, "In Good Old Days, Santa Cruz Had Three Horse Race Tracks," *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, May 13, 1962.

⁷ "Eight Sided Tabernacle," *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, November 30, 1941.

⁸ "Paradise Found," *Santa Cruz Surf*, September 19, 1889.

⁹ "A New Project," *Santa Cruz Daily Sentinel*, July 31, 1889.

¹⁰ "Christian Convention: Santa Cruz's Offer of a Permanent Ground Accepted," *Santa Cruz Daily Sentinel*, September 25, 1889.

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____

Page 11 of 21

*Recorded by Page & Turnbull, Inc.

Resource Name or # 111 Errett Circle
*Date May 23, 2019 ☒ Continuation ☐ Update

Later accounts of Garfield Park's development attributed the development's unique plan to Hihn. The developer, a native German, may have experienced concentric city planning in Germany in his childhood.¹¹ Wherever the plan originated, however, circular planning for religious communities was not unique to Garfield Park. Other circular religious communities, including an ultimately unrealized circular German Moravian settlement in eighteenth-century North Carolina, stressed introspection and drew residents' attention inwards towards a central church.¹² The idea of a contained, concentric community associated with a single religious group was established again at Garfield Park at the end of the nineteenth century. While the Moravian settlement and other circular religious settlements were likely not direct inspiration for Garfield Park, the communities surely had similar motivations and sources for developing circular, inward-focused religious developments.

Lots on the circular streets were sold to the public, and numerous cottages were constructed on the parcels closest to the tabernacle. If they did not have access to a cabin, many people attending the annual camps would camp in tents on empty parcels in the rings farther from the tabernacle.¹³

Even though Christian Church meetings were annual, Garfield Park grew into a year-round community with permanent residents. A small school and a public library opened in the first decades of the twentieth century along the area's radial streets and served the neighborhood's households.¹⁴ By the early 1930s, numerous cottages had been erected on Garfield Park's concentric and radial streets, though there remained several large undeveloped areas. In 1935, the tabernacle burned and the Christian Church leased the property to the city for use as a public park. Aerial photographs from the 1950s indicate that the neighborhood had been largely built out with cottages and postwar tract homes (**Figure 25**).¹⁵



Figure 24: Garfield Park Tabernacle, 1910. Source: Santa Cruz Public Library.



Figure 25: Aerial photograph of Garfield Park, 1955. Source: Frame 4R-92, Flight CJA-1956, UCSB Historic Aerial Photograph Collection.

111 Errett Circle

The subject building at 111 Errett Circle was constructed on the site of the tabernacle to house the Garfield Park Christian Church congregation. While the tabernacle had accommodated annual Christian Church meetings in the summer, the Garfield Park Christian Church provided year-round services to Santa Cruz residents. Since 1914, the church had held services in a building across Errett Circle from the tabernacle site, at the corner of California Avenue. The 1914 church building included classrooms and other auxiliary spaces to support a permanent congregation, facilities unavailable in the cavernous tabernacle. In the 1950s, Reverend Gordon Milldrum, leader of the church, advocated for a new building to house the growing congregation and proposed the new church be designed in the Mission style.¹⁶ In 1955, the Garfield Park Christian Church negotiated with the state board, who operated the public park on the property, and with the Christian Churches of Northern California, who owned the parcel, to

¹¹ "Eight Sided Tabernacle."

¹² Christopher E. Hendricks, "And Will You There a City Build: The Moravian Congregation Town and the Creation of Salem, North Carolina," *Buildings and Landscapes*, Vol. 20 (2), Fall 2013, 87-88.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ "More Class Rooms, More Teachers, Needed In Our Public Schools," *Santa Cruz Evening News*, May 11, 1921.

¹⁵ "Frame 4R-92," [aerial photograph], Flight CJA-1956, December 31, 1955, University of California, Santa Barbara Historic Aerial Photograph Collection.

¹⁶ "New Garfield Park Christian Church Edifice is Planned," *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, January 14, 1955.

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____

Page 12 of 21

*Recorded by Page & Turnbull, Inc.

Resource Name or # 111 Errett Circle

*Date May 23, 2019

☒ Continuation

☐ Update

acquire the land that would accommodate the church's future home (**Figure 26**).¹⁷

Local contractor and church member Frank A. Barhite designed and drafted plans for the new building. The plans included a 300-person sanctuary, a fellowship hall, a library, offices, and classrooms in a U-shaped building, surrounded by ample off-street parking.¹⁸ The church's original plans also called for a covered vehicular entrance. Estimated costs for the building's development were between \$125,000 to \$135,000 and work was to be completed by general contractor Jack Guinan. A 1958 newspaper article boasted that the church's congregants would even provide manual help with the building's construction, though it is unclear if these volunteer efforts were ever carried out. Construction was to be completed in three phases: the primary range was the first phase and the subsidiary wings were constructed in later phases. The church held a groundbreaking ceremony on October 12, 1958, and construction on the first phase of the new building lasted eight months (**Figure 27 – Figure 29**).¹⁹



Figure 26: 1956 aerial photograph of public park on subject property. Source: Frame Santa Cruze-3, Flight CAS-1957, UCSB Historic Aerial Photograph Collection.

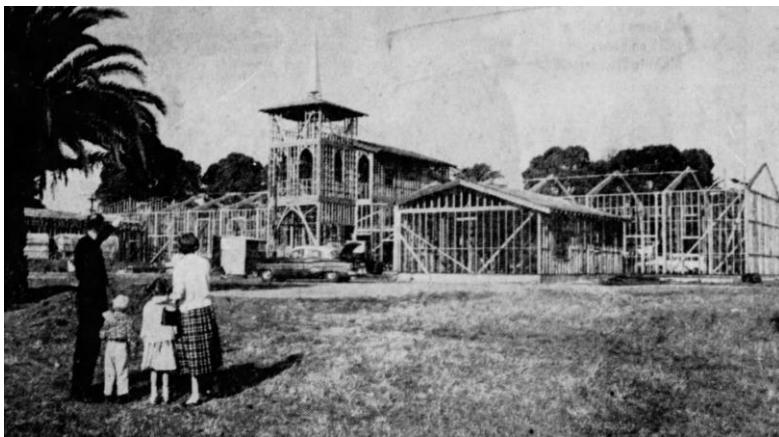


Figure 27: Subject building under construction, 1958. Source: *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, December 31, 1958.

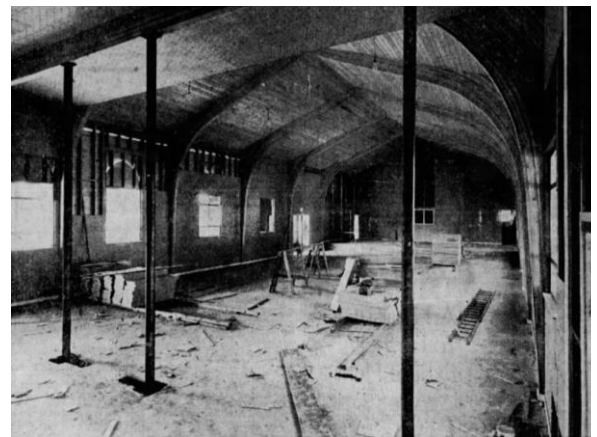


Figure 28: Sanctuary under construction, 1959. Source: *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, March 8, 1959.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ "Garfield Park Christian Church Plans New Church," *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, October 3, 1958.

¹⁹ "New Building Planned by Garfield Park Christian Church," *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, October 12, 1958.

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____

Page 13 of 21

*Recorded by Page & Turnbull, Inc.

Resource Name or # 111 Errett Circle
*Date May 23, 2019 ☒ Continuation ☐ Update

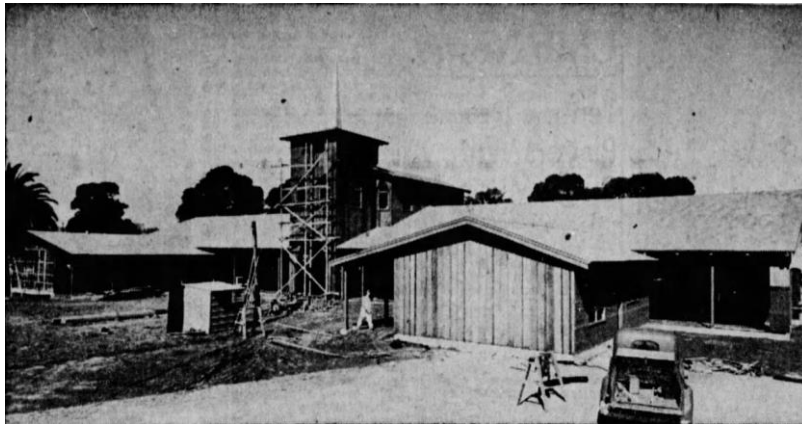


Figure 29: Subject building nears completion, 1959. Source: *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, March 8, 1959.

On June 14, 1959, 400 people attended a dedication ceremony for the completed first phase of the new Garfield Park Christian Church.²⁰ To complete the new sanctuary, church leaders laid historical documents relating to the its founding in concrete.²¹ This first construction campaign involved the primary range, containing the sanctuary and the fellowship hall, and the beginning lengths of the east and west wings, later to be extended (**Figure 30 – Figure 31**). The pastor's offices were located in the second story, above the vestibule to the sanctuary.²² Between 1960 and 1963, the city issued permits for the building's later phases, to extend the east and west wings to accommodate as many as 500 Sunday school pupils. In addition to numerous classrooms, the new wings held offices and restrooms opening directly onto the covered passage that ran the perimeter of the church's courtyard.



Figure 30: Completed subject building with unfinished wings, 1959. Source: *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, June 7, 1959.

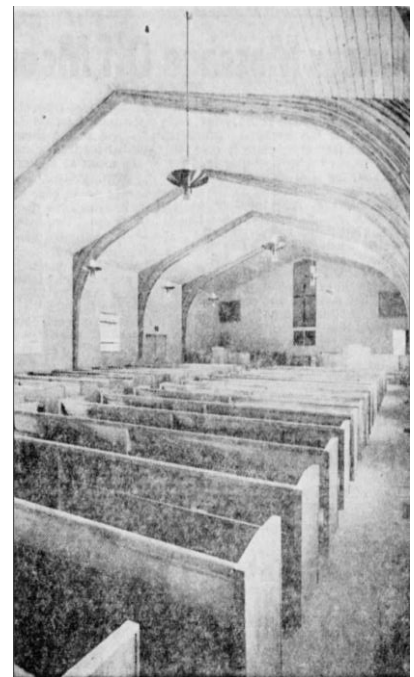


Figure 31: Completed sanctuary, 1959.
Source: *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, June 7, 1959.

Since the church opened, it has remained a community center, accommodating multiple public functions. The large fellowship hall was converted to a gymnasium, at times used by the local junior high basketball team.²³ Since the 1990s, the Sunday School wings have accommodated rented office space, several small private and charter schools, and an autism center. These tenants

²⁰ "New Church Dedication Rites Held," *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, June 16, 1959.

²¹ "Park Church Preserves Documents," *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, June 26, 1959.

²² "Garfield Park Christian Church Plans New Church," *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, October 3, 1958.

²³ "The Connection Between Poetry and Basketball," *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, March 15, 1997.

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____

Page 14 of 21

*Recorded by Page & Turnbull, Inc.

Resource Name or # 111 Errett Circle

*Date May 23, 2019

☒ Continuation

☐ Update

have included Sojourn Middle School, the Westside Montessori, the Santa Cruz Waldorf School, the Discovery Learning Center, and the Coryell Autism Center. In 2017, the Garfield Park Christian Church congregation moved downtown and vacated the building at 111 Errett Circle.²⁴ The property was sold to the newly formed Circle of Friends LLC, who plan to redevelop the site. In the meantime, the Gospel Community Church began to lease the sanctuary in 2018 to accommodate services.²⁵

Ranch Style Architecture

The Ranch style is a predominantly residential architectural style that emerged in Southern California during the 1930s. It was inspired by historic regional architecture forms from the Spanish and Mexican periods of development in the southwest. The open floor plan, private orientation away from the street, integration with the outdoors, programmatic accommodation of the automobile, and romanticized western stylizations such as wagon wheel motifs, were all part of the charm inherent in twentieth-century Ranch design. William Wurster, Cliff May, and others played a substantial role in developing this historicist, yet modern, architectural style. *Sunset Magazine* was a strong promoter of the Ranch House and often featured the work of May, making his name synonymous with the development and proliferation of the style.

The underlying philosophy of Ranch buildings was informality, outdoor living, and natural materials. Cliff May, the architect most associated with the development of this architectural style, professed that the ranch building is “all about the plan,” meaning the overall siting and integration with the surrounding landscape.²⁶ May specified early on in his development of the Ranch style that “living space is a total combination of indoor-outdoor space”; “there should be no ‘front’ or ‘back’”; and “a two-room house with a five-room garden.”²⁷ His designs reflected these ideas with large horizontal wings, which stretched out at various angles into an uninhibited landscape, further evoking the openness and romantic notion of the ranch.

Landscaping in well-executed Ranch style buildings was carefully planned to seem natural, although it was manipulated by grading, plant palettes and their placement. Vistas, whether close-in or longer-range views, are cleverly designed to be seen from specific points in the interiors. Likewise, a clear relationship where the landscaping is clearly sensed and experienced from the inside of the building is a feature of the modern Ranch-style building.

The Ranch style was used occasionally in non-residential commercial, civic, or institutional buildings. Typically used to evoke the residential feeling associated with the style, the non-residential Ranch-style buildings often mimicked the scale, setting, and appearance of Ranch houses.

One prominent example is the *Sunset Magazine* Headquarters (Menlo Park, CA, 1951) by Cliff May. The approximately 30,000 square-foot building has several wings that sprawl over a large piece of land. The building has the typical Ranch-style features of horizontal orientation, low pitched, side-gable roofs, exposed overhanging eaves, board and batten siding, and expanses of glazing, but it also incorporates rustic ranch features like broad brick and adobe chimneys, heavy timbers, natural materials, and open breezeways. Other examples of Ranch-style non-residential buildings also use the style’s residential feeling to convey a home-like atmosphere. This includes the ca. 1940 Ranch House at the Smoke Tree Ranch, a resort hotel in Palm Springs and the Lakeside Park Garden Center at Lake Merritt in Oakland.

Frank A. Barhite

Frank A. Barhite was a local contractor and draftsman who designed the subject building at 111 Errett Circle. Barhite was born in Colorado in 1924 but moved to Santa Cruz, where his contracting career spanned more than 30 years. His company, Bay City Construction, was involved in the construction of numerous large commercial shopping centers in the Santa Cruz area, including Live Oak Plaza Shopping Center (1968) and the Soquel Auto Center (1978).²⁸ Barhite also owned a laundromat, and loved “model airplanes, drafting and mechanical design, and remodelings,” as written in his 1998 obituary.²⁹

Garfield Park Christian Church

The Church of Christ of Garfield Park first held services in a canvas-partitioned section of the vast Garfield Park Tabernacle on November 8, 1907.³⁰ Reverend Clarence Daniels was the first minister and 23 parishioners comprised the congregation.³¹ The tabernacle did not have classrooms, however, so the congregation commissioned their own structure across the street, at 136 Errett Circle. The small, square-footprint church first held services on July 26, 1914. Even after the tabernacle burned in 1935 and

²⁴ Jessica A. York, “Santa Cruzans weigh in on Westside church-to-housing plan,” *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, November 30, 2018.

²⁵ “History,” Gospel Community Church, accessed June 10, 2019, <https://www.gospelcommunitysc.org/history>.

²⁶ Jocelyn Gibbs, et al., *Carefree California: Cliff May and the Romance of the Ranch House* (New York: Rizzoli Publications, Inc., 2012; Santa Barbara: Art, Design, & Architecture Museum, University of California, Santa Barbara, 2012), 207.

²⁷ *Ibid.*, 171.

²⁸ “Live Oak Plaza Shopping Center Under Way,” *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, December 6, 1968; Soquel Auto Center Advertisement, *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, May 5, 1978.

²⁹ Frank A. Barhite Obituary, *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, February 15, 1998.

³⁰ “Where Faith Abides,” *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, February 7, 1960.

³¹ “A Look at Church History,” *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, November 3, 1967.

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____

Page 15 of 21

*Recorded by Page & Turnbull, Inc.

Resource Name or # 111 Errett Circle
*Date May 23, 2019 ☒ Continuation ☐ Update

Christian Church annual conventions moved to the First Methodist Church of Santa Cruz, Garfield Park Christian Church continued to operate on Errett Circle. The church had expanded to 230 members by the late 1950s and sought to find a more accommodating home.³² The Christian Churches of Northern California, who had continued to own the subject parcel after the tabernacle fire, deeded the property to the Garfield Park Christian Church congregation in 1958.³³ The congregation moved into the subject building in 1959. In more recent years, the congregation has adopted various names including the Circles Church and Garfield Park Community Church. The congregation held services in the subject building until 2017, when it moved to downtown Santa Cruz.³⁴ At its current location, the church now uses the name Greater Purpose Community Church.

Significance Evaluation: National Register of Historic Places and California Register of Historical Resources

111 Errett Circle is not currently listed in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) or the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register). The building is not included in the 2012 California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) directory of properties in the historic property data file.

Criterion A/1 (Events)

The building located at 111 Errett Circle does not appear to be individually eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A or the California Register under Criterion 1 (Events) as the building is not associated with significant events nor does it appear to have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history, or the cultural heritage of California or the United States. The church was constructed between 1958 and 1959 to accommodate Garfield Park Christian Church's congregation. This congregation is not the oldest Protestant church in Santa Cruz and its members did not follow an innovative ideology. Garfield Park Christian Church did not make significant contributions or provide unique services to the area's secular community. While the congregation first held services in the impressive, yet no longer extant Garfield Park Tabernacle, the congregation did not own this building, nor was the tabernacle intended for use as a year-round church. Garfield Park Christian Church moved to its own dedicated church building in 1914, where it operated until the subject building opened in 1959. More recently, the subject building's wings have accommodated various community functions, including several small private and charter schools and an autism center. However, these community-oriented tenants are more recent and do not contribute to the building's significance.

Criterion B/2 (Persons)

The building located at 111 Errett Circle does not appear to be individually eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion B or the California Register under Criterion 2 (Persons). The building is not associated with significant or noteworthy people. Reverend Gordon Mildrum, the church leader who spearheaded the construction of the subject building, is mostly identified in local newspapers for church-related events. Evidence was not found to suggest his local activities had a lasting impact on the development of Santa Cruz. There are no members that appear to have been significant to local, state, or national history in a manner associated with the subject building.

Criterion C/3 (Architecture)

The building located at 111 Errett Circle does not appear to be individually eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C or the California Register under Criterion 3 (Architecture) as a resource that embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values. At most, the building's size and location at the center of Garfield Park are its greatest distinguishing architectural conditions. The church building is an example of a non-residential Ranch-style building, expressed through its low-slung roof, exposed rafters, casement windows, and rambling layout. While the building incorporates these features characteristic of the popular twentieth-century style, its individual elements appear to be mass-produced and applied on the building as markers of a contemporary style. This arrangement of various mass-produced elements and standard materials on a sprawling, horizontally oriented building mass does not produce a Ranch-style building that is distinctive enough for designation. The designer of 111 Errett Circle, Frank A. Barhite, was a local builder who mainly constructed large shopping centers in the Santa Cruz area. Barhite was not a trained architect and worked mostly as a contractor throughout his career. Research for this report did not uncover any other buildings designed by Barhite; the church may have selected him as the designer for the new building because he was a member of the congregation. Barhite was not an especially masterful designer, so his design of 111 Errett Circle does not lend the building significance.

Criterion D/4 (Information Potential)

111 Errett Circle does not appear to be individually eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion D or the California Register under Criterion 4 (Information Potential) as a building that has the potential to provide information important to the prehistory or history of Santa Cruz, California, or the United States. Criterion D/4 (Information Potential) typically relates to archaeological resources, rather than built resources. When Criterion D/4 does relate to built resources, it is for cases when the building itself is the principal source of important construction-related information. 111 Errett Circle does not appear to feature

³² "Where Faith Abides."

³³ Ibid.

³⁴ "Santa Cruz's Garfield Park church for sale at \$3M," *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, September 8, 2017.

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____

Page 16 of 21

*Recorded by Page & Turnbull, Inc.

Resource Name or # 111 Errett Circle
*Date May 23, 2019 ☒ Continuation ☐ Update

construction or material types, or embody engineering practices that would, with additional study, provide important information. Page & Turnbull's evaluation of this property was limited to age-eligible resources above ground and did not involve survey or evaluation of the subject property for the purposes of archaeological information.

National Register Criteria Consideration A (Religious Properties)

National Register Criteria Consideration A (Religious Properties) states that a religious property is eligible if it derives its primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance. As described in the evaluation under Criterion A/1, 111 Errett Circle does not appear to have had a significant impact on the history of religion, and the Garfield Park Christian Church congregation does not appear to have had a notable impact in the social, cultural, economic, or political history of Santa Cruz, the state, or the nation. Additionally, the property is not associated with ethnographically documented traditional cultural values, nor does it appear to be associated with an important individual in religious history. Lastly, according to the evaluation under Criterion C/3, the building is not significant for its architectural design, construction, or artistic merit. Therefore, 111 Errett Circle does not meet the requirements for eligibility under National Register Criteria Consideration A.

Significance Evaluation: Santa Cruz Historic Building Survey

The subject building is not located within a local historic district or zoning overlay and it is not included in Santa Cruz's Historic Building Survey. It is therefore not currently listed locally as a historic resource. According to the City of Santa Cruz Municipal Code Section 24.12.440, amended by Ordinance No. 2003-14, the criteria for adding buildings or property to the Santa Cruz Historic Building Survey are as follows:

"The property is either a building, site, or object that is:

1. Recognized as a significant example of the cultural, natural, archaeological, or built heritage of the city, state, or nation
2. Associated with a significant local, state, or national event
3. Associated with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the city, state, or nation
4. Associated with an architect, designer, or builder whose work has influenced the development of the city, state, or nation
5. Recognized as possessing special aesthetic merit or value as a building with quality of architecture and that retains sufficient features showing its architectural significance.
6. Recognized as possessing distinctive stylistic characteristics or workmanship significant for the study of a period, method of construction, or use of native materials
7. Retains sufficient integrity to accurately convey its significance."³⁵

Criteria 1 through 6 for listing on the Santa Cruz Historic Building Survey correspond with Criteria A/1 through D/4 for individual listing on the National Register or California Register. Thus, the above evaluations can be extended to the Santa Cruz Historic Building Survey under the corresponding criteria. As the building does not appear to be eligible under the criteria for listing on the National Register or California Register, it also does not appear to be eligible for local listing on the Santa Cruz Historic Building Survey.

Evaluation (Integrity):

In order to qualify for listing in any local, state, or national historic register, a property or landscape must possess significance under at least one evaluative criterion as described above and retain integrity. Integrity is defined by the California Office of Historic Preservation as "the authenticity of an historical resource's physical identity evidenced by the survival of characteristics that existed during the resource's period of significance," or more simply defined by the National Park Service as "the ability of a property to convey its significance."³⁶ In order to evaluate whether a resource retains sufficient integrity to convey its historic significance, Page & Turnbull uses established integrity standards outlined by the *National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*. Seven variables, or aspects, that define integrity are used to evaluate a resource's integrity: location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. A property must retain integrity under most or all of these aspects in order to retain overall integrity. If a property does not retain integrity, it can no longer convey its significance and is therefore not eligible for listing in local, state, or national registers.

As the subject building does not appear to be significant under any criteria for the National Register, California Register, or Santa Cruz Historic Building Survey, an analysis of its historic integrity was not conducted.

³⁵ Santa Cruz Municipal Code: 24.12.440 Santa Cruz Historic Building Survey, accessed September 5, 2019, <http://www.cityofsantacruz.com/government/city-departments/planning-and-community-development/programs/historic-preservation-in-santa-cruz/historic-preservation-ordinances>.

³⁶ California Office of Historic Preservation, *Technical Assistance Series No. 7: How to Nominate a Resource to the California Register of Historical Resources* (Sacramento: California Office of State Publishing, 4 September 2001), 11; U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 1995), 44.

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____

Page 17 of 21

*Recorded by Page & Turnbull, Inc.

Resource Name or # 111 Errett Circle

*Date May 23, 2019

☒ Continuation

☐ Update

Conclusion:

The building at 111 Errett Circle does not appear to be eligible for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, or the Santa Cruz Historic Building Survey. The subject building was designed by Santa Cruz-based contractor and draftsman Frank A. Barhite and its first phase opened in 1959 to house the Garfield Park Christian Church. The building does not embody a type, period, or method of construction to the degree necessary for historic designation. Additionally, the building does not appear to be individually representative of significant patterns of events or cultural history, or significant in association with persons important to local, state, or national history. As such, the California Historical Resource Status Code (CHRSC) of "6Z" has been assigned to the building, meaning that it has been found ineligible as an individual resource through survey evaluation.³⁷ While the circular shape of the parcel deserves site planning consideration within the context of the radial Garfield Park neighborhood, the 1959 church building on the site is not a historic resource.

³⁷ California State Office of Historic Preservation Department of Parks and Recreation, *Technical Assistance Bulletin #8: User's Guide to the California Historical Resource Status Codes & Historical Resource Inventory Directory*, Sacramento, November 2004.

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____

Page 18 of 21

*Recorded by Page & Turnbull, Inc.

Resource Name or # 111 Errett Circle
*Date May 23, 2019 ☒ Continuation ☐ Update

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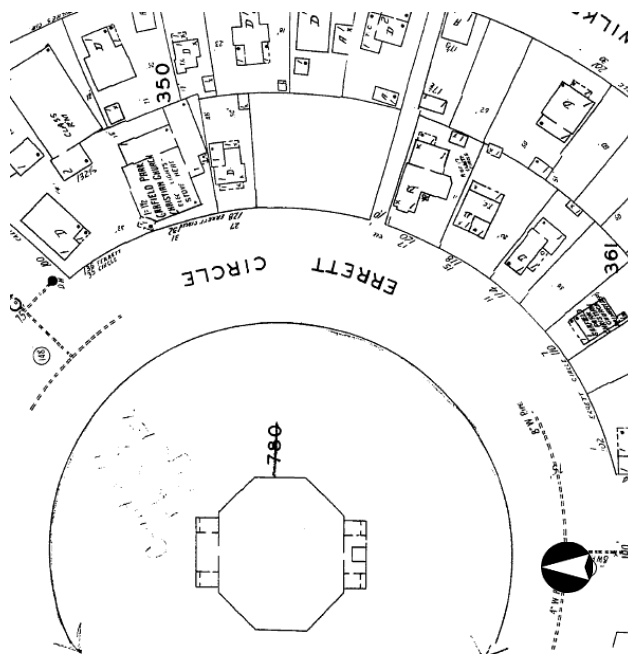


Figure 32: 1928 fire insurance map of subject property. Sanborn Map Company Vol. 1, Sheet 157. Source: San Francisco Public Library.



Figure 33: March 12, 1931 aerial photograph of subject property. Source: Frame B-38, Flight C-1437, UCSB Historic Aerial Photography Collection.

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____

Page 20 of 21

*Recorded by Page & Turnbull, Inc.

Resource Name or # 111 Errett Circle

*Date May 23, 2019

☒ Continuation

☐ Update



Figure 34: June 16, 1940 aerial photograph of subject property. Source: Frame 16, Flight C-6742, UCSB Historic Aerial Photograph Collection.

A # 5554 (1000)		111 ERRETT CIRCLE		GARFIELD PARK CHRISTIAN CHURCH	
NUMBER		STREET		BLOCK	
OCCUPANCY				OWNER	
				CERTIFICATE NUMBER	
				DATE	
BUILDING					
PERMIT NO. A 5554		10/16/58			
Construct new church building					
OCCUPANCY B 3		TYPE 5		VALUE \$100,000	
CONTRACTOR Jack Guinan					
PART. 10-16-58 12-1-58					
FOUNDATION 10-26-58 11-1-58					
FRAME 3 5-5-58 5-15-58					
CHIMNEY 10-21-58 11-1-58					
PLUMBING					
PERMIT NO. 4950		10/17/58			
CONTRACTOR S. C. Plumbing					
NO. FIXTURES 28					
ROUGH 10-28-58 11-1-58					
FINISH 12-1-58 12-1-58					
SEWER TAP 12-1-58 12-1-58					
BM 1089 M.P.					
ROOFING					
PERMIT NO.		ELECTRIC DEPT.			
CONTRACTOR					
ELECTRIC DEPT.					
PERMIT NO. 4950		10/17/58			
CONTRACTOR S. C. Plumbing					
PRESSURE TEST 12-1-58 12-1-58					
BUILDING DEPT.					

Figure 35: Permit A #5554. Original building permit for subject building, 1958. Source: City of Santa Cruz Planning & Community Development Department.

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____

Page 21 of 21

*Recorded by Page & Turnbull, Inc.

Resource Name or # 111 Errett Circle

*Date May 23, 2019

☒ Continuation

☐ Update



Figure 36: July 30, 1964 aerial photograph of subject building. Source: Frame 92, Flight HA-YB, UCSB Historic Aerial Photograph Collection.