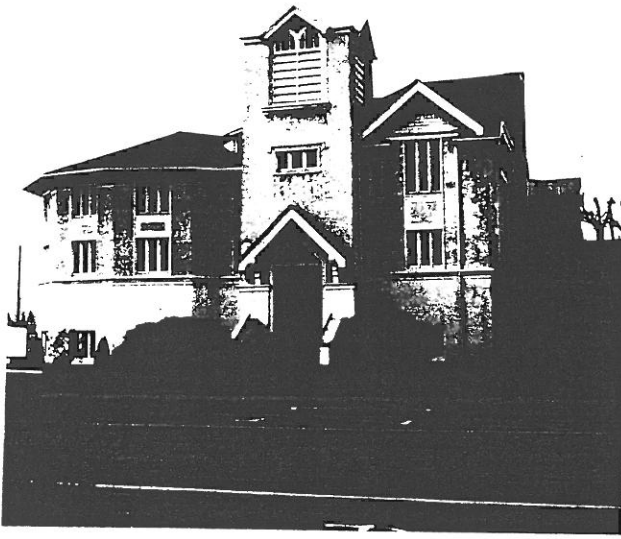


STATE OF OREGON INVENTORY
OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
State Historic Preservation Office
Oregon State Parks, Salem, OR 97310



County Linn
Ranking _____
Name
(Common) First United Presbyterian Church
(Historic) First United Presbyterian Church
Address 590 Second Street
Present Owner First United Presbyterian Church
Address 590 Second Street
Original Use Church
Date of Construction 1912
Map Reference Number 56

Physical description of property and statement of historical significance:

The First United Presbyterian Church is two stories tall with a roughly square floor plan featuring the main hall on the northwest, a five-sided meeting room off the southeast, corner towers in the center of both public facades, and a raised basement forming the base. There are crossed gables on the northeast and southwest corners, and three-sided bays on the south and northwest corners. Entries are located at the base of the towers in the east and south elevations. The base of the church is covered with smooth stucco while the upper half has a rough stucco finish. The building fronts to the east with a bell tower in the center. The entry here has a gable roof and modern, metal doors. To the left of the entry at the top of the stairs is a cornerstone that was laid in April, 1912, during a ceremony in which all the local ministers took part. Behind the cornerstone is a metal box containing a copy of the city paper and of the church paper, an article on the church's early history, a list of charter members, the membership list of 1912, and a list of Sunday School classes. At the top of the tower there are crossed gables, corner piers with louvres between and colored glass windows in the gable end. The original top was approximately six feet taller with a flat roof and pyramidal caps above the piers. To the right of the tower there is a bay, three windows on the bottom and top which are separated by a panel. The original windows

(continued)

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Allen, McMath-Hawkins, Architects, 213 SW Ash, Portland, OR 97204 (228-5154)

Initials _____ Date _____

Sources Consulted: see attached

here have been replaced by ones with colored diamond-shaped leaded glass. The gable end above contains shingles, a verge board and eave returns. On the right, the wall of the seven-sided meeting hall continues the pattern of windows with three colored, diamond-shaped leaded glass panels separated by spandrels. There are three-light windows in the base centered below these upper windows. Moldings above and below the upper level windows wrap around the building defining the base and frieze. The roof above the hall has exposed eaves and rises to a point where a gable connects to the center of the church. Gable dormers are located on each side of the ridge.

The meeting hall wraps around the corner and abuts the tower in the center of the south facade. There is a pair of double doors in the base of the tower, with a two-light transom, and a nine-light window at the left. Above the entry there is a hip roof with brackets below each corner, and a window with three-colored, diamond-shaped, leaded glass panels and a label trim. There are new L-shaped stairs that connect to the sidewalk. The original tip of the tower was approximately six feet higher and had four-sided pyramidal caps at the corners. At the left there is a bay containing three windows on top, separated from three below by a spandrel. The gable end has shingles, verge boards and returned eaves.

The west elevation has a low three-sided bay in each corner. The one on the right contains three windows at the top and bottom with a panel in between, while the one on the left has a small rectangular window on each face. In the center of the elevation there is a large stained glass window. In the shingled gable there is a louvered opening with a label trim.

The north elevation is the same as the west elevation with corner bays and a center stained glass window. There is an L-shaped community meeting hall that has been constructed off the northwest corner. The raised basement and first floor levels correspond to the original church. The stucco walls have large single-light windows, and there is a low-pitched gable roof. The plans were drawn up by church member and builder George Harden. It was built in 1955, and named Harden Hall in his honor. In 1958 a major interior remodeling took place with a wall constructed between the sanctuary and the circular hall on the southeast corner. The circular portion of the balcony was removed, the organ console moved and a screen erected between the choir loft and the chancel.

Continuation Sheet 2 of 2
First United Presbyterian Church
590 Second Street
Map Reference Number: 56

History

The Lebanon Presbyterian Church is a consolidation of the numerous branches of the denomination of which many settlers were members. The Cumberland Church, known as the Presbyterian Church of the Frontier, was founded in Lebanon in 1880. The Lebanon Church was organized around the families of Marks, Montague and Collins. After its organization the church met in the old Masonic Hall with services led by ministers from the nearby Albany Collegiate Intitute (now Lewis and Clark College in Portland).

From this church sprang a second Presbyterian church in Lebanon. Priscilla Catherine Montague, the wife of Lebanon's first mayor, C. B. Montague, did not agree with the teachings of the Cumberland Presbyterians and began a separate Sunday School. This group then turned to the nearby Albany Collegiate Institute and the Rev. I. H. Condit, a member of the faculty and brother of the college president. In March, 1881, 23 Lebanon residents including J. M. Ralston, the town founder, petitioned and were granted the right to establish a new church in the community. This church was built on a site on Second Street between Vine and Ash. During the 1890's the old Cumberland Presbyterian Church merged with the First Presbyterian Church when the union was accomplished nationally. The congregation grew so that a new sanctuary became needed. Under the leadership of Rev. W. S. McCullough in 1910, a church building campaign was begun. The Portland firm of W. F. Tobey and Wayne L. Mills was retained for architectural plans and the building was constructed in 1912, for \$14,500.

Sources Consulted:

1. First United Presbyterian Church, Lebanon, Oregon A History: 1881-1981. Pamphlet published April 1981.
2. "San of Nearly a Century Since Settlers Established First Linn County Churches", Lebanon Express, June 5, 1947.
3. Welsh, William. A Brief History of Oregon City and West Linn. Lebanon Oregon, Crown Zellerbach Corporation, 1941.

