

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

Primary # _____
HR # _____
Trinomial _____

NRHP Status Code _____ Other Listings _____
Review Code _____ Reviewer _____ Date _____

Page 1 of 8 Resource name(s) or number: 601-605 Dolores Street/3689 19th Street

P1. Other Identifier: Golden Gate Lutheran Church (Norwegian and Ascension Lutheran Church)

*P2. Location: Unrestricted *a. County San Francisco

*b. USGS 7.5' Quad San Francisco North, CA Date: 1995

*c. Address: 601-605 Dolores Street/3689 19th Street

City: San Francisco

Zip 94114

*e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number: Block: 3598 Lot: 60

***P3a. Description:**

This Gothic Revival church constructed of brick in 1910 contains a centered gable, a tower element and, steep gabled centralized roofline, a stained glass window at the second and third levels and oriel window above a paneled doorway located at the corner of the building and a tower element with a crenellated top containing recessed crosses. The building contains a variety of fenestration types. Windows are generally clustered in pairs or in tripartite arrangements. All of the stained glass windows are covered with protective screens. Most of the windows contain tracery and are surmounted with drip moldings and sills both of which are concrete. A series of brick buttresses or piers provide verticality to the structure. Two projecting masses, asymmetrical arranged gables with steeply pitched rooflines are evident on the 19th Street elevation. The prominent corner location of the church results in a complex composition. The overall design results in a picturesque religious facility which is both a visible and conspicuous landmark located across from the primary entrance to Dolores Park. The church is sited on a steep upsloping lot and contains a second wood paneled entrance in the tower element. Golden Gate Lutheran Church represents built solidly of brick represents one of a few remaining Gothic Revival religious buildings in the City, the architecture is serene and restrained. This resources is a contributory building to a potential Mission Dolores Historic District. The subject property is an Unreinforced Masonry Building (UMB) and is a threatened cultural resource. The Gothic Revival style in America was primarily reflected the Ruskinian or High Victorian Gothic style rooted in England from the 1850's forward. Drawing on Italian and German as well as English Gothic precedents the style was used mainly for public buildings, including schools, libraries and churches. A few surviving domestic buildings in San Francisco are designed in the Gothic Revival style. The surrounding area is characterized by two and three-story multi-family residential units and Dolores Park is located to the east of the church.

***P3b. Resource Attributes:** HP16:Religious Building **Style or Period:** Gothic Revival

P4. Resources Present: Building Structure Object Site District Element of District



***P5b *Photo:** view from Dolores Park, northwest corner at 19th Street, 08/06

***P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:** 1910, prehistoric, historic

***P7. Owner and Address:**
Golden Gate Lutheran Church
601-605 Dolores Street
San Francisco, CA 94110

***P8. Recorded by:**
Vincent Marsh, Preservation Consultant
2134 Green Street, Apt. No. 3
San Francisco, CA 94123

***P9. Date Recorded:**
September 20, 2006

***P10. Survey Type:** Reconnaissance

***P11. Report Citation:** H.T. pg. 282 & A.S. bldg.
Victorian Alliance/Mission Dolores Neighborhood
Association Survey

***Attachments:** None Location Map Sketch 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)

DPR 523A (01/95)

***Required Information**

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
BUILDING, STRUCTURE AND OBJECT RECORD

Primary # _____
HRI # _____

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Resource Name or # 601-605 Dolores Street/3689 19th Street

*Recorded by: Vincent Marsh, Preservation Consultant * Date 09/20/06 Continuation Update

NRHP Status Code 3S

*Resource Name or # 601-605 Dolores Street/3689 19th Street

B1. Historic name: Norwegian and Ascension Lutheran Church

B2. Common name: Golden Gate Lutheran Church

B3. Original Use: religious building

B4. Present use: religious building

*B5. Architectural Style: Gothic Revival

*B6. Construction History:

Golden Gate Lutheran Church (aka, Norwegian Lutheran Church, then later known as Ascension Lutheran Church) dates from 1910. Built as the Mission Park Congregational Church, the groundbreaking occurred on March 27th, 1909. The designer of the church was Francis W. Reid who was listed as a Reverend in 1910. Mr. Reid, worked both independently and with the firm of Meeker and Reid, and was responsible for a number of churches and residences primarily in the Bay Area. His church buildings include commissions in Concord, Livermore and Porterville, CA. Residential commissions include domestic architecture in Piedmont, Berkeley, San Francisco and San Jose, CA. Mr. Reid was born in Canada on July 23, 1863 and obtained a Certificate in Architecture in 1910.

This church was acquired by the Lutheran congregation who was seeking a new home in the Mission District. The original Lutheran Church was located at 13th Street and Howard Streets in the South-of-Market district and was known as Our Savior's Lutheran Church. In 1916-1917, Our Savior's and the Bethlehem Lutheran Churches merged to become the Norwegian Lutheran Church of San Francisco. During the 1920's, the congregation attempted to find a property in the Mission District, initially locating a property at 17th and Dolores Streets, however, nothing was done as the congregation was unable to sell the Howard Street Church.

In 1930, Mission Park Congregational Church, located at the northwest corner of 19th and Dolores Streets, put their building on the Market for \$36,000. The Norwegian Lutheran Church of San Francisco became the new owner. The Lutheran Church made improvements to the existing building to rebuild the choir loft and the altar. A new ceiling was installed copied from a ceiling design evident in a Swedish church. Much of the interior wainscoting, extant in the altar, choir loft and pulpit was done by the Mullen Manufacturing Company, which was owned by one of the members of the church, Nils Nordstrand. The Norwegian Lutheran Church was dedicated in 1931. In 1959, the church was rededicated as Ascension Lutheran Church. The church is now know as Golden Gate Lutheran Church.

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

*B8. Related Features:

B9a. Architect: Rev. Francis W. Reid

b. Builder:

*B10. Significance: Theme: Religious Architecture

Area: San Francisco

Period of Significance 1910 & 1931

Property Type: religious building

Applicable Criteria C

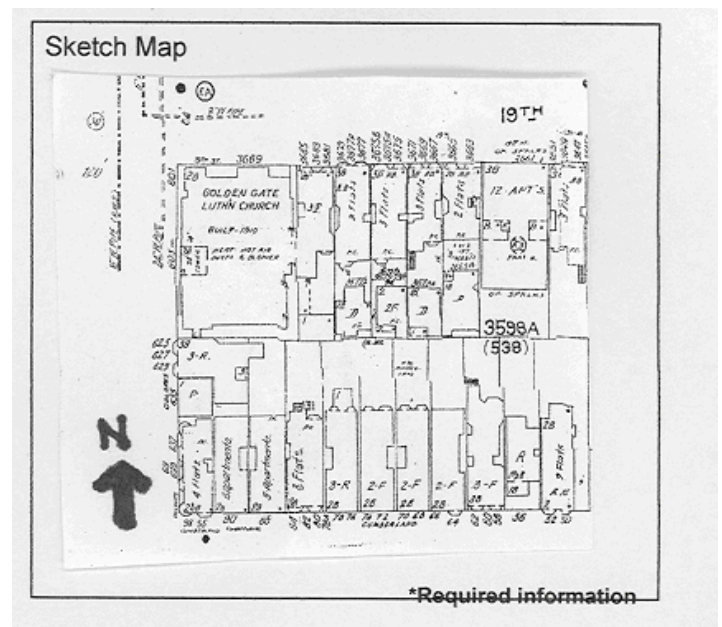
B11. Additional Resource Attributes: HP-16

*B12. References: See Continuation Sheet

B13. Remarks: See Continuation Sheet

*B14. Evaluator: Vincent Marsh

*Date of Evaluation: September 20, 2006



B13: Significance Cont:

One of the most significant events to occur at the church, was the visit of His Royal Highness, Crown Prince Olaf of Norway and Crown Princess Martha, who attended the worship service at on April 19th, 1942, acknowledging great concern for Norway during World War II. A V-E mass was held post war on May 13, 1945.

The church contains significant interiors including wainscoting, stain glass windows, original lighting fixtures, stenciling and hand painted artwork on the sanctuary walls and a pipe organ. The interior spaces are handsomely proportioned, simple in design and execution. During the early 1960's, interior modifications occurred to the social hall and an original swimming pool on the first level served as a gymnasium for recreational programs for many years. A new organ was purchased from the Wicks Company in 1963, and is considered a significant feature within the church. Post 1970, the church was once again renamed as the Golden Gate Lutheran Church. In recent years, the congregation has diminished greatly, and within the past year, the church ceased functionally as a church. City and State seismic retrofit requirements also lead to church closure. At present, the church is considered a threatened architectural resource.

This building retains integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. This building appears to be eligible for the National Register under Criterion C, for its design. It is a fine example of the Gothic Revival style in San Francisco that conforms to a steeply sloping Dolores Street site. It's asymmetrical massing, gothic windows and tracery, tower element, gabled rooflines, and brickwork all contribute to it's architectural significance. The period of significance is 1910 and 1931, the former for the year the church was built and the later for the Lutheran Church acquisition of the site. In addition to possessing individual significance under Criterion C, this building also appears to be a contributor to a potential local, state or national Mission Dolores Historic District. By virtue of its apparent National Register eligibility, this property also appears to be a historical resource for the purposes of CEQA, per CEQA guidelines 15064.5, as it meet the California Register criteria as outlined in PRC 5024.1.

Context for the building

"The Mission location was wisely chosen by the founding padres from their church [Mission Dolores] and settlement as the sunniest and most sheltered area of the northern peninsula. It was the recreation area of the early city, gradually becoming built up in the 1870's and 80's, with very substantial houses, most of which have either disappeared or been divided into apartments. Mission Street is the commercial spine of very self-contained and heavily Spanish speaking area. The handsomest part of this area is along the palm-lined Dolores, with the Mission itself, Dolores Park, and a fair number of surviving Victorian mansions. The hills to the west were built up around the turn of the century with smaller working class speculative houses, which now form the most interesting supply of older middle-income housing in the city, and so have become something of a melting pot, combining older blue-collar and younger middle-class families of all races."¹

B14: References:

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Edwards Abstracts, Contract: April 01, 1909, April 21, 1910, May, 10, 1910.
Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, early 1900's
San Francisco Block Books, 1909 forward
San Francisco Chronicle, June 19, 1910.

¹ Gebhard, David, et. al. The Guide to Architecture in San Francisco and Northern California, Salt Lake City: Gibbs-Smith, Publishers, 1985, Revised Edition, pgs. 104-105.

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United States Department of the Interior. National Register of Historic Places. National Register Bulletin No. 16A: How to Complete the National Register Form, 1991.

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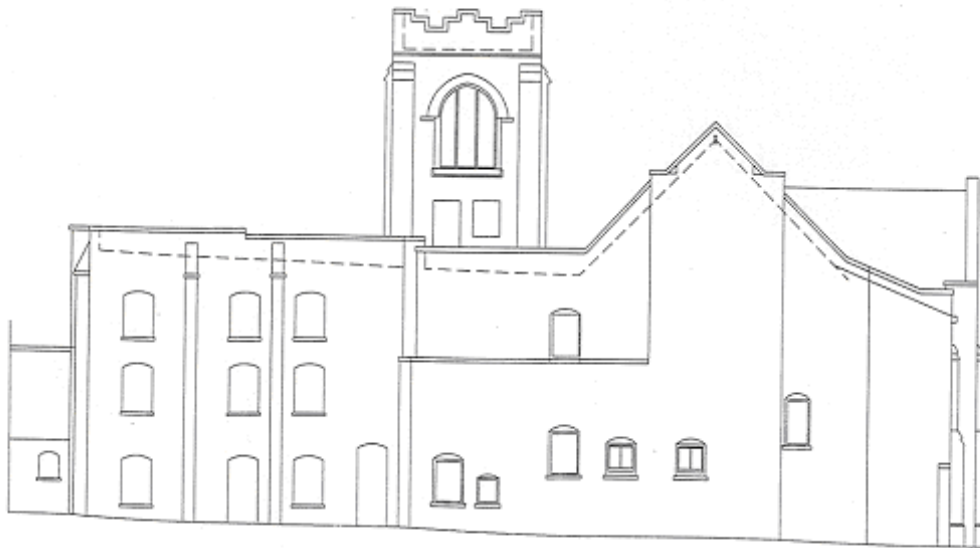
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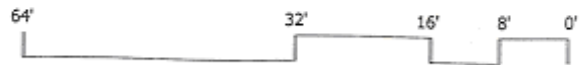
Norwegian Lutheran Church, 601-605 Dolores Street, S.F. History Room Collection, AAB-1420, 04/12/30.



WEST ELEVATION - DOLORES STREET



EAST ELEVATION





SOUTH ELEVATION



NORTH ELEVATION - 19TH STREET

North and South Elevation Drawings of the subject property by Patri-Merker, Architects