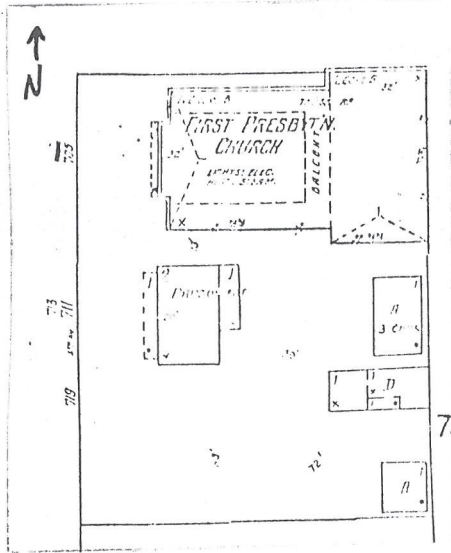


MONTANA HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL  
INVENTORY FORM



Roll# 37 Frame# 31

Legal Description: High School Second Addition, Block 2,  
Lots 1 & 2

Address: 703 Fourth Avenue

Ownership Name: First Presbyterian Church of Havre

Address: P.O. Box 1046, Havre, MT 59501

private: x

public:

Historic Name: First Presbyterian Church of Havre

Common Name: Presbyterian Church

Date of Construction: 1917 (Assessors Record)

Architect: Unknown

Builder: Unknown

Original Owner: First Presbyterian Church of Havre

Original Use: Presbyterian Church

Present Use: Presbyterian Church

Physical Description:

One story brick over wood frame Classical-style Presbyterian church. 3 x 7 bay. Gable roof over T-shape plan. Pedimented closed gables. Corniced belt course. Light-colored brick is regularly coursed. Exterior brick chimney on east facade. High concrete foundation with basement. Foundation is plinthed.

Open entry is central to facade and is reached by a wide flight of concrete steps. Entry is closed and pedimented with classical-style entablature with extensive terra cotta trim. The entry roof is supported by four doric-style brick columns with terra cotta capitals and bases. Double wooden doors have fanlight and glass block sidelights. Entry at northside of church has original lighted wood doors.

Majority of windows on walls are stained glass. Windows are stylobated. Windows in basement are 1/1 double-hung sash.

Metal fire escape and exit door on south wall.

Site is level with street.

Historical Information

The 1920 Sanborn map shows this church as a one story edifice with steam heat and electric lights. By 1939, there had been no major exterior renovations.

Realizing the need for a new church, a committee was formed in 1916 by the Presbyterian congregation of Havre. The original Presbyterian church was sold to the baptists and moved a block north (See 625 Fourth Avenue). The cornerstone was laid for this church in May, 1917. Because of World War I and the following lean years, however, the new Presbyterian church was not completed until 1922. Because of an outstanding debt owed on the building, the new church was not officially dedicated until 1942.

In 1954, the church was issued a building permit to remodel the present structure for \$20,000. Since the outside appearance of the church has changed very little since 1922, the bulk of the money must have been spent on interior renovations.

Footnote Sources:

Grits, Guts and Gusto: A History of Hill County. Compiled by the Hill County Bicentennial Commission. (Havre: Bear Paw Printers, 1976), pp. 327-329.

Polk Directory, Havre and Chouteau County, 1909.

Polk Directory, Havre and Hill County, 1915-16 and 1929-30

Sanborn Maps, 1910, 1920 and 1939.

Building Permit No. 4055, dated April 13, 1954. Department of Public Works, City of Havre, Havre, Montana.

Research Sources:

Assessor's Records, Hill County, Hill County Courthouse, Havre

Montana

Water Record no.782 (1917) and Sewer Record no.453 (1917),  
Department of Public Works, City of Havre, Havre, Montana

Integrity:

This structure retains its original configuration, historic fabric and many distinctive features indicative of its secular styling.

Significance:

This building maintains a high level of architectural integrity and would strongly contribute to the proposed Historic District. It would qualify for the National Register under criteria C as a good local example of a church built in Havre during the period of its greatest demographic and economic growth from 1913 to 1917.

Form Prepared by:

Name: Jonathan Axline and Max Kuhr  
Address: Bear Paw Development Corp., PO Box 1549, Havre, MT 59501  
Date: November 20, 1988.

Geographical Information

Acreage: Less than one acre  
USGS Quad: Havre, Montana  
UTM's: