

HISTORY COLORADO

COLORADO STATE REGISTER OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES NOMINATION FORM

SECTION I

Name of Property

Historic Name Bergen Park Church

Other Names Soda Creek School ~ Center for the Arts Evergreen

Address of Property

[] address not for publication

Street Address 31880 Rocky Village Drive or 1318 County Rd. 65

City Evergreen

County Jefferson

Zip 80439

Present Owner of Property

(for multiple ownership, list the names and addresses of each owner on one or more continuation sheets)

Name Center for the Arts Evergreen

Address PO Box 2737

Phone 303 674 0056

City Evergreen

State CO

Zip 80437

Owner Consent for Nomination

(attach signed consent from each owner of property - see attached form)

Preparer of Nomination

Name Rome Chelsi

Date January 25, 2018

(additional context by Heather Peterson, OAHP staff)

Organization Center for the Arts Evergreen

Address PO B 638ox 2737

Phone 303 638 6445

City Evergreen

State CO

Zip 80437

FOR OFFICIAL USE:

Site Number 5JF.5182

1/25/2018 Nomination Received

5/18/2018 Review Board Recommendation

☒ Approval ☐ Denial

6/1/2018 HC Board State Register Listing

☒ Approved ☐ Denied

Listing Criteria ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D ☐ E

Certification of Listing: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, HISTORY COLORADO

Date 5/31/18

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SECTION II

Local Historic Designation

Has the property received local historic designation?

☐ no

☒ yes --- ☐ individually designated ☐ designated as part of a historic district

Date designated March 30, 2016

Designated by Jefferson County Historical Commission (Name of municipality or county)

Use of Property

Historic One-room Schoolhouse, Community Church

Current Community Arts Center

Original Owner Jefferson County School District

Source of Information Hiwan Homestead Museum

Year of Construction ca. 1885; additions: ca. 1948, 1950s, 1962

Source of Information Hiwan Homestead Museum; Bergen Park Community Church archives

Architect, Builder, Engineer, Artist or Designer original: unknown; 1950s: church members

2017 Rehabilitation architect: Eric Maule

Source of Information _____

Locational Status

☐ Original location of structure(s)

☒ Structure(s) moved to current location

Date of move ca. 1948

SECTION III

Description and Alterations

(describe the current and original appearance of the property and any alterations on one or more continuation sheets)

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SECTION IV

Significance of Property

Nomination Criteria

- ☐ **A** - property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to history
- ☐ **B** - property is connected with persons significant in history
- ☒ **C** - property has distinctive characteristics of a type, period, method of construction or artisan
- ☐ **D** - property is of geographic importance
- ☐ **E** - property contains the possibility of important discoveries related to prehistory or history

Areas of Significance

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| ☐ Agriculture | ☐ Economics | ☐ Landscape |
| ☒ Architecture | ☐ Education | ☐ Architecture |
| ☐ Archaeology –
prehistoric | ☐ Engineering | ☐ Law |
| ☐ Archaeology –
historic | ☐ Entertainment/
Recreation | ☐ Literature |
| ☐ Art | ☐ Ethnic Heritage | ☐ Military |
| ☐ Commerce | ☐ Exploration/
Settlement | ☐ Performing Arts |
| ☐ Communications | ☐ Geography/
Community Identity | ☐ Politics/
Government |
| ☐ Community
Planning and
Development | ☐ Health/Medicine | ☐ Religion |
| ☐ Conservation | ☐ Industry | ☐ Science |
| | ☐ Invention | ☐ Social History |
| | | ☐ Transportation |

Significance Statement

(explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

Bibliography

(cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

SECTION V

Locational Information

Lot(s) _____ Block _____ Addition _____

USGS Topographic Quad Map Evergreen

Verbal Boundary Description of Nominated Property

(describe the boundaries of the nominated property on a continuation sheet)

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SECTION VI

Photograph Log for Photographs

(prepare a photograph log on one or more continuation sheets)

SECTION VII

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS TO ACCOMPANY NOMINATION

Owner Consent Form

Photographs

Digital Images

Sketch Map(s)

Optional Materials

Use of Nomination Materials

Upon submission to the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, all nomination forms and supporting materials become public records pursuant to CRS Title 24, and may be accessed, copied, and used for personal or commercial purposes in accordance with state law unless otherwise specifically exempted. History Colorado may reproduce, publish, display, perform, prepare derivative works or otherwise use the nomination materials for History Colorado and/or State Register purposes.

For Office Use Only

Property Type: ☒ building(s) ☐ district ☐ site ☐ structure ☐ object ☐ area

Architectural Style/Engineering Type: Modern Movement

Period of Significance: 1962

Level of Significance: ☒ Local ☐ State ☐ National

Multiple Property Submission: N/A

Acreage less than 1

P.M. 6th Township 4S Range 71W Section 20 Quarter Sections SW NE NW

UTM Reference: Zone 13 Easting 468970 Northing 4393573 NAD83

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DESCRIPTION and ALTERATIONS

General Description

Bergen Park Church sits on the north side of County Road 65 and the east side of Rocky Village Road.¹ South of County Road 65 is the Regional Transportation District's (RTD) Park-N-Ride parking facility with a nature park south of it. East of the church is a parking lot, not within the nomination boundary, for a ca. 1930s local restaurant. North of the church is a vacant coniferous covered gentle hill area. On the west side of Rocky Village Road is a 2015 church, built by the congregation that formerly occupied the nominated property. On the west side of the church building is a newly asphalt-paved parking lot. This parking lot has always been associated with the church, but was not paved until 2017.

The building sits north of the county road by about 30' and from Rocky Village Road by about 100'. Two large historic ponderosa pine trees sit southwest of the church building and approximately eight ponderosa pines sit about 10' to the north (rear) of the building, as the land begins to slope upward on the gentle hill. A concrete sidewalk extends from the west-facing side of the building from the parking lot around to the south-facing (main) side where it widens to a concrete area at the center entrance and continues to a large rounded concrete area at the east end of the building. The building is comprised of what was originally a one-room schoolhouse (on the east), which had various additions on the east and north, a large connector section, and the large 1962 church sanctuary on the west end.

Church Building, ca. 1885; additions, ca. 1950s, 1960-1962

The ca. 1885 schoolhouse was moved from rural Jefferson County to its current location about 1948. Once the schoolhouse, additions, and church sanctuary were joined together to create one building in 1962, the entire building was clad in D-log exterior siding. Asphalt shingles cover the entire building and most windows are metal replacements within the original window openings.

South-facing (main) façade:

The south-facing façade contains three sections: the ca. 1885 schoolhouse and additions, a large connector section, and the 1962 sanctuary, together forming a U-shaped building.

The ca. 1885 schoolhouse with early additions section (hereinafter referred to as schoolhouse section) measures approximately 32' (e-w) x 55' (n-s), has a front-gabled roof, and now sits on a concrete foundation. A front-gabled enclosed entrance projects from the building by about 6' and is approximately 6' wide. Centered in the entrance projection is a historic solid-core wood door with three small square windows centered vertically. Above the door is a newer small light. Two non-historic one-over-one single-hung windows flank the entrance. The lower sash occupies the lower one-third and the upper sash occupies the upper two-thirds of the window. A wood cupola sits toward the front of the ridgeline of the schoolhouse section. The east end of the façade reflects part of the ca. 1950s schoolhouse addition. It has no fenestration, but shows the side of a gabled roof projection that faces east. The west wall of the schoolhouse, which faces the small

¹ Although the assessor lists the County Road as the property address, the Arts Center lists the Rocky Visa Road address.

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concrete area (the inner portion of the U), has two replacement windows equally spaced from the south-facing side. The windows match those on the south-facing side of the schoolhouse.

In 1962 the Bergen Park Church completed a large sanctuary, measuring about 25'-4" (e-w) x 40' (n-s), and joined it to the schoolhouse section with a large connector, built ca. 1959, between the two. The connector is side gabled with a ridgeline that is about 2' higher than the schoolhouse roof and connects at the schoolhouse and sanctuary ridgelines. The connector sits back from the plane of the schoolhouse and sanctuary walls by approximately 26'-7", thereby creating the U-shaped plan. Contemporary double glass and steel doors, each with three equally spaced lights surrounded by black steel, serve as the main entrance and are centered in the connector. Two non-historic tinted fixed windows flank the entrance. The connector sits on a concrete foundation and housed a kitchen, Sunday school classrooms, and rest rooms during its time as a church.

The Modern Movement sanctuary completed in 1962 for the Bergen Park Church is on the west end of the building. It measures 31'-9" (e-w) x 66'-5" (n-s) and sits on a concrete foundation. Rock-faced concrete tapered buttresses support the front-gabled roof, which has wide overhanging eaves, and exposed rafter tails. The eave on the south-facing side angles inward from the gable peak to the bottom of the eave, with the eave under the peak wider (measuring about 18") than the eave bottom (measuring about 10"). A large stained-glass window under the gable is the most prominent feature of the church. The window measures approximately 28' wide x 15' high, with the top forming a peak about 6' under the gable peak; between the peak and window is vertical wood siding. Sixteen vertical sections comprise the window, with fourteen containing three to four vertically placed blue and purple stained glass that is divided by D-log siding. Directly under the peak of the large window is a wood cross that extends to the full height of the window and horizontally over four of the vertical light sections. Flanking the cross are two vertical mosaic columns, which contain various irregular-shaped purple and blue glass fragments (each about 4" – 10") set in concrete.

On the east side of the sanctuary, within the small concrete area in front of the entrance, are two rock-faced concrete tapered buttresses toward the south end. Between the buttresses are contemporary double metal doors to allow for installation of large exhibits. A replacement fixed window with tinted glass is toward the north end of this side.

East-facing side:

The east-facing side includes part of the schoolhouse addition from ca. 1950 after the church acquired the schoolhouse. The L-shaped addition fits on the east and north sides of the schoolhouse, with the schoolhouse occupying the open portion of the "L". Two front-gabled roof projections, positioned at either end of this side, extend from the slope of the schoolhouse roof. Under the northern gable, which is about twice as large as the southern gable, is a replacement tri-partite horizontal metal slider with brown tinted glass. Two additional tri-partite horizontal metal sliders, with brown tinted glass, are on this side. A fourth window opening, about the same size as the others has been infilled with newer D-log siding. Similarly, a centered entrance on this side has been infilled with newer D-log siding.

North-facing (rear) side:

The north-facing side has three sections: the ca. 1950 schoolhouse addition, the connector and

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sanctuary, with the latter two extending to the north about 12' farther than the school-house addition.

The ca. 1950 schoolhouse addition on this side extended the original rectangular schoolhouse and nearly doubled the size. One replacement metal slider (about 3' x 3') is under the gable of this addition. A replacement solid wood entrance door and a one-by-one replacement metal slider (about 4' x 4') are on the east side of the connector. Vertical wood extends above the connector roof as a means to conceal the building's mechanical equipment. An attached roof ladder provides access to the connector roof. Two newer steel doors, each with a small vertical window, allow rear access to connector on the north wall. Toward the east end of this side is evidence of where a window was infilled with wood D-log siding in the last year. The west end of this side is the rear of the sanctuary, which has no fenestration.

West-facing side:

Six rock-faced concrete tapered buttresses are equally spaced on the west-facing side. Three replacement fixed metal windows with tinted glass and wood surrounds are centered between the four buttresses toward the south end. Two replacement metal doors are between the next two buttresses (toward the north) and at the north end of this side is another window matching those toward the south end.

Interior

The interior of the church contains a very similar plan to when it was a church. Offices continue to exist in the connector space, which also has the main entry lobby and visitor desk. The area that was the school is now an area that exhibits art, but is easily used for lectures or classes. The floors are concrete, as they had been originally throughout the church, but were covered with period tile and carpet during its use as a church. The concrete floors have since been polished.

Alterations:

The original location of the ca. 1885 one-room schoolhouse was near the now defunct community of Creswell, in rural Jefferson County, about six miles south-southeast of Floyd Hill (northwest of its current home). Horizontal wood siding originally covered the exterior of the schoolhouse. In the mid to late 1940s, various community members moved the schoolhouse to its current location.

During the early 1950s the Bergen Park Church members nearly doubled the size of the schoolhouse by adding the mirrored rear wing. Soon after, the church constructed the east addition for two classrooms and a utility storage room. As the congregation grew, the parishioners and community members began making a much larger addition ca.1959 with the connector, to house administrative offices, and the large sanctuary both completed in early 1962.

Multi-pane wood windows with arched wood surrounds were present in the schoolhouse section in 1962, as shown in a newspaper article.² By 2009 the windows in the schoolhouse section were one-over-one single-hung wood windows. In 2017 these were replaced with the current black metal windows with tinted glass. Additionally, similar windows replaced the original

² "Bergen Park Church: Built by the Community," *Canyon Courier*, April 26, 1962. Clipping from Bergen Park Church file.

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aluminum sliders that were in the connector and west- and east-facing sides of the sanctuary. Three windows were filled in during the 2017 rehabilitation, which included a window at the junction of the connector and schoolhouse on the south-facing side, a group of three windows on the east side, and an aluminum slider on the north-facing side of the schoolhouse section.

The main door on the connector, present as late as 2009, was moved to the schoolhouse entrance door in 2017. Other doors were replaced with metal doors and the double metal and glass doors at the connector were installed in 2017. The roof of the school was likely wood shingles originally, but after the 1950s remodel, asphalt shingles replaced the wood shingles. The current asphalt shingles date to the last ten to fifteen years. Once the sanctuary was built, the entire church (including the school and additions) was covered with D-log siding. Although an architectural forensic investigation has not been conducted, the wood siding of the schoolhouse was likely removed prior to the installation of the D-log siding.

In addition to the above, during the 2017 rehabilitation, which qualified for Colorado State Preservation Tax Credits, the following changes were made: the floor of the schoolhouse section was raised to the level of the remainder of the building to provide ADA access; restrooms were converted to meet ADA guidelines; HVAC systems were upgraded; asbestos mediation completed; insulation added; and a new concrete slab foundation was added to the schoolhouse that replaced a deteriorated foundation.

Prior to 2017, two concrete steps with rock-faced concrete sidewalls accessed the schoolhouse main door. Metal handrails extended from the either side of the south entrance door to the sidewalk next to the steps. The ground in front of the schoolhouse sloped down from the sanctuary and did not allow for proper drainage around the schoolhouse entrance area. To remedy this and offer ADA access to the schoolhouse section, the 2017 rehabilitation included the construction of "an impervious wall with waterproofing such as concrete block or keystone block up to a point where soil could be placed to create the slope from the building to allow for drainage."³ The result was a larger and level entrance to the schoolhouse section that easily connects to the main entrance, in the connector.

Integrity

Although the church was rehabilitated in 2017 to house the Center for the Arts Evergreen, the changes do not significantly impact the overall integrity of the architectural significance of the Bergen Park Church.

The schoolhouse was relocated from a nearby site in the mid- to late-1940s. Since this was prior to the period of significance, the move does not impact eligibility to the State Register. The immediate setting is similar to what was present when the schoolhouse was first moved to this site. The 1930s building to the east remains intact, to the south is a nature park and RTD Park-N-Ride and to the north is vacant land. The west now has a newer church on a slight hill. North of the 1930s building are newer commercial buildings, which were constructed ca. 2010. However, these do not impact the immediate setting. Although the windows and doors were

³ Eric Maule, architect for 2017 rehabilitation, "Preliminary Building Evaluation of Bergen Park Church located at 1318 County Road 65, Evergreen." Undated. On file with preparer.

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replaced during the 2017 rehabilitation, the replacements are mostly in the original window and door openings, with the same size and location. A few window and door openings were infilled, however these do not impact the overall integrity. The roofing material and D-log siding is intact from when the church was complete in 1962 and the overall plan remains unchanged. The most prominent feature, the large stained-glass window, has excellent integrity. The building maintains good integrity of workmanship as evidenced in the craftsmanship of the stained-glass window and rock-faced concrete buttresses. A sense of feeling as a small mountain church is present today.

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SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENT

The Bergen Park Church is locally significant under **Criterion C** for architecture as a good example of a Modern Movement building with Rustic-style influences. Two buildings along with a connector and additions create the completed building from 1962. Character-defining features of the Modern Movement include the large stained-glass sanctuary with vertical-pane stained glass and angled front-gabled roof. Rustic-style elements include the D-log siding and rock-faced concrete buttresses. An architect has not been determined as being part of the 1962 design and the construction was completed primarily by church and community members.

The period of significance is 1962 when the Bergen Park Church completed the sanctuary and added D-log siding to the entire building.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

Bergen Park Settlement

Bergen Park, about twenty miles west of Denver, was originally known as Elk Park by area hunters by late 1858. George A. Jackson, who discovered a large gold find in Clear Creek in January 1859, camped in Elk Park prior to making his discovery. Thomas Cunningham Bergen, his wife Judith, and children left their Illinois ranch and came west to what is now Colorado by 1859. The Bergen family settled in the Elk Park area and built a log cabin there by July 1859 (no longer extant). Thomas pastured oxen left in his care by prospectors passing along the road. He also offered occasional shelter to travelers.

Finding that the area was popular for travelers, mostly miners traveling through to the mining areas, Bergen constructed several log buildings near his cabin during the summer and fall of 1860. The family opened a hotel and tavern for the travelling public and had barns for the oxen he pastured. He eventually homesteaded the area and began operating a ranch, the Bergen Ranch, and way station for travelers, who could buy a hot meal or bunk for 50 cents each. In 1865 the Bergen family built a second home (5JF.289), larger than the original cabin, and a large barn for oxen, about 200 yards south of their first cabin. The ranch, later called Bergen Park, was very near the crossroads of the Apex and Gregory Gulch Toll Road (built June 1859) and the Denver City, Mt. Vernon, and Gregory Toll Road (constructed December 1859). In 1862 the Clear Creek Wagon Road was also completed from Idaho Springs to Bergen Park. The area became very popular for travelers.

Although Thomas Bergen relocated to a Morrison ranch in 1874, settlement in Bergen Park continued to increase and by 1880 had a population of 400 people. Denver Mountain Parks purchased the original Bergen Ranch property in 1915 and made it part of its parks system.⁴ The community of Bergen Park eventually had a post office, which continued until about 2013 when it was absorbed by nearby Evergreen. Evergreen annexed the Bergen Park community

⁴ Vicki Rottman. *Cultural Resource Report for Historical Resources: Bergen Park /North and South*. August 1981, pp. 6-8. On file with the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Denver, CO.

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at an unknown date.

District No. 31 ~ Soda Creek School

Originally the Soda Creek School was in the now defunct community of Creswell, about 1 ½ miles north of Bergen Park. Although the assessor indicates the construction date was 1902, according to long-time Jefferson County school teacher, Phebe Granzella, the school was constructed in the 1880s and had a swing set, coal shed, twin outhouses, and a lean-to stall for the children's horses.⁵ Hazel Humphrey, a former student at the school, indicated that it was constructed prior to 1884. An October 1887 letter to the editor in the *Colorado Transcript* verifies its 1880s construction date when it notes that the school board was discussing whether it should purchase a chart for the students of the school. The author of the letter stated that because the chart was \$50 and most of the students were too young to understand it, the school should not purchase the chart.⁶

By at least 1904 Jefferson County School District No. 31-Soda Creek School also held worship services as noted in the *Colorado Transcript*, "Thomas Parshall of Creswell, entertained Revs. Stone and Friend who visited the district last week and preached in the Soda Creek school house."⁷ During the early twentieth century various newspaper articles continued to mention the school's use for church services. Additionally, numerous social events by the community of Creswell were held at the school, which was common for rural school buildings that were often the only community building large enough to accommodate twenty or more people at once.⁸

The school was typical of rural one-room schools in that it taught grades 1-8 and enrollment was often dependent on the weather and if the students were needed on their family's farm or ranch versus being in school. At the beginning of the 1929 school year the school's attendance was six, but by the end of the 1935 school term the number of students was twelve.⁹ It is unknown exactly when the school closed, but it was likely in the late 1940s due to consolidation of many rural schools.

Bergen Park Church ~ Bergen Park Community Church

Bergen Park Community Church, as it was originally known, held its first church service at an unknown location on July 18, 1948. On December 5, 1948, the church was officially organized and the charter members established.¹⁰ While parishioners were looking for a building for their church, they began using the Soda Creek School in 1949 as noted in the *Canyon Courier*.

⁵ Phebe Granzella. "A Century of Jefferson County Mountain Area Schools." Jefferson County Historical Commission, 1993, (from the clipping file of the preparer).

⁶ Letter to the editor from A. Republican, dated September 26, 1887. *Colorado Transcript*. October 5, 1887.

⁷ "The Local News," *Colorado Transcript*. April 21, 1904.

⁸ Suzanne Doggett and Holly Wilson. *Rural Schools in Colorado*, Multiple Property Documentation Form, National Register nomination. 1996 with revision in 1999.

⁹ "Five Thousand Pupils in County Schools." *Colorado Transcript*. August 15, 1929, p. 4; "Census Report of the School Districts In Jefferson County. *Colorado Transcript*. June 20, 1935, p. 8.

¹⁰ Bergen Park Church archives, information provided to preparer 2016.

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The old church, now converted into a Fellowship Hall, first came into existence in March 1949. At that time, the Bergen Park and Evergreen school districts consolidated, and Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Hamilton approached the school board on behalf of the community for the abandoned Soda Creek School building. The building was released to them as a community center, and Mr. Fred Blackmer donated the site on which it now rests, at the junction of Highways 68 [65], 74, and 103. The people moved the building and organized it into a community church.¹¹

According to Bergen Park Church records, the schoolhouse was moved its current location on February 18, 1949 for a cost of \$300.

Before the church purchased the school building, the community used the building for other purposes. According to long-time Evergreen resident, John Ellis, it served as his preschool during that time:

In the late 1940's my grandfather Johnny Ellis opened a bar/restaurant and called it the Magic Inn, he was a traveling Magician for International Harvester. The location of the Magic Inn was in the building everyone in the mountains knows as the Whipple Tree. In those days the back room was my mom [and] dad's apartment. My dad was the bartender and my mother and grandmother were the cooks. Right next door was the one room school house that was moved from Soda Creek, it was my preschool for a short time, then a church bought it. They built a shed attached it to the school and used to store equipment and paint. From one of the stories repeated many times over the years, little Johnny – my name then do [sic] to my granddad and father both being John. One afternoon I spent time getting into the shed and proceeded to get a brush and can of paint and artistically painted both of my new cowboy boots RED. The trail of red boot prints across the parking lot and into the bar was a dead giveaway. That must have been an omen that someday that location would become "Center for the Arts." I wish I had the boots or a picture of them to give for the grand opening.¹²

According to Hazel Humphrey, who attended the Soda Creek School, and John Davis, pastor of the Bergen Park Community Church in 1993, the school building was again used as a school and the preschool, for two years before becoming the worship center for the church. C. M. Hamilton, who with his wife originally approached the school board about the school, was the director of the Bergen Park Community Church. He worked with the school board to acquire the school building as the church's permanent home. A November 4, 1949 letter from the Evergreen Consolidated School, District C-2, to C. M. Hamilton, on behalf of the church, made it official, stating in part:

1. The Evergreen School Board wishes to congratulate those residents of Bergen Park who have given their time and resources so unselfishly in order to bring a Place of Worship into their community.
2. The School Board will deed to your

¹¹ *Canyon Courier*, April 26, 1962; Highway 103 referred to in the article is Colorado Highway 103 also known as Squaw Pass Road and Highway 68 was mis-numbered, it should be County Road 65; Granzella noted that the building was moved in 1945.

¹² John Ellis. Written communication to Rome Chelsi, preparer, September 2017.

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organization the building [Soda Creek School Building] as described above, free of all encumbrances, at the earliest practicable date. 3. The School Board would recommend that the Church be incorporated as a non-profit organization under the State Laws of Colorado in order that this body may own, improve and protect for posterity the building and land now being given to the people of Bergen Park. 4. The Evergreen School Board shall be glad indeed to Bergen Park Church and Mr. Fred Blackmer, to bring these important matters to their conclusion.¹³

Soon after the church began using the one-room school, they found it too small for their needs and expanded the school to the north (rear), doubling its size to a capacity of about 80 people. Over the next couple of years, the church added Sunday school classrooms to the east side.

Growth in the number of parishioners by the end of the 1950s prompted the church to expand again. The church members held fundraisers and found many community and member volunteers to begin construction of the connector and sanctuary in 1959. It was a slow process and when completed in 1962 the church encompassed a total of 5,500 square feet. The two mosaic columns were custom designed in Scottsdale, Arizona with one being donated by Mrs. Mary Dean, mother of the pastor at the time, and the other in memory of former church deacon, Mr. C. V. (Jim) Wolgamott, from the congregation's memorial fund.

In 2013 the congregation found that the church was not meeting its needs and put it on the market as it began construction of a new church west across Rocky Village Road. The Bergen Park Church continued in this building until ca. 2015. A local developer purchased the former church property with a goal of scraping the building and constructing something new.

Center for the Arts Evergreen

In 1974 Evergreen-area art enthusiasts formed and incorporated the Evergreen Arts Council (EAC) and pursued a goal to construct a visual arts/ community center in Evergreen. The council's objective was to "provide mountain area residents with a place to acquire high quality art instructions view a wide variety of art exhibitions and engage in art activities."¹⁴ However, it was not until 2003 that the venue became a reality when the council leased a 3,000-square-foot facility in Buchanan Park by partnering with the Evergreen Parks and Recreation District. In 2007 EAC was renamed The Center for the Arts Evergreen (CAE) to reflect its broader mission and extensive programming. Although the space worked, the CAE was limited in the size of exhibitions it could bring to the space and the space lacked humidity and environmental controls.

In 2015 Steve Sumner, executive director of CAE, heard of Bergen Park Church's recent move and sale of its property. He approached the developer regarding the potential of CAE acquiring the property. The developer was pleased to learn that he would not have to scrape the building and excited at the thought of reusing the building. He sold the property to CAE for the same price he paid, \$500,000, a generous act when he could have made much more. Funds

¹³ Jack W. Rouse, for Evergreen Consolidate School District C-2, letter dated November 4, 1949 to C. M. Hamilton, copy on file with preparer.

¹⁴ Center for the Arts Evergreen website: <http://www.evergreenarts.org>, accessed February 22, 2018.

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to purchase the property were raised through the organization's \$2 million capital campaign. CAE raised the funds, hosting tours of the proposed new space and holding a gala event to generate buzz and attract donations. The late Barbara Sternberg of Evergreen kick-started the capital campaign with a large gracious donation, and Rome Chelsi volunteered as committee chair. Many community members donated time and money to fund the purchase and rehabilitation of the space. Barbara and her late husband Eugene Sternberg, noted modernist architect, had earlier started a public arts program in Evergreen called Art for the Mountain Community, which featured large sculptures. Mrs. Sternberg was "a powerful force in this community for the arts and for culture in general" stated Peggy Eggers, an Evergreen community leader.¹⁵

With the generous donations and fundraising, CAE was able to pay the full purchase price for the property in October 2016. Fundraising continued to help defray the costs for the 2017 rehabilitation and the organization also received a Colorado State Preservation Tax Credit. The new CAE building opened in the fall of 2017. It now has exhibition space also used for lectures, concerts, and recitals, along with classrooms and meeting space. It schedules twelve annual art exhibitions showcasing nationally accomplished artists along with artists from the mountain community. Classes offered include fine arts, crafts, music, creative writing, and hopefully ceramics classes in the future. Following the traditions of the Evergreen Arts Council, CAE actively supports the visual and performing arts organizations in the community including programs with and for area schools.

¹⁵ Colleen O'Connor. "Barbara Sternberg, historian who helped bring art to Evergreen, dies at 93." *The Denver Post*. July 19, 2016.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bergen Park Church archives, information provided to preparer by the church, 2016.

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Rottman, Vicki. *Cultural Resource Report for Historical Resources: Bergen Park /North and South*. August 1981, pp. 6-8. On file with the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Denver, CO.

Rouse, Jack W., for Evergreen Consolidate School District C-2, letter dated November 4, 1949 to C. M. Hamilton, copy on file with preparer.

"Soda Creek School," Jefferson County Historical Commission webpage at: <https://placenames.jeffco.us> , last accessed February 22, 2018.

Newspaper articles

Canyon Courier (Evergreen)

"Bergen Park Church: Built by the Community," April 26, 1962. Clipping from Bergen Park Church files, on file with preparer.

"Pioneer schools fostered sense of community," May 4, 19xx. From a clipping in the Bergen Park Church files, on file with preparer.

Colorado Transcript (Golden)

Letter to the editor from A. Republican, dated September 26, 1887, October 5, 1887.

"The Local News." *Colorado Transcript*. April 21, 1904.

"Five Thousand Pupils in County Schools." *Colorado Transcript*. August 15, 1929.

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Census Report of the School Districts In Jefferson County. *Colorado Transcript*.
June 20, 1935, p. 8.

The Denver Post

O'Connor, Colleen. "Barbara Sternberg, historian who helped bring art to Evergreen, dies at 93." July 19, 2016.

Klemaier, Josie. "Evergreen arts group gets new home at former Bergen Park Church,"
January 12, 2016, updated March 10, 2017; accessed February 22, 2018 at:
<https://www.denverpost.com/2016/01/12/evergreen-arts-group-gets-new-home-at-former-bergen-park-church/>

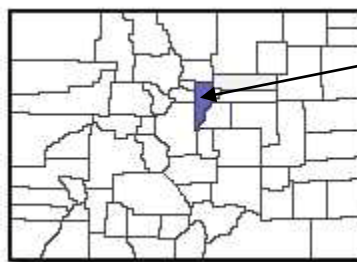
Property Name Bergen Park Church

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Bergen Park Church property is at 1318 County Road 65, Evergreen Colorado also described as the northwest quarter of Section 20, Township 4, Range 71 of the 6th Principal Meridian, encompassing 41,818 square feet. The legal description is further described as:

Commencing at the recognized Southeast corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, marked by a stone; Thence North $88^{\circ}15'$ West, 659 feet;
Thence Northerly parallel to the East boundary line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter and along the West boundary line of the tract recorded in book 686 at page 162 of the Jefferson County, Colorado records, 140.00 feet to the True Point of Beginning;
Thence Northerly on a true projection of the previously described course, 220.0 feet;
Thence Westerly turning an interior angle of $90^{\circ}00'$, 116.8 feet;
Thence Southerly turning an interior angle of $90^{\circ}00'$ and on a line parallel to the previously described East boundary 352.8 feet;
Thence Easterly turning an interior angle of $93^{\circ}38'$, 1.7 feet;
Thence Northerly turning an interior angle of $93^{\circ}16'$, 143.7 feet;
Thence Easterly turning an interior angle of $269^{\circ}01'$, 98.4 feet more or less to the true point of beginning, EXCEPT that portion of the above described tract lying within an existing public road;
And a tract of land in the Northeast 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 20, Township 4 South, Range 71 West of the 6th P.M., described as follows: Beginning at a point in an existing public road, whence the Southeast corner of said NE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 20 bears South $88^{\circ}15'$ East, 659 feet;
Thence Northerly parallel to the East boundary line of said NE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 and along the West boundary line of the Tract recorded in Book 686 at Page 162 of Jefferson County Colorado records, 140.0 feet to a point located at the intersection of a North-South fence and a fence running Westerly;
Thence Westerly turning an interior angle of $95^{\circ}55'$, 98.4 feet;
Thence Southerly turning an interior angle of $90^{\circ}59'$, 143.7 feet to a point in said public road;
Thence Easterly 115.3 feet, more or less to the point of beginning,



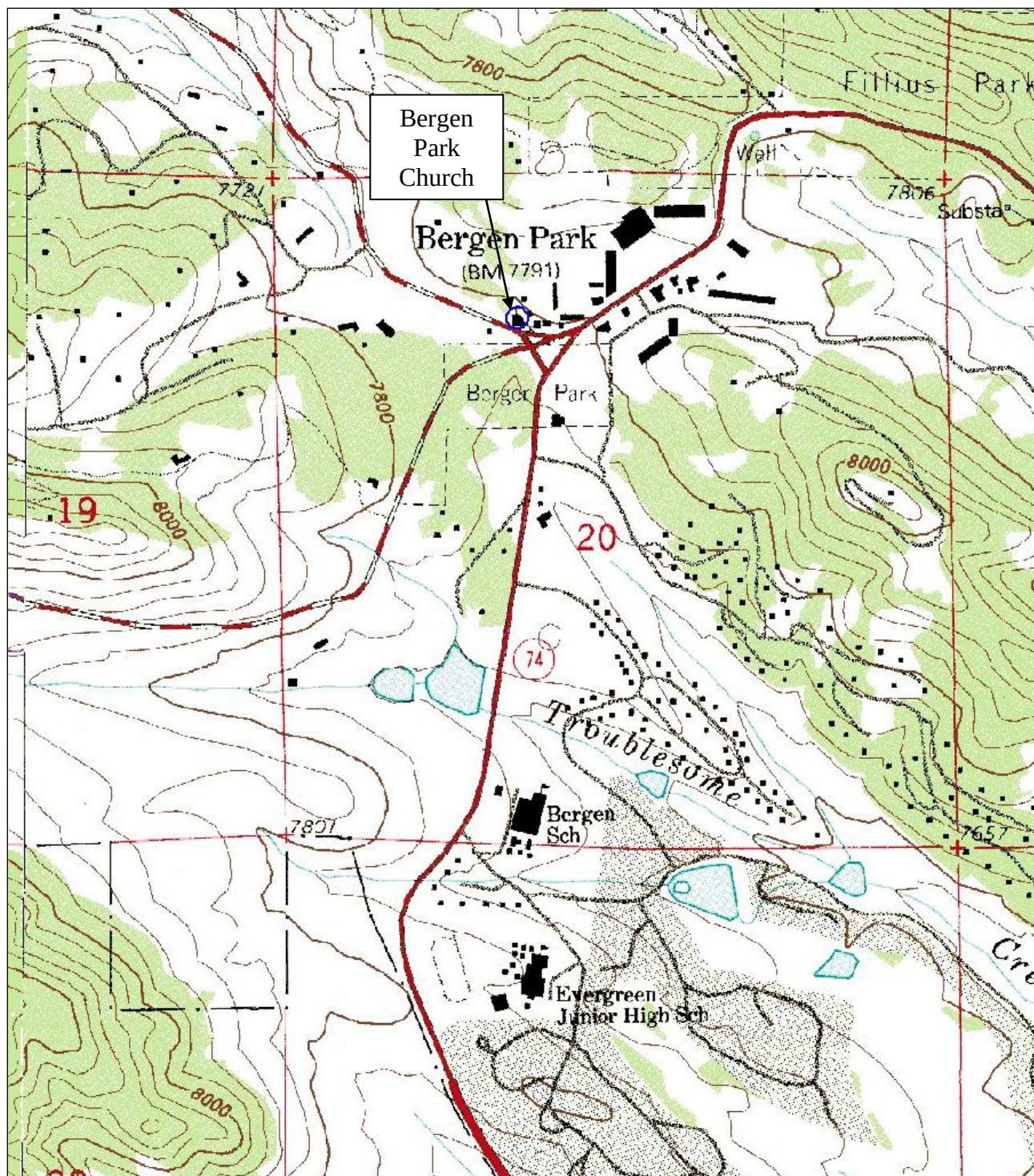
Bergen
Park
Church

Property Name Bergen Park Church

USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP – regional perspective Elevation: 7790'

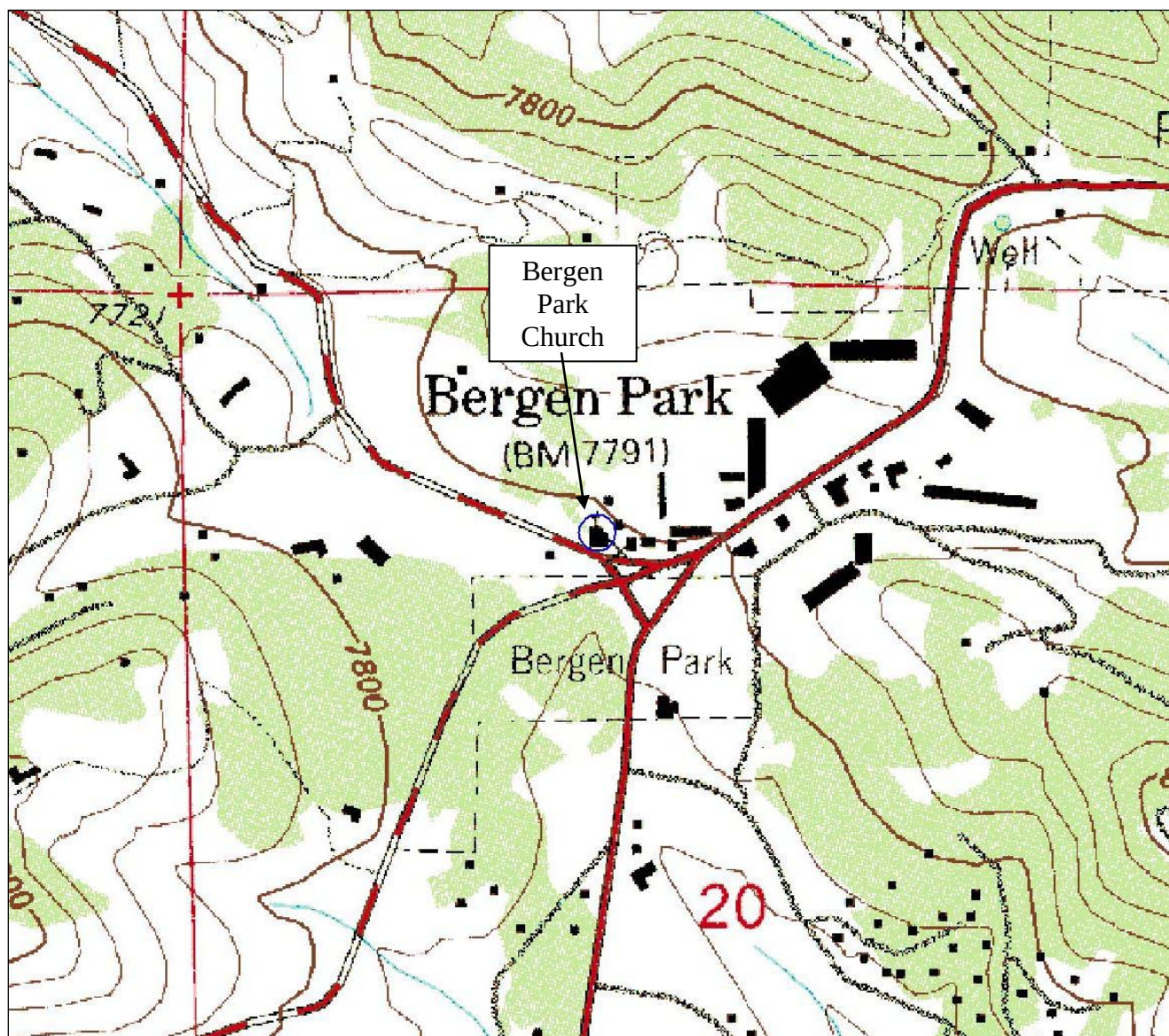
Evergreen Quadrangle, Colorado

7.5 Minute Series



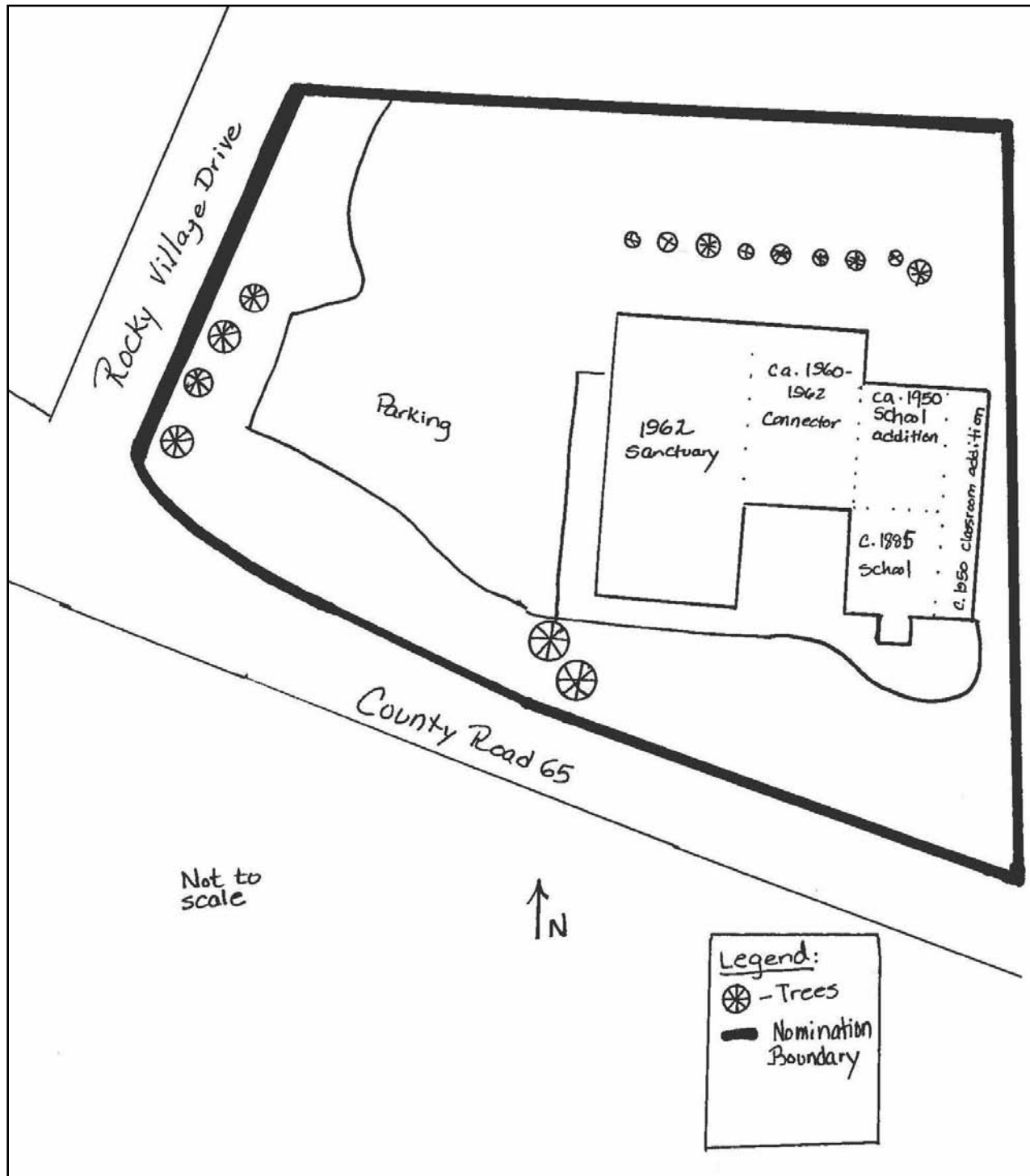
Property Name Bergen Park Church

USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP – close up perspective



Property Name Bergen Park Church

Site Plan

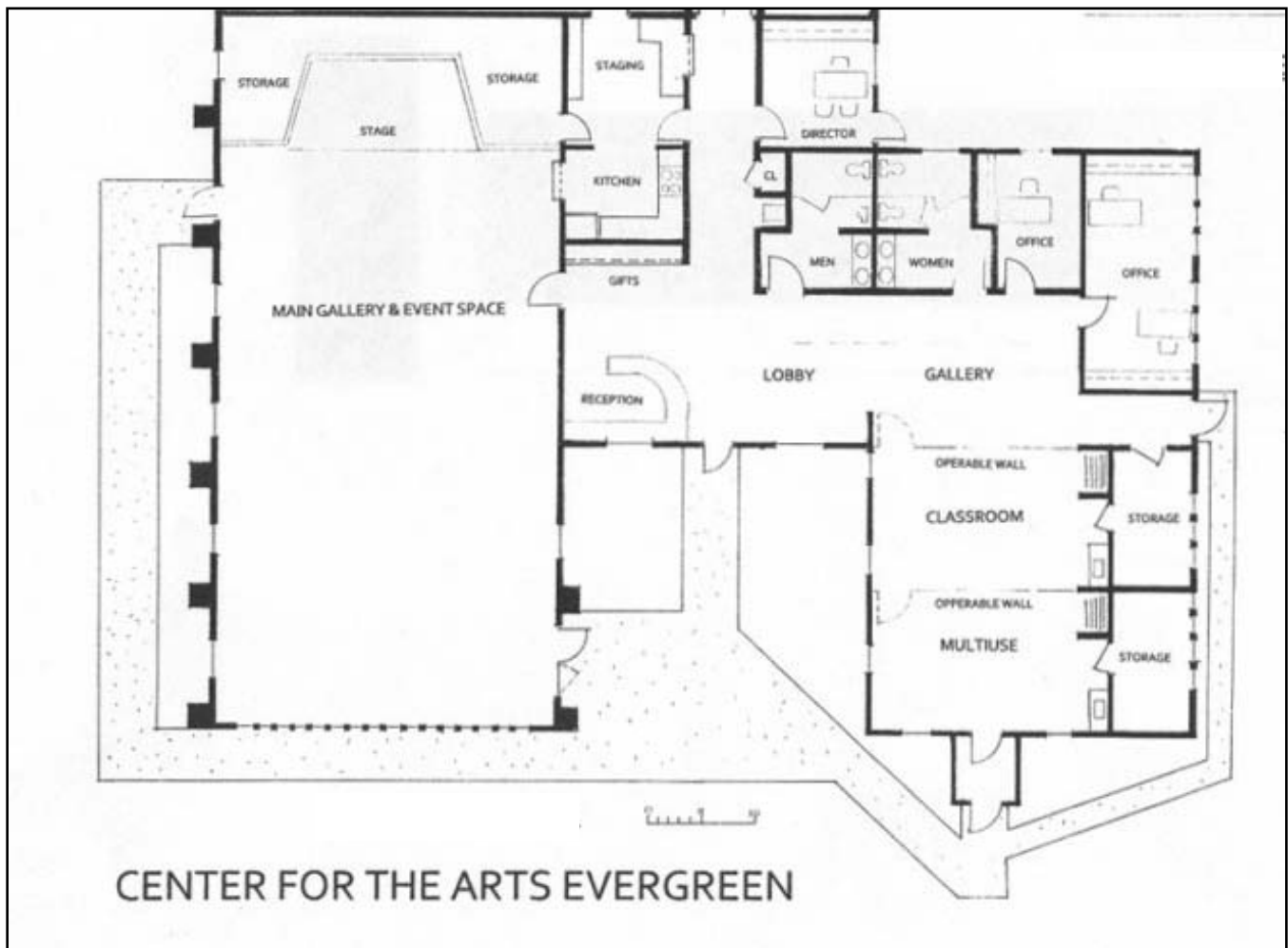


Site plan based on exemption survey completed for Center for the Arts Evergreen, 2017, drawn by H. Peterson, 2018.

Property Name Bergen Park Church



Architectural drawing of south façade before rehabilitation, by Eric Maule, ca. 2017



Floor Plan for the Center of the Arts Evergreen
From architectural plans of Eric Maule, 2017.

Property Name Bergen Park Church

PHOTOGRAPH LOG

The following information pertains to photograph numbers 1- except as noted:

Name of Property: Bergen Park Church
Location: Evergreen
Photographer: Rome Chelsi (photos 1, 6, 11-14)
and Heather Peterson (photos 2-5, 7-10)
Date of Photographs: Fall 2017: 1, 6, 11-14; January 2018: 2-5, 7-10
Digital images on file at OAHP

Photo

No. Photographic Information

1	South-façade, camera facing north
2	Sanctuary south-façade, camera facing north
3	Close-up of stained-glass sanctuary window, south-façade, camera facing north
4	Southeast corner, camera facing northeast
5	Southeast corner of sanctuary, camera facing northeast
6	West and north-facing sides (sanctuary and connector), camera facing southeast
7	Northeast corner with north-facing side of school and east-facing side of connector, camera facing southwest
8	East-facing side of school, showing the early addition, camera facing west
9	Stone marker in front of school section (east-facing side of school)
10	Schoolhouse section south- and east-facing sides, camera facing northwest
11	East classroom in what was the school, photo facing southwest
12	Exhibit space/gallery in what was the sanctuary (without movable art displays), photo facing south with temporary wall in front of stained glass
13	Exhibit space/gallery in what was the sanctuary, facing north toward stage (which was originally the pulpit), camera facing north
14	Exhibit space/gallery in what was the sanctuary (with movable art displays), photo facing south with temporary wall in front of stained glass

HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPH LOG

Figure

No. Photograph information

1	Shortly after completion of the sanctuary, November 1962; from <i>The Denver Post</i> , November 10, 1962.
2	Schoolhouse section, camera facing north, April 23, 2009; OAHP files, photographer: Heather Peterson
3	Schoolhouse section, camera facing northeast, April 23, 2009; OAHP files, photographer: Heather Peterson
4	Connector, camera facing north, April 23, 2009; OAHP files, photographer: Heather Peterson
5	Sanctuary, camera facing northwest, April 23, 2009; OAHP files, photographer: Heather

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	Peterson
6	Sanctuary, west-facing side, camera facing east, April 23, 2009; OAHP files, photographer: Heather Peterson
7	Sanctuary, north-facing (rear) side, camera facing south, April 23, 2009; OAHP files, photographer: Heather Peterson
8	Connector north-facing side (rear) camera facing southeast, April 23, 2009; OAHP files, photographer: Heather Peterson
9	Schoolhouse section, north-facing side (rear), camera facing south, April 23, 2009; OAHP files, photographer: Heather Peterson
10	Schoolhouse section, east-facing side, camera facing west, April 23, 2009; OAHP files, photographer: Heather Peterson
11	Sanctuary, east-facing side, camera facing northeast, ca. 2016, unknown photographer
12	East-facing side, prior to rehabilitation, 2017, camera facing northwest, photographer: Rome Chelsi
13	North-facing (rear) side, during rehabilitation, 2017, camera facing south, photographer: Rome Chelsi

HISTORIC IMAGES

Property Name Bergen Park Church

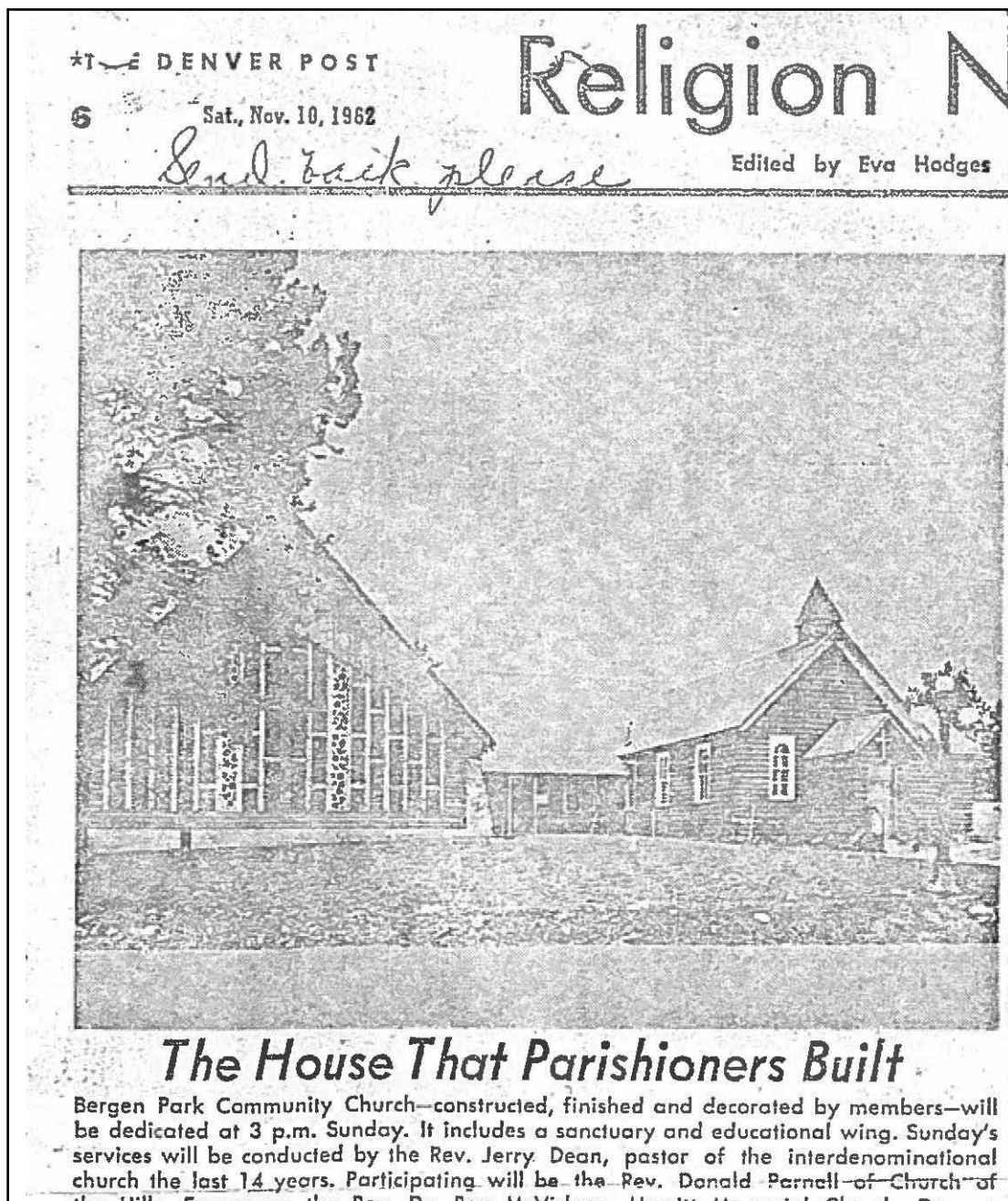


Figure 1: Shortly after completion of the sanctuary, November 1962; from
The Denver Post, November 10, 1962.

Property Name Bergen Park Church



Figure 2: Schoolhouse section, camera facing north, April 23, 2009; OAHP files, photographer: Heather Peterson



Figure 3: Schoolhouse section, camera facing northeast, April 23, 2009; OAHP files, photographer: Heather Peterson

Property Name Bergen Park Church



Figure 3: Connector, camera facing north, April 23, 2009; OAHP files, photographer: Heather Peterson



Figure 4: Sanctuary, camera facing northwest, April 23, 2009; OAHP files, photographer: Heather Peterson

Property Name Bergen Park Church



Figure 5: Sanctuary, west-facing side, camera facing east, April 23, 2009; OAHP files, photographer: Heather Peterson

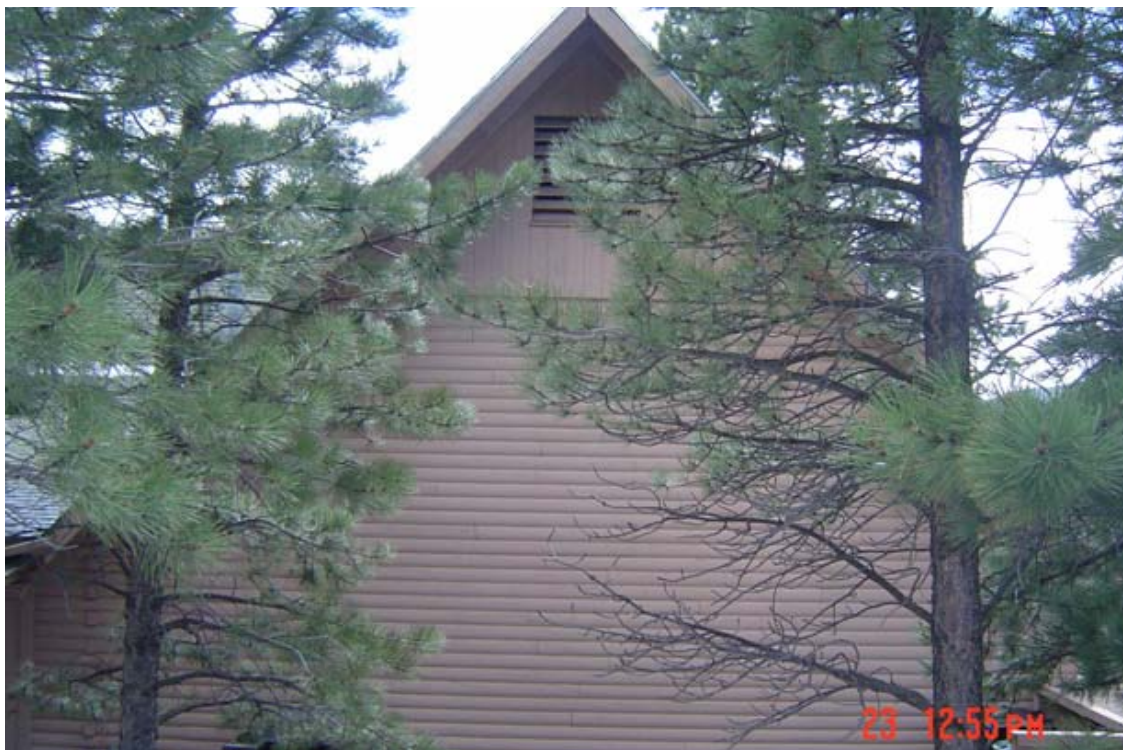


Figure 6: Sanctuary, north-facing (rear) side, camera facing south, April 23, 2009; OAHP files, photographer: Heather Peterson

Property Name Bergen Park Church



Figure 8: Connector north-facing side (rear) camera facing southeast,
April 23, 2009; OAHP files, photographer: Heather Peterson



Figure 9: Schoolhouse, north-facing side (rear), camera facing south,
April 23, 2009; OAHP files, photographer: Heather Peterson

Property Name Bergen Park Church



Figure 10: Schoolhouse, east-facing side, camera facing west,
April 23, 2009; OAHP files, photographer: Heather Peterson



Figure 11: Sanctuary, east-facing side, camera facing northeast, prior to rehabilitation,
ca. 2016, unknown photographer

Property Name Bergen Park Church



Figure 12: East-facing side, prior to rehabilitation, 2017, camera facing northwest, photographer: Rome Chelsi



Figure 13: North-facing (rear) side, during rehabilitation, 2017, camera facing south, photographer: Rome Chelsi