

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

Primary #
HRI #
Trinomial
NRHP Status Code 5S3

Other Listings
Review Code

Reviewer

Date

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*Resource Name or #: Magnolia Presbyterian Church

P1. Other Identifier:

*P2. Location: ☐ Not for Publication ☒ Unrestricted

*a. County: Riverside

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Riverside West

Date: May 17, 2012

c. Address: 7188 Magnolia Avenue

City: Riverside

Zip: 92504

e. Other Locational Data: APN 230-142-016-5 ; 7200 Magnolia Avenue

***P3a. Description:** (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

This property is located on the south side of Magnolia Avenue and contains a one-story institutional building constructed in 1965 for the Magnolia Presbyterian Church, which continues to occupy the facility. The sanctuary building is set back from the sidewalk with a wide lawn and concrete walk, and is flanked on the west and south by a surface parking lot. The building is Mid-century Modern in style, with a rectangular plan and steeply pitched front gable roof covered in replacement high-profile asphalt composition shingles, with flat roofs over the side aisles. It is constructed of exposed concrete masonry units. The principal (north) façade is covered in smooth stucco. The front gable extends beyond the primary (north) façade to form a full-height entrance portico supported on four square stucco-clad columns. The underside of the roof forms the ceiling of the portico and is formed of painted wood tongue-and-groove boards. The portico is reached by full-width curved concrete steps with metal pipe railings, framed with rectangular stucco planters to each side containing mature Italian cypress. Screen walls of pierced and solid concrete block extend to either side of the portico. The primary entrance consists of three pairs of fully glazed metal doors symmetrically arranged on the primary (north) façade, with prominent projecting surrounds. Above the central door is a full height window with prominent mullions and muntins forming a diamond pattern and glazed with colored obscure textured glass. Fenestration in the side aisles consists of groupings of narrow, rectangular fixed windows and small cross-shaped *dalle de verre* windows. A covered breezeway connects the sanctuary to a one-story ancillary building to the east. It has a side gable roof, stucco walls and aluminum sliding windows.

***P3b. Resource Attributes:** HP16 – Religious building

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

P5a. Photo or Drawing (Photo required for buildings, structures, and objects.)



P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #) View looking Southeast (May 2013)

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

☐ Prehistoric ☐ Both

1965, building permit

***P7. Owner and Address:**

***P8. Recorded by:**
Historic Resources Group
12 S Fair Oaks Ave, Ste 200
Pasadena, CA 91105

***P9. Date Recorded:**
May 8, 2013

***P10. Survey Type:**
Intensive

***P11. Report Citation:** (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.")

Historic Resources Group, *Citywide Modernism Intensive Survey*, September 2013.

*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):

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BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

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*NRHP Status Code 5S3

*Resource Name or # Magnolia Presbyterian Church

B1. Historic Name: Magnolia Presbyterian Church

B2. Common Name: Magnolia Presbyterian Church

B3. Original Use: Institutional/religious **B4. Present Use:** Institutional/religious

***B5. Architectural Style:** Mid-century Modern

***B6. Construction History:** (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)
Completed in 1965.

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

***B8. Related Features:**

B9a. Architect:

b. Builder: Harry Marsh

***B10. Significance:** **Theme:** Modern Architecture

Area: Riverside

Period of Significance: 1965

Property Type: Institutional/religious

Applicable Criteria: c

Magnolia Presbyterian Church at 7200 Magnolia Avenue is a good example of a Mid-century Modern church in Riverside. It was constructed in 1965 and built by Harry Marsh; there is no architect listed on the building permit. Modern church buildings and complexes are found throughout Riverside and followed the development of residential subdivisions as congregations moved further from the historic neighborhoods near downtown. Swelling congregations and unmet needs that had been deferred because of the lack of funding during the Depression or the restrictions on essential building materials during World War II escalated the construction of religious architecture during the post-World War II period.

Mid-century Modern is a term used to describe the evolution of the International Style after World War II. Mid-century Modern architecture is more organic and less doctrinaire than the International Style, and it is characterized by more solid wall surfaces. Magnolia Presbyterian Church exhibits significant character-defining features of the style, including simple geometric forms and direct expression of the structural system. Other significant features include the prominent front-facing gable and *dalle de verre* windows.

Magnolia Presbyterian Church at 7200 Magnolia Avenue retains sufficient integrity to convey its historic significance. It appears eligible for listing as a local landmark. It is eligible under the Modern Architecture theme as a good example of Mid-century Modern institutional/religious architecture in Riverside. It does not appear eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register, as it is not an excellent example of the style and it is not associated with a significant architect. Additionally, it does not meet National Register Criterion Consideration G of "exceptional importance" required for properties that are less than fifty years old.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes:

***B12. References:**

City of Riverside Building Permits.

City of Riverside Modernism Context Statement, prepared for the City of Riverside by Christopher A. Joseph & Associates, Los Angeles, CA, November 2009.

County of Riverside Property Information Center.

Riverside County Land Information System (LIS).

B13. Remarks:

***B14. Evaluator:** Christine Lazzaretto

***Date of Evaluation:** May 8, 2013

(This space reserved for official comments.)



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*Recorded by: Historic Resources Group

*Date: May 8, 2013

☒ Continuation

☐ Update



View looking East (May 2013)



Detail of Window (May 2013)



Detail of Entry (May 2013)

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View looking Northeast (May 2013)



Detail looking Southeast (May 2013)