

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Architectural Inventory Form

Page 1

- Date \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Determined Eligible- NR
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Determined Not Eligible- NR
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Determined Eligible- SR
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Determined Not Eligible- SR
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Need Data
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Contributes to eligible NR District
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Noncontributing to eligible NR District



I. IDENTIFICATION

- 1. Resource number:
- 2. Temporary resource number:
- 3. County: **Weld**
- 4. City: **Windsor**
- 5. Historic building name: **St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church**
- 6. Current building name: **Windsor Church of Christ**
- 7. Building address: **102 Elm Street**
- 8. Owner name: **Windsor Church of Christ**
- Owner organization:
- Owner address: **102 Elm St.**
- 320 1st St.**
- Windsor, CO**

Parcel number: **080721108009**

- |   |   |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| 44. National Register eligibility field assessment: | <input type="checkbox"/> Individually eligible            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not eligible | <input type="checkbox"/> Needs data            | <input type="checkbox"/> Previously listed |
| State Register eligibility field assessment:        | <input type="checkbox"/> Individually eligible            | <input type="checkbox"/> Not eligible            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Needs data | <input type="checkbox"/> Previously listed |
| Local landmark eligibility field assessment:        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individually eligible | <input type="checkbox"/> Not eligible            | <input type="checkbox"/> Needs data            | <input type="checkbox"/> Previously listed |

**II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION**

9. P.M.: **6th** Township: **6N** Range: **67W**  
SE 1/4 SW 1/4 NW 1/4 NE 1/4 of section 21
10. UTM Reference Zone: **13**  
Easting: **508712** Northing: **4480723**
11. USGS quad name: **Windsor** Scale: **7.5**  
Year: **1969**
12. Lot(s): **Block 16; Lot 1**  
Addition: **Windsor Original Town** Year of addition: **1882**
13. Boundary description and justification: **The boundary, as described above, contains but does not exceed the land historically associated with this property.**
- Metes and bounds exist

**III. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION**

14. Building Plan (footprint, shape): **T-Shaped Plan**  
Other building plan descriptions:
15. Dimensions in feet: **2,539 square feet**
16. Number of stories: **1**
17. Primary external wall material(s): **Wood/Horizontal Siding**  
Other wall materials:
18. Roof configuration: **Gabled Roof/Cross Gabled Roof**  
Other roof configuration:
19. Primary external roof material: **Asphalt Roof/Composition Roof**  
Other roof materials:
20. Special features: **Tower**
21. General architectural description:  
**Located on the southeast corner of 1st Street and Elm the primary entry door faces south. The current overall footprint resembles a T shape. The south end of the building is the main entrance consisting of white double doors with a single casement rectangular window above the door, and a green and white wood awning protruding from the door. Approaching the doorway is a concrete slab, with metal fencing painted green inlaid with four white crosses. The exterior of the building is made up of white horizontal siding with green trim. Single hung rectangular windows with cut ups line both sides of the building and have green trim. The roof is a cross gabled asphalt composition shingled structure with protruding wings coming off the east and west sides giving the building its T shape. The building is decorated with multiple light brown scalloped friezes. The south entrance is also the bell tower. The bell tower has a square footprint and is about 2 1/3 times higher than the rest of the building, and seems to be made up of three cubes stacked on top of each other. Above the main entry door is a square single hung window with cut ups, and above that the bell tower housing is made up of 3 open arches on the north and south sides, with two arches on both the east and west sides. The arches are green painted wood with a white balustrade going half way up the arches and surrounding the bell tower. The roof of the bell tower is**

# Architectural Inventory Form

a cross gabled shingled structure with four equal protruding points, each with a scalloped vertical front frieze above the arches. The east facing facade has a set of double doors leading directly to the chapel. Directly south of the double doors is another single door.

22. Architectural style: **Late 19th And 20th Century Revivals**

Other architectural style:

Building type:

23. Landscape or special setting features:

The church is located on a .22 acre corner lot. Directly surrounding the church there are white rocks with intermittent small shrubs and flowers. The rest of the lot is covered in grass intersected by cement sidewalks. At the front and west of the main entrance is a large tree, and on the east side there are several large trees along the side of the building. On the east side the building is separated from the adjacent structure by a wooden slatted fence.

24. Associated building, features or objects:

### Parish Hall

Directly north of the original church building is the parish hall. Conflicting sources have construction dates in either 1940 according to the Weld County Assessor's data, or 1956 according to church anniversary pamphlets. This rectangular structure has two single doors facing east, with the main entrance door on the northern side. Protruding from the main door is a green cloth canopy. The roof is gabled and covered with gray shingles. The building matches the church with white horizontal wood siding with green trim. The building has single hung windows, and single hung windows with cut ups. The landscaping matches the church with white rocks and small shrubs directly around the building. The rest of the lot is covered in grass with cement sidewalks. On the east side of the building there is a large tree south of the main entrance, and a smaller tree north of the main entrance.

### Shed

Directly north, or on the back side of the parish hall is a small rectangular wooden shed with one door facing east. The shed has a gabled roof with gray shingles, and is painted white with green trim.

## IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of Construction: **1906**  Actual  Estimate

Source of Information: **church history**

26. Architect: **Unknown**

Source of Information:

27. Builder: **Jacob Fritzler and William Lehs**

Source of Information: **St. John's 90th Anniversary pamphlet, 1993.**

**St. John's Golden Anniverssary pamphlet, 1953**

28. Original Owner: **St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church**

Source of Information: **Weld County Assesor records**

29. Construction history:

According to the Weld County Tax Assessor records the original 24 x 40 foot building was constructed in 1903. However church records indicate construction started in 1905, and this is corroborated by Roy Ray, in his History of Windsor. In 1912 the north wing and a new bell tower were constructed. The exterior facade of the original building and the north wing since 1912 seems mostly intact. The window above the main entrance has been changed from a circle to a single hung with cut ups. However the defining exterior feature of the building has been significantly altered over time. In 1912 the top section of the bell tower consisted of 10 arched openings surrounded by a white balustrade which housed 3 different sized bells. The roof was a four sectioned gabled structure with a large spire rising from the center topped with a large ornate metal cross. From the flat corners of the roof four small turrets rose that were capped with a cone. From an assessment of visual images it can be seen that the turrets disappeared before 1953. The bells were removed in 1996 when the building was put up for auction. The spire with its cross remained intact until at least 2007, but it was destroyed by a tornado in 2008. The tower was rebuilt without a spire, and a much simpler roof

design.

30. Location: **Original Location** Date of move(s):

## V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

31. Original use(s): **Religion/Church**

32. Intermediate uses(s): **Funerary/Mortuary**

33. Current uses(s): **Religion/Church**

34. Site type(s): **Church**

35. Historical background:

The building at 102 Elm Street, currently the Windsor Church of Christ, dates back to the early twentieth century, and is an important structure that contributes significantly to the understanding of Windsor's religious, cultural, and architectural history. Furthermore the building and the people who used it are important to the overall narrative of both Colorado history as well as national history. The building was instrumental in shaping Windsor's religious and cultural heritage. It is a modest example of turn of the century classical revival and Gothic architecture. According to longtime Windsor newspaper editor and local historian Roy Ray, St. John's was the third church built in Windsor, and the first German Lutheran congregation. In many ways the emergence of Windsor's German-Russian identity can be traced back to St. John's founders. The original building at 102 Elm Street cost 1,200.00 dollars and measured 24 by 40 feet. A small bell tower was part of the design in 1906. Among the new immigrants were skilled carpenters and craftsmen. The altar, pews, and pulpit were built at no additional cost from donated materials and volunteer labor.

In only six years St. John's congregation had outgrown the original building. In the spring of 1912 the congregation of St. John's raised 1,978.00 dollars to build an addition to the original church building. The new edition, known as the north wing, also included a new bell Tower with a large steeple topped with a cross, and complete with three bells. Each of the three bells were dedicated to the memory of a founding member of the church. The largest bell was dedicated to Heinrich Mueller, the medium bell to Johannes Meyer, and the smallest bell to Peter Voekler. In 1914 two years after the congregation of St. John's had built the new church divided opinions, and tension among parishioners led many people to leave the church.

Benefiting from the increasing economic stability of its congregation St. John's improved the church property, and purchased their first reed organ in 1916. In the summer of 1924 the church interior was redecorated, and member donated shrubs and trees were planted around the building. Very few changes or improvements were made to St. John's through the war years. In 1944, twenty years after the last improvements, the interior of St. John's underwent extensive remodeling. New hardwood floors were installed, celotex replaced the old wainscoting on the walls and ceiling, and the original handmade pews dating to 1906 were replaced. Members donated all of the labor, and some of the materials for the remodel. A few years later in 1948 members donated 1,890.00 dollars to purchase St. John's first electric organ. In 1952 the church property was improved by the addition of a basement complete with rest rooms.

In 1962, eighteen years after St. John's extensive interior remodel, the altar, lectern, and pulpit were rebuilt. The windows received new drapes, and carpet was installed. Another eighteen years passed without any improvements, but in 1980 the women of St. John's raised enough money to purchase new hymnals, and cushions for the 1944 pews. The restrooms were remodeled, and the exterior of the building was altered for the first time since 1912 with the addition of handicapped accessible ramps. In 1991 the sanctuary was adorned with new draperies, and two large rectangular stained glass windows. The beautiful new windows were dedicated in honor of John and Pauline Poffenroth, and Bill and Mollie Lind. The new windows marked the last addition St. John's would ever see.

# Architectural Inventory Form

In April of 1996 the Windsor Beacon reported that St. John's would be put up for auction. On May 30th the bells that had called so many people to worship, rang for weddings, and tolled for the dead were removed from the bell tower, and St. John's ceased to exist. When St. John's shuttered its doors for good there were probably between 100 and 200 parishioners left without a church. The majority of St. John's congregation found a new home at Windsor's Bethel Lutheran Church. One of St. John's bells was also relocated to Bethel, and is displayed in the courtyard. Another bell was acquired by the city of Windsor, and resides at Boardwalk Park. The location of the third bell, which is the smallest bell, remains a mystery.

## 36. Sources of information:

Weld County Assessor Property Profile.

Ray, Roy. *Highlights in the History of Windsor, Colorado*: Golden Jubilee Edition. Windsor: Press of The Poudre Valley, 1940, pp. 53-54.

1994. 90 Years of Faith and Tradition: 1903-1993, St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church 90th Anniversary .

1978. "Diamond Jubilee 1903-1978: St. John's Lutheran Church, Windsor Colorado."

1953. "Golden Anniversary: St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Windsor Colorado."

Linker, Twila. 2009. windsorsda.org. November 13. <http://www.windsorsda.org/article/198/about-elmhaven-fellowship/brief-history-of-elmhaven-fellowship>.

*Windsor Beacon*. 1996. April 18.

*Windsor Beacon*. 1996. May 30.

Google Earth

1928. "Silver Anniversary: 1903-1928" German language document

## VI. SIGNIFICANCE

37. Local landmark designation:  Yes  No

Designation authority:

Date of designation:

## 38. Applicable National Register criteria:

- A. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.
- D. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.
- Qualifies under Criteria Considerations A through G (see manual).
- Does not meet any of the above National Register criteria.

Applicable Colorado State Register criteria:

- A. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to history.
- B. Connected with persons significant in history.
- C. Has distinctive characteristics of a type, period, method of construction or artisan.
- D. Is of geographic importance.
- E. Contains the possibility of important discoveries related to prehistory or history.
- Does not meet any of the above Colorado State Register criteria.

Applicable Town of Windsor landmark criteria:

- 1. Architectural: a) Exemplifies specific elements of an architectural style or period.
- 1. Architectural: b) Example of the work of an architect or builder who is recognized for expertise nationally, statewide, regionally or locally.

# Architectural Inventory Form

- 1. Architectural: c) Demonstrates superior craftsmanship or high artistic value.
- 1. Architectural: d) Represents an innovation in construction, materials or design.
- 1. Architectural: e) Style is particularly associated with the Windsor/Northern Colorado area.
- 1. Architectural: f) Represents a built environment of a group of people in an era of history.
- 1. Architectural: g) Pattern or grouping of elements representing at least one (1) of the above criteria.
- 1. Architectural: h) Significant historic remodel.
- 2. Social: a) Site of historic event that had an effect upon society.
- 2. Social: b) Exemplifies cultural, political, economic or social heritage of the community
- 2. Social: c) An association with a notable person or the work of a notable person.
- 3. Geographic/Environmental: a) Enhances the sense of identity of the community.
- 3. Geographic/Environmental: b) An established and familiar natural setting or visual feature of the community.
- Physical Integrity 1. Shows character, interest or value as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the community, region, state or nation.
- Physical Integrity 2. Retains original design features, materials and/or character.
- Physical Integrity 3. Original location or same historic context after having been moved.
- Physical Integrity 4. Has been accurately reconstructed or restored based on documentation.
- Does not meet any of the above Town of Windsor landmark criteria.

39. Areas of significance: **Religion**  
**Social History**  
**Ethnic Heritage**  
**Architecture**

40. Period(s) of Significance: **1903**

41. Level of Significance:  National  State  Local  Not Applicable

42. Statement of Significance:

**Architecturally this buildings significance is modest, but culturally and historically the building is very important on the local level, and contributes to the history of Colorado. Built in 1906 the building was the third church in Windsor. Founded by German immigrants from Russia it exemplifies a significant part of Windsor’s history as a destination for German immigrants. The church was a huge part of the immigrant community in the early twentieth century, and maintained a distinctive cultural identity well into the second half of the twentieth century.**

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:

**The building has maintained a moderate level of integrity over time. While most of the exterior remains intact, the bell tower has been significantly altered drastically changing the character of the building. For most of its existence the building has remained a church, but for a brief period after 1996 the building was removed from its original use.**

## VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

44. National Register eligibility field assessment:  Individually eligible  Not eligible  Needs data  Previously listed  
 State Register eligibility field assessment:  Individually eligible  Not eligible  Needs data  Previously listed  
 Local landmark eligibility field assessment:  Individually eligible  Not eligible  Needs data  Previously listed

45. Is there National Register district potential:  Yes  No  Needs Data

Discuss: **This inventory was conducted as an selective intensive-level survey and therefore lacks the continuity of resource data necessary to recommend the creation of an historic district. However, while not individually eligible, this property has the potential to contribute to a historic district and should be considered as part of any future research on district potential in this area.**

# Architectural Inventory Form

If there is National Register district potential, is this building contributing:  Yes  No  N/A

46. If the building is in existing National Register district, is it contributing:  Yes  No  N/A

## VIII. RECORDING INFORMATION

- 47. Digital photograph file name(s):  
Digital photographs filed at: **Town of Windsor  
301 Walnut Street  
Windsor, CO 80550**
  
- 48. Report title: **No Church, No Home: St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church and German-Russians in Windsor Colorado, 1903-1996**
  
- 49. Date(s): **11/28/2016**
  
- 50. Recorder(s): **Jed Jackman**
  
- 51. Organization: **Department of History, Colorado State University**
  
- 52. Address: **Clark Building, B 356  
Campus Delivery 1776  
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1776**

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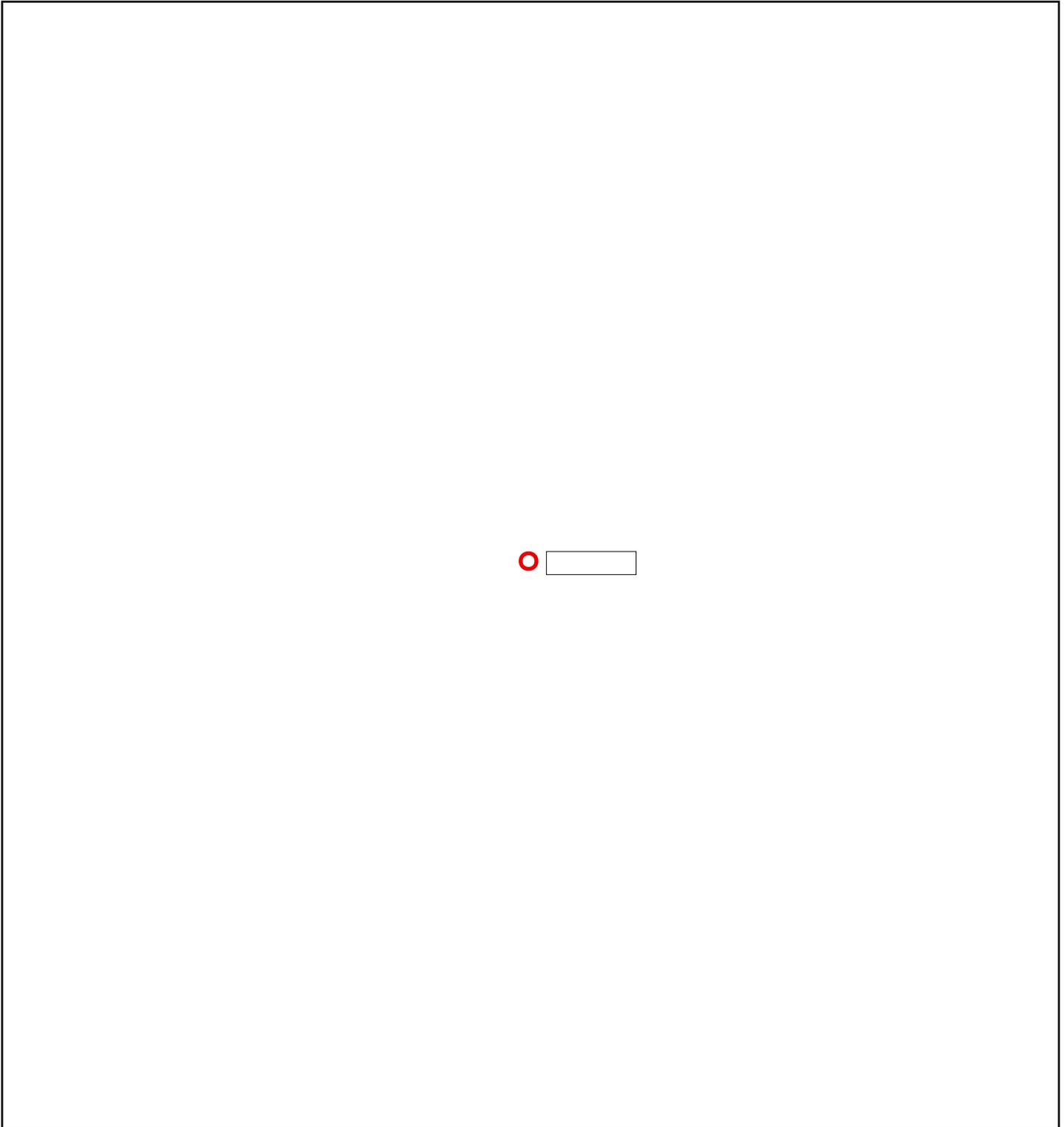
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## SKETCH MAP

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## LOCATION MAP



Source: U.S. Geological Survey 7.5' Windsor - 1969