

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: _____ Parcel number: **080721108017**
- 2. Temporary resource number: _____
- 3. County: **Weld**
- 4. City: **Windsor**
- 5. Historic building name: **Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Zion United Church of Christ, Windsor First Baptist Church, Our Lady of the Valley, Village Chapel Antiques, Anglican Church of the Ascension, Church on the Ancient Path**
- 6. Current building name: **True North Church**
- 7. Building address: **129 Walnut Street**
- 8. Owner name: **Church on the Ancient Path**
- Owner organization: **True North Church**
- Owner address: **129 Walnut Street**

- | | | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| 44. National 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 |
| 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 type="checkbox"/> Individually eligible | <input type="checkbox"/> Not eligible | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Needs data | <input type="checkbox"/> Previously listed |

II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M.: **6th** Township: **6N** Range: **67W**
NW 1/4 SE 1/4 NW 1/4 NE 1/4 of section **21**
10. UTM Reference Zone: **13**
 Easting: **508604** Northing: **4480833**
11. USGS quad name: **Windsor** Scale: **7.5**
 Year: **1969**
12. Lot(s): **Lot 16, Block 16**
 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 the property.**
- Metes and bounds exist

III. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

14. Building Plan (footprint, shape): **Rectangular Plan**
 Other building plan descriptions:
15. Dimensions in feet: **Sq. Ft. 2,799**
16. Number of stories: **1**
17. Primary external wall material(s): **Wood/Horizontal Siding**
Metal
 Other wall materials:
18. Roof configuration: **Gabled Roof**
 Other roof configuration: **Church: Back Hip/Front Gable, Garage: Open Gable**
19. Primary external roof material: **Asphalt Roof**
 Other roof materials:
20. Special features: **Balcony**
Garage
Tower
21. General architectural description:
 From the building's north side a four-step porch leads up to a tall door frame set in a steeply pointed arch. A secondary door with a modest frame opens to the left of the entrance. The church on 129 Walnut Street follows many conventions of the mid to late nineteenth century Gothic Revival architectural style. With a front facing gable, a cross-bearing pinnacle, and windows and doors set in pointed arches, the church reflects many Gothic Revival architectural themes. Gothic Revival style buildings are particularly suited to more rural areas with their "complex and irregular shapes and forms fitting well into the natural landscape." Recent changes to 129 Walnut Street's exterior appear to reflect an affinity for the Carpenter Gothic Style. The owners erected sheets of corrugated metal sometime between 2012 and 2015, "adding postmodern details to a Gothic building."

Architectural Inventory Form

Frequent changes in ownership motivated each new church to remodel the space to accommodate new congregational needs. Weld county does not have detailed records of any remodeling or additions before 1979, though other sources confirm there have been additions. The county's records are more complete after 1979 but still failed to log anything but the most obvious remodeling. There have been multiple large additions throughout the last century, including a 1,532-square foot finished basement and a 682-square foot balcony.

The Church on the Ancient Path repainted the building between 2012 and 2015, transforming its appearance. The new lively complimentary colors replaced the simple and traditional colors, white and light blue, conveying a sense of revitalization. Sheets of corrugated metal comprise most of the building's east, south, and west façade. The off-yellow sliders surround the verdant green trim of the four amber doors. Each window is also traced first with amber and then with green. The light grey steeples stand out against the dark grey towers.

In 1945 the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church constructed a second building to function as their utility shed. Positioned at the southern-most point of the lot, they designed a 480-square foot shed in a simple craftsman style: two garage doors connected beneath an open gable roof. Sometime in the early 2000s, the owners replaced the west-facing garage doors: on the left side, they installed a horizontal window and to its right, a simple navy blue door. Horizontal wood sliders supplanted the garage doors, inconsistent with the stucco overlay of the brick exterior.

Per the county records, none of the property owners have remodeled the 1945 shed in the past ten years, but they did repaint the previously white building in the same color scheme as their church. While they were in the process of remodeling the church exterior, applying sheets of corrugated metal to the northern front, they elected to attach a four-by-three-foot matching sample of the slider just below the window. The bizarre shed illustrates a consequence of blending of multiple architectural time-periods and borrowed styles without consulting a well-versed architect or architectural historian.

Standing at the base of the arched entrance, the tower appears to stretch toward the clouds in a dramatic vertical leap. Two feet from the arch's peak the eave separates the tower from the roof's gable. Featured amidst the first subsection of the tower, distinguished by two overhanging eaves, is a single-pane tall and narrow window. Unlike the windows on the west side of the building, the front-facing window does not incorporate a pointed arch. The next subsection appears to rest on the eave of its predecessor, forming the bell tower. Two slightly rounded arches mark each side of the square bell tower, allowing for light and sound to pass easily through its open sanctuary. Above the bell tower is a closed octagonal dome, crested by the suspended eave. The final section connects at the base of a narrowing octagonal cone. At its apex, the steeple gathers to lift its golden cross.

Observing the church from its primary entrance to the north can be misleading. The entire roof appears to be gabled. However, a few steps around to the southern portion of the building reveal a hexagonal-hipped roof intersecting the roof's gable. The hexagonal chancel extends from the building far enough to allow for a four-stair wooden porch leading to the final doorway. The structure's asphalt shingles are visible from the west, cascading from the center ridge board and down the sloping rooftop. The gabled rooftop creates an over-hanging eave down the angled ridge. Sheltered by the eave are four double-hung windows with a single check rail painted amber. Pointed arches of verdant green trim frame each window. Four small basement windows align three feet beneath the slightly elevated first-floor windows. Each basement window is bordered by a rectangular horizontal frame. A west-facing doorway sits behind the three northern-most windows, its entrance covered by a sixty-square foot wooden canopy. A ramp with a gradual rise approaches the canopy from the south.

Down the church's front steps and one block to the east, the road leads to the remains of the Great Western Sugar Beet Factory. Windsor, Colorado's history of rapid growth and decline demands a narrative of Walnut Street and the people who spent their Sundays there.

22. Architectural style: Church Building Mid-19th Century/Gothic Revival
Storage Shed Modern Movements

Other architectural style: Craftsman

Building type: House with Commercial Addition

23. Landscape or special setting features:

The lot's perimeter features well-kept Kentucky blue grass, with sidewalks and paved entrances in between. Two large trees frame the front of the church. Black flower pots filled with succulents are positioned next to each doorway, spaced equally on either side. The church staff placed True North's welcome sign in the north-western corner of the lot, ensuring its visibility anywhere within a block of True North Church.

24. Associated building, features or objects:

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IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of Construction: 1910

 Actual Estimate

Source of Information: 129 Walnut Street Weld County Property Report, September 26, 2016

26. Architect:

Source of Information:

27. Builder:

Source of Information:

28. Original Owner: Evangelical Congregational Church (owned lot), Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church (built church)

Source of Information: Faith United Church of Christ, Celebrating 25 years of Faith, Service Program, May 26, 1996,

29. Construction history:

The Evangelical Congregational Church, which was constructed on the Second and Elm in 1906, just one block south of the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, initially owned 129 Walnut Street. Both churches were formed by Volga Germans, who accounted for almost all the church's membership. In 1910, the Evangelical Congregational Church built a parsonage home on Second and Walnut Street. Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church formed in spring of 1914 and they began construction. They held their first service in the fall of 1914 and they voted to join the Evangelical Synod of America.

Frequent changes in ownership motivated each new church to remodel the space to accommodate new congregational needs. Weld county does not have detailed records of any remodeling or additions before 1979, though other sources confirm there have been additions. The county's records are more complete after 1979 but still failed to log anything but the most obvious remodeling. There have been multiple large additions throughout the last century, including a 1,532-square foot finished basement and a 682-square foot balcony.

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V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

31. Original use(s): Religion/Church
32. Intermediate uses(s): Commerce and Trade/Specialty Store
33. Current uses(s): Religion/Church
34. Site type(s): Church, Antique Store

35. Historical background:

Located along what locals call "church row," True North Church is one of the many Windsor churches founded since the late 1800s. Established on a prominent corner lot along Walnut and Second Street, the 2,799-square foot building's century of religious ownership fosters a shared history between congregations of wide-ranging denominations, although admittedly all Christian. Religious community members have memories associated with the building, bridging unique experiences and place-based memories across time. Throughout its century of on Walnut Street, the church on the corner of Second and Walnut has been affiliated with: The Evangelical Synod of America, the new Evangelical and Reformed Churches, the United Church of Christ, the World Baptist Fellowship churches, the Catholic Church, and the Anglican Province of Christ the King.

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A previous member of the Zion United Church of Christ indicated that the gallery desperately needed repairs and the city nearly condemned the building. Additionally, the congregation had grown to over 500 members. At this same time, the Evangelical Congregational Church, located just one block south, was looking for a new home. In 1969, the United Church of Christ denominational body suggested that the two churches merge to form a unified congregation.

Most of the tension arose from discussions involving church politics. A woman in the oral history group explained that there were heavily dedicated members of the south church, the Evangelical Congregational Church, that sought to secure positions of power in the new church. At the same time, the north church, 129 Walnut Street, outnumbered the south church and its 300 members. Deciding that the power might be balanced with their strength in numbers, the Zion United Church of Christ made the decision to merge with the Evangelical Congregational Church, the two churches moved into a building

eight blocks west of 129 Walnut Street. A group participant describes the atmosphere after the merging, "We sat on opposite sides of the aisle. The North church sat on the west side and the south church sat on the east side. It was like that for a long time." The congregation's experiences in Windsor had notably influenced long-standing traditions of worship among Volga Germans. The Volga Germans living in northern Colorado began blending customs into their own perceptibly distinct culture.

The next congregation to occupy 129 Walnut Street called themselves Windsor First Baptist Church. In 1972 Rev. Terry Bird purchased the church building for a church under the World Baptist Fellowship churches, resulting from a schism within the Southern Baptists. While there is much to be said about the six-year period in which the Windsor First Baptist Church occupied the building, there are few archival records to reference.

In 1979 the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Denver purchased the church from Rev. Terry Bird. Migrant laborers from Latin America formed much of the Catholic congregation, Our Lady of the Valley. Prior to their twenty-one years at 129 Walnut Street, Our Lady of the Valley held their services in temporary locations for ten years. First, they rented St. Albans' parish hall, a nearby Episcopalian church for two years. This was not a

sustainable long-term option, so two church members offered a potential new location: a room above Camelot Cleaners on 426 Main Street. From 1971 to 1973 they held mass at Camelot Cleaners.

In 1973 the community had grown too large again, now they questioned if the structure could withstand the weight of the growing congregation. In the name of safety Our Lady of the Valley requested that the Denver Archdiocese purchase a Storefront on Main Street in 1975. The congregation's last location prior to their time on Walnut Street was the Storefront Church. The church relied primarily on internal fundraising to purchase 129 Walnut Street. In 1979, the first Catholic Church in Windsor was established on Second and Walnut Street. The building again grew too small for the congregation and the, now, 350 families began collecting funds for a larger church. In 2000, Our Lady of the Valley moved into the newly constructed church on Seventh Street.

After the Catholic congregation moved, a limited-liability company purchased the building for commercial use, despite its deep religious history. Twin Groves Investments, a small business owned by Craig Crider, from Greeley, Colorado, opened the church building again in 2001, this time as an antique store.

Jeffrey and Lynn Smith started the Anglican Church of the Ascension in 2002. Prior to occupying 129 Walnut Street, the congregation met at Colorado State University in Fort Collins in the Danforth Chapel. The church organized under the Anglican Province of Christ the King, founded in 1977, embracing a "traditional form of worship for those who like the emphasis that the Anglican church puts on sacraments." The vicar, Rev. Jeffrey Smith underscored the importance of the 1928 Book of Common Prayer for sermons. Moving to 129 Walnut Street in 2006, the Anglican Church of the Ascension expected to "become the anchor of high classical, High Church Anglicanism in northern Colorado and Wyoming." The congregation sold the property back to Twin Groves Investments in 2012 and the Church on the Ancient Path bought the church one month later.

True North Church, the church's active name, was previously known as Church on the Ancient Path. Following their dream of "church planting," Shad and Julie Wickstrom, from Dallas, Colorado, founded True North Church. In 2003 there were thirty-five members in their prayer meetings, hosted in new locations each week. Finally, in 2012 Church on the Ancient Path purchased 129 Walnut Street. After revisiting their vision, the members made the decision to rename the church True North Church and adopt the tagline: "Train, Deploy, Win." Their current membership is at an all-time high of 200 people.

36. Sources of information:

"50th Anniversary Program: Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church." Town of Windsor Art & Heritage Museum Archives, June 1964. Reference drawer 1: Churches.

"Architectural Style Guide - Boston Preservation Alliance." Accessed December 15, 2016. <http://www.bostonpreservation.org/advocacy/architectural-style-guide.html>.

"From Worshiping in Houses to Store Fronts, Catholic Church Will Finally Be Built in Windsor | MyWindsorNow.com." Accessed December 15, 2016. <http://www.mywindsornow.com/news/from-worshiping-in-houses-to-store-fronts-catholic-church-will-finally-be-built-in-windsor/>.

"Historic Building Styles – Historic Restorations." Accessed December 14, 2016. <http://historic-restorations.com/tag/historic-building-styles/>.

"New Church Goes back to Basics | MyWindsorNow.com." Accessed December 4, 2016. <http://www.mywindsornow.com/news/new-church-goes-back-to-basics/>.

"Parts of a Window - Window Anatomy - Glossary | Pella." Accessed December 15, 2016. <http://www.pella.com/glossary/window-anatomy/>.

"The Sidney Heitman Germans From Russia Collection | Libraries | Colorado State University." Accessed December 15, 2016. <http://lib.colostate.edu/gfr/index.html>.

"True North Church." Accessed December 15, 2016. <http://www.theancientpath.org/content/our-history>.

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church Discussion, 2016. Recording.

VI. SIGNIFICANCE

37. Local landmark designation: Yes No

Designation authority:

Date of designation:

38. Applicable National Register criteria:

Architectural Inventory Form

- 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.
- 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
Commerce
Architecture
Ethnic Heritage

40. Period(s) of Significance: **1910-present**

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41. Level of Significance: National State Local Not Applicable

42. Statement of Significance:

Ordinarily properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes shall not be considered eligible for the National Register. However, this property meets the requirements set forth under Criteria Consideration A because it is a religious property deriving primary significance from architectural distinction and historical importance.

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:

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.**

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: **A Rest Stop for Congregations: The Inherited History of 129 Walnut Street**

49. Date(s): **12/05/2016**

50. Recorder(s): **Bennett Lee**

51. Organization: **Department of History, Colorado State University**

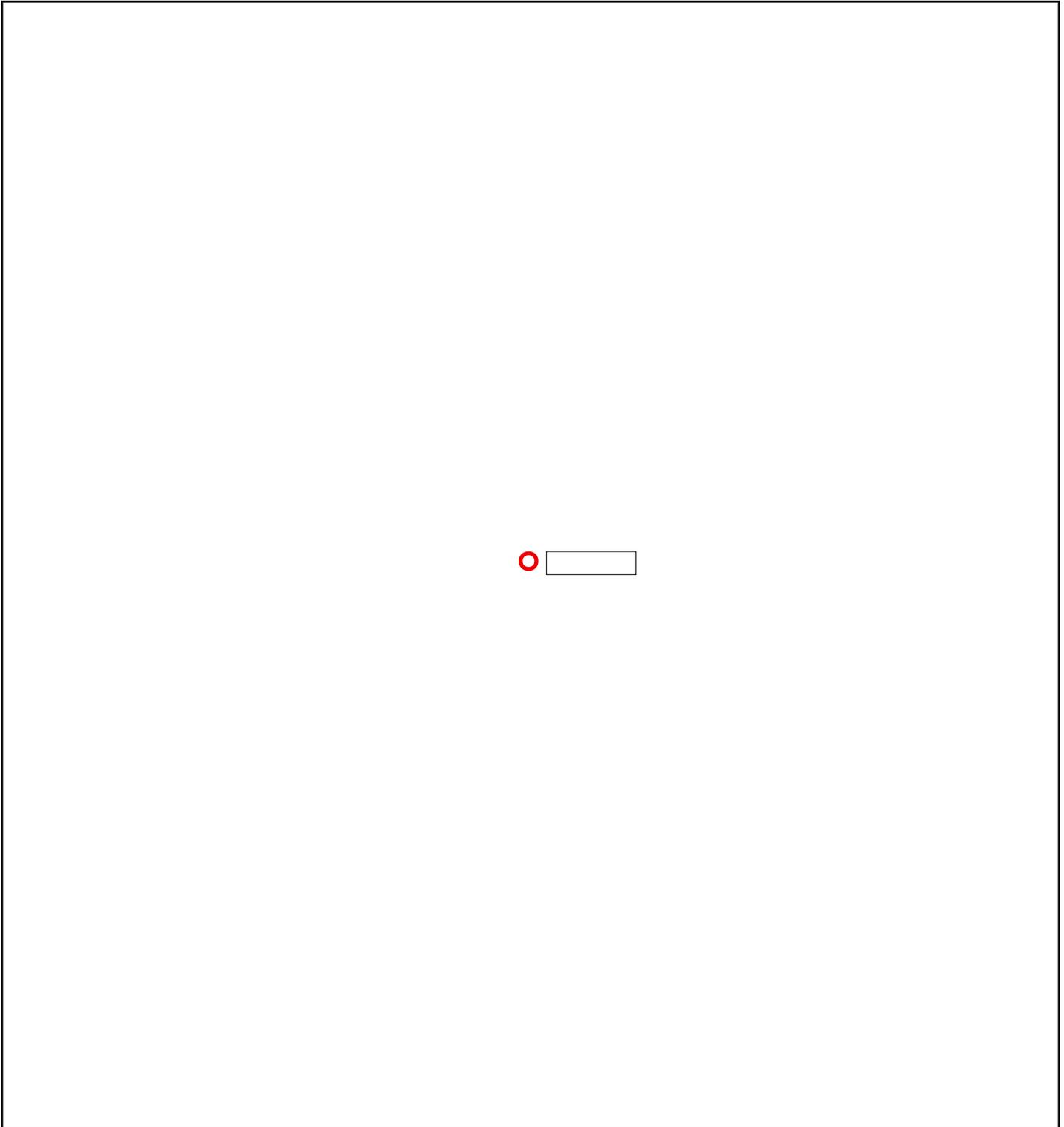
52. Address: **Clark Building, B 356
Campus Delivery 1776
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1776**

Architectural Inventory Form

SKETCH MAP

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LOCATION MAP



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