

Saint Andrews Episcopal Church (Sanctuary)
13601 Saratoga Avenue

Description of historic resource:

The Saint Andrews Episcopal Church building (sanctuary) is a Mid-Century Modern Church designed by locally renowned architect Warren Heid. The sanctuary is a very simple structure and it is in its simplicity the beauty of the building is born. Heid, said he designed it to resemble a modern Scottish country church. The sanctuary is a large wooden beamed structure with form poured concrete walls and concrete flooring with exposed aggregate rock. The cross shaped sanctuary is 187 feet long from east to west covering 13,000 square feet which includes the choir loft. The ridge of the roof is 54 ft above the finished floor. Two height variances were obtained, the first to build up to 36 ft, City Code being 30 feet at the time, and the second to accommodate the cupola and tower. The interior elements and furnishings are almost all the creation of Mark Adams, a renowned artist and Bay area native. The nave holds 46 pews and seat in excess of 500 people. Each transept seats approximately 100 people and the choir approximately 80. The sanctuary contains six stained glass windows, only one of which was installed during initial construction. Over the next six years the remaining windows were dedicated. Both altars are marble; the main altar of white Vermont marble and the chapel altar from Italian Carrera. The magnificent 1983 Shantz pipe organ has 60 ranks and 47 stops, consisting of 3,488 pipes and was made by Shantz Organs of Orrville, Ohio. The stained glass windows are created out of faceted glass and held in concrete. It took over six years to complete the windows. Three windows were fabricated and installed by Glassart Studios, Scottsdale, AZ and three by John McKeever Studios, Benicia, CA. Scottish churches built during this period 1960's-1970 took on this simple, modernistic approach. Photographs illustrating Saint Andrew's beauty and the poured concrete technique used to build the church are attached.

Construction History:

The sanctuary was completed in 1963. A copy of architect Warren Heids' site plan and cross sections for the proposed sanctuary are attached. No exterior modifications have been made to the sanctuary since it was built other than paint, a new roof in 2016, and the completion of the installation of the planned stained glass windows. From 1965 through 1970 the last five windows were dedicated; June 1965, the window in the south transept called "The Yearning of Mankind for a Savior"; in December 1965, the third stained glass window called "Life Redeemed; in October 1968; the second window in the south transept called "Jesus Christ, God's Response to Human Needs; in 1969 on the east side of the chapel transept called "God's Gift to His Law and His People"; lastly in 1970, "The Fall of Man".

Other buildings exist on the site which are not identified as historic resources. The original classroom wings were built in 1958 and 1965. A conditional use permit and design review application were approved by the City in 2003 for a master campus plan which included the demolition of all structures (excluding the sanctuary) and the construction of five new buildings; performing arts/gymnasium, administrative offices, classrooms, parish center and a clergy building. The original classroom wings and school and clergy offices were not demolished and only two of the approved structures were constructed, the performing arts/gymnasium building and the parish center.

Historical Background:

This property is the remaining portion of a large ranch purchased by John Hinsley Ellsworth in 1878 from the original Quito land grant. John Ellsworth had emigrated to the United States from England in 1857. He came to California in 1859, and apparently came to Santa Clara Valley from Virginia City in 1878 when he purchased property near Saratoga. A year later his younger brother and sister-in-law Simeon and Jane (Craven) Ellsworth joined him and acquired interest in the property. The original property consisted of a large triangular parcel 57-acres in size northwest of Saratoga Creek, including land between Saratoga Creek and Saratoga Avenue from about Fruitvale Avenue southwest to about Las Casitas Court. The early property was cleared and initially developed and by the early 1880s the brothers had planted about 15 acres of grapes and other acreage in orchards. At the time John Ellsworth purchased the property in 1878, there was about an acre of Mission grapes, perhaps planted during the rancho period. By 1887 the Ellsworth brothers were producing about 10,000 gallons of wine. By 1903 the land had been split between the brothers, the subject property within the John Ellsworth portion. By 1914 this 32-acre portion of the original property was owned by John and Eliza John Smith. It was during this ownership period that the Smith's apparently built the house on the adjacent parcel to the west, now known as the historic Rawdon Dell Ranch, the name referring to Rawdon, England from where John and Eliza had emigrated. The property was eventually subdivided, portions now developed for housing, a church and a school.

In 1957 the City of Saratoga approved a conditional use permit to construct church buildings, conduct church services and other related church activities on the subject property. The Reverend Roy W. Strasburger, then Vicar of Saint Andrew's Church, proposed a weekday educational ministry that would benefit the community. He proposed that a suburban community such as Saratoga might need a co-educational parish day school for elementary grades as a unique contribution by a Protestant church. The first classroom was built in 1958. In 1959 Saint Andrews School was incorporated as a non-profit education institution separate from the church. Saint Andrew's began its first academic year on September 11, 1961. The church was founded in 1961, as a department of Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church, in the Episcopal Diocese of El Camino Real and the sanctuary was completed in 1963.

Architectural Context

Warren Heid (1924-2018) was an architect of over 18 public buildings in Saratoga and 65 custom houses with many more restoration and remodeling projects in his list of accomplishments. Heid was a native Californian, who was born in Alameda, raised in Los Gatos, attended Los Gatos High School, and was a resident of Saratoga since 1959. Heid was licensed as an Architect by the State of California and worked for the San Jose firm of Binder and Curtis from 1950 to 1957. He opened a private practice in Saratoga in 1958, first on Park Plaza and then on Big Basin Way in the historic John Henry house, where he remained working until 2008. In the early days he did the design and drafting and his wife, Sheila, did the specifications.

Heid received many architectural awards, including an honorable mention from the National Home Builders Association for Small Home Design Competition in 1951; a place in Factory

Magazine's Top 10 National Industrial Plants of 1968 for the design of the San Jose Mercury News plant; the American Society of Landscape Architects Honor Award in 1968 for the Ponderosa Lodge at Mount Herman; and the 1980 Award of Honor for Design Excellence for the Santa Clara County Transit Facilities.

Heid was also active in the Saratoga community and took pride in his civic activities. Heid, who was selected as Saratoga's Citizen of the Year in 1983, also served as volunteer in many organizations, including the Rotary Club since 1958, the Santa Clara County Planning Commission from 1967 to 1974 and the Saratoga Heritage Preservation Commission from 1982 to 1989 and again from 2010 to 2012. He headed a task force that reviewed the General Plan in the 1981 time frame and was on a restoration committee for Saratoga's Historical Park. Saratoga City Council honored him with a commendation on Nov. 16, 2016 for the contributions he made to the City of Saratoga.

His work has included residential, school, churches, industrial, and commercial projects. Major commissions in Saratoga include St. Andrew's Episcopal Church (which he considered one of his best works) and administration buildings, Congress Springs Elementary School, Saratoga City Hall Theater/Council Chambers, Saratoga Senior Center, the Inn at Saratoga, Plaza del Robles Shopping Center, Saratoga Fire Station, Redwood School Gymnasium and Science Buildings, Chapel of Lady of Fatima Rest Home, Bitter Dental Center, Azule Shopping and Office Center, Saratoga/Cupertino Chapel and Mortuary, Saratoga Country Club, O'Neil Medical Building, Saratoga Office Complex, First National Bank (currently Wells Fargo Bank), as well as a number of other offices, condominiums, and residences in the city. His work also includes an extensive list of projects in nearby Los Gatos, Cupertino, and San Jose.

While Heid was influenced by the simplicity of mid-century architecture, he often said "I've always prided myself not having a theme. None of my buildings look the same. I don't design monuments for myself; I design for the clients need." A profile published in Saratoga News dated 3/18/81, which outlines his philosophy, is attached.

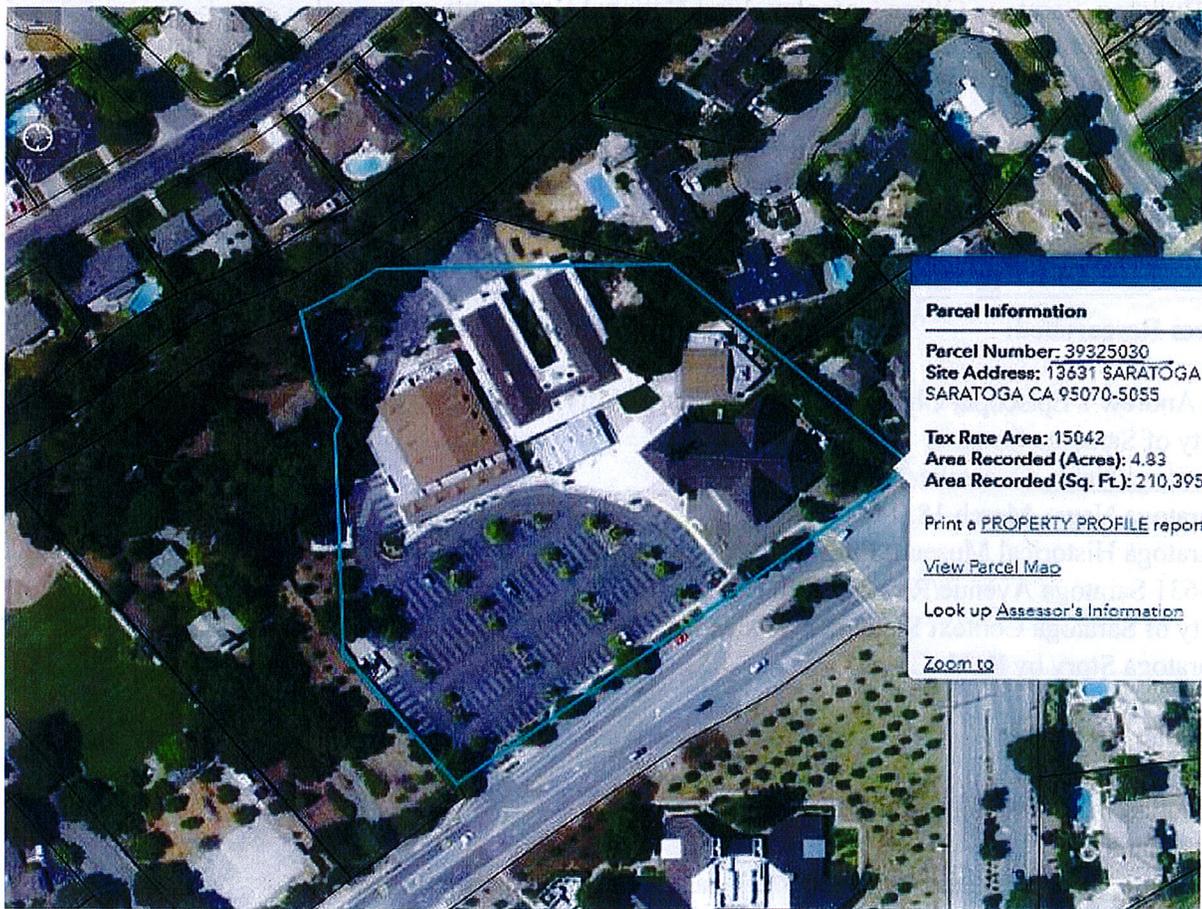
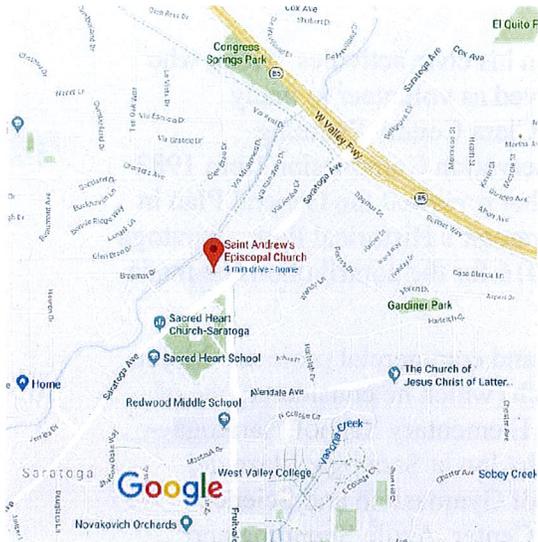
References Researched:

- St Andrew's Episcopal Church, A Building Turns Fifty, published by St. Andrew's Church
- City of Saratoga Records
- Saratoga News, December 1, 2016
- Saratoga News, March 18, 1981
- Saratoga Historical Museum Files
- 13631 Saratoga Avenue/Rawdon Dell Ranch DPR
- City of Saratoga Context Statement, December 2009
- Saratoga Story by R. V. Garrod

Attachments:

- Location maps and photos
- Site Plans
- Photographs of sanctuary, organ, stained glass windows and construction.
- Saratoga News article, March 18, 1981

Location Maps and Photos



Parcel Information

Parcel Number: 39325030
Site Address: 13631 SARATOGA AV
SARATOGA CA 95070-5055

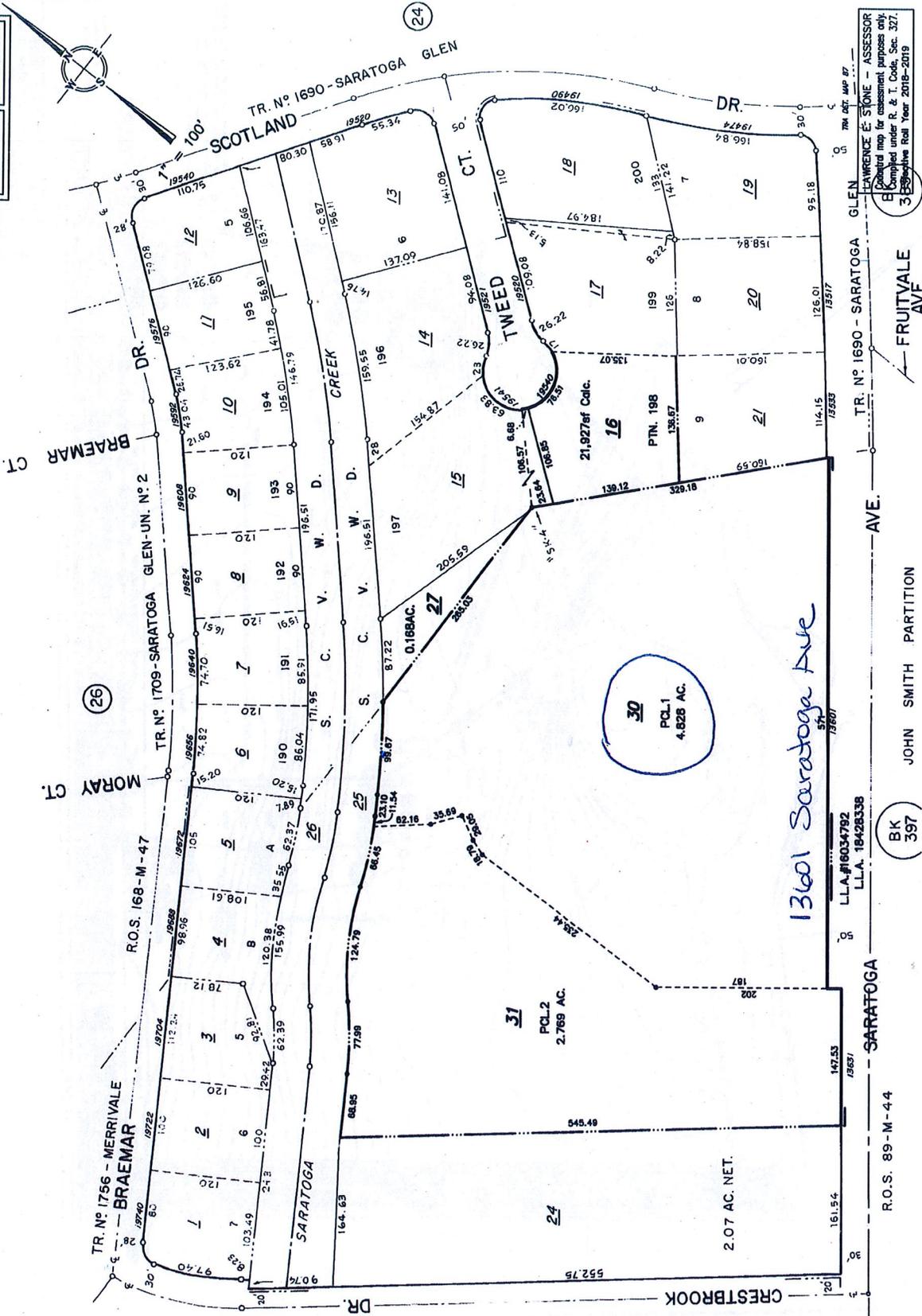
Tax Rate Area: 15042
Area Recorded (Acres): 4.83
Area Recorded (Sq. Ft.): 210,395

Print a [PROPERTY PROFILE](#) report.

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Look up [Assessor's Information](#)

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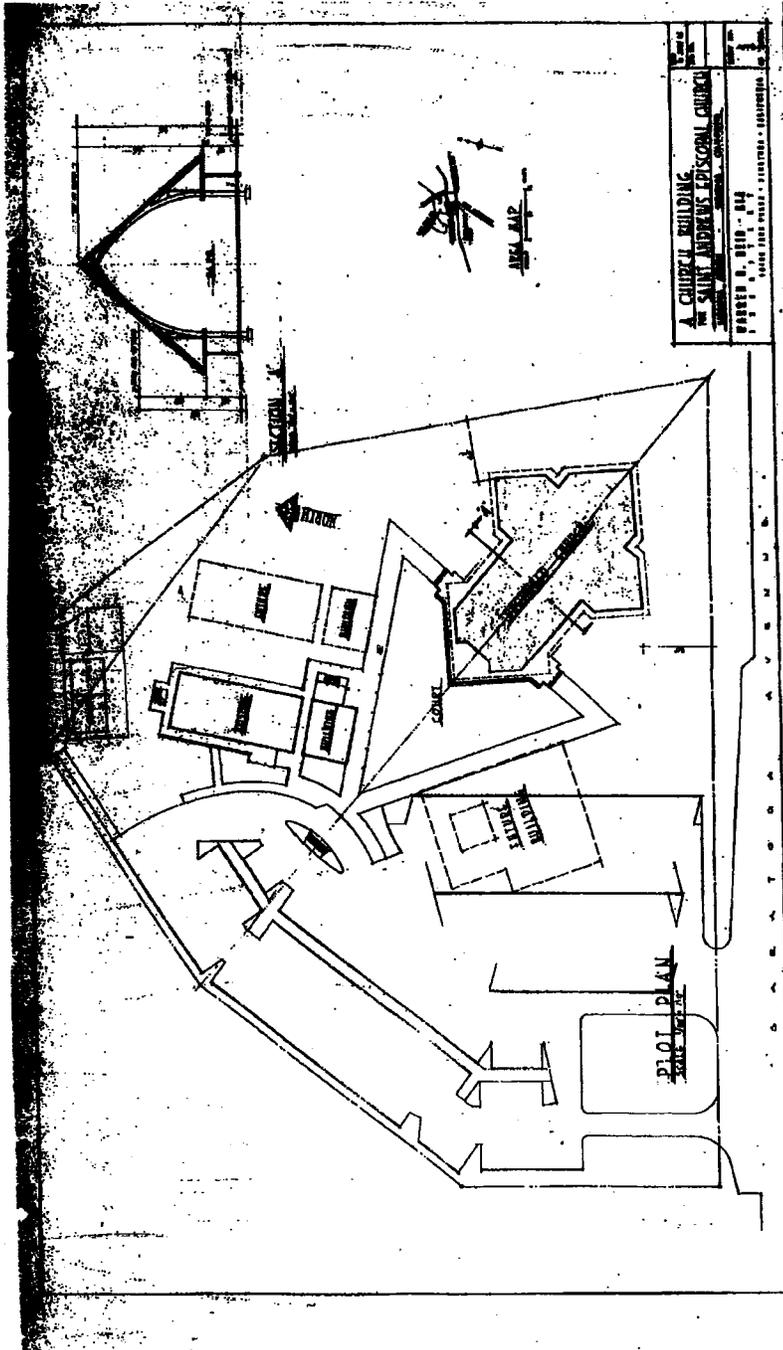
LAWRENCE E. STONE - ASSESSOR
 Created map for assessment purposes only.
 Compiled under R. & T. Code, Sec. 327.
 Effective Real Year 2018-2019

TR. N° 1690 - SARATOGA GLEN
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AVE.
 JOHN SMITH PARTITION

BK 397
 L.L.A. #16034792
 L.L.A. 18428338

SARATOGA
 R.O.S. 89-M-44

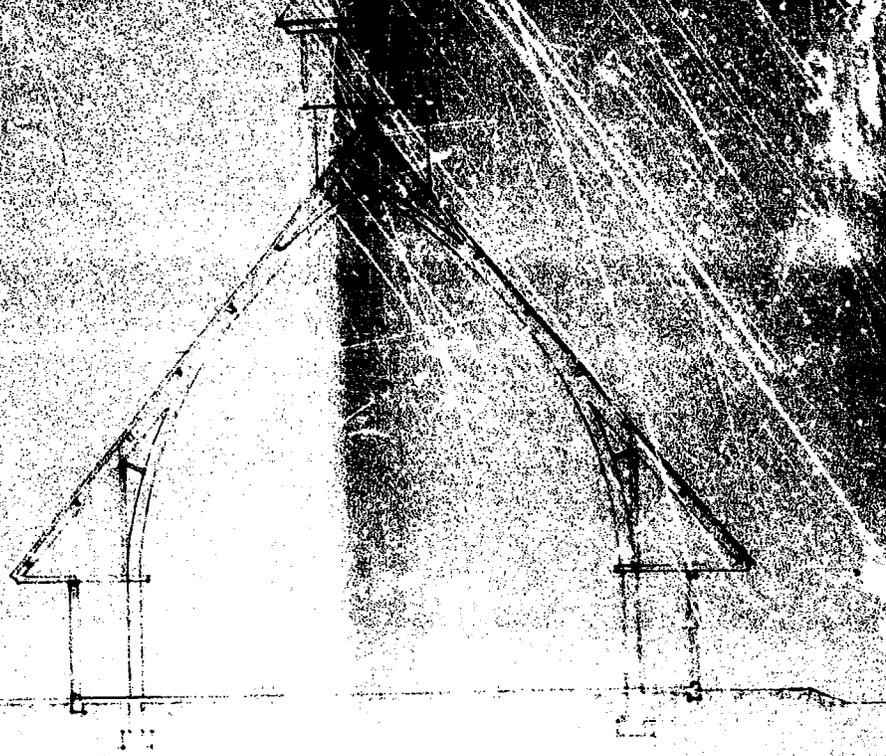


A CHURCH BUILDING
 FOR SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 WASHINGTON, D. C.
 MARK LARWOOD COMPANY
 ARCHITECTS

0 1 2 3 4 5 6
 MARK LARWOOD COMPANY
 564-8533

FLOOR PLAN
 1/4" = 1'-0"

15' 0"
SECTION BY CHARLES A. ...



CROSS SECTION THROUGH GABLE

CHURCH BLDG. OF THE ANDREWS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
SARATOGA AVENUE SARATOGA CALIFORNIA

WALTER B. HILL ARCHT. & ENGRS.
SAN FRANCISCO CALIF.

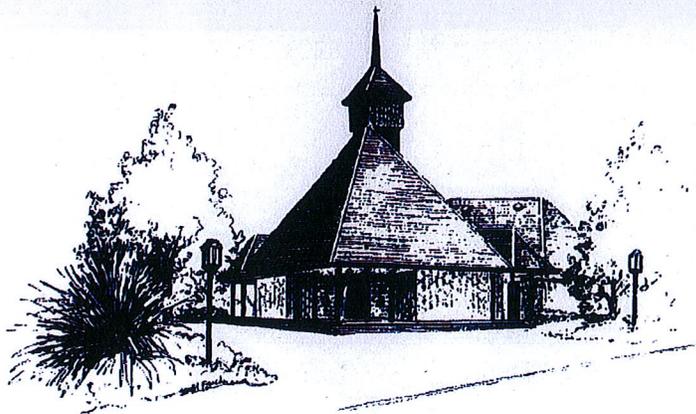


St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

13601 Saratoga Ave, Saratoga, CA

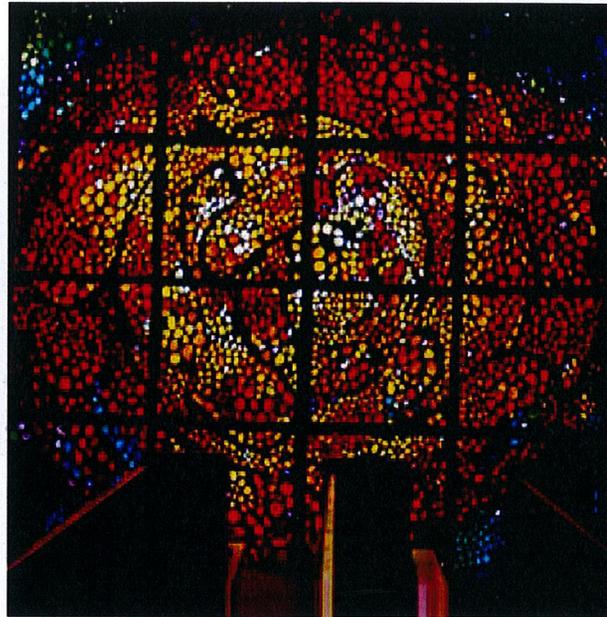
1983 Schantz, 60 Ranks, 47 stops, 3,488 pipes

www.st-andrews-saratoga.org



Stained Glass Windows

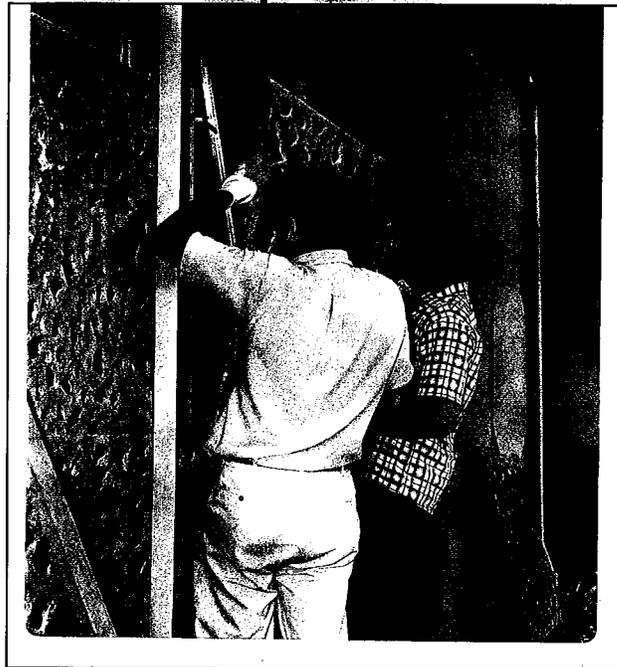
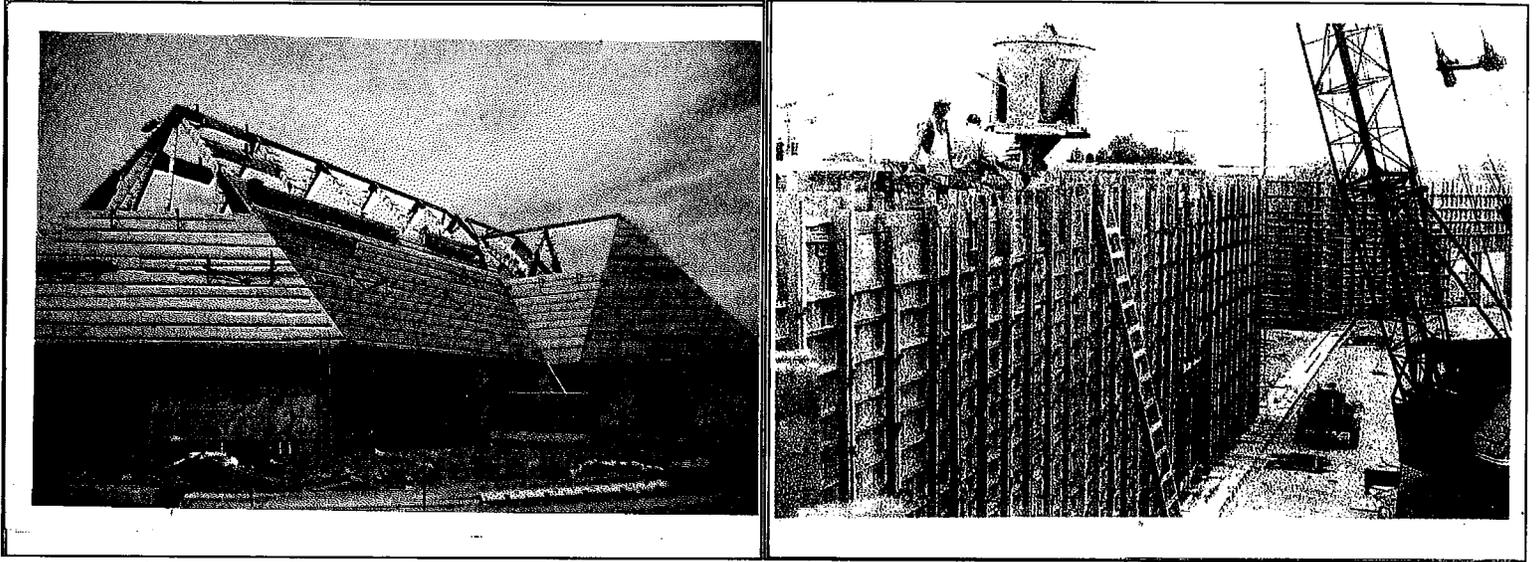
The Creation



The Gift of the Savior



During Construction



Everywhere one looks in Saratoga is a building designed by Heid

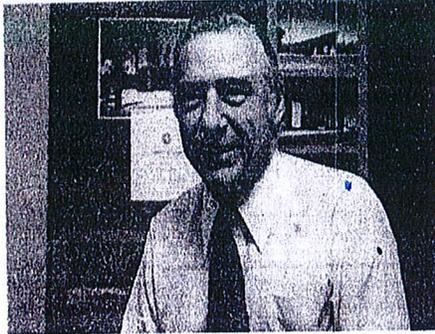
Sarato News 3/18/81

What does the Saratoga Civic Center, Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church, and the Plaza del Roble Shopping Center have in common? How about Congress Springs Elementary School, Pacific Valley Bank, and the new Clef House Center?

Give up? They were all designed by Warren B. Heid, architect. The Saratogan has worked out of his office on Big Basin Way since 1963, and much of the face of Saratoga is due to his talents.

"I'm proud to say that I really don't have one symbol that says, 'this is a Warren Heid building,'" explains the architect. "I don't design monuments for myself. I design for the client's needs."

Outside of Saratoga, he has designed the San Jose Mercury News Building (which won a prize for being one



Architect Warren Heid has built 18 public buildings in Saratoga and designed 65 custom homes.

of the Top Ten Industrial Plants of 1968). Ponderosa Lodge at Mt. Hermon (which won the Award of Merit from the American Institute of Architects), and the home of Dr. and Mrs. Horace Jones of Los Gatos (which received an award for the use of masonry in a residence).

Heid is a life-long resident of Santa Clara Valley. His family came to San Jose in 1904 and settled in Los Gatos. He remembers restoring a 100-year-old house with his father during his childhood.

After graduating with honors from UC-Berkeley, Heid worked for the San Jose Architectural firm of Binder and Curtis. In Jan. 1958 he established his own architectural firm and in 1963 moved into his office in a 100-year-old historical building.

"This house was built in 1869 for one of the engineers of the Saratoga Paper Mill," Heid explains. "It is a

redwood, single-wall construction, three-room building. A lean-to was added 25 years later to serve as a kitchen and sitting area. Some of the windows and door frames are original."

He shares the office with his staff, his son Jeff who is a landscape designer, and O.C., a black cat who sleeps in the in-basket on the secretary's desk.

Heid enjoys his work and his surroundings. "I worked on the Mercury News building with a large New York firm that occupied the whole 45th floor of the Pan Am building," he recalls. "After the New York architect saw my office and saw Saratoga, he said he envied me very much."

Heid also takes pride in his civic activities. ("I grew up physically and professionally in Santa Clara Valley. Why not give time back to my community?") He has been on the Board of Directors for Montalvo, chairman of the restoration committee for Saratoga's Historical Park, a member of the Rotary and San Jose Jaycees, and a member of the Planning Commission of Santa Clara County.

Currently, Heid is heading up a task force that is reviewing the General Plan for the Village. "We need input from everyone regarding the Village," he insists. "The area that we are studying is situated from the creek to Aloha Drive, from the cemetery to Saratoga-Los Gatos Road. Our first public meeting will be March 19 at 7:30 at Saratoga School."

Heid suspects that there will be some changes in the General Plan but, he says, "I don't think we will be reinventing the wheel." He feels that circulation will be a main topic.

"The West Valley Corridor will be an issue since a lot of people feel that it should be built," he says. "We need a better circulation pattern in Saratoga."

Generally, however, Heid states that Saratoga's General Plan has worked as well as can be expected, given the housing mix plus zoning and subdivision ordinances.

"You have to understand it is very difficult to build a \$110,000 home next to a \$400,000 home. Either the value of one goes up, or the value of the other goes down," he explains. "Yet, Saratoga is not old enough to tear down rows of houses in order to build new housing units."

Heid lives with his wife, Sheila in the old Fontaine home on La Paloma. (His other child, Susan, is married and lives in Salem, Oregon.) The house was designed by Andrew Hill in 1923, and actresses Olivia de Havilland and Joan Fontaine spent part of their childhood there.

"You know the story of the cobbler's son who walks barefoot?" Heid laughs. "It's the same way with our home. I have never had time to design something for ourselves. We have remodeled the kitchen, and that's about it. The house is comfortable for us just the way it is."