

EXHIBIT A

Subject to Final Survey and Title Commitment

Building Address

1400 N. Laramie Avenue, Chicago, Illinois

Permanent Index Number (PIN)

16-04-115-041-0000

Legal Description

SOUTHWESTERN 4.66 BY 52.8 FEET OF LOT 21 AND LOTS 22, 23 AND 24 IN BLOCK 1 IN CLIFFORD AND WADLEIGH'S SUBDIVISION OF THE SOUTH $\frac{1}{2}$ OF THE N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ OF THE N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ OF SECTION 4, TOWNSHIP 39 NORTH, RANGE 13, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

**CITY OF CHICAGO
COMMISSION ON CHICAGO LANDMARKS**

July 10, 2025

**RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL OF CHICAGO THAT
CHICAGO LANDMARK DESIGNATION BE ADOPTED FOR THE**

**NEW GENESIS ASSEMBLY OF GOD BAPTIST CHURCH
(FORMERLY TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH)**

1400 N. LARAMIE AVENUE

Docket No. 2025-06

To the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago:

Pursuant to Section 2-120-690 of the Municipal Code of the City of Chicago (the “Municipal Code”), the Commission on Chicago Landmarks (the “Commission”) has determined that the New Genesis Assembly of God Baptist Church (the “Building”), is worthy of designation as a Chicago Landmark. On the basis of careful consideration of the history and architecture of the Building, the Commission has found that it satisfies the following two (2) criteria set forth in Section 2-120-620 of the Municipal Code:

1. *Its value as an example of the architectural, cultural, economic, historic, social, or other aspect of the heritage of the City of Chicago, State of Illinois, or the United States.*
4. *Its exemplification of an architectural type or style distinguished by innovation, rarity, uniqueness, or overall quality of design, detail, materials, or craftsmanship.*

I. BACKGROUND

The formal landmark designation process for the Building began on May 8, 2025, when the Commission approved a preliminary landmark recommendation (the “Preliminary Recommendation”) for the Building as a Chicago Landmark. The Commission found that the Building meets two of the seven criteria for designation, as well as the integrity criterion, identified in the Chicago Landmarks Ordinance (Municipal Code, Section 2-120-580 et seq.). As part of the Preliminary Recommendation, the Commission preliminarily identified the “significant historical and architectural features” of the Building as:

- All exterior elevations, including rooflines, of the Building.

Also, as part of the Preliminary Recommendation, the Commission adopted a Designation Report, dated May 8, 2025, the most current iteration of which is dated July 10, 2025, incorporated herein and attached hereto as **Exhibit A** (the “Designation Report”).

At its regular meeting of June 9, 2025, the Commission received a statement from Ciere Boatright, Commissioner of the Department of Planning and Development, supporting the proposed landmark designation of the Building.

On June 18, 2025, the Commission received written consent to landmark designation of the Building in a form dated June 10, 2025, and signed by Reverend Clinton L. Norman, representing the congregation of the New Genesis Assembly of God Baptist Church, the owner of the Building.

II. FINDINGS OF THE COMMISSION ON CHICAGO LANDMARKS

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-120-690 of the Municipal Code, the Commission has reviewed the entire record of proceedings on the proposed Chicago Landmark designation, including the Designation Report and all of the information on the proposed landmark designation of the Building; and,

WHEREAS, originally home to the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, which was established in 1870, the Building reflects the city's social history and specifically, its German American ethnic and immigrant history as well as German American residential migration throughout various Chicago neighborhoods over time; and,

WHEREAS, an important figure in the history of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church was Reverend Carl H. Rembold who assumed the pastorate in 1923. Reverend Rembold would lead the church congregation to its new location on N. Laramie Avenue and oversaw the construction of the Building seen today over multiple decades, while substantially increasing the size of the congregation, its programming and its community impact; and,

WHEREAS, in 1997, the church Building would once again become a center of community life as the home of New Genesis Assembly of God Baptist Church. While serving an Austin community that underwent significant racial change, the new church congregation has anchored the corner for over 25 years; and,

WHEREAS, the Building is an excellent example of early 20th century church architecture in an eclectic Neo-Gothic style that was built in multiple phases between 1924 and 1949, as the Building's original congregation encountered delays in the building campaign due to the Great Depression and World II; and,

WHEREAS, the Building is clad with Lannon Stone on its primary elevations along with various Gothic elements such as lancet windows and multiple crenellated parapets giving it a commanding appearance; and,

WHEREAS, the Building's unique bell tower, which is four stories in height, includes the church's bells cast in 1898 and brought from the church's original location on Ada Street. It is topped by an unusual octagonal lantern framed by stepped gables at each of the tower's four sides; and

WHEREAS, the overall design detailing and detailed interior oak framing displays the

Viennese training of the building's architect, Moritz Strauch; and,

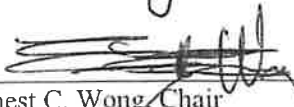
WHEREAS, the Building meets two criteria for landmark designation set forth in Section 2-120-620 (1) and (4) of the Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, consistent with Section 2-120-630 of the Municipal Code, the Building has significant historic, community, architectural, or aesthetic interest or value, the integrity of which is preserved in light of its location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and ability to express such historic, community, architectural, or aesthetic interest or value; now, therefore,

THE COMMISSION ON CHICAGO LANDMARKS HEREBY:

1. Adopts the recitals, findings and statements of fact set forth in the preamble and Sections I and II hereof as the findings of the Commission; and
2. Adopts the Designation Report, as revised, and dated this July 10, 2025; and
3. Finds, based on the Designation Report and the entire record before the Commission, that the Building meets two criteria for landmark designation as set forth in Section 2-120-620 (1) and (4) of the Municipal Code; and
4. Finds that the Building satisfies the "integrity" requirement set forth in Section 2-120-630 of the Municipal Code; and
5. Finds that the significant historical and architectural features of the Building are identified as follows:
 - All exterior elevations, including rooflines, of the Building.
6. Recommends the designation of the Building a Chicago Landmark.

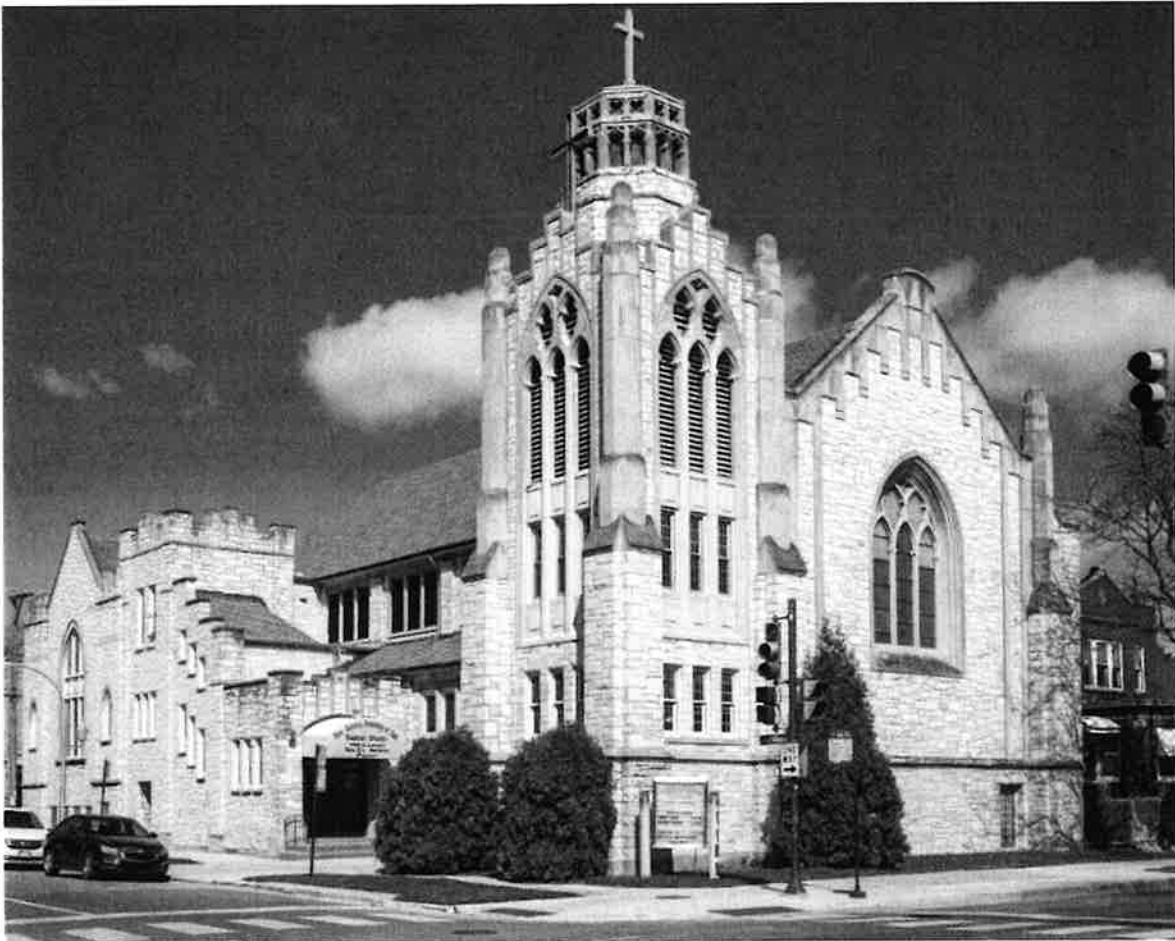
This recommendation was adopted unanimously (7-0).


Ernest C. Wong, Chair
Commission on Chicago Landmarks

Dated: July 10, 2025

Exhibit A

LANDMARK DESIGNATION REPORT



**NEW GENESIS ASSEMBLY OF GOD BAPTIST CHURCH
(FORMERLY TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH)
1400 N. LARAMIE AVENUE**

**FINAL LANDMARK RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION
ON CHICAGO LANDMARKS, ON JULY 10, 2025**



**CITY OF CHICAGO
Brandon Johnson, Mayor**

**Department of Planning and Development
Ciere Boatright, Commissioner**

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**NEW GENESIS ASSEMBLY OF GOD BAPTIST CHURCH
(FORMERLY TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH)**

1400 N. LARAMIE AVENUE

DATES OF CONSTRUCTION: 1924 — 1961

ARCHITECT: Moritz F. Strauch

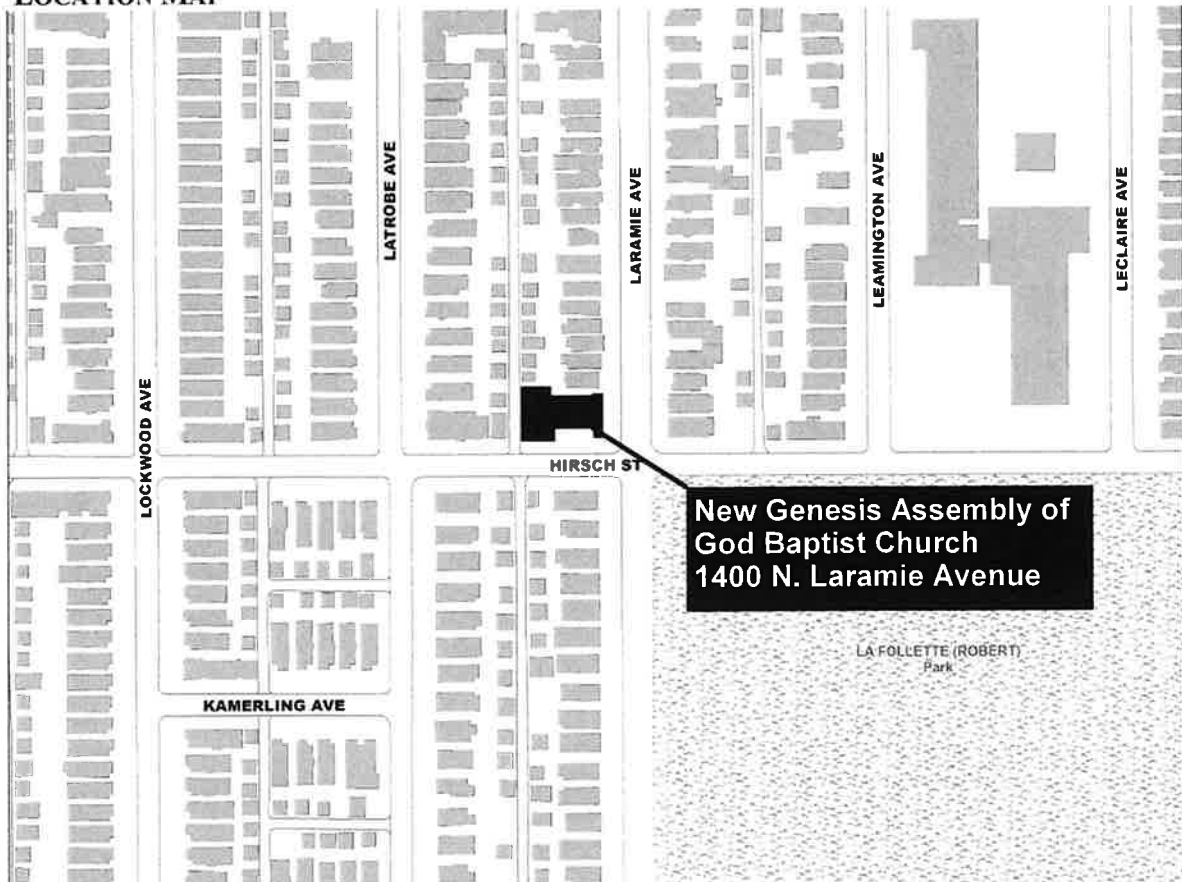
ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: NEO-GOTHIC ECLECTICISM

The New Genesis Assembly of God Baptist Church was originally constructed in 1924 as the home of the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church congregation. It was primarily built over the period from 1924 -1949 because the original congregation had been restricted by financial issues and exterior events, particularly the Great Depression and World War II and its domestic material shortages from completing the church all at once.

It was built in the Austin area of the city to be in the area where the church's German members had already moved to away from the congregation's original building in Noble Square. The predominantly three-story building is located at the northwest corner of Laramie Avenue and Hirsch Street. Designed in an eclectic Neo-Gothic manner, its Lannon Stone exterior, unusual bell tower with lantern and careful window articulation are all noteworthy features. The careful wall detailing, especially at the front Laramie façade, bell tower and entrance adds visual interest and texture to the exterior. The building was designed by Moritz F. Strauch, an Austrian, Viennese architect who designed several buildings within the city of Chicago including the Lincoln Turner Hall (*Turnverein*) at 1015 - 23 W. Diversey Parkway, (1922).

The church was built by the German American community of the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran congregation. When the neighborhood transitioned to mostly African American in the 1970s, the church opened its doors to the new residents and later became the home of a new congregation, the New Genesis Assembly of God Baptist Church in 1997. This congregation continues to worship in this building to this day.

LOCATION MAP

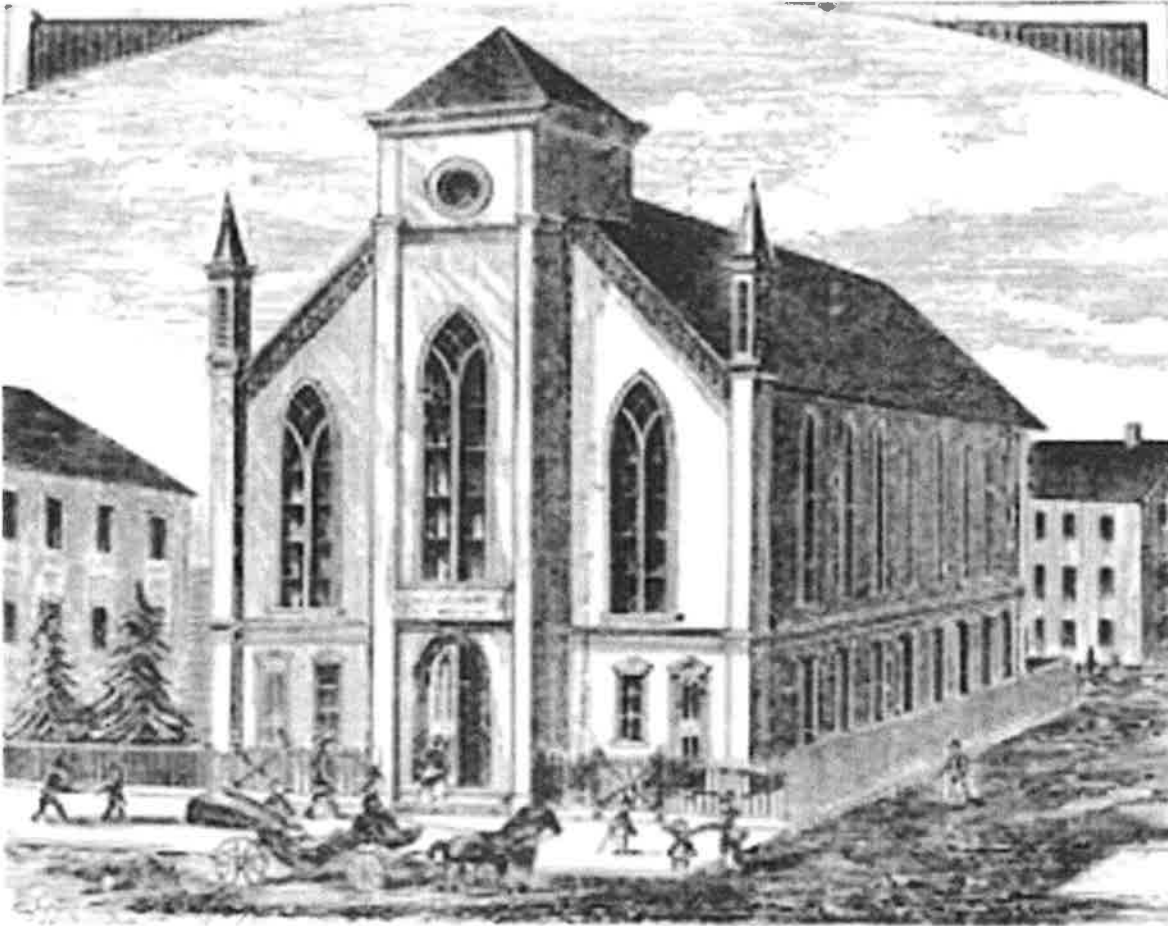


The New Genesis Assembly of God Baptist Church is located at 1400 North Laramie Avenue in the Austin Community Area, on Chicago's west side.

BUILDING DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

HISTORY OF TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH FROM ITS FOUNDING THROUGH CONSTRUCTION OF THE BUILDING IN PHASES

The church at 1400 N. Laramie Avenue is currently home to New Genesis Assembly of God Baptist Church, but it was built by the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church. This congregation had four locations throughout its life. The founding congregation was originally a part of St. Peter's Evangelical Church at Cortez Street and Oakley Boulevard, which is no longer extant. Led by Reverend John Bond, on Easter Sunday, 1870 a group of 50 families separated from this parent church in order to more closely follow the religious beliefs and traditions they had practiced in Germany. The break-away congregation began worshipping in German at the house of charter member Henry Gudehus on Ashland Avenue near Chicago Avenue.



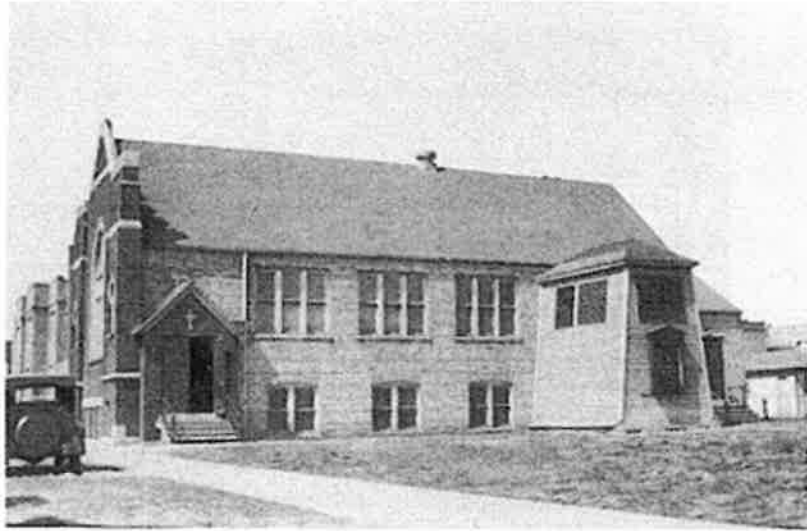
The original Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, circa 1870s. Source: *The Archives of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

Within a year, the congregation bought a site near the center of the German settlement centered on Chicago and Ashland Avenues at 742 N. Ada Street. The cornerstone was laid on October 23, 1870. The church managed to be unharmed by the Chicago Fire of 1871 but is no longer extant.

In the 19th century, German Americans in Chicago were well-known for their social organization. The early history of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran bears this out as the congregation grew to 800 members in the late 19th century. It established a parochial school which taught children in German and English. A women's group, the *frauen verein* was established to aid those in need and also to maintain the church. A men's group known as the Brotherhood soon followed. If a member was ill and unable to work, they were paid \$5 per week by the Brotherhood. When a congregant died, the Brotherhood furnished a horse-drawn carriage for the mourners and provided a floral arrangement. A men's choir called Unity was started in 1898, and a young people's choir known as the League was formed in the early 1900s. An annual church picnic was held first at Brandt's Park and later at Elm Tree Grove. The congregants would parade down Chicago Avenue to a chartered, open-air streetcar and ride to the grove. Koch's German band would perform at the picnic. Bazaars were held in the church basement to raise money.



Rev. Rembold (circa 1950s) Source: "Trinity Church to Fete Pastor on 50th Jubilee" Chicago Tribune, June 24, 1956.



The original Chapel (Small Hall) and temporary Bell Tower from the northwest, circa 1920s. Source: The Archives of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

At the beginning of the 20th century, members of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran began moving away from the old German settlement around the Ada Street church westward to the outskirts of the city. Consequently, attendance dwindled to 60 families by 1923.

An important figure in the congregation's history was Rev. Carl H. Rembold who assumed the pastorate in 1923. He consulted with the leaders of the congregation and in the face of the further diminishment of the congregation, in 1924, sold the old church on Ada Street and purchased the present site of the current church building at Laramie Avenue and Hirsch Street in Austin.

The New Genesis Assembly of God Church building that exists today appears as a unified whole but was actually built in several stages due to financial constraints. The first part to be built included a one-story chapel and parish hall placed at the rear of the lot that had a groundbreaking on October 12, 1924, and was dedicated in February 1925. At this time the congregation had 75 members and 14 Sunday school pupils.

In 1934 a second section of the church building was built which included the basement to the main church hall which was used temporarily as the sanctuary. After this part was paid off by 1940, it was still necessary to build a third part to complete the church complex. This was initiated with a \$15,000 fund drive. The membership at that time numbered 650 confirmed members with a Sunday school of 450 children.

World War II halted plans on the final phase until 1948. It included a church hall that seated 400 which was dedicated on Sunday March 27, 1949. The cost to produce the stained-glass window behind the altar was nearly \$2000. A pipe organ costing \$20,000 was also added.

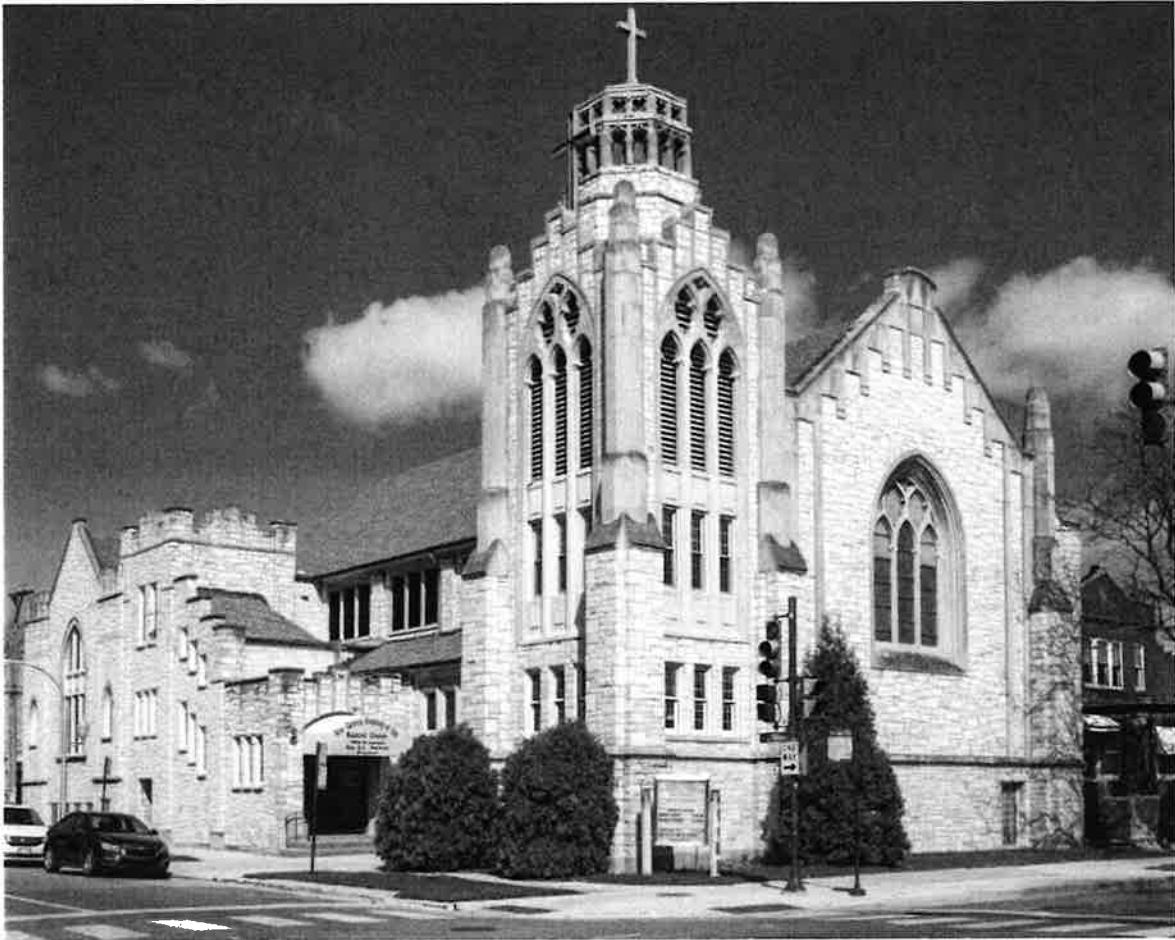


View of the church from the NW corner of Laramie and Hirsch after the construction was completed in 1949. Note that the second stories above the stair and stair landing to the West of the side entrance have not yet been added. Source: *The Archives of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

Tower bells contributed by a parishioner in 1898, that had almost been forgotten during the move to the new church, were taken from the old church and in 1924 were first placed in a temporary tower at the center of the lot and were relocated later atop the 1934 basement addition until they were finally located in the permanent tower in 1949.

***THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE NEW GENESIS ASSEMBLY OF GOD BAPTIST CHURCH
(FORMERLY TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH)***

The existing building is a predominately three-and one-half story church set on a high raised basement. It has a higher bell tower at its southeast corner. The exterior walls at the primary elevations facing east and south are constructed of Lannon Stone, a type of buff-colored, blocky, sedimentary type of limestone whose name is derived from William Lannon, one of the

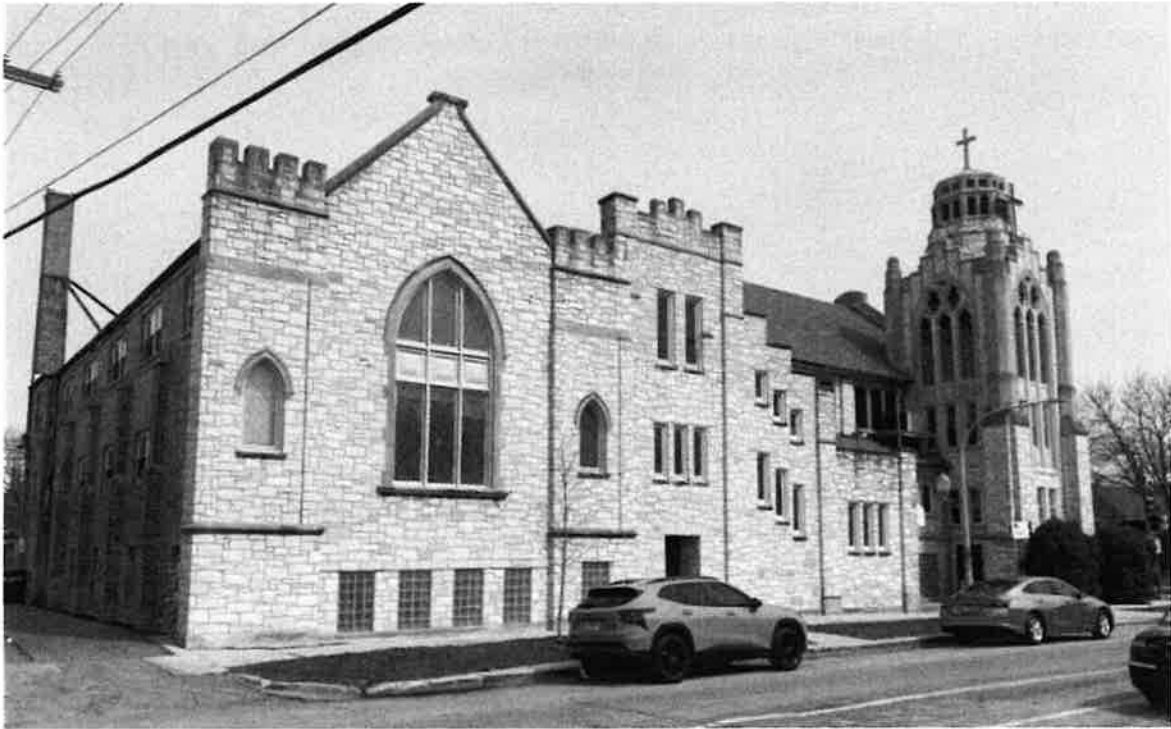


The South and East elevations that front on the public streets. The main entry is at the middle of the South elevation below the awning.

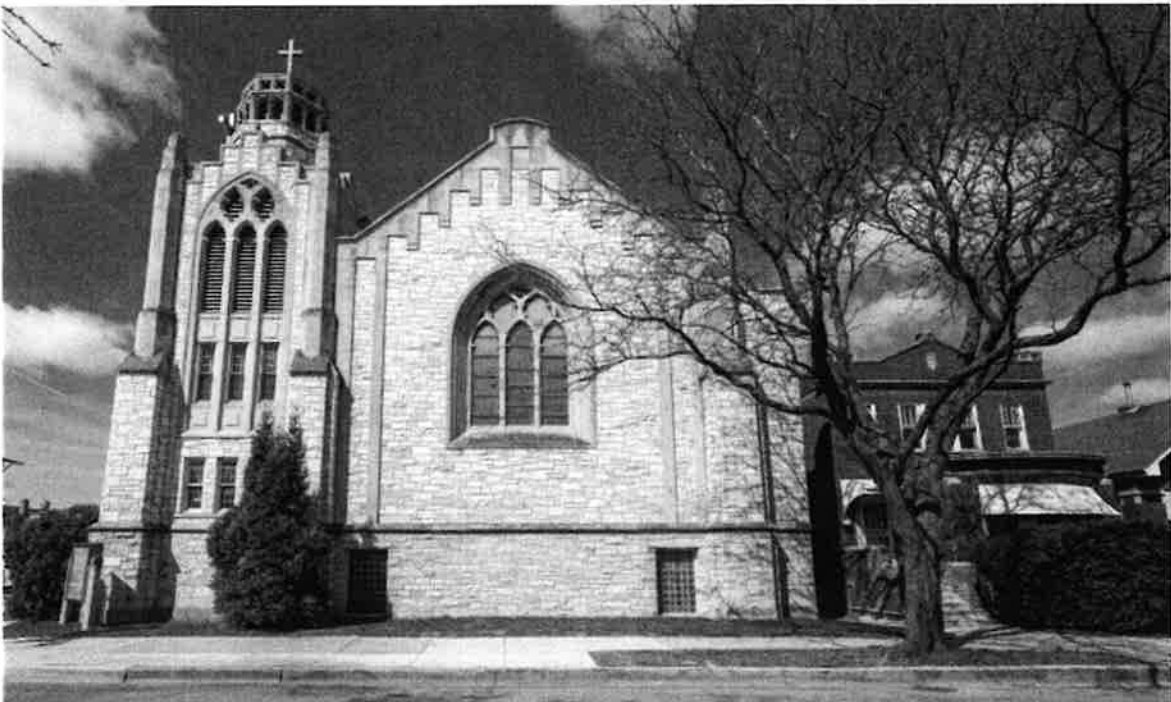
original settlers of the Village of Lannon, Wisconsin. It is known for its durability and its use in exterior wall construction. The building features both a historic interior and exterior architectural design complete with a large symbolic stained-glass window, old world interior woodwork, wood truss roof, and bell tower. The roof form consists of two gables having different widths and heights that intersect with each other in a T-shape plan; the projecting entrance and stairwell at the south elevation is topped with a flat roof.

The primary east façade fronts onto N. Laramie Avenue while the south elevation fronts onto W. Hirsch Street. The secondary north and west elevations are less visible and comprised largely of Chicago common brick. The exterior elevations begin with a raised basement wall that rises from the foundation to a limestone belt course at the first floor. Large rectangular window openings at this level are glazed with glass block. From the basement level the Lannon Stone exterior walls run up, sometimes interrupted with belt and string courses to the wall copings or roof eaves.

The gabled east or front elevation facing N. Laramie Avenue has a limestone belt course that runs across the entire elevation wall and continues across the bell tower anchoring the corner of Laramie Avenue and Hirsch Street. Each side of this elevation is framed with a projecting but-



The South facade from the northwest, showing from left to right the small hall, the stairwell landing tower, the stair with staggered windows, the entrance and the bell tower.



The East façade fronting on Laramie Street. The residential building to the right was the former parsonage. The inset limestone ornament below the gable coping and the vertical limestone striping at the gable end and running down from the tower corbie steps is rare and unique.

truss topped with octagonal pinnacles. A large window opening centered in the gable end is the primary feature of this elevation. It is framed with limestone molding and a strongly sloped sill. The opening includes three lancet windows separated by cusped mullions and a quatrefoil, all derived from Gothic architecture. This elevation has slightly projecting limestone work consisting of short attenuated vertical courses spaced equally across the gable that because of the stone jointing appear as inset brackets slightly proud of the wall surface.

The church's unusual bell tower is square in plan with angled buttresses at each corner that rises four stories. The openings at each side of the tower are large lancets that rise through the second and third stories. The opening is subdivided vertically by thick mullions into three thinner lancets. The large overall opening has a flat molding all the way round its perimeter. These upper openings are infilled with horizontal copper louvers which enclose the church's bells which were brought from the Trinity's original location on Ada Street.

Instead of having a steeple and spire, the tower is topped with an octagonal lantern framed by stepped gables at each of the tower's four sides. The octagonal lantern features tall, ogee-headed openings and quatrefoils with diagonal lobes. The lantern is topped with a copper roof and cross.

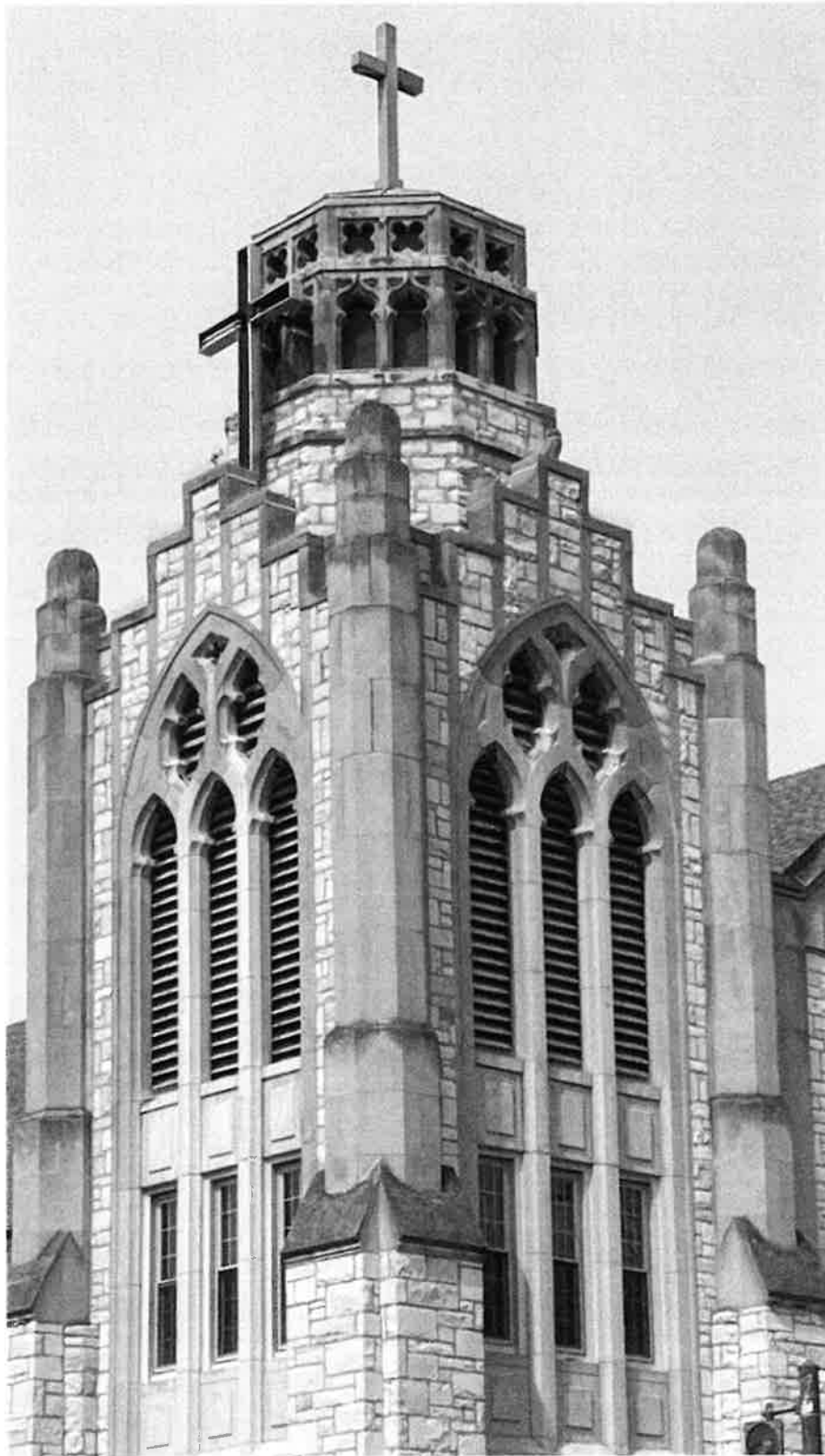
The south elevation facing W. Hirsch Street includes the primary entrance to the church and a stairwell that projects from the main volume of the building. Narrow windows follow the line of the stairwell and step up diagonally as does the roofline of this part of the building. The stairwell windows are glazed with colored leaded glass set in a geometric pattern. The south elevation terminates with a cross gable framing a large pointed-arch window and topped with a crenellated parapet.

The entrance at grade at the stair landing tower has a flat arch with keystone at its head. To the left of this door is a cornerstone inscribed with the date "1924". The narrow window openings at the building entrance and at the stairwell leading to the small hall are glazed with colored leaded glass.



The utilitarian west elevation facing the alley is Chicago common brick with pier buttresses. Similarly, the north elevation facing a gangway and the neighboring property is Chicago common brick except for Lannon Stone return wrapping the north-east front corner.

The cornerstone, south façade, inscribed "1924" on the original Small Hall portion of the building.



The tower is topped with an octagonal lantern framed by stepped gables at each tower side.

LATER HISTORY OF TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (FROM THE LAST PHASE OF CONSTRUCTION TO CLOSING)

After the building project was finally largely complete, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church experienced significant congregational growth. Membership increased to 900 members by 1956. In June of 1957 Pastor Rembold, suffering from ill health, retired. He had served Trinity for thirty-four years, had helped to organize the Lutheran Brotherhood of America, had been a member of the board of trustees of the American Lutheran Church and had served on the board of Augustana Hospital for three years. On September 19, 1957, the Chicago City Council passed a resolution honoring Pastor Rembold and expressing deepest sympathy to Trinity and the entire Austin community at his passing.

After Pastor Rembold's death, Pastor George A. Reinke, who had been ordained at Trinity became the new pastor. In 1960 Trinity became involved in a merger when the American Lutheran Church (German), the Evangelical Lutheran Church (Norwegian), and the United Evangelical Lutheran Church (Danish) joined together to become The American Lutheran Church.

In 1961 the building underwent a \$75,000 remodeling which included adding a new floor within the gym. The gym was converted into a Sunday school, classrooms, recreational and lounge facilities, office space and a modernized kitchen. In 1965 the church had 650 confirmed adult members and 200 Sunday school pupils.

Trinity became debt free in 1969 when the final payment was made on the mortgage that had funded the 1961 remodeling. Pastor Philip R. Johnson, of Swedish descent, succeeded Pastor Reinke in 1969. The church facility on Laramie Avenue and Hirsh Street was vacant for approximately two years before it was eventually sold to an African American Baptist Church (New Genesis) in 1997.

HISTORY OF NEW GENESIS ASSEMBLY OF GOD BAPTIST CHURCH CONGREGATION

Similar to many Chicago communities, Austin experienced significant demographic and racial change over the last several decades. This process of neighborhood change would bring a new community of stewards to the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church building which had occupied the site for over 70 years.

The New Genesis Assembly of God Baptist Church was founded on August 9, 1995, by Pastor C.L. Norman with forty-eight members. Their first place of worship was at 5744 W. North Avenue.

On December 13, 1997, the congregation moved to their new church with a processional motorcade led by Pastor Norman through the city streets of Austin to their current home at 1400 N. Laramie Avenue. Upon arriving, a ribbon cutting ceremony was held before the congregation assembled for their first worship service.

From Wednesday thru Sunday, August 8 – 12, 2018, services were held to celebrate the

church's 23rd year anniversary and the burning of the mortgage, which had been paid in full. Many other services have been initiated by the congregation, so much so, that the City Chicago dedicated a street sign at the location in Pastor Norman's honor. Most recently, the church conducted a Drive by Communion Service during the Covid pandemic. To this day, the building remains an active house of worship and center of community life.



Rev. C.L. Norman, center, New Genesis Assembly of God Baptist Church. Source: *The Austin Voice*, January, 1988

ARCHITECT MORITZ F. STRAUCH—A.K.A. FRED M. STRAUCH

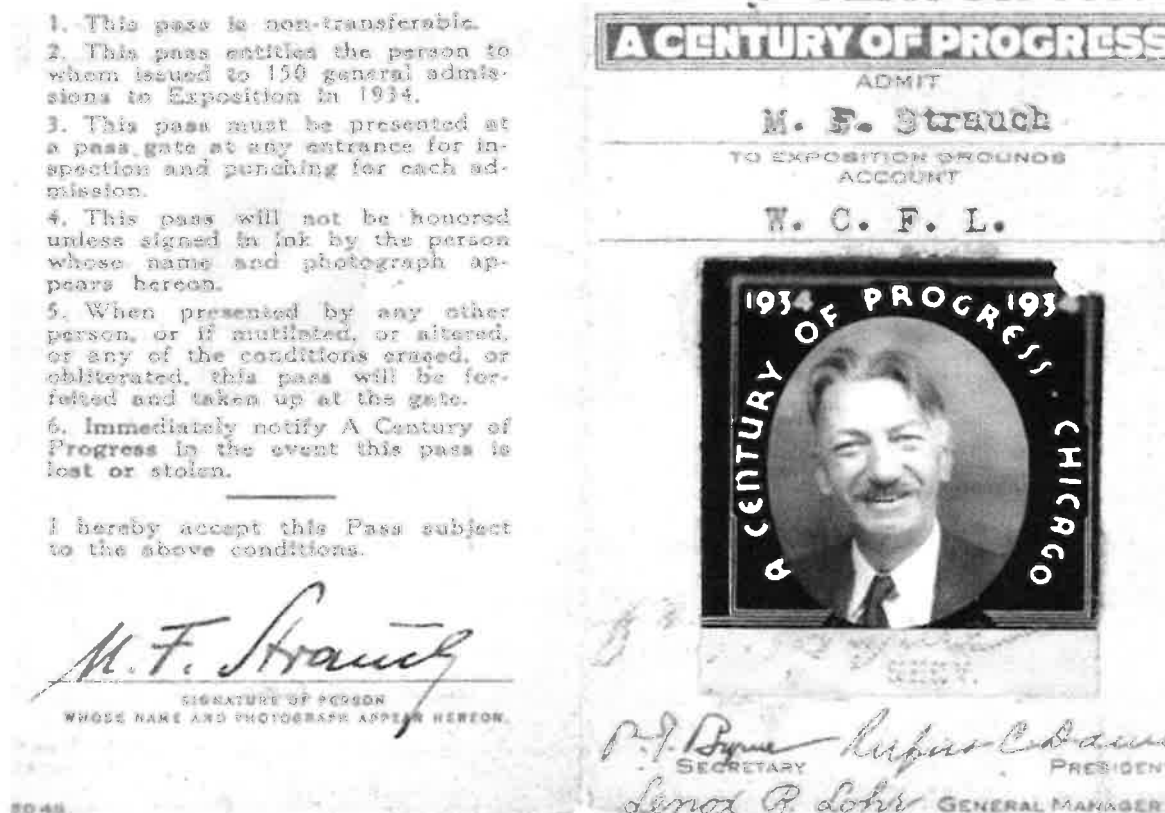
The architect of the New Genesis Assembly of God Baptist Church (originally Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church) was Moritz F. Strauch (1876 -1946). He was a Chicago-based architect whose practice likely started as early as 1911, when he was 35 years old and received his State of Illinois architectural license. Strauch was Austrian born and likely received his architectural education and training in Vienna. Little else is known about his early life and education.

During his 40-year career in Chicago, he designed churches, schools, civic buildings, breweries, a gymnasium, a theater, a union hall and a variety of small residential buildings. The earliest building of his work is likely St. Andrews School for the Catholic Church, which is extant at 1710 W. Addison Street. This is a simply organized, three story tall, brick masonry, school building with classically detailed entrances on three sides.

Other buildings that he designed include an extant three-story, brick, flat building at 2322 W. Cornelia Avenue (1912); a single-story, brick, theater building at 1718 W. 18th Street (1913); a two-story, flat building at 1907 W. 17th Street (1914), now demolished; the Arnold Hottinger House, a two story, brick, two flat with terra cotta trim at 1057 W. Oakdale Avenue, (1916), (a contributing building to the Terra Cotta Row District, a designated Chicago Landmark); and, the Lincoln Turner Hall (Turnverein) at 1015 - 23 W. Diversey Parkway (1922).

During the construction of the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, it was remarked that the oak beams and wood trim throughout the church's interior showed off the architect's Viennese training. Church members said, "Because of his Viennese training, his designs had a touch of the old world. He regarded his plans for Trinity as a climax to his career as a church architect."

Moritz F. Strauch 70, died in 1946, before Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church was finished.



A photo of Moritz Strauch's admission pass to the Century of Progress Exposition of 1934. His pass was sponsored by the WCFL radio station. WCFL was the nation's first and longest-surviving labor radio station. Created by the Chicago Federation of Labor in 1926, WCFL initially was listener-supported. During its first decade it offered entertainment, labor, and public affairs programming designed to serve the labor movement and working-class communities. Source: Ancestry.com



Other buildings designed by Moritz Strauch: Above, the Arnold Hottinger House, a two story, brick, two flat with terra cotta trim and Viennese Modern in character, at 1057 W. Oakdale Ave., (1916), a contributing building to the Terra Cotta Row District, a designated Chicago landmark.

Below, the Lincoln Turner Hall (Turnverein) at 1015 - 23 W. Diversey Pkwy, (1922) *Source: Google*



CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION

According to the Municipal Code of Chicago (Section 2-120-690), the Commission on Chicago Landmarks has the authority to make a recommendation for an area, district, place, building, structure, work of art, or other object within the City of Chicago if the Commission determines it meets two or more of the stated “criteria for designation” and that it possesses a significant degree of historic integrity to convey its significance. The following should be considered by the Commission on Chicago Landmarks in determining whether to recommend that the New Genesis Assembly of God Church be designated as a Chicago Landmark.

CRITERION 1: VALUE AS AN EXAMPLE OF CITY, STATE, OR NATIONAL HERITAGE

Its value as an example of the architectural, cultural, economic, historic, social, or other aspect of the heritage of the City of Chicago, the State of Illinois, or the United States.

- Originally home to the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, which was established in 1870, the building reflects the city’s social history and specifically, its German American ethnic and immigrant history as well as German American residential migration throughout various Chicago neighborhoods over time.
- An important figure in the history of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church was Reverend Carl H. Rembold who assumed the pastorate in 1923. Reverend Rembold would lead the church congregation to its new location on N. Laramie Avenue and oversaw the construction of the building seen today over multiple decades, while substantially increasing the size of the congregation, its programming and its community impact.
- In 1997, the church building would once again become a center of community life as the home of New Genesis Assembly of God Baptist Church. While serving an Austin community that underwent significant racial change, the new church congregation has anchored the corner for over 25 years.

CRITERION 4: EXEMPLARY ARCHITECTURE

Its exemplification of an architectural type or style distinguished by innovation, rarity, uniqueness, or overall quality of design, detail, materials, or craftsmanship

- The building is an excellent example of early 20th century church architecture in an eclectic Neo-Gothic style that was built in multiple phases between 1924 and 1949, as the building’s original congregation encountered delays in the building campaign due to the Great Depression and World II.
- The building is clad with Lannon Stone on its primary elevations along with various Gothic elements such as lancet windows and multiple crenellated parapets giving it a commanding appearance.
- The building’s unique bell tower, which is four stories in height, includes the church’s bells cast in 1898 and brought from the church’s original location on Ada Street. It is

topped by an unusual octagonal lantern framed by stepped gables at each of the tower's four sides.

- The overall design detailing and detailed interior oak framing displays the Viennese training of the building's architect, Moritz Strauch.

INTEGRITY CRITERION

The integrity of the proposed landmark must be preserved in light of its location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and ability to express its historic community, architecture or aesthetic interest or value.

There have been no additions to the New Genesis Assembly of God Baptist Church (formerly Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church) building since construction and renovation was completed in 1961. The Lannon Stone and limestone exterior (and interior oak trusses) appear to be in excellent condition and have been well-maintained. Permit history indicated the roof was last repaired/replaced in 1987. The building is still owned and used by the New Genesis Assembly of God Baptist Church.

SIGNIFICANT HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES

Whenever an area, district, place, building, structure, work of art, or other object is under consideration for landmark designation, the Commission on Chicago Landmarks is required to identify the "significant historical and architectural features" of the property. This is done to enable the owners and the public to understand which elements are considered most important to preserve the historical and architectural character of the proposed landmark. Based on its evaluation of the New Genesis Assembly of God Baptist Church, the Commission recommends that the significant features be identified as:

- All exterior elevations, including rooflines, of the Building.

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“Trinity Church Will Dedicate New Building”. *Chicago Tribune*. March 20, 1949. Retrieved February 5, 2025, from <https://www.newspapers.com/image/370145223/>

Additional Sources

- Chicago Historic Resources Survey
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps
- University of Illinois at Chicago: City of Chicago Building Permits

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CITY OF CHICAGO

Brandon Johnson, Mayor

Department of Planning and Development

Ciere Boatright, Commissioner

Kathleen Dickhut, Deputy Commissioner, Bureau of Citywide Planning

Project Staff

John Ritzu (Project Manager)

Daniel Klaiber, editing

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The Commission on Chicago Landmarks, whose nine members are appointed by the Mayor and City Council, was established in 1968 by city ordinance. The Commission is responsible for recommending to the City Council that individual building, sites, objects, or entire districts be designated as Chicago Landmarks, which protects them by law. The Commission is staffed by the Chicago Department of Planning and Development, Bureau of Citywide Planning, Historic Preservation Division, City Hall, 121 North LaSalle Street, Room 905, Chicago, IL 60602; (312-744-3200); www.cityofchicago.org/landmarks

This Landmark Designation Report is subject to possible revision and amendment during the designation process. Only language contained within a designation ordinance adopted by the City Council should be regarded as final.

COMMISSION ON CHICAGO LANDMARKS

Ernest C. Wong, Chair

Gabriel Ignacio Dziekiewicz, Vice Chair

Ciere Boatright, Secretary

Suellen Burns

Jonathan Fair

Alicia Ponce

Adam Rubin

Richard Tolliver

The Commission is staffed by the Department of Planning and Development:



Bureau of Citywide Planning

Historic Preservation Division

City Hall, 121 N. LaSalle St., Room 905

Chicago, Illinois 60602

312.744.3200

<http://www.cityofchicago.org/landmarks>

May 2025 revised and reprinted, July 2025



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
CITY OF CHICAGO

September 17, 2025

The Honorable Anna M. Valencia
City Clerk
City of Chicago
Room 107, City Hall
121 North LaSalle Street
Chicago, Illinois 60602

RE: Ordinance designating the New Genesis Assembly of God Baptist Church (1400 N. Laramie Avenue) as a Chicago Landmark

Dear Clerk Valencia:

We are filing with your office for introduction at the September 25, 2025, City Council meeting as a transmittal to the Mayor and City Council of Chicago the recommendation of the Commission on Chicago Landmarks that the New Genesis Assembly of God Baptist Church be designated as a Chicago Landmark.

The material being submitted to you for this proposal includes the:

1. Recommendation of the Commission on Chicago Landmarks; and
2. Proposed Ordinance.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Dijana Cuvalo, AIA
Bureau of Citywide Systems and Historic Preservation
City of Chicago Department of Planning and Development

encls.

cc: The Honorable Emma Mitts, Alderman, 37th Ward (*w/o enclosures*)