

GREATER PAGE TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
1858-1864 W. Adams Boulevard; 2610-2616 S. La Salle Avenue
CHC-2025-2725-HCM
ENV-2025-2726-CE

FINDINGS

(As amended by the Cultural Heritage Commission on August 7, 2025)

- The Greater Page Temple Church of God in Christ “exemplifies significant contributions to the broad cultural, economic, or social history of the nation, state, city, or community” as an important site associated with the development of the African American community in the West Adams neighborhood of Los Angeles from the mid- to late-20th century;
- The Greater Page Temple Church of God in Christ “is associated with the lives of historic personages important to national, state, city, or local history” for its association with Bishop L.C. Page, founder of the Greater Page Temple church and a leader in the Church of God in Christ who helped grow the denomination to national prominence; and
- The Greater Page Temple Church of God in Christ “embodies the distinctive characteristics of a style, type, period, or method of construction” as an excellent example of a religious building designed in the Late Gothic Revival architectural style.

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

The Greater Page Temple Church of God in Christ meets three of the criteria for designation under the Cultural Heritage Ordinance.

The subject property “exemplifies significant contributions to the broad cultural, economic, or social history of the nation, state, city, or community” as an important site associated with the development of the African American community in the West Adams neighborhood of Los Angeles from the mid- to late-20th century.

For African Americans, the church represented a space of Black autonomy – spiritual, social, political – and as such it became a powerful institution. In Los Angeles, Black churches were among the most important institutions that supported the growth of African American communities and also played a crucial role in supporting and coordinating civil rights activism in the African American community. The Greater Page Temple Church of God in Christ has persevered as an important anchor in the West Adams neighborhood of Los Angeles for over 70 years. As the home of the Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Church from 1952 until 1964 and the Greater Page Temple Church of God in Christ starting in 1964, the subject property provided a safe space for West Adams neighborhood community organizations to meet and host events throughout the 1950s and 1960s, and supported activities that sought to give a stronger political voice to its congregants and community. Some of the more notable events that took place at the church included enrollments for the Los Angeles Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), a 1962 voter registration rally featuring then California Governor Pat Brown as a guest speaker, and a three-day event featuring Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1960.

The Greater Page Temple Church of God in Christ also “is associated with the lives of historic personages important to national, state, city, or local history” for its association with Bishop L.C. Page, founder of the Greater Page Temple church and a leader in the Church of God in Christ who helped grow the denomination to national prominence.

Bishop L.C. Page was an early and foundational leader in the Church of God in Christ after joining the followers in the 1920s. Page oversaw the spread of the denomination through the Page Evangelist—later Greater Page Temple—congregation in Los Angeles and surrounding areas beginning in 1943, first in South Los Angeles and later across several locations in the city until relocating the church to the subject property in 1964. The congregation grew in popularity in part due to Page’s leadership through radio broadcasts, radio prayer services, and Radio Choir performances that he continued to conduct at the subject property. While operating out of the subject property, Page’s leadership in the Church of God in Christ denomination expanded. In 1968, Page hosted the International Convention of the Church of God in Christ at the subject property; in 1969, Page became the overseer of the Central California Jurisdiction of the Church of God in Christ denomination; and in 1977, he was installed as the head of the Church of God in Christ’s Department of Evangelism. Page was recognized as a national and international leader in Pentecostalism and served as a prominent religious leader in Los Angeles.

Furthermore, the subject property “embodies the distinctive characteristics of a style, type, period, or method of construction” as an excellent example of a religious building designed in the Late Gothic Revival architectural style.

The Late Gothic Revival architectural style was popular for the design of religious, educational, and other institutional architecture in the 19th century and early 20th century in Los Angeles. The subject property features several characteristic features of the style that include tapered buttresses, a steep cross-gabled roof, a tower, pointed arches, stone masonry, and gothic ornamentation such as a large stained glass window.

Although the subject property has experienced some alterations over the years, it retains a high level of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association to convey its significance.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (“CEQA”) FINDINGS

State of California CEQA Guidelines, Article 19, Section 15308, Class 8 “*consists of actions taken by regulatory agencies, as authorized by state or local ordinance, to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of the environment where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment.*”

State of California CEQA Guidelines Article 19, Section 15331, Class 31 “*consists of projects limited to maintenance, repair, stabilization, rehabilitation, restoration, preservation, conservation or reconstruction of historical resources in a manner consistent with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic buildings.*”

The designation of the Greater Page Temple Church of God in Christ as an Historic-Cultural Monument in accordance with Chapter 9, Article 1, of The City of Los Angeles Administrative Code ("LAAC") will ensure that future construction activities involving the subject property are regulated in accordance with Section 22.171.14 of the LAAC. The purpose of the designation is to prevent significant impacts to an Historic-Cultural Monument through the application of the standards set forth in the LAAC. Without the regulation imposed by way of the pending designation, the historic significance and integrity of the subject property could be lost through incompatible alterations and new construction and the demolition of an irreplaceable historic site/open space. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation are expressly incorporated into the LAAC and provide standards concerning the historically appropriate construction activities which will ensure the continued preservation of the subject property.

The City of Los Angeles has determined based on the whole of the administrative record, that substantial evidence supports that the Project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section Article 19, Section 15308, Class 8 and Class 31, and none of the exceptions to a categorical exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 applies. The project was found to be exempt based on the following:

The use of Categorical Exemption Class 8 in connection with the proposed designation is consistent with the goals of maintaining, restoring, enhancing, and protecting the environment through the imposition of regulations designed to prevent the degradation of Historic-Cultural Monuments.

The use of Categorical Exemption Class 31 in connection with the proposed designation is consistent with the goals relating to the preservation, rehabilitation, restoration and reconstruction of historic buildings and sites in a manner consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

Categorical Exemption ENV-2025-2726-CE was prepared on July 11, 2025.