

**Historic Property** Old St. Peter Hospital  
**Inventory Report for** 420 Southwest Sherman Street Olympia, Thurston, 98502

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**LOCATION SECTION**

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**Historic Name:** Old St. Peter Hospital **Field Site No.:** 694  
**Common Name:** (#34-609) **OAHP No.:**  
**Property Address:** 420 Southwest Sherman Street Olympia, Thurston, 98502  
**Comments:** OLYMPIA/OLYWOMEN

**County** **Township/Range/EW** **Section** **1/4 Sec** **1/4 1/4 Sec** **Quadrangle**  
**[REDACTED]** T18R02W 15 SE TUMWATER

**UTM Reference**

**Zone:** 10 **Spatial Type:** Point **Acquisition Code:** TopoZone.com  
**Sequence:** 0 **Easting:** 506650 **Northing:** 5209800

**Tax No./Parcel No.** **Plat/Block/Lot**  
68600600000 Percival Blk 6

**Supplemental Map(s)** **Acreage**  
City of Olympia Planning Department 1.61

**IDENTIFICATION SECTION**

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**Field Recorder:** Shanna Stevenson **Date Recorded:** 10/4/1985 **Survey Name:** OLYMPIA

**Owner's Name:** Capitol House **Owner Address:** 1617 South Jackson Street **City/State/Zip:** Seattle, WA 98144

**Classification:** Building **Resource Status** **Comments**

**Within a District?** No **Survey/Inventory**

**Contributing?**

**National Register Nomination:** 0

**Local District:**

**National Register District/Thematic Nomination Name:**

**DESCRIPTION SECTION**

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**Historic Use:** Health Care - Hospital

**Current Use:** Domestic - Multiple Family House

**Plan:** U-Shape **No. of Stories:** 5

**Structural System:** Balloon Frame

**Changes to plan:** Moderate

**Changes to interior:** Unknown

**Changes to original cladding:** Intact

**Changes to other:**

**Changes to windows:** Intact

**Other (specify):**

**Cladding** Brick

**Foundation** Concrete - Poured

Terra Cotta

**Style** Gothic - Collegiate Gothic

**Form/Type**

**Roof Material** Asphalt / Composition - Rolled

**Roof Type** Unknown

**NARRATIVE SECTION**

<b>Study Unit</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Date Of Construction:</b> <u>1923</u>
<u>Architecture/Landscape Architecture</u>		<b>Architect:</b> <u>John Graham Architects</u>
<u>Health/Medicine</u>	<u>Women's History</u>	<b>Builder:</b>
		<b>Engineer:</b>

**Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places:** Yes  
**Property is located in a historic district (National and/or local):** No  
**Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local):**

**Statement of Significance** The Old St. Peter Hospital was dedicated in July, 1924, construction beginning in September, 1923. The original Sisters of Charity of Providence hospital in Olympia was located near the present General Administration Building on the capitol campus. The hospital was built on land given by the people of Olympia. The hospital provided welcome care not only for local residents but also for the surrounding logging camps and mills. Additions were made in 1910, 1913, and 1917. Mother Benedict Joseph was the first superior admitting an average of 1000 patients per year. With the expansion of the capitol campus, the hospital was moved to the West Side and designed by John Graham Architects. Founded by John Graham an English trained practitioner, the firm was established in 1900 in Seattle and designed many prominent buildings there including hospitals and has now expanded nationally. The hospital was the site of a nursing school and part of the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps During World War II. The nursing school closed in 1953. A revitalized Women's Auxiliary was begun while the hospital was at this site. Members of the Sisters of Providence were administrators of the hospital. A new St. Peter Hospital opened in 1971 and this facility was renovated to become low income housing units.

**Description of Physical Appearance** This massive, U-shaped structure is utilitarian in design, with some Gothic detailing. Built of brick masonry on a poured concrete foundation, it is four stories tall with a fifth story penthouse. The brick walls are ornamented by a terra cotta belt course above the first story, and a wide stone belt course above the fourth story topped by an unadorned brick parapet. The penthouse level has another terra cotta belt course topped by a brick parapet. The central window of the penthouse on the front (west) facade has an ornate terra cotta surround which extends upward into a parapet arch, and a fourth-story window at the center of the south wall has another ornate terra cotta surround and arch. To the right of the front facade is a one-story, flat-roofed porch with a gabled hood topped by a brick and terra cotta parapet; the porch shelters the main entry doors. To the left of the facade is a wide arch with a terra cotta surround, leading to the large central courtyard. It is flanked by smaller arches with similar surrounds. Fenestration includes tall, single and paired double-hung sash with one-over-one lights, brick lintels and stone sills, as well as some tripartite casements with multi-paned transoms, and similar lintels and sills, on the south facade. A gable-roofed chapel extending at the south rear corner is lit by rows of paired, arched windows set in stone surrounds. A flat-roofed basement level addition extending from the south wall has modern aluminum windows. The building appears to be maintained in good condition. To the north of the central courtyard is a one-story annex building of later vintage, also of brick masonry construction.

**Major Bibliographic References** Stevenson, Shanna, Lacey, Olympia and Tumwater: A Pictorial History, Donning, 1985.  
Stevenson, Shanna, "St. Peter Hospital History: a Century of Caring, A Commitment to Quality." 1997.

**PHOTOS**



**View of** southwest corner  
**taken** 10/4/1985  
**Photography Neg. No. (Roll No./Frame No.):**  
23-31A  
**Comments:**