

WCG plans for a church building at Eugene which never transpired

Assembled by Craig M White

Report that WCG purchased new tract of land at Pasadena and “that the architects had started this week on the plans for our first Church building in Eugene, Oregon.” (Rod Meredith, *Ministerial Letter*, 6 Feb 1967, p. 2)

A few months later it was reported that plans for “for the first CHURCH building in this era of God’s Church. It will be built for the “mother” Church at Eugene, Oregon. It will probably be the finest and most beautiful Church building in Eugene”. (Rod Meredith, *Ministerial Letter*, 2 Aug 1967)

On member knew about this and responded on Facebook 12 May 2025:

> My mom attended the Eugene church in those years (her family began attending in the fall of 1967, and the possible Eugene church building was the talk of the congregation). There was land allocated for a building, and two church homes were built one for the Hoyt family (who had donated very generously to the church, so a home was provided for them), and then a second home for the pastor and his family. However, the building was never built. My mom drove up to the spot where the church building was to have been, and it was a beautiful, wooded area on a hillside above Eugene. Dale Hampton was pastoring when she was a teen and his family held teen activities in the pastoral home on the property. The congregation at the time was about 400 people and still growing at a rate of about 30% a year. We've speculated that maybe, due to the size of the congregation and growth rate, a building would not have accommodated them. Or, more likely, church policy was being formed then and generally, aside from Pasadena and Big Sandy, church buildings were not pursued on a large scale due, again, to the growth rate and the cost of up-keep. Maybe the church would lose focus and fixate more on the physical buildings and less on the Kingdom of God still ahead of us.<