



First Congregational Church Parsonage

403 Third Avenue
1915, Prairie School



This building was designed by Purcell and Elmslie of Minneapolis, the most prolific architectural firm working in the tradition of Frank Lloyd Wright's Prairie School. It is an example of that firm's work in the area of small and relatively inexpensive residences. Purcell and Elmslie built numerous such homes in the newly developing middle class neighborhoods of southwestern Minneapolis in the decade before World War I, most notably the Purcell-Cutts House (1913).

The widow of Peter Truax, an 1855 settler and lumberman, donated the land on which the parsonage was built. She and her husband had been active members of the First Congregational Church.

The church no longer owns the residence. Its façade was significantly altered in the mid-twentieth century.