

A SANCTUARY TRANSFORMED

FIRST CHURCH SEATTLE

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Capitol Hill Landmark revitalized as a luxury condominium project.

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Located atop Seattle's eclectic Capitol Hill, First Church of Christ, Scientist is slated to be converted into an architecturally distinct condominium project. "The developers have established that their main goal is to preserve the grandeur and integrity of this historic building, while providing much sought after housing units in this most central of Seattle's neighborhoods" said Ryan Thompson of Thompson Team Real Estate Group, the firm marketing the project. Focus groups have been organized to allow for individuals to take part in the design process and sign up for pre-sale opportunities.

Built in 1906, First Church of Christ, Scientist is a monument that will be preserved through careful renovation and refurbishment. Great care and expense will be taken to retain and expose the unmatched craftsmanship of the artisans that carefully erected this structure over 100 years ago. This once communal space will avoid wreckage and be renewed for the next century as urban appropriate residences. These unique homes will retain the nobleness of the church through the re-purposing of existing elements, such as custom molding and plaster work, stained glass, original wood and the imposing stature of the stone exterior. The giant awe inspiring stained glass dome that filters light into the interior spaces will now adorn the ceiling of a communal atrium viewable from many units. "Being one of the most densely populated areas of the west coast, Capitol Hill is ready to embrace new housing units, especially those of such unparalleled beauty and unique quality as these" according to Tiffany Thompson, a partner with the Thompson Team.

"The primary issue was the adaptive re-use of this City landmark from religious to housing. As practiced preservationists know, it does no good to save a building if it lacks a viable modern use because then the building becomes a white elephant which is economically difficult for an owner to maintain or sell", said Christine Palmer, Preservation Advocate of Historic Seattle.

Christine also noted that, "the members of the Architectural Review Committee recognized this fact and encouraged the church's adaptive re-use with a sensitive design for the exterior. The design architects from the Runberg Group responded with an ingenious system to enclose and preserve all the stained glass windows behind clear glass panels. The building will not be gutted and the approximately 18 condo units inside will be placed around the roof dome with some new window openings of clear glass. The Committee members remarked that it would look lovely when lit up at night. A widened garage entry on the west elevation will allow vans for the disabled to park inside. This

landmark will live for another 100 years without severe exterior alterations. Please help me get the word out to other Capitol Hill neighbors that they can continue to celebrate the presence of this grand old building without fear of insensitive alterations,”

Thompson Team Real Estate Group is accepting registration for interested parties to participate in pre-sale opportunities. To view a photo gallery or sign up for pre-sale opportunities; please visit the project website at [www.firstchurchseattle.com](http://www.firstchurchseattle.com).

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