

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

OCT 23 1987

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name St. Mark's Episcopal Pro-Cathedral
other names/site number NeHBS # ADO4-35

2. Location

street & number 4th & Burlington NA not for publication
city, town Hastings NA vicinity
state Nebraska code NE county Adams code 001 zip code 68901

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u> </u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u> </u> objects
			<u> </u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: NA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

James A. Hamm 10-19-87
Signature of certifying official Date
NPSHS Director
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. Melores Byer 11-30-87
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Religion/Religious structure

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Religion/Religious structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Late Gothic Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation limestone

walls limestone

roof slate

other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

St. Mark's Episcopal Pro-Cathedral is located in Hastings, Nebraska, the county seat of Adams County. Designed in the Late Gothic Revival style of architecture, the original church building was erected from 1921-29. Constructed of rock-faced limestone, the cathedral is typical of Late Gothic Revival buildings where monochromaticity is accentuated and building designs are more "subdued" than those from the High Victorian Gothic period. The cathedral displays characteristics of English Gothic church examples which emphasize length and show moderately pitched roofs, stepped rectangular apses and a tower over the crossing. The education wing, completed in 1957, gave the "complex" its present ell-shaped plan. Because the wing addition is not yet 50 years old, it is considered to be a non-contributing element in this nomination. Structural and historical integrity has been preserved. This nomination includes one contributing building.

St. Mark's Episcopal Pro-Cathedral is located in Hastings, Nebraska, the county seat of Adams County. The religious edifice was designed in 1919 by renowned architect Ralph Adams Cram in the Late Gothic Revival style of architecture and was erected during the years 1921-29. The rock-faced limestone structure is rectangular-shaped in plan with buttresses articulating the longitudinal bays and a clerestory level above. Fenestration throughout the building consists of pointed arched window openings. The front facade features a raised projecting entry with a parapet gable, flanking buttresses, and double doors. Two prominent engaged octagonal towers are situated to either side of the main entry and frame a triple lancet window arrangement in the upper portion of the gable facade. The water table, copings, beltcourses and window surrounds are executed in smooth limestone to provide a subtle yet distinguishing contrast to the rusticated stone used otherwise in the building's construction giving it the monochromaticity so typical of Late Gothic Revival architecture. The interior plan of the church shows a single rectangular-shaped

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nave with arcades to each side. The crossing, delineated from the chancel area by the rood beam, contains the pulpit, lectern, and choir seating. The chancel houses the rood screen and altar table. Walls are plastered and the exposed roof structure is an elaborate beam system of king post trusses. All windows incorporate stained glass. The parish house and deanery, originally planned by architect Cram, was constructed in 1954-57 and adjoined the cathedral at the southeast corner, giving the building its present ell-shaped appearance. This last phase of construction "completed" the cathedral plan both in terms of function and design. In function, the building fulfilled its role as a large complex and in plan the combination of nave, tower and education wing now became evident. The two-story, gable-roofed wing, somewhat modified from Cram's original design, is also constructed of rock-faced limestone and displays similar ornamental details as those found in the church's design. Although Cram's original drawing specified a massive square-shaped tower to be situated at the crossing of the cathedral building, this tower was never completed due to lack of monies. St. Marks Pro-Cathedral continues in use today as a religious institution.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1919-1929

Significant Dates

1919

1921-29

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Significant Person

NA

Architect/Builder

Cram, Ralph Adams (Cram & Ferguson)

Ferguson, Frank (Cram & Ferguson)

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

St. Mark's Episcopal Pro-Cathedral is architecturally significant (Criterion C), on the state level, as representing the work of a master, being designed by renowned architect Ralph Adams Cram, of the architectural firm of Cram & Ferguson. Known as America's leading exponent of the Gothic Revival in its later phase, Cram became a distinguished designer of Ecclesiastical architecture. The Cathedral is an outstanding example of the Late Gothic Revival style of architecture, more specifically a product of the English Gothic Church. Criteria consideration (exception) A is applicable to this property and is met through the building deriving primary significance from architectural distinction. The period of significance is derived from the year the architectural plans were drawn (1919) through the original construction date of the building (1929).

Criteria consideration (exception) A is applicable to St. Mark's Episcopal Pro-Cathedral and is met through the property deriving primary significance from architectural distinction (Criterion C). Architecturally significant on the state level, St. Mark's Episcopal Pro-Cathedral represents the work of a master, being designed by renowned architect Ralph Adams Cram, of the architectural firm of Cram & Ferguson. The Cathedral is an outstanding example of the Late Gothic Revival style of architecture, more specifically a product of the English Gothic Church.

Ralph Adams Cram was born in Hampton Falls, New Hampshire in 1863 and received his education and architectural training in New England. Around 1890 he opened an architectural office in Boston, forming a partnership with Charles Wentworth. Bertram G. Goodhue became a third partner and joined the firm in 1891, (Cram, Wentworth & Goodhue) and in 1899 Frank Ferguson entered the firm as a business partner (Cram, Goodhue & Ferguson). After

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

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Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than one acre

UTM References

A

1	4	5	5	1	5	0	0	4	4	9	2	9	6	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B

Zone				Easting				Northing						

C

Zone				Easting				Northing						

D

Zone				Easting				Northing						

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The property is described as lots 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, Block 12, O.T., Hastings, Adams County, Nebraska.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire town lots that have historically been associated with the property.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joni Gilkerson/Architectural Historian
organization Nebraska State Historical Society date August 1987
street & number 1500 R Street, P.O. Box 82554 telephone (402) 471-4767
city or town Lincoln state NE zip code 68501

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Goodhue withdrew from the firm to set up his own practice, the firm became known as Cram & Ferguson. During his distinguished career, Cram was awarded numerous commissions, building over seventy cathedrals and churches among other important structures (Gebhard & Nevins, 1977, p. 156). Probably the most notable is the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City, which stands as a monument to his architectural genius. Cram was also prolific as a writer, authoring numerous books on varied topics, including religion, architecture, art history and philosophy (Gebhard & Nevins, 1977, p. 156). In the latter years of his life, Cram became America's leading figure of the Gothic Revival style in its later phase (Withey, 1970, p. 145) (Gebhard & Nevins, 1977, p. 156). In *American Architecture Since 1780*, Whiffen discusses Cram's philosophy concerning Gothicism:

As he relates in his autobiography, Cram "evolved a theory" that Gothic architecture "had not suffered a natural death at the beginning of the sixteenth century, but had been most untimely cut off by the synchronizing of the Classical Renaissance and the Protestant Revolution." The thing to do, therefore, was "to take up English Gothic at the point where it was cut off during the reign of Henry VIII and go on from that point, developing the style England had made her own, and along what might be assumed to be logical lines, with due regard to the changing conditions of contemporary culture." So the Late Gothic Revival went back to the English Perpendicular style, which had been the main source of the Early Gothic Revival too, with the idea (which was not a part of the philosophy of the early revival) that the architect should develop it into something new..." (Whiffen, 1969, pp. 173-174).

In 1919, under the leadership of The Very Reverend Charles Tyner, the plans for St. Mark's Episcopal Pro-Cathedral were drawn by Ralph Adams Cram (*Centennial Yearbook*, 1980, p. 10). For his design of St. Mark's, Cram incorporated elements of the English Gothic church, which emphasizes length, stone construction, stepped rectangular-shaped apses, moderately pitched roofs and a tower over the crossing (Panek, 1976, p. 34-1). St. Mark's also incorporates in its design lancet windows, which are typical of English Gothic architecture. In Nebraska, St. Mark's Cathedral stands as an excellent example of the English Church as designed by Cram during this later phase of the Gothic Revival style.

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In Nebraska, only one other ecclesiastical property has been identified in the Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey as being designed by the architectural firm of Cram & Ferguson. First Presbyterian Church in Lincoln (listed NRHP, Mount Emerald and Capitol Additions, 6-5-80) was erected in 1926-27 in the Late Gothic Revival style and is of brick construction. Both St. Mark's and First Presbyterian Church possess features characteristic of Cram's work: the engaged towers and the shortened twin belfries, as found on Church of the Covenant in Cleveland and on East Liberty Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh. A deviation from usual Cram practice is the use of triple lancets, instead of English Perpendicular windows, as found on the front facades of both St. Mark's and First Presbyterian (Chatfield & Kidd, 1980, p. 8-6). In comparison, St. Mark's may be considered more archeologically correct in terms of English Gothic architecture due to its stone (as opposed to brick) construction and the tower crossing.

Regarding Ecclesiastical architecture, St. Mark's design is that of the "Cathedral" plan incorporating the aisle wall and clerestory not otherwise found in "church" designs. Cathedrals, as property types, become a significant representation of religious architecture in Nebraska for their association with and in reference to the historic context "Religion: Episcopal Churches" as outlined in *Historic and Prehistoric Contexts in Nebraska: Topical Listing* (1986). St. Marks was designated the pro-cathedral in 1918 by the Rt. Rev. George A. Beacher (Bishop of western Nebraska, 1910-43) serving as the cathedral of the former missionary district (diocese of western Nebraska). In 1946, when the western district merged with the diocese of Nebraska (eastern half of state), St. Marks remained a cathedral, with the understanding that it would symbolize the Episcopalian heritage of western Nebraska (Centennial History, 1980, p. 3). Today, there are only two cathedrals in the Episcopal Diocese of Nebraska: St. Marks and Trinity Cathedral in Omaha (listed NRHP) (Centennial History, 1980, p. 3).

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Beecher, George Allen. *The Story of St. Mark's Parish and Pro-Cathedral*, Tribune Graphic Arts, Hastings, Nebraska, 1944.

Chatfield, Penelope, Dan Kidd. "Mount Emerald and Capitol Additions Historic Residential District", National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, April 1980, Nebraska State Historical Society, Lincoln, NE.

Creigh, Dorothy Weyer. *Adams County: A Story of the Great Plains*, Adams County-Hastings Centennial Commission, Hastings, Nebraska, 1972, pp. 620-623.

Gebhard & Nevins, *200 Years of American Architectural Drawings*, Watson-Guptill Publications, New York, 1977, p. 156.

Harris, Cyril M. *Illustrated Dictionary of Historic Architecture*, Dover Publications, Inc., New York, 1977.

Kyle, Joseph. "St. Mark's Episcopal Pro-Cathedral," NeHBS Form, April 1987, on file, Nebraska State Historical Society, Lincoln, Nebraska 68501.

Panek, R. T. *American Architectural Styles 1600-1940*. Architectural Styles, P.O. Box 272, Dover, MA 1976.

"Saint Mark's Pro-Cathedral, Hastings, Nebraska-1880". Centennial Yearbook, Hastings, NE, 1980.

Whiffen, Marcus. *American Architecture Since 1780: A Guide to Architectural Styles*, M.I.T. Press, Mass. Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass., copyright 1969.

Withey, Henry F., A.I.A., & Elsie Rathburn Withey. *Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased)*, Hennessey & Ingalls, Inc., Los Angeles, CA. 1970.