

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Georgia
COUNTY: Dougherty
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE APR 1 1975

1. NAME

COMMON:
* Old Saint, Teresa's Catholic Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
313 Residence Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Albany

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
2nd - Dawson Mathis

STATE: Georgia CODE: 13 COUNTY: Dougherty CODE: 095

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress 	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Roman Catholic Diocese of Savannah, Georgia

STREET AND NUMBER:
225 Abercorn Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Savannah

STATE: Georgia CODE: 13

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Record Room - Clerk of Superior Court

STREET AND NUMBER:
Courthouse - 200 block Pine Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Albany

STATE: Georgia CODE: 13

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Georgia Heritage Trust

DATE OF SURVEY: July 1973
 Federal State County Local

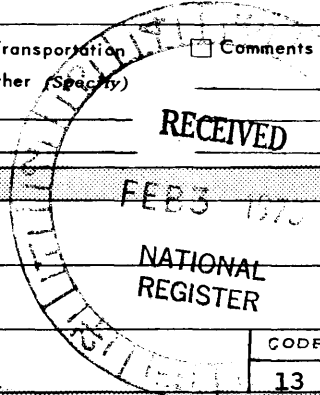
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Georgia Heritage Trust, Department of Natural Resources

STREET AND NUMBER:
270 Washington Street, S.W.

CITY OR TOWN:
Atlanta

STATE: Georgia CODE: 13

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Georgia

COUNTY: Dougherty

ENTRY NUMBER: APR 1 1975

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7. DESCRIPTION

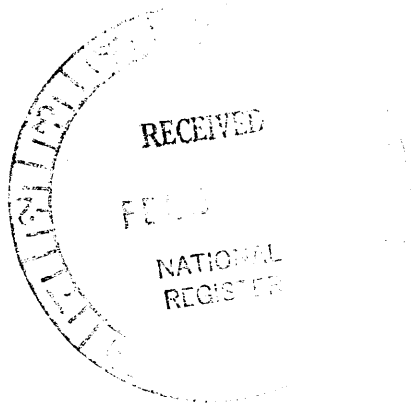
CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Old Saint Teresa's Catholic Church was built in 1859 under the direction of Father Thomas O'Reilly, who was later credited with building a mission church at Dalton, Georgia in 1865-1870 and the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Atlanta in 1868-1871, as a mission church of the Macon pastorate which O'Reilly served.

This small, rectangular, one story church with a pitched roof was constructed of hand made brick. The front facade of the building features a central Gothic doorway with a heavy frame accented at the springing point of the arch with heavier brick mouldings. There is a cross in raised brick work over the door frame and a blank niche on either side of the door with a heavy moulding that is stepped back into the niche. The cornice at the roof of the church has drip stone work in brick in its first row across this facade. Six Gothic stained glass windows, depicting the symbols of the Catholic faith are on each side facade. There is a plain moulded cornice running around the sides and back of the building. A lacy wrought iron cross at the peak of the roof over the front door crowns the building. There have been very few changes to the exterior of the church in the 115 years since its construction.

The interior of the church is very simple with an altar at the opposite end of the rectangular room from the front door. The altar, originally close to the back wall of the church, has been moved forward enclosing the rear two windows to make an ante-room for the priest. A small choir loft was constructed over the entrance in 1902. In spite of these changes, the interior of Old Saint Teresa's Church retains its original simple appearance.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1859

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <u>History</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Old Saint Teresa's Catholic Church, built 1859-60, is cited as the oldest Catholic Church in continuous use in Georgia and is representative both historically and architecturally as an example of the frontier and small town mission churches of the middle nineteenth century.

Old Saint Teresa's was apparently the second Catholic mission at Albany. Father J. J. O'Donnell writes, in Catholicity in the Carolinas and Georgia, of visiting Albany on a tour of the Southwestern Georgia missions in 1846. The Catholics in Albany at that time were General and Mrs. A. H. Brisbane, the Mocks, Mocks, Mr. Silk, and two or three other persons. General Brisbane was trying to found the mission of St. Ignatius at that time. Although he bought land and secured the services of Father Graham, the plan failed because of the sparse population of the area during the 1840's. Mass was apparently said in the homes of the parishioners until Saint Teresa's was built.

On the 31st day of August 1859, Nelson Tift, the founder of Albany, sold for one dollar, the one half acre city lot #31 on Residence Street "for the erection of a Catholic Church." Construction must have begun in that year, for according to the Albany Patriot, August 9, 1860, the statement is made that "a neat brick Catholic Church is now receiving its finishing touch..."

According to local tradition as recorded in the History of Dougherty County, "The bricks were contributed by Dr. Barbour and were hand made by the slaves on his plantation near Newton. By 1861 the exterior of the building was completed and plastering of the interior just begun when word came that Georgia has seceded from the Union. The young plasterer Tom Churchill, laid down his trowel and rode away to follow Lee in Virginia..." Although the church remained in an unfinished state, it was complete enough to serve as a hospital in the fall of 1862. Bishop Verot writes in 1862 that "I started for Albany, where I arrived, 8th October, and found that the church was used as a hospital."

In November of 1882, the Saint Teresa Catholic Church was finally dedicated and the Albany News and Advocate related the occasion held on November 19th.

By 1902, according to the Albany Herald, the interior of Saint Teresa's was renovated. "The appearance of the interior of the edifice has recently

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Albany Herald, February 1, 1902, March 13, 1958
 Albany Patriot, August 9, 1860, and June 24, 1864
 The Atlanta Historical Society, "In Memoriam, Father Thomas O'Reilly", The Atlanta Historical Bulletin. Vol. VIII, No. 30; October, 1945; p.14, 17, 28 and 29.
 Gunnels, Mrs. Whitfield, Secretary of the Southwest Georgia Historical Society.
 Submitted nomination draft on file with Department of Natural Resources.
 Macgregor, Elizabeth Z., Personal inspection, May 9, 1974.
 McCormick, Ms. Bee, local Albany Researcher; interview.
 News and Advertiser, November 25, 1882. (continued)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

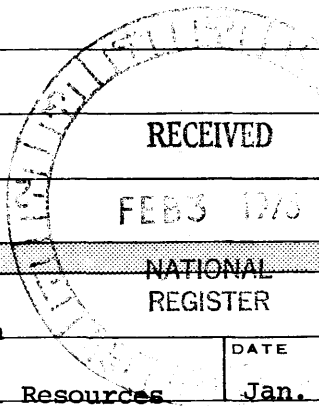
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		31° 34' 59"	84° 09' 18"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

16/77011
 34975
 G

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Approximately one acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Elizabeth Z. Macgregor, Architectural Historian
 ORGANIZATION: Historic Preservation Section, Dept. of Natural Resources
 DATE: Jan. 28, 1975
 STREET AND NUMBER: 270 Washington Street, S.W. Room 703C
 CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta STATE: Georgia CODE: 13

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Jackson O'Neal Lamb
 Title: STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
 Date: January 28, 1975

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert Sturtevant
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 4/1/75

ATTEST:
W. M. ...
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date: APR 1 1975

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Georgia	
COUNTY	Dougherty	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		APR 1 1975

(Number all entries)

8. Significance

been greatly beautified by the addition of a very handsome new altar which cost several hundred dollars. Now the members of the church are at work rising an additional thousand dollars to be expended on the interior of the church. The amount now being raised will be used to improve the vestry, put in new pews and stained glass windows."

Architecturally, Saint Teresa's is a relatively unaltered example of mission church architecture and is similar in style to those found in popular mid-19th century pattern books such as Richard Upjohn's Rural Architecture. Examples of churches known to have been constructed by local parishioners using this book show certain similarities in window treatments and entrance designs.

Presently Saint Teresa's is still being used by the Albany Catholic congregation and restoration on the church is pending funding availability.

9. Bibliography

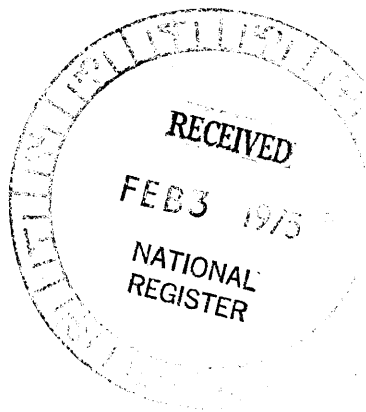
O'Connell, Rev. Dr. T. T. Catholicity in the Carolinas and Georgia, Leaves of its History, 1820-1878. New York: D and T Sadler and Co., 1879; p.577.

Records of the Diocese of Saint Augustine

Saint Teresa's School Dedication Booklet, August 31, 1952.

Thronatesska Chapter, DAR. History and Reminiscences of Dougherty County, Georgia, Albany, Georgia: 1924.

Uphjohn, Everand M., Richard Upjohn: Architect and Churchman. New York: DaCapo Press, 1968; p.116-120.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 12 1975

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

AMENDMENT TO ST. TERESA'S CHURCH

Dougherty County

Address Correction: 315 Residence Avenue
Albany, Georgia

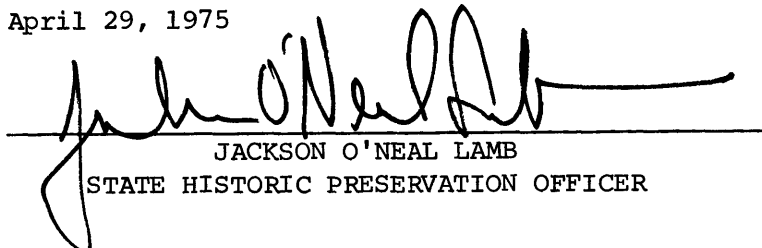
After considerable structural analysis by the Oliver K. Lewis and Associates, Inc., Consulting Engineers of Albany, it was determined that the altar had probably not been moved forward as stated in the original nomination form. The engineers report states that:

"There is an original double doorway approximately three feet behind the sanctuary (altar). It is doubtful that the altar ever backed up completely on the rear wall thus blocking the doorway.

The sanctuary wall is in its original position. This can be verified by observing the double joists directly over this wall in the attic. The roof framing consists of the original timbers which is verified by the fact that the timbers are mortared into the original masonry."

Elizabeth Z. Macgregor
Architectural Historian
Historic Preservation Section
Department of Natural Resources
Atlanta, Georgia

April 29, 1975



JACKSON O'NEAL LAMB
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER