# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

#### SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 96000550 Date Listed: 5/31/96

Church of Our Lady of GraceHudsonNJProperty Name:County:State:

Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

The Period of Significance for this property has been defined as extending to the present, but there is no justification provided explaining the date or how the property meets the exceptional importance requirement. The SHPO agrees that the Period of Significance should end at the 50 year cut-off point, 1946. The form is officially amended to make this change.

DISTRIBUTION: National Register property file Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

IPS Form 10-900 Oct. 1990)	
Inited States Department of the Interior lational Park Service	OCT 2 4 1995 RECEIVED 2280
National Register of Historic Places Registration Form	HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
rchitectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter	dividual properties and districts. See instructional to the properties and districts. See instructional to the property being documented, enter "N/A" to the property being documented, enter "N/A" to the instructions. Place additional a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.
. Name of Property	
istoric name THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF GRACI	E, HOBOKEN
ther names/site number	
. Location	N/A
reet & number 400 Willow Avenue	
ty or town Hoboken	Vicinity
ate <u>New Jersey</u> code <u>NJ</u> county _	Hudson code 017 zip code 07030
State/Federal Agency Certification	
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OUR LADY OF GRACE, HOBOKEN		HUDSON, NEW JERSEY		
Name of Property		County and S	State	
5. Classification Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Res	ources within Prope	
Check as many boxes as apply) (Check only one box)		Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)		
I private I building(s)		Contributing Noncontributing		
public-local public-State public-Federal bublic-Federal bublic-Fe		1	3	buildings
		0	0	sites
	0	0	structure	
		0	0	objects
		1	3	Total
Name of related multiple property listing Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)		Number of contributing resources previously lister in the National Register		
N/A		0		
Historic Functions Enter categories from instructions)	ility : church	Current Functions (Enter categories from RELIGION/relig		church
Historic Functions Enter categories from instructions)	ility : church	(Enter categories from	instructions)	church
<b>Historic Functions</b> Enter categories from instructions) RELIGION/religious fac	ility : church	(Enter categories from	instructions)	church
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Historic Functions Enter categories from instructions) RELIGION/religious fac		(Enter categories from RELIGION/relig	instructions) ious facility : 	
6. Function or Use Historic Functions Enter categories from instructions) RELIGION/religious fac 7. Description Architectural Classification Enter categories from instructions) LATE VICTORIAN/Gothic:S		(Enter categories from RELIGION/relig 	instructions) ious facility : 	ower cornice

See Section 7 Pages 1 to 9

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#### 8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

#### **Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- X A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- **B** removed from its original location.
- **C** a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemeterv.
- **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- **F** a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

#### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.) See 8-10

### 9. Major Bibliographical References

#### B

Bibilography Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form o	on one or more continuation sheets.) See 9-11
Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A	Primary location of additional data:
<ul> <li>preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested</li> <li>previously listed in the National Register</li> <li>previously determined eligible by the National Register</li> <li>designated a National Historic Landmark</li> <li>recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>State Historic Preservation Office</li> <li>Other State agency</li> <li>Federal agency</li> <li>Local government</li> <li>University</li> <li>Other</li> <li>Name of repository:</li> </ul>
#	Hoboken Public Library
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	

HUDSON, NEW JERSEY County and State

#### Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION - The structure and its furnishings

were reflective of the size of the congrega-

tion and its aspirations in the New World.

ARCHITECTURE

In emulation of European cathedrals, OLG

rose high above the crowded immigrant neighborhood it served. It reached to the Period of Significance heavens and the stars of success.

1876 to present

#### Significant Dates

1874-1876 Construction

1940 Addition of belfry (south)

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Himpler, Francis G. - architect

Whyte, William J. - builder

Architect/Builder

OUR LADY OF GRACE, HOBOKEN	HUDSON, NEW JERSEY County and State
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of Property (28,176 sq. ft.) less t	than 1 acre Jersey City Quad
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)	
1     1     5     8     1     5     4     0     4     5     1     0     3     8     0       Zone     Easting     Northing       2     1     1     1     1     1     1     1     1	3 Zone Easting Northing 4 J See continuation sheet
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) See 10-12 Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)	
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title Rev. Richard Carrington, PAstor and	Helen Manogue, Parishioner
organization Our Lady of Grace R.C. Church	date
street & number _400 Willow Avenue	telephone201-659-0369
city or townHoboken	state <u>NJ</u> zip code <u>07030</u>
Additional Documentation	
Submit the following items with the completed form:	
Continuation Sheets	
Maps See previous submission for USGA ma A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating th	p. See Plate 1 for location map in Section 11-1 e property's location.
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties ha	aving large acreage or numerous resources.
Photographs See attached.	· · ·
Representative black and white photographs of the	e property.
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)	
Property Owner	
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)	
nameRoman Catholic Archdiocese of Newark	
street & number <u>131 Clifton Avenue</u> , p.O. Box (	2500 telephone 201-497-4001
city or townNewark,	stateNJ zip code07104

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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service. P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

NEW JERSEY, HUDSON COUNTY THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF GRACE HOBOKEN

Section number 7 Page 1

#### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The plan form of Our Lady of Grace is a standard cruciform with an extended north transcept which contains the vestry (see Photo 13). The rough overall dimensions are 80 fee wide by 190 feet long by The front Narthex is flanked by the multi story 100 feet high. tower to the south and a small chapel to the north which has a small apsidial projection (see Photos 14 and 15). On this same side is the hexagonal baptistry which projects from the first aisle bay on the north side (see Photo 15). The nave and aisles are five bays long to the transepts (see Photo 16). There is one bay extension beyond the transepts to the apse, containing the high altar and the flanking apsidial chapels on either side. (See Photo 7- bay extension; Photos 17, 18 apse/high altar; Photo 19 apsidial chapel right; Photo 20 apsidial chapel left.)

The major exterior features are; the front elevation (see Photos 2, 3, 21, 22, 23) which is richly decorated including the large rose window with its true stone mullions corresponding to the main geometries of the interior mullions; the north and south bay portals have similar stone mullions, but in a tripartite with rose window fenestration; the tall south corner; the main entry portal on Willow Avenue and the side entry portal on Fourth Street (see Photo 24); the north tower with empty niche; and the slender fleche located at the intersection of the nave and transepts.

Although the architectural cladding of Our Lady of Grace is Gothic inspired, the construction methods employed are far from real Gothic techniques. The roofs are formed with heavy timber trusses over the aisles and nave, but where true Gothic architecture defines interior space with integrate stone ribs and vaults, the interior here is formed with wood, lath and plaster (see Photo  $2\Theta$ )<sup>1.3</sup> Even the interior clustered columns contain a heavy timber column which structurally supports the clerestory wall. The engaged columnettes that correspond to the ribs of the pseudo-vaulting is merely an applied wood veneer. The clerestory is an interesting variation on the traditional light-admitting gallery, with the trusses over the aisles actually concealing the clerestory from the exterior. The clerestory is not visible from the exterior (see

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

NEW JERSEY, HUDSON COUNTY THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF GRACE HOBOKEN

Section number \_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_

Photo(16). Instead the small dormers in the aisle roof contains a small skylight in their jerkinhead roofs, that indirectly backlight the clerestory windows. In this way, the trusses of the aisle roofs are countering the outward thrusting of the main gable over the nave directly at the point of bearing on the clerestory wall. The inverted aisle trusses carry the load directly down to the outer masonry walls, as the masonry walls take on a traditional Gothic appearance.

There are three different types of exterior brick. The front elevation contains a fine pressed brick, orange in color that turns the corner to either side, then makes a transition to common red brick (see Photo 3). The other brickwork, located on the upper belfry level of the tower, is also a red brick. The brick masonry is articulated with engaged pier buttresses. These buttresses are stepped vertically with each step crowned with a sandstone cap, and rise as high as the wall in which they are engaged. The brick walls sit on granite foundations which contain a sandstone watertable transition between the two materials. There is a moulded brick frieze in a quatrefoil motif that tops the brick masonry wall and makes a transition to the wooden cornice and the demarcation between the levels of the corner tower. The window openings are created by true brick Gothic arches which contain brown sandstone keys. The jambs are yellow sandstone.

The exterior brick masonry is relieved and trimmed by yellow sandstone throughout. The exceptions being the stone in the upper belfry level which appears to be limestone, and the columnettes at the portals a bluestone. The cornerstone is brown sandstone. The main entry portal consists of an arch of several orders which are carried by slender columnettes (see Photos 3 and 23). The portal is crowned with a triangular pediment that contains a trefoil, and above is a blind arcade. The historic photographs indicate that this was once a series of louvered openings (see Plate 4). The large rose window is contained within a large pointed arch opening, and appears to contain true stone tracery (see Photo 5, 21 and 23). The flanking piers on either side of the portal contain niches with canopies for statues.

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NEW JERSEY, HUDSON COUNTY THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF GRACE HOBOKEN

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The north portal also contains an arch of several orders flanked by piers that are capped with crockets (see Photos 2 and 23). The opening above is a large pointed arch containing true stone tracery and stained glass windows. The pediment above contains a pedestal in an empty niche, with the gable here highlighted by crockets.

Most of the roofs are slate that include built-in, metal-lined gutters with copper leaders (see Photos 4, 5 and 15). The front of the main hipped roof and the north tower roof are standing seam copper. The octagonal fleche at the crossing is copper-clad and also contains a standing seam roof.

#### CURRENT CONDITIONS

Before addressing the existing conditions of the church, it is important to state that the church will be the subject of a \$2,097,005 restoration. Pledges have already been secured as of March 1994 from parishioners and friends of the parish in the amount of \$660,350.00. By December 1994 over \$210,350.00 of the pledges had already been received. The first phase of renovations will come to a little over \$1 million and will address the exterior problems of the building. Interior restoration and rehabilitation is being planned and will occur in accordance with availability of parish funds.

#### Exterior Masonry

The brickwork seems to suffer from two principal problems. First is the apparent use of sandblasting techniques to clean the brick, creating pitted surfaces on the brick units. The other problem may have to do with the application of a clear water repellent coating on the stonework, which appears to have been splashed on the brick. Work done on the masonry from 1959-1961 seems to be a partial cause of the current problems. This has sealed in moisture and has not allowed this vapor to escape. Some minor unit replacement of bricks will be necessary. Some of the brick joints will require cutting and repointing, and the previously repointed brick joints must be cut away and replaced with a mortar to match the original mixture. Records indicate the mortar recipe used was much too hard to be compatible with the brick.

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NEW JERSEY, HUDSON COUNTY THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF GRACE HOBOKEN

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The granite foundation stone appears to be in good condition. The three types of sandstone - local brown, Pennsylvania blue and yellow Ohio sandstone - have held up rather well with some deterioration, spalling and cracking due to poor and missing mortar.

The bird-proofing barbs are failing and have actually become nesting places.

All of the above problems will be addressed during the planned restoration.

#### Exterior Steps

All of the exterior step slabs exhibit deterioration with an abundance of horizontal joints in the stonework. The handrails need repair. Again, repairs will be made as part of the first phase renovation.

#### Stained Glass Windows

The art glass is in excellent condition. The interior wood frames, muntins, and mullions appear to be in good condition and are holding paint well (see Photos 1, 6 and 9). These same exterior components are in much worse shape, as they exhibit much defoliating paint and deteriorated wood. All windows have protective storm windows on the exterior. Repair work will be undertaken during the restoration.

#### Front Doors

The main front doors are a single pair of 4 feet by 8 feet by 3 inch thick, bi-folding oak, with differing veneers as viewed from the exterior and the interior. The interior is a recessed three panel motif. The highly polished, natural wood finish is in good shape. This is typical of the three other secondary entry doors (north and south bays, and south transept). The exterior doors are bleached oak with a tongue and groove, vertical slat veneer that is weathering poorly. The doors will be treated as part of the rehabilitation.

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There are long, elaborately scrolled, brass hinges which are painted black and appear to be in excellent condition.

#### Interior Walls and Ceilings

Moisture seems to be a major factor in the failure of the most recent paint films applied to the walls and ceilings. During the planned restoration, insulation problems, removal of paint films and repainting with appropriate types of paint will be addressed.

#### Liturgical Appointments

Fine Art Paintings

There are twelve fine art paintings throughout the church. Dante DeFlorio, Art Conservator, was consulted to assess the condition of the paintings. Of the twelve paintings, the two located in the Narthex are hung in large wood frames, unlike the other paintings that are attached directly on the plaster walls. The weight of the framed paintings has caused sagging. The paintings directly attached to the walls suffer from the same problems as the plaster walls noted above. All of the paintings will be repaired during the restoration work.

Stations of the Cross

The fourteen Stations of the Cross appear to be in good condition. They are composed of wooden frame painted to simulate marble, with plaster figures in relief (see Photos 7 and 9).

#### Statuary

There are 22 statues throughout the church, several of which are a part of the High and Side Altars (see Photos 17, 18, 19 and 20). The statues are in fair condition. Those that have been chipped or cracked will be repaired and repainted, and all of the statues will be cleaned as part of the second phase of the planned restoration work.

High Altar

The High Altar seems to be in relatively good condition (see Photo 18). Besides cleaning, no other restoration work will be required for this elaborate mahogany work.

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#### Electrical Systems

The 225 AMP/120-208 volt/3 phase/3 wire service appears to be adequate to meet all fire safety requirements. The lighting fixtures are integral to the historic character of the interior. They have been slightly altered for rewiring with modern spot lamps located within the elaborate metal work (see Photos 13 and 17). There are smoke and fire detectors wired in common. An upgrade with the installation of an alarm panel with indicators, lighted exit signs and emergency lighting will occur during phase two of restoration.

#### Heating System

The church has a two pipe steam system provided by two H.S. Series 28 boilers which can produce 1000 MBH. They are oil-fired and contain Powerframe No. 2 burners. A thermostat controls a pneumatic valve that allows for the delivery of steam. There is a new pump installation that boosts the return condensate back to the powerhouse.

#### Pews

The pews are extremely well built and form a significant component of the historic interior. Although well constructed, there are isolated examples of cracking and checking of the wood. The pews will be restored, as needed, during the overall restoration.

(The preceding consists of various excerpted comments from

Conditions Assessment Report prepared by Herbert J. Githens, Architect Architecture, Historic Preservation, Rehabilitation & Cultural Resource Management 36 Park Street Montclair , NJ 07042

The entire report is included in the Supporting Documents Section of this application.)

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NEW JERSEY, HUDSON COUNTY THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF GRACE HOBOKEN

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The church reflects in its very massiveness the hopes and aspirations of the poor immigrant population of the City of Hoboken when Our Lady of Grace was built in 1874. As The Evening News of Hoboken noted, "Though most of (the Catholics) are among the laboring class, they have built the largest church edifice in the state of New Jersey." (1893) Catholics represented about one third of the city's population but half of the church-going category. They were steeped in the European tradition provided by the cathedrals of France, Italy and Germany. Those structures formed the core of European religious observance and the focus of every day life. How natural for Catholics in the New World to aspire to the sam grandness. When the religious fervor was paired with the enthusiasm and effusiveness of that New World, the church became the encapsulation of every hope and dream.

Hoboken became a chartered city in 1855. The seal of the city displayed smoke stacks amd a steam engine belching smoke. It was a bustling and industrious area with desires for bigger and better things. Catholics were no exception and with their images of European cathedrals engrained in their memories, a great structure was a logical and unquestioned desire. As early as 1854 when three lots at Fifth and Willow were purchased, the intent for a place to establish a church structure was clear. The congregation, though attending mass at a priest's home (1852-1855) and later at the "little brick rectory" til 1864, served its community while planning for the grand edifice. The congregation established a school (1859) temperance societies for youth, a hospital (1863) and a society to feed and house the homeless (1859). All of this was done while awaiting their church, the focal point of all of the activity.

. After almost three years in the building, the structure soared heavenward. It drew the eyes of the community to the skies, a symbol of an ever better tomorrow.

This pro cathedral was truly a product of its times exemplyfying the striving to accomplish. this was a burgeoning time for the city. From 1860 to 1870 the population grew from 10,000 to 20,000. It was to continue to grow until it reached its peak in 1910 when 70,000 people lived on less than 1.3 square miles. Our Lady of Grace was a perfect example c the growth of the city. The Hudson and Manhattan Tunnel (the "Tubes", now the PATH) started in the same year as the beginning of the church structure. Just one block away, Holy Innocents Episcopal Church (now on the National Register) had been completed but two years before. A mere four years later, Himpler would design the core of Hoboken City Hall which was completed in 1881. The first building ("A" Building) at Stevens Institute was already standing for four years when Our Lady of Grace was completed.

When construction began in 1874, the site was almost at the edge of the developing city The 1881 "Bird's Eye View Map" of the city shows the church only two and a half blocks from the marshland that was being drained and filled. The city was to grow out into the marshlanc embracing the church as it grew, and ultimately, putting it in the center of the city.

One of the aspects of Hoboken which is often overlooked is that the city after World War I and most certainly in the 1930's, became to poor that most modernization attempts were never made. Much still exists in the city because its people, government and institutions we too poor to "renovate." Aside from the belfrectifition, Our Lady of Grace partook of that blessed neglect so that today the church remainders it was.

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#### HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

The extant Our Lady of Grace Church was a replacement for the earlier Saint Mary's Church which was located at the corner of Willow and Fifth Street. Although locally known as Saint Mary's, this church erected in 1855 was never officially dedicated by that The 1864 incorporation of the church sanctioned the name name. "The Church of Our Lady of Grace, Hoboken." The building was described as a "little brick church" with rectory. After only two decades of service to the Catholic community of Hoboken, Rev. Antonio Cauvin proceeded to purchase twenty-four lots which today comprise the Our Lady of Grace site (the church itself occupies 28,176 sq. ft. of those lots). Rev. Major C. Duggan, Father Cauvin's successor, conceived of a great church facing the public square at Fourth Street and Willow Avenue. To this end, Francis Himpler, a prominent local architect who also designed Hoboken City Hall (which building is now on the National Register of Historic Places), was commissioned to design the church. The cornerstone was laid and work was started by the builder William J. Whyte in The consecration of the completed church occurred on 1875. November 10, 1878. The cost was reported to be \$100,000. The debt which was left to the church was large and it is not known whether the original design was actually executed or if it was cut back. There is evidence that the church as actually constructed might have been stopped short of both Father Duggan and Francis Himpler's aspirations. The corner tower was apparently to rise to an octagonal belfry and then to be capped by a tall spire. The shorter north tower was also to contain a niche for a statue of Mary and to be crowned by a smaller crocketed spire. The corner tower at Fourth and Willow was apparently not finished. It rose only three stories and was capped by a hipped roof with lantern. The north tower did not receive its spire and it is not clear whether the niche ever contained the intended statue.

The complex of buildings including Our Lady of Grace Church, rectory, convent and school grew to occupy the entire block between Willow and Clinton Avenues and Fourth and Fifth Streets (see map in Plate 1). In 1891 the old church at Fifth and Willow was demolished to make way for Our Lady of Grace School. In 1902 an Orphanage was built between the school and the rectory. This structure was demolished in 1974. The convent on Clinton Street was erected in 1915.

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In 1959, Paul C. Reilly, Architect, of New York City, was asked to investigate the conditions of the front elevation. This resulted in Our Lady of Grace Church engaging the Newman Company of Orange, NJ to remove the coating and restore the masonry in 1960. The technique agreed upon was to use blow torches on the mastic, burn it to a brittle state, and then lightly sandblast the coating off. Some stone was to be replaced, and others resurfaced. Repointing was a part of this project as well, but from the records examined, this was limited to the stone. There was a delay of some months, as the pastor considered whether to authorize repointing of the brickwork. There is no evidence that this additional pointing was ever done. The application of a silicone waterproofing sealer (Minwax Co.) was applied to the stonework many months after the sandblasting and restoration was complete. This delay was intended to allow the work to dry out. It may have had the opposite effect. Apparently, the sealer was applied in 1961, after the masonry was left exposed for many months. The brickwork will be thoroughly examined and an assessment made as to the appropriate means of the brickwork problems as part of the planned correcting restoration of the church.

In 1967 the church interior was painted. The Newman Company was contracted to apply silicone waterproofing to the balance of the building. There are notes from this time regarding the new roof on the south baptismal wing. In conjunction with the interior painting, there were also some repairs done to the fine art paintings, and to the only remaining stenciled ceiling over the sanctuary (see Photo 6).

Again in 1984, the Newman Company was asked to investigate the exterior masonry restoration program. Although this work was never executed, the contractors noted numerous failures of roofing and gutters with obvious effects on the interior finishes. It appears that paint and plaster conditions currently evident have been in existence for approximately twenty years. (See photos 7 thru 12.)

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As with most structures of such age and vintage, Our Lady of Grace Church evolved over the years, into what is extant today. For example, the front elevation as built, is a squatter version of the original design intent (see Plate 2). In 1909 the church organ was installed by Phillip Wirsching, one of America's best known organ builders from the design of the Audsley Company, with the Gothic casework fabricated in Milwaukee (see Photo 1). A small chapel was dedicated to the Reverend Charles Kelly, Pastor at Our Lady of Grace Church from 1894 until his death in 1911. An historic photograph located in the Hoboken Public Library (see plate 3) seems to indicate either the removal of components of the north tower or their loss through storm damage. What is evident is that the very top of the pediment, including the top of the niche is missing (see Photo 2). The crockets on the north side of the tower are also shown to be missing (compare Plates 2 and 4). The photograph in the Hoboken Library is dated 1933. It is not known if this was the date of the photograph or the date of the placement in the photograph collection. Whichever, a major renovation apparently took place in the 1940's, and it appears that it may have been in response to storm damage. The corner tower was enlarged to include the belfry level, slate-roofed spire with brick base and corner brick pier caps (see Photo 3). This is an odd addition to the original as it appears to be more English Gothic in inspiration, and it also stands out physically as its brick is a darker red, contrasting the orange brick of the older portion. Other changes to the complex appear to date from this period. These apparently included: the physical connection of the rectory to the vestry of the church via a one story bridge (see Plate 5); the garage fronting Clinton Street (see Photo 4 ) which appears to contain the same brick and detailing as the belfry; and the slate roofing that appears on the front elevation in the historic photographs (see Plate 4) was replaced by a standing seam copper roof (see Photo 5).

Around 1940, a number of alterations were made to the church including the placement of loose rock wool insulation in the attic spaces, and the applications of a mastic coating over the stone masonry on the front elevations. The reason for these applications and the actual material used is not known. Apparently this mastic began to cause concern twenty years later.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION STATEMENTS

The boundary of the area being nominated is as shown on the accompanying Site Map. The nominated area includes the church, but does not include the other buildings, the school and rectory, that occupy the same block and stand to the north of the church.

The area nominated encompasses the church, and the immediate setting of the church, extending to the curb lines in the front, side, and rear.



NJ & National Registers of Historic Places







Church of Our Lady of Grace, Hoboken, Hudson County

PLATE No. 2 Original Design of Front Elevation (Undated)

Source: The Bicentennial Comes to How Son John Heaney, 1976





Church of Our Lady of Grace, Hoboken, Hudson County

PLATE No. 4 Historic Photograph (1933?)

Source: Hoboken Public Library Historic Photograph Co



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