

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic St. Joseph's Church and Complex

and/or common St. Joseph's

2. Location

street & number 1401-1415 Howard Street not for publication

city, town San Francisco vicinity of _____ congressional district 5

state CA code 06 county San Francisco code 075

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name San Francisco Archdiocese c/o Rev. James A. McGee

street & number 1415 Howard Street

city, town San Francisco vicinity of _____ state CA 94103

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Registry of Deeds

street & number City Hall

city, town San Francisco state CA

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Dept. of City Planning Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1965 federal state county local

depository for survey records Department of City Planning, 100 Larkin Street

city, town San Francisco state California

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The St. Joseph's Church complex occupies a 284' x 205' lot at the southwest corner of 10th and Howard Streets in San Francisco. The parish of St. Joseph's has occupied this corner since 1861. Originally an Irish residential neighborhood, the area was devastated by the 1906 earthquake and fire and never regained its residential character. The old St. Joseph's church and schools were destroyed totally in the fire. Rebuilding began shortly after the 1906 disaster. The nominated property includes the parish hall which was built as a temporary church and school (1906), the rectory (1906), and the new St. Joseph's church (1913-14). In addition, several non-historic structures are located on the property including a modern garage adjacent to the parish hall, and a rock-like concrete grotto built in the 1950's as a shrine to Our Lady of Fatima. An asphalt-surfaced playground is located behind the parish hall. The complex is bounded by an iron fence with concrete piers on the Howard and 10th Street sides, an adjacent structure and chain link fence on the southwest side, and by the modern convent, school and another playground on the southeast on land owned the church--these properties are not historic and have not been included within the nomination boundaries. The grounds of the historic complex include lawns and hedges which create quiet internal spaces among the buildings.

The focal point of the complex is St. Joseph's Church. This magnificent structure is a striking example of Romanesque Revival architecture. This steel-framed masonry building towers over the surrounding neighborhood--its two tall, golden-domed towers have been visual landmarks in the South of Market area for nearly 70 years. The exterior is brick, covered with stucco and scored to simulate blocks of stone. The building is roughly cruciform in shape with the axis of the nave aligned northwest-southeast; northeast and southwest transepts intersect at right angles. The facade is symmetrical and is composed of a central section dominated by a rose window set within the upper part of a large, recessed Roman arch. Above the rose window, a medium gabled roof with a strongly denticulated cornice is supported by a prominent corbel table. The main entrance is through three Roman arches supported by paired columns; these arches support a heavy cornice which divides the major recessed arch into upper and lower portions. The central section is flanked by two corner towers. These contain vertically exaggerated double windows with round arch heads separated and flanked by tall, slender engaged columns set within a single Roman arch which springs from the outside column heads; a small rose window is placed above each of the vertical window units. A corbel table supports the entablature of each denticulated cornice at the top of each tower. The towers are capped by rectangular pedestals with round pediments centered on each face of the dado; the pedestals support octagonal drums with keystone arched vents separated by engaged Ionic columns; each drum supports an 8-ribbed golden dome surmounted by a cross.

The sides of the building between the towers and the transepts alternate round-arched windows with pilasters. Four large stained glass windows are located in the lower portion of each side while five smaller windows of similar shape separated by smaller-scaled pilasters occupy the clerestory. Each level terminates in a simple cornice supported by a corbel table. The transepts repeat the detailing of the central section of the facade--each end is dominated by a prominent rose window set in the upper portion of a large, recessed arch capped by a corbel table supporting a denticulated medium gable. The recessed arch rises from the heavy cornice and, in contrast to the main facade, the lower wall remains blank.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) ethnic history

Specific dates 1906-1914 **Builder/Architect** John J. Foley

Statement of Significance (In one paragraph)

The complex dates from 1906-14 and includes St. Joseph's Church and two buildings which were constructed immediately following the great earthquake and fire. It represents the rebuilding of a major local religious institution following the devastation of the 1906 disaster. The main church building is a strong statement of Romanesque Revival architectural styling, retaining remarkably high design integrity. The complex is also important in the ethnic history of San Francisco, having witnessed the change from a predominately Irish Catholic parish to what has now become the largest Filipino parish in the United States. In addition, St. Joseph's houses the national shrine of Filipinos in the United States, the Chapel of the Santo Niño de Cebu.

The architectural showpiece of the complex is St. Joseph's Church of 1913-14. It is an excellent example of Romanesque Revival architecture, although the early 20th century date is late for the style, which was at its peak of popularity during the third quarter of the 19th century. Some late examples occur around the turn of the century, and have been described by some architectural historians as "Neo-Romanesque." Irregardless of its date, St. Joseph's is a handsome interpretation of the Romanesque mode of ecclesiastical architecture, and has retained a remarkably high level of integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and feeling which makes it important as an unaltered example of its type. Its scale, interior and exterior design, and the high quality of its original stained glass and statuary are notable. It stands as one of the great statements of historic church architecture in the local community. St. Joseph's Church, parish hall and rectory comprise an important complex which is symbolic of the period of the city's rebuilding after the great earthquake and fire of 1906.

Although the present complex dates from 1906-14, the site has been continuously occupied by St. Joseph's since 1861. The parish of St. Joseph's was established by Archbishop Joseph Alemany. The first church was dedicated on December 8, 1861. The parish grew rapidly and a new church was built in 1865, and expanded two years later. The church opened a girls school and a boys school on the site in 1867. The Young Men's Institute, which later became a national Catholic Organization, was founded at St. Joseph's in 1883. By 1906 the parish had more than 3000 families, mostly Irish. St. Joseph's church and schools were totally destroyed by the fire which followed the April 18, 1906 earthquake. A new building was constructed to serve as a temporary church and school--it still stands today as the parish hall. The rectory was built later that same year. It was several years, however, before construction began on the present St. Joseph's Church. Its cornerstone was laid in April of 1913, with completion the following year. The architect, John J. Foley of San Francisco, designed a magnificent Romanesque Revival structure at the northeast corner of the property at 10th and Howard Streets. The neighborhood, however, never regained its previous residential character. Many of the Irish Catholic families who once occupied the area did not return. As the

9. Major Bibliographical References

The Monitor, "Century-Old St. Joseph's Called 'Comeback' Parish", December 8, 1961
 Final Case Report, St. Joseph's Church and Complex, San Francisco Landmarks Preservation
 Advisory Board, March 5, 1980
 Archives of the Archdiocese of San Francisco

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

UTM NOT VERIFIED

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 1.34 acres

Quadrangle name San Francisco North

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	0	5	5	1	6	8	0	4	1	8	0	6	5	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B

Zone				Easting				Northing						

C

Zone				Easting				Northing						

D

Zone				Easting				Northing						

E

Zone				Easting				Northing						

F

Zone				Easting				Northing						

G

Zone				Easting				Northing						

H

Zone				Easting				Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification

Beginning at the Southwest corner of 10th and Howard Streets, proceed southwest along Howard 205', then southeast 284', then northeast 205', then northwest 284' to point of origin. Includes all of lots 34, 35, 36 and the northerly 74' of lot 37 in Assessor's Block 3517. Justification included in #7, Description.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sally B. Famarin, Fdr. Pres. Emeritus, World Emissary, Cebu Association of California, Inc.

organization President, Parish Council of St. Joseph's

OHP Staff Revision: 10/81
 date August 11, 1981

street & number 2207 - 28th Avenue

telephone (415) 731-7361

city or town San Francisco

state California 94116

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

K. M. Ellis

title

date 12-22-81

For HCERS use only

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

William H. Braitham

date 1.15.82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

Patrick Andrews

date 1/12/82

Chief of Registration

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

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DATE ENTERED JAN 15 1982

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REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

San Francisco City Landmark
May 15, 1980
 local
Department of City Planning
100 Larkin Street
San Francisco, California

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The alternating arched window and pilaster detailing of the clerestory is carried around the upper level of the transepts. The lower level contains small entrance pavillions on each side of the transepts. The rear of the building is simple; it is a blank wall terminating in a corbel table supporting the denticulated cornice. One-story sections on each side contain arched windows and repeat the detailing of pilasters, corbel tables and denticulated cornices.

The interior shows a classical basilica treatment. The three entrance arches of the facade open into a marble-paneled narthex. Three round-arched, heavy wooden doors with leaded glass insets open from the narthex into the nave. The interior floor slopes gently to the crossing. A central aisle is flanked by the original oak pews. Side aisles are located beneath the clerestory, which is supported on arches springing from four massive columns on each side; the columns are capped with gilded Scamozzi capitals. Large stained glass windows on the lower walls depict scenes from the life of St. Joseph, while those in the clerestory portray various saints. All stained glass windows were imported from Europe.

Large rose windows dominate the transept ends and the northwest end of the nave above the entrance. The organ and choir loft is located above the entrance and is recessed over the narthex. The original organ of 1914 is still in service. The nave terminates in an apsidal space containing the high altar. It is dominated by a coffered half-dome flanked by chapels containing statues of Mary and Joseph.

The interior remains remarkably unaltered. Two doorways from the transepts to the exterior have been closed off on the inside and form alcoves which house statuary. It is interesting to note that the original statuary of the old Irish parish has remained in place, while in recent years the new statues which reflect the shift of the congregation to Latino and Filipino--the Virgin of Guadalupe, Our Lady of Fatima, and, most notably, the Santo Niño de Cebu--have been integrated with the old.

Of major importance to the present congregation is the Shrine of the Holy Infant, located just forward and to the left of the high altar. In April of 1979, the image of the Santo Niño de Cebu, the Philippines' patron saint, was enthroned in the church. A marble shrine was constructed to house the Santo Niño, and was dedicated on October 11, 1980, as the "National Shrine of Filipinos in the United States."

At the rear of the property, facing on 10th Street, is the parish hall. Following the destruction of the earlier complex in the 1906 fire, the present parish hall was built as a temporary church and school. Its original dual function can still be discerned from the configuration of the interior, which consists of one large primary assembly space and several small classrooms at the rear. The main room has a flat floor and a large stage with proscenium arch at the far end. Aside from several stained glass windows, the interior is plain and without decoration. The

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building is of wood frame construction covered with stucco. The facade is simple and symmetrical. A short flight of steps leads to the ~~three~~ entrance doors, which are contained within a large, simple arch. The entrance is flanked by two short, domed towers bearing crosses. A medium gable roof runs the length of the building. Other than having a mildly Mission Revival quality about it, the parish hall lacks architectural distinction. It is, however, important for its historical role as the first step in the rebuilding of the St. Joseph's complex after the earthquake and fire.

The rectory stands at 1415 Howard Street adjacent to the main church. This two-story stucco-covered masonry building was constructed in 1906 shortly after the fire. The design is a simple and reserved version of Renaissance Revival styling. The facade is symmetrical and contains a recessed entrance flanked by pilasters supporting a small triangular pediment. A cornice with dentils and modillions supports a simple parapet which encircles the building. The rectory remains unaltered since its construction 75 years ago.

A modern garage has been constructed on 10th Street between the church and the parish hall. It does not contribute to the significance of the property.

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area rebuilt, it became increasingly industrial in nature. Gradually the racial composition of the parish changed. By the 1950's its membership was made up largely of recent immigrants from the Latin American countries, the Philippines, and from the Pacific Islands. Today it has become the largest Filipino parish in the United States, and contains the marble chapel which enshrines the Santo Niño de Cebu. Known as La Chapella del Santo Niño de Cebu, this small chapel was dedicated in 1980 as "The National Shrine of Filipinos in the Unites States of America." It is the first shrine of the Filipinos' patron saint to be built outside of the Philippines. St. Joseph's now serves as the focal point for the Filipino community in San Francisco. The Fiesta of the Santo Niño de Cebu is celebrated each year in January. It includes the largest Filipino religious traditional procession in the United States.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

"Souvenir of Diamond Jubilee (1861-1936) of St. Joseph's Parish and Golden Jubilee (1886-1936) of Brothers' School," St. Joseph's Parish, 1936.

City Planning Commission Resolution No. 192, City of San Francisco, January 16, 1980.

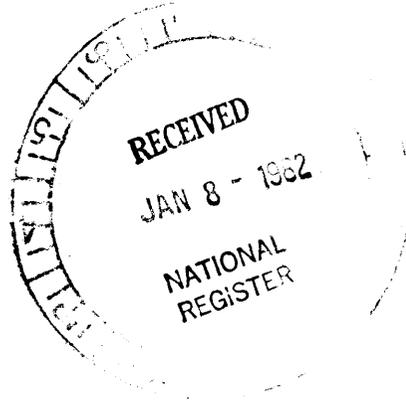
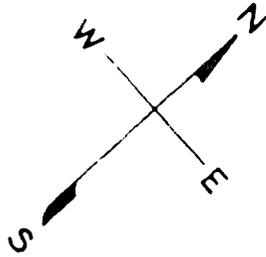
City Planning Commission Resolution No. 8591, City of San Francisco, May 15, 1980.

Interview with Dr. Albert Shumate, President Emeritus, California Historical Society, San Francisco, California, 1981.

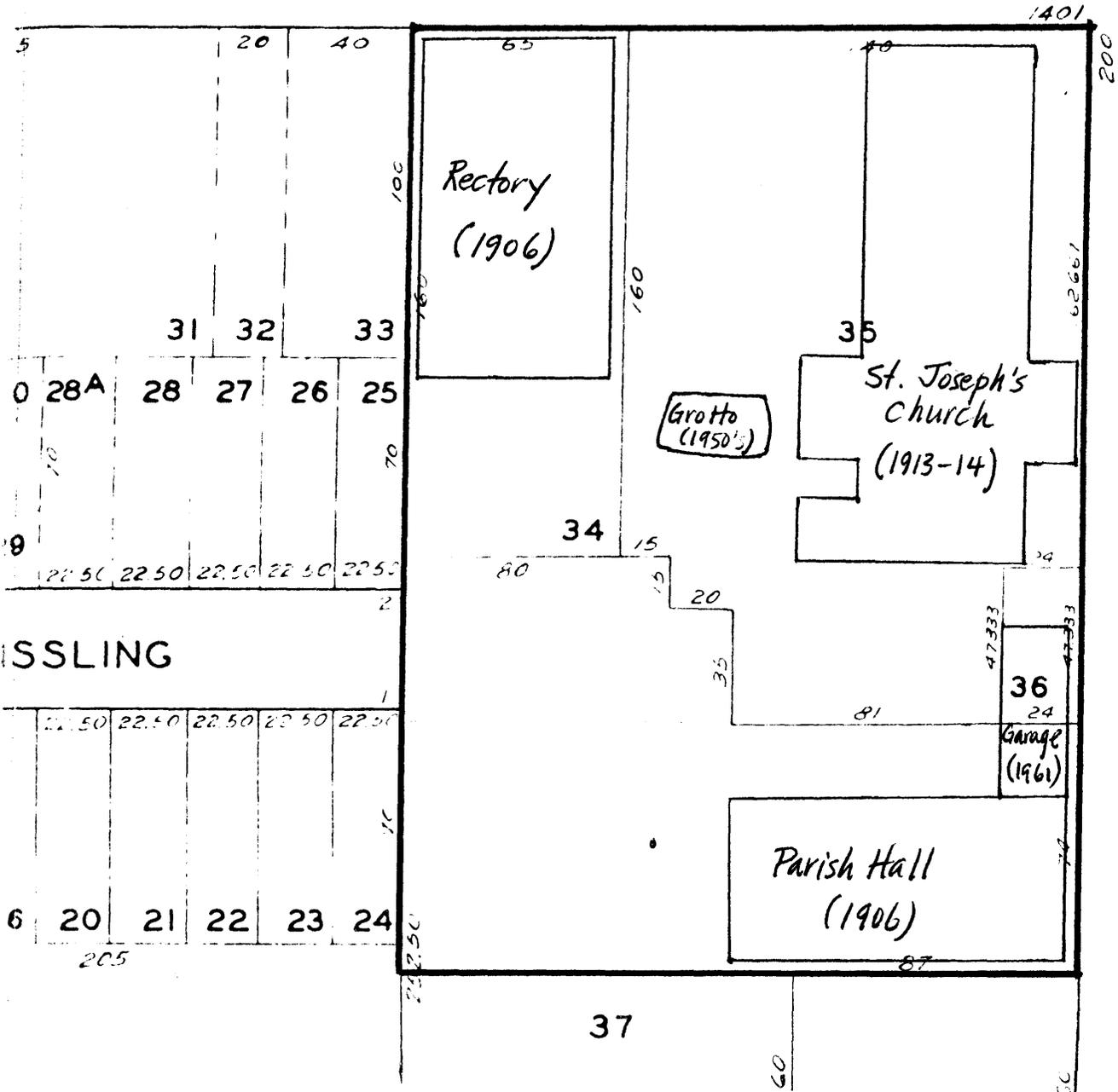
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MISSION BLK. 7

REVISED '61
" '62



HOWARD



10TH
JAN 15 1982