

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Tennessee	
COUNTY: Davidson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER APR 14 1972	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Holy Trinity Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Church of the Holy Trinity

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
615 Sixth Avenue, South

CITY OR TOWN:
Nashville

STATE Tennessee	CODE 47	COUNTY: Davidson County	CODE 037
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input 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"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Church of the Holy Trinity

STREET AND NUMBER:
615 Sixth Avenue, South

CITY OR TOWN:
Nashville

STATE: Tennessee	CODE 47
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Register's Office for Davidson County, Tennessee

STREET AND NUMBER:
Metro Courthouse, Public Square

CITY OR TOWN:
Nashville

STATE Tennessee	CODE 47
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: **1970** Federal State County Local

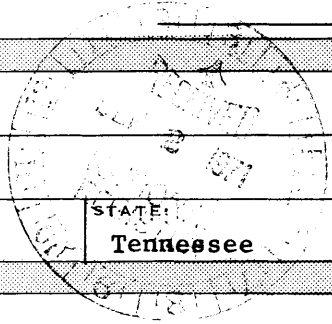
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE: D. C.	CODE 11
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Tennessee	FOR NPS USE ONLY
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

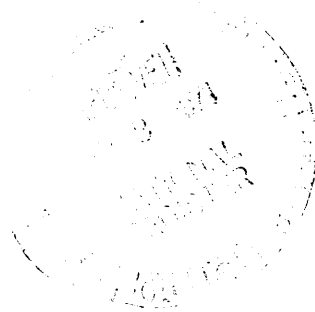
Altered Mostly Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The building is of rough native limestone, with hammer-finished stone for trim. The open hammer-beam roof is of polished and varnished cedar. The size of the nave is about 70 by 35 feet, to which is joined a recessed chancel, about 22 feet square, in which is placed a beautiful triplet window of stained glass. The square tower situated at the center of the front facade is accented by a chamfered turret at its southwest corner; both were crowned in battlements, although those on the turret were removed some time after 1941. Originally, the turret was to have been crowned by a polygonal spire; it was never built. Though the windows have been rehung in aluminum sashes in modern times, portions of original stained glass windows have been preserved.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

5. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1852

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/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The design of Holy Trinity has been widely attributed to the architectural firm of Wills and Dudley of New York.* Begun in 1852, Holy Trinity was modeled after an English parish church prototype for which the architect, Frank Wills, was especially renowned in the early years of his American practice. The church is an outstanding example of the early Gothic Revival style in the architecture of the State of Tennessee. In 1862 the building was taken over by the Federal Army as a powder magazine and stable.

* The manuscript by P. M. Radford (noted below), a Senior Warden of Holy Trinity in the 1880's, substantiates the attribution of the design to the firm of Wills and Dudley.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

P. M. Radford, "The Church of the Holy Trinity, Nashville." MS. Archives and Special Collections, duPont Library, University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee.

W. W. Clayton, History of Davidson County, Tennessee (Philadelphia: J.W. Lewis, 1880), 337-338, with a drawing opposite p. 337.

Charles E. Robert, Nashville and Her Trade for 1870 (Nashville: Roberts & Purvis, 1870), 449.

John Wooldridge, ed., History of Nashville, Tennessee (Nashville: H.W. Crew, 1890), 490-491.

16/5007
4000710

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
NW	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		86	46	32W
SE	° ' "	° ' "		36	09	09N
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Anatole Senkevitch, Jr., Architectural Historian & Architect for the

ORGANIZATION: **HABS Nashville Project in Summer, 1970** DATE: **8 July 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Instructor, Department of Architecture, Cornell University

CITY OR TOWN: **Ithaca** STATE: **New York 14850** CODE: **36**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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 Herbert L. Harper
Herbert L. Harper

Acting Title Executive Director
Tennessee Historical Commission

Date July 14, 1971

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

Robert M. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 4/14/72

ATTEST:
William Stout
Keeper of The National Register

Date APR 1 1972

Acting

Nineteenth Century Churches of South Nashville Thematic Resources
 Architectural and Historic Properties Inventory Form

511 NR

IDENTIFICATION

Historic name: Holy Trinity Church
 Common name: Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
 Address: 615 Sixth Avenue South
Nashville, Tennessee
 Owner's name: Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
 Owner's address: 615 Sixth Avenue South
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
 Classification: Building
 Tax map reference: 93-14-407
 Acreage: .30 acres
 UTM reference: 16/520180/4000720
Nashville West, TN

STATUS

Open to public: Yes X No Restricted X
 Visible from road: Yes X No
 Occupied: Yes X No
 Present use: Church
 Current condition: Excellent
 Alterations: None
 Site features: building is situated on a flat "V" lot between two streets and is surrounded by iron fencing.

HISTORY

Date of construction: 1852
 Architect/builder: Frank Wills & Henry Dudley/
architects
 Original or previous owners: N/A
 Original use: Church
 Theme/s: Primary Architecture
 Secondary Religion
 Other N/A

SOURCES

Bibliographical data: See Nomination Form
 Form prepared by: Shain Dennison
 Title: Architectural Historian
 Organization: Metro Historical Commission
Nashville Date: 11/83

DESCRIPTION

The Holy Trinity Church is a Gothic Revival-style building constructed of random limestone ashlar with a gable roof and large square tower centered on the facade. The tower, crowned in battlements, has a chamfered turret on the southwest corner. Simple masonry plate tracery is found in the pointed-arch tower window and belfry openings. The nave walls are jointed by spurr buttresses with single pointed-arch windows located between each. The interior is divided into nave and sanctuary, and the narthex is in the base of the tower. The roof structure is exposed and supported by a system of modified hammer beams.

SIGNIFICANCE

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church was listed in the National Register in 1971 primarily for its architectural significance. The architectural work of Wills and Dudley of New York, Holy Trinity is an outstanding example of the Gothic Revival style in church building. The original congregation had its beginnings in 1849 as a mission of Christ Church, Nashville's first Episcopal congregation. Holy Trinity was first used by black Episcopalians in 1895, and its present predominantly black congregation was organized in 1902.

PHOTOGRAPHIC DATA

Photographer: John Compton

Date: November 1983

Negatives on file: Metro Historical Commission
Nashville, Tennessee

Photographer facing: SE and NE

Photograph number 5-6 of 27.

CONTINUATION

SITE PLAN - Include North Arrow

