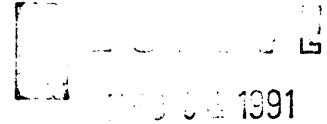


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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



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 Atkinson Memorial Presbyterian Church
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 214 Fourth St. N/A not for publication
city, town Morgan City N/A vicinity
state Louisiana code LA county St. Mary code 101 zip code 70380

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>1</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	<u>1</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
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.

Leslie P. Tassin January 30, 1991
Signature of certifying official Leslie P. Tassin, LA SHPO, Dept of Culture, Date
Recreation and Tourism
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. Patrick Andrews 3/19/91
 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)

Gothic Revival

Bungalow

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls weatherboard

shingles

roof asphalt

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Atkinson Memorial Presbyterian Church (1916) is a one-story, frame building which combines elements of the Gothic Revival with the Bungalow style. It is now located in a park-like area of Morgan City on the grounds of the Civil War battle site known as Fort Brashear. Despite a short in-town move and accompanying structural alterations, the rarity of the church's Gothic features within the community justifies its nomination to the National Register.

Atkinson Memorial's Gothic Revival characteristics include:

- 1) single and double lancet windows on each side of the nave,
- 2) a squat pointed arch on the entrance porch, and
- 3) a pitched roof supported by a simple exposed truss system.

Its Bungalow features include: 1) a double gable facade, 2) tapered porch columns mounted atop brick piers, 3) bracketed, overhanging eaves, 4) a flared, shingled watertable, and 5) exposed rafter ends.

The church is organized around a simple basilica plan which focuses upon the altar. To the rear of the altar is a small sacristy. Other features of interest include:

- 1) Maltese crosses decorating the porch columns,
- 2) original pews and amber window glass,
- 3) horizontal contrasting bands used to emphasize the building's horizontality. One band is located above the watertable, another midway between the watertable and eaves. The facade has an additional band which separates the gable from the wall below.
4. the interior's three-part wall treatment. This consists of a vertical beaded board wainscot, a molded chair rail, and an upper wall covered by horizontal beaded boards. The latter also cover the ceiling.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Atkinson Memorial Presbyterian Church, Morgan City, St. Mary Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 1

The building underwent some serious alterations in 1957 when it was moved four blocks to a more open space to allow for needed expansion of the church complex. The building was lengthened by moving the facade forward twenty feet and erecting an additional bay. At the same time, the gabled entrance porch was moved from the facade's right side to its middle, necessitating the removal of a double lancet window which pierced the facade's left side. This window was reused in one wall of the expansion space.

Despite the move, expansion, and change to the facade, the architectural elements which make the Atkinson Memorial Presbyterian Church significant remain intact. Although one of the double lancet windows was relocated when the massing of the bungalow porch was changed, the window does remain intact, as do all of the church's other original Gothic features. The enlargement of the nave was done very carefully, and all new materials match the original. For this reason, evidence of the expansion cannot be detected on the building's exterior and is difficult to detect inside the structure. Finally, the building still stands within a residential neighborhood only four blocks from its original site. As an example of a rare architectural style within Morgan City, the Atkinson Memorial Presbyterian Church is eligible for National Register listing.

Almost abutting the north side of the church is a large T-shaped educational building constructed at the time of the move. (The buildings are about a yard apart. They are connected at the roofline level at the front and rear to provide sheltered access.) While it is true that the education building is much larger and obscures the church's side elevation, it should be noted that the church remains a distinctive historic element.

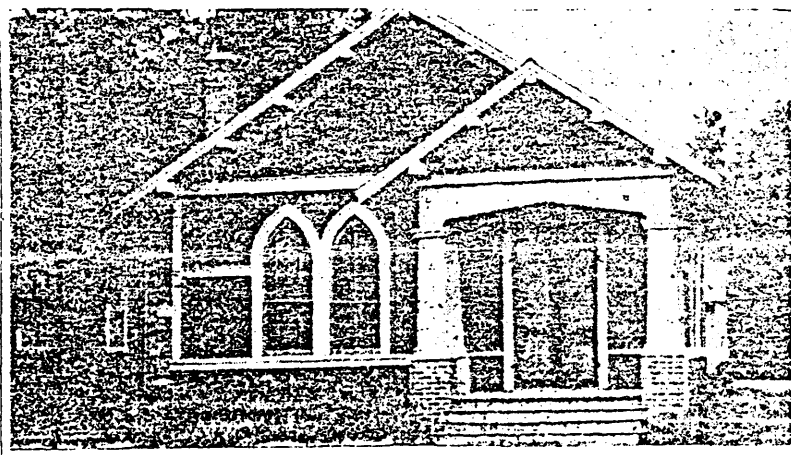
Because the educational building is a separate building, it is being noted as a non-contributing element. Also within the boundaries is the site of a Civil War fort. It is listed as a non-contributing element because it does not relate to the significance of the church. Due to possible integrity problems, the fort does not appear to independently meet the National Register criteria.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Atkinson Memorial Presbyterian Church, Morgan City, St. Mary Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 2



PRE-MOVE PHOTO

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
1916

Significant Dates
1916

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
unknown

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

The Atkinson Memorial Presbyterian Church is locally significant in the area of architecture because it is a rare example of the Gothic Revival style within Morgan City.

Although Morgan City has a sizeable collection of historic buildings, certain styles are more prevalent than others. The collection consists of the following: 1) a small number of late nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial buildings with distinctive cornices, 2) a high number of shotgun and cottage residences which are restrained vernacular versions of once popular styles such as Eastlake or Bungalow, and 3) a small number of high style homes and public buildings. Styles represented include Greek Revival, Queen Anne, Eastlake, Bungalow, Prairie, Beaux Arts, Neo-Classical, Moderne, and Gothic Revival. Of these styles, the Gothic Revival is among the most rare. The Historic Structures Survey for St. Mary Parish records 444 50+ year old buildings in Morgan City. However, only four of the 444 show the influence of Gothic styling. The lancet windows, pointed entrance porch arch, and open trusswork ceiling establish the Atkinson Memorial Church as a member of this rare group.

Historical Note

The Atkinson Memorial Presbyterian Church was founded on March 14, 1876. It is named for Dr. C. M. Atkinson, pastor from 1878 until 1906.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Historic Structures Survey, St. Mary Parish, Division of Historic Preservation.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- 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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property 5.3 acres

UTM References

A

1	5
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6	7	4	0	4	0
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3	2	8	5	9	2	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C

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B

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Zone Easting Northing

D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Please refer to enclosed plat map.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

Boundary lines follow property lines.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title National Register staff

organization Division of Historic Preservation date November 1990

street & number P. O. Box 44247 telephone 504-342-8160

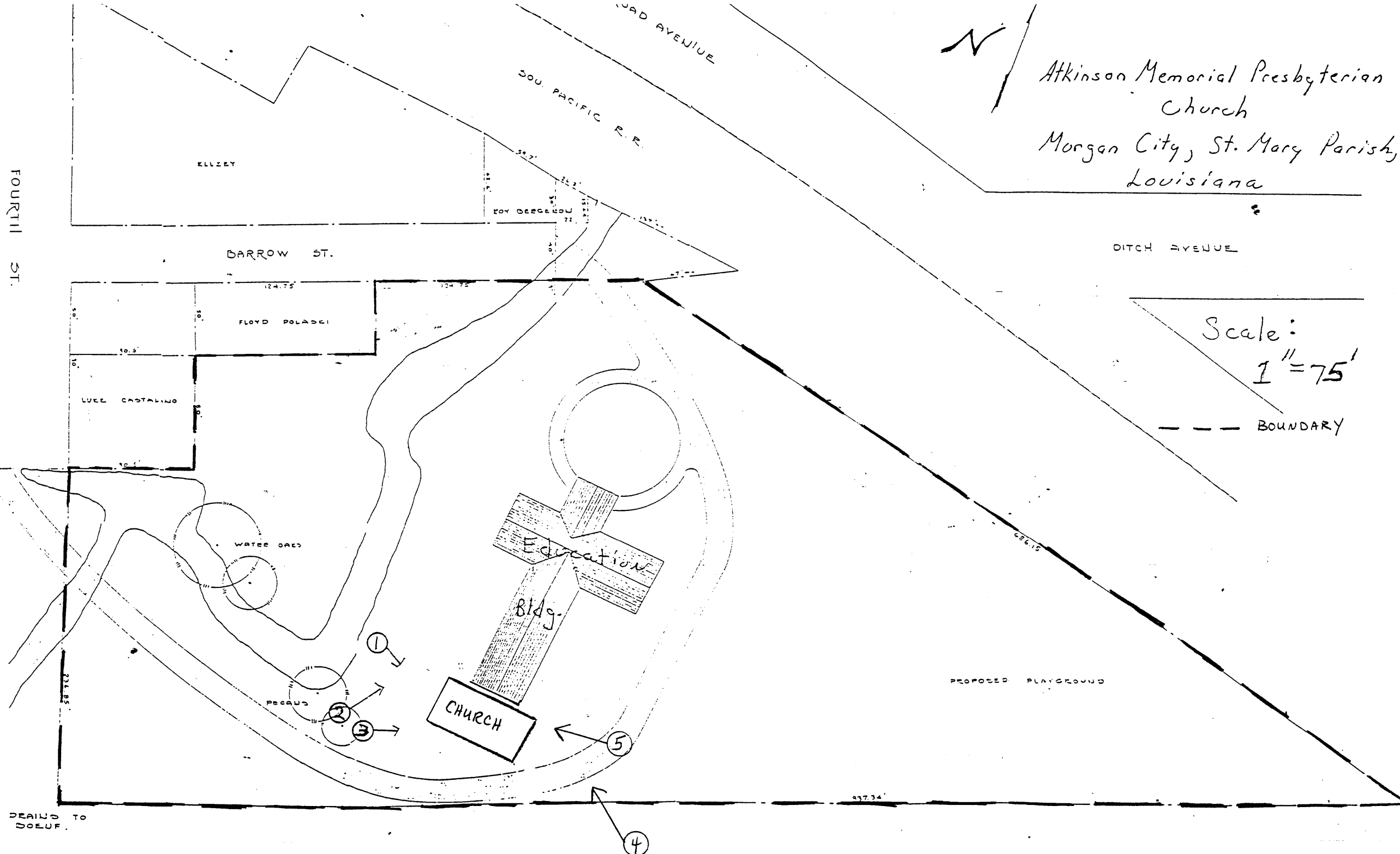
city or town Baton Rouge state LA zip code 70804

Atkinson Memorial Presbyterian
Church
Morgan City, St. Mary Parish,
Louisiana



Scale:
1" = 75'

--- BOUNDARY



DRAINS TO
DOEUF.