

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.	Form no.
	525 874 107/145

1. Town Fall River, Mass.  
 Address 440 Bradford Ave.  
 Name St. Louis Church  
 Present use church  
 Present owner St. Louis Church

3. Description: Brick Church  
 Date 1885  
 Source Bldg. Permit #142  
 Style High Victorian Gothic  
 Architect James Murphy  
 Exterior wall fabric brick & granite  
 Outbuildings (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

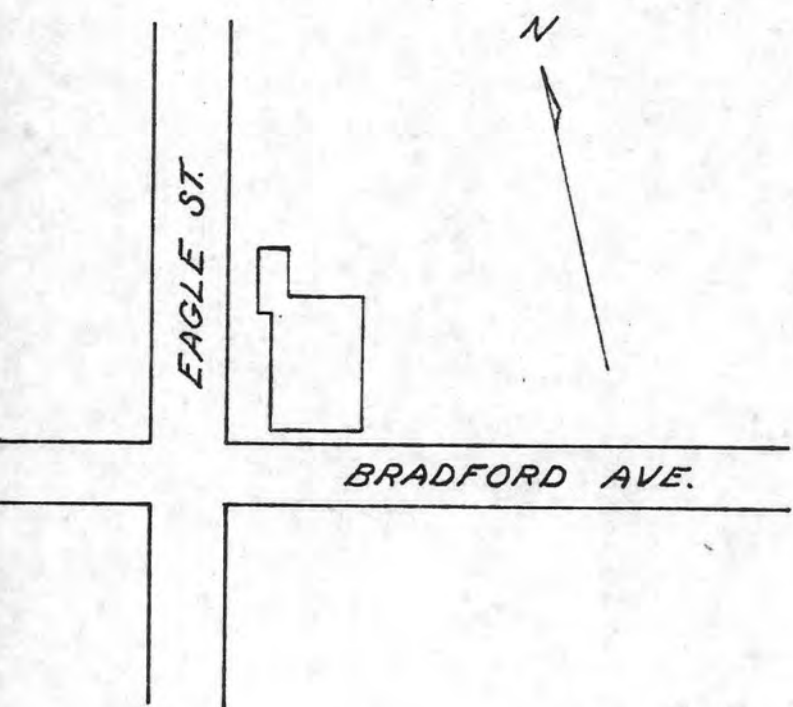
Other features Tudor arched entrances, buttressing, slate roof, granite pinnacles  
center tower w/ crenelated parapet  
 Altered yes Date 1946  
 Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size: 48,411 sq. ft.  
 One acre or less \_\_\_\_\_ Over one acre X  
 Approximate frontage \_\_\_\_\_  
 Approximate distance of building from street \_\_\_\_\_

6. Recorded by Patricia Giza  
 Organization FROHP  
 Date Feb. 12, 1981

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")  
 Staple to left side of form  
 Photo number PSNR-9-27

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



(over)

7. Original owner (if known) St. Louis Church

Original use church

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates \_\_\_\_\_

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	<u>X</u>
Architectural	<u>X</u>	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/ humanitarian	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		
Community development	<u>X</u>				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

St. Louis Church (1885) is a subdued example of the High Victorian Gothic which has served its middle and working class parish for nearly a century. The visual impact of the simple brick church is enhanced by its setting overlooking Kennedy Park. Design emphasis is on the four-level square center tower, which projects only slightly from the main block and is framed by buttresses which appear to serve a symbolic rather than structural function. Other accents such as the Tudor arched entrances, pinnacles atop side buttresses, and crenelated tower parapet are executed in gray granite or terra cotta, creating a simplified version of the polychromy popular in more high-style Ruskinian churches of the late 19th century.

James Murphy was a Providence architect who designed a number of Roman Catholic churches in that city including St. Mary's which was started in the 1860's, and St. Edward's, dating from the 1880's. His nephew, a partner in the later Providence firm of Murphy and Hindle, was also known as a Roman Catholic church architect and was the designer of Santo Christo Church (1924) in Fall River.

St. Louis Parish was formed in 1885 when Bishop Hendriken of Providence established a new parish in the western portion of St. Mary's parish. The church was named for the first pastor, the Rev. Louis J. Deady, who served from 1885 to 1896.

Because of its handsome facade, fine craftsmanship, intact quality, prominent location, and long history of service to the Roman Catholic population, St. Louis Church meets criteria A and C of the National Register, individually.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

St. Louis Church - Rev. Louis J. Deady, Rector - 1896 - name of architect & builder  
The Anchor, Oct. 13, 1960-pg. 1 & 20

Atlas of Fall River - 1895- church shown

Atlas of Fall River - 1883- land only

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

1/5/83

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 9 of 10

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Fall River Multiple Resource Area  
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

81. St. Joseph's Orphanage

Substantive Review

Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

82. St. Louis Church

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

83. St. Mary's Cathedral and Rectory

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

84. St. Patrick's Church

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

85. Stafford Mills

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

86. Union Mills

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

87. Valentine-French House

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

88. Wampanoag Mills

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

89. Winslow, Luther Jr., House

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

90. Woman's Club of Fall River

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

St. Louis Church (Fall River MRA)  
Bristol County  
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. 16/83-15  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.7.84  
Date Due: 2/3/83 - 2/19/83  
Action:  ACCEPT 2/16/83  
 RETURN  
Entered In the National Register  REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_  
Discipline \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for:  technical corrections cited below  
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category \_\_\_\_\_ Ownership \_\_\_\_\_ Status \_\_\_\_\_ Present Use \_\_\_\_\_  
Public Acquisition Accessible

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. Description

Condition  excellent  deteriorated  good  fair  
 ruins  unspoiled  
Check one  unaltered  altered  
Check one  original site  moved date \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

## 8. Significance

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Area of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- \_\_\_\_\_ summary paragraph
- \_\_\_\_\_ completeness
- \_\_\_\_\_ clarity
- \_\_\_\_\_ applicable criteria
- \_\_\_\_\_ justification of areas checked
- \_\_\_\_\_ relating significance to the resource
- \_\_\_\_\_ context
- \_\_\_\_\_ relationship of integrity to significance
- \_\_\_\_\_ justification of exception
- \_\_\_\_\_ other

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

## 10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UMT References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

## 11. Form Prepared By

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_\_ national \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

## 13. Other

- \_\_\_\_\_ Maps
- \_\_\_\_\_ Photographs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: 202 272 - 3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



NAME: Saint Louis Church  
LOCATION: 440 Bradford Avenue  
Fall River, <sup>MA</sup> Mass.  
PHOTO CREDIT: Pamela Shields (1981)  
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Fall River Office of Historic  
Preservation  
One Government Center  
Fall River, Mass. 02722  
(PSNR-9-27)  
IDENTIFICATION: Saint Louis Church  
looking north

Photo # 1 of 2



Fall River MRA, Ma

PSNR-9-27  
St. Louis Church  
440 Bradford Ave.

Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000279