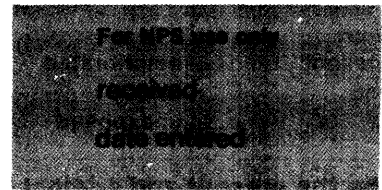


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 Church of the Nativity

and/or common same

2. Location

street & number Laurel Street N/A not for publication

city, town Rosedale N/A vicinity of ~~congressional district~~)

state LA code 22 county Iberville Parish code 047

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 type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> In process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<u>N/A</u> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Episcopal Church of Louisiana

street & number P. O. Box 15719

city, town New Orleans N/A vicinity of state LA 70175

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Iberville Parish Courthouse

street & number Railroad Avenue (no specific address) P. O. Box 423

city, town Plaquemine state LA 70764

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title LA Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1980 federal state county local

depository for survey records LA State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Baton Rouge state LA

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Church of the Nativity (1859) is a small frame Gothic style chapel located in a semirural setting on the edge of the community of Rosedale. It has been altered very little since construction, and, consequently, there is absolutely no integrity problem.

The Church of the Nativity is a simple rectangular three-bay basilican Gothic Revival structure with a steeply pitched roof. On either side of the chancel are two small rooms. The stained glass triple lancet windows behind the false marble altar came from D'Orsay's of New York. Originally the pews had a false walnut graining. The lancet nave windows are stenciled with fleur-de-lis surrounded by a variegated stained border of oak or grape leaves. The exterior board and batten siding retains its original brown color. The fixed louvered shutters and the vertical board doors are original.

The only changes since construction have been the replacement of the front and side exterior steps, the installation of electrical wiring, and the replacement of the roof covering.

These changes should be regarded as inconsequential. The church's Gothic Revival styling remains impressively intact.

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 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/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1859 **Builder/Architect** Builder: John Philson

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Criterion C

The Church of the Nativity is significant in the area of architecture on the state level as a fine rural example of a church built under the influence of the ecclesiastical movement. This can be seen in its nave and chancel plan and its simple Gothic elements. There are probably fewer than 20 comparable examples in Louisiana. In addition, the board and batten siding exemplifies, as few Louisiana churches do, the mid-nineteenth century fashion for expressing the building materials.

Hence the Church of the Nativity can be said to embody the two leading moralist-reformer trends which affected American architecture during the first half of the Victorian era. These, of course, were the Gothic Revival in church architecture and the romantic rationalism associated with the Stick Style. Despite the popularity of these trends in the eastern states, they hardly touched Louisiana. As a result, the Church of the Nativity stands as a rare example of their influence.

CHURCH HISTORY:

The Church of the Nativity was built in 1859 and consecrated by Bishop Leonidas Polk on April 22, 1860. Before the construction of the church Episcopal services were held at the Live Oaks Plantation chapel. Mr. John Philson, who helped organize the parish, directed the construction of the church. In May 1864 the Union army marched down the Rosedale Road and a skirmish was fought on the grounds around the church. The parish has retained the strong rural character that it had when Reverend John Philson founded it.

9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property @ .14 acre

Quadrangle name Grosse Tete, LA

Quadrangle scale 1: 24000

UMT References

A

1	5	6	4	8	6	5	0	3	3	6	8	8	8	5
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

See attached sketch map.

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

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Robert R. Obier

organization N/A date December 1980

street & number Live Oaks Plantation, Box 202 telephone 504-648-2346

city or town Rosedale state LA 70772

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 National Park Service

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

Robert B. DeBlieux

title State Historic Preservation Officer date June 25, 1982

For NPS use only
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Keeper of the National Register date 8.11.82
Attest: _____ date _____
Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

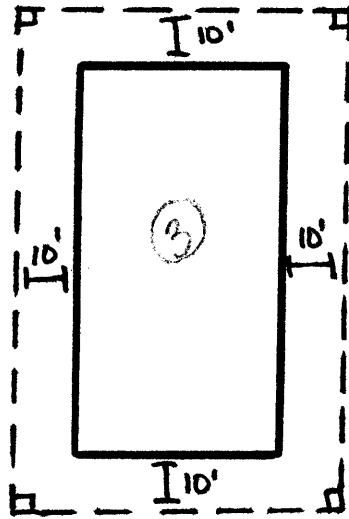
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Church of the Nativity



Modern Sympathetic
Sunday School
Annex



Laurel Street

SCALE 1" = 40' APPROX.

NOTE: SITE BOUNDARIES PARALLEL BLDG.
FACADES AT DISTANCES SHOWN.