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CONDITION				(Check One)		
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Begun in 1854, this tiny frame building has been enlarged a number of times to house an ever increasing congregation. The building is a Latin cross in plan with a steeply pitched roof. On the interior the rafters are exposed and tie beams connect the principal rafters. The apsidal end of the church is clearly separated from the nave by a partition with an arched opening cut into it.

The exterior fabric of the building is frame, laid vertically. The building is pierced along both sides and twice at the front by elongated, pointed openings glazed with colored glass. A rose window is located over the main entrance to the church. What was a hooded entry originally, is now an enclosed structure attached to the building and functioning as a vestibule since there is none on the interior. Rather, upon entering the church, one steps directly into the back of the main aisle.

A bell tower, very tall in proportion to the rest of the building and not original to it, is located on its east side. The tower is square in section, and is pierced and louvered at the top around the portion which houses the bell. An Episcopal cross projects from the spire. The tower is buttressed at its base for additional support

The building is presently in very good condition. It sits on a corner lot which is very well maintained. There is a certified historical marker on the south side of the building at the road.



PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	17th Century	🔀 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicate	de and Known) 1854		
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropri	ate)	
Abor iginal	Education	Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	Engineering	X Religion/Phi-	2 ther topacity
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Conservation	☐ Music	Transportation	ER

St. Mark's Episcopal Church was organized December 12, 1853, by The Rev. Henry B. Whipple, with Judge Issac H. Bronson as the first chairman and Judge James Purt as the first secretary-treasurer. In the beginning, services were held in the courthouse, but in the spring of 1854, work commenced on the construction of a suitable house of worship. That building, although altered many times to house an everincreasing congregation, remains as the core of the present church. The little white frame building was consecrated on April 26, 1857, by the Right Reverend Francis H. Rutledge, Bishop of the Diocese.

During the Civil War, the church served primarily as a meeting place and at the close of the war the deteriorated building with its rotting belfry made worship there unsafe. The church reopened in 1866, however, and by 1870, the Rev. Mr. Quimby reported that "St. Mark's had over twenty families or ninety-three persons connected with the parish, a strong Sunday School, and that total contributions to the church exceeded \$1,118, an extraordinary amount when the size of the town and its economic condition are considered."

In 1882, St. Mark's Academy was established as an institution for learning. The Academy lasted only a few years, unfortunately, and rarely had an enrollment of more than twenty-five. The buildings which the Academy occupied are now used as guild hall and rectory.

Since the organization of St. Mark's in 1853, the tiny church has grown and expanded just as the City of Palatka has. This church has served the population of Palatka almost continuously for 119 years with war being the only interruption in services. Architecturally, the integrity of the building has been retained despite its several enlargements.

. MAJOR	BIBLIOGRAPHICAL RI	FERENCES							
A H	istory of St.	Marks' Chu	ırch.	St.	August	ine:	The 1	Recor	đ
	Company, 191	.9 .						٠.	
Cusl	Cushman, Joseph. A Goodly Heritage. Gainesville: University								
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	Pennington, Edgar L. <u>The Episcopal Church in Florida, 1763-</u> 1892. Historical Magazine of the Protestant Episcopal								
	Church. Vol. II, March 1938.								
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ED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## AL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

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Putnam	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
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<b>May</b> 9	1973

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4. REQUIREMENTS		
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS		

