

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation 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 St. Mary's Episcopal Church

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number 805 1st Street \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Franklin \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district 3rd-Billy Tauzin

state La code 22 county St. Mary Parish code 101

**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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> 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 Congregation, St. Mary's Episcopal Church

street & number 805 1st St.

city, town Franklin \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state La 70538

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary Parish Courthouse

street & number

city, town Franklin \_\_\_\_\_ state La 70538

**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

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## 7. Description

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**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

St. Mary's Episcopal Church is located in the old residential area of Franklin. Constructed of board and batten, the basilica plan church has a small pitch roof tower. There is a curving lancet panel fronted gallery in the nave. The flat nave ceiling is supported on curving brackets and has exposed chamfered joists. The lancet windows have milk white glass in diamond leaded panes. Colored glass is sparingly used. The trim is worthy of note. The board and batten siding is ornamented with lancet panels around the pointed arch front door and at the front corners. The eaves are trimmed with scroll saw ornamentation.

To the rear is a small one story wing which is virtually invisible from the front given the narrow lot and adjacent houses.

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

**Specific dates** 1872 **Builder/Architect**

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)** Criterion C

St. Mary's Episcopal Church is significant in the area of architecture as a fine example of a mid-nineteenth century Gothic Revival church. Although this was a style for church architecture which flourished in the eastern states, St. Mary's is one of only about 12 extant good examples in Louisiana.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church was organized in 1846 and accepted into the diocese in 1847. It was during that same year that the foundation was laid for the first brick church ever to be constructed in the town. The building was consecrated in 1856 by Bishop Leonidas Polk, later known as the "Fighting Bishop of Louisiana" for his daring service as a Confederate general. In 1870 the church was left in ruins during one of the most devastating fires in Franklin's history. The present structure was begun in 1871 and completed in 1872 at a cost of \$7,000.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

History of St. Mary's Episcopal Church as Compiled From Church Records, Located in St. Mary's Episcopal Church National Register File, State Historic Preservation Office, Baton Rouge.

**UTM NOT VERIFIED**  
**ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property approx. .25 acres

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

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UMT References

A 

1	5	6	4	0	7	5	0	3	2	9	6	6	5	0
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 sketch map

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

state \_\_\_\_\_ code \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ code \_\_\_\_\_

state \_\_\_\_\_ code \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ code \_\_\_\_\_

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Gertrude E. Dinkins

organization \_\_\_\_\_

date June 1980

street & number Charenton Road

telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town RFD Baldwin

state La. 70514

# 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

*Charles B. DeBlain*

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 9/22/80

*per 11/21/80 call JB*

For HCRS use only

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

*Beth Grosvenor*

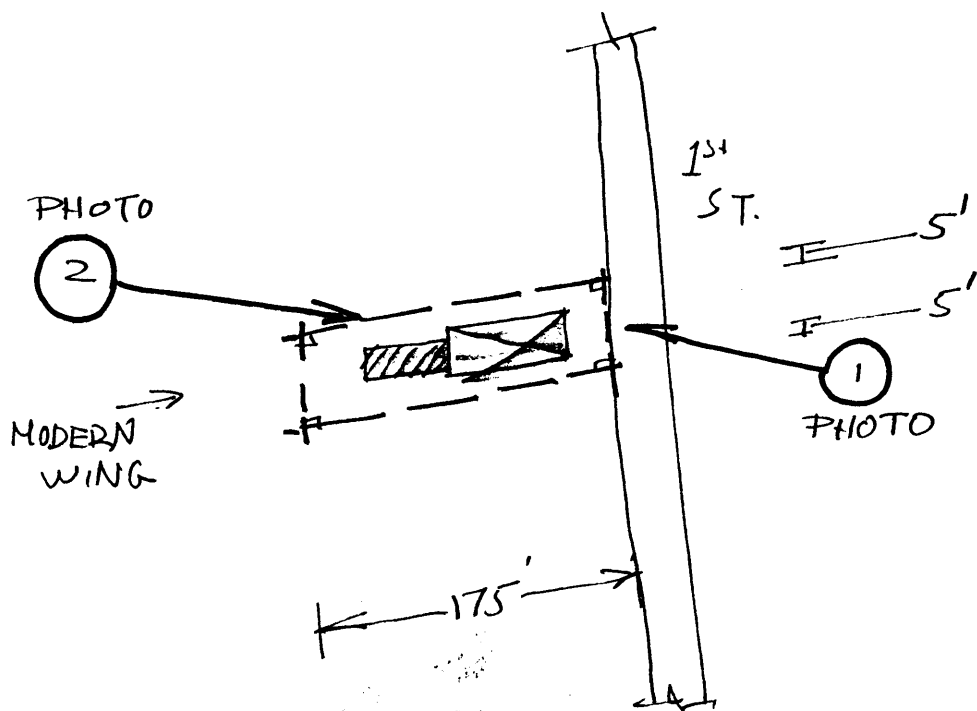
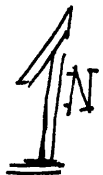
date 11/21/80

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date \_\_\_\_\_

Chief of Registration



BOUNDARIES PARALLEL  
FACADES OF  
CHURCH

APPROX .25 ACRE

