

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Louisiana
COUNTY: Orleans
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: St. Patrick's Church (Roman Catholic)
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 724 Camp Street			
CITY OR TOWN: New Orleans		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 2	
STATE Louisiana	CODE 22	COUNTY: Orleans	CODE 071

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: St. Patrick's Church (Rev. John P. Reynolds, Pastor)	STATE: Louisiana	CODE: 22
STREET AND NUMBER: 724 Camp Street		
CITY OR TOWN: New Orleans		

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Conveyance Office, Civil Courts Building, Orleans Parish		
STREET AND NUMBER: 421 Loyola Avenue		
CITY OR TOWN: New Orleans	STATE: Louisiana	CODE: 22

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey (photos, photocopies, data)		
DATE OF SURVEY: 1963-64	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Division of Prints and Photographs		
STREET AND NUMBER: Library of Congress		
CITY OR TOWN: Washington	STATE: D. C.	CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE

COUNTY

ENTRY NUMBER

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The first drawings for St. Patrick's Church were prepared in the office of Charles B. and James H. Dakin in 1837 and the Dakins were awarded a construction contract on June 6, 1838; the cornerstone was laid on July 1. When the walls had not yet reached roof level, disagreement caused the nullification of their contract and on October 1, 1839, a new contract with James Gallier assured competent completion. Despite construction problems resulting from unstable soil, the first services could be held in 1840 although work continued for another year.

The 1838 specifications describe the exterior as "principally imitated from that unrivalled example of splendor and majesty, York Minster Cathedral." In the same year Gibson's Guide to New Orleans said, "it will far surpass every attempt at Gothic architecture on this side of the Atlantic." Necessary economics coupled with Gallier's takeover resulted in the elimination of ornamental crockets and modification of the tower design, although the plan and exterior are basically Dakin's. The original exterior plaster over brick was probably scored and painted to imitate stone. The present coating is white rough-cast weatherproofing cement.

It is the interior, much of which can be attributed to Gallier, which distinguishes St. Patrick's. The extension of side aisle columns upward from the gallery enriched the pattern of plaster fan vaulting. His drawings for the sanctuary and altar compare, line for line, with their present appearance. One feature of paramount importance is the stained glass which fills the panels of the sanctuary ceiling. Although Dakin and Gallier both used similar skylights in other work, no documentation exists for its installation here and the present glass is not from the era of original construction. This dramatic lighting of the altar is probably the most innovative and effective architectural element in the total design. It complements the three oil paintings executed by Leon Pomarede in 1840 which fill the sanctuary wall space.

The 190-foot tower has twice been a target for lightning; the exterior has been battered by hurricanes and suffered from periods of inadequate maintenance without succumbing. The interior has been redecorated at various dates; the admirable faux bois and faux marble probably date from an 1872 renovation.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1837-41

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Its early date, size, and fine interior place St. Patrick's Church among America's most noteworthy examples of the Gothic Revival. From Dakin and Dakin's first design drawings of 1837 to completion of the interior in 1841, the construction dates precede those for Trinity Church in New York (1839-46), a comparable example in both size and cost. Though details which would have assured its Gothic "correctness" were eliminated in construction, the loss was compensated by the interior innovations of James Gallier, Sr. A tribute to its functional design was made by the present pastor who says that in the pulpit he feels close to parishioners in the back row.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Wilson, Samuel, Jr. FAIA. "The Building of St. Patrick's Church,"
St. Patrick's of New Orleans, 1833-1958. St. Patrick's
 Parish, New Orleans, 1958. pp. 41-54

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		29° 56' 47"	90° 04' 13"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **0.6 acres**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Paul Goeldner, Architect, Historic Sites Survey

ORGANIZATION: **Division of Historic and Architectural Surveys,
 National Park Service** DATE: **1/8/74**

STREET AND NUMBER:
1100 L Street NW.

CITY OR TOWN: **Washington** STATE: **District of Columbia** CODE:

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

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