

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED **SEP 16 1976**

DATE ENTERED **NOV 7 1977**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC **Bangor Parish**

AND/OR COMMON

St. Mark's Episcopal Church (preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

405-407 "B" Street

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

St. Albans

__ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Third

STATE

West Virginia

CODE

54

COUNTY

Kanawha

CODE

039

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME **St. Mark's Episcopal Church**

STREET & NUMBER

405-407 "B" Street

CITY, TOWN

St. Albans

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

West Virginia

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. **Kanawha County Courthouse**

STREET & NUMBER

416 Kanawha Boulevard, East

CITY, TOWN

Charleston

STATE

West Virginia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. Mark's Episcopal Church is a single-story, rectangular structure which incorporates elements of Gothic Revival architecture in a small and simply designed building. The hand-made red brick walls are laid in a common bond of six stretcher courses between rows of headers. It rests on a foundation of dressed stone, and brick buttresses topped by sandstone blocks reinforce the walls.

All doors, doorways, windows and arches are lancet shaped. The front doorway, which enters the vestibule, as well as the doorway between the vestibule and the church contain double doors. The other entrance to the church, from the newer building at the rear, is located on the west side near the northwest corner. There are four stained-glass windows in both the north and south walls, and a large stained-glass memorial window is located in the center of the west wall above the altar. Smaller stained-glass windows are in the walls of the vestibule. The steeple has a shuttered opening over the vestibule and another lancet-shaped opening at the top where the bell is housed. A tall, thin Latin cross sits at the apex of the steeple.

A gable roof of asphalt shingles is on the main church, and similar roofs cover the vestibule and steeple. A plain box cornice and frieze runs under the eaves and along the gables on all roofs. In the gable of the vestibule is a circular emblem containing the words "St. Marks Church" curved along the top with a Latin cross in the center and the dates "1825" and "1847" at a diagonal to the latter. Below this and above the front door is a glass and metal lantern. The front porch with its two-step approach is of concrete with wrought-iron railing on each side.

The church is built on a rectangular floor plan with a front vestibule and entrance through a central tower. The pews, which seat approximately one hundred people, are on both sides of a central aisle. The altar, which is located at the west end and flanked by a vesting room and sacristy, is enframed by a pointed chancel arch.

The basement stairway, covered by a bulkhead, is also on the west side of the building under the memorial window. The round log sleepers which support the floor retain their bark except for the upper surfaces which are hewed flat. Narrow tongue-and-groove boards running the length of the church make up the floor which is finished in a very dark brown with carpeting in the central aisle. Tongue-and-groove boards similar to the flooring extend vertically up the walls to form a wainscoting with a fairly high chair rail. Above this, the walls are of plaster painted white.

Roof-structure framing is of hammer-beam type with massive purlins running the length of the ceiling and collar beams spanning the width. Great wooden brackets connect the sloping sections to the walls and support the large beams. Because of its sloping sides and brackets, the ceiling gives the impression of being arched even though it is not curved. The lights, which are suspended, are of an early electric type, probably installed during renovations in the early twentieth century. The ceiling of the vestibule is of decorative pressed tin.

The altar, chancel rail and pulpit are excellently carved woodwork finished in a dark brown. These were crafted by Reverend Herbert Jukes, pastor of St. Mark's between 1913 and 1919, who had been an architect before becoming a priest. A life-sized, dark-stained, carved oak eagle, from the original church, makes up the lectern which contains the Bible.

During the Civil War, the building and surrounding property were occupied

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 1847

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St. Mark's Episcopal Church is a good example of Gothic Revival architecture used on a small scale in a fairly simple manner. As a religious institution, Bangor Parish and St. Mark's Episcopal Church have been influential in the development of St. Albans and the Kanawha Valley of West Virginia. The parish was one of the first Episcopal congregations in the area and numbered some of the early families of the St. Albans vicinity among its members. During the Civil War, the church and its adjoining property were occupied and nearly destroyed by Federal troops, but after the war the church was able to rebuild and become once again an active influence in the community as the Kanawha Valley developed into a major industrial and chemical manufacturing center.

Bangor Parish was organized in 1814 when the Reverend Joseph Willard, a missionary from Marietta, Ohio, came to the Kanawha Valley and ministered at Coalsmouth, now St. Albans. After this time the area was visited occasionally by missionaries, but it was 1822 before the first minister, the Reverend Charles H. Page, was regularly appointed. Mr. Morris Hudson, who had come to the valley in 1797, built the first Episcopal church, a small brick building situated on a knoll behind his house, at his own expense in 1825. When this building was constructed, the congregation consisted of twelve communicants; by 1831 the number had increased to thirty.

The first church was destroyed by fire in 1845, and a new edifice was built in 1847 on ten acres of land donated by Phillip Rootes Thompson. The new church was named St. Mark's after the Thompson home parish in Culpeper County, Virginia. It was a small and fairly simple brick structure of Gothic Revival architectural style exemplified in buttresses, arched windows and doorways, and semi-Basilican floor plan with the steeple at the entrance end of the church. The buttresses, located on both sides of the building, were constructed of brick topped by a plain, wedge-shaped, dressed-sandstone cap. The lancet-shaped doors and windows were enframed by a fairly plain molding, and a plain frieze ran under the eaves and along the gable. All considered, the structure of 1847 was quite near what one sees today on the church's exterior.

In 1863, during the Civil War, Union troops marched into Coalsmouth, now St. Albans, and made their camp on St. Mark's property. They burned the parsonage, dug trenches, made fortifications around the church and tore out the floor of the building so they could stable their horses under cover. During this period the congregation scattered, and many joined other churches. When the war was over, what was left of the congregation managed to mend the roof and board up the windows, holding services while sitting on pews of nail kegs placed on planks across the floor. Over the next eight years the church had a succession of ministers, none of whom stayed for any length of time; it was even without a priest during part of this period. In September 1874, the building was closed because it was unsafe, and it was not until 1878, during the service of Reverend John W. Lee, that a new

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Draper, Charles Ludlow. "The Episcopal Church in West Virginia before 1878." Master's Thesis, West Virginia University, 1949.
- Historical Records Survey, Works Progress Administration. Inventory of the Church Archives of West Virginia: The Protestant Episcopal Church. Wheeling, W.Va.: Diocese of West Virginia, 1939. (pp. 31-32)
- Pamphlet. "St. Marks Episcopal Church. St. Albans, W.Va." By the church (?). Copy

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3 acres / .5 acres includes 1847 structure only. -- EDD

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 7	4 2 6 7 5 0	4 2 4 9 0 4 0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C			

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

Phillip R. Pitts, Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION

West Virginia Antiquities Commission

DATE

May 7, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 630

TELEPHONE

(304) 296-1791

CITY OR TOWN

Morgantown

STATE

West Virginia

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

Leonard M. Lewis

TITLE West Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE September 13, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

W. Muntz Jr.

DATE

11/2/77

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

Charles D. ...

DATE

11-2-77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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7. DESCRIPTION (continued)

by Federal troops. Soldiers ripped up the floor to provide cover for their horses and did other damage to the church. It was not until 1915 that the United States government made restitution for damages, and after the war the building had to be closed for a period of time while only temporary repairs were made. With the funds from the government and the skills of Reverend Jukes, the building was restored to good condition in the early twentieth century. Most of the alterations and additions were completed at this time under the priest's direction and following his plans. The vestibule, hammer-beam bracketed ceiling, stained-glass windows and pews were among the major improvements. More recently, the roof has been redone, the wooden bell cradle replaced by a metal one and the interior walls replastered and painted.

In 1955 a parish hall was built adjoining the church at the rear, and in 1969 a new church was constructed at the opposite end of the parish hall. These additions to St. Mark's detract little and give the old structure a better chance of being preserved through adaptive use. Although joined to the parish hall at its northwest corner, it retains the appearance of a separate entity, being separated from the new church by a broad lawn. The new edifice has been designed quite effectively to be compatible with the old church.

8. SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

parsonage was built and the church grew and prospered.

With the arrival of the Reverend Herbert Jukes, a man who had been an architect before becoming a priest, in 1913, much restoration work on the church was completed. With money granted in 1915 by the United States government in restitution for damages sustained during the Civil War, the Reverend Jukes was able to refurbish the building. Much of the present church, except for the walls, was redone at this time, with the vestibule, stained-glass windows, pews, bracketed ceiling and hand-carved altar and chancel being major elements of the project.

Following the Reverend Jukes' ministry, the congregation and church continued to grow, and because it was in need of larger facilities by the early 1950s, a parish hall, containing educational and office space, was constructed at the rear and to the north of St. Mark's. It was soon evident, however, that a new church was needed, and in 1969 a larger edifice was added at the opposite end of the parish hall. During the time St. Mark's was growing, St. Albans and the Kanawha Valley was developing into a major industrial and chemical manufacturing center. Many members of the congregation have been involved in this development, and the church continues to play a vital role in the community.

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (continued)

on file with the West Virginia Antiquities Commission, P.O. Box 630,
Morgantown, W.Va.

Peterkin, George W., A History and Record of the Protestant Episcopal Church
in the Diocese of West Virginia. N.p., 1902. (pp. 527-30, 648-53)