

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Tennessee	
COUNTY: Davidson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70-741-0016	DATE 7/8/70

1. NAME

COMMON:
St. Mary's Catholic Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Formerly the Cathedral of the Blessed Virgin of the Seven Dolars ^{ARCS}

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
330 Fifth Avenue, North

CITY OR TOWN:
Nashville

STATE Tennessee	CODE 41	COUNTY: Davidson	CODE 037
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<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 type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
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) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Bishop of the Diocese, the Most Reverend Joseph A. Durick

STREET AND NUMBER:
330 Fifth Avenue, North

CITY OR TOWN:
Nashville

STATE:
Tennessee

CODE:
41

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Davidson County Register's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:
Court House

CITY OR TOWN:
Nashville

STATE:
Tennessee

CODE:
41

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

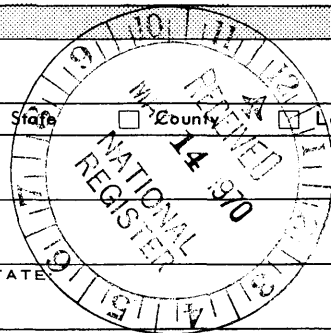
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Nashville

STATE:
Tennessee

CODE:
41



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Tennessee	COUNTY: Davidson	ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input 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		

Brick
Removal
Material
chase

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. Mary's Church stands in the shadow of Strickland's Tennessee State Capitol in downtown Nashville. It is a chaste and beautiful specimen of Grecian architecture. Its external dimensions are 110 ft. in length by 60 ft. in breadth. The ceiling is 32 feet above the floor; it is flat and tastefully decorated with mouldings and square panel work. The entrance of the church is through a distyle-in-antis portico with two Ionic columns. The entire exterior and interior of the edifice are ornamented with pilasters placed at suitable distances, imparting additional strength to the walls. On either side of the entrance is a niche and a plain pediment above. The gable is crowned by a cupola. It is well-proportioned, simple and effective with excellent detail. The cupola, not unlike several other Strickland towers, is modeled from the old Choragic Monument of Lysicrates.

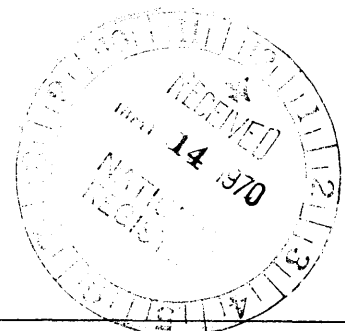
Under the church there is a spacious and commodious basement designed for catechism classes and school rooms. The high altar stands in a semi-circular recess, and is surmounted by an appropriate group of statuary representing the most sorrowful mother receiving the lifeless body of her dear Son. The figures are composed of what is called sand-stone paper, and the whole group was procured in France.

The church underwent a complete remodeling and renovation in the early 1890's when new stained glass windows and electric lights were installed. Again in 1925 more remodeling was done when the north and south sides of the structure were veneered with brick and the whole front of the edifice was finished with stone. The interior was finished with Craftex in a stone finish. A new high altar of Botticino marble was put in on October 7, 1929, at a cost of \$3,900.

In preparation for the hundredth anniversary in 1947, a new organ and marble side altars were installed. At the same time the exterior and the interior of the church were redecorated.

The church still stands in good condition, but some alteration of the original exterior and interior has desecrated the structure to a degree. However, the original lines which Strickland gave to this ecclesiastical gem still remain.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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) 1845-1847

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

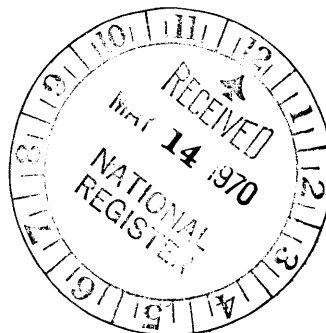
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St. Mary's Church is architecturally significant as a good example of William Strickland's Greek Revival design. William Strickland was a major American architect of the nineteenth century. At the age of fourteen, Strickland went to Philadelphia where he was apprenticed to Benjamin Latrobe. Latrobe was a major architect on the U. S. Capitol. Several of Strickland's more famous works are in Philadelphia. These include the Second Bank of the United States and the Merchants Exchange. Strickland also designed the Tennessee State Capitol which has been considered as a major example of Greek Revival architecture.

Strickland received the commission to design St. Mary's Church in 1845. The church was dedicated October 31, 1847. Strickland reportedly considered it to be his best ecclesiastical design.

During the Battle of Nashville, in the Civil War, the Church was converted to a hospital. During World War II the basement was used as a temporary chapel. For more than a hundred years this old church has served the Catholic population of Nashville. As the headquarters of the Diocese under the first six Bishops and the resting place of the father of the Church in Tennessee, this church has had a rich and interesting history.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



HVS
16/4002/6
519660

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Barr, Daniel F. Souvenir of St. Mary's Cathedral 1847-1897 (Nashville, 1897).

Gilchrist, Agnes A. William Strickland. University of Pennsylvania. (Philadelphia, 1950).

100th Anniversary - St. Mary's Church 1847-1947 (Nashville, 1947).

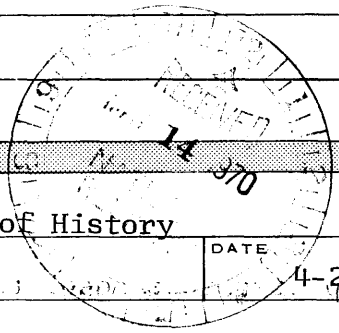
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	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	° ' "	° ' "		36 ° 09' 57 "	86 ° 46' 53 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Linda M. Bauch, Assistant Director of History

ORGANIZATION: Tennessee Historical Commission DATE: 4-20-70

STREET AND NUMBER:
403 Seventh Avenue, North

CITY OR TOWN: Nashville STATE: Tennessee CODE: 41

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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: Stephen S. Lawrence
Title: Tennessee Historical Commission
Date: 4-20-70

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

Ernest Allen Connally
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
Date: JUL 8 1970

ATTEST:
William J. ...
Keeper of The National Register
Date: MAY 27 1970

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