

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0689726

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DATE ENTERED DEC 22 1978

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. Paul's Church and Rectory

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 279 Congress Street
CITY, TOWN Portland VICINITY OF 1st
STATE Maine CODE 23 COUNTY Cumberland CODE 005

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	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME St. Paul's Parish

STREET & NUMBER 279 Congress Street

CITY, TOWN Portland VICINITY OF STATE Maine

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Cumberland County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN Portland STATE Maine

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Portland Historic Resources Inventory

DATE May 1976
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Maine Historic Preservation Commission

CITY, TOWN 242 State Street, Augusta STATE Maine

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. Paul's Church in Portland is a delightful example of the Gothic Revival style in an ecclesiastical context. The one-story building is of stone construction (with a frame rear wall), with slate-covered gable roof.

The entrance to the church is contained in a half-timbered entry attached to the south corner of the nave. This entry has a hipped gambrel roof covered with slates. The principal end of the nave features two lancet windows below a rose window. Attached buttresses flank these lancet windows. To the right is a single wooden doorway within a Gothic arch.

The sides of the church carry a series of attached buttresses. Another entrance is enclosed in a gabled projection at the west corner of the building. In the gable-end of the rear wall is a three-sided stained-glass window.

A frame parish house (rectory) with hipped roof, clapboard siding, and 2½ stories abuts the north-east side of the church. This features a first-floor Gothic arcade facing the church. This arcade covers the entrance to the house. Steeply-pitched gabled dormers, coupled with labelled lintels over the windows create a generally Gothic appearance compatible with the church.

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/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

1868, 1869

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

George B. Pelham

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although named after Old St. Paul's Church, the first Episcopal parish in Portland, the present St. Paul's serves a relatively new parish in the city, founded in 1868, the year before the completion of the building. The original St. Paul's parish was reorganized in 1839 under the name of St. Stephen's.

This small but charming example of Gothic Revival architecture with its highly compatible attached rectory was executed by George Browne Pelham (1831-1889), an English-born architect. Taking a degree in architecture at Cambridge in 1852, he was employed by a London firm. In 1856, upon the death of the head of the company, Pelham, still a young man, was sent to Ottawa, Canada to design the "west wing" and complete and supervise the construction of the new Parliament Buildings (later destroyed by fire).

Pelham moved to Portland, Maine in 1868, where he lived for three years designing several buildings in the area, including the High Street Congregational Church in Portland, the Warren Congregational Church in Westbrook, and St. Paul's. Moving to New York in 1871, Pelham worked in both industrial and residential design and served several years as architect for the New York City Park Department.

St. Paul's Church is a fine example of the delicacy of design and conceptual skill of this gifted architect.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

McElwain, Rev. Harold A., Welcome to Olde Saint Paul's, (Portland, 1975).

Portland City Guide, American Guide Series, (Portland, 1940).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/2

UTM REFERENCES

A 19 398940 4834880
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

*Chart 21, Block E, Lot 7
 (per Frank Beard - 12-15-78 SR)*

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE Frank A. Beard, Historian
Robert L. Bradley, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION Maine Historic Preservation Commission DATE October 1978

STREET & NUMBER 242 State Street TELEPHONE 207/289-2133

CITY OR TOWN Augusta STATE Maine

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 *Earle S. Fretwell* DATE 11/2/78

TITLE S.H.P.O.

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
<u><i>Charles W. Harris</i></u> DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	DATE <u>12-22-78</u>
ATTEST: <u><i>Tomie Mac Donald</i></u> KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	DATE <u>12/22/78</u>