

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received NOV 6 1985

date entered

DEC 5 1985

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic St. James' Episcopal Church

and/or common Same

**2. Location**

street & number 401 Old LaGrange Road (State Hwy. 146) not for publication

city, town Pewee Valley X vicinity of Northeast corner of Ky Hwy 146 and Maple Avenue

state Kentucky code county Oldham code

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied                 | <input type="checkbox"/> commercial           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure              | <input type="checkbox"/> both               | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress           | <input type="checkbox"/> educational          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site                   | <b>Public Acquisition</b>                   | <b>Accessible</b>                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object                 | NA in process                               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government           |
|   | NA being considered                         | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted          | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial           |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> no                         | <input type="checkbox"/> military             |
|   |   |   | <input checked="" 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:               |

**4. Owner of Property**

name Wardens and Vestry of St. James Episcopal Church

street & number 401 Old LaGrange Road

city, town Pewee Valley vicinity of state Kentucky 40056

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Oldham County Courthouse

street & number

city, town LaGrange state Ky

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title KY Historic Resources Inventory has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no  
Oldham County

date 1980  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Kentucky Heritage Council

city, town Frankfort state KY

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## 7. Description

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|  |                                       |   |   |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Condition</b>                         |                                       | <b>Check one</b>                            | <b>Check one</b>                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent       | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered | <input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair            | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed    |   |   |

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

St. James' Episcopal Church is located on a five-acre tract of land at the northeast corner of Kentucky Highway 146 and Maple Avenue in Pewee Valley, Kentucky. The tract contains a number of large deciduous trees and evergreens, as well as other plantings which add to the rural ambience of the site. (Photo 1)

Three buildings make up the church complex - the church (built in 1869), the education building which is connected to the church (built in 1965), and the rectory (built in 1911). The church is a one-story structure of native Pewee Valley limestone quarried not far from the site. It is a small building in a rural Gothic Revival style with a square tower at the northwest corner. The tower has a bellcast steeple and contains the entry and vestibule. Pointed-arch windows of clear glass (much of it original) alternate with stone buttresses on the side walls. There is a rose window of stenciled colored glass in the northwest gable facade. The interior is simple and has had few alterations. There are plain dark-stained wooden cross beams below the ceiling. The altar bay contains three pointed-arch windows with stenciled glass in shades of grey, red, green, and gold. The oak pews are original. (Photos 2, 3, 4)

The rectory was built in 1911 using stone from the same quarry for the front gable facade. It is a Stick style building with stucco and half-timber trim and has two stories. The education building, Board Hall, was built in 1965 also of stone from the same quarry which supplied stone for the church and rectory. It is a one-story structure with round-arched windows and is joined to the church at the southwest corner. (Photo 5)

The Church and Rectory are contributing buildings while the Education Building is non-contributing.

# 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 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** 1869, 1911      **Builder/Architect** B. Talbott, William H. Redin

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

St. James' Episcopal Church is significant under Criterion C as an example of a rural Gothic Revival-style church. It is also significant as the work of William Henry Redin (1822-1904), a Louisville, Kentucky architect who was well-known as an "ecclesiastical architect and builder".

The asymmetrical form of the church, with a square corner tower, lancet windows, and buttresses along the walls, all combine to create an excellent adaptation of the simple Gothic Revival style often found in rural parishes in England.

St. James Church was organized in 1858 in Pewee Valley, a small community in Oldham County, Kentucky. At first, services were held in the Rollington Methodist Church. In 1868 the vestry commissioned former Confederate General E. Kirby Smith to canvass the area for contributions for a building. The church was completed in 1869 at a cost of \$4,000.00. According to the vestry minutes, the plans of B. Talbott were accepted, but William H. Redin completed the church. Nothing is known of B. Talbott as an architect, nor are there other known buildings attributed to him. The design of St. James' is similar to other churches designed by Redin, who designed both large city churches and several small rural churches in the Gothic Revival style. Redin also used native Pewee Valley limestone for several of his churches.

William Henry Redin was born in Suffolk County, England and came to this country by the 1840's. Trained as an artist, he exhibited at the National Academy of Design in New York in 1848 and 1849. His earliest documented architectural works in Louisville were completed in the 1860's. He designed commercial buildings, residences, and a number of churches in Louisville and in nearby towns. He employed the Gothic Revival style for his churches and several were small buildings in rural settings. At the same time he was working on St. James' Church, he was completing the Anchorage Presbyterian Church in Jefferson County (which adjoins Oldham County). (National Register 1980). Redin lived in Pewee Valley for several years and is buried there.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

History of St. James' Church  
Minutes of the Vestry, St. James' Church  
"Stories of Churches", Oldham County Era, Anniversary Edition, 1926  
"The Land of the Little Colonel", Katie Smith

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 5

Quadrangle name Crestwood

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

|      |   |         |   |   |   |    |          |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|------|---|---------|---|---|---|----|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1    | 6 | 6       | 3 | 2 | 5 | 00 | 4        | 2 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 5 |
| Zone |   | Easting |   |   |   |    | Northing |   |   |   |   |   |   |

B 

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| Zone |  | Easting |  |  |  |  | Northing |  |  |  |  |  |  |

C 

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| Zone |  | Easting |  |  |  |  | Northing |  |  |  |  |  |  |

D 

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F 

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| Zone |  | Easting |  |  |  |  | Northing |  |  |  |  |  |  |

G 

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| Zone |  | Easting |  |  |  |  | Northing |  |  |  |  |  |  |

H 

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|------|--|---------|--|--|--|--|----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
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| Zone |  | Easting |  |  |  |  | Northing |  |  |  |  |  |  |

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary of the nominated site is all of Lot 1 Block 1 as recorded in Map #8 Oldham County Courthouse, LaGrange, Ky. The site contains 5 acres.

### 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 Oleta Christensen and Mary Jean Kinsman

organization \_\_\_\_\_

date August 26, 1985

street & number 139 Rosswood Drive/4012 Druid Hills Rd telephone (502) 241-5755

city or town Pewee Valley / Louisville, KY 40207

state Kentucky 40056

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

*David L. Morgan*

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date October 31, 1985

### For NPS use only

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

*for Allous Byers*  
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the  
National Register

date

12-5-85

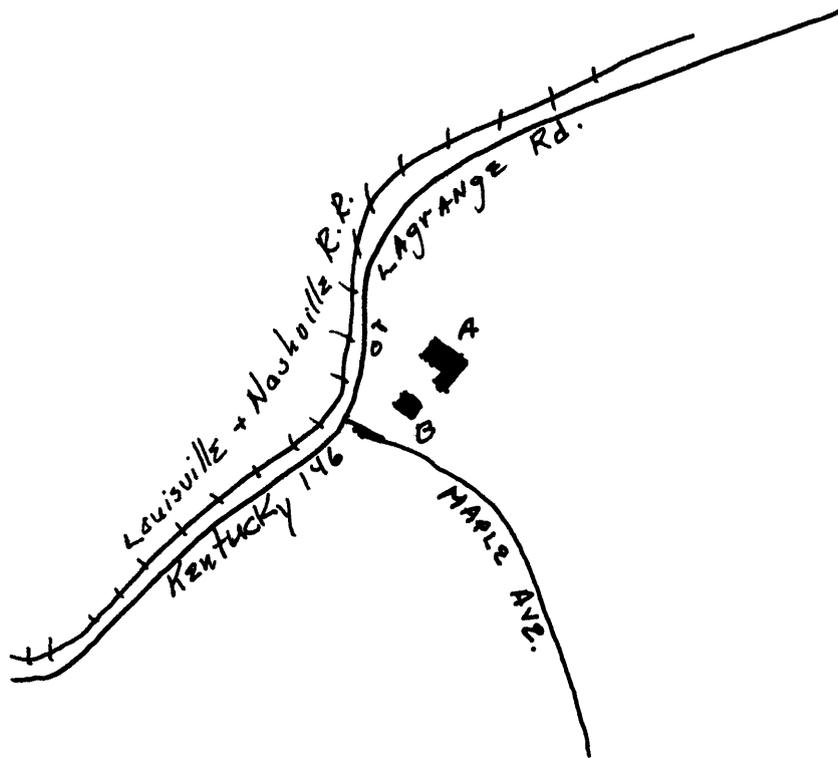
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

SITE PLAN

St. James Episcopal Church  
Pewee Valley, Oldham County, Kentucky



A- Church + education building

B- Rectory