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

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Prop	erty						
historic name	St.	Mark's H	Episcopal	Church			
other names/site nu			ne Holv C				
- · · · -							
2. Location							_
street & number	875 Cotto					A not for publication	
city, town	Shrevepor					A vicinity	
state Louisia	ana <b>code</b>	LA	county	Caddo	code	017 <b>zip code</b> 7	1101
3. Classification							
Ownership of Property Category of Property				Number of Resources within Property			
X private		🔀 buildin	9(8)		Contributing	Noncontributing	
public-locai		districi	1		1	0 buildings	
public-State		🔄 site				sites	
public-Federal		structu	ITO			structures	
		🛄 object				objects	
					1	0 Total	
Name of related mu N/A	itiple property listin	ng:	_			tributing resources previou tional Register <u>0</u>	usly
4. State/Federal	Agency Certific	tion					
X nomination National Register in my opinion, th	☐ request for deter r of Historic Places e property. ⊠ mee	mination of ( and meets te does (	aligibility mee the procedur not meet the	ets the document al and professi National Regis	ntation standards fo Ional requirements ster criteria	d, I hereby certify that this or registering properties in set forth in 36 CFR Part continuation sheet. May 1, 1991	n the
Signature of certify	ing official Leslie				Culture,	Date	
	Kecre	eation an	d Tourism	n			
State or Federal ag	jency and bureau						

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification	Entered in the	
I, hereby, certify that this property is:	National Register	
dentered in the National Register.		11-
See continuation sheet.	Alouet year	6/1/91
determined eligible for the National	\$ 1 <i>)</i> 5 <i>j</i>	/
Register. [_] See continuation sheet.	·	······································
determined not eligible for the		
National Register.		
removed from the National Register.		
	,	
	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action

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OMB No. 1024-0018 001891

NATIONAL REGISTER

Date

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)	Current Function	ns (enter categories from instructions	
RELIGION/Religious Structure		ligious Structure	
7. Description			
Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)	Materials (enter categories from instructions)		
	foundation	concrete	
Gothic Revival	walls		
	roof	asphalt	
	other		

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church (1905) stands near a busy intersection on the southwestern edge of downtown Shreveport. Two stories in height with an oversized accompanying bell tower, the brick church is an example of the Gothic Revival style. Its chancel suffered some fire damage early in the church's history, but immediate restoration replaced much of what was lost. Other changes to the building have been minor. Thus, the church's eligibility for the National Register remains intact.

St. Mark's resembles an English parish church in its plan and decoration. The plan consists of four distinct parts: a soaring nave whose steeply pitched roof reaches two stories in height, a massive four stage bell tower which almost overpowers the nave at its side, a small single story chapel directly behind the tower, and a two story wing which projects from the nave's rear corner. The building's decoration combines elements of the Perpendicular and Decorated periods of English Gothic architecture. Motifs from the Perpendicular period include:

- 1) small two-stage corner towers surmounting the bell tower, and
- 2) the use of elaborate crenelation on the bell tower and along the roofline of the chapel and wing.

Elements from the Decorated period include:

- 1) lancet arches with trefoil insets,
- 2) the use of voluminous multiple brick inset panels on the buttresses and the tower, and
- 3) the nave's hammerbeam ceiling, which incorporates trefoils, quatrefoils and pendants within its design.

Other elements of interest in the church's design include a French rose window in the nave, the dark brick banding found on the roughly textured exterior walls, brick roundels located on the tower's second stage, Gothic wainscoting on the interior, and the treatment of the small chapel. The chapel incorporates the stained glass windows, pews, altar, and chancel rail of the original St. Mark's Church, which was built on another Shreveport site c. 1861. **United States Department of the Interior** National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Shreveport, Caddo Parish, LA

Section number \_\_\_\_7 Page \_\_\_1\_

The changes to the 1905 church since its construction are as follows:

- 1) the above mentioned fire and resulting restoration, which occurred in 1919. Damage was confined to the chancel area, with the most important loss being a memorial window which had been installed sometime after the church's construction. Because parishioners had saved the original chancel window which the memorial had replaced, they re-installed the original during the subsequent restoration.
- 2) the installation of a large pipe organ in 1920, and
- 3) the loss of most of the original furnishings.

Although the 1919 fire was unfortunate for the church's parishioners, its end result was to restore the authenticity of the chancel. Other changes to the church have been insignificant. As a result, St. Mark's massing, plan, and Gothic decorative features remain intact, and the church looks much as it did in 1905. St. Mark's still anchors the block on which it stands and is an important landmark in downtown Shreveport. As such, it is a strong candidate for National Register listing.

8. Statement of Significance		1	
Certifying official has considered the signific	ance of this prop nationally	erty in relation to other properties:	
Applicable National Register Criteria	в Хс	D	
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)	ВСС	D D E DF DG	
Areas of Significance (enter categories from Architecture	instructions)	Period of Significance 1905	Significant Dates 1905
		Cultural Affiliation	
Significant Person N/A		Architect/Builder Architect: C. W. Bu	lger

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church is locally significant in the area of architecture because it is a visual landmark among the buildings of downtown Shreveport.

Until fairly recently Shreveport was Louisiana's second largest city. Its central business district is still regarded as second only to New Orleans in terms of architectural distinction. Downtown Shreveport was largely rebuilt in the early twentieth century as the result of a local oil boom. Therefore, most of the city's older structures tend to date from this period. There are somewhere around 500 buildings in the greater downtown area, most of which appear to be at least 50 years old. The vast majority of these are party wall commercial buildings or warehouses. But there are also eighteen or so grander structures -- free-standing monumental buildings which constitute the architectural gems of the Central Business District. St. Mark's Episcopal Church enjoys a special place among this group because it is one of only two examples of the Gothic Revival style in the downtown. In addition, few of downtown Shreveport's other monumental buildings can rival the church's emphatic, intensive massing and articulation. Most other examples tend to be more severe.

#### Historical Note

The parishioners of St. Mark's Episcopal Church left their downtown location in 1953. However, a small group from within the church wished to purchase the building and establish a new downtown parish. As a result, a Diocesan Convention which met January 20-21, 1954, designated the building as a mission of the Episcopal Church. The first service was held on February 14, 1954. Two years later, the mission became a full fledged parish known as the Church of the Holy Cross.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Thomson,	Bailey, ed. <u>His</u> Publishing Co		t: <u>A</u> Guide	. Shre	veport, LA:	Shrevepo	rt
Raymond,	Helen Marbury. n. p., 1972.	"Holy Cross Ch	urch: Back	ground,	Beginnings	and Devel	.opment,"
Building	cornerstone.						
				See conti	nuation sheet		
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10. Geograph	ertyless that	n an acre					
UTM References A 1 5 4 Zone East C 1	219 41510 315	9,666,5,0 ng	B L Zone D L		No	rthing	لـــا لـــا
Verbal Boundary	y Description	······	······································	A REAL PROPERTY OF A	·····		
Please refe	er to sketch maj	<b>.</b>		]See conti	nuation sheet		
Boundary Justifi							<u></u>
Boundary 1:	ines to the from ine was drawn as			-			
				See cont	inuation sheet		
11. Form Pre							
name/title		gister Staff			77-1	0.01	
organization		Historic Prese	ervation	date	February 1		
street & number				teleph	one <u>(504)</u> Louisiana	<u>342-8160</u>	70804
city or town	Baton Rouge			state _	<u> </u>		

Owner:	church of the Holy Cross
U.S.GPO:1988-0-223-918	875 Cotton Street
	Shreveport, LA 71101

