CITY, TOWN

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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	TYPE ALL ENTRIES (			-	
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HISTORIC					
St. Ma	ry's Episcopal Church	and Rectory	·		
AND/OR COMMON				•	
	use ) McDougall House			·	
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CITY, TOWN	37 /3		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT		
Milton STATE	N/A	VICINITY OF CODE	COUNTY	CODE	
Florida		12	Santa Rosa	113	
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OBJECT	IN PROCESS	_XYES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC	
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### CONDITION

### CHECK ONE

### **CHECK ONE**

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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This site is composed of two lots and the buildings on them which face each other across Escambia Street. On the northwest side of Escambia Street is the Gothic Revival style St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Directly across the street on the southeast side is the Greek Revival style Rectory for the church. Not included in this nomination is a 20th century parish hall northeast of the church.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church is a one-story board and batten structure with a gable roof and suppressed transepts with gable roofs. The church has a Latin cross plan, although what in larger churches would be additional congregation seating in the transepts at St. Mary's are offices (north transept) and choir stalls (south transept).

The church has 3 bays on the entrance (southeast) facade with flanking but recessed transept bays and 5 bays on the northeast and southwest elevations. The northwest elevation is composed of one bay containing a tripartie window (altar window) and flanking but recessed transept bays. There is also a small one bay board and batten addition on this elevation. All windows, with the exception of those in the addition and a bullsey window in the southeast gable, are stained glass. The majority date from after 1915 (original stained glass remains in 1½ windows of the north transept).

The building sits on brick piers with pierced brick infill. The floor joist level is expressed on the exterior by a broad watertable with drip molding. The roofline is enhanced by molded and jigsawn bargeboards on all gable ends and a cross finial on the southeast terminus of the ridge.

The wood entrance (southeast) porch has lancet paneled and buttressed columns and pilasters, jigsawn and molded double bargeboards and a finial cross. The deck of the porch and steps are currently masonry. There are also wrought iron stair rails.

The doorway is composed of paired 4 panel doors with applied quatrefoils. Above the doors is a molded blind Gothic arch with trefoils, and circumscribed cross. The arch is surmounted by crockets. Surrounding the doorway but within the confines of the porch pilasters and roofline, is flush siding.

Alterations to the exterior of the building include the masonry porch deck and steps, the replaced stained glass, composition roofing, the small northwest addition and the partial removal of a brick chimney from the northwest elevation.

On the interior, most of the earliest decorative features remain. One member of the parish reported that in the early years the building interior was undecorated, and muslin was tacked over the window openings. Bishop Weed commented in his journal in 1890:

It is impossible to describe the improvements which have been made in this church; suffice it to say what a few years ago looked much like a barn, and very little like a church, a house of God, has been so transformed that the people and the rector can justly boast of having one of the most perfectly finished and most artistically decorated churches in the Diocese. (Bishop's Address, p. 9)

The most remarkable features are the scissors trusses and the narthex. The

#### **PERIOD** AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW \_\_PREHISTORIC \_\_ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC \_\_COMMUNITY PLANNING \_\_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE \_\_RELIGION \_\_1400-1499 \_\_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC \_\_CONSERVATION \_LAW \_\_SCIENCE \_\_1500-1599 \_\_LÍTERATURE \_\_AGRICULTURE \_\_ECONOMICS \_\_SCULPTURE \_\_1600-1699 X.ARCHITECTURE \_\_EDUCATION \_\_MILITARY \_\_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN \_\_1700-1799 \_\_ART \_\_ENGINEERING \_\_MUSIC \_\_THEATER \_\_1800-1899 COMMERCE \_\_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT \_\_PHILOSOPHY \_\_TRANSPORTATION \_X 900-\_\_COMMUNICATIONS \_\_INDUSTRY \_\_POLITICS/GOVERNMENT \_\_OTHER (SPECIFY) ....INVENTION SPECIFIC DATES BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown c + 1872

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St. Mary's Episcopal Church and Rectory are significant as adjacent examples of the architectural character of Santa Rosa County in the late 19th century. The church is an excellent example of the Gothic Revival style executed in wood. In addition the church is associated with the numerous buildings constructed during the episcopate of John Freeman Young (1867-1885). The Rectory, located across Escambia Street from the church, is also an excellent example of the Greek Revival style. The house was built by Dr. Charles E. McDougall in 1872. Collectively the buildings represent the parish at Milton form 1877 until 1916 and again from 1951 to the present.

St. Mary's exhibits many features of the Gothic Revival style executed in wood, including its board and batten sheathing, lancet windows, decorative bargeboards, porch and finials. It consistently emphasizes its verticality which is also typical of the style. Other examples in Florida are St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Green Cove Springs (National Register, 1978), St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, Hibernia (National Register, 1973), St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church, Titusville (National Register, 1973), and Andrews Memorial Chapel, Dunedin (National Register, 1973).

St. Mary's is associated with the tremendous building period that occurred when John Freeman Young was Bishop of the Florida Diocese. During Bishop Young's episcopate (1967-1885) "five churches were replaced with more costly buildings and more than forty others were built in entirely new fields." Before coming to Florida, Bishop Young had served as Assistant Rector of Trinity Church in New York City where he apparently was influenced by the famous architect Richard Upjohn. During his tenure, Young was reknowned for his direct influence on the choice of location, design, and construction of churches. He was particularly fond of the carpenter Gothic style.<sup>2</sup>

An Episcopal parish was formed in Milton in the late 1850's as a mission by Reverend John Jackson Scott, parish priest for Christ Church in Pensacola. In 1867 St. Mary's Church was organized, the first church constructed, and its first rector, James J. Jarrett preached on August 4, 1867. In 1870 the Senior Warden donated "nearly a block of land... the most eligible site in Milton for a Church and Rectory...at a cost of nearly eight hundred dollars to be presented to the Church."

The new church building seems to have been in use by August, 1877 when the Ladies Aid Society expended \$12.00 for chandeliers for use in the church.<sup>5</sup> The commemorative bulletin states that the building was completed in 1878 and consecrated by the Right Reverend Edwin G. Weed on April 20, 1890.<sup>6</sup> An Episcopal Church building may not be consecrated until all of the outstanding debts from its construction are paid which explains the difference between the completion and consecration dates.<sup>7</sup>

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(See Continuation Sheet)

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Florida Division of Arch: STREET & NUMBER	ives, History	and Records Manag	gement October 16, 1980 TELEPHONE
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# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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system of the roof is exposed on the interior with chamfered scissors trusses with king posts and decorative carved pendants. In addition, all rafters and purlins are chamfered. The roof slopes are covered with BEC ceiling board. The cypress narthex or entrance vestibule has sliding panels of horizontal beaded tongue and groove siding. Above the sliding panels is an arched panel reflecting the blind arch at the entrance. This panel has applied foliate and tracery details, pierced cantilevered corner pinnacles and an applied central "IHS."

The sliding panels provide access from the narthex to the center aisle of the nave. In addition, two swinging doors in the lateral walls of the narthex provide access to the side aisles.

Original finishes still found in the church include cypress wainscoting and door and window surrounds. According to oral tradition within the parish, a ship's carpenter named Zelius completed all of the woodwork.

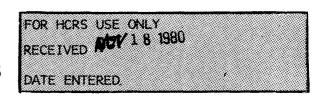
Original furniture still found in the church includes the pews and brass kerosene lamps. The lamps, purchased by the Ladies Aid Society in 1878 (LAS Minute Book), are elevated on turned posts attached to the side aisle pew ends. The lamps have been electrified and the original globes replaced.

St. Mary's Church Rectory is a one and one-half story gable roof Greek Revival residence with incised porch and a gable roof ell which originally contained a doctor's office and services. The double pile central hall house sits on brick piers which have brick wall infill. The entrance (northwest) porch is presently three bays wide and is approached by central masonry steps with wrought iron railing. The northwest facade of the house proper has flush siding and is five bays wide with a central doorway, sidelights, and a transom sash. The windows on the first story of this facade are 6/9 double hung sash. At the second story level of this facade are three dormers; the central dormer has paired sash. Sash in all three dormers are 6/6. The side (northeast and southwest) elevations have weatherboarding and are four bays on the first story and two in the gables at the second story level. The southeast (rear) elevation has weatherboarding. Articulation on this elevation includes the original office/service ell (projecting from the east corner) and a later shed roof addition at the first story. On the second story elevation there are only two dormers: one in the south portion of the roof and a larger one with paired sash in the central portion of the roof.

Presently, detailing on the exterior of the building consists of boxed cornices in the gable ends; and square columns and pilasters with capitals bearing the rudimentary porch entablature.

Changes to the original structure include replacement of the main entrance steps, respacing the porch bays, removal of the blinds, capping of the chimneys at the roofline,

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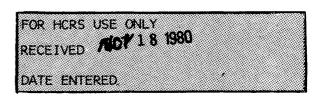
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and the addition of a shed roof room to the rear.

Alterations to the porch steps and bays have been the most significant changes Originally, access to the porch was provided by lateral steps at one or both ends. There were five regularly spaced columns with connecting sawbuck rail. This created a four bay porch which necessitated one column in direct line with the doorway. Since access to the porch was lateral, this arrangement posed no obstacle and the bay-width to height proportion was better. With the present modifications the original proportions have been lost.

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM



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St. Mary's Church Rectory is an excellent example of the Greek Revival style. While its detailing is simple, its basic temple form, shallow pitched roof, classically inspired porch columns, pilasters and entablature, and smooth wall surfaces are all indicative of this style. In addition the service and office ell is an integral original feature of the structure and its survival intact is noteworthy.

The Rectory was constructed by Dr. Charles E. McDougall in 1872 as his residence and office.<sup>8</sup> The McDougall family arrived in Milton shortly before the Civil War,<sup>9</sup> but like many other inhabitants of West Florida, immigrated to Alabama during the hostilities.<sup>10</sup> The family returned in 1866, and McDougall resumed his medical practice.<sup>11</sup> In 1876, McDougall became rector of the Church and served in that capacity until his death in 1916.<sup>12</sup> Descendants of the McDougall family lived in the house until 1951 when the rector's daughter and last heir, Mabel McDougall, died and willed the residence to the Episcopal Diocese of Florida.<sup>13</sup> The house has since served as the rectory for St. Mary's Church.

Thus from 1877, when the Church was constructed and McDougall was the minister (and living in his nearby house), until his death in 1916, the two buildings represented the Episcopal Parish of Milton. After the house was bequeathed to the parish in 1951, this relationship continued. The two structures have therefore been associated for seventy years.

### FOOTNOTES

(See Continuation Sheet)

<sup>1</sup> Centennial of Saint John's Parish, Jacksonville, Florida, 1934. (Jacksonville: The Drew Press, 1934); pp. 54-56.

Joseph D. Cushman, Jr., <u>A Goodly Heritage: The Episcopal Church in Florida</u>. (The University of Florida Press: Gainesville, 1965); pp. 155-167.

Cushman, A Goodly Heritage, p. 111.

Christ Church (Pensacola, Florida) <u>Vestrymen's Record</u>, 1855; St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Church Register #1, 1867.

<sup>5</sup>st. Mary's Ladies' Aid Society, Minute Book, 1877.

<sup>6</sup> St. Mary's Episcopal Church Bulletin, "Sixty-first Anniversary of the Consecration of St. Mary's Church, Milton, Florida". April 20, 1951.

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<sup>7</sup> Linda Ellsworth interview with Reverend S. A. Kennington.

 $<sup>^{8}</sup>$ Santa Rosa County (Florida) Tax Rolls, 1872-1873.

<sup>9</sup> Santa Rosa County (Florida) Tax Rolls, 1859.

 $<sup>^{10}\</sup>mathrm{McDougall}$  Family Bible and scrapbooks.

<sup>11</sup> Santa Rosa County (Florida) Tax Rolls, 1866.

<sup>12</sup> Journal of the Proceedings of the Thirty-Fourth Annual Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Florida, 1877, (Jacksonville: Press Book and Job Office, 1877), p. 32. King, M. Luther, History of Santa Rosa County: A King's Country, (privately printed, 1972), p. 68.

<sup>13</sup> Santa Rosa County (Florida) Deed Book 245, p. 161.

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