

PH0501301

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUL 20 1977
DATE ENTERED JAN 30 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 Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER College and University *Ave*

CITY, TOWN Tempe VICINITY OF 1

STATE Arizona CODE 04 COUNTY Maricopa CODE 013

URBAN

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: None

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Diocese of Phoenix

STREET & NUMBER 400 East Monroe

CITY, TOWN Phoenix VICINITY OF Arizona

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Maricopa County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Phoenix STATE Arizona

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The old Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Tempe is a one-story local brick building with a steep gable roof and a square tower with an 8 sided steeple. The building has 12 tall, arched, stained glass windows--5 on each side and 2 in front, flanking the double entry door. Above the door is a stained glass fanlight. The building, which faces South, stands on a 181' X 160' lot and is approximately 77' X 40'. There is a full basement, partly below grade and a choir loft above the vestibule. The steeple bell, from St. Louis, was made especially for the church in 1903.

The building is primarily local brick with a foundation of stone from the nearby butte. Inside, the rough-sawed scissor trusses have been plastered to create a false-vaulted ceiling resting on Corinthian pilasters. It has been remodeled only once--just before World War II. City building inspectors ordered the sacristy (the little room off the sacristy served as the priest's quarters during the early years) removed, which was done in February 1977, and also foundation repair, rewiring, and new floor beams to bring the building up to code. Restoration of the building is being spearheaded by local Knights of Columbus.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
__1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1903

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Father Severin Westhoff

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The old Catholic church dedicated to our Lady of Mt. Carmel, has been a Tempe landmark since 1903. It was built to serve the first settlers of the community, the Mexicans, whose village at the foot of the butte was originally called San Pablo. That settlement has long since been displaced by the constantly expanding university, but the church building served a congregation that was also expanding steadily. The brick church, which replaced the original adobe chapel, was very much a part of the development of Tempe into a permanent, thriving community with substantial buildings for commerce, education, and religious services. By 1903, when the church was built, the number of Anglo Catholics in the community had increased, too, and they enthusiastically joined the earlier members in the construction and financing of the new building. The parish is still a blend of these 2 cultural elements.

The original Tempe church dedicated to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel was a small adobe chapel at the foot of Hayden Butte. The mission was started in 1881 by Father Edward Gerard. Father Gerard, who was the first priest ordained in Arizona (February 2, 1877), served Tempe out of the Florence parish.

In 1891, Tempe came under St. Mary's parish of Phoenix, which is why St. Mary's name is on the cornerstone of the 1903 church. The architect of the church, Father Severin Westhoff, served the Tempe mission from 1895 to 1907. He started Tempe's first Catholic school in a small frame building he constructed next to the church. He also started missions in the Scottsdale and Guadalupe areas.

Westhoff, who had been born in Germany, favored Rhenish church architecture, and the plans he conceived for the new church reflect this preference. The congregation was not a wealthy one, so labor was contributed by the members, with the exception of two skilled brick layers recruited from Tucson and Phoenix.

The bricks were made locally by digging a 10-12 foot hole and rigging a horse-powered mixer. The raw clay was then placed on a conveyor belt

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Enright, Mary Suzanne. Files and photos.
 Estrada, Pete. Interview by Helen Harter. 1973.
 Goodson, Gregory L. "Our Lady of Mt. Carmel". Unpublished ms. 1971.
Phoenix Gazette. 1973.
Tempe Daily News. 1976.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/2

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	2	4	1	3	1	1	0	3	6	9	8	2	8	0
ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING						

B

ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING					

C

ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING					

D

ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING					

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION
 NW corner of College and University
 Lot size 181' (N-S) X 160' (E-W)

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

Marjorie Wilson, National Register Contract Historian

ORGANIZATION

Arizona State Parks Board

DATE

7/8/77

STREET & NUMBER

1688 West Adams Street

TELEPHONE

(602)271-4174

CITY OR TOWN

Phoenix

STATE

Arizona 85007

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE XX

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

Dorothy H. Hall

TITLE

DATE

7-11-77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

Charles...

DATE

1-30-78

DATE

1-30-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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CONTINUATION SHEET SIGNIFICANCE ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

to the brick cutter, who put it in forms and leveled it with a wire. Four boys were kept busy emptying the forms and setting out the bricks to dry. The boys also kept the fire going in the brick kiln around the clock. The red color of the brick came from red soil brought in from Ft. McDowell. Stone used in the building was quarried from the base of the butte, which also furnished stone used in the first buildings at what is now Arizona State University, across the street from the church.

Steady population increase in the valley led to the establishment of a separate parish for Tempe on June 14, 1932. The new parish covered all of Maricopa County east of 48th Street. The boundaries have been altered several times since.

Father Gramer, who served from 1937 to 1941, remodeled the church interior and built a parish house. The parish also acquired an assistant pastor.

Records do not indicate when the first little school closed. In 1945 a more ambitious school program was set up. Two Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary from Dubuque, Iowa opened a grade school in the basement of the church. The school soon outgrew its quarters and a separate building was erected 3 blocks north. Both school and congregation expanded until in 1957 it became necessary to begin building a new school, convent, rectory, and church on 10 donated acres on South Rural Road. In 1962 the old church was sold to the Newman Catholic Student Center for \$60,000. It continued to be used for services until 1968, when the city would no longer approve its use for large assemblies. At one time it was almost sold to make way for a hamburger stand. During the past 3 years, interest in restoring the old church has increased and fund raising efforts are being directed by the local Knights of Columbus.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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1/24/78

DATE ENTERED

JAN 30 1978

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Catholic Church

CONTINUATION SHEET Architectural Sig. ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

Round-arched forms clearly mark this church as part of the Romanesque Revival. Semi-circular arches are used over all windows and doors, and in those openings which penetrate the belfrey. An arcaded corbel table also embellishes the uppermost face of the tower. Other corbeling on the tower, below the raking eaves of the gables and above the buttresses, is of a simple linear configuration. Buttresses are employed on either side of the tower where it extends from the front of the main facade and along the exterior of the side walls. In keeping with Romanesque phototypes these supports are fairly shallow. However, not all of the design is faithful to the Romanesque. Two features in particular are more frequently associated with Gothic models: the wheel window above the main entrance to the nave and the spire with its concave pyramidal shape.

Utilization of Gothic elements in a predominantly Romanesque Revival building is not uncommon; however, the style of the design would appear to be anachronistic. Romanesque Revival reached the height of its popularity in the United States about 1860. Even considering its extensive use in ecclesiastical projects it is unreasonable to expect that the Tempe Church was part of that movement. A more likely explanation for the style of the building is that Father Westhoff, the priest responsible for erecting Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, was influenced by Romanesque Revival architecture in northern Europe. Germany, where Westhoff was born (and educated) had one of the longest and widespread revivals of the Romanesque. It is to this movement that the church design owes its genesis and in this context that it is to be understood.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is the only example of Romanesque Revival to be found in the Tempe area and is one of the few buildings of that style in the state of Arizona. The church is a Tempe landmark and is well situated at the terminus Cady Mall, the main north-south pedestrian walkway at Arizona State University.

The church is also one of the few remaining brick structures of the turn-of-the-century building boom in Tempe. In the nearby downtown area, most of the contemporary buildings have been recently destroyed by fire or demolition.

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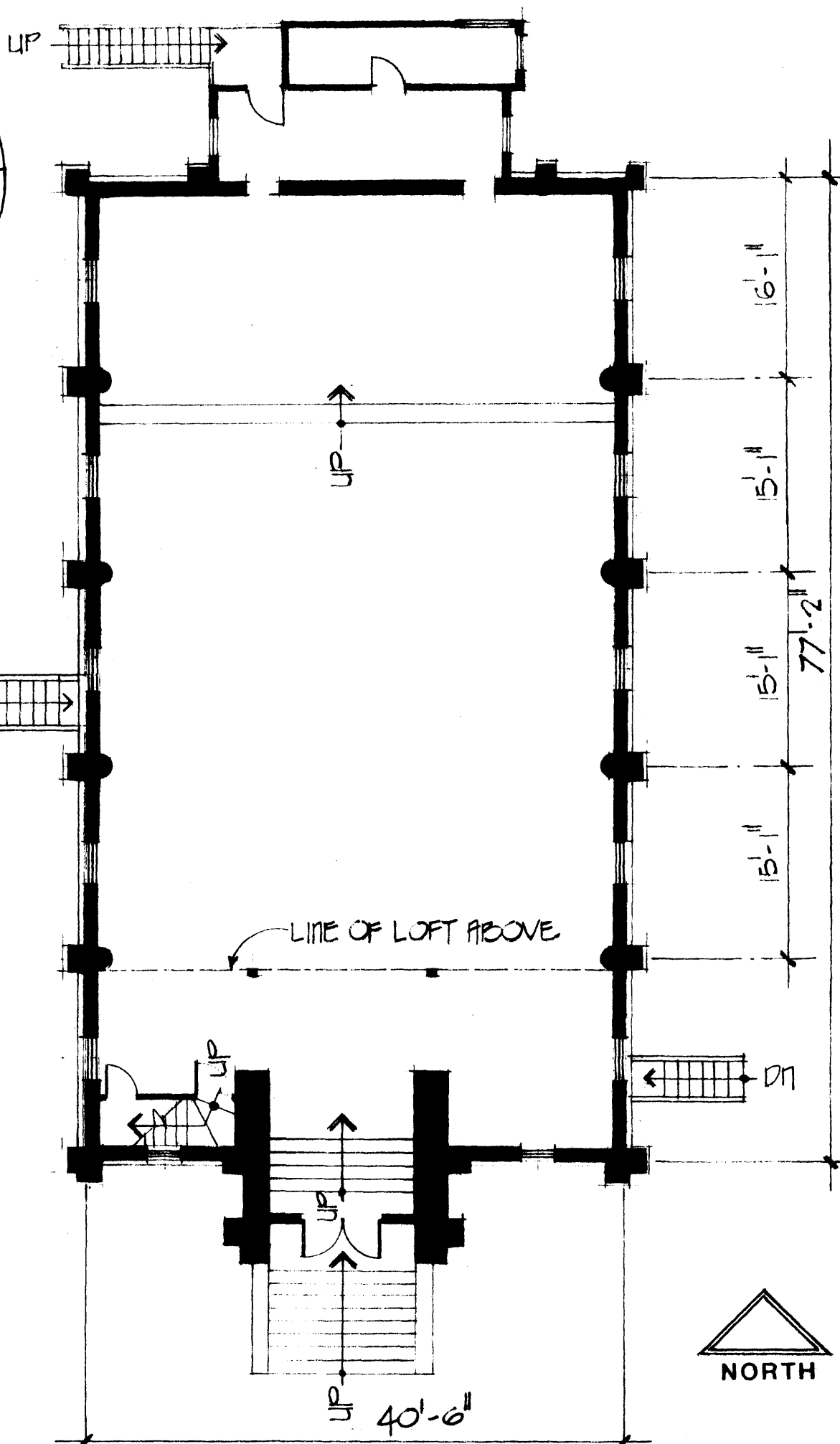
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

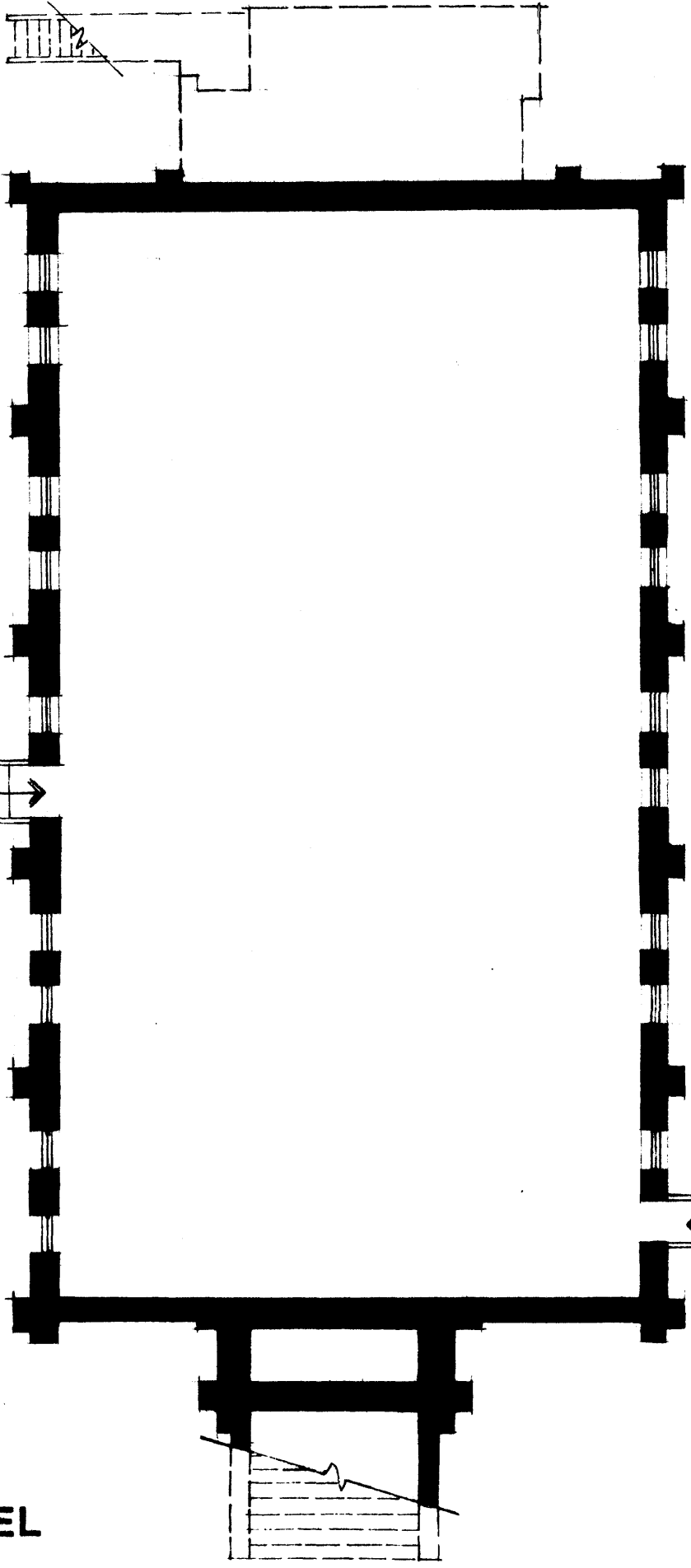
List of Pastors

1881-1895	Edward Gerard who later served as administrator of the Diocese of Tucson and for whom Gerard High School in Phoenix is named.
1895-1906	Severin Westhoff
1906-1922	Lucius Zittier who persuaded Woodrow Wilson to set aside 40 acres for the Yaqui Indians of Guadalupe
1922	Ferdinand Ortiz
1922-1923	J. Capistrano Jamek
1923	Philip La Vies
1924-1925	James Hallquist, who was the last of the Franciscans to serve in Tempe
1925-1932	Spanish priests from Phoenix
1932-1934	James P. Davis, who later became Archbishop of Santa Fe
1934	Bernard Healy
1934-1937	Francis J. Green, who became the Bishop of Tucson
1937-1941	Arthur F. Gramer Assistant pastor, George Reinwieler
1941-1947	Bernard L. Gordon
1947-1949	Paul G. Lawrence
1949-1955	Francis Bechtel
1955-1962	Daniel A. McCready



MAIN LEVEL





BASEMENT LEVEL



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

SEP - 6 2002

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in **How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A)**. Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name St. Mary's Church/Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church

other names/site number The Old Church

2. Location

street & number 230 E. University Drive not for publication

city or town Tempe vicinity

state Arizona code AZ county Maricopa code 013 zip code 85281

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this x nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property x meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide x locally.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

James W. Gorman
Signature of certifying official
ARIZONA STATE PARKS
State or Federal agency and bureau

26 AUGUST 2002
Date

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

Signature of Keeper _____

Date of Action _____

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section	Amendment	Page	1	name of property	St. Mary's Church/Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church
				county	Maricopa
				state	Arizona

Section 8

The brick church at the corner of University and College in Tempe, Arizona, was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on January 30, 1978. The name of the church was reported as Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church although the cornerstone of the church says "St. Mary's AD 1903." The nomination explained that the church had come under the parish of St. Mary's in Phoenix, thus the cornerstone bore that name. Current members of the church's board of directors have provided new information in the form of three newspaper articles from 1904 describing the dedication of the church and referring to it as St. Mary's Church. A January 25, 1904 article in the Weekly Arizona Republican states "With the new edifice, St. Mary's church, packed to the doors yesterday afternoon at 2:30, the exercises to dedicate the church solemnly began..." Newspaper notices from January 23 and 24, 1904 also refer to the church as "St. Mary's."

In 1932, the Bishop of Tucson decreed the "erection of a new movable parish to be known as Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Tempe, Maricopa County, Arizona." Since this new parish was located in Tempe, the church at University and College came to be known as Our Lady of Mount Carmel. By 1968, a new location on Rural Road in Tempe meant that Our Lady of Mount Carmel moved and no longer occupied the brick building. The Diocese transferred the care of the brick church to the All Saints Catholic Newman Center. Beginning around that time, the building began to be referred to as "The Old Church." A 1980 Arizona State University Division of Construction newsletter refers to the building as "The Old Church" as does a 1995 letter from the Bishop of Phoenix to the State Historic Preservation Office in support of a grant application. The board of directors that has provided this information is known as the Old Church Board of Directors.

The State Historic Preservation Office requests that this information amend the historic name on the nomination for the building at 230 E. University Drive in Tempe (northwest corner of University and College) which, over the years, has been known as St. Mary's Church, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church, and The Old Church.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section	Amendment	Page	2	name of property	St. Mary's Church/Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church
				county	Maricopa
				state	Arizona

Section 9: Major Bibliographical References

"The Connection." Division of Construction, Arizona State University. Newsletter. April 1980.

"Decree of erection of a new movable parish to be known as Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Tempe, Maricopa County, Arizona." June 14, 1932. Copy from Archives, Diocese of Phoenix.

Letter from Most Rev. Thomas J. O'Brien, Bishop of Phoenix to State Historic Preservation Office regarding St. Mary's Grant Application - "The Old Church," June 30, 1995.

"Tempe Notes," *Arizona Gazette*, 23 January 1904, p. 7.

"Tempe," *Arizona Gazette*, 24 January 1904, p. 7.

"Tempe," *Weekly Arizona Republican*, 25 January 1904, no page number.