

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <span style="font-size: 1.2em;">Colorado</span>
COUNTY: <span style="font-size: 1.2em;">Denver</span>
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE: <span style="font-size: 1.2em; float: right;">AUG 1 1975</span>

### 1. NAME

COMMON:  
Saint John's Cathedral

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Saint John's Church in the Wilderness

### 2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Fourteenth & Washington Streets

CITY OR TOWN:  
Denver

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
First

STATE:  
Colorado

CODE:  
08

COUNTY:  
Denver

CODE:  
031

### 3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY <small>(Check One)</small>	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE <small>(Check One or More as Appropriate)</small>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" 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 <small>(Specify)</small>

### 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
Saint John's Church in the Wilderness

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1313 Clarkson Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Denver

STATE:  
Colorado

CODE:  
08

### 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Assessor's Office City & County of Denver, City & County Bldg

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Colfax Avenue & Bannock Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Denver

STATE:  
Colorado

CODE:  
08

### 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Designated Denver Landmark  
Colorado Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: 1967

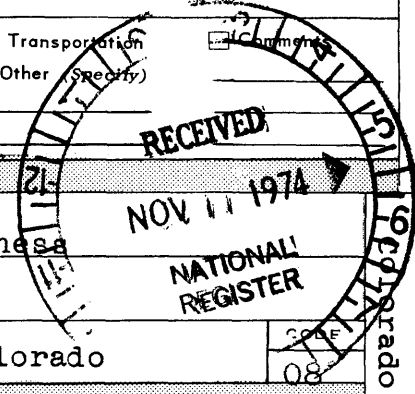
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Denver Planning Office

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1445 Cleveland Place

CITY OR TOWN:  
Denver

STATE:  
Colorado

CODE:  
08



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DATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The present Saint John's Cathedral was constructed 1905 - 1911. Eighteen architects submitted designs for a Gothic cathedral in a national competition. Tracy & Swarthout New York were commissioned architects.

The apsidal structure consists of chancel, a nave of 16 bays, narthex and two matching towers at the portal. Material is dressed Indiana limestone from the Bedford quarries. Length of center aisle is 185'. Height floor to roof is 65'. Towers are 100', housing a peal of 14 bells and a great bell. 16 aisle windows, 16 clerestory windows (32'), 11 chancel windows, Last Judgement above the portal- represent a hundred years of glass design by English and American artists. The chancel is furnished with a Romanesque altar screen of oak and 16 figures carved in Oberammergau c. 1881. Stones from the foundations of Canterbury Cathedral and Westminster Abbey are set into the narthex walls.

Saint John's Cathedral and the nearby Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception represent the Gothic Revival in American church architecture. The cathedral provides architectural space of a high order; it also demonstrates the aspiration which guided urban development of the Denver community. The Late Gothic Revival building is quiet and dignified in design. The English Perpendicular inspiration and the monochromatic use of the stone further emphasize the grandeur and dignity of the structure.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS of

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |  |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education        | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry         | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention        | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                      | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art          | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature       | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military         | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Music |   | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |   | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The present cathedral structure is the second cathedral and third parish church of Saint John's Church in the Wilderness, Denver. This congregation was the first church organized in the mining camp of Denver, Kansas Territory on January 29, 1860. The parish still operates as Saint John's Church in the Wilderness under a special charter granted by the Territorial legislature in 1861. The Anglican system of administration, in which a cathedral provided a centralized and visible place of authority for the Bishop of a diocese, was suspect in post-revolutionary America. Churchmen who labored to maintain the worship of the church in their new republic were wary of monarchical forms. Thus, while the history of Denver is recent, Saint John's Cathedral, Denver is the third Anglican cathedral in the western hemisphere. In 1879 The Rt. Rev. Hohn Franklin Spalding, Bishop of Colorado and the Rev. H. Martyn Hart, Rector of Saint John's agreed to establish a cathedral system in the new state and diocese.

Dean Hart, an Englishman, built in Denver two cathedrals, sponsored the community welfare, education and morality. His grave lies outside the eastern wall of the cathedral.

After 1925 the Deans and vestry of the Cathedral have commissioned architects and artists of Denver to design and furnish its chapels and adjoining buildings, and have sponsored music for the community in addition to liturgical music.

Since 1940 the Cathedral has sponsored or opened its doors to civil rights organizations. The Unity Council, formed by Dean Paul Roberts here, became the founding force for Denver's official Commission on Community Relations.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Saint John's Cathedral Archives  
 State Historical Society Library  
 Western History Dept. Denver Public Library  
 Allen DuPont Breck "Episcopal Church in Colorado"  
 H. Martyn Hart "Recollections & Reflections"

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

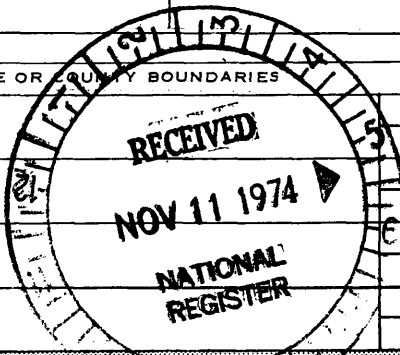
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		39° 44' 16"	104° 58' 40"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

UTM  
 13/501930  
 4398450  
 HL

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Helen M. Arndt

ORGANIZATION: Denver Landmark Preservation Commission DATE: 9/1/74

STREET AND NUMBER: Denver Planning Office 1445 Cleveland Pl

CITY OR TOWN: Denver STATE: Colorado CODE:

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: Stephen H. Gans

Title: Colorado Area Office

Date: 11/1/74

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

[Signature]  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 8-1-75

ATTEST:  
[Signature]  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 8-1-75

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUN 17 1975
DATE ENTERED	AUG 1 1975

CONTINUATION SHEET Significance ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

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ART: The stained glass windows are the primary source of significance in this field. They represent the work of masters from Hampton Studios in England and from Cambridge in the U.S. and from Kerbritton Studios locally. Overall, one is speaking of a one hundred year collection of glass art. Furthermore, there is the commissioned wood work art, frescoes, and the like that decorate the chapels and the main church.

ARCHITECTURE: The design of the church is Late Gothic Revival and resulted from the popular national competitions for designs at the turn of the century. It was the winning design of the 17 that were submitted.

MUSIC: The choirmasters that have served the church have been, almost without exception, outstanding composers. They have included such famous names as Dr. Hohn Gower, Karl Stapp, Dr. Robert Finster, and Kenneth W. Douglas, who composed and edited the Episcopalean Church Hymnal now used as the standard for church music in the nation and is even known internationally.

SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN: The church and its individual members have always been leaders in the humanitarian efforts in Denver. They have given unstintingly to the needs of the poor, to those suffering from disasters like floods and crop failure, and to the missions. The church is a leader in Denver Philanthropy, and has always strived to be the example for charity efforts.