

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Maine /
COUNTY:	Aroostook
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	OCT 2 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
St. David Catholic Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: E of Madawaska on
U.S. Route 1

CITY OR TOWN: Madawaska *via*

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 2nd Hon. William Cohen

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Maine	23	Aroostook	003

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> 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	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input 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 (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland

STREET AND NUMBER: 510 Ocean Street

CITY OR TOWN: Portland

STATE: Maine

CODE: 23

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Aroostook County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Houlton

STATE: Maine

CODE: 23

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: None

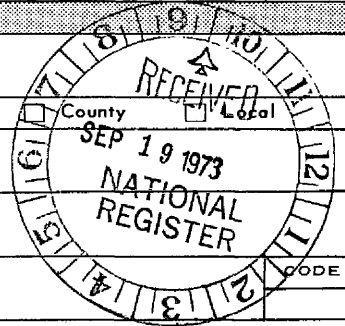
DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: COUNTY: ENTRY NUMBER: DATE: FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" 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

St. David Catholic Church is located in the northern Aroostook County town of Madawaska. It is situated on the southern bank of the St. John River near the site where the Acadians landed in the St. John Valley in 1785. The front of the church faces U.S. Route 1, and the rear of the church faces the river.

St. David was built in 1911-13 from designs by Chickering and O'Connell, a late nineteenth early twentieth century Boston architectural firm which specialized in Catholic church architecture. Maine has at least one other example of their work, St. Mary's Catholic Church in Lewiston designed in 1907. While St. Mary's was executed in a French Gothic style, St. David at Madawaska was planned with forms and details derived from Renaissance and Baroque Italian architecture. The overall plan of the church is a straight forward, traditional one with a large sanctuary and a two story facade with a central tower. The foundation is stone, while the structure itself is brick with stone and wooden details.

The most decorative aspect of St. David is its exterior. The side walls of the large gable roofed sanctuary are divided into eight bays by brick pilasters. These pilasters are ornamented with stone bases and tops. Between the pilasters are large vertical windows with arched tops. The windows have stone sills and are surrounded by brick with stone keystones in the arches.

St. David's facade is its major architectural feature. It is divided into five bays and is one bay deep. The first story has three arched doorways, one located in the central bay and one in each of the side bays. Stone arches surround the arched doorways, and decorative stone treatment includes columns with Corinthian capitals and keystones in the arches. Small windows with stone arches appear in the bays directly to the left and right of the central entrance.

The second story of the facade continues the five-bay treatment of the first. Arched windows with stone arches above them appear in the center and side bays. The bays directly to the left and right of the central one display a small rectangular window with a small circular window trimmed in stone. With the exception of the central bay, the facade roof has a brick balustrade. The central bay rises another story above the facade and has two arched windows on each of its four sides. On either side of the front of this story is a large wooden console. The third story is surmounted by an octagonal belfry. On either side of the front of the belfry is a classical urn in wood. The wooden belfry itself exhibits such classical details as eight arched openings with keystones in the arches. Between each arch is a Corinthian column. The belfry supports an octagonal dome with eight circular windows and a cross at the top. The facade as a whole is highlighted by horizontal stone stringcourses, ornamental designs in brick and stone, and brick pilasters dividing the bays.

(See Continuation Sheet)

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7. DESCRIPTION

St. David is an early twentieth century church with a handsome facade designed in a Italian Renaissance and Baroque manner. This is reflected in its composition as well as in such features as the many classical arches with keystones, the tower urns, and the belfrey. Aside from its interesting design, St. David is architecturally significant for several reasons. The structure marks a departure from the traditional ecclesiastical architecture of the Acadian French in the St. John River Valley as typified by the nearby Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. As the population grew and the people became more affluent in the early twentieth century, they replaced many of their nineteenth century wooden vernacular churches with larger brick and stone ones. In the case of St. David, the parish turned to a Boston architectural firm for an academic design. The result was the most impressive of the early twentieth century Catholic churches in the St. John River Valley. St. David is a major landmark for Madawaska and the surrounding region.



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) **1911-13**

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 Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input 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 type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St. David Catholic Church in Madawaska is the second church to be erected on the present site. The original church was of wood and done in the Gothic Revival style. The start of construction of the present church was begun in 1911 with Edmund Cyr & Co., putting in the foundation at a cost of \$3,750. The upper church was begun on June 12, 1912 based upon plans drawn by Chickering and O'Connell of Boston. The building contract was given to F.F. Moreau & Co., of Lewiston, Maine for \$23,500. The work was finished on November 10, 1912 and the first Mass was said on June 8, 1913.

Not only is the church itself architecturally interesting but St. David is also historically significant.

The first parish in the Madawaska territory was that of St. Basile, founded on November 12, 1792 by a decree from Bishop Hubert of Quebec. The church however was built on lot #24 of the Mazerolle settlement on the north side of the river in New Brunswick.

With the Webster-Ashburton Treaty of 1842, the boundary between Maine and New Brunswick was settled upon as being the St. John River in the Madawaska territory. American Madawaska, however, remained under the jurisdiction of the Bishops in the Maritime Provinces. In 1843, New Brunswick became a separate Diocese with Bishop Dollard as head of the Fredericton See.

The citizens of American Madawaska did not wait long to begin demanding to be placed under the jurisdiction of the Diocese of Boston. There were several reasons for their discontent: (1) The political division between the U.S. and Canada, (2) The difficulty in crossing the St. John for services, (3) The hope of getting a resident priest, and (4) The fact that Father Langevin of St. Basil refused to give Maine civil officials statistics on births, marriages and deaths of American citizens ministered to by his church.

(See Continuation Sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

History of the Catholic Church in the New England States, Byrne, Rev. Wm.
 Boston: The Hurd & Everts Co., 1899.
The Acadians of Madawaska, Maine in the N.E. Catholic Hist. Soc.
 Collins, Rev. Charles W., publications #3 Boston: Thomas Whalen
 & Co. Press, 1902
How the Acadians Came to Maine, Violette, Lawrence A., Madawaska:
 Madawaska Historical Society, 1951.
 Information on file in the Archives of the Diocese of Portland, Maine.

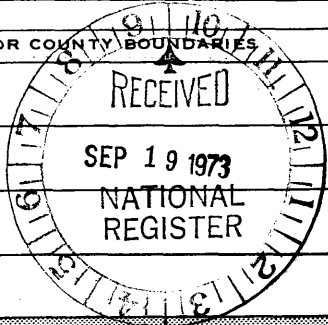
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	° ' "	° ' "		47 ° 20' 57 "	68 ° 16' 39 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Richard D. Kelly

ORGANIZATION: Maine Historic Preservation Commission DATE: May, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:
31 Western Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Augusta, STATE: Maine CODE: 23

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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: James H. Munday
 Title: State Historic Preservation Officer
 Date: September 14, 1973

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

Robert M. Kelly
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 10/2/73

ATTEST:
Wm. Huntley
 Keeper of the National Register

Date: 9.28.73

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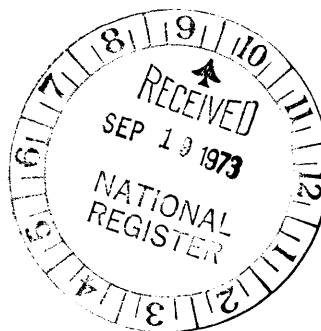
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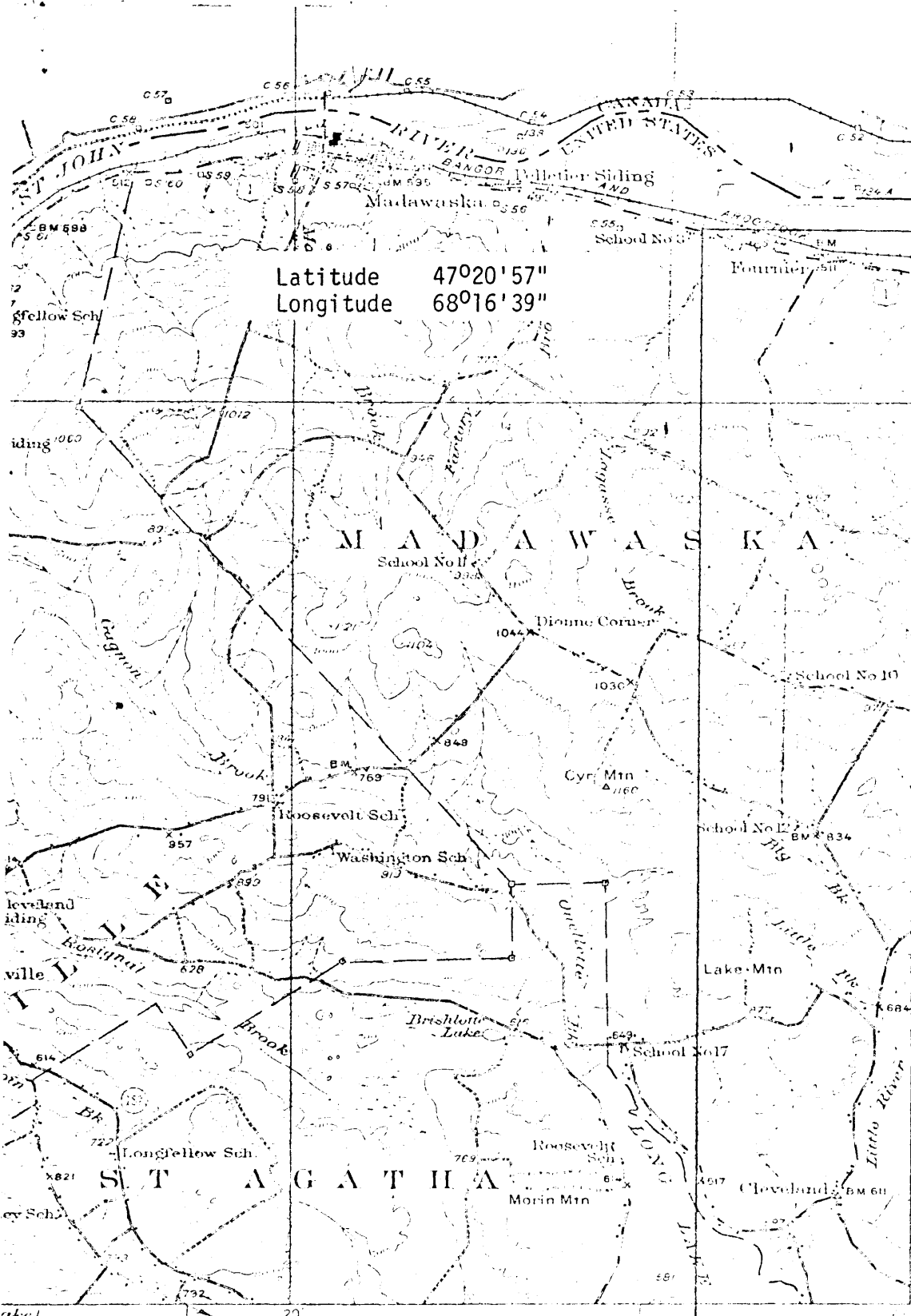
8. SIGNIFICANCE

This discontent went on for many years until the residents of American Madawaska on November 2, 1864 petitioned Pope Pius IX to be separated from the Diocese of New Brunswick. The result of this was a decree from Rome signed on August 16, 1870 by Cardinal Barnado. This decree placed American Madawaska under the jurisdiction of the Rev. David W. Bacon, Bishop of Portland (Maine had in the meantime become separated from the Diocese of Boston).

Following this in March of 1871, the parish of St. David was founded with the first Mass said by the Rev. Charles Sweron in a local home. During the summer of 1871, construction of the wooden church was begun on land donated by Mrs. Ephrem Michaud. In the spring of 1872, the church and rectory were ready for occupancy. Rev. Sweron was the first pastor and has been followed by many dedicated men since that time.

The present St. David Church is not only a house of worship but also serves as a monument to those people who struggled for many years to have their own parish and priest.





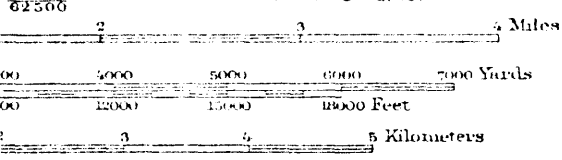
Latitude 47°20'57"
 Longitude 68°16'39"

GRAND ISLE 5.5 MI
 VAN BUREN 21 MI

ST. DAVID 4.6 MI

ST. AGATHA 18 MI
 14 MI TO ME. 161

region's projection, North American datum
 80000 and 670000 along U.S. zone system



Interval 20 feet
 on sea level
 SURVEY, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
 AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

FRANKLINVILLE, ME.
 1:25,000 of 1930
 reprojected 1981
 North W. 817 16

