

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JAN 28 1982
DATE ENTERED MAR 1 1982

**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
Trinity Episcopal Church (of Covington)
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
326 Madison Avenue
CITY, TOWN
Covington
STATE
Kentucky
VICINITY OF
CODE
021
COUNTY
Kenton
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
6
CODE
117

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Trinity Episcopal Church
STREET & NUMBER
Madison Avenue near Fourth Street
CITY, TOWN
Covington
STATE
Kentucky

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
City-County Building
STREET & NUMBER
Second and Scott Streets
CITY, TOWN
Covington
STATE
Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky
DATE
1977
DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
Kentucky Heritage Commission
CITY, TOWN
Frankfort
STATE
Kentucky

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Trinity Episcopal Church is located in downtown Covington, at the northern end of Madison Avenue, the city's main commercial thoroughfare. The original church building on this site was constructed in 1843, a wood frame structure with board and batten exterior walls. The second and existing structure of 1857-59 is of brick and stone masonry walls and timber truss roof structure. An enlargement of 1871 was damaged by a destructive fire but re-built in 1872. Another addition, the two-story Guild Hall, was completed in 1885.

The years 1887-88 brought a phase of ecclesiastical energy initiating the building of the western front, an additional bay of the nave, and with it the entry bell tower and baptistry. The succeeding stages of construction are fairly revealed by the variations in brick masonry and stone materials. The 1880 west facade is of pressed brick while sand-moulded units are displayed in the 1859 work. The interior of the nave, chancel, sanctuary, south transept and sacristy were richly appointed with wood carvings, brasses and new windows.

In 1961-62 the last addition to the church structure was executed. Located southeast of the main sanctuary, an L-shaped brick annex houses office and classrooms. Sensitive executed, the addition reflects the scale and form of the main body of the structure without disfiguring the original design.

The church building is of typical nineteenth-century American Gothic parish church design; not great in scale, of simple structure, and admirably appointed. Traditionally oriented with the entrance motifs at the west and the sanctuary on the east, the plan is cruciform with, however, only the southern transept completed. The roof structure is a wood "scissors truss" system of acute pitch and with black slate to the weather. The lower portion of the trusses with turned "drops" is visible, the ceiling hung within the web of the structural members.

The windows in the nave and transept walls are coupled, pointed lancets. The glass-work includes products of English craftsmen, Louis Tiffany and John Riordan studios; the 1859, 1872, 1888 installations remaining. The wood tracery of the north transept window could be classified as old English while that of the sanctuary (Stevenson) window includes more decorative forms. Wood carving in the chancel and sanctuary was prepared by the eminent teachers, William and Henry Fry of London and Cincinnati, and the young women students of Benn Pitman, all prominent artists of the region during the latter half of the nineteenth century. Included in the appointments is a fine brass pulpit and a free standing wood "eagle" lectern.

The 1885 Guild Hall provided a second level hall, with church offices, meeting and classrooms on the ground floor. Fireplaces remain as originally designed. Triangular dormers with brilliant color in glass panels remain intact in the roof.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1857-1888 BUILDER/ARCHITECT builder - 1888 - Craig and Loder
 architect - 1888 - Louis Picket

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Trinity Episcopal Church, located in Covington, Kentucky, is an excellent example of the Gothic Revival style as applied to church architecture, reflecting the influence that the revival of medieval forms had upon Anglican churches in America in the 19th century. The interior appointments are especially fine, with richly hand carved elements such as pews, altar rail and lectern. A Tiffany-designed window which lights the transept is especially notable.

Associated with an ecclesiological movement which originated in England, the Episcopal church in America in the mid-19th century fully embraced the Gothic Revival style. Wrote Phoebe Stanton, expressing the sentiments of that age, "A Gothic church in its perfection, is an exposition of the distinctive doctrines of Christianity, clothed upon with a material form."¹

The Episcopal church was first established in central Kentucky as "The Episcopal Society" about four years following the establishment of the Commonwealth in 1796. The history of the early congregation, centered in Lexington, records membership of persons prominent in the formative social and political life of the time, Henry Clay and John Bradford among them. It was not until 1829 that a Diocese of Kentucky was organized and as late as 1842 that a parish was formed in Covington.

Trinity Parish, now 138 years old, became a strong congregation, many of whose members assumed leadership in civic, educational, professional and welfare organizations in the community and region, including the southern Ohio city of Cincinnati. It is, today, the second largest parish in the Diocese.²

¹Phoebe Stanton. The Gothic Revival and American Church Architecture (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press), 1968, p. 9.

²Prominent members of the parish were active in community, educational and welfare organizations, providing the area's first school of industrial arts, the first public library in the city of Covington and, in the 1920s, an institution known as the Baker-Hunt Foundation for instruction of children and adults in art, letters and crafts, and the study of religion. Member families listed in the records include the Bakers, Hunts, Wares, Lovells, Stevensons, Birds, Hatfields, Thompsons, and many others influential in the development of the nineteenth and early twentieth century social culture. John W. Stevenson (1812-1886), twenty-fifth governor of Kentucky, was also a member of the vestry.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

UNRECORDED
UTM NOT VERIFIED

Stanton, Phoebe. The Gothic Revival and American Church Architecture. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1968.

Trinity Church Profile and Search Committee. "A Profile of Trinity Episcopal Church", Covington, 1979. (Mimeographed).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Covington, Ky.-Ohio

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 115300 4329220
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

(see continuation sheet)

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 George Roth, Architect- Jayne C. Henderson, Historian

ORGANIZATION Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE November, 1980

STREET & NUMBER 104 Bridge St.

TELEPHONE 502-564-3741

CITY OR TOWN Frankfort, Kentucky

STATE

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL x

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

Anne Armstrong Thompson

TITLE

SHPO

DATE

1-22-82

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Entered in the
National Register

DATE

3/1/82

Delores Byers
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

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Trinity Episcopal Church
Kenton County, Kentucky

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

Three gardens and a memorial playground, conceived and laid out in the mid-1960s, provide a verdant border for the church complex and are incorporated within the nominated area. The close includes land which was donated to Trinity by the mayor of Covington in 1872 and has been an integral part of the church site since that time.

The nominated area (as shown on the Main Floor Plan, attachment 1) is bounded by the south side of the parking lot to the north; commercial structure and Fourth Street to the south; Madison Avenue to the west; and the west side of the alley to the east.

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Kenton County, Kentucky
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

The church building, including the 1888 construction phase, was designed by Louis Picket, a Cincinnati architect. He was also responsible for the drawings of the Parish Guild Hall, constructed in 1885.

Trinity interprets well the Gothic Revival style commonly used in the construction of Episcopal churches in the mid-nineteenth century. It is especially noteworthy, however, for the craftsmanship exhibited on the interior, which includes sumptuously carved pews and altar, richly designed windows, and other detailing that bespeak the church's significance to the area.

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Trinity Episcopal Church Covington, Kenton County, Kentucky

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 2

Beginning at the northwest corner of the structure, at the foundation wall, the boundary travels south along the west foundation wall and west side of the Close, 87'-4" to the southwest corner of the Close; the line turns east 57'-0" along the south edge of the Close, north 11'-6", then east again 29'-0"; the boundary turns south along the west foundation of the 1960s addition and the western edge of the South Garden, 102'-6" to the southwest corner of the 1960s foundation; the boundary turns east along the south foundation wall and the southern edge of the Memorial Playground to the southeast corner of the playground, 106'-4"; the boundary turns north, along the eastern edge of the playground and the North Garden to the northeast corner of the North Garden, 193'; the boundary turns west along the northern edge of the North Garden and the northern foundation wall, 192'-8", back to the point of beginning.

(See Map 1)