

PH0664511

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAR 8 1978

DATE ENTERED SEP 13 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 Trinity Episcopal Church

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 611 West Berry Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Fort Wayne

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

4th

STATE

Indiana

CODE 018

COUNTY Allen

CODE 003 ✓

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME The Rector, Wardens & Vestrymen of Trinity Episcopal Church

STREET & NUMBER 611 West Berry Street

CITY, TOWN

Fort Wayne

VICINITY OF

STATE

Indiana

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. City-County Building

Recorders Office-Book 32, Page 125

STREET & NUMBER 1 Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Fort Wayne

STATE

Indiana

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

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

The Trinity Episcopal Church is an early Gothic Revival church in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Originally located in a residential neighborhood, the structure is now surrounded by commercial and apartment buildings.

Constructed in 1865-66 as a cruciform church, the building is now in the shape of a "U" enclosing a courtyard on three sides. The exterior facade is Indiana limestone with a high gable roof of multi-colored slate. Buttresses divide the three stained-glass lancet windows along the east and west sides of the nave. There are buttresses also at the corners of the square entrance and bell tower. The tower is set at the northeast corner of the nave. An eight-sided spire with a copper roof rests on the square bell tower. A square chimney is at the northwest corner of the nave. A large stained-glass window dominates the north elevation. This window and the side windows were crafted in England and imported when the church was built. Most of the windows and entrances in the original section of the structure have pointed arches with cut stone surrounds. The openings at the second and third stories of the bell tower and spire have vents in place of glass. The buttresses, arched windows and entrances, and interior arches indicate the Gothic Revival Style.

The interior of the sanctuary is dominated by four oak Gothic arches with trefoils. These arches are supported by the buttresses along the sides. Over the years the sanctuary interior has been redecorated a number of times. The window in the apse behind the altar was first covered over in the 1920's. The major addition of the educational wing in 1955-56 completely enclosed the south end of the original building, including the apse. A renovation program begun in 1976 has been undertaken to repair certain structural weakness in the sanctuary roof and to remove remodeling which was done in 1941. As part of this work, paint has been removed from the original interior arches. The wood purlins have been exposed and replaced with new wood to match the originals.

In the 1940's the spire was rebuilt with copper instead of the original slate shingles. Copper was selected since it reduced the weight on the structure.

Aside from the rebuilding of the spire, interior redecorations, and routine maintenance, the major alteration of the church has been the addition of the education wing in 1955-56. The original cruciform plan with the square bell tower and apse was changed by adding a large "L" addition to the south and west sides of the original building. A parish house had long existed west of the church. However, this facility was determined to be inadequate and was demolished to accommodate the new wing. Although it did not duplicate the window treatment (rectangular openings instead of pointed arches), the wing matches the original stone work and slate roof very closely.

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 1865-66

BUILDER/ARCHITECT C. C. Miller

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Trinity Episcopal Church is important as surviving example of the Gothic Revival style of architecture dating from the 1860's. The structure is now one of the oldest church buildings extant in Fort Wayne. The Gothic Revival influences can be seen in the pointed arched windows and entrances, buttresses, square tower, and spire. Although a major addition has been added to the west side, the original portion preserves much of its original features. The structure also preserves notable stained-glass windows which were imported from England in the 1860's.

The first attempt to establish an Episcopal congregation in Fort Wayne came in 1839 when a group formed the Christ Episcopal Church and met in the County Courthouse. However, the effort lasted only about a year. More permanent results came when Peter P. Bailey started Trinity Episcopal Church on May 25, 1844. Bailey was a merchant who settled in Fort Wayne in 1844.

In 1847 the congregation constructed a frame church at the northwest corner of Berry and Harrison Streets. The growth of membership forced an addition to the frame structure in 1849. Continued expansion finally resulted in the construction of the present building from 1865 to 1866. Wanting a stone structure which was "Gothic in architecture - a proper edifice for the worship of Almighty God - to seat 450 people," the congregation selected C. C. Miller, who designed the Gothic Revival structure. Contractors received a total of \$20,050 for the building. The corner stone was laid April, 1865, and construction was finished so that services could be held in the new building on September 9, 1866.

Trinity Episcopal Church served as a sponsor for a number of mission churches in the city in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Several of these early projects lasted only a dozen years. More recently St. Alban's and St. Philip and St. James Churches have been established in Fort Wayne by Trinity Church.

Although a number of prominent Fort Wayne pioneers and developers are associated with the church, the property is most significant as a Gothic Revival structure from the mid 1860's.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Bird, Alice M. History of the Episcopal Church in Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1839-1971. Fort Wayne Fort Wayne Public Library, 1972.
- Helm, T.B. History of Allen County, Indiana, Chicago: Kingman Brothers, 1880.
- Griswold, B. J. The Pictorial History of Fort Wayne, Indiana. 2 vols.; Chicago; Robert O. Law Co., 1917.
- Trinity Episcopal Vestry Minutes - 1839-1976

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	6	6	5	5	9	0	4	5	4	8	2	0
ZONE			EASTING			NORTHING						

B

ZONE			EASTING			NORTHING					

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

Mrs. Alice Bird, Historian & The Reverend C. Corydon Randall, Rector

ORGANIZATION

Trinity Episcopal Church

DATE

11-14-76

STREET & NUMBER

5905 South Bend Drive

TELEPHONE

432-3077

CITY OR TOWN

Fort Wayne

STATE

Indiana

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

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

Joseph M. [Signature] 2/27-78

TITLE Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

R. B. Rethig

DATE

9/13/78

DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: *William Lebovich*

DATE

Sept 11, 1978

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER