

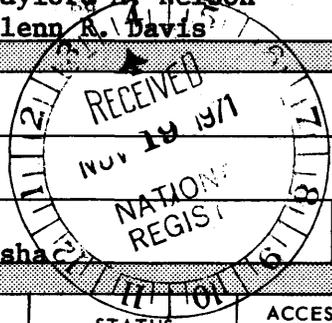
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Wisconsin</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Waukesha</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	<b>FEB 23 1972</b>

1. NAME	
COMMON: <b>St. John Chrysostom Church</b>	Congressmen to be notified: <b>Sen. William Proxmire</b>
AND/OR HISTORIC:	<b>Sen. Gaylord A. Nelson</b> <b>Rep. Glenn A. Davis</b>

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: <b>1111 Genesee Street</b>			
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Delafield</b>			
STATE <b>Wisconsin</b>	CODE <b>55</b>	COUNTY: <b>Waukesha</b>	CODE <b>133</b>



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"/> 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	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input 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)	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: <b>Vestry and Wardens of St. John Chrysostom Parish</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Delafield</b>	STATE: <b>Wisconsin</b>	CODE: <b>55</b>	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: <b>Waukesha County Courthouse</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Waukesha</b>	STATE: <b>Wisconsin</b>	CODE: <b>55</b>	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: <b>Historic American Buildings Survey</b>			
DATE OF SURVEY: <b>1960</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local		
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: <b>Library of Congress</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Washington</b>	STATE: <b>District of Columbia</b>	CODE: <b>11</b>	

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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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

A small, wood, chapel style Gothic Revival church with a very steep gabled roof. Exterior construction is board and batten, with 12" wide vertical planks and 2" x 3" battens. "Choice oak timber was used for walls and roof trusses...and paneling and doors are of exceptionally fine quality."<sup>1</sup> The main body of the church is a simple rectangular structure with the chancel a smaller rectangular wing at the east end. The building faces due west. Side windows are simple lancets and there is a large triple lancet in the end wall of the chancel. There is a small gable-roofed portal on the south side where there would normally be a tower if the usual Richard Upjohn plan were followed. On the north side of the chancel is a shed-like ell which houses the vestry. At the west portal is a small gable-roofed vestibule with a pair of vertical plank doors hung on beautiful hand-wrought iron hinges. Above the door opening is a triangular window.

All gable ends and the side roof edges of the vestry are decorated with pierced tracery barge boards of various Gothic designs. Between the barge boards are pendants from the roof ridge. There are no pinnacles.

A few feet from the southwest corner is a free standing bell tower of board and batten construction matching that of the church and presumably contemporary with it. The belfrey is open and covered with a small gable roof which also has pierced tracery barge boards at the gable ends.

Two important exterior alterations have been made. The vestibule at the west portal was built in fairly recent times--perhaps fifteen or so years ago. When this was built, the original doors were brought forward. Much more recently the vestry has been enlarged to about twice its original size, so that it now extends farther outward (north) and rearward (east). The increased size is not at all inharmonious with the rest of the building, however; if anything it might be said to improve the balance as viewed from the east. Interiorly, electricity and central heating have been added. Except for these changes, "St. John Chrysostom church stands exactly as it was built over one hundred years ago."<sup>2</sup>

The church is set on the crest of a small knoll and is surrounded by a small wooded churchyard cemetery.

1. Perrin, The Architecture of Wisconsin
2. Idem.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
 15th Century |  17th Century |  19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1851-1853

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 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 type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature   | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military     |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music        |  |  |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built in a young community in 1851-1853, this exceptionally fine example of Gothic Revival church architecture in wood is "Architecturally and historically...an important landmark, attesting the faith of its founders and the skill of its architect and builders."<sup>1</sup>

While the design of St. John Chrysostom church has been locally attributed to Ralston Cox, a leader in the founding of the congregation, the church was unquestionably built according to plans drawn by Richard M. Upjohn. Before Upjohn's Rural Architecture was published in 1852, the prominent architect received many requests from small parishes which wanted appropriate churches but could not afford an architect's fee, asking him to draw plans for them gratuitously. Upjohn the churchman felt it his duty to do so, and frequently did prior to publication of the book, which was the outgrowth of the requests.<sup>2</sup> Although St. John Chrysostom church was begun in 1851, a year before publication of the book, "...the resemblance of St. John Chrysostom church to the design contained in Upjohn's book is too pronounced to be coincidence. The size and proportion of the nave, as well as chancel and sanctuary, are almost the same as shown in the book. Even the location of the pulpit, organ, choir stalls, and bishop's chair coincide. The triple lancet windows in the east wall of the chancel correspond exactly. The main difference between St. John Chrysostom and Upjohn's typical design is the omission of the tower at the Delafield church and the substitution of a south portal in the same location."<sup>3</sup> In addition, Everard Upjohn includes St. John Chrysostom church at Delafield in the list of the great architect's secondary works.<sup>4</sup>

The ornamental refinements which so enhance the beauty of St. John Chrysostom--pierced tracery barge boards and other details, plus the fine hand-wrought iron hinges and latches--are due to the fine craftsmanship of the carpenter, Alden Kelly, and the local blacksmith, Jacob Luther, respectively.<sup>5</sup> Such refinements--and variations like the separate bell tower--were to be expected as Upjohn's drawings for small country churches "were more in the nature of general suggestions than rigid and fixed formulae,...handled with much variation by Upjohn himself, both before and after the appearance of the book. Distant parishes took the same broad view and felt entirely free to modify these designs as local conditions and expediency might suggest."<sup>6</sup>

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Perrin, Richard W. E., Historic Wisconsin Architecture, Wis. Chapter, American Institute of Architects, Milwaukee, 1960, 15.  
 Perrin, Richard W. E. Historic Wisconsin Buildings, Milwaukee Public Museum, 1962, 39, 42.  
 Perrin, Richard W. E., The Architecture of Wisconsin, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, 1967, 69-71.  
 Upjohn, Everard M., Richard Upjohn, Churchman and Architect, Da Capo Press, New York, 1968, 116-119 et passim.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	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	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

N 43 03 49 W 88 24 19

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **0.5**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Donald N. Anderson, Asst. Director, Historic Sites & Markers Division**

ORGANIZATION: **State Historical Society of Wisconsin**      DATE: **October 11, 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**816 State Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Madison**      STATE: **Wisconsin 53706**      CODE: **55**

**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 Morton Smith  
**James Morton Smith**

Title: Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

Date: NOV 12 1971

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

[Signature]  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
 NOV 19 1971

Date: FEB 23 1972  
 NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:  
[Signature]  
 Keeper of The National Register  
 Date: February 2, 1972

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(Number all entries)

ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM CHURCH

8.

It is interesting, though not surprising, that the two documented Upjohn works in Wisconsin, both small, rural Episcopal churches, and both exceptionally beautiful examples of their types, are situated less than two miles apart, the other being the Chapel of St. Mary the Virgin at the Episcopal seminary, Nashotah House.

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1. Perrin, Richard W. E., The Architecture of Wisconsin, 71
  2. Upjohn, Everard M., Richard Upjohn, Architect and Churchman, 116-117.
  3. Perrin, op. cit., 71.
  4. Upjohn, op. cit., 209.
  5. Perrin, op. cit., 71.
  6. Upjohn, op. cit., 118-119.

