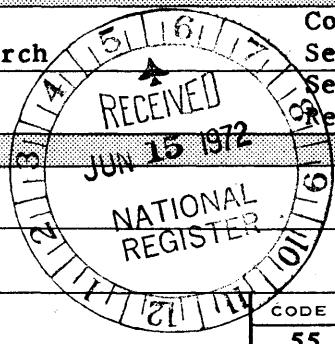


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Wisconsin</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Milwaukee</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
<b>MAR 7</b>	<b>1973</b>



**1. NAME**

COMMON: **Old St. Mary's Church**

AND/OR HISTORIC: **Congressmen to be notified:  
Sen. William Proxmire  
Sen. Gaylord A. Nelson  
Rep. Henry S. Reuss (5th Cong. Dist.)**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: **844 North Broadway**

CITY OR TOWN: **Milwaukee**

STATE: **Wisconsin** CODE: **55** COUNTY: **Milwaukee** CODE: **079**

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	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"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<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"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME: **St. Mary's Parish Corporation**

STREET AND NUMBER: **836 North Broadway**

CITY OR TOWN: **Milwaukee** STATE: **Wisconsin** CODE: **079**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Milwaukee County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER: **901 North 9th Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Milwaukee** STATE: **Wisconsin** CODE: **55**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY: **Historic American Buildings Survey**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1960**  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: **Library of Congress**

STREET AND NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY OR TOWN: **Washington** STATE: **District of Columbia** CODE: **11**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: <b>Wisconsin</b>
COUNTY: <b>Milwaukee</b>
ENTRY NUMBER: <b>MAR 7 1973</b>
DATE: <b>1973</b>

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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 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

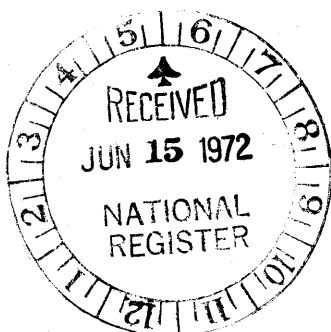
When St. Mary's Church was dedicated in September 1847, it was a rectangular two-story building, approximately 50 feet wide by 100 feet long, having classrooms on the first floor and the church proper on the second. Designed by Victor Schulte, it was a simple, classical composition with pilasters or engaged columns defining the three bays of its symmetrical facade (west elevation), which was surmounted by a four-stage domed cupola. Doric pilasters marked the ends and bays of north and south elevations and in each bay were a rectangular window lighting the lower story and a round-arched window lighting the auditorium above.

Of this fabric only the north and south walls remain relatively intact. In 1866 the parish erected a separate school building, and in 1866-67 the twenty-year-old church was very extensively altered under the direction of Victor Schulte. The first story was eliminated; first floor windows were bricked up; and the auditorium floor was lowered. An addition was built at the east end, and a new facade and spire were erected on the west. The new construction echoed the original's classical flavor, but the facade of the 1860's was more ornamental than its predecessor. It is in this post-Civil War form, by and large, that St. Mary's comes down to us.

In plan the church is I-shaped, a rectangular block oriented east-west, having shallow projecting sections at the four corners, and measuring overall some 54 feet wide by 152 feet long. Built of cream-colored Milwaukee brick, the walls are now deep gray in hue. A low hipped roof covers the fabric. The facade is a symmetrical three-bay design, with one round-arched, canopied portal in each bay, round-arched brick panels above north and south entries, arched panels and windows above the central (largest) portal, and a three-stage bracketed and arcaded steeple rising above the central bay.

Fitted with paneled wood double doors and stained glass lunettes, the three west portals open into the narrow vestibule from which one enters the auditorium. At the west end of this space is the balcony-organ loft; at the east end, the domed chancel. A simulated vault of pressed metal crowns the auditorium; and in the plaster work of the walls classical motives predominate. Though spacious, the interior is unpretentious, comfortable, and intimate in scale and spirit, and is enhanced by such attractive fittings as the carved wood alter (installed in 1878), the figurative stained glass windows, and the chancel mural. Representing the Annunciation, this mural was given to St. Mary's Parish in 1865 by Ludwig I of Bavaria.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**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 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) **1846-47; 1866-67**

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry		<u>Ethnic</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Erected in 1846-47, St. Mary's is the oldest surviving church fabric in the city of Milwaukee and was built for the community's first German-speaking Roman Catholic parish. It is, furthermore, the earliest of Milwaukee's three Zopfstil churches designed by the German-born carpenter-architect Victor Schulte, who also planned St. John Cathedral (1847-53) and Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church (1849-50). St. Mary's Church was named a Milwaukee Landmark in 1970.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Historic American Buildings Survey, Wisconsin Architecture, Washington, 1965, 7-8, 22, 59.  
 Perrin, Richard W. E., Historic Wisconsin Buildings, Milwaukee, 1962, 52-53.  
 Perrin, Richard W. E., Milwaukee Landmarks, Milwaukee, 1968, 6-9.  
 Wietczykowski, Mary Ellen, "1870 in 1970: The Century-Old Buildings of Downtown Milwaukee," Wisconsin Academy Review, 42(4):1-8, 14, 1971.

**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
NW	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		N 43	02	31.5
SE	° ' "	° ' "		W 87	54	28
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Less than .1.0**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Mary Ellen Wietczykowski, Chairman**

ORGANIZATION: **Milwaukee Landmarks Commission**      DATE: **9 May 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**210 West Michigan Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Milwaukee**      STATE: **Wisconsin**      CODE: **55**

**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 James Morton Smith  
**James Morton Smith**

Title Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

Date JUN 9 1972

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

Robert Van Utey  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 3/7/73

ATTEST: [Signature]  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 3-1-73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Wisconsin	
COUNTY	
Milwaukee	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAR 7 1972

(Number all entries)

OLD ST. MARY'S CHURCH

6. Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Buildings and Sites (State)

1971

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

816 State Street

Madison

Wisconsin

Code: 55

11. Donald N. Anderson, Asst. Director, Historic Sites & Markers Division

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

March 1, 1972

816 State Street

Madison

Wisconsin

Code: 55

