



758

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name St. Augustine's Episcopal Church

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 2425 West 19th Avenue

N/A

not for publication

city or town Gary

N/A

vicinity

state Indiana

code IN

county Lake

code 089

zip code 46404

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Carroll A. Ch., DIR Date 7-31-13

IN DNR-Div. of Historic Preservation & Archaeology
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other (explain:)

for Edson H. Beall

9.25.13

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church
 Name of Property

Lake Co., Indiana
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5. Classification

Ownership of Property
 (Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property
 (Check only one box.)

Number of Resources within Property
 (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
 (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION: religious facility

Current Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION: religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Modern Movement

Materials
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Concrete

walls: Brick

Wood

roof: Asphalt

other: Glass

Stone

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church is located in the Tolleston neighborhood of Gary, Indiana. The neighborhood, platted in 1857 and annexed by the City of Gary in 1910, consists of houses built by eastern European steel mill workers in the 1940s and homes constructed by African American professionals in the mid-1960s. Two schools support the established bedroom community, Ernie Pyle (b.1960) and Tolleston Middle School (b.1922). The homes built in the 1960s were a marked cultural shift from the de facto restricted housing covenants of the era. Ranch style and split level homes, deep lawns, oak trees and sand dunes characterize the area. Many of St. Augustine's past and current congregants reside in this area. The church, which was the second church designed by noted architect Edward D. Dart, is a compact Modern style building dominated by its tall, sweeping roof. It is sited at the southeast intersection of Ellsworth St. and W. 19th Avenue and is partially surrounded by a tree-lined sidewalk and lawn along 19th Avenue and the front of the church facing Ellsworth St. and an asphalt paved parking lot that borders the building to the south and east. The church's low, buff brick walls establish a solid horizontal base for its tall, inward-curving gable roof. On the west-facing façade and east elevation the space above the brick base and slope of the roof is filled with wood board-and-batten painted in a muted red tone. On those elevations there are deep eaves while on the north and south elevations the roof rests on six rafters that also form a deep overhang. The nave is a unified space made warm and inviting by the natural wood tones of the ceiling, laminated rafters, east wall, and pews. Horizontal bands of stained glass fill the narrow spaces between the rafters. The interior aesthetic is the result of the mid-century Modern taste for simplicity and expression of the natural character of materials. St. Augustine's geometric clarity, abstract simplicity, and direct expression of construction and materials make it both an important example of Edward Dart's religious architecture and a fine Modern style church recognized as such by several awards.

Narrative Description

The church building is aligned with the orthogonal intersection of Ellsworth St. and West 19th Avenue on a very slight rise above the level of the bordering sidewalks. The walkway leading from Ellsworth St., which the church faces, is as wide as the glass enclosed entrance vestibule (photo 3). Three steps raise the visitor to the level of the entrance. Two naturally finished oak doors, plain except for an incised design that incorporates the vertical door pulls, are centered in the vestibule's front wall. A simple dark metal canopy that extends from the façade of the church is supported by two slender columns that are precisely spaced from the vestibule walls to establish a regular, equal visual rhythm when viewed head on. The canopy roof, which has a very shallow gable profile, shelters the entrance and contains lighting to illuminate it. The narthex is flanked by two low planters whose walls are also buff brick. A concrete handicap-access ramp with slender black wrought iron rail approaches the vestibule from the parking lot.

The lower façade is comprised of buff brick set in common bond to form plain horizontal panels. Each panel is topped by a soldier course of brick. The upper façade is comprised of board-and-batten set between the upward sweeping curves of the building's roof. The upper edge of the first set of roof rafters is exposed enough to form an edge that follows the curve of the roof. At the peak, a monumental cross, rising to a height of 45 feet above floor level, is grasped between the two sides of the gable. The roof overhangs the wall surface by approximately 4' creating a deep eave that reveals the narrow board roof construction. A single bell, suspended from a beam projecting from the middle of the upper façade is electronically controlled from the sanctuary.

The east end of the church (photos 1 and 2) is generally similar in character to the façade. A hedge, set in planting areas that are separated from the driveway by landscaping stone, partially conceals air conditioning and electrical equipment at the southeast corner of the building. An ample concrete pad in front of the east wall leads to a simple metal security door in the center of the elevation that is flanked by wide glass windows. This entrance provides access to the back areas of the church and the basement spaces. As on the façade, horizontal wall segments of buff brick form the lower elevation. A rectangular fresh air intake grill is centered in the upper board-and-batten wall. Floodlights are evenly distributed across the rear and a large security light is mounted over the doorway. The same deep eave seen on the façade also appears on this elevation. A slender brick chimney, angled so two of its corners intersect the ridge of the roof, slices through the upper roof and projects approximately 3' from the summit behind the plane of the rear wall.

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The north and south elevations of the building (photos 1 and 4) are comprised of the buff brick wall panels on which rest six roof rafters whose ends are cut at an oblique angle and sheathed in galvanized metal. The 12" tall spaces between the top of the brick walls and the lower surface of the roof are glazed in stained glass for those spaces in the sanctuary and clear glass in the office and sacristy spaces at the east end of the building. The upper portions of these elevations are consumed by the expanses of the asphalt shingled roof.

The interior of the church consists of a narthex, nave for 350 parishioners, choir loft, rector's study, sacristy, and robing room with Sunday school area, kitchen, and restrooms in the basement level. The glass walls that enclose the narthex create a bright, open and welcoming space. This area also gives access to the basement level via north and south stairways. A chair lift has been installed in the north stairway to assist parishioners (photo 12).

The nave is dominated by the four laminated wood buttress/rafter supports and the naturally-finished red cedar ceiling (photos 6 and 7). Entering the nave draws the eye to the concave curve of the wood supports. The laminated supports pause at an eye level cross-section and quickly transition into a longer convex curve. The constantly tapering section virtually disappears into the 36' apex of the ceiling. Carefully controlled lighting provided by a combination of small floodlights and spotlights helps to illuminate the ceiling and direct the gaze to the chancel area. Ribbons of stained glass between the buttress/rafters add a touch of rich, primary colors to the space. The center aisle and chancel are carpeted in a red shade that is a color similar to that used on the exterior board-and-batten. Plain modern pews in white oak set perpendicular to the side walls flank the center aisle. The east wall of the nave is composed of narrow board-and-batten in natural red oak that echoes the exterior treatment. A dorsal wall of lighter color rises in front of the board-and-batten to the full height of the nave. A life size crucifix of bronze finish on redwood is centered on this wall above the simple, Indiana limestone altar. A polished white oak altar rail lines the front of the sanctuary.

The upper west wall of the nave is also sheathed in board-and-batten. A choir loft that is reached by a pair of stairs at the west end of the nave, projects over the center aisle sides of the first three pews. The loft stairway walls are composed of smooth oak panels whose upper edges are angled to roughly follow the slope of the roof. The loft itself is supported by naturally finished oak columns and beams that angle inward as they rise. A low, solid railing wall of redwood continues the inward angle. Above the loft, a Moller nine rank pipe organ is set against the west wall of the nave in a cantilevered balcony. The organ console, of the same polished white oak as the pews, sits at the north end of the choir loft.

The rector's study (photo 10) is located at the southeast corner of the main floor accessed from the east entry vestibule or a doorway that opens directly from the nave. The south and east walls of the study are the buff brick main walls of the building while the west office wall is plaster and the floor is carpeted. The ribbon windows between the top of the brick walls and the under surface of the roof are of clear glass and provide natural light to the space. The robing room and sacristy are located in the northeast corner of the main floor with the robing room accessed from the east entry vestibule and, in turn, providing one of two entrances to the sacristy (photo 11). A separate entrance to the sacristy leads directly from the nave.

The basement level contains a kitchen, restrooms, and Sunday school space. Using the regular spacing of the steel I-beams that support the main floor, a grid of folding partitions permits the main part of the basement to be divided into classrooms. The flooring in this area is vinyl tile. The space's white ceiling and wall surfaces are brightly lit by fluorescent lighting.

Several updates have been made to St. Augustine's since its completion in 1958. The stained glass in the nave was commissioned in 1974. The double oak front entry doors were commissioned from architect Phillip Craig Johnson in 1986. Early 1993 brought the installation of a chair lift to the northwest stairwell to assist parishioners with access to the basement.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1958

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Dart, Edward D. architect

Johnson, Richard Sr. structural engineer

Johnson, Phillip Craig architect

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance represents the date of the church's construction.

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Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church meets Criteria Consideration A because it derives its primary importance from its Modern architectural style and not its religious association.

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, built in 1958, is a locally significant example of Modern church architecture designed by the prominent Chicago architect Edward D. Dart and therefore is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C. The church exhibits iconic stylistic hallmarks of the Modern Movement including simplicity of form, structural clarity, honest expression of materials, and avoidance of applied ornamentation. It stands alone in Gary, Indiana as the sole representative of the Modern Movement in church design. The church is the result of collaborative effort by a visionary priest, his well educated and supportive congregation, and a talented and innovative architect.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Modern Movement in architecture in the United States can be traced at least as far back as the 1932 exhibit at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City in which exhibit curators, Henry-Russell Hitchcock and Philip Johnson introduced the American public to the work of European Modern architects. Since the last days of the nineteenth century and early years of twentieth century progressive architects, primarily in Germany, had been searching for a new approach to design that avoided historical stylistic references and embraced the machine as the genesis of a new, objective, rational aesthetic. Hitchcock and Johnson labeled this work "The International Style" both in the exhibit and in a book of the same title. The architecture the exhibit and book celebrated was characterized by smooth, taut exterior surfaces often of glass and stucco, a clear expression of structure, flowing and integrated interior space, the use of machine-made materials, and a complete avoidance of applied, particularly historical, decoration. Refined proportion and honest expression of modern materials and structure were to be the source of the new, machine age aesthetic. At the same moment in the United States, a different approach to architectural design accepted the use of traditional materials in ways the respected craftsmanship and promoted the integration of building and landscape. Both strains provided foundations for the new Modern Movement.

The European strain, which had seen limited appearance in America before 1932 in works such as Richard Neutra's Lovell House (1929) and the Philadelphia Savings Fund Society Building (1929-32), received wider public acceptance after the MOMA exhibit. The immigration to the United States of such European Modernists as Walter Gropius, Marcel Breuer, and Ludwig Mies van der Rohe in the 1930s set the stage for the wider appearance of Modern design. Gropius became the director of the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University thereby sharing his design philosophy with a new generation of American architects. Mies van der Rohe settled in Chicago where he headed the architecture department of what would become the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT). His campus plan for IIT (1939) and classroom/lab buildings (1942-46) were among the early demonstrations of the International Style in the Midwest. Mies also carried on a private architectural practice in which by 1952 he had already produced the first of Chicago's iconic Modern buildings.

In other parts of the Midwest, buildings that incorporated the tenets of the Modern Movement began to appear in the late 1940s and 50s. In Indianapolis, the H. P. Wasson Co. building was renovated with a streamline exterior between 1937- 48 and in 1950 the J. C. Penney building presented a simple, unadorned façade to the northwest quadrant of Monument Circle. The glass and steel curtain walled Standard Life Insurance Company building on Fall Creek Parkway in Indianapolis (c. 1955) was among the very first office towers to express the Modern aesthetic. That building and the Penney building were both designed by Indianapolis native, Nathaniel Owings, whose architectural partnership, Skidmore, Owings, & Merrill, designed some of the most important examples of modernism in America in the 1950s and 60s. In Gary, Indiana, the home of St. Augustine's, modernism was not as quickly employed and office buildings, churches, and schools continued to be built in more traditional styles in the 1950s.

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church was commissioned by its recently ordained Vicar after 1955 when the Modern style was still a rare direction in church design. The small Mission church, chartered in 1927, had been housed in a vacated Roman Catholic Mission building at 1837 Adams Street in the Midtown section of Gary. Under the leadership of Fr. Wallace L.

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Wells the congregation flourished in the 1950s and was in need of a new building. Armed with a \$45,000 cash fund and a \$20,000 grant from the National Council of the Protestant Church, plans for a new church home solidified. Architect Edward D. Dart of Barrington, Illinois was commissioned to prepare a design. Dart, a Yale educated architect, had developed a successful practice and had received recognition for his Modern residential designs. In 1953 he had also designed his first church, St. Michael's Episcopal Church, in Barrington. Like his house designs of that period, St. Michael's was characterized by a clear arrangement of forms and direct expression of structure.

Dart's initial concept for St. Augustine's substantially exceeded the congregation's budget of \$120,000. That design, a long, narrow rectangular volume under a shallow gable roof, included eight large stained glass windows costing \$10,000 each. It also employed tall steel columns supporting the nave ceiling which troubled Fr. Wells who wanted an unobstructed space. Wells' vision for his new church was that of a simple building – a house of Jehovah, a "tent of the meeting". Dart and the church leadership persevered and developed a second design for the building that met budget. Drawing on the imagery of the "tent", the architect developed a design for the church whose soaring roof evoked the steep pitch of a shepherd's tent.

St. Augustine's makes an immediate impression by its simple, rectangular plan and clear, geometric shape. The equilateral triangle of the roof with its inward arcing profile floats above the plain, light colored base. The use of buff brick to construct the flat, uninterrupted wall surfaces establishes the walls as the visual base of the building and distinguishes the base from the board-and-batten upper walls and roof structure. Aside from the entrance doors and narrow stained glass windows in the nave (both later additions), and the Sanctus bell, the exterior has no decorative adornment and achieves its effect through its clear, refined form. Dart's sharp demarcation of materials and attention to proportion clarify the building's simple geometry, and illustrate his commitment to the tenets of Modern design.

On the interior, the repetition of curved laminated wood rafters that become buttresses when they intersect the brick walls helps define the unified sanctuary space. The interplay of different wood tones – red cedar, red oak, white oak - against each other enhances the warm character of the nave. Dart's careful attention to structural clarity and his unabashed use of traditional materials - brick and wood - are successful in creating a dramatic and spiritual space. As with the exterior of the church, the interior's impact is the result of the architect's attention to detail and thoughtful use of materials.

In its simplicity of form, structural clarity, lack of applied ornamentation or reference to historical styles, and direct expression of the materials employed, St. Augustine's is an unambiguous demonstration of Fr. Wells' vision brought to fruition by Dart's architectural skills. The members of the parish take pride in the fact that St. Augustine's is the only example of Edward Dart's work and the lone example of Modern religious architecture in the city.

Edward D. Dart

While studying architecture at Yale, Edward Dart had been exposed to some of the greatest architectural talents of the 20th century who served as visiting design faculty on six-week rotations. Consequently, he studied with Pietro Belluschi, Marcel Breuer, Harwell Hamilton Harris, Richard Neutra, Louis Kahn, and Eero Saarinen among others.¹ He graduated in 1949 with offers of employment from Edward Durell Stone and Paul Schweikher, both of whom he had known in school. Although he considered an offer in California, Dart accepted the offer from Schweikher which took him to Roselle, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago.

Over the next eight years Dart designed a number of houses gradually accumulating recognition and awards for his work. In 1951 he won a National Association of Home Builders design competition which led to the opening of his own office.² In 1954 Dart won a competition sponsored by the Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry which earned an award from *Progressive Architecture* and recognition of his design in PA's January 1956 issue.³ It was during this period that he received the commission to design St. Augustine's church.

Dart's architectural successes continued to accumulate. In 1959 alone he designed four churches. In two of those designs low masonry walls form bases that are surmounted by vertical wood upper walls and tall, soaring gabled roofs, the same conceptual approach he had used for the design of St. Augustine's. St. Augustine's however, according to Dart's

¹Susan Dart, Edward Dart Architect, (Evanston IL: Evanston Publishing, 1993), 132.

²ibid., 141.

³ibid., 148.

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sister and biographer Susan Dart, was the one that captured most attention and was featured in newspapers and architectural journals.⁴ The church received an American Institute of Architects (AIA) Citation of Merit and the Church Architectural Guild of America's honor award. Throughout his career, Dart designed a total of thirty churches, twenty-six of which were built. His only other completed churches in Indiana were St. Luke's Methodist Church, Indianapolis, (1964) and the Presbyterian Church, LaPorte (1968).

In 1965 Dart made the decision to consolidate his office with the firm of Loebel Schlossman and Bennett which became known as Loebel Schlossman Bennett and Dart. Two years later he was made a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, one of the profession's most prestigious honors. During the last ten years of his life, Edward Dart continued to receive recognition and awards, in all a total of thirty, eighteen of which were bestowed by the AIA. In July 1970 Dart's largest design project, the seventy-four story vertical mall, hotel, apartment tower known as Water Tower Place, was announced. Regrettably, Dart died unexpectedly from an embolism in 1975 before the building was completed.

At the time of his death, Edward Dart had become associated with many public buildings in the Chicago area. However, it is Dart's churches that continue to define the arc of his career. Edward Dart decidedly hit his stride in the design of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church. The Art Institute of Chicago, where Dart's drawings and archives are housed in a permanent collection; continues to conduct tours of his churches.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church was chartered as a Colored Episcopal Mission in 1927 by thirty members of Gary, Indiana's Christ Church. The church's newsletter, *The Parish Messenger*, described the group as "all substantial people and zealous for the Church". These individuals were African-American professionals, most of who had migrated from the South in search of career advancement and had settled in the northwest Indiana, blue collar, steel city where, for decades the steel mills controlled a thriving economy. What had eluded them in the South was within reach, but their spiritual needs were not. Social constraints dictated segregated services for the communicants.

The Mission found a home in the vacated Roman Catholic Mission building located at 1837 Adams Street in the Middletown section of Gary. After obtaining permission from the diocese, the newly formed congregation moved in. Anna Washington, a founding member of the Mission, who was an alumna of St. Augustine's College in Raleigh, North Carolina, suggested the name for the Mission. The first service was held on May 8, 1927 with approximately seventeen people in attendance.

In its infancy, St. Augustine's struggled through a series of part-time priests. With no permanent leadership, church services were irregular and attendance lagged. A visit by Bishop Campbell Gray in April, 1939 was the turning point when he assigned Benedictine monks from a newly formed priory to the Mission. With the monks in place, Sunday services were held regularly, building repairs were made, and vestments were obtained. As St. Augustine's became a more cohesive group, parishioners made regular financial pledges and the congregation prospered and grew.

Although the Mission felt the loss of Bishop Gray keenly when he died in 1944, the newly consecrated bishop, the Right Reverend Reginald Mallett, filled the void. In 1946 the congregation was saddened to learn the monks were leaving for a permanent home in Michigan meaning the Mission would once again have to rely on part-time priests.

Finally, a retired rector, Father Langendorff, was assigned to St. Augustine's. He served the needs of the Mission until educator, organist, and churchman; Wallace L. Wells completed seminary school. Wells returned to St. Augustine's as an ordained Deacon and served under Fr. Langendorff until his own ordination to the priesthood on June 23, 1951. The newly ordained Father Wells, now Vicar (the Anglican title) of St. Augustine's remained with the Mission until his resignation in 1963.

⁴ Ibid., 163.

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Under Fr. Wells' leadership the church flourished and internal organizations solidified. By 1955 a new building was needed. Well executed plans came together to make a new place to worship, reflecting the taste of the influential and cultured congregation. Fr. Wells commissioned the design from architect Edward Dart who was receiving recognition for his residential architecture in suburban Chicago and had in 1953 designed St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Barrington, Illinois.

Father Wells' greater vision for St. Augustine's came to fruition in 1961 when the Mission advanced to full parish status and gained financial independence from the Diocese of Northern Indiana. Father Wells was installed as the first Rector in November of that year. Today, St. Augustine's is the only historically Black Episcopal parish in Indiana. Its members remain dedicated to preserving their beautiful landmark church.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Architectural Record, 128. 3 (1960): 167. "St. Augustine's Episcopal Church Gary, Indiana Edward D. Dart Architect." print.

Blessing, Hedrich. *St. Augustine's Episcopal Church*. Photograph. 1960. National Lumber Manufacturers Association, Gary, IN.

Chicago Sunday Tribune Magazine, 27 December 1959, 16. "Like Praying Hands." print.

Dart, Susan. *Edward Dart Architect*. Evanston: Evanston Publishing, 1993. print.

Hyndman, David. *St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 1963. 2000*. Photograph. The National Episcopal Historians and Archives, Gary, IN

Ihde, Carlton. "The Battle of Builders – Tradition vs. Modern." *Chicago Daily News*, 10 November 1956, 12. print.

Komechak, Rev. Michael E. and Nory Miller. "Edward Dart's Architecture," *Inland Architect*, 19.9 (1975): 7-13. print.

Pieza, Stanley. "Chicago Area Churches." *Chicago's American*, 2 March 1963: 4. print

The Post Tribune, 14 May 1960: 7. "St. Augustine's Episcopal Presents Unusual Form." print.

Wells, Wallace, L. "Prayerful and Militant." *The Living Church*. 140. 3(1960): 12. print.

50th Anniversary – St. Augustine's Episcopal Church." Gary, IN.: St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 1977. print

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

____ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been

Primary location of additional data:

____ State Historic Preservation Office

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requested)
 previously listed in the National Register
 previously determined eligible by the National Register
 designated a National Historic Landmark
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.4
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	16	469308	4603663	3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2				4			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary of the property is the same the legal extent of the property for tax purposes as given by the Calumet Township Assessor's office as 45-08-08-378-001.000-004

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nomination property consists of all of parcel 45-08-08-378-001.000-004. This is the land currently associated with St. Augustine's Episcopal Church.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paula M. DeBois
organization St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, date May 14, 2012
street & number 2425 West 19th Avenue telephone (219) 949-8383
city or town Gary state Indiana zip code 46404
e-mail N/A

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Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: St. Augustine's Episcopal Church

City or Vicinity: Gary

County: Lake State: Indiana

Photographer: Eric Shropshire

Date Photographed: March 14, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Rear of church, camera facing west
1 of 13

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Rear of church, camera facing west
2 of 13

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Front of church, camera facing east
3 of 13

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Rafters, south side of church, camera facing northeast
4 of 13

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Nave facing the narthex, camera facing west
5 of 13

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Nave facing the altar, camera facing east
6 of 13

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Nave facing the altar, camera facing east
7 of 13

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Nave facing southeast showing stained glass
8 of 13

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Detail of interior wall and stained glass, camera facing north

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Description of Photograph(s) and number: Rector's study, camera facing south
10 of 13

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Sacristy, camera facing north
11 of 13

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Chair lift in northwest stair, camera facing north
12 of 13

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Basement Sunday School space, camera facing northeast
13 of 13

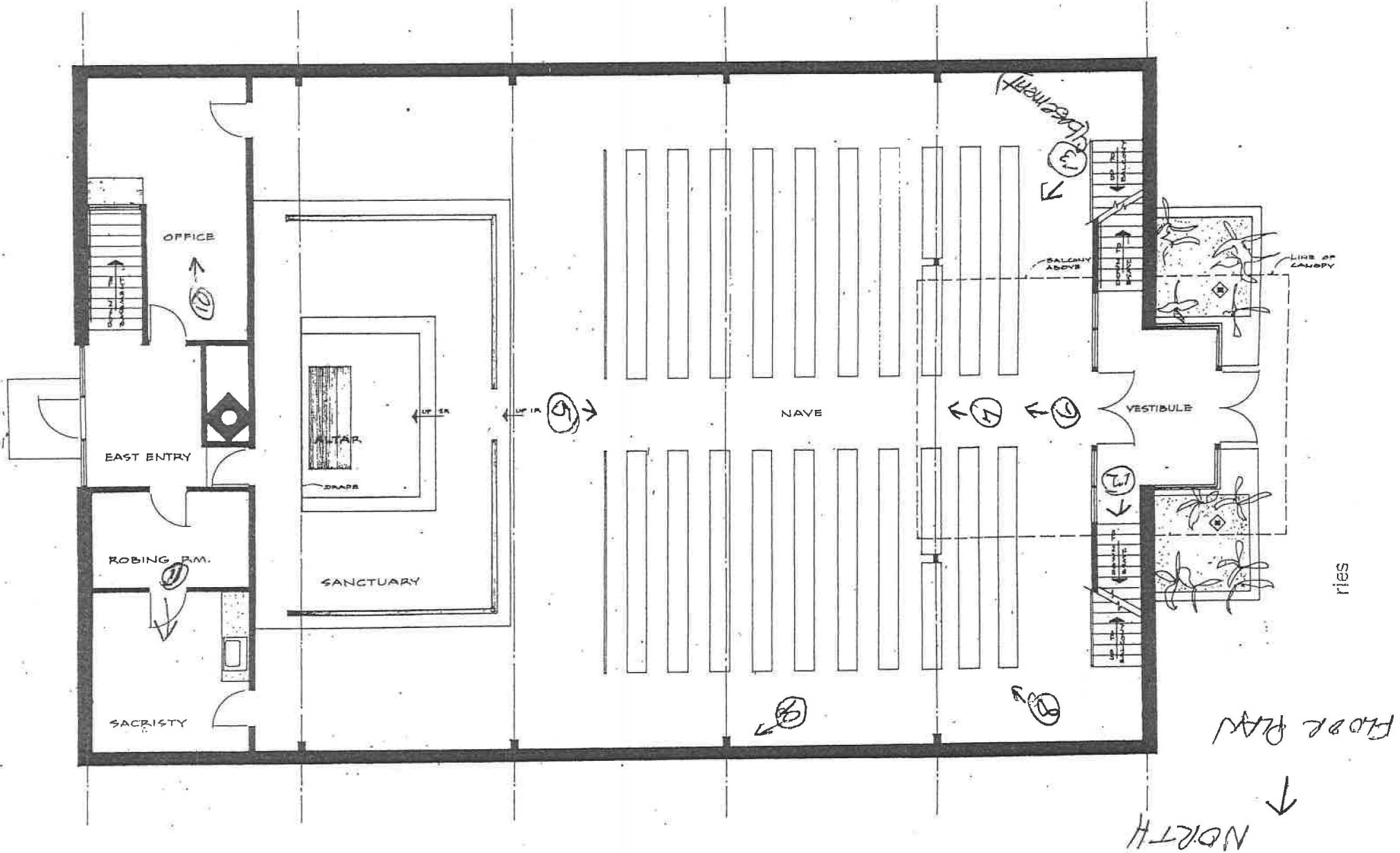
Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name The Episcopal Diocese of Northern Indiana c/o Jon Adamson, Diocesan Administrator
street & number 117 North Lafayette Blvd. telephone (574) 233-6489
city or town South Bend state IN zip code 46601

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



ST. AUGUSTINE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - GARY, INDIANA

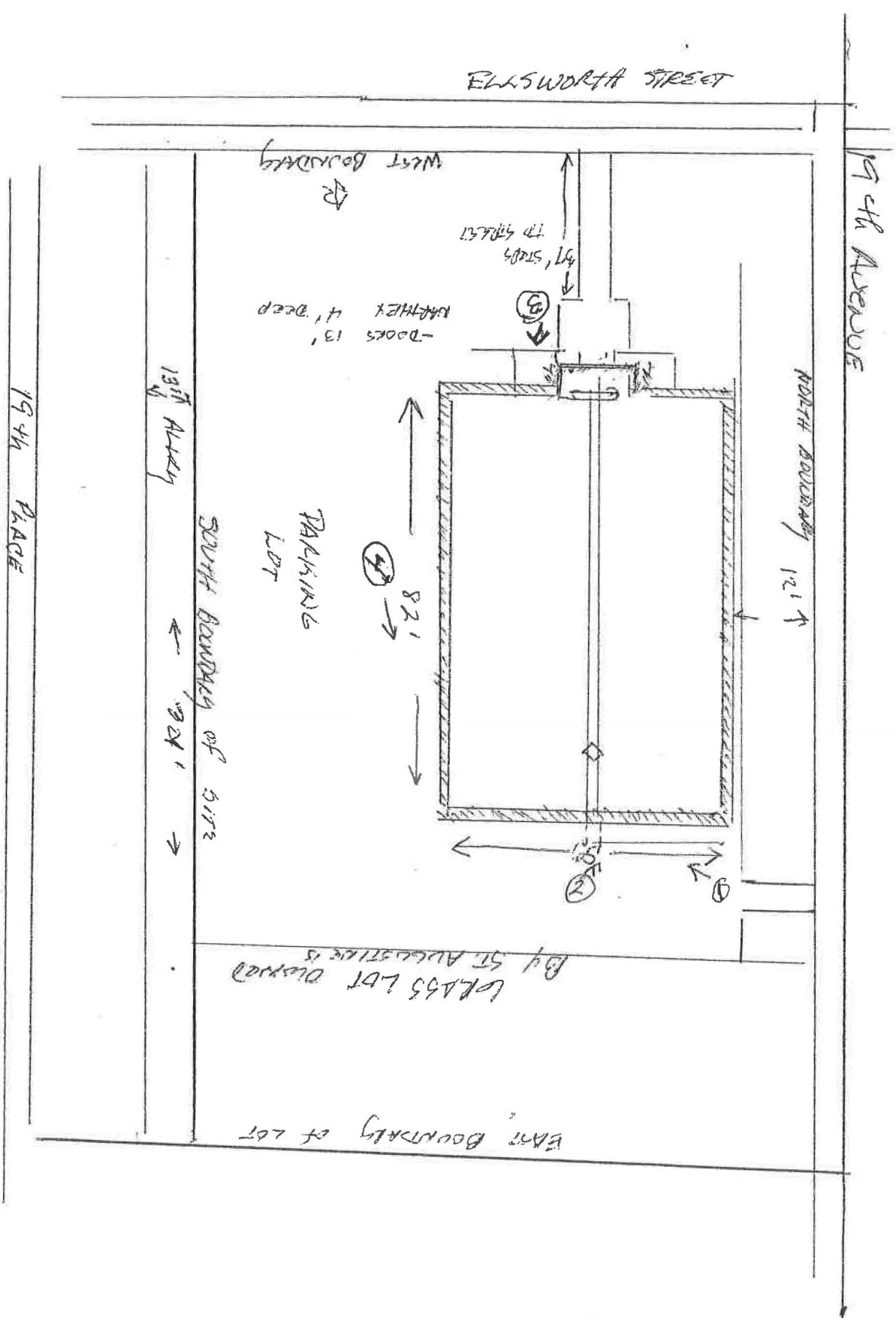
EDWARD D. DART - ARCHITECT

IN - LAKE - ST AUGUSTINE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

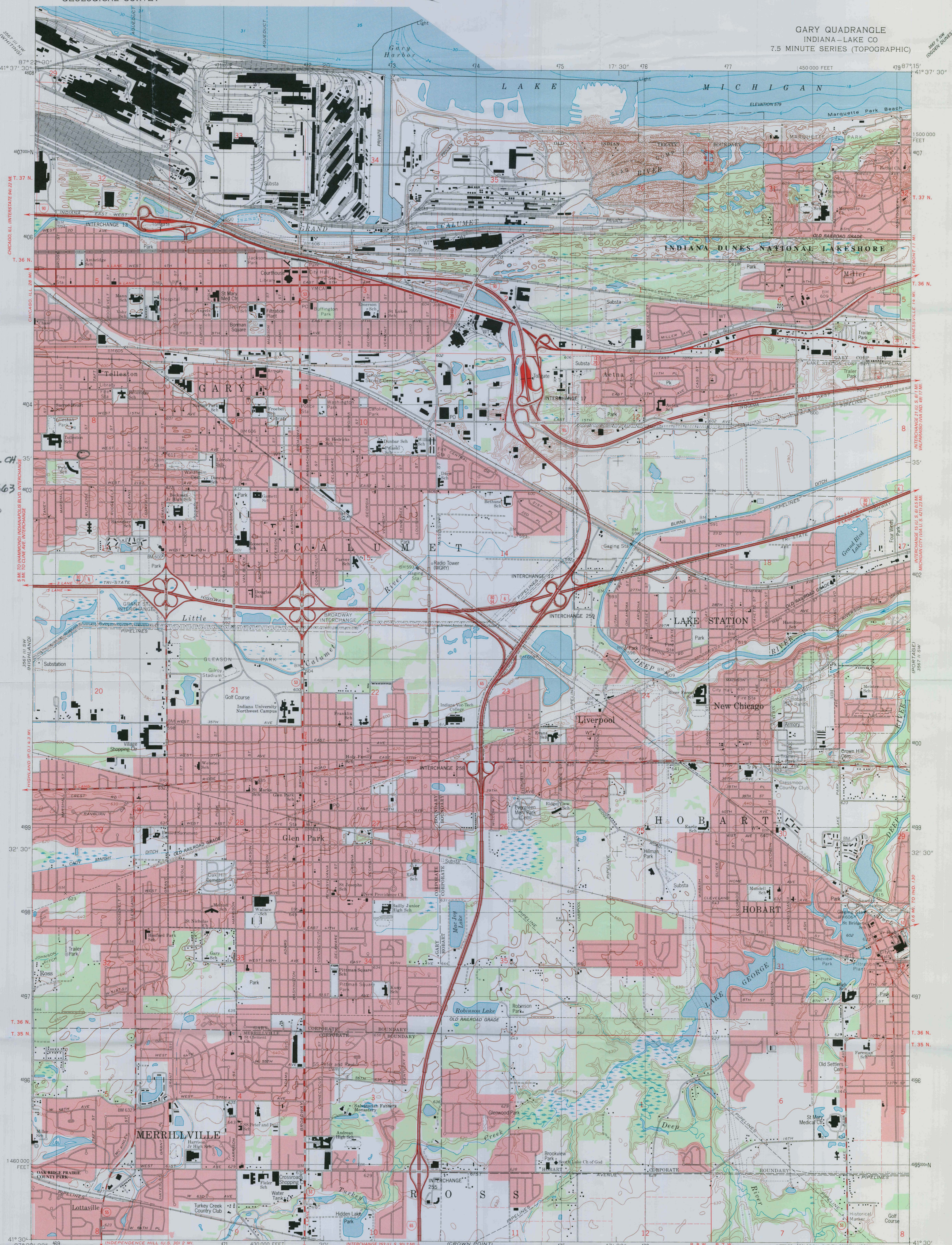
TRU - LAKE - ST AUGUSTINE'S EPISCOPAL
CHURCH GARDEN

NORTH ↑

NOT TO SCALE
SITE MAP



19th ALLEY



ST. AUGUSTINE'S EPISC. CH.
GARY (LAKE CO.) IN
469308 4603663
GARY QUAD

Produced by the United States Geological Survey
in cooperation with Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1951 and planetable surveys 1953. Revised from
aerial photographs taken 1989 and 1991. Field checked 1991
Map edited 1991
Selected hydrographic data compiled from NOS chart 14905 (1986)
This information is not intended for navigational purposes
Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Indiana coordinate
system, west zone (transverse Mercator)
100-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 16
1927 North American Datum
The difference between 1927 North American Datum and North
American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) for 7.5-minute intersections
is given in USGS Bulletin 1875. The NAD 83 is shown by
dashed corner ticks
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of
the National or State reservations shown on the map
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

SCALE 1:24,000
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET
REFERENCE LEVEL 578.8 FEET, INTERNATIONAL GREAT LAKES DATUM
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE
COMPLIES WITH U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY STANDARDS FOR SPATIAL ACCURACY, CLASS 2
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
AND INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, all weather, hard surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface
Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Unimproved road, fair or dry weather
Interstate Route
U.S. Route
State Route

GARY, IND.
41087-E3-TF-024
1991
DMA 3567 III SE - SERIES V851

























SACRISTY







National Register of Historic Places
Memo to File

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: St. Augustine's Episcopal Church

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: INDIANA, Lake

DATE RECEIVED: 8/09/13 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/30/13
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/16/13 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/25/13
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 13000758

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 9-25-13 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places**

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

CITY OF GARY, INDIANA
OFFICE OF FILM & TELEVISION

2929 West 24th Place
Gary, Indiana 46404-3272
(219) 944-1201 (219) 944-1202 fax (219) 644-7234 cell



Ben Clement
Executive Director

Hon. Karen Freeman-Wilson
Mayor

B.R. Lane
Chief of Staff

LETTER OF SUPPORT

July 23, 2013

Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Historic Preservation

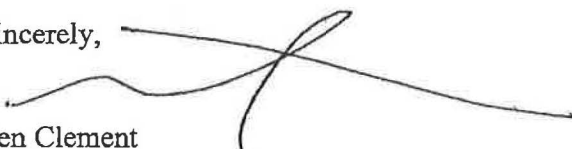
To Whom it May Concern:

Please be advised that I fully support the application of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The building located at 2425 W. 19th Avenue in Gary, Indiana is an iconic structure in the Tolleston neighborhood. Many Gary residents who grew up in and around Tolleston marveled at the sweeping curves of the unique roof and some like me displayed childish exuberance by tossing rocks or chunks of gravel and watching excitedly as they tumbled back down to earth.

In my opinion St. Augustine's richly deserves the designation based on creative architectural design alone. The fact that this stunningly unique edifice stands in Gary, Indiana of all places, is a value added benefit. Such an historic structure should be preserved for years to come as a testament to innovative construction and an anchor for the revitalization of the Tolleston neighborhood.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Ben Clement
Executive Director

7001 Ash Place
Gary, Indiana 46403
July 23, 2013

Indiana Historic Society
Indianapolis, Indiana

Dear Board,

I am pleased to add to the numbers voting for the approval of the St. Augustine Episcopal Church in Gary, Indiana be voted to move on to the National Historic Association to pass the review to become a Historic Landmark.

This church carefully planned by the founders and early member ('40's and 50's) who wished to leave a landmark for worship to be enjoyed and appreciated for years by the citizens and, visitors and member s in this community.

Please join their wishes in making St. Augustine's a Landmark for duration so that many can enjoy and preserve this local treasure.

Sincerely ,

Marianita Porterfield

Indiana Historic Society
Indianapolis, Indiana

Dear Board,

I am pleased to add to the numbers voting for the approval of the St. Augustine Episcopal Church in Gary, Indiana be voted to move on to the National Historic Association to pass the review to become a Historic Landmark.

This church carefully planned by the founders and early member ('40's and 50's) who wished to leave a landmark for worship to be enjoyed and appreciated for years by the citizens and, visitors and member s in this community.

Please join their wishes in making St. Augustine's a Landmark for duration so that many can enjoy and preserve this local treasure.

Sincerely ,

Marianita Porterfield

Tate, Holly

From: Beth Paschal [bbpaschal@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2013 1:33 AM
To: Tate, Holly
Subject: St. Augustine Letter of Recommendation

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter of recommendation on behalf of St. Augustine's Church, for their petition to be included in the National Register as a historic landmark.

St. Augustine's has been my church home for over 30 years. I started as a child attending Sunday School and on to an acolyte as a teenager. Father Hyman resided over my marriage and has baptized my son. The memories I have will continue to grow and I will cherish them forever.

As a member I am a part of a family. I have known most of the members my entire life, we have shared triumphs and tragedies but have all done it as a church family uplifting each other along the way.

I hope to see my church home as a historic landmark to honor its great history. It would be a great honor for the city of Gary and for the Episcopal church.

Sincerely,

Beth Paschal

7/21/2013

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Each Sunday as I round the corner from Taft St. onto 19th Ave, I am struck once again with the beauty of our church, St. Augustine's with its beautifully pitched roof pointing to Heaven. Upon entering the sanctuary, I feel the presence of the Lord and know that when I leave, not only will I have fellowshiped with the Lord but with the beloved members of this awesome church.

As "newer" members of this congregation, my husband and I began attending in 2002. My husband Ben, is the Senior Warden, a member of the Men's Club and works with the Buildings and Ground Committee. I myself, have served on the E.C.W. as the treasure for the past 6 years, and have served on the Alter for the past 4 years.

The history of this congregation, the efforts of a group of people who knew they were in the will of God and how He saw this group of parishioners thru the early days is embedded in the walls of our church. We pray that our church will grow in numbers as we move forward.

We are privileged to have this historic church here in Gary, and hope that it will become a Historical Site, thanks to the efforts of Paula DeBois.

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Tyler

HISTORICAL SITE

Tate, Holly

From: Allan Brown [balandles4306@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2013 2:52 PM
To: Tate, Holly
Subject: historical registry confirmation/ St. Augustines

Dear Ms. Tate

My name is Allan Brown, I have been a member of St. Augustine's parish since birth. Until recently I have been an off/on again parishioner. When I heard that we were being considered to become an historic landmark I made it a point to become more involved in the church affairs. Not just because of the possible new church status but because of the possibility of seeing a renaissance in our local community. There are a couple of other projects going on in our immediate area that could easily boost local community spirit and confidence. St. Augustine's has always been part of the community but as time passes so has the faces in our locale. The Idea of our church becoming an historic landmark has not only re-invigorated an aged congregation but we have seen more visitors in the past three months than in the past year, our efforts to rebuild our own congregation have doubled as well as re-defining our role in the local community. So as the conversation as to whether we should become an historic landmark unfolds please remember that you are not just saving a beautiful Edward Dart edifice but giving a shot into the heart of a community that is trying to find a new way to survive in hard times.

Sincerely,

&nbs p; Allan Brown

Tate, Holly

From: Tracey Lewis [tlew09@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2013 4:18 PM
To: Tate, Holly
Subject: Support for historic preservation of St Augustine's Church

Hello

I am penning this note from my phone because it is so important to preserve and protect St Augustine's, I couldn't wait to get to my laptop.

This amazing building, the only one of its design, longevity and soaring height in all of Gary must be protected. This is not just the church where my sisters and I were baptized, confirmed, worshipped- but it is also the place my father loved and his funeral services were held. The pews and aisles were brimming over with family, friends and patients coming to pay their last respects. I still recall how many people spoke of the elegant and quiet beauty of St Augustine's.

I want others to share in these same memories, either happy or sad- for the building reflects a amazing history of Gary's black middle class who needed a place to worship and built an everlasting and living monument to the immensity of the human soul, and God's grace.

I hope that you will act favorably on our application for historic preservation. Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Warmest regards

Tracey Lewis J.D.
tlew09@gmail.com

Sent from my awesome iPhone

July 23, 2013

Mr. Cameron F. Clark, State Historic Preservation Officer
Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology
402 West Washington St., Room W274
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2739

Dear Mr. Clark:

I am writing to offer our full support for the nomination of St. Augustine Episcopal Church to the National Register of Historic Places. We hope the Indiana Historic Preservation Review Board will approve this nomination so that it may be forwarded to the National Park Service for final consideration of listing.

This Modern church structure was built in 1958, when its architect Edward Dart was in the prime of his career as a progressive designer of ecclesiastical and residential architecture in the Chicagoland region. As a Chicago-based architect, he designed dozens of churches in the 1950s and 1960s – his best known and most widely-published being St. Procopius Abbey in Lisle, Illinois (1967) – but St. Augustine is the only commission he received from an African-American congregation. If successfully designated it will also be, best to my knowledge, the first Dart-designed building listed in the National Register of Historic Places. After years of losing many churches and homes designed by Dart, many of which are still threatened, this recognition of his work is long overdue.

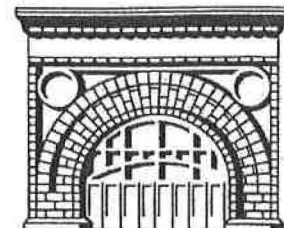
Paula DeBois, a long-time member of the congregation, reached out to Landmarks Illinois almost two years ago to gain as much knowledge as possible about Dart and the design of St. Augustine within the context of his full career. The Congregation has remained committed stewards of this remarkable building despite fluctuating socio-economic challenges, membership numbers or financial means. As we are all aware, securing funding for the restoration of religious structures is often a terrific challenge. With great pride the Congregation seeks National Register listing and believes it will help them continue their efforts to preserve this Modern Landmark for generations to come.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Lisa DiChiera
Director of Advocacy



LANDMARKS ILLINOIS

FOUNDED IN 1971

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53 W. Jackson Blvd., Suite 1315
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3562
Tel: (312) 922-1742
www.Landmarks.org

Tate, Holly

From: Tracey Lewis [tlew09@gmail.com]
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I hope that you will act favorably on our application for historic preservation. Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Warmest regards

Tracey Lewis J.D.
Tlew09@gmail.com

Sent from my awesome iPhone

Mr. Cameron F. Clark
State Historic Officer DNR
Indianapolis, IN

July 19, 2013

Dear Sir,

Ninety plus percent of the adult worshippers who embarked on the venture of building the "new" St. Augustine's Episcopal Church in Gary are deceased. They were enthusiastic parishioners with a beautiful plan of their house of worship.

The "ninety plus percent" planned well and worked hard to complete their dream project. When the newly constructed church was completed, they celebrated with many prayers of thanks.

That "ninety plus percent" were my fellow worshippers. Some only worshipped in their "new" St. Augustine's Church for a short period of time, others a little longer, and some of us are still worshipping here, right now.

If they were here now, the "ninety plus percent" would be very proud to affirm their pleasure of the consideration for the nomination of St. Augustine's Church by the Indiana Historic Preservation Review Board. I am proud that our church has been considered for this honor.

Yours truly
Crested William

Tate, Holly

From: Pccs,Inc [procareklean-ceo@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2013 11:07 PM
To: Tate, Holly
Subject: St Augustine Episcopal church Gary, In.

I support the efforts of our church to be registered as a historical land mark. Indeed the architect alone is a deciding fact but also it's the rich history of the church that is so fascinating. As a soon to be new parishioner of St Augustine I've learn so many historical facts and events of this wonder place of worship. I pray you come to a positive conclusion in favor of out church.

I thank you for your audience in this matter.
Andre' Rene' Harris

Sent from my iPad

1033 Williams Street
Gary, IN 46404
July 18, 2014

Mr. Cameron F. Clark, State Historic Officer DNR
402 W. Washington Street, Room W 274
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739

My dear Mr. Clark:

This letter is written in support of the request to place the name of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, on the Indiana Preservation register.

I have had a deep personal and Christian relationship with St. Augustine's for over fifty-five years. During that period of time, I have served as a Junior Warden of the Vestry, President of the Altar Guild and Parish Episcopal Church Women. I have been instrumental in the installation of central air conditioning, the funding and installation of the entry doors and the organ among many, many endeavors related to the parish..

On a personal and very sentimental perspective, my three children and grandson were baptized as infants and later confirmed at St. Augustine's. My grandson served as an acolyte. My daughter serves as an acolyte and clerk of the Vestry. My late husband, Percy D. Strowhorn, Sr., was a member of the choir. The Burial Office of the Dead, officiated by Bishop Gray, was held for him at St. Augustine's. In May of this year, I was officially installed as a Canon of the Cathedral of St. James. This took place at St. Augustine's., presided by the Rt. Rev. Edward S. Little, II, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Indiana.

I have served at the pleasure of the last five (5) bishops of the Diocese of Northern Indiana (Bishops Klein, Mallet, Sheridan, Gray and Little). Thus I have a close tie between the parish of St. Augustine's and the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Indiana.

Many parishioners before me, literally put blood, sweat and tears to establish St. Augustine's parish. It was constructed in its present location so as to be an anchor in the community. .

Notwithstanding my deep personal and Christian relationship with St. Augustine's, I urge you to give serious consideration to placing the name of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church on the Indiana Preservation register.

Sincerely,

Charlotte A. Strowhorn (Mrs. Percy D., Sr.)

July 12, 2013

Cameron Clark
402 W. Washington
Indianapolis Ind

Dear Mr Clark

I am writing to ask that you
would consider St Augustine Church
for a place in Indian History &
Preservation group.

My family and I have been members
for the past fifty years

Yours truly
Ann H. Condit

1033 Williams Street
Gary, IN 46404
July 18, 2014

Mr. Cameron F. Clark, State Historic Officer DNR
402 W. Washington Street, Room W 274
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739

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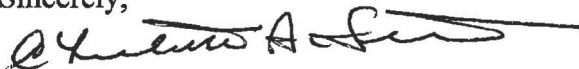
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Sincerely,



Charlotte A. Strowhorn (Mrs. Percy D., Sr.)

Tate, Holly

From: jean green [jeancarol1749@me.com]
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2013 6:59 PM
To: Tate, Holly
Subject: When I was first asked to write this letter. I said yes without really thinking about it. However, as usual I said to myself what do I say. And the answer was write from the heart. So here goes.

When I was first asked to write this letter. I said yes without really thinking about it. However, as usual I said to myself what do I say. And the answer was write from the heart. So here goes.

I have been a member of St. Augustine Church since the age of sixteen. My father had made a request that I should have a church home by that age. My parents along with several other relatives were members of Trinity Baptist Church. And, I'm sure they were all hoping that I would also become a member. However, it just never felt like home. So my quest began and I attended many churches. Hoping to eventually find a home.

During this time I was now a dance and piano student of Corine Morse Williams. I spent a great deal of time with her as well as her husband Chester Williams (they would later become my god parents). Corine worked the coffee hour after church and I started working with her. The more I learned the more I enjoyed. There was a peace that I felt and I knew that this was home. And, even now I still feel this way. With its awesome structure but, most importantly is its inspiring spiritual beauty of the sanctuary.

Although, I haven't been as good of a parishioner as I should be the church has still been my saving grace.

All my children were Baptized here. And, my two daughters were also wed here. It has been my rock as well as a constant comfort in my life.

In closing I can't forget Father Hydman, his compassion during the passing of both of my parents. Was so very comforting.

Thanks for listening.

Mrs. Jean Carol Scott Green

Sent from my iPad

1780 Wilson Street

Gary, Indiana 46404

July 15, 2013

Dear Indiana Historic Preservation Review Board,

The construction of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church was a collaborative effort of a gifted architect and a unique Colored Episcopal Mission. The resulting structure sets a reverent tone of beauty and tranquility. St. Augustine's Episcopal Church; with its' signature roof; has lifted the lives and spirits of the Tolleston area for more than five decades.

Kindly consider the nomination of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church in Gary, Indiana to the National Register of Historic Places. The current congregation remains dedicated to preserving the award winning structure.

Sincerely,

Mrs. B. L. DeBois

Registered Pharmacist

Tate, Holly

From: Tina Carone [Tina.Carone@elwoodstaffing.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2013 10:46 AM
To: Tate, Holly
Subject: Nomination for St. Augustine's Gary, Indiana (OMB No. 1024-0018)

To whom it may concern,

I whole heartedly support the nomination for Historical Register of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church in Gary, Indiana. The church and it's beautiful architecture are a crown jewel in Gary and should be recognized and preserved for generations to come. The interior of the sanctuary is breath taking with its ark-like detailing of the ceiling and the ribbons of stained glass. Truly a sight to see and enjoy.

Please accept this letter of support.

Very sincerely yours,

Tina Carone | Customer Service Manager | Elwood Staffing
Tel: 219-462-7894 | Fax: 219-462-9680
3516 North Calumet Ave | Valparaiso, IN | 46383

Let's connect:



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Architects/Planners

Johnson & Lee, Ltd.

July 11, 2013

Ms. Holly Tate
Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology
402 West Washington Street, Room W274
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739

RE: St. Augustine Church – Proposed Historical Register Gary, Indiana

Dear Ms. Tate:

I, Phillip Craig Johnson would like to recommend St. Augustine Church, Gary, Indiana, designed by Edward D. Dart, for the Indiana Historical Register. My recommendation comes from unique prospectus. First, I grew up in the church in the 50's and 60's. Secondly, my father, Richard C. Johnson, was in the first confirmational class of the church, and later was hired to redesign the structural components for the church. I met Ed Dart, as a young pre-teen during the church's construction, after graduating from architectural school Mr. Dart hired me on my arrival to Chicago. Mr. Dart's actions were ground breaking. These were times far different from the racial diversity demonstrated professionally today. My dad, an African American was hired as a structural engineer on an award winning project in 1960, which gives a unique view of Ed Dart the man.

The Architecture of St. Augustine church exemplified a spirituality found in great religious edifices of Europe such as: Notre Dame, RonChamp Chapel, Sagrada Famalia, etc.

Dart's greatest work can be found in his churches. While working for him he developed an emphasis in the psychology of experience space by circulation through small volumes into large monumental spaces. St. Augustine, Ed Dart, and the architectural process are worthy of the historical register.

If you have any questions regarding this recommendation please do not hesitate to call 312.663.0225 or email pcj@jlarch.net.

Sincerely,



Phillip Craig Johnson, FAIA

cc: Gina Shropshire
Paula Debois

828 South Wabash Avenue, Suite 210 Chicago, Illinois 60605
T. 312.663.0225 F. 312.663.4491

Hurdis, Frank

From: House District2 [H2@iga.in.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 06, 2013 9:49 AM
To: Hurdis, Frank
Subject: St. Augustine's Episcopal Church

Mr. Hurdis,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write in support of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church's application for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. This would indeed be quite an honor for our community and for our State.

I understand that the process to attain this recognition is rigorous and quite detailed. I appreciate the work Ms. DeBois and others from our community have performed, your guidance, and all of your efforts and that of your staff at the Department of Natural Resources towards accomplishing this goal.

Thank you,

Rep. Earl Harris

*Rep. Earl L. Harris
Indiana House of Representatives
200 West Washington
Indianapolis, IN 46204
800-382-9842 Toll Free in Indiana
317-232-9822 Direct Dial*

July 10, 2013

Mr. Cameron F. Clark, State Historic Officer DNR
402 W. Washington Street, Room W274
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2739

Dear Mr. Clark:

I am writing this letter in support of the nomination of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church for the National Historic Register. I am a life-long member of St. Augustine's Church and have long recognized the beauty of our building. The architecture of this church has been an outstanding contribution to our congregation; many of whom have called Gary, Indiana home for several decades. It is truly a masterpiece, conceived and executed by noted architect Mr. Edward D. Dart. I know that Ms. Paula DeBois has provided the committee the history and credentials of the church supported by photographs and site visits. My letter is simply to state that I support this nomination fully and feel that our church merits National Historic Register status.

I have lived in Indiana all of my life, growing up in Gary, attending college at the University of Notre Dame, attending graduate school at Purdue University, and now working at the University of Notre Dame. I value what our state has to offer and understand the historical wealth that is hidden in Gary. Many people can dismiss Gary and a run-down steel town; I know that there are treasures such as St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, tucked quietly into neighborhoods in the city. I hope your committee will look favorably at our nomination and award St. Augustine's Episcopal Church National Historic Register status. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gina V. Shropshire

Gina V. Shropshire, Ph.D.
3232 White Maple Court
South Bend, Indiana 46628
HM: 574-855-1155
gshropsh@nd.edu

July 14, 2013

I guess I always wanted to do this – that is to put to paper what my home church has meant to me. Although this is more about successfully achieving landmark status, I'm hoping we can bridge the two together. As a baby-boomer June 1946, looking over the last forty-five to fifty years and the historic changes my church has sheperded me through. The role as guide through civil rights, sexual revolution, Vietnam, technology, marriage, death to name a few the church and particularly St. Augustine's I've found strength, hope and understanding to persevere in spite of a world of changes.

St. Augustine's has always been an extended family for me. My Mother, Johnnie Lee Smith joined in the old church on 19th & Adams back in 1955. My stepfather, Fritz Alexander was one of the original founders. As kids my brother and I would pick up milk on Saturday evening for Sunday school and social hour. Carrying four to five gallons of milk led us to be called the "Moo brothers". We served as altar boys and in later years as deacons.

It was said to me once as a child by an aunt, "it takes more than a pretty shape to make a church" – granted it does. St. Augustine's has always been warm and inviting, stunningly beautiful and capturing. That she couldn't deny.

I don't know what it takes to become or achieve landmark status from an esthetic view but at the same time I hope other considerations are acceptable. For example: I've learned so much from this church family, be it faith, expectations, hope, love, cultural pride and caring. For me that's beauty!

Question – can the visual inspire? Can the visual console and comfort? I believe it can and St. Augustine has done that for me. Here's to the congregation and its leadership. I commend them for also maintaining and preserving its originality and elegant purity of design.

St. Augustine's deserves national landmark status to afford future generations the ability to experience the history, inspiration, comfort.

Brothers and sisters in prayer,

Derek Caruthers

Tate, Holly

From: Evelyn H Reaves [eviereaves@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 11, 2013 12:51 PM
To: Tate, Holly
Cc: Paula DeBois
Subject: NHR nomination

Dear Ms Tate,

I write in support of the National Historic Registry nomination for St Augustine's Episcopal Church in Gary, IN. I have been a parishioner for the past fifty years; therefore, I have wonderful memories of a church that has persisted in serving as a positive beacon of faith for me in an ever changing community.

The exterior architectural design of St Augustine's suggests praying hands, symbolizing inspirational activity within the walls of this beautiful edifice. The A frame interior is awe-inspiring, lending itself to a calm and serene environment in which holy worship takes place.

Ms DeBois is to be commended for her her tireless efforts in acquiring this nomination.

Sent from my iPad

The Rev. Canon David L. Hyndman

2021 West 75th Place #16

Merrillville, Indiana 46410

219-769-2045

RECEIVED
HIST. PRES. & ARCH.

JUL 11 2013

IDNR

July 8, 2013

Mr. Cameron F. Clark, State Historic Officer DNR
402 W. Washington Street, Room W 274
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2739

Dear Sir,

I am writing in support of the nomination of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church in Gary, Indiana as an historic site. I have had the honor to be the Rector of St. Augustine's for the past 21 years. Before that time as a native son of Gary, Indiana I was pleased to have been acquainted with the outstanding leadership of that parish. They not only wanted to build a church home for the congregation in 1959, but they had the extraordinary vision to wish to make a mark in the community with a building whose architecture would enhance its surroundings and lay testimony to excellence as a tribute to the God they served.

The building stands today as the inheritor of that vision, and the congregation still serves as the home church for its former members, both near and far, as it serves its present membership and the community surrounding it. The building is lovingly cared for because it is a place where the congregation can gather in both joy and sorrow and where they can be launched into the community for service.

The building holds an architectural and societal distinction that is unparalleled in the community. It was a tangible expression of the hope and dedication of a people moving from an area of confinement to a greater freedom of residency and participation.

Thank you for your consideration of this application, and I urge your approval.

Sincerely,


The Rev. Canon David L. Hyndman

E. Vernice Jones
7645 Lake Shore Drive
Gary, Indiana 46403

Mr. Cameron F. Clark
Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology
402 West Washington Street, W274
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2739

July 8, 2013

Dear Mr. Clark:

I am writing to you in support of the efforts to have St. Augustine's Episcopal Church building in Gary Indiana added to the National Register of Historic Places. The architectural style of St. Augustine's Church is unique and beautiful.

I have been a member of St. Augustine's Church for nearly forty years. Please give the building a positive consideration for it to be added to the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

E. Vernice Jones
E. Vernice Jones

T Kathleen Rd
Huntington, Ct, 06484
June 29, 2013

To: Cameron F. Clark, Historic Officer, DNR
402 W. Washington St. Rm W 274
Indianapolis, In. 46204-2739

From: Sylvia James, St. Augustine
member of forty five years.

Dear Sir:

This letter is written to express my hope for favorable support and consideration of the nomination of St. Augustine Episcopal Church to the National Register of Historic places.

Over the years, the church has been a pillar of strength for the community, through its presentation of religious activities, its cultural and academic projects and its high level community assistance for all who participated.

Thanking you in advance,

Sylvia James, Former
Principal, Barneker
Gifted & Talented School
Gary, In.

2366 W. 20th Place

Gary, In, 46404

June 28, 2013

Cameron F. Clark

State Historic Officer DNR

402 W. Washington St. #W274

Indianapolis, In. 46404

Dear Mr. Clark:

We at St. Augustine Episcopal Church in Gary, In. are excited about the possibility of being accepted to the National Historic Register. We are very proud of our Church and its design. We know we are one of two of Mr. Darts churches (out of 26) that have won awards, and the first to receive two architectural awards. Many of us who voted for his plan, and watched as it was being built, are still in attendance. I think you can understand why we are looking forward to being a part of this further development and honor.

Sincerely,

Mrs. June M. Brown

Tate, Holly

From: EVELYN ELKINS [evelynmelvin2002@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 02, 2013 6:15 PM
To: Tate, Holly
Subject: historic sight in Indiana

This e-mail is in support of St. Augustine Episcopal Church in Gary, Indiana becoming a historic sight. This church has a well kept, unique design by an architect named Dart. The church is a beautiful structure in this community and well kept by its membership. Please consider this request when you meet on July 24th.

Thank you.

Evelyn D. Elkins

July 3, 2013

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is in regards to the nomination for St. Augustine's Episcopal Church to be placed on the Historical Registry. I am so proud to have grown up in the beautifully constructed building that has been home to St. Augustine's Episcopal Church and it's generations of parishioners .

It has been well cared for and loved all of these years and still maintains the breathtaking redwood arches, stain glass windows, and pipe organ loft. St. Augustines has been the place of spiritual growth, reverence and retreat to many generations now, and continues to be a quiet sanctuary where people find fellowship as well as peace.

I have traveled the US from east to west and there is no architecture like that of St. Augustine's. It is a unique beauty that my grandmother and other church elders had envisioned, cultivated, and built. It is a rich source of history and community, and as such I believe should be forever commemorated on the Registry for generations to come.

Thank you very much for your consideration of bestowing St. Augustine's Episcopal Church the special place in history that I and many others believe it so richly deserves.

Sincerely,

Paula Page Avila

Tate, Holly

From: Matthew Seymour [seymour.matt@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 26, 2013 3:58 PM
To: Tate, Holly; Hurdis, Frank
Cc: Paula DeBois
Subject: St. Augustine's Episcopal Church National Register Nomination

To whom it may concern,

I am writing you today in support of the National Register nomination for St. Augustine's Episcopal Church in Gary. The church is an outstanding example of Mid-Century Modernist architecture and is representative of the movement that occurred during the 1950s and 1960s toward a more simplified church design that emphasized a focus on congregants' inner spirituality rather than on decoration and imagery.

Furthermore, the church was designed by notable Chicago architect Edward Dart. Dart is best known for designing Water Tower Place in Chicago and St. Procopius Abbey and Monastery in Lisle, Illinois.

This important church and the petitioners of this National Register nomination have my full support.

Sincerely,

Matthew Seymour
Chicago, Illinois

Tate, Holly

From: John Littman [revn8tr@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 26, 2013 3:23 AM
To: Tate, Holly
Subject: Support for St. Augustine's Episcopal. Church.

I am sending this email in support of the effort to recognize the church as a national landmark.

The church's very existence, longevity, and accomplishments of members of the congregation both individually and collectively to the diocese and the community are a shining light for the region and the nation.

John L I t t m a n, Jr.

Tate, Holly

From: Marlon Scott [lunaprk@earthlink.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 25, 2013 1:51 PM
To: Tate, Holly
Subject: St Augustine's Episcopal Church nomination

To all concerned,

Please consider nominating our church to the National Register of Historic Places!

It is a beautiful structure evoking mid 20th century architecture and era's optimistic hope for positive change in the future. The interior is open and invites one's spirit to soar. The history of the white architect's partnership with a black congregation during a time of social change is a story worth sharing with the nation- also a testament to hopeful change in those times.

You also must remember this was and is a living sanctuary for family and community. Though I have not lived in Gary for many decades, just looking at a picture of the church makes me think of my loving family. Let us preserve the church so that more families are made stronger by St Augustine's!

Marlon Scott
Orlando, Florida

561 S. Union St. Apt. 211
Gary, Indiana 46403
June 26, 2013

Indiana Historic Preservation Review Board
Indianapolis, Indiana

Dear Sirs,

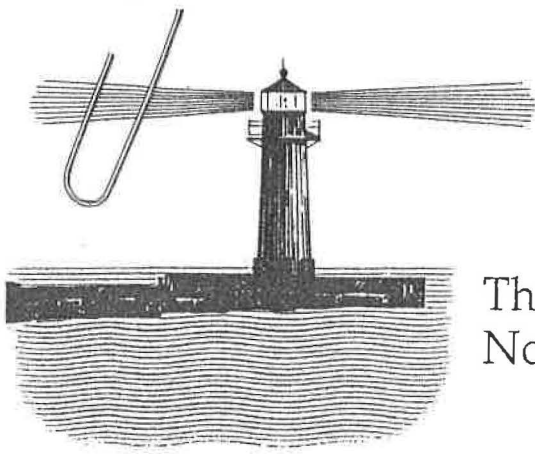
It is with a special appreciation and a private joy that I hope that the board will vote to complete the nomination of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church in Gary to the National Register of Historic Places.

I have been a member of St. Augustine's Church for over fifty years. The beauty and peace that I have enjoyed within my church's walls has increased along with my own age.

I encourage, persuade, and yes, plead with the board to complete the nomination of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church to the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely and hopefully,

Jelicia R. Childress



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JUN 27 2013

IDNR

The Episcopal Diocese of Northern Indiana

The Right Reverend Edward S. Little II, Bishop

June 19, 2013

Mr. Cameron F. Clark
Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology
402 W. Washington Street, W274
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739

Dear Mr. Clark,

I am writing on behalf of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church in Gary, Indiana to support their application to have their church building be added to the National Register of Historic Places.

The architectural structure of St. Augustine's is an excellent example of those twin virtues of Anglican Christianity, worshipping the Lord in the beauty of holiness and making the Gospel of Jesus Christ relevant in one's own era and context. Edwin Dart's vision, completed in 1959, was both beautiful and thoroughly contemporary. That this breath-taking vision was brought to life by the diocese's first predominantly African-American congregation during our nation's embrace of Civil Rights, further underscores this structure's historic significance. Every time I visit St. Augustine's, I am moved by the integrity, simplicity, and beauty of the building's design. The upswept roof, praying hands on a grand scale, is a reminder that well-conceived architecture can point to eternal verities.

I am so grateful for Ms. Paula DeBois tireless efforts in making this application. Her faithfulness and dedication in this process are a fitting tribute to the generations who have worshipped at St. Augustine's and hopefully will keep its structure and vision alive for generations to come.

Sincerely,

The Rt. Rev. Edward S. Little II
Bishop of Northern Indiana

Tate, Holly

From: Robert Tatum [tatumtalk@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, July 27, 2013 3:45 PM
To: Tate, Holly
Cc: pmdebois1@yahoo.com
Subject: St Augustine Episcopal Church Support
Attachments: St. Augustines National Historic Registry.rtf

Holly and Paula:

Here is my letter of support for St. Augustine's efforts to be recognized as a National Historical site. The physical copy is attached below.

Let me know if you need any further information,

Robert Tatum
Aldan, PA

July 26, 2012

Ms. Holly A. Tate
Architectural Historian
Indiana Historical Preservation Review Board
Indianapolis, Indiana

This letter of support is written on behalf of the parishioners of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church of Gary, Indiana in its effort to be listed in the National Historic Register as a historic place. As a resident of Gary from 1960 to 1990, and as a parishioner of St. Augustine's Church during my formative years, I was a witness first hand to the impact that the church had on the community at large. The architectural design of the building, was back then and continues to be a unique structure to not only hold a worship service but for other architects and designers to learn viable lessons from. My father, who served in the Vestry for many years in St. Augustine, often took pictures outside during different seasons of the year to highlight the natural beauty of the structure. He also took pictures inside of the church so that he could show his friends and family what a wonderful place that St. Augustine was to worship. Also, my mother was able to use her considerable musical gifts while serving the church as its organist for many years,

My family and I spent many formative years within the church worshipping and participating in activities within the church that helped us understand how God's example can continue to shape a community. Although Gary's population has been significantly reduced in size in the last twenty-three (23) years since I last resided in Gary, the history and the impact that the church had on the families that have and continue to worship there can not be understated or minimized. In fact, the church has continued to serve the community with a never-ending supply of perserverence, faith, and belief that the lessons of the past fifty plus years can be continued to be fostered for many years and generations to come.

It is my prayer and hope that the continued efforts to further reinforce the lessons that God wants the people of Gary, Indiana to learn within a great church such as St. Augustine's can be recognized with an honor that has been proposed at this moment.

Thank you,
Robert T. Tatum Jr. and family - Aldan, PA
Pauline B. Tatum - Arlington, Tx.

July 26, 2012

Ms. Holly A. Tate

Architectural Historian

Indiana Historical Preservation Review Board

Indianapolis, Indiana

This letter of support is written on behalf of the parishioners of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church of Gary, Indiana in its effort to be listed in the National Historic Register as a historic place. As a resident of Gary from 1960 to 1990, and as a parishioner of St. Augustine's Church during my formative years, I was a witness first hand to the impact that the church had on the community at large. The architectural design of the building, was back then and continues to be a unique structure to not only hold a worship service but for other architects and designers to learn viable lessons from. My father, who served in the Vestry for many years in St. Augustine, often took pictures outside during different seasons of the year to highlight the natural beauty of the structure. He also took pictures inside of the church so that he could show his friends and family what a wonderful place that St. Augustine was to worship. Also, my mother was able to use her considerable musical gifts while serving the church as its organist for many years,

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Robert T. Tatum Jr. and family - Aldan, PA

Pauline B. Tatum - Arlington, Tx.