

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED NOV 9 1980 DEC 4 1980  
DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC St. Peter's German Evangelical Church

AND/OR COMMON St. Peter's Evangelical Church

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER 1231 West Jefferson Street

CITY, TOWN Louisville VICINITY OF 3&4 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE Kentucky CODE 021 COUNTY Jefferson CODE 111

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

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

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME St. Peter's Evangelical Church

STREET & NUMBER 1231 W. Jefferson Street

CITY, TOWN Louisville VICINITY OF Kentucky STATE

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Jefferson County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER 527 W. Jefferson

CITY, TOWN Louisville Kentucky STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE Kentucky Survey of Historic Sites

DATE 1980  FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN Frankfort Kentucky STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

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

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. Peter's German Evangelical Church is located in the eastern section of the Russell neighborhood. The church is one of a very few historic structures remaining in this area, which was virtually cleared by Urban Renewal. The church is located near the Fire Department Headquarters ( passed State Review Board, May, 1980) and the Russell Historic District ( National Register, May, 1980).

St. Peter's is a highly decorative and three dimensional handling of the Gothic Revival style. The limestone structure consists of a central, gabled nave flanked by two large towers.

The left tower is hexagonal with narrow arched slits filled with quatrefoil grills. Waterspouts extend beneath the steep roof. A circular corner tower which repeats the arch motif in its openings, visually connects the larger tower and the facade. The right tower rising above the height of the nave, is capped by a spire. This tower has an arched opening on the ground floor which is supported by two Romanesque columns. The facing of the arch contains a richly carved medallion with a Celtic-like motif. The opening now contains a window , in place of a door but the original steps remain. The tower is buttressed, adding to the three-dimensional quality. Narrow arched slits, again with quatrefoil grills are a prominent motif. Tourelles rise from the buttresses and flank the roof. A corner tower also connects the tower with the facade.

The central section of the facade is marked by a large ogee-arched opening, terminating in a finial. The arch rests on paired Romanesque columns. Recessed in the arch is a small rose window. The archway contains paired doors with stained-glass panels. The second story contains three arched windows set in stone voussiors with tracery and stained-glass. The top of the central ogee arch of the first floor extends in front of the second floor window. This nave section terminates in a simple gable with a stone coping and a finial with a bouquet.

The interior of the church retains most of its original features. The narthex is a narrow rectangular space with a blue and white tile floor, a wood paneled ceiling and leaded-glass entry doors leading into the nave.

The sanctuary is an open four-aisle nave. The cream-colored walls are pierced by a series of stained-glass windows, of primarily geometric decoration. Each window consists of two pointed-arched panels surmounted by a quatrefoil in heavy wood tracery. The walls of the nave curve to meet the ceiling which has a large recessed area. The chancel has three arched openings accented by decorative molding. The side arches contain entries into the rear section of the church. The central arch is larger and springs from paired composite columns. This arch contains the organ pipes and has intricate wood carving. The spandrels above the arches contain two frescoes ( 1912 ) of scenes of Gethsamane and the Resurrection. The chancel

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

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

SPECIFIC DATES

1894-5

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Clarke & Loomis

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St. Peter's German Evangelical Church is an excellent example of the late Gothic Revival style in ecclesiastical architecture in Louisville. The building is one of the most beautifully detailed works of the prominent Louisville architectural firm of Clarke & Loomis.

St. Peter's German Evangelical Church was founded in 1847 to meet the needs of a large German population living in the western sector of the city. English was not used in the church until 1893. The present church building was begun in 1894 and completed in 1895.

St. Peter's was design by the prominent local firm of Clarke & Loomis ( Charles Clarke, 1836-1908; Arthur Loomis, 1859-1934). The firm designed structures in numerous styles including Queen Anne, Victorian and Richardsonian Romanesque. St. Peter's is a richly detailed example of the late Gothic Revival and is one of the firm's most refined works. The firm of Clarke & Loomis was one of the most important in Louisville in the late nineteenth century. Among their works are the Stuart Robinson Memorial Church; Theophilus Conrad Residence; Whiteside Bakery; Todd Building; old University of Louisville Medical School and the Levy Brothers Building.

St. Peter's German Evangelical Church is an important reminder of the strong influence which the German immigrant community had on the development of Louisville. The church is an excellent example of the high quality of design and craftsmanship found in Louisville's ecclesiastical architecture.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

" Churches of Louisville," Louisville Post, 21 January 1922.

"Evangelical Church to Have Diamond Jubilee This Week." Louisville Courier-Journal.  
8 October 1922

Langsam, Walter, ed. Metropolitan Preservation Plan. Louisville: Falls of Ohio, 1973.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

**ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**

less than one acre

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY New Albany

**UTM NOT VERIFIED**: 24,000

QUADRANGLE SCALE

QUADRANGLE NAME \_\_\_\_\_

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 5075110 1234700  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B \_\_\_\_\_  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C \_\_\_\_\_

D \_\_\_\_\_

E \_\_\_\_\_

F \_\_\_\_\_

G \_\_\_\_\_

H \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

City of Louisville, Block 14 C, Lot 209

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marty Poynter Hedgepeth

Director of Research

ORGANIZATION

Landmarks Commission

DATE

August 8, 1980

STREET & NUMBER

727 W. Main Street

TELEPHONE

502/587-3501

CITY OR TOWN

Louisville

STATE

Kentucky

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Donna C. Hopkins*

TITLE

*Acting SHPO*

DATE

*10-22-80*

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

*W. Ray Luce*  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

*12/4/80*

ATTEST:

*Donna Flint McClure*  
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

*12.4.80*

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St. Peter's German Evangelical Church  
Louisville, Kentucky

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

6

PAGE

2

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Langsam, Walter, ed. Metropolitan Preservation Plan. Louisville:  
Falls of the Ohio Council Of Governments, 1973.

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7

PAGE

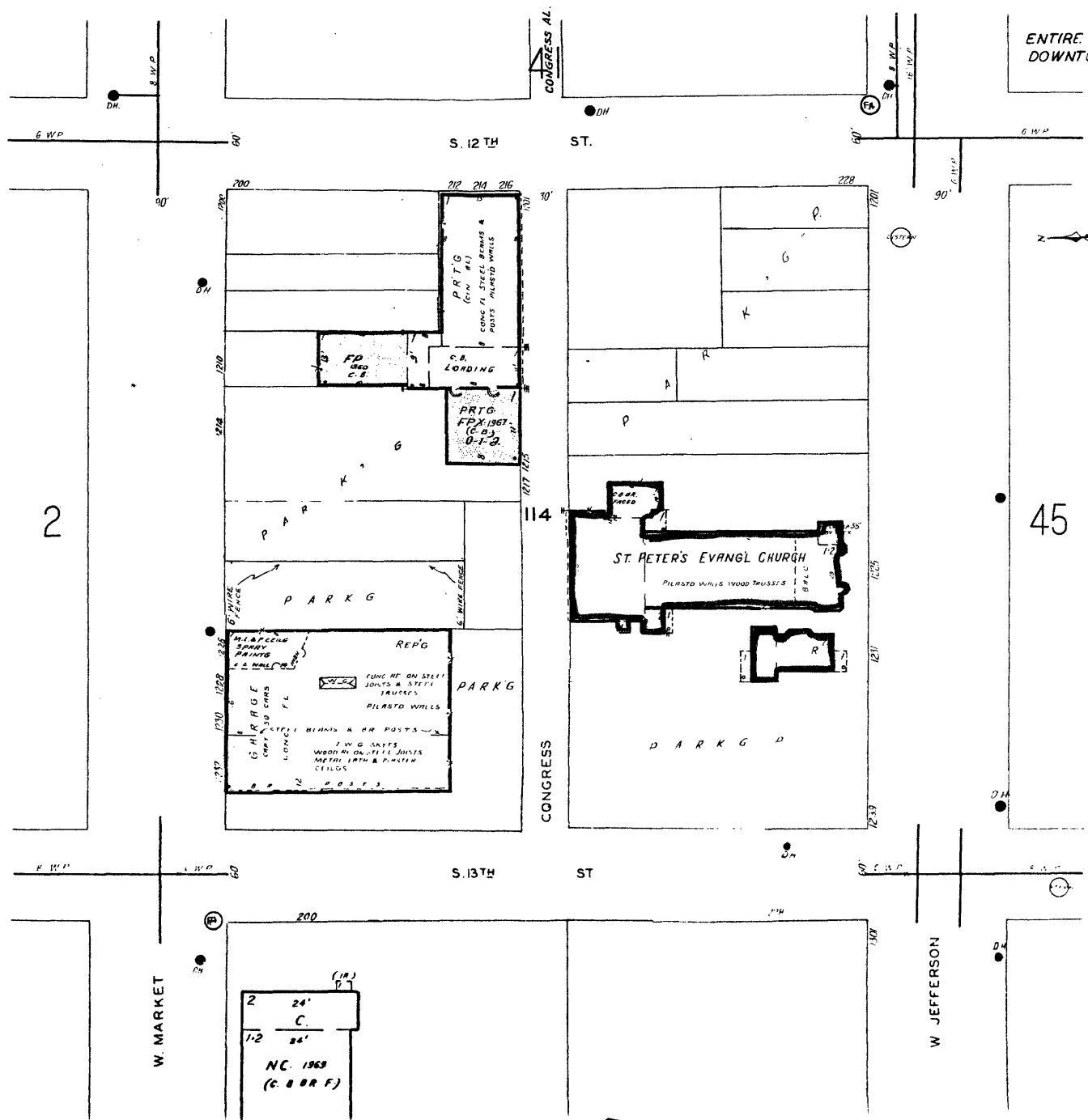
2

area contains much of the original oak furniture in the late Victorian style, the pews are also of the same style. At the rear of the nave is a cantilevered balcony with a solid wood rail.

Behind the sanctuary is a vestry which contains a marblized cast-iron fireplace mantel and a pastor's study with an oak mantel and tile facing. The rear of the church also contains a Sunday School auditorium with a stage and a balcony. Stained-glass windows pierce the wall behind the stage area. Sunday school rooms ring the auditorium on the second floor.

On the site to the west of the church is a two- and- a-half story, red brick parish house ( c.1895). The house has a chamfered recessed entry with a large double hung window to the left on the first story. The lintels are of rough-hewed stone. A classical porch shields the entry and was probably added at the turn-of-the-century. The second floor has three double - hung windows encased in a decorative terra-cotta band. The roof is pierced by a dormer which has co lonettes flanking the window and roof brackets.

ENTIRE SHEET WITHIN WEST DOWNTOWN RENEWAL AREA.



NOV 3 1980

DEC 4 1951

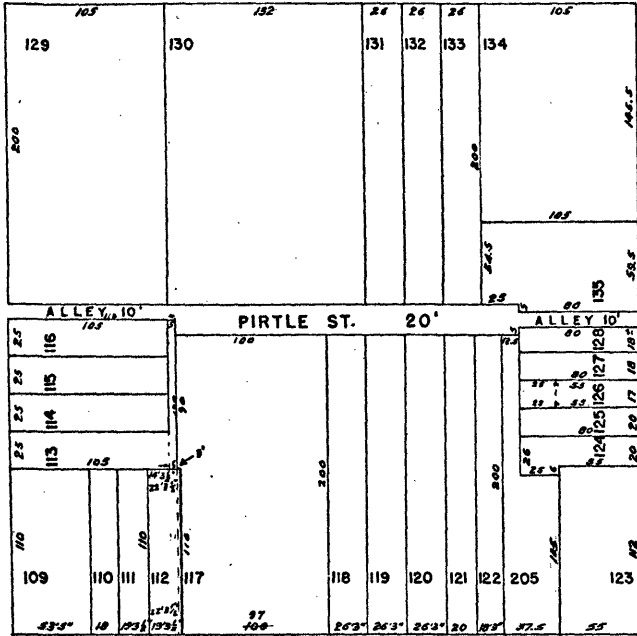
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St. Peter's German Evangelical  
Church, 1231 W. Jefferson  
Louisville, Jefferson , Ky.  
Map 2 Sanborn Real Estate Map  
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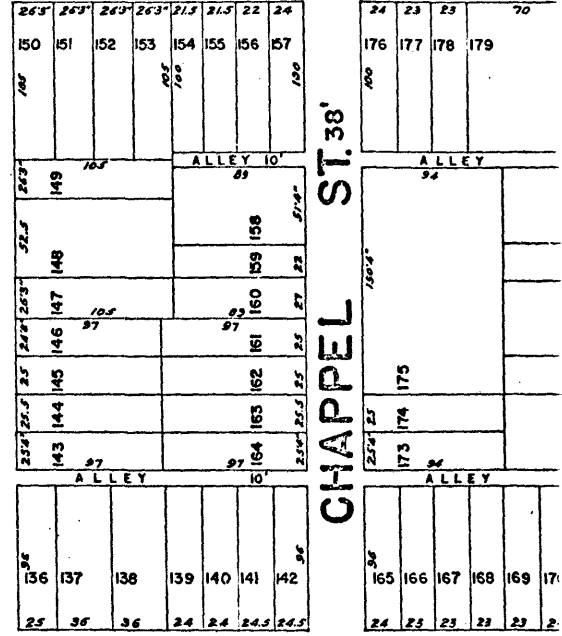
SCALE, 1" = 60'

MAIN

ST. 60'



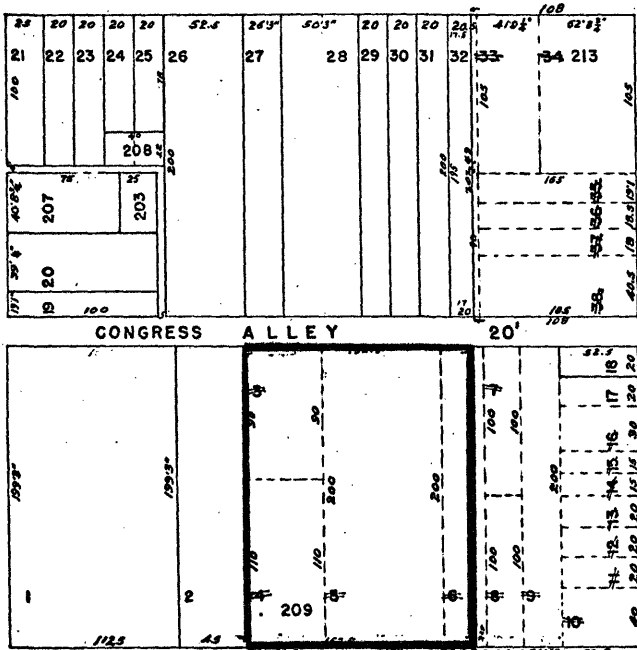
ST. 60'



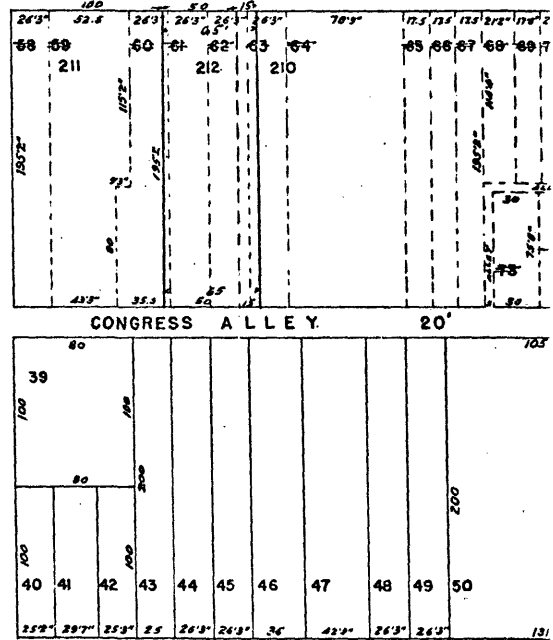
90' MARKET

98'

12TH



11TH



JEFFERSON

NOV 3 1980

St.Peter's German Evangelical Church  
1231 W. Jefferson  
Louisville, Jefferson, Ky.  
Real Estate Atlas of Jefferson County  
Vol.1, real Estate Directories, Inc.  
Miami, 1972

Map 3

DEC 4 1972