

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Colorado
COUNTY:	Denver
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	MAR 9 1975

### 1. NAME

COMMON:  
Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Saint Mary's Parish

### 2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Colfax Avenue & Logan street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Denver

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
First

STATE: Colorado CODE: 08 COUNTY: Denver CODE: 031

### 3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

### 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
Archdiocese of Denver

STREET AND NUMBER:  
938 Bannock street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Denver

STATE: Colorado CODE: 08

### 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Assessor's Office, City & County of Denver

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Colfax Avenue & Bannock st

CITY OR TOWN:  
Denver

STATE: Colorado CODE: 08

### 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Hist American Building Survey  
Designated Denver Land mark

DATE OF SURVEY: 1967

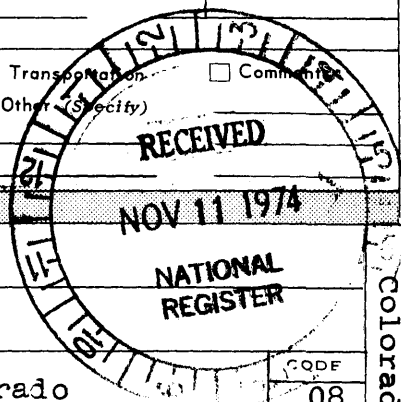
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Denver Planning Office State Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1445 Cleveland Pl. 200 East 14th Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:  
Denver

STATE: Colorado CODE: 08

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Colorado

COUNTY: Denver

ENTRY NUMBER: MAR 9 1975

DATE: 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Roman Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception was constructed 1902 - 1912. Architects: Gove and Walsh, Denver. Construction superintendant: John McIntyre. The Gothic Revival building is largely influenced by the French cathedral at Amiens. It demonstrates the vault, flying buttress and pinnacles, clerestory. The material is dressed Indiana limestone, Bedford quarries, on a foundation of Colorado granite.

Length of the building is 195'; floor to roof 68'; pair of twin spires at entrance 210'. A chime of 15 bells is hung in the east tower. The interior is furnished with sanctuary, altar, cathedra and side altars of Carrara marble.

Spiral staircases lead to balconies from which can be viewed 180 miles of the Rocky Mountain Range.

The cathedral structure represents the excellence of local engineering available and the ventilating system is a unique example of early air conditioning. Perhaps it is not surprising that men used to the building and development of the mining industry should have incorporated these engineering skills in their cathedral.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1912

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception is sited on Colfax Avenue, the historic East-West thoroughfare, one block east of the State Capitol, on the height known as "Brown's Bluff", (land originally platted by Henry C. Brown, donor of land for the Capitol and builder of the Brown Palace Hotel.). The delicate limestone spires are highly visible, rising between the modern towers of the business district and the classical gold-sheathed dome of the Capitol building which occupies the eastern end of the Civic Center District (listed on the National Register of Historic Places).

The Cathedral with the neighboring Saint John's Episcopal Cathedral, a contemporaneous structure, provides students of architectural design with comparative material for the study of the Gothic period. The structure also demonstrates the skills and aspiration of a pioneer community.

The first Latin Mass was said in the mining camp of Denver on Christmas Day 1860 in a little church measuring 30' X 60'. This church was dedicated to Saint Mary, the first Roman Catholic parish. The parish of Saint Mary's listed some of the important names in Denver's development: J.K. Mullen, John Campion, Denis Sheedy, Mrs. J.J. Brown, the "Unsinkable", among them. The congregation of Saint Mary's, the rector The Rev. Hugh L. McMenamin and the Rt. Rev. Bishop N.C. Matz determined to build a cathedral church dedicated to the dogma of the Immaculate Conception of Saint Mary. Ground was broken in 1902 but the cost of the cathedral (\$500,000) proved too heavy a burden and construction was delayed. The cathedral building was finally dedicated October 27, 1912 by His Eminence John Cardinal Farley of New York.

Recalling both its traditional architectural design and the intention of its pioneer builders, the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception is often referred to as the Pinnacled Glory of the West, the title of a book by the rector, Father McMenamin.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

State Historical Society  
 Western History Dept. Dever Public Library  
 "The Pinnacled Glory of the West", Hugh L. McMenamin

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

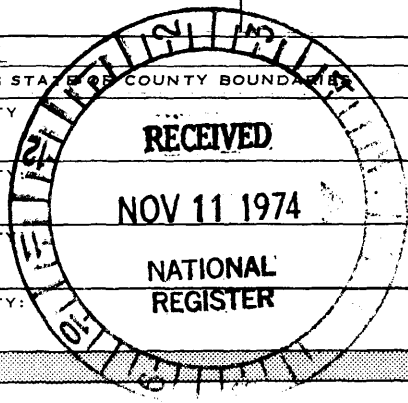
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		33° 44' 27"	104° 58' 53"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

UTM  
 13/501596  
 439274  
 (C)

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: here

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Helen M. Arndt

ORGANIZATION: Denver Landmark Preservation Commission DATE: 9/1/74

STREET AND NUMBER: Denver Planning Office 1445 Cleveland Place

CITY OR TOWN: Denver STATE: Colorado CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

National  State  Local

Name: [Signature]

Title: Color. Hist. Pres. Officer

Date: 11/4/74

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

[Signature]  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 3/3/75

ATTEST:

[Signature]  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 2/25/75

