

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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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 Episcopal Church

~~NATIONAL~~ HISTORIC LANDMARK

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

107 State Street (corner of State and Lodge Streets)

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Albany

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

New York

CODE

36

COUNTY

Albany

CODE

001

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

__DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

__AGRICULTURE

__MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

__PRIVATE

__UNOCCUPIED

__COMMERCIAL

__PARK

__STRUCTURE

__BOTH

__WORK IN PROGRESS

__EDUCATIONAL

__PRIVATE RESIDENCE

__SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

__ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

__OBJECT

__IN PROCESS

__YES: RESTRICTED

__GOVERNMENT

__SCIENTIFIC

__BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

__INDUSTRIAL

__TRANSPORTATION

__NO

__MILITARY

__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Reverend Lyman Bruner

STREET & NUMBER
107 State Street

CITY, TOWN
Albany

VICINITY OF

STATE
New York

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Albany County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
Eagle Street between Pine and Columbia Streets

CITY, TOWN
Albany

STATE
New York

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Hudson River Valley Commission Inventory

DATE
1965

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS Hudson River Valley Commission

CITY, TOWN
105 White Plains Road, Tarrytown,

STATE
New York

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

When completed except for the tower in the summer of 1860, St. Peter's Church measured 136 feet in length, 68 feet in width, and 64 feet in height. Masons fashioned the walls from Schenectady blue stone, and used brown New Jersey sandstone for decorative features, doorways, and window openings. Designed by Richard Upjohn and his son, Richard M. Upjohn, of New York City, the church initially cost \$61,532.07. Gifts enabled the parish to finance the completion of the tower in 1876. The present altar and reredos date from 1885.

The style of St. Peter's is the decorated Gothic of the French type. The design embraces a rather shallow chancel, octagonal in form, a nave with aisles, and a massive tower at the west end of the south aisle, actually on the corner of State and Lodge Streets. The interior is finished in black walnut. According to one writer the completed tower, designed by Richard M. Upjohn, "is one of the most elaborate and impressive of the decorated French Gothic on the continent."¹ Rising about 180 feet, the tower is about 20 feet square and bears on its salient angle a projecting octagon which carries a spiral staircase.

A number of stained glass windows decorate the church. The Weaver Window, designed by Burne-Jones and made under his supervision by the William Morris Company of London, is especially important. Among the art treasures found in the church is a silver communion service given to the church by Queen Anne in 1715.

Extensive interior restoration work on St. Peter's began in 1964 and included repair of six chancel windows installed by the Clayton and Bell Stained Glass Studio, Ltd., of London in 1885. Exterior restoration included replacement of the roof.

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1. Joseph Hooper, A History of Saint Peter's Church in the City of Albany (Albany, 1900), 453.

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 1859

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Begun in 1859, St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Albany, New York, was designed by noted architect Richard Upjohn and his son, Richard M. Upjohn. Constructed in French Gothic style, the church is noted for its decorative stone tower, which rises to a height of 180 feet. Recently restored, the church has changed little in appearance since 1876.

The history of St. Peter's Church reaches back to 1704 when Queen Anne established "the Chapel of the Onondagas" to spread missionary activity among the Indians. In 1715 a church building was erected, making it one of the first Anglican churches north of New York City. This building was replaced in 1803 by a new church designed by architect Phillip Hooker, located at Lodge and State Streets. In 1859 the second edifice was demolished, and on St. Peter's Day, June 29, 1859, the foundation stone for the present structure was laid.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church was the third church built in Albany by that name and the second constructed at 99 State Street. The structure also occupies the site of the northeast bastion of Fort Frederick, which was the seat of British military authority in the province during the Colonial period.

Beneath the steps of St. Peter's is a vault believed to contain the remains of Lord Viscount George A. Howe, a British brigadier general killed in the Battle of Ticonderoga in 1758.

Richard Upjohn (1802-1878), who participated in the design of St. Peter's, achieved instant fame as the architect of Trinity Church in New York (1841-1846). Generally regarded as the initiator of the purer phase of the Gothic Revival in America, he founded the American Institute of Architects and served as its first president (1857-1876). St. Peter's is sometimes listed among his dozen best known works, but it is now generally believed that his son, Richard Michell Upjohn (1828-1903), was primarily responsible for the design and particularly for the plan of the completed tower.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

See Continuation Sheet

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____
UTM REFERENCES

A	_____	_____	_____
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

B	_____	_____	_____
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

C _____
D _____
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

New York State Historic Trust, corrected by Carolyn Pitts,

ORGANIZATION
HCRS/HSS

DATE
March 1979

STREET & NUMBER
440 G Street, N. W.

TELEPHONE
343-6404

CITY OR TOWN
Washington,

STATE
D. C.

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

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ATTEST

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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St. Peter's Episcopal Church

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Joseph Hopper, A History of Saint Peter's Church in the City of Albany
(Albany, 1900).

Everard Upjohn, Richard Upjohn: Architect and Churchman (New York, 1968).

Interview with Rev. Lamar H. Bruner, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Albany,
July 5, 1968.

Newspaper clippings, NSHSB File.

Battershall, Walton W., History of St. Peter's Church in the City of Albany
Albany: Fort Orange Press, 1900.

Weise, Arthur James, History of the City of Albany, Albany: E.H. Bender, 1884.