Form 10-300 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PHOOLY 13								
1 (1000 - 17)	Hon. Peter N. Kyro	S						
HE INTERIOR	STATE:							
E	Maine	Maine						
	COUNTY:							
DRIC PLACES	Kennebec							
N FORM	FOR NPS USE ONL	_Y						
	ENTRY NUMBER	DATE						
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IN	VENIUN	RY - NOMINA	ATION FORM		FOR NPS US	E ONLY	
(Type &	all entries	s – complete a	pplicable sections	;)	ENTRY NUMBER	2 4 1973	
1. NAME					305	1	
COMMON:	_						
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2. LOCATION	<u> </u>						
STREET AND NUMB							
1 Dresden Av	/enue						
Gardiner							
STATE			CODE	OUNTY:		CODE	
Maine			23	Ker	nnebec	011	
3. CLASSIFICATION		Т			1	ACCESSIBLE	
CATEGOR' (Check One			OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC	
District X	Building	☐ Public	Public Acquisition	1;	X Occupied	Yes:	
	Structure	X Private	☐ In Proces	5 S	☐ Unoccupied	X Restricted	
Object	t	☐ Both	Being Co	onsidered	Preservation work	Unrestricted No	
		<u> </u>			in progress		
PRESENT USE (Che							
Agricultural Commercial		overnment dustrial	☐ Park ☐ Private Residence		Transportation	Comments	
Educational		ilitary	Religious	.e	Other (Specify)		
Entertainment		useum	Scientific				
4. OWNER OF PROPE	RTY						
OWNER'S NAME:						3	
Christ Epison	opal C	hurch				Maine	
1 Dresden Av	/enue					<u>ne</u>	
CITY OR TOWN:				STATE:		CODE	
Gardiner 5. LOCATION OF LEG	AL DECC	PIRTION		1 1	Maine	23	
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Augusta				Mai	ne	23	
6. REPRESENTATION	IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS				IO// P	
None						* ***	
DATE OF SURVEY:			☐ Federal	State	- /Shiy KEC	EIVELL (3) 3	
DEPOSITORY FOR S	URVEY RE	CORDS:			JUN 2	2 7 1973	
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STREET AND NOMB	EK:				NAT REG	IONAL	
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE: REGISTER					
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7 DESCRIPTION						
	1			(Check One)		
	Excellent	y Good	☐ Fair	Deteriorated	Ruins	Unexposed
CONDITION		(Check Or	ne)		(Che	eck One)
	☐ Altere		▼ Unaltered			🔀 Original Site
	1		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	ADDEADANCE		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Christ Church is a small Gothic style church and is located in the City of Gardiner, Maine. It faces the common.

The church is constructed of granite with a single tower capped by a tall spire. There are three sets of double doors on the facade, the main door being in the tower section of the facade. Over the two smaller sets of doors are two small arched windows. Over the central door is a large, arched, elaborately designed window rising quite high in the tower. Above this window and on all sides of the tower are louvered arched openings for the belfry. There are three long arched windows on each side of the church.

The crest of the tower and the church is battlemented. At one time, there were pinnacles on all corners of the tower and the church.

The church grounds and cemetery are entirely enclosed by a wrought iron fence. This church is in excellent condition and is the pride of its congregation.

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SIGNIFICANCE									
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)									
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century						
☐ 15th Century	17th Century	X 19th Century							
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicabl	e and Known) 7820								
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	ck One or More as Appropri	ate)							
Abor iginal	☐ Education	, Political	Urban Planning						
Prehistoric	☐ Engineering	Political X Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)						
Historic	Industry	losophy							
Agriculture	Invention	Science							
X Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture							
Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	-						
☐ Commerce	Literature	itarian							
☐ Communications	Military	☐ Theater							
Conservation	☐ Music	Transportation							

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Christ Church in Gardiner, Maine is an early specimen of a form of church building that existed in the United States in the first part of the nineteenth century.

The first Episcopal Church in Gardiner was St. Ann's but by 1817 it had become so crowded that a decision was reached to build a new church. Sometime between Dec. 1817 and June 1818, the church plans were completed. The working drawings and elevations were made by the Rev. Samuel Farman Jarvjs, an Episcopal clergyman, who was rector of St. Michael's Parish in Bloomingdale, N.Y. How the Rev. Jarvis learned of the needs of St. Ann's Parish for a new church is unknown.

The cornerstone of the church was laid on May 31, 1819 and on Oct. 20, 1820 the completed church was consecrated by the Rt. Rev. Alexander Griswold, Bishop of the Eastern Diocese.

This style of church had no precedent in Maine or even the country when it was built. The style should perhaps be termed "Gothick" for it comes from Eighteenth Century English architectural forms of that name which were presented in a work by Batty Langley. The Rev. Jarvis used this style for he recognized the role that "Gothick" could play in the religious experience. Also the Rev. Jarvis became a minister in the

(See Continuation Sheet)

Maine: 1852. Shettleworth, Earle G. The Origin and Analysis of Christ Church, Gardiner, Maine. An unpublished manuscript, 1967. TO. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY CORNER LATITUDE LONGITUDE Degrees Minutes Seconds Degrees Minutes Seconds NW 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	9.	MAJOR	BIBLIOGI	RAPHICAL	REFE	RENCES								
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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE	
Maine	
COUNTY	
Kennebec	
FOR NPS USE ON	LY
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	1072

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number	all	entries)
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8. SIGNIFICANCE

2

Episcopal Church at a time when it was trying to recover from the Revolution and seek a new identity. "Gothick" architecture could help attain these goals.

The significance of Christ Church seems to be in the pioneering role it played in introducing a new style to America and paving the way for a more academic Gothic which was to dominate America's church architec-

ture for decades.

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