Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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	moronic	Trinity Episcopal Ch	urch			
	AND/OR COMMON	<u> </u>				
_	LOCATIO	N				
	STREET & NUMBER	·				
		Bates and Spruce Stree	ets	_	NOT FOR PUBLICATION	
	CITY, TOWN	_			CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	RICT
	STATE	Lewiston	_ VICINITY OF CODE	2nd Hon.	William Cohen county	CODE
		Maine	023	A	ndroscoggin	°66€
-	CLASSIFIC					
	CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS		PRES	ENT USE
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	OWNER O	F PROPERTY	···			
	NAME	Trinity Episcopal Ch	urch.			
	STREET & NUMBER	P.O. Box 216				
	CITY, TOWN	Lewiston			Maine	
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	CITY, TOWN	Auburn			Maine	
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CONDITION

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X_ORIGINAL SITE

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Trinity Episcopal Church of 1879 in Lewiston is an impressive example of late Gothic Revival ecclesiastical architecture in a provincial setting. The building is basically cruciform in plan, with walls of granite ashlar and wings with gabled roofs covered with slate shingles.

A central tower is present with pyramidal roof and belfry. The latter is of frame construction with decorative shingled panels on each side, flanking louvered apertures. The slate-shingled sides of the tower flare outward from the belfry to their junction with the roofs of the four wings.

The principal facade faces east and features, left to right, several components. First is a small gabled projection with a tall, narrow Gothic window; immediately to the right of this is a single panelled door in a Gothic arch. The central wing on this east side features a pair of Gothic windows below a large circular window. On the short north side of this wing is a single Gothic window. To the right of this are two Gothic windows. At the north end of the flacade is the building's main entrance, consisting of a double panelled door leading into a small enclosed entry. A pair of attached buttresses decorate each of the corners of the entry; each side of the entry contains three small Gothic windows.

The north and south elevations are not identical. The former features a pair of large Gothic windows with square windows below at the basement level; two narrow vertical slots are present high up in the gable-end, designed for attic ventilation. The south end of the church contains three Gothic windows, the central one of which is taller and wider than the other two.

The rear elevation of the Church, which faces west, consists of a four-bay-wide wall with Gothic windows above and square basement windows below. A basement entrance covered by a wooden gabled hood is to the left. To the right (south) is the projecting west wing, with a circular window in the gable-end above two blind Gothic windows and a single square basement-level window. The north side of this wing contains a single Gothic window above another single-doored entrance.

The details on the Trinity Episcopal Church are restrained and dignified. An ornate cast iron cross sits atop the spine; a carved stone finial in the form of a Celtic cross decorates the peak over the main entrance. The sole chimney is brick and detailed in the Queen Anne manner.

PERIOD	AF			
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
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1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	_ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<u>1700-1799</u>	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
_X ₁₈₀₀₋₁₈₉₉	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
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SPECIFIC DAT	ES 1879	BUILDER/ARCHITECT C.C. Haight Co., N.Y.C.		Co., N.Y.C.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Trinity Episcopal Church of Lewiston not only displays beautiful Gothic Revival architecture and details, but also serves well as an illustration of the development of the Lewiston-Auburn area.

"The Parish of Trinity Church, Lewiston Falls" was the official name of a group that first met in June, 1854. Rev. George P. Giddinge was the pastor who lead this initial meeting in Union Hall in Danville. The next year, under the guidance of Rev. Frederick Gardiner, the Trinity parish was admitted to the Union of Episcopal churches. Services moved to what was now a more central location, Lisbon Small Hall on Lisbon Street in Lewiston. In 1859, this congregation built its own church on the corner of Ash and Park Streets.

Industry in Lewiston was growing in the mid-1800's and attracting workers from quite far away. The textile immigrants from Lanchashire, England soon added significantly to the membership of the young Episcopal church. In 1876, the Franklin Company gave the Trinity parish a bond for a lot at the corner of Bates and Spruce Streets, promising to donate the lot if a church was erected there within 10 years. Rev. William H. Washburn took over preaching duties in May of 1877, and began working vigorously toward the building of the new church. Right Rev. Henry Adams Neely laid the cornerstone on June 21, 1879. As contributions from parishioners and local mills made more money available, the construction of the new church progressed. It was completed for consecration in October 1882.

As the city of Lewiston grew in the twentieth century, so did Trinity Episcopal. Its membership swelled to 246 communicants by 1920. But development did not stop with numerical gains. In the early 1940's, a prayer shrine was dedicated, and in 1955, renovation of the church basement began.

Trinity Episcopal has truly matured with the Lewiston-Auburn community. Starting on the Auburn side of the river, the church then moved to where the population was now concentrating, in Lewiston. The new church building came from the mills and the people they had attracted, and the later improvements reflect the continuing vitality of the area. Thus the architectural importance of Trinity Episcopal Church of Lewiston is complemented by its historic associations.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

A Brief History of Trinity Parish, Lewiston Evening Journal Magazine, Feb. 6, 1965.

Ralph Skinner, Historically Speaking on Lewiston-Auburn Churches, 1965, Lewiston.

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