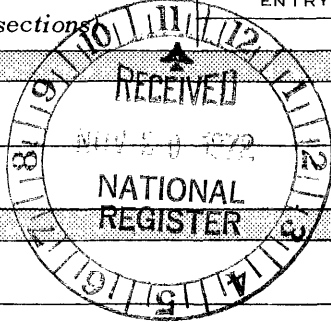


PH0022039

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
APR 2	1975



1. NAME

COMMON:
St. Mary's Episcopal Church
AND/OR HISTORIC:
St. Mary's Chapel

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
730 23rd Street, N.W.
CITY OR TOWN:
Washington (Congressman Walter E. Fauntroy, District of Columbia)
STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 11 COUNTY: District of Columbia CODE: 001

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Rector and Vestry of St. Mary's Episcopal Church
STREET AND NUMBER:
730 23rd Street, N.W.
CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 11

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Recorder of Deeds
STREET AND NUMBER:
Sixth and D Streets, N.W.
CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 11

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Proposed District of Columbia Additions to the National Register of Historic Places Recommended by the Joint Committee on Landmarks
DATE OF SURVEY: March 7, 1968 Federal State County Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
National Capital Planning Commission
STREET AND NUMBER:
1325 G Street, N.W.
CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

APR 2 1975

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. Mary's Episcopal Church is located at 730 23rd Street, N.W. on the west side of 23rd Street, just south of Washington Circle. Designed by the firm of Renwick, Aspinwall and Russell, the parish-Gothic Revival church was built in 1886-7. The first church on the site was a frame chapel which was moved to 23rd Street from Kalorama Army Hospital and was razed when the brick chapel was completed.

St. Mary's church is a one-story, rectangular building (with a basement) approximately 122 feet deep and 53 feet wide including the two-story gatehouse. The front facade is continuous along 23rd Street and includes (south to north) the organ room, sanctuary, sacristy, gatehouse which leads to the inner courtyard, and educational building and parish house, both of which are later additions. The Chapel is of common bond red brick with terra-cotta buttress caps and ornamentation, brick water coursing and brick corbeling on each side of the nave.

The lancet sanctuary windows are of leaded glass and depict Sts. Simon, Tryphena and Cyprian. On each side of the nave are four bays with double lancet windows alternating with brick piers. There are five lancet windows on the rear arcade, three of which provide clerestory light for the nave. Also on the rear facade are two star-shaped tie-bars.

The entrance to the sanctuary is through the open gatehouse whose pointed brick arched door with brick archivolt and enframingent faces 23rd Street up six risers and leads through a similar arched passageway to the inner court. The entrance can be closed off from the street by a double sliding ornamented iron gate. The two-story tower contains terra-cotta decorative panels, brick corbels and is topped by a steep roof with two decorative Gothic finials. On the left of the inner courtyard and west of the gatehouse is the nave. The main entrance is through a door on the northwest corner distinguished by a wooden porch which leads to a wooden lancet-arched double entrance door.

The nave and sanctuary have a slate, saddleback roof running north and south with gable ends east and west; the nave roof rises a little higher than that of the sanctuary. A bell cote with wooden louvered lancet windows is atop the nave roof and has a steeply slanting roof topped by a cross. The roof which covers the organ room and vestibule is also a saddle-backed roof, but it runs east and west and contains two chimneys with terra-cotta caps. The gatehouse was a slanting, round-shingled roof capped with gothic finials.

The interior of the nave is divided into four bays by wall posts each supporting a corbel followed by a pendent-terminated brace with foil spandrels and a hammerbeam. Each hammerbeam has a tie-rod over which rises a lancet and brace, exposed rafters and a natural wood decked ceiling. Separated from the nave by a molded brick, gold-finished lancet archway, the raised sanctuary has a rose marble baseboard and stencilled mauve-colored plaster walls. The ceiling treatment is similar to the nave. The altar and pulpit are contemporary with the building.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. SIGNIFICANCE

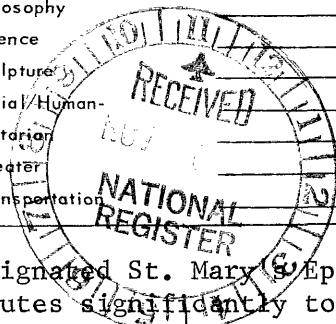
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) erected 1886-7

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input 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

The Joint Committee on Landmarks has designated St. Mary's Episcopal Church a Category II Landmark which contributes significantly to the cultural heritage and visual beauty of the District of Columbia. Erected in 1886-7, the church was designed by the New York firm of Renwick, Aspinwall and Russell in the parish Gothic Revival style. The church was organized specifically to serve the black community, and it has provided both educational and community services since its founding in 1865.

The movement to establish what we know as the parish of St. Mary's began in 1865 among the communicants of the Church of the Epiphany on G Street, N.W. The Rector of Epiphany Church, Dr. Charles Hall, was interested in the meetings of the group and frequently attended them. He led the devotions and advised the group on the formation of a separate congregation. The Rector of St. John's, Dr. John Vaughn Lewis, was brought into the conferences with the group. The acquisition of the first church building, however, has been attributed to Dr. Hall. "I was in the office of the Secretary of War, Mr. Stanton, when something led him to mention that there was a chapel attached to Kalorama Hospital, which was about to be taken down and sold for lumber. I asked him to give it to the colored people for a church. He was pleased with the suggestion and offered to have it taken down and rebuilt in the city." A parishoner of St. John's, Mrs. Catherine Pearson, offered the use of a lot on 23rd between G and H Streets, N.W. for the relocation of the chapel. This frame chapel was opened for the first Divine Service on the second Sunday in June 1867. Mr. Edward Kinney, lay reader, assumed active charge of the work, with assistance from different clergy of the city and under the supervision of Dr. Lewis, the Rector of St. John's.

The Reverend Alexander Crummell took charge of work at St. Mary's in 1873. Three years later he moved to St. Luke's and many members of the congregation went with him. After his departure, the character of the church changed, and a brick school was constructed in 1881 in back of the chapel. In this school and in the church the educational activities--the church school, the industrial school, the parochial school--were conducted.

Catherine Pearson retained title to the lot on 23rd Street, and after her death in 1868, the title passed to her daughter, Elizabeth Worthington Patterson. In 1877, Mrs. Patterson executed a deed conveying the Pearson lot in trust to the Vestry of St. John's Church for the purpose of permitting a church to be built "for the use of persons of African descent."

(Continued on Form 10-300a)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

St. Mary's Episcopal Parish. Centennial Book. June 1967.

Information compiled by the Commission of Fine Arts on file at the Commission of Fine Arts.

Information given to Francis Lethbridge by Mrs. George Rattner, Kings Point, Long Island.

Information from Patricia Corbett of the Renwick Gallery: "Minutes of the Vestry of St. John's Parish."

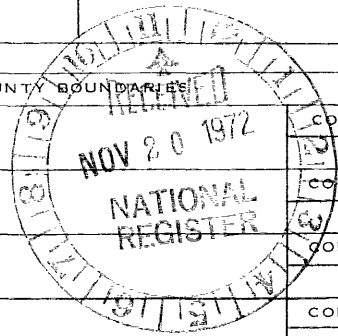
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	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	° ' "	° ' "		N38° 53' 56"	W77° 03' 14"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 6,530 square feet

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Suzanne Ganschietz, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION: National Capital Planning Commission DATE: 1 May 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
1325 G Street, N.W.

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 11

12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

<p>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:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name: <u>[Signature]</u> Title: _____ Date: _____</p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date: <u>4/2/73</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date: <u>3-7-73</u></p>
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
COUNTY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 20 1979

(Number all entries)

8. Significance - St. Mary's Episcopal Church

A building permit was issued in 1886 to the firm of Renwick, Aspinwall, and Russell for the erection of the present St. Mary's Chapel. Renwick (1818-1895) one of the most prominent architects of his time, designed several Washington buildings including the Smithsonian "Castle" building, the Oak Hill Cemetery Chapel and the Corcoran Gallery (now the Renwick Gallery). General P.V. Hagner, Senior Warden of the church, superintended the construction. The new Chapel of St. Mary's was formally opened by the Bishop of Maryland on January 20, 1887.

In 1960 all of the property which includes St. Mary's was granted to the vestry of St. Mary's church.



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Date Entered **APR 2 1973**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
St. Mary's Episcopal Church	730 - 23rd St., N. W.

Also Notified

Mr. James G. Banks
Room 112A, District Building
14th and E Streets, N. W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

Director, National Capital Parks

PHR NRowland: pcl 4/ 13/73

PROPERTY St. Mary's Episcopal Church

STATE NC

No. 2

WORKING NUMBER

11.20.72.1763

73002118

TECH REVIEW

Photos _____

Maps _____

CONTROL REVIEW

The original form was lost. zerox copy sent 3/1/73. The original had been reviewed & OK'd by Kate + Carol. zerox copy of map + pictures will be sent later.

*70g
3-1-73*

HISTORIAN

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ARCHEOLOGIST

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register write-up _____

Send-back _____

Federal Register entry 6-5-73

Re-submit _____

Entered APR 2 1973

H34-PHR

MAR 26 1973

3-23-73
C
Shull
Rm 3/21/73

Mr. James G. Banks
Room 112A, District Building
14th and E Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Banks:

Thank you for sending us another copy of the nomination for St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Fortunately, we have found the misplaced forms and are returning your duplicate for your files.

The St. Mary's nomination is in the last stages of the review process and we hope to make a determination on the property in the near future. We appreciate your promptness in answering our request for duplicate forms.

Sincerely yours,

William J. Murtagh (Sgd.)

William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register

Enclosures

cc:
Director, National Capital Parks, w/c inc.
LI
PHR, w/c inc.
CShull:jcc 3/21/73

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN PHR

PROPERTY St. Mary's Episcopal Church STATE D.C.

Working number 11-20-72 1763

TECH REVIEW
Photos 1
Maps 1

REVIEW No SLO title or date

1/1
1-2
73

HISTORIAN C Shell

1-
7
2

ARCHEOLOGIST

ARCHITECT OK KH
1/26/73

BRANCH CHIEF OK
1/29/73

EDITORIAL REVIEW

KEEPER OK
3/12

National Register write-up _____

Acknowledge 11-22-72

Federal Register entry _____

Send-back _____

Re-submit _____

Register no. APR 2 1973



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20004

OFFICE OF HOUSING PROGRAMS

MAR 9 1973

Dr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1100 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

As the District of Columbia's State Liaison Officer for Historic Preservation, I am forwarding a completed and signed nomination form for St. Mary's Church for your review and possible listing in the National Register.

The original form for St. Mary's Church was reviewed and approved by the Joint Committee on Landmarks, signed by former State Liaison Officer Graham W. Watt and received at your office on November 20, 1972. We have been advised that the form was subsequently misplaced and are, therefore, sending you the enclosed duplicate.

This nomination form for St. Mary's was completed by our staff after extensive research on the historical and architectural significance of the Church. We feel that it is worthy of listing in the National Register of Historic Places and hope that your review confirms our opinion.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James G. Banks".

James G. Banks
State Liaison Officer for the
District of Columbia

Enclosure