

SUMMARY OF NOMINATION INFORMATION IN ONJH FILES

NAME St. Mary's Abbey Church
 COUNTY Essex
 MUNICIPALITY Newark City

TYPE:
 Individual X
 Historic District _____
 Multiple Property _____
 Documentation Form _____

NOMINATION FORM

ONJH FILES

- Nomination form (If there are continuation sheets, please indicate number) ✓
- First page (#1-6) ✓ CS: _____
- Description (#7) ✓ CS: 1
- Significance (#8) ✓ CS: _____
- Last page (#9-11) ✓ CS: _____
- SHPO Signatures _____
- USGS Map ✓
- Site plan _____
- Tax map ✓
- Floorplan _____
- Photo index map _____
- Other maps _____
- Photographs (Indicate number) ✓
- Exterior 1 (plus 2 photocopied photos)
- Interior _____
- Streetscapes _____
- Outbuildings _____
- Historical _____
- Negatives _____
- Contact Sheet _____

DATE OF LISTING

State Register 5/1/72
 National Register 11/2/72

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

N.J.H.S.I. # _____ Draft Nomination _____
 Newspaper/Magazine Articles _____ Correspondence _____
 HABS _____ Contextual Data _____
 Other (Please specify) _____

STAFF MEMBER Barry Goldstein DATE 7/1/71
 UPDATES: STAFF _____ DATE _____
 STAFF _____ DATE _____

NEW JERSEY AND NATIONAL REGISTER FILE REORGANIZATION - 1980-1981
Summary Sheet

NAME St. Mary's Abbey Church
MUNICIPALITY Newark COUNTY Essex Co.

Nomination Form:

Final Nomination Form Signed _____ Unsigned
U.S.G.S. Map Photocopy
Other Maps Tax Map
Plan(s): Site _____ Floor _____

Photographs:

	<u>Identified</u>	<u>Unidentified</u>	<u>Inadequate Coverage</u>
Exterior	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
Interior	_____	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Streetscapes	_____	_____	_____
Outbuildings	_____	_____	_____
Historical	_____	_____	_____

Negatives:

Same as prints _____ Less than prints _____ Additional Negatives _____

Slides: inadequate

Boundaries:

No precise boundaries _____ Defined in nomination _____
Defined by map Latitude & longitude
U.T.M.'s _____ Boundary justification _____

National Register notification of listing to SHPO:

Copies of final approved nomination: _____

Other: _____

SHPO Notification Letters:

Intent to nominate _____ National Register _____ State Register _____
Owner list _____

Supplemental Information:

N.J.H.S.I. Draft nomination _____
Newspaper/Magazine articles _____ Recent correspondence _____
Local ordinance data _____ Maps _____ HABS _____
Other _____

Materials in Storage:

Public Meeting notification _____ Draft nomination _____
Newspaper articles _____ Correspondence _____
Historical information _____ Other _____

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries -- complete applicable sections)

STATE: New Jersey	
COUNTY: Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
St. Mary's Abbey Church (Benedictine Abbey in Newark)

AND/OR HISTORIC:
St. Mary's Church, or St. Mary's Abbey

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
High Street and William Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Newark

STATE:
New Jersey

CODE: 34

COUNTY:
Essex

CODE: 013

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"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	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"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<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:
St. Mary's Church

STREET AND NUMBER:
Same as above

CITY OR TOWN:
Newark

STATE:
New Jersey

CODE:
34

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Essex County Hall of Records

STREET AND NUMBER:
High Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Newark

STATE:
New Jersey

CODE:
34

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory 2186.33

DATE OF SURVEY: 1968

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Historic Sites, Department of Environmental Protection

STREET AND NUMBER:
John Fitch Plaza, P.O. Box 1420

CITY OR TOWN:
Trenton

STATE:
New Jersey

CODE:
34

STATE: New Jersey
COUNTY: Essex
ENTRY NUMBER:
DATE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

Red brick; seats 1,000; early German Romanesque; has campanile (italian style bell tower) 125' high on front right; "basilica form in Romanesque style" - 7th or 8th Century.

The six points of the star of the round window of the upper facade have been noted with more curiosity by the laity than by the clergy.

The corner tower rises quite sheerly, without setback, through six large stages or stories, to its top cornices.

The interior is long with columns of the nave topped with Roman arches, with a rounded "east end" apse containing the large marble main altar, the whole being reminiscent of the basilicas of ancient Rome.

Kenneth B. Schnall, in his 1965 Thesis, A Survey of Ecclesiastical Architecture Built in Newark from 1810 to 1865, describes St. Mary's: "The church is located on a steep hill close to the center of the heaviest commercial area in Newark. It is on an east-west axis ...The building is constructed of red brick throughout with a stone foundation. In design the church is a simplification of the Romanesque style. The west gable end is flanked by heavy tower buttresses with recessed sides. The wall is further broken by a row of five long-set windows with semi-circular tops. A larger round window with a star tracery breaks the open expanse of wall just below the peak. A wide brick band in a lattice design under the stone cornice provides texture to the upper part of the flat wall. The north side wall at the front of the aisle is simple in design with a heavy stone cornice bordered by a band of brickwork. The side wall has long buttresses similar to those found on each side of the nave and is broken by a single semi-circular arched window. The porch, which was built after the church was erected, covers the lower part of the front nave wall. It has two side doors and a central entrance set deep under a semi-circular arch. The front door has been well integrated into the building's design through the use of a peaked gable over the central arch which picks up and accents the sharp peak of the roof. The bell tower is in front of the south side aisle and has a separate outside door that leads through the tower into the church. Long deep-set panels divide the length of the tower in two. These provide room for double louvered semi-circular arched windows in the upper chambers and smaller glass windows at the lower levels. Deep-set panels of bricked circles within a rectangle provide the transition to the more elegant windowed area of the belfry. The use of the lighter windowed arches and the additional panels also lighten the weight of the tower. The wall is capped with a course of designed brickwork which terminates in a wide overhanging wooden cornice set on top of heavy curved wooden brackets. The side walls are high while the upper nave walls are short. The fenestration is similar at the top and lower side walls of the nave and aisles. The high windows at the side walls are long and narrow with semi-circular caps that do not really appear to carry weight but act rather as decorations for the wall. The buttresses end at a wide brick eaves board just under the overhanging roof. A high brick wall runs the length of the north side. The rear apse is high with window and buttressing similar to those in the side walls.

Continued

SERIALS SECTION

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 type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATES (If Applicable and Known) 1854 riot; cornerstone 1856; dedication 1857			
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input checked="" 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			
<p>The St. Mary's Abbey Church is significant for its architecture - German Romansque - 7th or 8th Century - "basilica form in Romanesque style" - of the early date 1856-57, by nationally-noted architect Patrick C. Keely, and because of its extraordinarily rich history, simultaneously, as parish church, abbey church, and prep school chapel, also German parish (orig.) and severe anti-Catholic riot of 1854.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) St. Mary's Church - a local parish 2) an Abbey Church to the Benedictine Abbey in Newark, formerly St. Mary's Abbey, partly removed to Morristown 3) chapel to St. Benedict's Preparatory School. <p>Outline of history:</p> <p>1835 German services held in old St. John's Church - result in German parish being organized as St. Mary's.</p> <p>1842 Original frame church built on another site; services in by January 31, 1842, dedicated fall 1842</p> <p>1843 First German parochial school organized</p> <p>1846 Original frame church moved to present site</p> <p>1854 September 4 or 5: "Know Nothing" anti-Catholic riots by Orangemen, nearly destroys original building. Huge mob of over 3,000 reputedly headed for St. Patrick's but became confused and hit St. Mary's instead.</p> <p>1856 Parish assigned to the Benedictines, a number of whom arrive from Metten, Bavaria</p> <p>1856 November 1, building committee and cornerstone laying, present church</p> <p>1857 December 20, dedication, present church, noted Catholic architect Patrick C. Keely.</p> <p>1858 Sept. 11, property deed given to Benedictines by Bishop Bayley</p> <p>1882 Present Rectory and Abbey begun</p> <p>1883 St. Mary's Abbey established (Benedictine)</p> <p>1893-1896 St. Mary's Abbey, Newark founds and builds St. Anslem's College, Manchester, New Hampshire</p> <p>1920 Prep School addition</p> <p>Keely, Catholicism's most prolific architect, reportedly did perhaps 800 churches, including, supposedly, 500 in New York State.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Congressional Representation</u> Harrison Williams, Clifford Case - U.S. Senators Congressman Peter W. Rodino, Jr. - Congressional District 10</p>			

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ambrose, Abbot of Abbey 1971, Certain verification after consultation
 Flynn, Joseph, The Catholic Church in New Jersey
 Kervick, Francis Patrick Charles Reely, Architect - A Record of his
 Life and Work
 Schnell, Kenneth B. Thesis, 1965 Newark State College, Newark Public
 Library, A Survey of Ecclesiastical Architecture Built in
 Newark from 1610-1865.
 Newark Daily Advertiser, October 31, 1856
 Newark Daily Mercury, December 21, 1857
 Newark Sunday News, February 11, 1968

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			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
NW	0 ' "	0 ' "	40°	44'	06"
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "	74°	10'	50"
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "			
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Donald W. Geyer, licensed "professional planner" and architectural historian.

ORGANIZATION: _____ DATE: 9/71 Len

STREET AND NUMBER: 351 Broad Street

CITY OR TOWN: Newark STATE: New Jersey CODE: 34

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 99-665), 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: Richard J. Sullivan

Title: Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection

Date: _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date: _____

SEMI INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE New Jersey	
COUNTY Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

St. Mary's Abbey Church
New Jersey 34
Essex 013

7. Description

The central nave is high with a slight span in the arched roof. A thin molding divides the ceiling from the front of the church at the organ to the chancel forming five bays in both the north and south aisles. The upper wall above the piers is pierced by six sets of double round arched windows. These are located just under a heavy hang molding at the top of the nave wall under the ceiling. The side aisles are narrow and are located under the lowered side aisle. The heavy stone piers rest on high square bases so that they are fully exposed above the surrounding pews. The nave walls are thick and the supporting piers have highly carved capitals. Heavy wooden pews in the side aisles are set against a high wainscoting. The side altars are set deep within the walls at the front of the aisles. They are framed by heavy arches with engaged pillars capped with carved capitals. The ceiling within each side altar is square and has a square window for a ceiling height. The altar in the north aisle has architectonic element while the south altar is much more simple due to the fact that it was burned out in 1956. The apse is set deep within a semi-circular stilted arch and is set on two engaged columns. They have handsomely carved capitals in an angel design which provide textured areas against the flat wall surfaces. Deep-set side windows and a small over-head oculus in the (semi-domed) apse provides a low light to the area. The walls are also broken by a door in the south side to the sacristy, which is located behind the side altar. The interior of the apse is faced with a gray marble that is unlike any other in the interior of the church.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

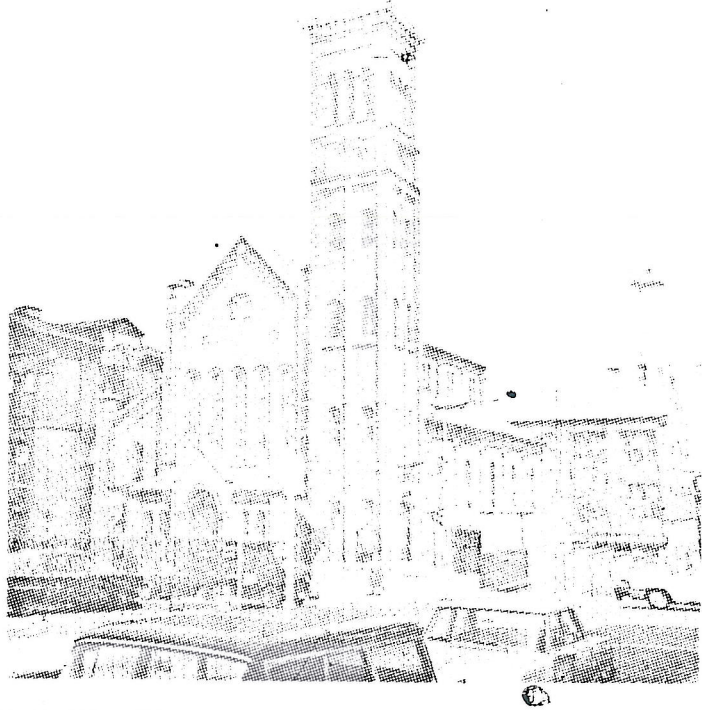
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	
New Jersey	
COUNTY	
Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: St. Mary's Abbey Church			
AND/OR HISTORIC: St. Mary's Abbey or Church			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
High Street and William Street			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Newark			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
New Jersey	31	Essex	013
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Donald W. Geyer,			
DATE OF PHOTO: 1971			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Donald Geyer			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
Front right diagonal and general view tower and entrance featured			





ST. MARY'S (ABBEY) CHURCH (R.C.)

Built 1857.

High & William St., S.E. cor.

Red brick

Height tower: 125'

Style: Romanesque style (Ital. Ren.), has campanile (Italian-style bell tower);
"basilica form in Romanesque style" - of 7th or 8th Century

Said to be modelled after another Benedictine Church in Germany, St. Boniface Abbey Ch. in Munich, Bavaria of which it is a smaller copy. Plans probably brought by original Benedictines from Meten, Bavaria. The Benedictines were given charge of St. Mary's in 1856.

History: ^{top 9/5} ~~9/4/1854~~ almost completely destroyed, old ch. on site sacked and plundered by Orangemen in "know-nothing" outbreak; designated an Abbey, 1864, adjoins St. Benedict's Prep.

Patrick C. Keely

Architect: ~~may have been~~ Jeremiah O'Rourke (Irish), recorded architect 6 years later of parish school adjoining, also Sacred Heart Cathedral.