

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: North Carolina	
COUNTY: Wake	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME	
COMMON: St. Mary's Chapel	
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 900 Hillsborough Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh			
STATE North Carolina	CODE 37	COUNTY: Wake	CODE 163

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	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"/> 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: Trustees of St. Mary's Junior College			
STREET AND NUMBER: 900 Hillsborough Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh	STATE: North Carolina	CODE: 37	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Wake County Courthouse			
STREET AND NUMBER: 310 Fayetteville Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh	STATE: North Carolina	CODE: 37	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY:			
DATE OF SURVEY:	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local		
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE:	

STATE: North Carolina	COUNTY: Wake	ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Exterior: St. Mary's Episcopal Chapel was originally a simple board-and-batten, rectangular structure with a steep gable roof. In 1905 transepts were added giving the chapel its present cruciform plan. The south (main) gable contains a pointed segmental-arch portal flanked by narrow lancet windows. Above the entrance is a hood supported by curved brackets with geometric open-work featuring trefoil in the gable. A cartwheel "rose" window is situated in the center of the gable, above the hood, and below a louvered quatrefoil. The roof is terminated by a cruciform finial.

The nave to the crossing is four bays long. Each bay contains a triangular-headed lancet framed by a simple projecting molding and resting on small molded brackets. The gable end of the east transept is identical to the south (main) entrance except the hood has been replaced by a shed porch which connects to a covered walkway leading to the main school building. The west transept contains a large narrow lancet flanked by two smaller ones. The north gable at the end of the sanctuary features a large stained glass lancet window below a louvered quatrefoil. Later additions have been constructed adjacent to the transepts in the northeast and northwest angles.

Interior: The plan of St. Mary's is essentially a Latin cross. It has walls of plaster above a flat paneled wainscot. This rather austere treatment is relieved by beautiful stained glass windows set in deep splayed reveals. Large three-centered arches with wooden tracery are located in the north wall of each transept and serve as organ screens. The timber roof is finished with simple wooden sheathing. It is of a much lower pitch than the exterior gable and rises in two distinct stages with the change of angle occurring at the lower of the two purlins. The bays of the roof are divided by simple rafters resting on molded brackets. At the crossing each opening is framed by a collar-brace. These members rise from the floor, are tangent to the rafter just below the upper purlin and form shallow pointed arches below the ridge. At the apex of each collar-beam is a vertical strut supporting the ridge. The sanctuary features a simple altar with a small highly carved wooden reredos.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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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 DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input 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

In May, 1833, the convention of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina passed a resolution establishing the Episcopal School for Boys. A 159-acre tract was purchased near Raleigh from Col. William Polk and construction of the school buildings was begun within a year. But, in July, 1837, the trustees were forced to close the institution because of financial difficulties and the property was sold to Duncan Cameron. Cameron was a prominent local politician and businessman--serving as a State Senator from Orange County, a judge of Superior Court, president of the State Bank, and as chairman of the committee appointed to rebuild the State Capitol in 1831.

With the aid of Judge Cameron, the Rev. Albert Smedes reopened the school as St. Mary's School for Girls on May 12, 1842, and served as the institution's rector for thirty-five years. In 1897 the school property was purchased by the Diocese of North Carolina from the Cameron family and in 1899 the school's charter was amended to include the Diocese of South Carolina.

The early religious services at St. Mary's School were held in the parlor of Smedes Hall; later they were moved to another room fitted with pews and an organ. In 1855 St. Mary's Chapel was built with money donated by the Cameron family. The architect was Richard Upjohn, who also designed Christ Church in Raleigh and Trinity Church in New York City. Bishop Thomas Atkinson, visiting the chapel for the first time in 1858, remarked, "I was gratified by its beauty, its appropriate arrangements, and its adaptation to its purpose."

In 1905 the transepts were added but, most of Upjohn's work was left unaltered. Upjohn, who normally restricted his efforts to more important projects, created in St. Mary's Chapel a simple, but delightful board-and-batten edifice, which is a fine example of Gothic Revival church architecture.

9. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Journal of the Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of North Carolina, 1851-1860. Raleigh: Edwards and Broughton Printing Company (imprint varies).

Wake County Records, Wake County Courthouse, Office of the Register of Deeds, Raleigh, North Carolina. (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills, Estate Papers, Census Reports.)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	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	° ' "	° ' "		35°	46'	59"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		78°	39'	11"
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: John B. Wells, III, Survey Specialist
Greer Suttlemyre, Survey Assistant

ORGANIZATION: State Department of Archives and History DATE: November 13, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER: 109 East Jones Street

CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh STATE: North Carolina CODE: 37

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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:

National State Local

Name: Dr. H. G. Jones
Title: Director, State Department of Archives and History
Date: November 13, 1970

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 _____

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

North Carolina

COUNTY

Wake

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

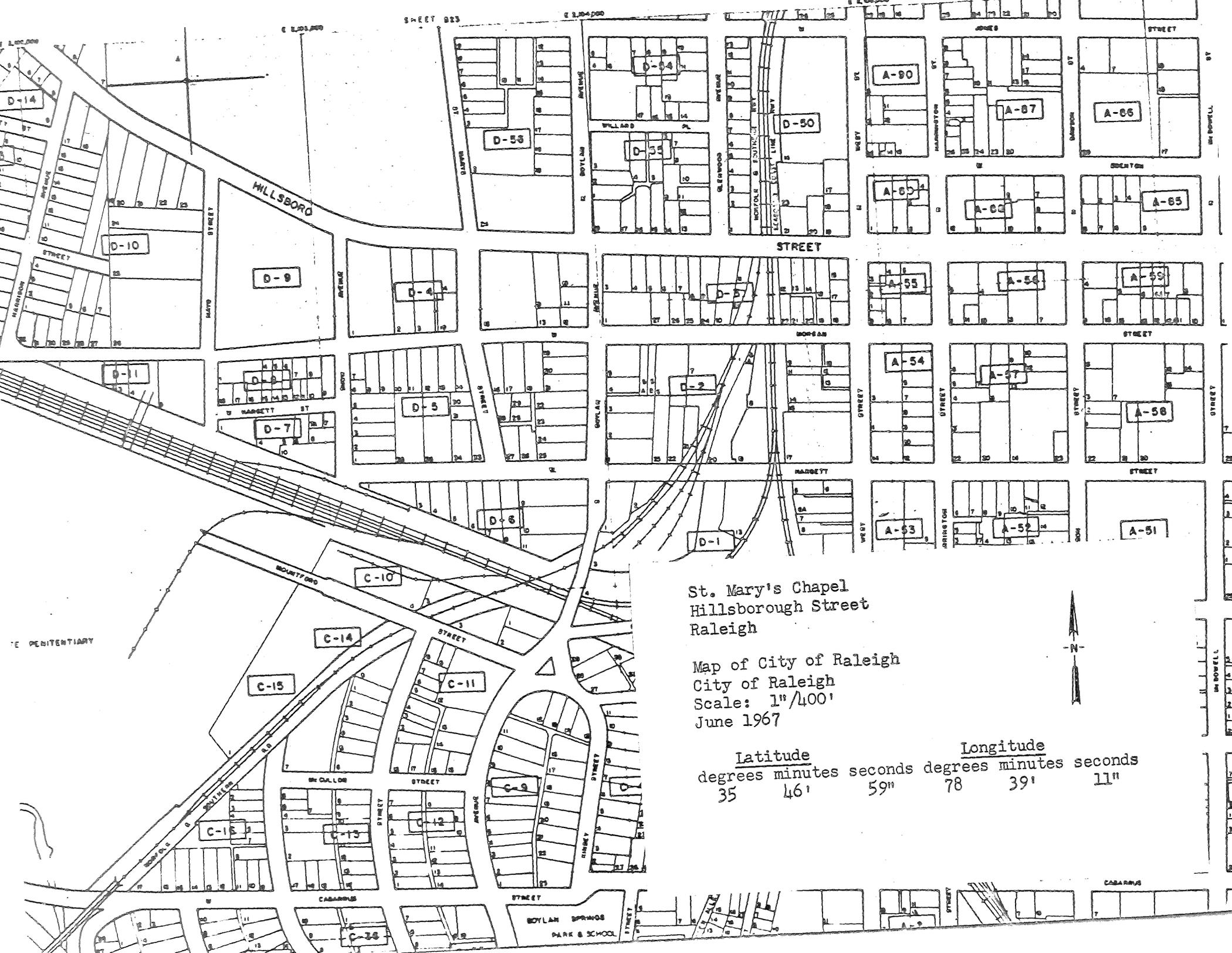
DATE

(Number all entries)

9.

Wake County Records, State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina. (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills, Estate Papers, Census Reports.)

Waugh, Elizabeth Culbertson, North Carolina's Capital, Raleigh. Raleigh: North Carolina State Print Shop, 1967.)



St. Mary's Chapel
 Hillsborough Street
 Raleigh

Map of City of Raleigh
 City of Raleigh
 Scale: 1" / 400'
 June 1967

Latitude		Longitude	
degrees	minutes	degrees	minutes
35	46'	78	39'
		59"	11"

