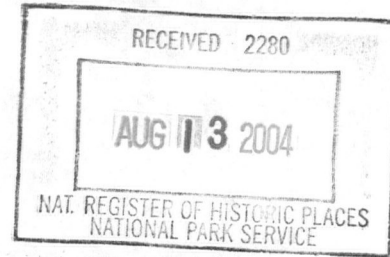


**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**



**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Saint James' Episcopal Church

other name/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 405 East Main Street not for publication

city or town Batavia vicinity _____

state New York code NY county Genesee code 037 zip code 14020

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] Date 4/09/04
Signature of certifying official>Title _____
New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official>Title _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that the property is:
- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
 - determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
 - determined not eligible for the National Register.
 - removed from the National Register.
 - other, (explain:)

[Signature] Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 9.24.04
Edson W. Beall

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- public-local
- private
- public-State
- public-Federal

- district
- building(s)
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	1	buildings
		sites
1		structures
		objects
3	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Function
(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Function
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility/church-related residence

RELIGION/religious facility/church-related residence

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Late Gothic Revival/Tudor Revival

foundation stone

walls stone

roof slate

other reinforced concrete

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

St. James' Episcopal Church
Genesee County, New York

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 1

St. James' Episcopal Church is located on an elevated site on the north side of East Main Street in the City of Batavia. Related buildings on the property include a modest rectory just northeast of the church and a modern garage/storage building to the northeast of that. The grounds consist of a broad treed lawn between the front (south) of the church and the cast-iron fence and cut-stone wall at the sidewalk line.¹ Areas to the north and east of the church have been paved for parking; these parking areas are accessed by drives on the east and west ends of the property.

The church is a large Neo-Gothic style building with a massive square tower at the south end, low clerestory and side aisles and is constructed of random-ashlar sandstone with window, door and other detailing of smooth finished limestone and cast stone. The south end of the building is dominated by the square bell tower. Above the main entrance is a large window. The belfry stage of the tower is pierced on each face by two arched openings with patinated copper louvers. The south face of the tower also features an empty niche located between the louvered openings and below a bas-relief Celtic cross that rises to the tower's parapet

Window and door openings in the church are Tudor-arched. The masonry is also accented by simple stepped wall buttresses. The large windows at the north and south ends of the building are divided by cast stone mullions in Decorated Gothic patterns. The aisle windows are divided by cast stone mullions into two Perpendicular Gothic panes with a quatrefoil at the apex of the composition. The clerestory windows consist of pairs of small Tudor-arched openings set in cast stone surrounds. All of the windows in the church are glazed with figurative stained glass.² The roofs are sheathed with variegated gray-blue slate.

The church offices are located in a two-story Tudor Revival style wing off the west side of the chancel. This part of the building has a first story of random ashlar stone, stucco and half-timbered second story, multi-paned casement windows and a decorative cross-gable roof. A later (1953) educational wing constructed of concrete block is located off the north side of the Tudor Revival wing.

The interior of the church features a traditional liturgical arrangement with a deep square-ended chancel. Finishes consist of unpainted stone and cast stone structural and decorative elements, plaster walls scored and finished to resemble cut stone, and dark stained oak pews and paneling. The floor is paved with four-inch terra cotta tiles set in the cast concrete floor slab. The narthex is located in the base of the tower at the south end of the building. A high arch makes the interior volume of the tower base a continuation of the nave. It is set off from the nave by a glazed one-story wood screen that allows the large window over the main entrance to light, and be seen from, the nave. The white marble baptismal font is located on an octagonal dais in the center aisle of the nave, just inside the doors from the narthex. The west aisle terminates in a chantry altar with aumbry; the organ chamber is located behind this altar. The east aisle terminates in a chapel that is set off from the aisle and the chancel by glazed wood screens that copy the design of the narthex screen.

¹ Directional references in this description are geographic rather than liturgical.

² See Appendix for detailed descriptions of (major) individual windows.

St. James' Episcopal Church
Genesee County, New York

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 2

The chancel retains the arrangement typical of Anglican churches with choir stalls on each side, facing the center aisle. The white marble altar has been moved out from the north wall in accordance with current liturgical practice. The reredos is of paneled wood with a large central niche and a small niche at each side. The central niche contains a figure of Christ with hand raised in blessing; the flanking niches contain figures of St. James and St. John. The chancel is separated from the nave by a low stone wall with brass gates. A large brass eagle lectern and a free-standing white marble pulpit flank the chancel steps.

The interior of the office wing contains simply finished functional office spaces with plaster walls, simple architrave door and window surrounds and simple paneled and plank doors of oak; wood elements are stained a dark walnut shade. The education/fellowship hall wing to the north of the offices is utilitarian in character with walls of painted concrete block; the fellowship hall is a large open space with a high ceiling carried on vaguely Tudor arched laminated trusses.

The rectory (1929), located to the northeast of the church, is a simple Tudor Revival style two-story house with a high cross gable roof and attached garage on its north side. Other features include half-timbered stucco walls, a bank of long casement windows on the south elevation and paired casement windows elsewhere. To the northeast of the house is a non-contributing low storage building with a north-south oriented gable roof; its overhead rolling door on the south elevation is sheltered by a deep southerly projection of the roof which is supported at the corners on simple wood posts.

8. Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Areas of Significance

(enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1908-1950

Significant Dates

1908, 1929, 1953

Significant Persons

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Robert North

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other Name of repository: _____

St. James' Episcopal Church
Genesee County, New York

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 1

St. James' Episcopal Church is architecturally significant as an outstanding example of early twentieth-century Neo-Gothic church design. Designed by former St. James' boy chorister Robert North, the building is a sophisticated example of the latest phase of Gothic Revival championed by leading architects of the period, most notably Ralph Adams Cram. The building combines decorative elements derived from fifteenth-century English models with streamlined Gothic style masonry. An early example of Neo-Gothic design, the church building is also innovative for its period in the use of cast concrete structural elements and cast stone detailing in the windows and other openings on both the interior and exterior. The building also reflects the prosperity and sophistication of early-twentieth-century Batavia.

St. James' parish dates from the early days of Batavia, having been organized in 1815. The first and second churches, no longer extant, were located on Ellicott Street in what is now downtown Batavia. The current building was made possible by a bequest from parishioner Adelaide Richmond Kenny, the only girl among the nine children of Dean and Mary Mead Richmond of Batavia. Dean Richmond was a leader in New York State Democratic politics in the mid-nineteenth century and president of the New York Central Railroad. Widowed after only three years of marriage, Mrs. Kenny returned to Batavia from Buffalo and devoted the remaining thirty-six years of her life to business and philanthropic interests in Batavia. She was a founder of the Batavia Hospital, serving several terms as its president, and donated the former rectory to St. James' Church. She also served on the board of directors of the Johnson Harvester Co., Bidwell Thresher, E.N. Rowell, Batavia Carriage Wheel, Baker Gun and Forging, the New York Central Railroad, and the Bell Telephone Co. Mrs. Kenny was also a major stockholder in the Johnson Harvester, New York Central and Bell companies.

In addition to providing the financial wherewithal for the building's construction, Mrs. Kenny had a direct influence on its design. Mrs. Kenny gave North six hundred dollars and directed him to "GO TO ENGLAND...Design a Church in the quiet spirit of the English countryside."¹ The parish formally awarded North the contract to design the new church on February 8, 1906, three days after Mrs. Kenny's death.

While North undoubtedly absorbed much from his tour of English cathedrals and parish churches, the young architect was also greatly influenced by the architectural currents of the period which ushered in the Neo-Gothic and Collegiate Gothic of the first half of the twentieth century. These very late nineteenth- and early-twentieth century expressions of the Gothic were promoted and popularized by many leading designers of the period, including the Anglo-American architect Henry Vaughan, Bertram Goodhue and probably most famous of the Neo-Gothicists, Ralph Adams Cram. Cram and his adherents believed that the Gothic style had been "unnaturally" truncated by the Protestant Reformation, and that it still held great potential for further exploration and use for contemporary design. Unlike the Ecclesiologists of the mid-nineteenth century, they felt that the Gothic should be carried forward from its latest, fifteenth- and sixteenth-century expression. Also in contrast to the earlier revivers of Gothic, they stressed clarity of design following from the articulation of and promotion of

¹ St. James' Sesqui-Centennial Committee, *A Cycle of Praise, the History of St. James' Church, 1815-1965*. Batavia, N.Y., 1965, pg. 31.

St. James' Episcopal Church
Genesee County, New York

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 2

modern function over Romantic picturesqueness. As a result, Neo-Gothic buildings often feature overall plans, massing, and/or interior volumes that have no direct medieval precedent while retaining a definitively Gothic appearance.

St. James' Church is an early expression of the ideals of the Neo-Gothic movement. In its clarity of massing and the restrained handling of its decorative details, the building prefigures Gothic churches of the 1920s and '30s. Although it presents a seemingly archaeological appearance inside, its plan departs from medieval prototypes in the use of a high arch that makes the interior volume of the tower base a continuation of the nave. This space is set off from the nave with a glazed one-story screen that allows the large window over the main entrance to light, and be seen from, the nave and creates a narthex area the entrance doors² in the base of the tower and the nave. The building is also technologically advanced, being an early example of the use of reinforced concrete for structural elements, in particular the floor, and in the use of cast stone for the elaborate tracery found in the windows and at the main, liturgical west (i.e. south) entrance.

The building's architect, Robert North, was born in Batavia in 1880, the son of Judge and Mrs. Safford North. North graduated from the Cornell University School of Architecture, having earned the highest prizes awarded by that institution. North's study of English church architecture had a lasting effect on his career, as he went on to design sixty-five more churches during the course of his career, including St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Dansville, Livingston County; Grace Episcopal Church, All Saints' Episcopal Church, and South Park Presbyterian Church in Buffalo, Erie County; and the First Baptist and East Avenue Congregational churches in Lockport, Niagara County. North also went on to teach architecture at Cornell while maintaining an association with a large architectural firm in Buffalo. He eventually retired to East Aurora, New York, a suburb of Buffalo.³

St. James' Church continues to house an active congregation and is a reminder of Batavia's early-twentieth century prosperity. It is also one of the most sophisticated and best-preserved examples of Neo-Gothic ecclesiastical architecture in western New York State.

² The main door on the south face of the tower and secondary doors on the east and west faces.

³ Op. cit., pg. 31.

St. James' Episcopal Church
Genesee County, New York

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 9 Page 1

BIBLIOGRAPHY

----, *Batavia's Stained Glass Window Tour* booklet. Batavia: Landmark Society of Genesee County, 1991.

Pixley, Dorothy, *A Cycle of Praise: The History of St. James' Church 1815-1965*. Batavia: St. James' Episcopal Church Sesqui-Centennial Committee, 1965.

Saint James' Episcopal Church
Name of Property

Genesee County, New York
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 2.8

UTM References

(Place additional boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

1 17 730220 4764440
Zone Easting Northing

2 17
Zone Easting Northing

3 17
Zone Easting Northing

4 17
Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Robert T. Englert, Historic Preservation Program Analyst

organization NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation

date February 2004

street & number PO Box 189

telephone 518-237-8643

city or town Waterford

state NY zip code 12188-0189

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and **white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name/title Saint James' Episcopal Church

street & number 405 East Main Street

telephone 585-343-6802

city or town Batavia

state NY zip code 14020

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

St. James' Episcopal Church
Genesee County, New York

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number Appendix Page 1

WINDOW	DESCRIPTION	ARTIST/STUDIO/SOURCE
Tower	Four sections each depict one of the Evangelists above a panel depicting a scene from the life of Christ. Over all is a festoon canopy of leaves and flowers.	Celtic Studios
Chancel End	Crucifixion. Chosen by the architect after its rejection by another church.	Reputedly from France.
Left of Chancel	"The Atonement", oldest window in the church, purchased in 1847.	Purchased from Dormus and Duydum, New York City stained glass artists.
Right of Chancel	"The Resurrection", donated in 1800.	Unknown
Chapel	"Nunc Dimittis" window dates from ca 1908. "Magnificat" window appears to be an altered 17 th -century window. "Pilgrim" window with figure of St. James moved from position over alter in previous church, donated by Bp. DeLancy in 1854.	Nunc Dimittis from Celtic Studios Unknown
Nave	English hand-blown antique and Norman slab glass. Each two-part window depicts two saints/prophets. See list below.	Celtic Studios, Swansea, UK
East entrance porch	Dedicated to church choirs and musicians.	Celtic Studios, Swansea, UK
West entrance porch	Dedicated to Vestry and Wardens.	Celtic Studios, Swansea, UK

Nave windows in order, beginning at the northeast corner of the church.

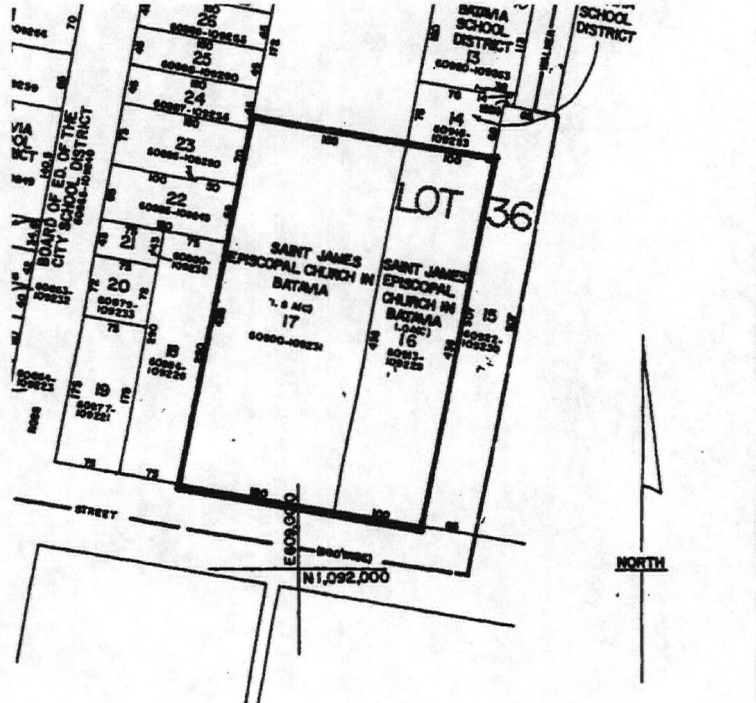
St. Peter and St. Andrew, Apostles
 St. Mathias, replacement for Judas, and St. Paul of Tarsus
 St. Margaret, Queen of Scotland and St. Mary the Virgin
 St. Stephen and St. Alban, Proto-Martyrs
 St. Augustine of Canterbury and St. Columba of Iona
 St. Patrick of Ireland and St. David of Wales
 Isaiah and Jeremiah, Prophets of Judah
 Moses and Amos, Prophets of the Northern Kingdom
 Ezekiel and Daniel, Prophets of Captivity
 Zechariah and Malachi, Prophets of the Return

-- From "Batavia's Stained Glass Window Tour" booklet, Landmark Society of Genesee County

Saint James' Episcopal Church
Genesee County, New York

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Tax Map Page 1



1 9 1 A (C) S A 18 (B) 3 3 3-15771	08406 08407 08408	TAX MAP CITY OF BATAVIA GENESEE COUNTY, NEW YORK GRAPHIC SCALE 1" = 100'	084.11
	084.10 084.12		
	084.14 084.15 084.16		
	SHEET INDEX		
MAP DATE			

St. James' Episcopal Church
Genesee County, New York

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number Photographs Page 1

Photographs

Photographer: Robert Englert
Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau
Peebles Island
PO Box 189
Waterford, NY 12188-0189

Date: February 2004

Negatives: Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau
Peebles Island
PO Box 189
Waterford, NY 12188-0189

1. Principal (south) and east elevations, cast-iron fence at front of property. View to NW.
2. Chancel. View to N.
3. Nave and Narthex. View to S.
4. Chapel. View to N.
5. Rectory. View to N.
6. Garage/storage building. View to NE.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Saint James' Episcopal Church
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Genesee

DATE RECEIVED: 8/13/04 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/08/04
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/23/04 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/26/04
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 04001062

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 09.24.04 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the
National Register

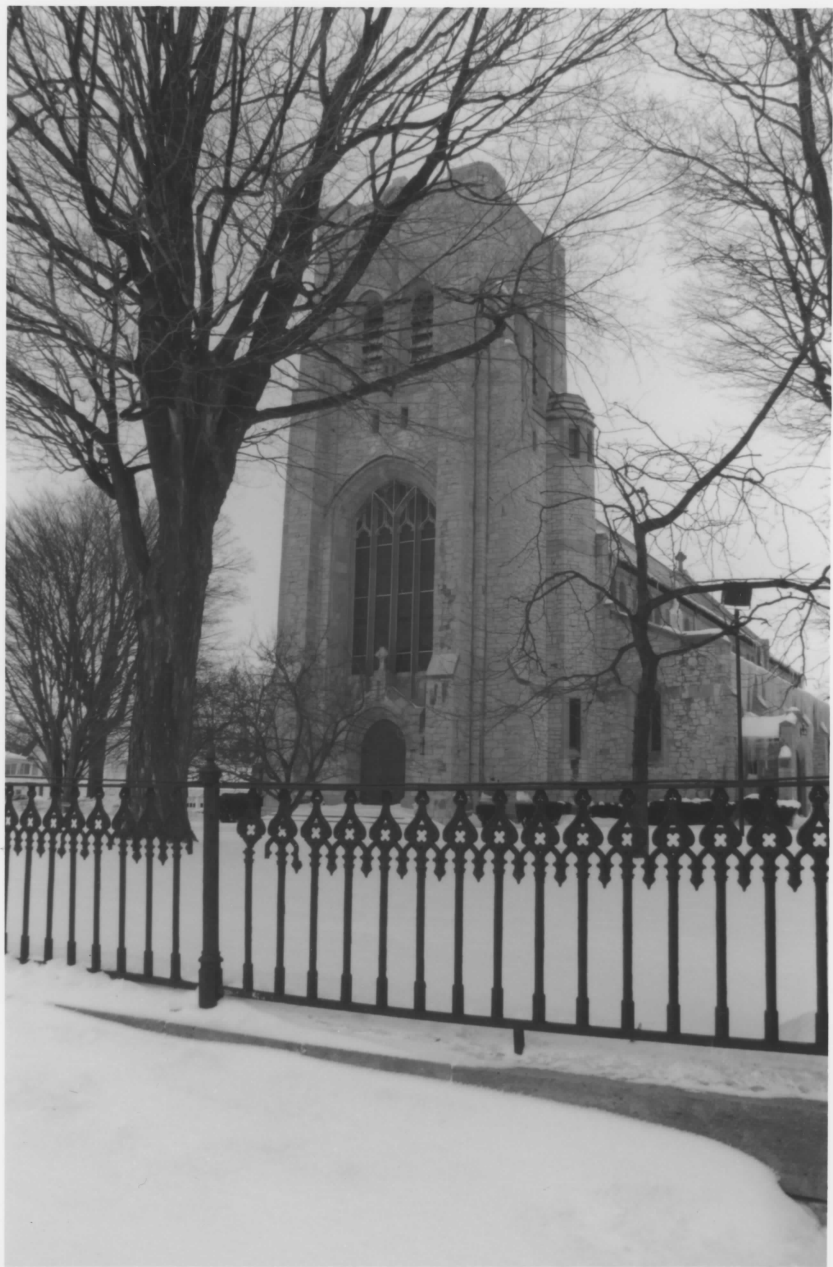
RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



H



ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
BATAVIA, GENESEE CO., NY

2 of 6





St. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BATAVIA, GENESEE CO., NY

3 of 6

4



St. James Episcopal Church
Batavia, Genesee Co., NY

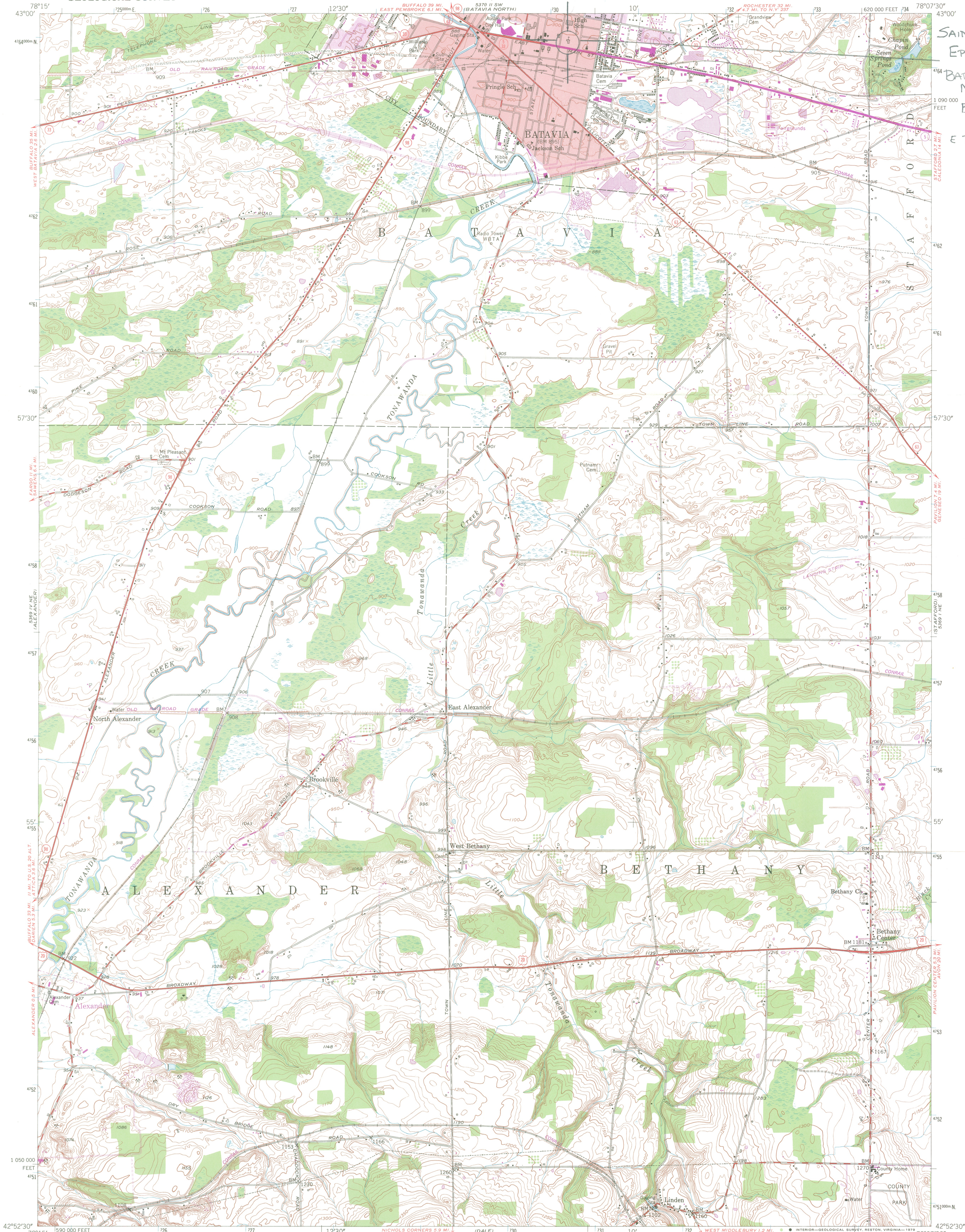


4 of 6



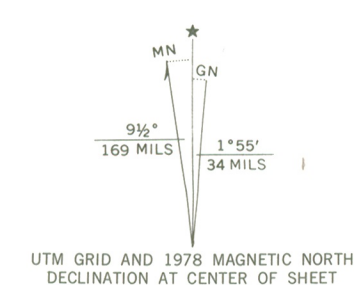


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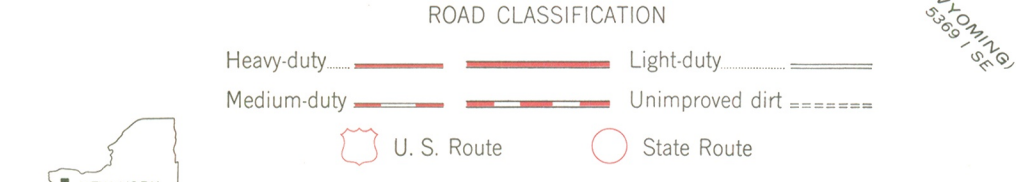


SAINT JAMES'
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
BATAVIA, GENESEE CO
NY
BATAVIA SOUTH QUAD
ZONE 17
E 730220 4764440

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE
Culture and drainage in part compiled by Corps of Engineers,
Dept. of the Army, from aerial photographs taken 1942
Topography by plane-table methods 1950
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on New York coordinate system,
west zone
Red tint indicates area in which only
landmark buildings are shown
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 17, shown in blue
Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs
taken 1976. This information not field checked
Map edited 1978



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



BATAVIA SOUTH, N. Y.
NW/4 BATAVIA 15' QUADRANGLE
N4252.5-W7807.5/7.5
1950
PHOTOREVISED 1978
AMS 5369 1 NW-SERIES V821

Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau
Peebles Island, PO Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189

518-237-8643

STATEMENT OF OWNER SUPPORT

Before an individual nomination proposal will be reviewed or nominated, the owner(s) of record must sign and date the following statement:

I, St. James' Episcopal Church, am the owner of the property at
(print or type owner name)

405 East Main St, Batavia, NY 14020
(street number and name, city, village or town, state of nominated property)

I support its consideration and inclusion in the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

2/2/04 Karen F. Clement Junior Warden
(signature and date)

405 East Main St.

Batavia, N.Y 14020

(mailing address)