

BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 NEW YORK STATE PARKS AND RECREATION
 ALBANY, NEW YORK (518) 474-0479

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
 UNIQUE SITE NO. 029-40 5829
 QUAD _____
 SERIES _____
 NEG. NO. _____

007

YOUR NAME: BUFFALO FRIENDS OF OLMSTED PARKS DATE: March 30, 1984
 P. O. BOX 590

YOUR ADDRESS: BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14205-0590 TELEPHONE: _____

ORGANIZATION (if any): _____

IDENTIFICATION

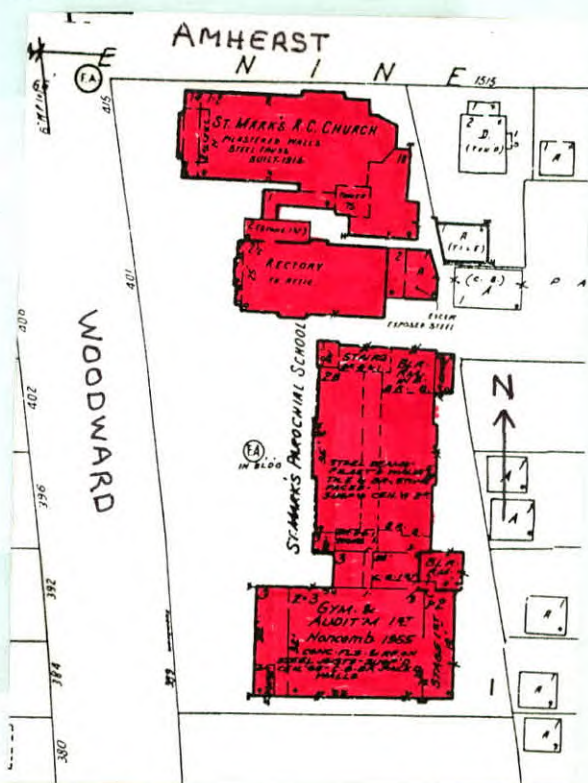
1. BUILDING NAME(S): St. Mark's Roman Catholic Church
2. COUNTY: Erie TOWN/CITY: Buffalo VILLAGE: _____
3. STREET LOCATION: 399-401-415 Woodward Ave
4. OWNERSHIP: a. public b. private
5. PRESENT OWNER: St. Marks R.C. Church ADDRESS: 401 Woodward
6. USE: Original: Church Present: Church
7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes No
 Interior accessible: Explain by permission

DESCRIPTION

8. BUILDING MATERIAL: a. clapboard b. stone c. brick d. board and batten
 e. cobblestone f. shingles g. stucco other: _____
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: a. wood frame with interlocking joints
 (if known) b. wood frame with light members
 c. masonry load bearing walls
 d. metal (explain) steel
 e. other _____
10. CONDITION: a. excellent b. good c. fair d. deteriorated
11. INTEGRITY: a. original site b. moved if so, when? _____
 c. list major alterations and dates (if known): _____

12. PHOTO: 25-3a, 4a, 5a, 6a, 7a
 Church:

13. MAP:



14. THREATS TO BUILDING: a. none known b. zoning c. roads
d. developers e. deterioration
f. other: _____
15. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:
a. barn b. carriage house c. garage
d. privy e. shed f. greenhouse
g. shop h. gardens
i. landscape features: trees and shrubs in front and north
j. other: _____ yards
16. SURROUNDINGS OF THE BUILDING (check more than one if necessary):
a. open land b. woodland
c. scattered buildings
d. densely built-up e. commercial
f. industrial g. residential
h. other: _____

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:
(Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district)

Buildings are situated on a very large city lot within Olmsted's Parkside subdivision. They are located one block from Delaware Park, which was designed by Olmsted and is listed on the National Register, and east of the Zoo.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):
15th century English Gothic style, simple in outline and detail. Indiana limestone used for outside walls laid in coursed ashlar. The church, 60 x 135 feet, is cruciform in plan, comprising a nave, transepts, chancel, clergy and working sacristies. Lower portion of front facade pierced with 3 deeply recessed and molded SIGNIFICANCE arched doorways and immediately above is a great 5

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: church 1914; rectory 1922; (cont.)
school 1919; gym 1954

ARCHITECT: _____

BUILDER: Green, James, & Meadows

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: An excellent example of English Gothic style applied to a religious structure. St. Mark's Parish was formed in 1908, first served by a small frame church. The growth of the parish warranted construction of a permanent church, at a cost of \$85,000, the cornerstone of which was laid on Aug. 16, 1914. Woodward Avenue runs parallel to Parkside Avenue and extends from Humboldt Avenue to the northwest portion of Crescent Avenue. This street appears on Olmsted's early 1870's maps of "The Parkside," although it is less curvilinear than originally planned. Portions of Woodward Avenue (originally called Davis Avenue) were deeded to the city by five different owners between 1887 and 1892; except for the section north of Amherst, this was done when comparable

21. SOURCES: sections of Crescent Avenue were deeded. Following Olmsted's rule for a suburban street, Woodward Avenue does "not lead with special directness toward town."

City Building Permit Records

22. THEME: Catholic Union and Times, May 24, 1917
Olmsted's Sketch Map of Buffalo, 1876
The Papers of Frederick Law Olmsted, Vol. III, by Charles E. Beveridge & David Schuyler, eds. (1983).

399-401-415 Woodward
St. Marks Roman Catholic Church

Rectory:



School:



Gym:



18. cont.

mullioned window with traceried head, all crowned with a gable flanked with 2 octagonal pinnacles. Side elevations are well broken up with transepts and massive buttresses. Each bay and transept contains a mullion and traceried window. 3 front portals open onto a roomy vestibule, flanked on one side by baptistry, and trustees office on the other. Choir loft is immediately over entrance. Nave without pillars has open timbered and paneled ceiling supported by massive hammer beam trusses of oak.

Confessionals in transepts. Semi-octagonal chapels flank sanctuary and is separated from nave by a massive arch. Pews, rails, pulpit, and interior woodwork are executed in quarter-cut white oak in same style as church. The floors of vestibule, transepts and nave are laid with tile, with ornamental border, and walls are wainscoted with bronzed matte tile, 5 feet high, above which walls are finished in stucco plaster. The sanctuary and adjoining chapels are 3 Gothic altars of white Italian marble. Stained glass windows decorate interior.