

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL COMPLEX

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

315 Wyoming Avenue

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Scranton

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

10th

VICINITY OF

STATE

Pennsylvania

CODE

42

COUNTY

Lackawanna

CODE

069

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Most Reverend J. Carrol McCormick, D.D., Bishop of The Diocese
of Scranton, Trustee for St. Peter's Cathedral Parish

STREET & NUMBER

315 Wyoming Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Scranton

VICINITY OF

STATE

Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Recorder of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Lackawanna County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Scranton

STATE

Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE 1976

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

William Penn Memorial Museum, Box #1026

CITY, TOWN

Harrisburg

STATE

Pennsylvania

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. Peter's Cathedral Complex is a grouping of three buildings on Wyoming Avenue in downtown Scranton: St. Peter's Cathedral, the Cathedral Rectory, and the Cathedral Convent. Architecturally this complex is significant in that each building complements the other creating an integrated and aesthetically pleasing street elevation.

St. Peter's Cathedral, the dominant building of the three, was constructed in 1867. Designed in the Romanesque Revival style by Joel Amsden, Scranton's leading architect of the period; the cathedral was 60' wide by 150' long with a seating capacity of 2,300 people. The cathedral was constructed of red brick, and utilized limestone for highlights, and clay tile for the roof. The facades have clean, well defined lines, and proportions with two bell towers at the front being the dominant feature. The original front elevation had three arches defining the entrance, a large vertical window over the entry arches and the tall belfry towers each with long vertical windows. A large limestone pediment was used to cap the central portion of the elevation between the towers as well as the windows in the towers and above the entry arches. The side elevations consisted of a series of equally spaced brick pilasters with arched stained glass windows between them and above the gallery roof.

On the interior, the cathedral was layed out with a narthex, a central nave, two aide aisles, and galleries above the aisles. At the front of the nave is the sanctuary with sacristies on either side. A row of fluted Corinthian columns, which support arches, separates the nave from each side aisle. The nave ceiling is divided into eight compartments as are the gallery ceilings. The original interior finishes consisted of plaster, marble and wood.

The first alterations were begun in 1874 when an addition intended to be a chapel was made to the north end of the structure. In later years this chapel was converted into a sacristy.

In 1883 the cathedral was renovated by an architect named Durang. The galleries were shortened, the sacristies removed and replaced with arched alcoves, the two towers raised, and the addition of two side entrances. Other alterations consisted of a new floor, three new paintings in the sanctuary, and new stained glass in the windows.

Another renovation project was undertaken in 1921 with John Howley the architect, and Harold Rambusch of New York, the interior designer. Three entrance arches were removed and replaced with 3/4 Doric columns and pilasters supporting a limestone lintel over the opening. The front steps were extended across the full width of the front, and side entrances were added to conform to fire codes. Additional alterations included a new red tile roof, painting the brick, new wood floor, operable windows, new heating system, and a new lighting system. Interior alterations consisted of new frescoes, a new marble sanctuary floor, and wainscoting and new furnishings.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL COMPLEX - Lackawanna County
CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

Description:

In 1934, a number of interior renovations were undertaken by Professor Gonippo Raggi. The work involved 8 large paintings in each of the nave ceiling panels, and large medallions in the gallery ceilings. New stained glass was installed in the tower windows, and the clerestory windows were replaced to allow more light into the nave. Three new paintings were hung in the sanctuary, and the galleries were removed completely.

The last renovation project was undertaken in 1966 under the direction of architect Anthony Melone. This project scope was to remove and replace the tower cupolas. The new cupolas were lowered to approximately the same height as the limestone pediment. During this time, the sanctuary underwent a complete renovation in accordance with the new liturgical directives as set down by the Second Vatican Council.

The present Cathedral Rectory, reputed to have been designed by architect Lewis Hancock, was constructed in 1908 at a cost of \$50,000. The architect chose as his primary materials brick and limestone as in the Cathedral. Like the Cathedral, the Rectory has sharp, clean, well defined lines and proportions. The first floor is done entirely of limestone highlighting the corners and windows. Between the third and fourth floor is a limestone frieze. Capping the fourth floor is a limestone cornice and parapet wall.

The entry hall is finished with golden oak wainscoting, matching oak door frames, oak entablatures over the doors and a stained glass foyer door. There is also a cornice with dentils at the ceiling line. Beyond the entry hall is a room finished in similar fashion with a grant staircase of golden oak. This particular room has a mural on the ceiling. Off of these two rooms are the Bishop's office and sitting room, offices and dining room. The dining room is finished in white with a wood wainscoting and fluted corinthian pilasters supporting a compartmented ceiling. Upon ascending the stairs at each floor, there is a large foyer with matching oak wainscoting. The upper floors contain bedrooms and studies with the exception of the second floor which also has the Bishop's apartment and a recreation room. The Bishop's apartment is finished with rich materials and a mural on the ceiling. The rectory has been constructed out of materials and detailed in such a manor that makes it irreplaceable in todays construction market.

At the present time, restoration and preservation work is being performed on the interior and exterior of the rectory by Riggi Architects.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

1867

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Joel Amsden - 1867

Durang - 1883

~~Harold Rembusch/John Howley~~

1921

Lewis Hancock - 1908

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St. Peter's Cathedral Complex has been a landmark in the Scranton area since the construction of the Cathedral in 1867. The Cathedral Complex is significant for several reasons: as the Mother Church to over 200 parishes, as the original site of St. Thomas College, and for the architectural quality.

From the religious standpoint the Cathedral is the mother church for 237 churches throughout northeastern Pennsylvania and the Rectory is the official residence for the Bishop of these churches. The Cathedral Complex has been an educational center as well. The Cathedral Convent is all that remains of what was originally known as St. Thomas College, now known as the University of Scranton. One of the first institutions of higher education in northeastern Pennsylvania, the college had its "old main" building located between the Rectory and Convent, with the Convent being the faculty residence. In recent years, the college was moved to a new campus.

Architecturally, the Cathedral, Rectory, and Convent are fine examples of the Romanesque Revival style; a style that has all but disappeared from the area. The materials, craftsmanship and intricacy of details make these buildings outstanding pieces of architecture. The Complex, set in a landscaped park-like atmosphere, is a vital element in the Scranton urban fabric. The buildings and the landscaping provide visual relief in the busy and monotonous street elevation. The pleasing aesthetics of the Cathedral Complex enhance the surrounding area while at the same time providing a portion of street that is well within human scale.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

St. Peter's Cathedral High School Dedication Book, August 31, 1958.
Rev. Edward F. Gallagher, Thomas McDermott, Mrs. Michael Corby.

A Century of History by Rev. John P. Gallagher, Ph.D. Diocesan Historian.
Copyright, 1968.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.34 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	44415,2,0	4,518,43,4,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE Jeffrey N. Morgan
David M. Berman, Curator

ORGANIZATION Riggi & Riggi Architects DATE February 2, 1976
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Comm. March 15, 1976

STREET & NUMBER 512 N. Blakely Street TELEPHONE 717-787-4363
William Penn Museum, Box 1026

CITY OR TOWN Dunmore STATE Pennsylvania
Harrisburg

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE *[Signature]*

TITLE Executive Director DATE 4/9/76
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

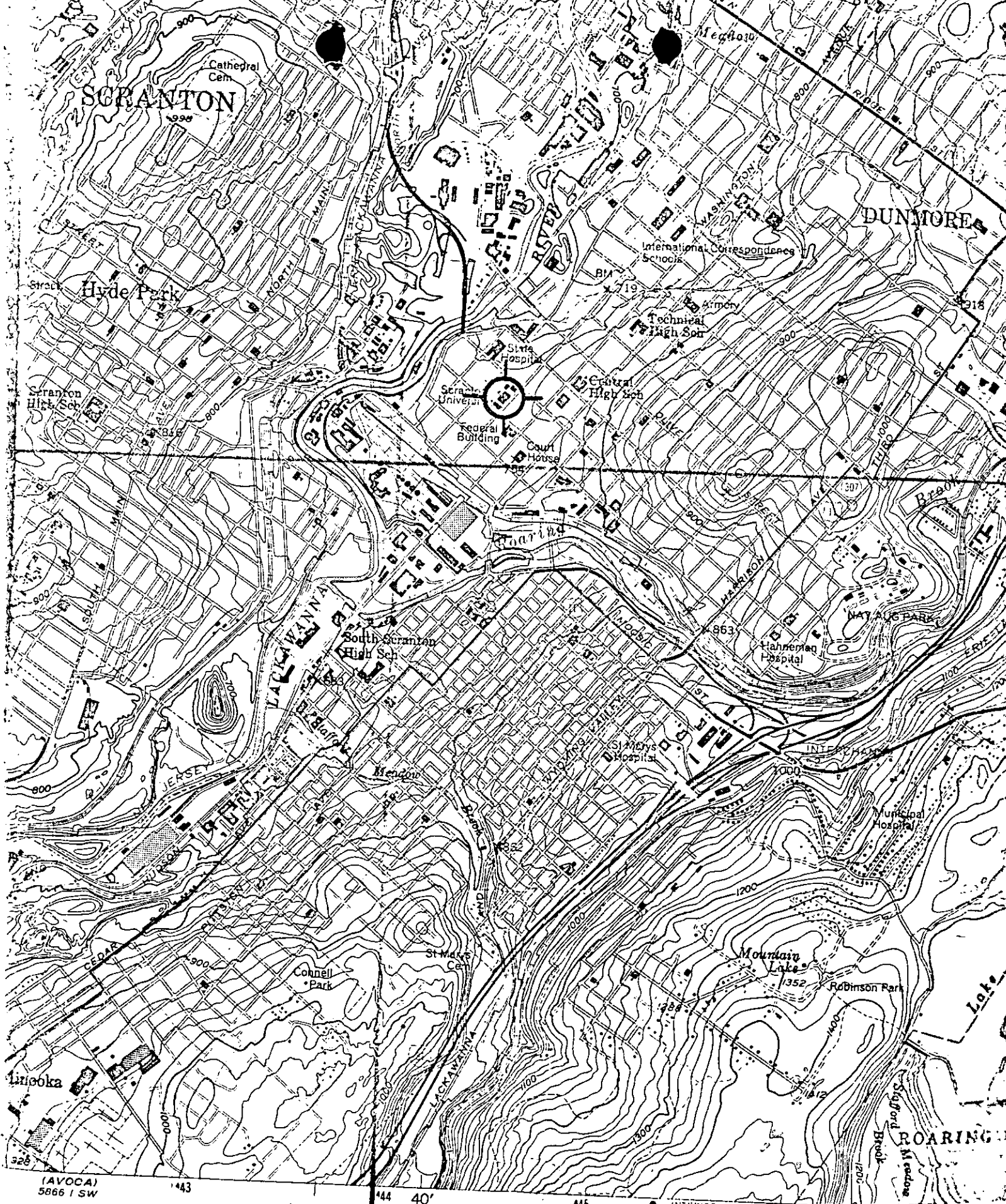
DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



SCRANTON

DUNMORE

Hyde Park

Scranton High Sch

Scranton University

Central High Sch

South Scranton High Sch

Hahnemann Hospital

Connell Park

Mountain Lake

ROARING BROOK

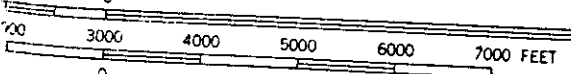
(AVOCA) 5866 / SW

INTERIOR-GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON D C

SCALE 1:24 000

1 MILE

ROAD CLASSIFICATION



Heavy-duty

Light