

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

13

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

SAINT PATRICK'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Near Boyle's Crossroads, 5 miles SW on Leg.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Route 03030

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sugarcreek

VICINITY OF

12th

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Pennsylvania

42

Armstrong

005

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" 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

Diocese of Greenburg

STREET & NUMBER

723 East Pittsburgh

CITY, TOWN

Greenburg

VICINITY OF

STATE

Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Armstrong County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Cor. Market & Jefferson Streets

CITY, TOWN

Kittanning

STATE

Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

1973

FEDERAL * STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

CITY, TOWN

Harrisburg

STATE

Pennsylvania

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	* <input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
* <input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	* <input 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

The Saint Patrick's log church is located in the rural Armstrong County in Sugar Creek Township. Surrounded by woodlands and farms the church can only be reached by rural routes and dirt roads. The church is built of large oak logs measures 22' by 35'. The logs have been squared and have triangular notches. The crevices between the logs have been filled with straw and clay. A gable roof with split shingles and a wooden cross top the log walls. The gable ends are board rather than log. There are three windows in each of the side walls. Their frames are thick squared logs and there are eight panes in each window opening. The rear of the church has no opening. A center door with a recent covered doorway forms the only entrance to the church.

The interior is plain. A one step dias holds a plain wooden altar. The interior walls near the altar had been covered and once had thin gilt paper near the altar. The floor is puncheon style to save additional cutting. The Stations of the Cross have been burned into the wall logs at shoulder height. At the rear of the church is a low gallery supported by log poles. A massive oak timber supports the gallery and reaches from one side wall to the other. A narrow wooden stair led to the gallery from the right rear wall. The church is devoid of furniture except for the altar.

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 type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> *EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input 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 1805-1806

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1795 an Irish colony which came by way of Connellsville and Freeport, settled in Donegal Township, Butler County. These settlers formed the nucleus of Saints Patrick's congregation. This rugged area of Pennsylvania was made part of Sugar Creek Township in Armstrong County in 1800. Even today this rural church is easier to reached from Butler County roads than roads from its parent county, Armstrong.

In the first years of settlement traveling priests occasionally visited the area. But in 1805, Father Lawrence Sylvester Phelan (or Whalen or Whelen) moved to Sugar Creek. The settlers quite pleased that they were to have their own priest, set about collecting donations to purchase land to build a home and a church. Two hundred acres was purchased on which was erected a log home. In the fall of 1805 work began on the log church, but as nails could not be secured to finish the work, it was not roofed until spring. It was then put under the invocation of the Apostle of Ireland. Father Phelan withdrew in 1810 from which time various circuit priests visited Saint Patricks. In 1840 the congregation had grown so large that a larger church was needed. A brick church, 45' by 80' was erected on the hill not far from the log church. Still served by circuit priests Saint Patricks congregation grew. On the night of January 1, 1872, the brick church was destroyed by an incendiary fire. It was a severe loss, as there was still a small debt and no insurance.

Once again the log church became the center of worship until 1876 when a new church building was constructed. In its early beginnings the Saint Patricks log church was the center of Catholic worship in the Western Pennsylvania wilderness and a valuable structure during the congregation troubles of the 1870's. Today this simple log church is used only occasionally but is valued as the foundation of Catholic worship in Western Pennsylvania.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Armstrong County, Pennsylvania: Her People, Past and Present, vol. 1. Chicago : J.H Beers & Company, 1914 p. 273-5.

History of Armstrong County. ed. Robert Walker Smith, Esq. Chicago: Waterman, Watkins and Company, 1883, p. 530.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .2

UTM REFERENCES

A	17	11450	45127160	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Susan M. Zacher, Curator

ORGANIZATION

Pennsylvania Historical Museum Commission

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

Box 1026

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Harrisburg

STATE

Pennsylvania

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

TITLE William J. Wewer, Executive Director DATE
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

FOR NPS USE ONLY

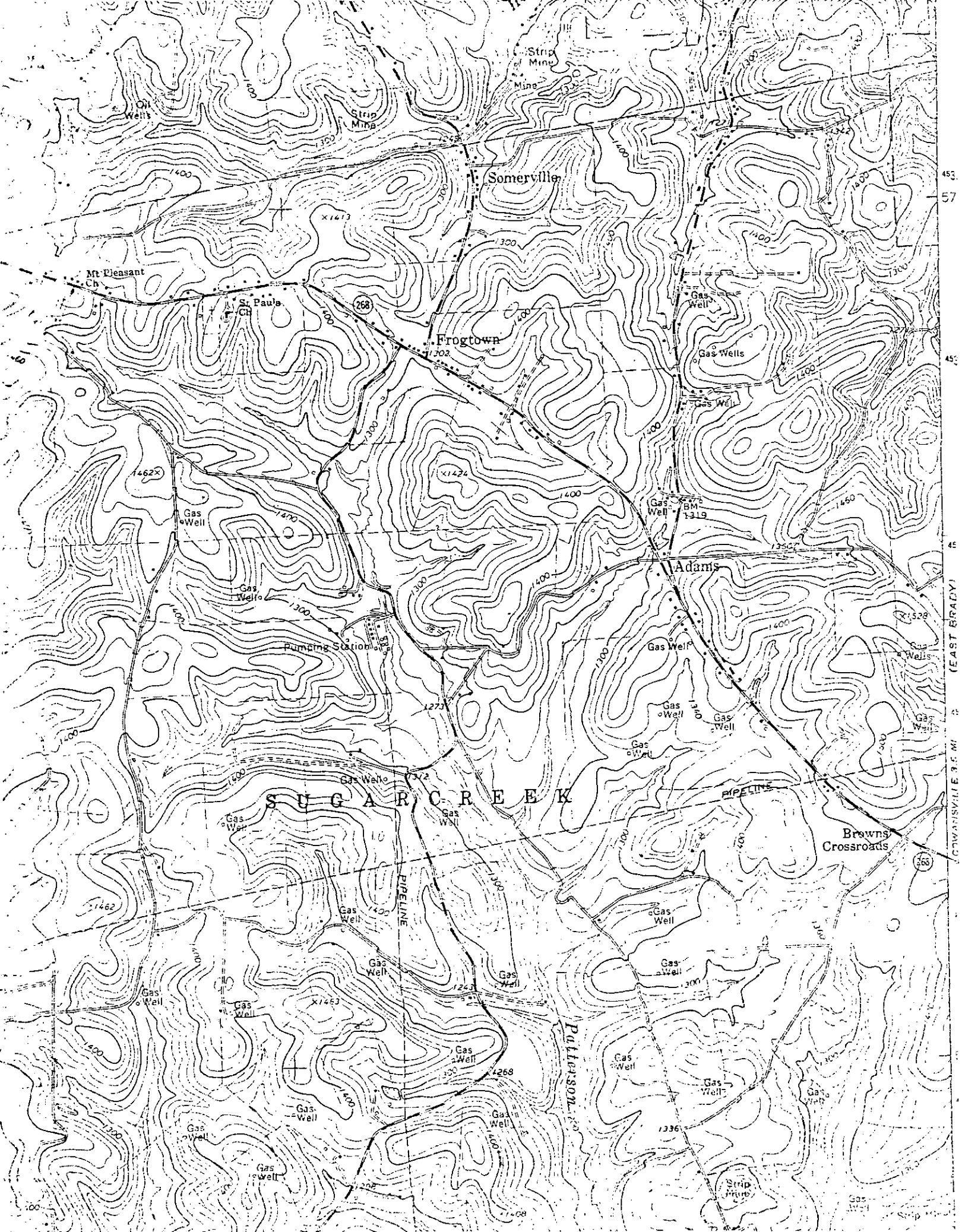
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Oil Wells

Strip Mine

Strip Mine
Mine

Somerville

Mt. Pleasant Ch.

S. Pauls Ch.

Frogtown

Gas Wells

Gas Wells

Gas Well

Gas Well

Gas Well

pumping Station

Gas Well

Gas Well

Gas Well

Gas Well

Gas Well

Gas Well

Gas Well

Gas Well

Gas Well

Gas Well

Gas Well

Gas Well

Gas Well

Gas Well

Gas Well

SUGAR CREEK

PIPELINE

PIPELINE

Patterson

Browns Crossroads

Strip Mine

45° 57'

45° 57'

45° 57'

81° 57'

81° 57'

81° 57'

81° 57'

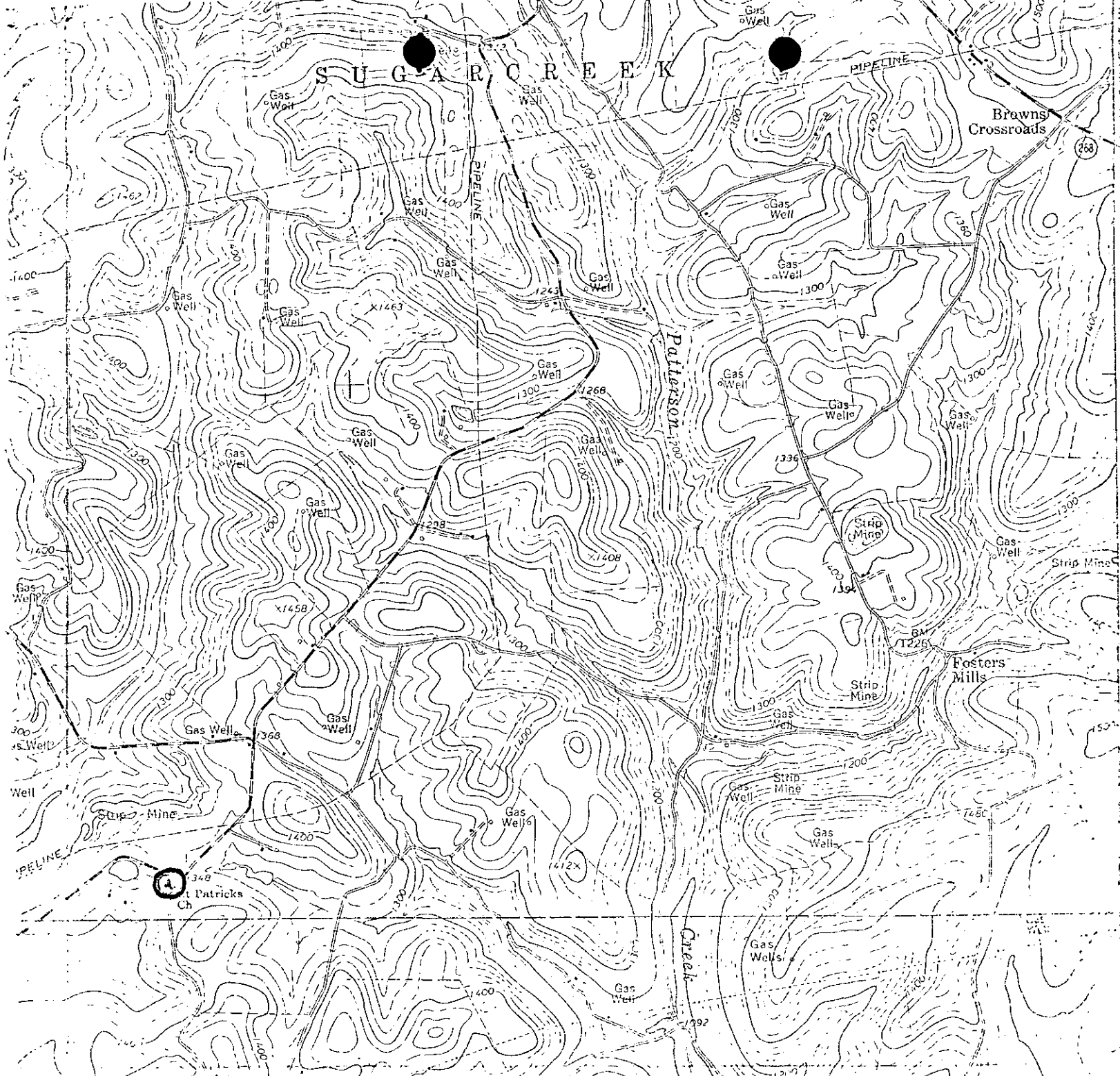
81° 57'

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ST. PATRICK'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
 Armstrong County
 ZONE: 17 611 450 452 7160

KLIN
 Gas Well