

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only  
received SEP 16 1982  
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic St. James A.M.E. Church

and/or common same

2. Location

street & number 222 North Roman Street N/A not for publication

city, town New Orleans N/A vicinity of ~~Congressional District~~

state LA code 22 county Orleans Parish code 071

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	N/A being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<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:

4. Owner of Property

name St. James A.M.E. Church c/o Reverend David J. Campbell, Jr., Minister

street & number 222 North Roman Street

city, town New Orleans N/A vicinity of state LA 70112

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Department of Conveyance, City Hall

street & number 1300 Perdido Street

city, town New Orleans state LA 70112

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title LA Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1981  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records LA State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Baton Rouge state LA

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<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 <u>      N/A      </u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

*The St. James A.M.E. Church is a Victorian Gothic Revival, stuccoed brick, basilican plan structure located on North Roman Street just north of the New Orleans central business district. It was built in 1848 and remodeled in 1903. The only change in the building since 1903 has been the construction of a small unobtrusive rear addition. This has little visual impact and is not detrimental to the church's architectural character.*

*As originally built in 1848, the church was a severe classical style structure of brick. It had four simple pilasters supporting an austere pediment. The windows had pointed arches. This combination of classic and Gothic elements occasionally occurred in the late Greek Revival, particularly in the eastern states.*

*The church was remodeled in 1903 by the architectural firm of Diboll and Owen. The facade was reworked as follows:*

- 1. The pediment was replaced by a blind arcaded parapet.*
- 2. Pinnacles were placed above the corners.*
- 3. The facade was surmounted with an open spire.*
- 4. The pilasters were retained, but the entire front was resurfaced in stucco with a rusticated stone finish.*

*Another change made at about this time was the addition of Victorian looking windows with stained glass tops and large rectangular sections containing a single central pane surrounded by tiny panes.*

*In addition, in 1903 the ceiling was completely covered with ornamental pressed tin.*

*More recently a low rear wing containing church offices, bathrooms, etc. has been added.*

*Assessment of Integrity: See above summary paragraph.*

# 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 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 checked="" 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 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** 1848-51; remodeled **Builder/Architect** Architects for 1903: Diboll and Owen

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)** *in 1903* **Criterion C**

The St. James A.M.E. Church is architecturally significant on the state level because it is an unusually opulent and "high style" example of an A.M.E. church within the context of Louisiana. Most A.M.E. churches in the state were humble unpretentious structures. By contrast, St. James is a relatively highly ornamented statement in the Victorian Gothic Revival style. It is probably the most pretentious A.M.E. church building in Louisiana.

Significant Gothic style features of the church (after the 1903 renovation) include:

1. the pointed arch fenestration,
2. the stained glass windows,
3. the blind arcading,
4. the corner pinnacles, and
5. the central open spire.

The first two features are sometimes found on late nineteenth and early twentieth century A.M.E. churches in Louisiana, but the last three are almost unknown.

### HISTORICAL SKETCH:

The St. James A.M.E. Church traces its origins to 1844, when a group of free men of color organized themselves into a religious society under the name of the African Methodist Episcopal Church of New Orleans. The formation of this group was the result of the mistreatment of its members by the Wesley Chapel M.E. Church, a white congregation which accepted free people of color as members. The new congregation was headed by Thomas Doughty. The growth of the church membership necessitated the construction of a permanent church building, and the lots on which St. James presently stands were purchased in 1848 and construction was completed by 1851. At that time Doughty was sent to the Indiana Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church for the purpose of bringing the church into the conference. He was cordially received and was appointed the first pastor of St. James A.M.E. Church. The church retained its original half-Greek, half-Gothic appearance until 1903, when it was heavily Gothicized in the late Victorian manner.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Orleans Parish Conveyance Records  
St. James A.M.E. Church Records  
New Orleans Historic Districts Landmarks Commission Nomination Form for St. James A.M.E. Church, Copy Located in St. James A.M.E. Church National Register File, LA State Historic Preservation Office.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property @ .17 acre

Quadrangle name New Orleans East, LA

Quadrangle scale 1=24000

### UMT References

A 

1	1	5
---	---	---

 Zone 

7	8	1	9	5	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

 Easting 

3	3	1	7	8	7	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

 Northing

B 

--	--	--

 Zone 

--	--	--	--	--	--

 Easting 

--	--	--	--	--	--

 Northing

C 

--	--	--

 Zone 

--	--	--	--	--	--

 Easting 

--	--	--	--	--	--

 Northing

D 

--	--	--

 Zone 

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 Easting 

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 Northing

E 

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 Zone 

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 Easting 

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 Northing

F 

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 Zone 

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 Easting 

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 Northing

G 

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 Zone 

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 Easting 

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 Northing

H 

--	--	--

 Zone 

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 Easting 

--	--	--	--	--	--

 Northing

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Please refer to sketch map.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

organization date

street & number telephone


city or town state

# 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.

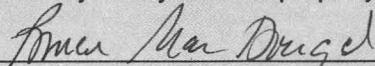
State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

Robert B. DeBlieux

title State Historic Preservation Officer date September 9, 1982

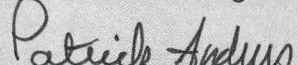
### For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register



date 10/26/82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:   
Chief of Registration

date 10/26/82



**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet St. James A.M.E. Church Item number 11 Page 2

11. Form Prepared By: (Continued)

Bishop Frank C. Cummings, Presiding Bishop  
African Methodist Episcopal Church  
Eighth Episcopal District  
2138 St. Bernard Avenue  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70119  
Office Phone: 504-948-4251

Reverend M. J. Black, Sr., Presiding Elder  
2138 St. Bernard Avenue  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70119  
Office Phone: 504-948-4251

Reverend David J. Campbell, Jr., Minister  
222 North Roman Street  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70112  
Parsonage Phone: 504-522-6619

Leroy A. Smith, President Pro Tem  
Board of Trustees, St. James A.M.E. Church  
222 North Roman Street  
New Orleans, LA 70112

Historic Committee of St. James African Methodist Episcopal Church:

Mr. and Mrs. Emanuel Smith  
1961 Sumpter Street  
New Orleans, LA 70122  
504-283-2758

Mr. Alvin K. Isaiah  
2110 Bienville Street  
New Orleans, LA 70112  
504-822-7375

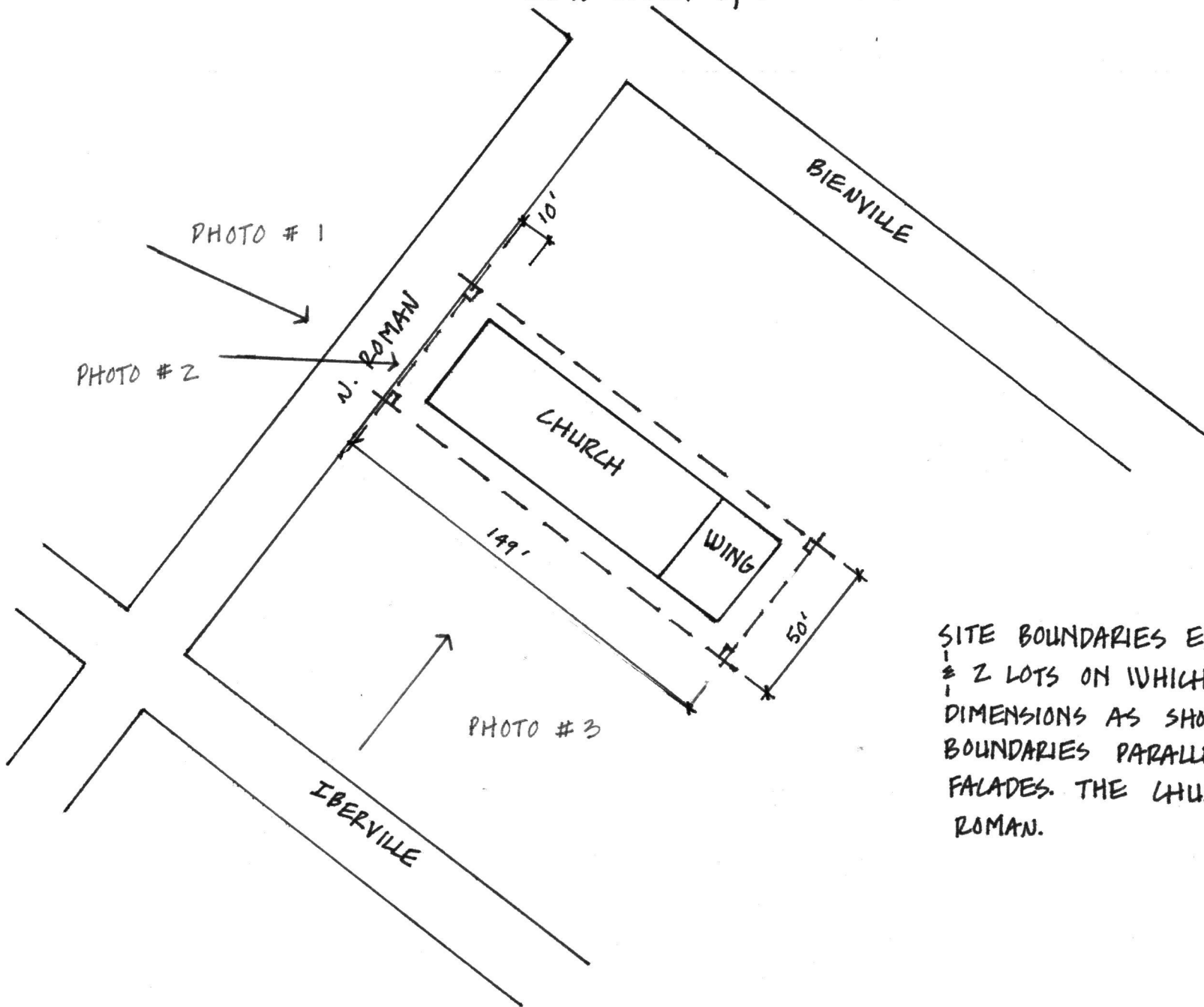
Mrs. Ernest B. Tillman  
2328 Valence Street  
New Orleans, LA 70115  
504-899-4012

Mr. Luther Higginbotham  
3926 Chestnut Street  
New Orleans, LA 70115  
504-895-3436

Mr. Willie Mason  
8720 Scottsdale Drive  
New Orleans, LA 70126  
504-242-0248

Date Form Prepared: August 1981

ST. JAMES A.M.E. CHURCH  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA



SITE BOUNDARIES ENCOMPASS THE CHURCH  
& 2 LOTS ON WHICH IT STANDS,  
DIMENSIONS AS SHOWN. THE LOT LINE  
BOUNDARIES PARALLEL THE BLDG.  
FACADES. THE CHURCH FACES N.  
ROMAN.

SCALE 1"=50' APPROX.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Substantive Review

St. James AME Church  
Orleans Parish  
LOUISIANA

Working No. 9/16/82-2502  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.1.83  
Date Due: 10/14/82 - 10/31/82  
Action:  ACCEPT 10/26/82  
 RETURN  
 REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

*Locally architecturally significant building*

Recom. / Criteria accept c  
Reviewer Patrick Andrews  
Discipline Historic  
Date 10/26/82  
 see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for:  technical corrections cited below  
 substantive reasons discussed below

- 1. Name
- 2. Location
- 3. Classification
- 4. Owner of Property
- 5. Location of Legal Description
- 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. 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

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

## 8. Significance

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Area of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

## 10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

## 11. Form Prepared By

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_ national    \_\_\_\_ state    \_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## 13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet

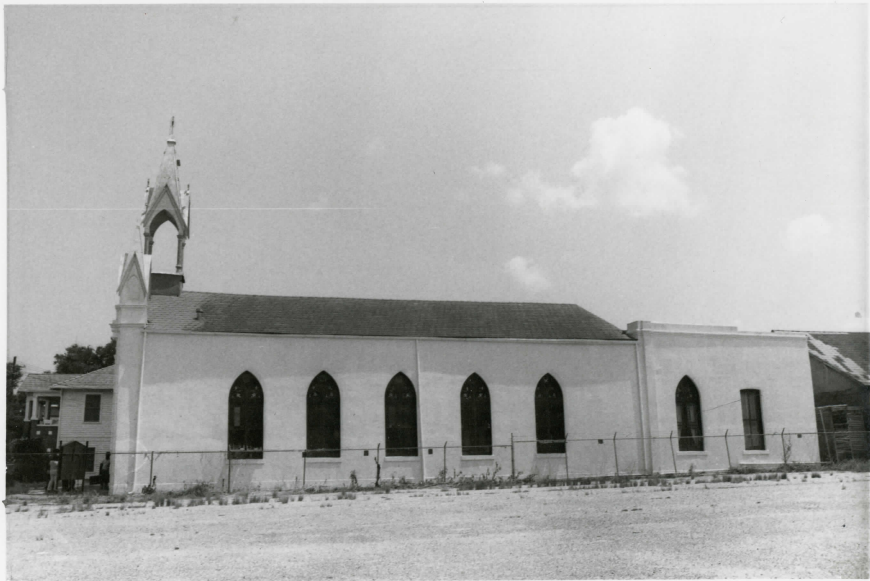




St. James A.M.E. Church  
New Orleans, Louisiana, Orleans Parish  
Photographer: Jonathan Fricker  
Date taken: August 1981  
Neg. at: La. State Historic Preservation Office,  
Baton Rouge, La.  
Southeast-front view  
Photo # 1



St. James A.M.E. Church  
New Orleans, Louisiana, Orleans Parish  
Photographer: Jonathan Fricker  
Date taken: August 1981  
Neg. at: La. State Historic Preservation Office,  
Baton Rouge, La.  
East-front view  
Photo # 2



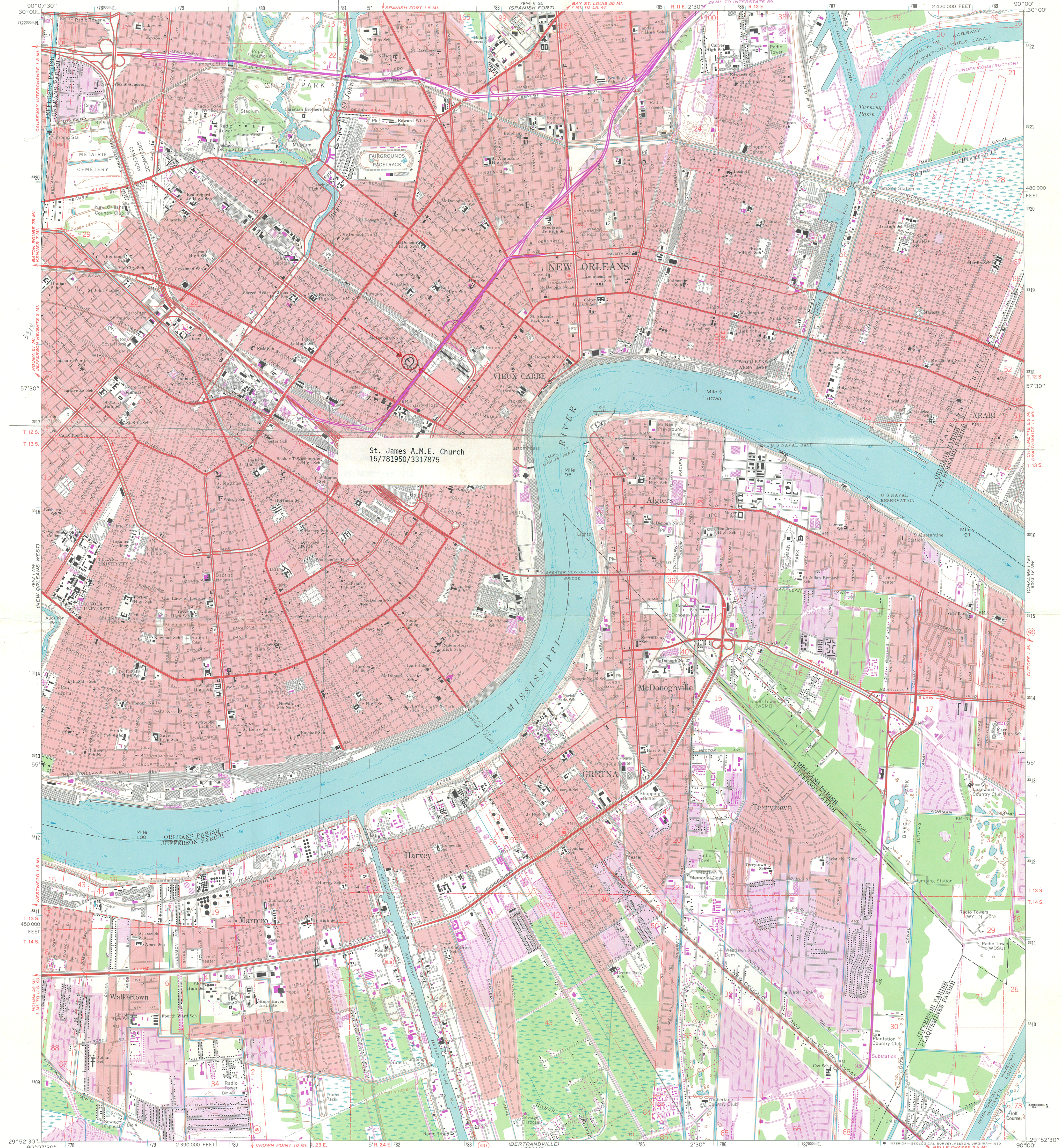
St. James A.M.E. Church  
New Orleans, Louisiana, Orleans Parish  
Photographer: Jonathan Fricker  
Neg. at: La. State Historic Preservation Office,  
Baton Rouge, La.  
Northeast-side view  
Photo # 3



St. James A.M.E. Church  
New Orleans, Louisiana, Orleans Parish  
Photographer: Porters  
Date taken: Summer 1981  
Neg. at: 2936 Fourth St., New Orleans, La.  
Interior  
Photo # 4







St. James A.M.E. Church  
15/781950/3317875

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and USC&GS  
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
taken 1964. Topography by planetable surveys 1965-66  
Supersedes map dated 1951  
Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS Charts  
878 (1964) and 497 (1966). This information is not intended for  
navigational purposes  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Louisiana coordinate system, south zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 15, shown in blue  
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983  
move the projection lines 19 meters south and  
8 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks  
City of New Orleans and Orleans Parish are coextensive

CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET  
NATIONAL GEODETIC DATUM OF 1929  
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET  
GULF COAST LOW WATER DATUM  
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE  
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER  
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 1/2 FOOT  
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
AND STATE OF LOUISIANA, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70804  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

SCALE 1:24,000  
1 MILE  
1 KILOMETER  
7000 FEET  
7000 METERS

NEW ORLEANS MAP CO., INC.  
3130 Paris Avenue  
New Orleans, La. 70119

ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Light duty  
Medium duty  
Unimproved dirt

Interstate Route  
U.S. Route  
State Route

NEW ORLEANS EAST, LA.  
NE/4 NEW ORLEANS 15' QUADRANGLE  
N2952.5-W9000/7.5  
1966  
PHOTOREVISED 1972 AND 1979  
DMA 7943 I NE-SERIES V885



STATE OF LOUISIANA  
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION AND TOURISM  
OFFICE OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

DAVID C. TREEN  
Governor

ROBERT B. DeBLIEUX  
Assistant Secretary

MRS. LAWRENCE H. FOX  
Secretary

September 9, 1982

Keeper of the National Register  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Pension Building  
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find the completed and signed nomination forms for the following properties, along with maps and photographs.

Lone Pine, Avoyelles Parish  
Grayson House, Franklin Parish  
✓ St. James A.M.E. Church, Orleans Parish  
Harlem Plantation House, Plaquemines Parish

If any additional information is required, please contact our office.

Sincerely,

Robert B. DeBlieux  
State Historic Preservation Officer

RBD/JF/bc

Enclosures: as stated