

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CHI.171
Historic Name:	Saint George's French Catholic Church
Common Name:	
Address:	7 Belcher St East Main and Belcher Sts
City/Town:	Chicopee
Village/Neighborhood:	Chicopee Falls
Local No:	
Year Constructed:	1923
Architect(s):	Figuere, George H.; Roy, Albert J.
Architectural Style(s):	Neo Gothic Revival
Use(s):	Church
Significance:	Architecture; Ethnic Heritage; Religion
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Slate Wall: Brick; Glass; Sandstone



The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) has converted this paper record to digital format as part of ongoing projects to scan records of the Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth and National Register of Historic Places nominations for Massachusetts. Efforts are ongoing and not all inventory or National Register records related to this resource may be available in digital format at this time.

The MACRIS database and scanned files are highly dynamic; new information is added daily and both database records and related scanned files may be updated as new information is incorporated into MHC files. Users should note that there may be a considerable lag time between the receipt of new or updated records by MHC and the appearance of related information in MACRIS. Users should also note that not all source materials for the MACRIS database are made available as scanned images. Users may consult the records, files and maps available in MHC's public research area at its offices at the State Archives Building, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, open M-F, 9-5.

Users of this digital material acknowledge that they have read and understood the MACRIS Information and Disclaimer (<http://mhc-macris.net/macrisdisclaimer.htm>)

Data available via the MACRIS web interface, and associated scanned files are for information purposes only. THE ACT OF CHECKING THIS DATABASE AND ASSOCIATED SCANNED FILES DOES NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LOCAL, STATE OR FEDERAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS. IF YOU ARE REPRESENTING A DEVELOPER AND/OR A PROPOSED PROJECT THAT WILL REQUIRE A PERMIT, LICENSE OR FUNDING FROM ANY STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCY YOU MUST SUBMIT A PROJECT NOTIFICATION FORM TO MHC FOR MHC'S REVIEW AND COMMENT. You can obtain a copy of a PNF through the MHC web site (www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc) under the subject heading "MHC Forms."

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

This file was accessed on: Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 3:27: PM

P.O. CHIC FALLS
USGS - SPRING, N
SECT. B

CH1171

FORM B - BUILDING

AREA	FORM NO.
	171

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

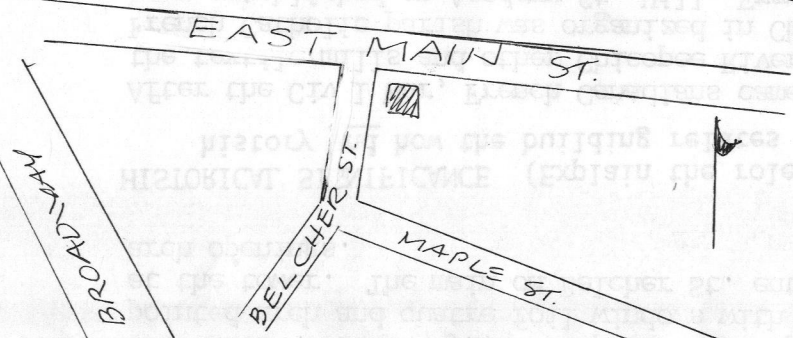
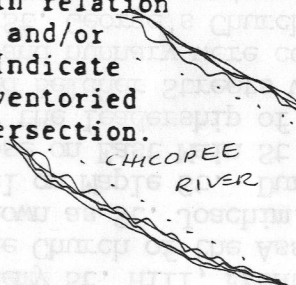


Chicopee
 East Main and Belcher Streets
 Name St. George's French Catholic Church
 Present Church
 Original "
 DESCRIPTION:
1923

SKETCH MAP

Roll # 110 2/2

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.



Source newspaper clippings

Style late Gothic Revival
 Architect George H. Fuguere
 Exterior wall fabric brick and sandstone
 Outbuildings _____
 Major alterations (with dates) _____

Moved _____ Date _____
 Approx. acreage less than one acre
 Setting on high, well-landscaped rise over looking Chicopee River and Chicopee Falls.

Recorded by Edward W. Gordon
 Organization Office of Community Development
 Date February 1984

(Staple additional sheets here)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.)

Since 1923 the tall Gothicized tower of St. George's church has been a major Chicopee Falls landmark. Constructed of red sandstone and brick, this late Gothic Revival Church's components include (in addition to the tower) a projecting vestibule, long nose with (clerestory), transparent and apse. In general its walls are pieced by pointed arch and quatre foil windows with heavy sandstone moldings. Butt rises appear at the tower. The main on Belcher St. entrances exhibits three deeply recessed pointed arch openings.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.)

After the Civil War, French Canadians came to Chicopee in great numbers to work in the textile mills and other Chicopee River valley industries. As early as 1871 the first French Catholic parish was organized in Chicopee. By 1885 a Canadian American parish had been established on Academy St. Hill, Front St. on what is now the site of Chicopee High School, known as the Church of the Assumption, it burned in 1912. St. George's parish was originally known as St. Joachim. Organized in 1893, it was originally located in a small chapel on Maple St. During the early 1890's this parish the Greek Revival Pliny Cadwell House on East Main St. to serve as a rectory. The first pastor was Alexis Delphos under the leadership of Father Gagnon. The present Gothic Revival building at East Main and Belcher Streets was erected at a cost of \$225,000 - at that time a parochial school and nunnary were completed on the property. St. George's was dedicated in 1923. St. George's Church was designed by George H. Fugere of George H. Fugere and Sons, architects and enginners, 112 Main St. Chicopee Falls.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

Maps/Atlases 1885, 1894, 1912
Chicopee Public Library files - "Religion"
Springfield Public Library files

CHI.171
NOV 19 1971

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town

Property Address

Chicopee East Main St.

Area(s)

Form No.

CH 171



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF INSPECTION
PLAN RECORD

CASE 0 RACK 2 APART. 10 NO. 79121 alt.

BUILDING St. George's Church STORIES

CITY OR TOWN Chicopee STREET -

TO BE USED FOR church purposes CLASS

OWNER St. George's Church

ARCHITECT Albert J. Roy - Boston

CERTIFICATE APPROVAL - SPECIFICATION REQUIREMENTS - REFERRED

DATE 10/15/52

INSPECTOR J.E. Powers

FORM BU. 1 SM-4-48-23404