

Landmarks Preservation Commission
April 12, 1967, Number 1
LP-0294

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, 2067 Fifth Avenue, Borough of Manhattan. Begun 1889, completed 1891; architect Henry M. Congdon.

Landmark Site: Borough of Manhattan Tax Map Block 1752, Lot 1.

On June 14, 1966, the Landmarks Preservation Commission held a public hearing on the proposed designation as a Landmark of St. Andrew's Church and the proposed designation of the related Landmark Site. (Item No. 26). The hearing had been duly advertised in accordance with the provisions of law. Two witnesses spoke in favor of designation. There were no speakers in opposition to designation. In a letter to the Commission, the Rector of St. Andrew's Church indicated approval of the proposed designation.

DESCRIPTION AND ANALYSIS

The architectural composition of Saint Andrew's Church is distinctive and picturesque in the Gothic manner. Constructed of rock faced granite, the Church's rugged appearance has a solid quality and great dignity. The interesting massing of structural elements culminates in a handsome clock tower, adjacent to the south transept on 127th Street. Two graceful pointed-arch openings on each side of the belfry give form and deep shadow to the tower, while the slate-covered spire is adorned at each corner by delicate turrets. Cruciform in shape, the plan has galleries in the transept and side aisles in the nave. Simple buttresses, at the exterior of the south aisle wall, lend structural support and considerable interest to the design.

A steep pitched slate roof covers the nave and transept and at the west end terminates in a striking gabled wall. This rich masonry facade is supported by heavy buttresses opposite the nave walls and contains two tall narrow pointed windows and a small rose window. A very handsome pointed arched doorway is deeply revealed in its own gable. The recessed arches, within the deep reveal of this portal, spring from ornate caps supported by handsome dwarf columns, a very fitting entrance to this notable church. Occupying a corner lot, the church has a corner entrance with a small stone vestibule, opening to the south. With its steep pitched slate roof, it projects out from the side aisle adding a picturesque feature to the exterior of this handsome church.

FINDINGS AND DESIGNATIONS

On the basis of a careful consideration of the history, the architecture and other features of this building, the Landmarks Preservation Commission finds that St. Andrew's Church has a special character, special historical and aesthetic interest and value as part of the development, heritage and cultural characteristics of New York City.

The Commission further finds that, among its important qualities, Saint Andrew's Church is a picturesque Gothic church having a distinguished clock tower, that the massing of its architectural features is striking and that with its rugged masonry construction and attractive details, this Church enhances the surrounding neighborhood with its noble dignity and enriches the architectural heritage of its neighborhood.

Accordingly, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 8-A of the Charter of the City of New York and Chapter 8-A of the Administrative Code of the City of New York, the Landmarks Preservation Commission designates as a Landmark the St. Andrew's Church, 2067 Fifth Avenue, Borough of Manhattan and designates Tax Map Block 1752, Lot 1, Borough of Manhattan, as its Landmark Site.