

FILE NO. 346-68 ORD. NO. 228-68
DESIGNATING SAINT PATRICK'S
CHURCH AS A LANDMARK PUR-
SUANT TO ARTICLE 10 OF THE CITY
PLANNING CODE.

I hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was read for the second time and finally passed by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco at its meeting of July 29, 1968.

PHILIP P. ENGLER, Acting Clerk
Approved: July 31, 1968
JAMES MAILLIARD, Acting Mayor
August 3, 1968—11

FILE NO. 346-68 ORD. NO. —
DESIGNATING SAINT PATRICK'S
CHURCH AS A LANDMARK PUR-
SUANT TO ARTICLE 10 OF THE CITY
PLANNING CODE.

Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

Section 1. The Board of Supervisors hereby finds that SAINT PATRICK'S CHURCH has a special character and special historical architectural and aesthetic interest and value and that its designation as a Landmark will be in furtherance of and in conformance with the purpose of Article 10 of the City Planning Code and the standards set forth therein.

(a) Designation. Pursuant to Section 1004 of the City Planning Code, Chapter II, Part II of the San Francisco Municipal Code, SAINT PATRICK'S CHURCH is hereby designated as a Landmark, this designation having been duly approved by resolution of the City Planning Commission.

(b) Location and Boundaries. Pursuant to Section 1004 of the City Planning Code, Chapter II, Part II of the San Francisco Municipal Code, a landmark site is hereby designated for the said Landmark, located and bounded as follows:

Beginning at a point on the northwesterly line of Mission Street, distant 329 feet northeasterly from the northeasterly line of Fourth Street; thence at a right angle to the said line of Mission Street, northwesterly 100 feet; thence at a right angle southwesterly 24 feet; thence at a right angle northwesterly 60 feet to the southeasterly line of Jessie Street; thence northeasterly along said line of Jessie Street 134 feet; thence at a right angle southeasterly 109 feet; thence at a right angle southwesterly 14 feet 2 1/4 inches; thence at a right angle southeasterly 51 feet to the said northwesterly line of Mission Street; thence along said line of Mission Street 95 feet 9 and 3/4 inches southwesterly to the point of beginning; being Lot 13 in Assessor's Block 3706.

(c) Justification. The special character and special historical architectural and aesthetic interest and value of the said Landmark justifying its designation are as follows:

The patronal church of the Irish in San Francisco, built in 1872 in the then-prevailing Gothic style of church architecture. The church served the "South of Market" neighborhood when still residential in character; today it serves the spiritual needs of the faithful in the downtown business district. For many years the clergy of the parish have been dedicated to the needs of homeless men and women of the area. The parish school, in existence over 110 years, was one of the two first parochial schools in San Francisco. Saint Patrick's church is a Landmark of an area now entirely changed and an era now gone.

(d) Features. The said Landmark should be preserved generally in all of its particular exterior features as existing on the date hereof and as described and depicted in the photographs, case report and other material on file in the Department of City Planning in Docket No. LM68.2; the summary description being as follows:

Gothic Revival style; red brick and three stories high, with a four story central facade tower; pier buttresses; with pinnacles and figure niches.

I hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was passed for second reading by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco at its meeting of July 22, 1968.

PHILIP P. ENGLER, Acting Clerk
July 27, 1968—11

File Copy

LANDMARKS PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

Preliminary Report for Hearing of December 6, 1967 (new) SAINT PATRICKS CHURCH

LOCATION AND
SIZE OF SITE

748 Mission Street, north side, 386 feet west of Third Street, an "L" shaped lot having frontages of 110 feet along Mission Street at the front of the church and 134 feet along Jessie Street at the rear of the church; Lots 13 and 13A in Assessor's Block 3706.

NATURE AND
HISTORY

This brick catholic church is the patronal church of the Irish in San Francisco. Built in 1872 (cornerstone laid in 1869) in the Gothic style which dominated that era, the church was the second church in this parish and replaced a wooden church that stood on Market Street between 2nd and 3rd Streets (the wooden church has been moved to Eddy and Divisadero Streets where it now serves as the Holy Cross Parish Hall). This parish was a very important one in the "south of the slot" neighborhood when Rincon Hill was still a fashionable residential neighborhood, and thus Saint Patricks Church represents an era and a residential area of the City that have vanished.

During the 1906 earthquake and fire the valuable interior of the church was gutted and only the walls and tower survived. The church was rebuilt, but without the steeple which had reached 200 feet above the street.

For years Saint Patricks clergy have been dedicated to the needs of the homeless men and women who frequent this "south of Market Street" area. The grammar school associated with the church, which school served the parish for nearly 100 years, has closed.

Today, Saint Patricks Church, along with Saint Marys Church at California St. and Grant Avenue, serves the daily spiritual needs of the faithful in the downtown business district of the City.

ARCHITECTURAL
DESCRIPTION

Gothic Revival Style. Red brick exterior walls with white stone coping, capstones, window sills, and pinnacles, bases of the buttresses, and central doorway arch. The square 90 feet high tower survives without the steeple described above. The central tower, projecting some dozen feet beyond the facade, encloses the main doorway at its base. There are side doors in the facade on either hand; each side door is enclosed within an arched porch. Brick buttresses support the tower on each side; and there are two on either hand supporting the main facade. The church stands detached from its neighbors and has buttresses along the entire side walls. The church is not cruciform in shape; the higher than average nave is supported on a concrete foundation, unusual in its age, and is two story and basement. A choir loft is at the street end of the nave. At the apsidal end and along the aisles there are stained glass windows depicting scenes from the life and labours of Saint Patrick in Ireland; the lives of the Apostles, and scenes from Irish mythology. These windows and the interior decorations are among the finest examples of liturgical art in the City.

SURROUNDING LAND
USE AND ZONING

The church as well as the whole of Mission Street in this vicinity is zoned C-M, reflecting commercial and manufacturing uses which have existed for years around the church. This immediate area is proposed for reclassification to C-3-R (downtown retail) in proposals pending before the Board of Supervisors. The church stands in the midst of the Yerba Buena Redevelopment Area, but has been marked for preservation by the Redevelopment Agency along with the church rectory abutting to the west and the P.G. and E. powerhouse to the north (across Jessie Street). All older hotels and dwellings in the vicinity (post-1906 construction) are scheduled for demolition, and the

buildings which will replace them will not be residential in character. The church will probably be a more visible landmark when the new construction in the area and the proposed pedestrian mall replace the closely built-up commercial fronts and automobile parking lots which now form its environs.

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

RESOLUTION NO. 6199

WHEREAS, A proposal to designate Saint Patrick's Church as a Landmark pursuant to the provisions of Article 10 of the City Planning Code was initiated by the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board on January 17, 1968, and said Advisory Board, after due consideration, has recommended approval of this proposal;

WHEREAS, The City Planning Commission, after due notice given, held a public hearing on March 14, 1968, to consider the proposed designation and the report of said Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, The Commission believes that the proposed Landmark has a special character and special historical interest and value; and that the proposed designation would be in furtherance of and in conformance with the purposes and standards of the said Article 10;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, First, That the proposal to designate Saint Patrick's Church as a Landmark pursuant to Article 10 of the City Planning Code is hereby APPROVED, the location and boundaries of the landmark site being as follows:

Beginning at a point on the northwesterly line of Mission Street, distant 329 feet northeasterly from the northeasterly line of Fourth Street; thence at a right angle to the said line of Mission Street, northwesterly 100 feet; thence at a right angle southwesterly 24 feet; thence at a right angle northwesterly 60 feet to the southeasterly line of Jessie Street; thence northeasterly along said line of Jessie Street 134 feet; thence at a right angle southeasterly 109 feet; thence at a right angle southwesterly 14 feet 2-1/4 inches; thence at a right angle southeasterly 51 feet to the said northwesterly line of Mission Street; thence along said line of Mission Street 95 feet 9 and 3/4 inches southwesterly to the point of beginning; being Lot 13 in Assessor's Block 3706.

Second, That the special historical interest and value of the said Landmark justifying its designation are as follows:

The patronal church of the Irish in San Francisco, built in 1872 in the then-prevailing Gothic style of church architecture. The church served the "South of Market" neighborhood when still residential in character; today it serves the spiritual needs of the faithful in the downtown business district. For many years the clergy of the parish have been dedicated to the needs of homeless men and women of the area. The parish school, in existence over 110 years, was one of the two first parochial schools in San Francisco. Saint Patrick's church is a Landmark of an area now entirely changed and an era now gone;

Third That the said Landmark should be preserved generally in all of its particular features as existing on the date hereof and as described and depicted in the photographs, case report and other material on file with the Department of City Planning in Docket No. LM68.2; the summary description being as follows:

Gothic Revival style; red brick and three stories high, with a four story central facade tower; pier buttresses; with pinnacles and figure niches.

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

Resolution No. 6199

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Commission hereby directs its Secretary to transmit the proposal for designation, with a copy of this Resolution, to the Board of Supervisors for appropriate action.

Lynn Pio
Secretary

AYES: Commissioners Brinton, Elliott, Fleishhacker, Kearney, Porter
NOES: None
ABSENT: Commissioners Carr, Newman
PASSED: March 14, 1968