

ADDRESS: 1800 TASKER ST

Name of Resource: Presbyterian Church of the Evangel; Second Nazareth Missionary Church

Proposed Action: Designation

Property Owner: 18th and Tasker LLC

Nominator: Dane Jensen

Staff Contact: Heather Hendrickson, heather.hendrickson@phila.gov

OVERVIEW: This nomination proposes to designate the property at 1800 Tasker Street and list it on the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places. The nomination contends that the church building and annex at the site satisfy Criteria for Designation A, C, D, E, H, and J. For Criterion A, the nomination argues that 1800 Tasker Street reflects key developments in Philadelphia's religious and community life, showing how congregations adapted to urban change. Additionally, under Criterion A, the nomination argues it is associated with the life of prominent architect Theophilus P. Chandler. Under Criterion C, D, and E, the nomination contends that the property is a high-quality example of the Gothic Revival style by Theophilus P. Chandler, one of Philadelphia's most important architects of the late nineteenth century and was later modified by another notable firm, Duhring, Okie & Ziegler. Under Criterion H, the nomination contends that, owing to its commanding presence on the corner of 18th and Tasker Streets, the property has been a longstanding visual anchor within the Point Breeze neighborhood. Finally, the nomination claims that the church at 1800 Tasker Street satisfies Criterion for Designation J because it has served as a vital religious and community center in Point Breeze.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends that the nomination demonstrates that the property at 1800 Tasker Street satisfies Criteria for Designation A, C, D, E, H, and J.



NOMINATION OF HISTORIC BUILDING, STRUCTURE, SITE, OR OBJECT
PHILADELPHIA REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

SUBMIT ALL ATTACHED MATERIALS ON PAPER AND IN ELECTRONIC FORM (CD, EMAIL, FLASH DRIVE)
ELECTRONIC FILES MUST BE WORD OR WORD COMPATIBLE

1. ADDRESS OF HISTORIC RESOURCE *(must comply with an Office of Property Assessment address)*

Street address: 1800 Tasker Street

Postal code: 19145

2. NAME OF HISTORIC RESOURCE

Historic Name: Presbyterian Church of the Evangel; Second Nazareth Missionary Church

Current/Common Name: The Church at 1800 Tasker Street

3. TYPE OF HISTORIC RESOURCE

☒ Building

☐ Structure

☐ Site

☐ Object

4. PROPERTY INFORMATION

Condition: ☐ excellent ☐ good ☐ fair ☒ poor ☐ ruins

Occupancy: ☐ occupied ☐ vacant ☒ under construction ☐ unknown

Current use: Assembly/A-3 Place of Religious Worship; Under construction for restoration

5. BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please attach a narrative description and site/plot plan of the resource's boundaries.

6. DESCRIPTION

Please attach a narrative description and photographs of the resource's physical appearance, site, setting, and surroundings.

7. SIGNIFICANCE

Please attach a narrative Statement of Significance citing the Criteria for Designation the resource satisfies.

Period of Significance (from year to year): from 1886 to 1906

Date(s) of construction and/or alteration: see attached

Architect, engineer, and/or designer: T. P. Chandler, Jr.; see attached

Builder, contractor, and/or artisan: see attached

Original owner: Presbyterian Church of the Evangel; Presbytery of Philadelphia

Other significant persons: H. Louis Duhring Jr., R. Brognard Okie, and Carl Ziegler

CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION:

The historic resource satisfies the following criteria for designation (check all that apply):

- ☒ (a) Has significant character, interest or value as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the City, Commonwealth or Nation or is associated with the life of a person significant in the past; or,
- ☐ (b) Is associated with an event of importance to the history of the City, Commonwealth or Nation; or,
- ☒ (c) Reflects the environment in an era characterized by a distinctive architectural style; or,
- ☒ (d) Embodies distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style or engineering specimen; or,
- ☒ (e) Is the work of a designer, architect, landscape architect or designer, or engineer whose work has significantly influenced the historical, architectural, economic, social, or cultural development of the City, Commonwealth or Nation; or,
- ☐ (f) Contains elements of design, detail, materials or craftsmanship which represent a significant innovation; or,
- ☐ (g) Is part of or related to a square, park or other distinctive area which should be preserved according to an historic, cultural or architectural motif; or,
- ☒ (h) Owing to its unique location or singular physical characteristic, represents an established and familiar visual feature of the neighborhood, community or City; or,
- ☐ (i) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in pre-history or history; or
- ☒ (j) Exemplifies the cultural, political, economic, social or historical heritage of the community.

8. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Please attach a bibliography.

9. NOMINATOR

Organization 18th and Tasker LLC Date 07/18/2025

Name with Title Dr. Dane Jensen, property owner Email daneajensen@gmail.com

Street Address 420 W Mermaid Ln Telephone (717) 880-1323

City, State, and Postal Code Philadelphia PA 19118

Nominator ☒ is ☐ is not the property owner.

PHC USE ONLY

Date of Receipt: 7-22-2025

☒ Correct-Complete ☐ Incorrect-Incomplete Date: 7-22-2025

Date of Notice Issuance: 8-1-2025

Property Owner at Time of Notice:

Name: Dane Jensen, 18th and Tasker LLC

Address: 420 Mermaid Lane

City: Philadelphia State: PA Postal Code: 19118

Date(s) Reviewed by the Committee on Historic Designation: _____

Date(s) Reviewed by the Historical Commission: _____

Date of Final Action: _____

☐ Designated ☐ Rejected

12/7/18



Ruggiero Plante Land Design, LLC

5900 Ridge Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19128
phone 215.508.3900 fax 215.508.3800

PARCEL 'A'

ALL THAT CERTAIN lot or piece of ground with the building thereon erected, situate in the 36th Ward of the City of Philadelphia, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, prepared by James F. Henry, PLS (SU056807) of Ruggiero Plante Land Design, dated August 1, 2024, bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at the intersection of the westerly side 18th Street (50 feet wide, legally open – on city plan) and the southerly side of Tasker Street (50 feet wide, legally open – on city plan);

1. Thence, extending along the said northwesterly side of 18th Street, South 15°00'00" West, the distance of 116.000 feet to a point;
2. Thence, extending North 75°00'00" West, along the northerly side of Fernon Street (35 feet wide, legally open – on city plan), the distance of 67.000 feet to a point on the easterly side of a certain 3' wide alley which extends northwardly to said Tasker Street and communicating with a 2nd 3' wide alley that extends westwardly to a 3rd 3' wide alley that extends northward to the said southerly side of Tasker Street and southwardly to the said northerly side of Fernon Street;
3. Thence, extending through a certain wall and along the said easterly side of a certain 3' alley North 15°00'00" East the distance of 116.000 feet, to a point on the said southerly side of Tasker Street;
4. Thence, extending along the said southerly side of Tasker Street, South 75°00'00" East the distance of 67.000 feet to the first mentioned point and place of **BEGINNING**.

Containing 7,772.0 square feet (0.17842 acres)

Reviewed and Approved as per
Sub-Division Plan Requirements
Adopted by the Board of Surveyors

Christian Petrowsky
Surveyor & Regulator

20240263
2
District

9/6/24
Date



1600-10 & 1612 S 18th Street

WBE . Landscape Architecture . Civil Engineering . Site Planning . Land Surveying



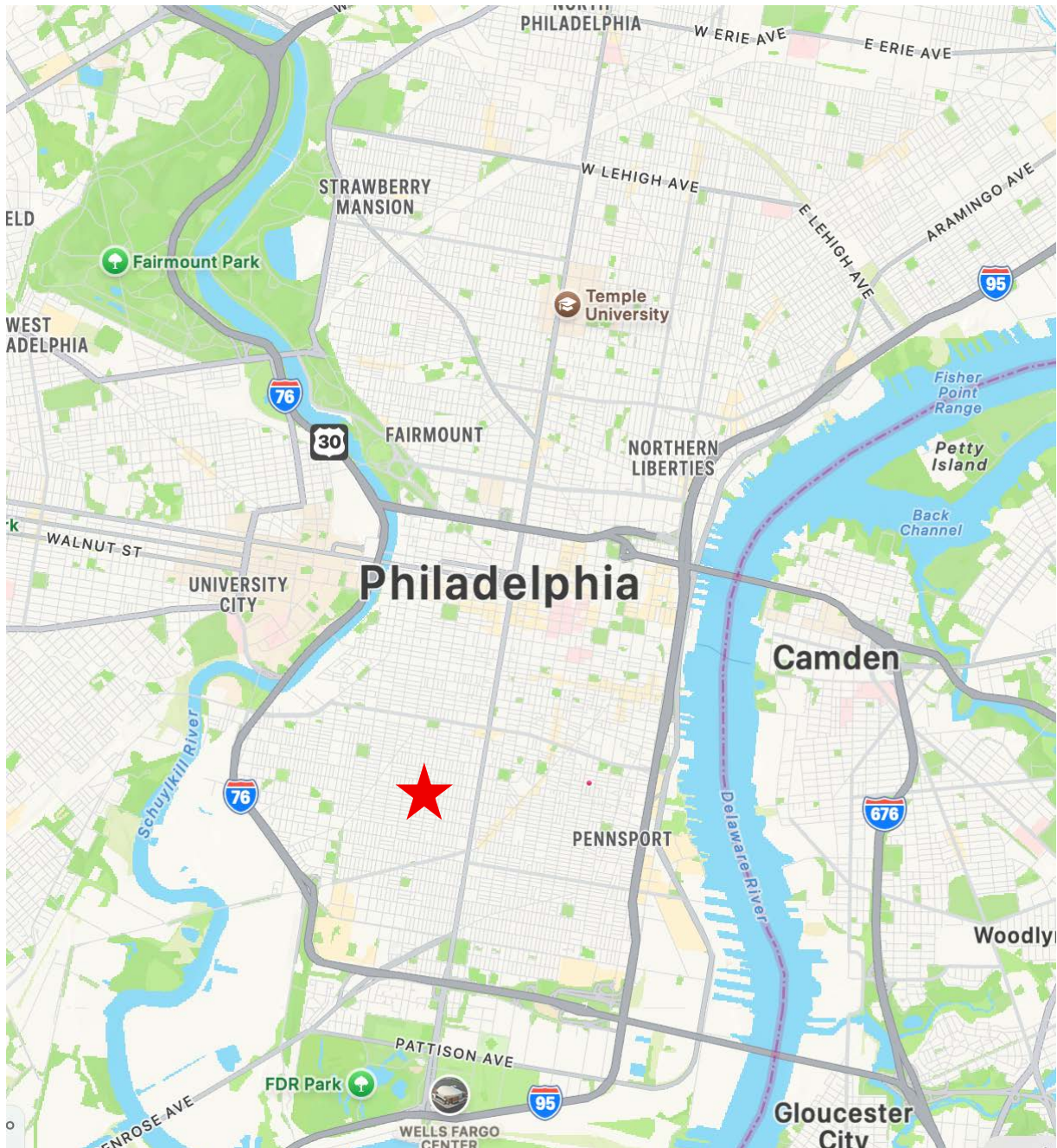
The Church at 1800 Tasker Street

1800 Tasker Street
Philadelphia, PA 19145

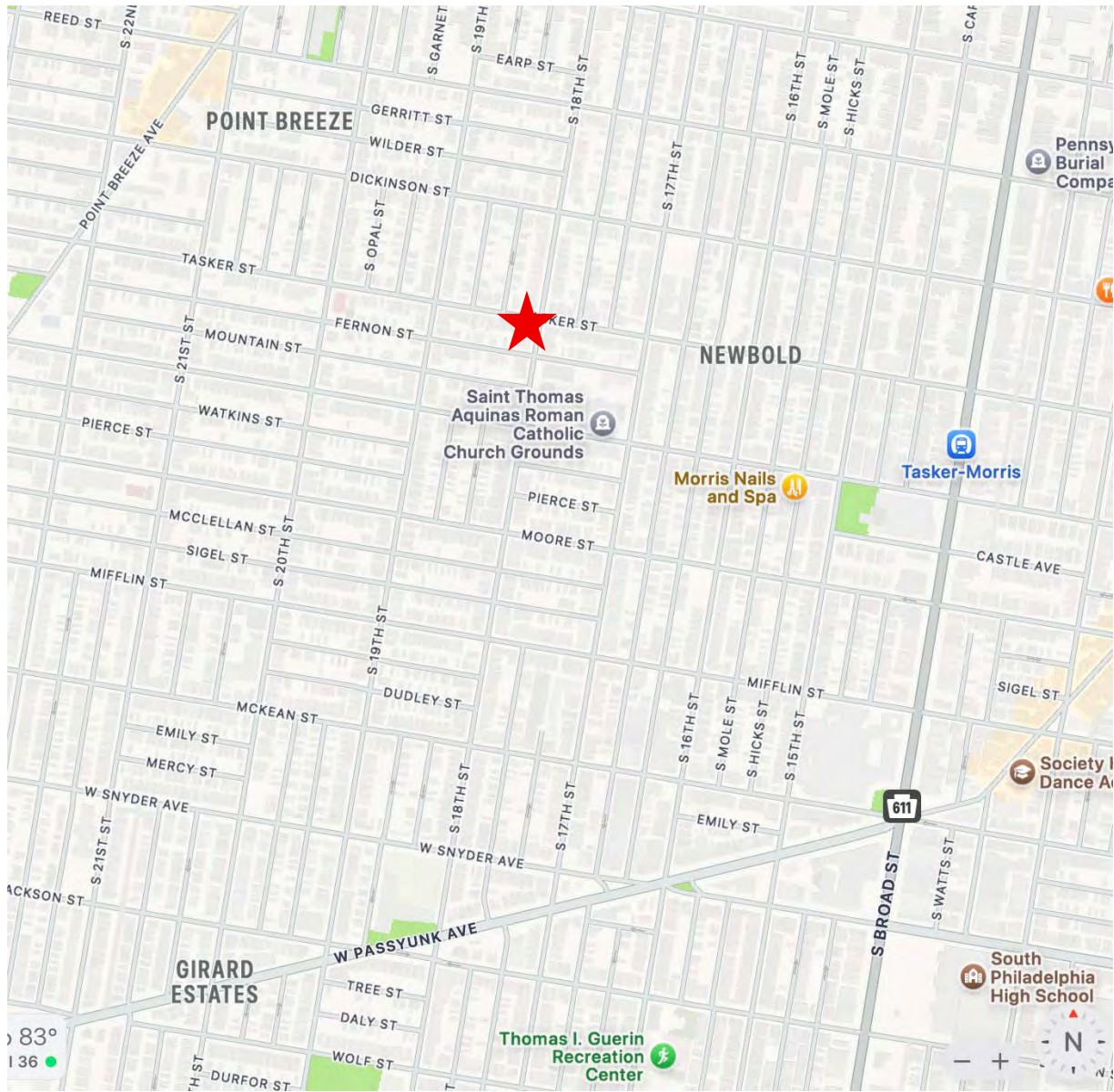
Materials in support of nomination to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places

RESOURCE LOCATION

1800 Tasker Street
Philadelphia, PA 19145

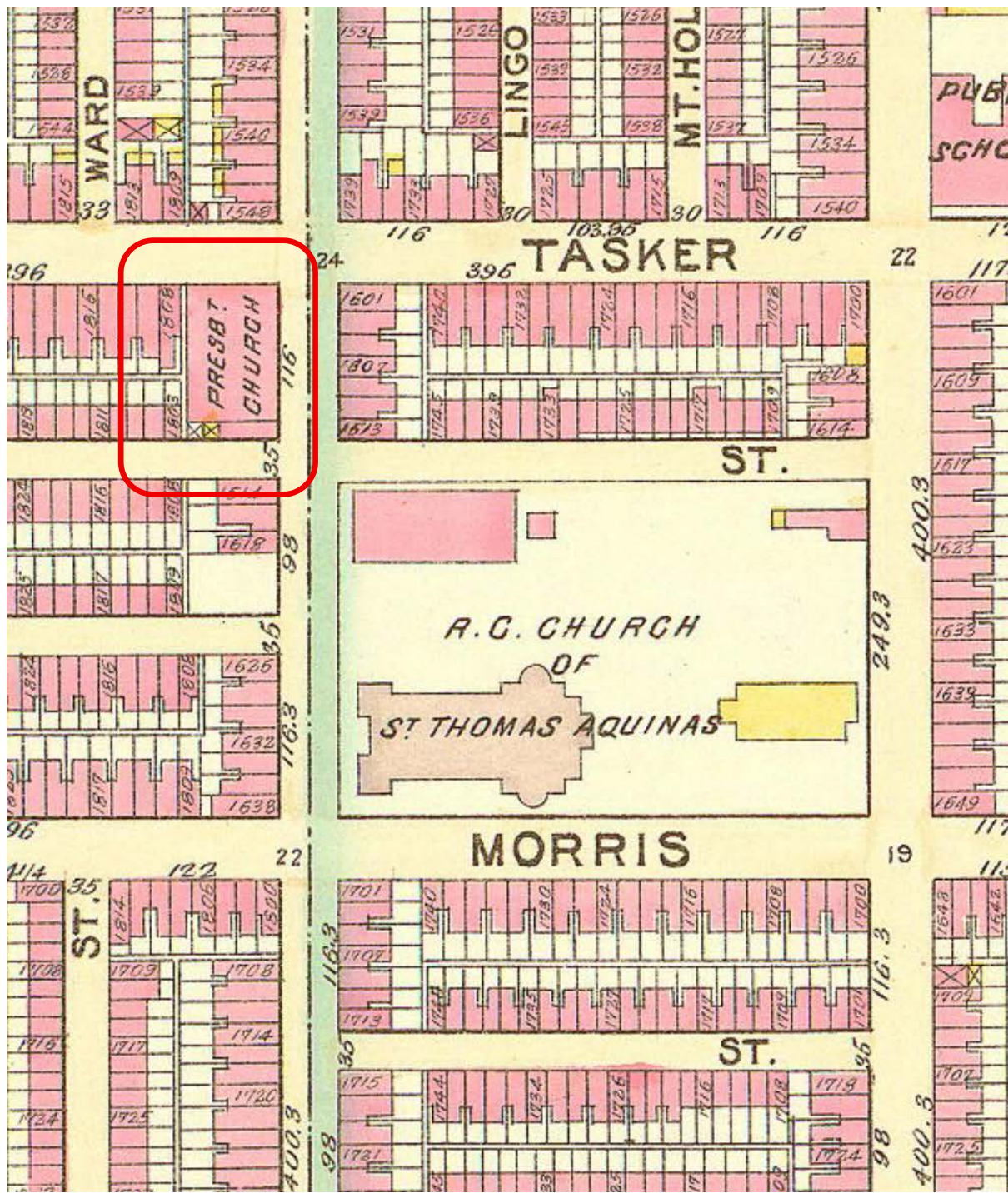


RESOURCE LOCATION

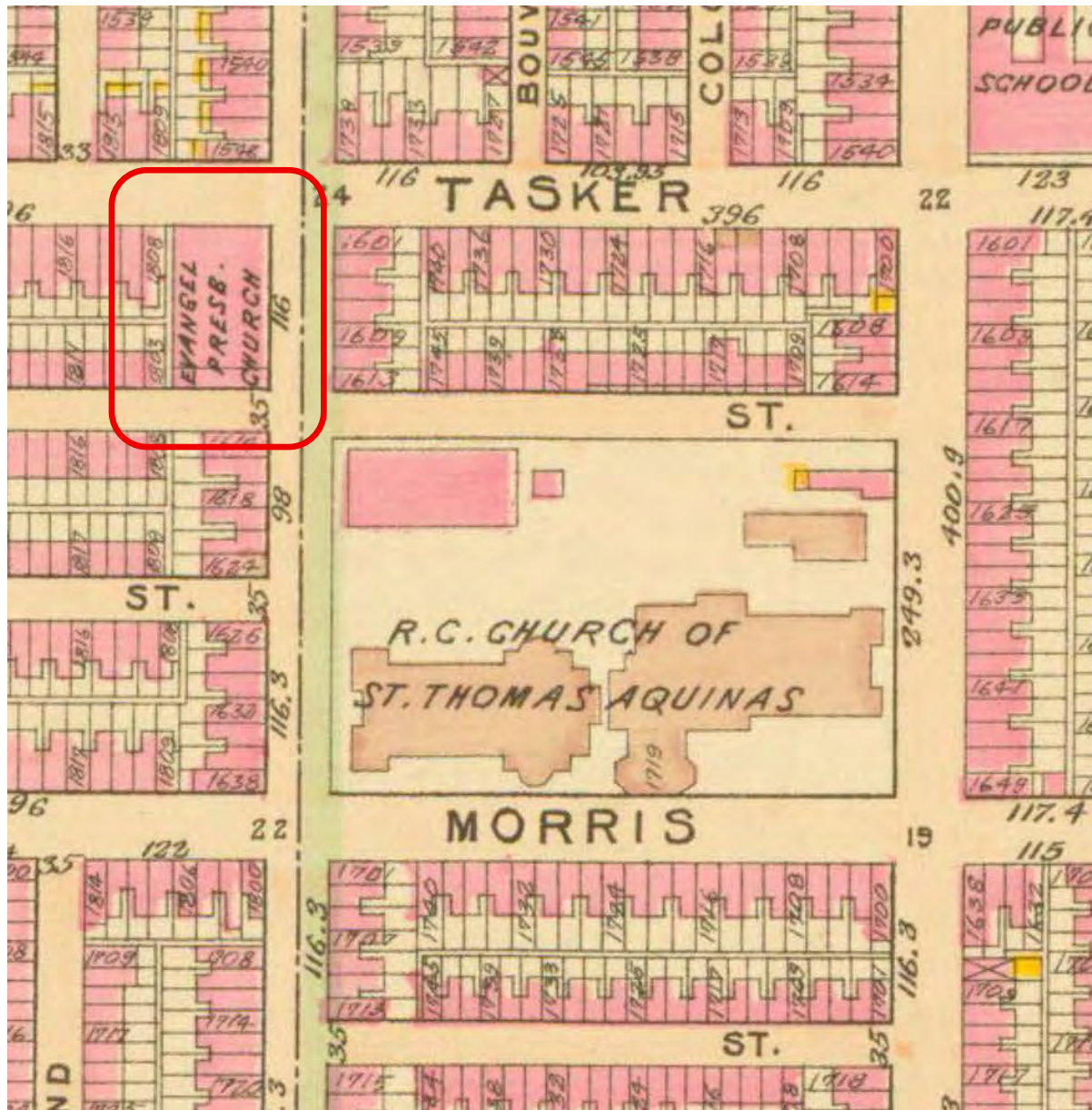


HISTORIC MAPS

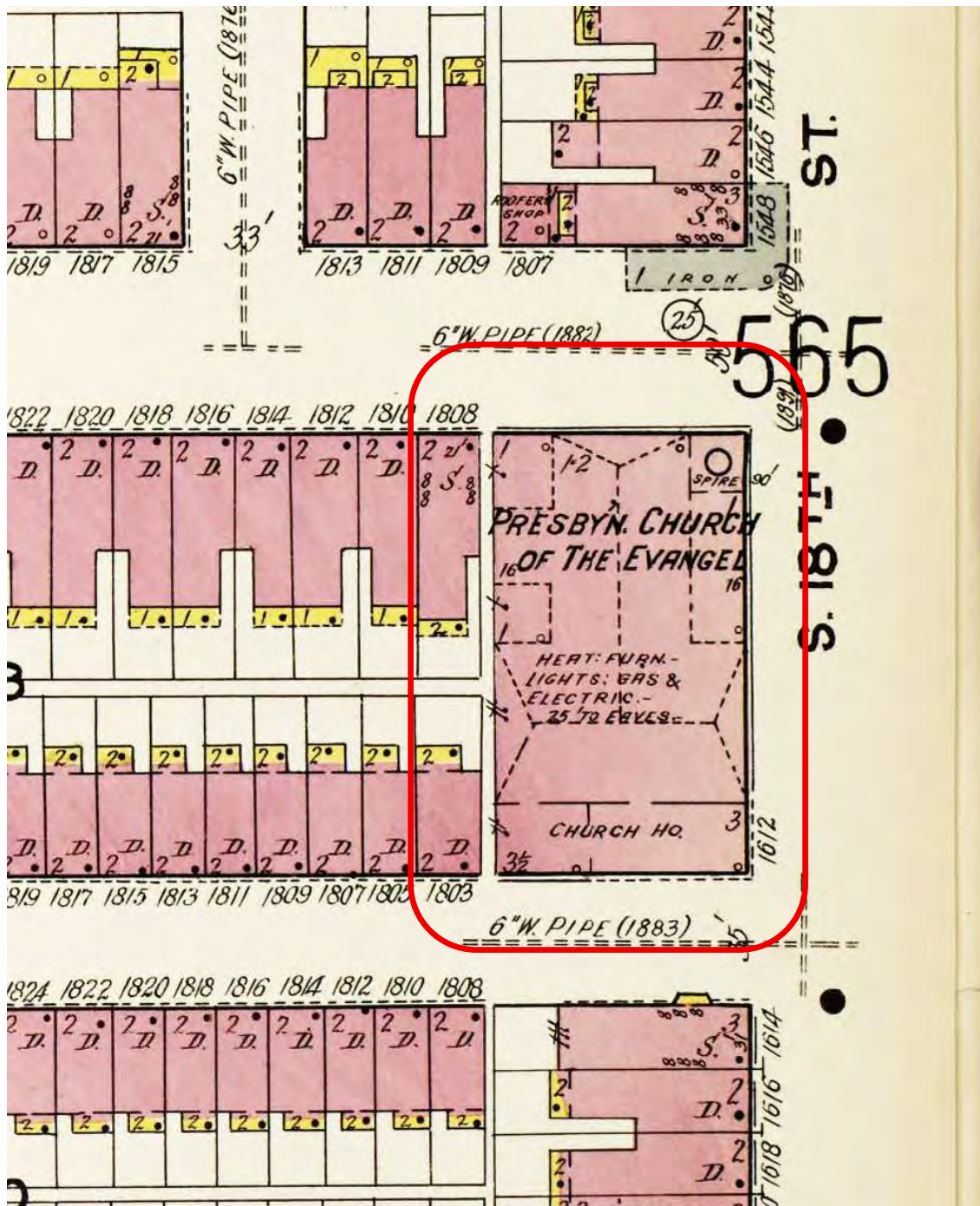
1895 Atlas of the City of Philadelphia, plate 6



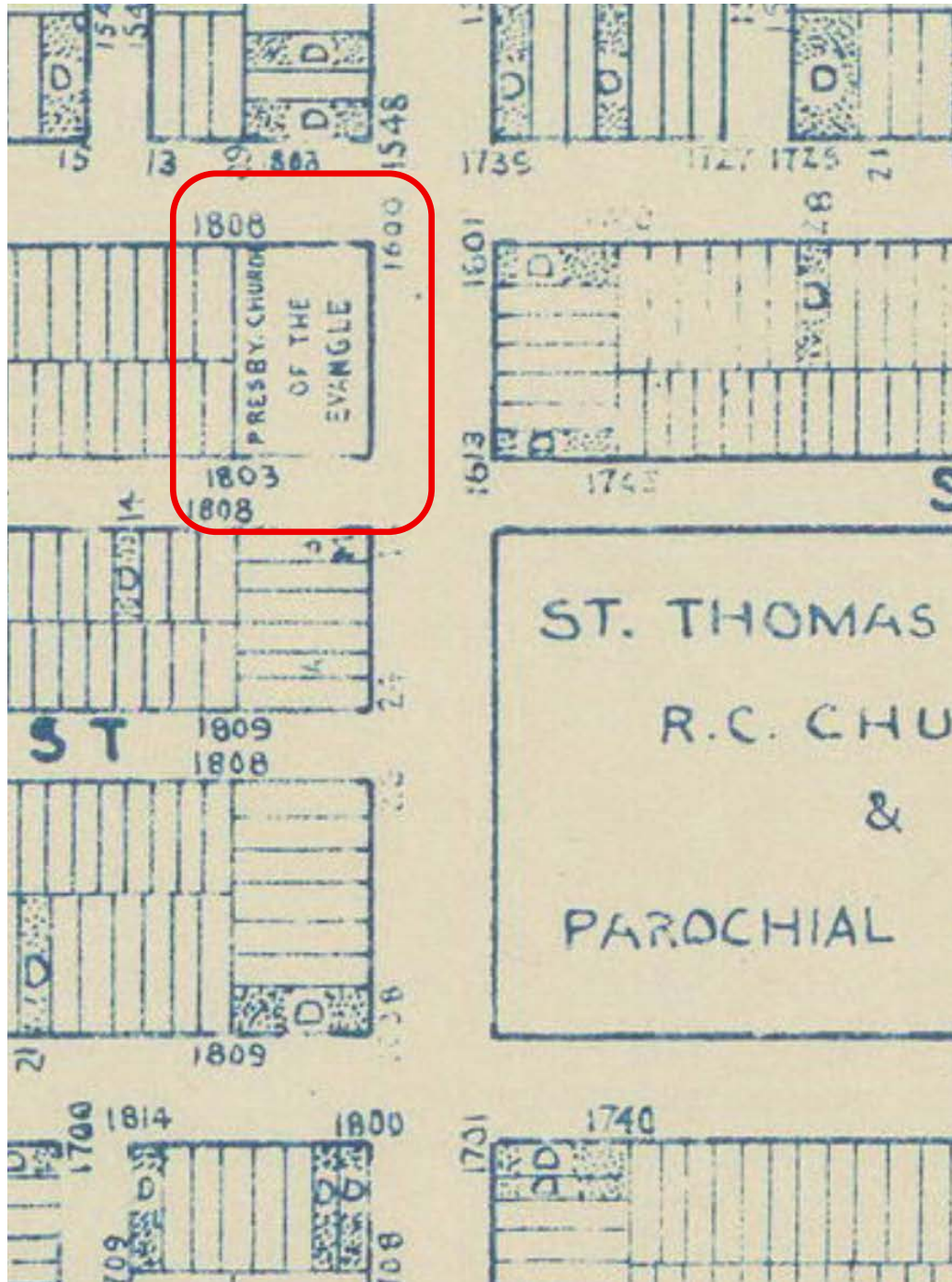
1910 Atlas of the City of Philadelphia, plate 6



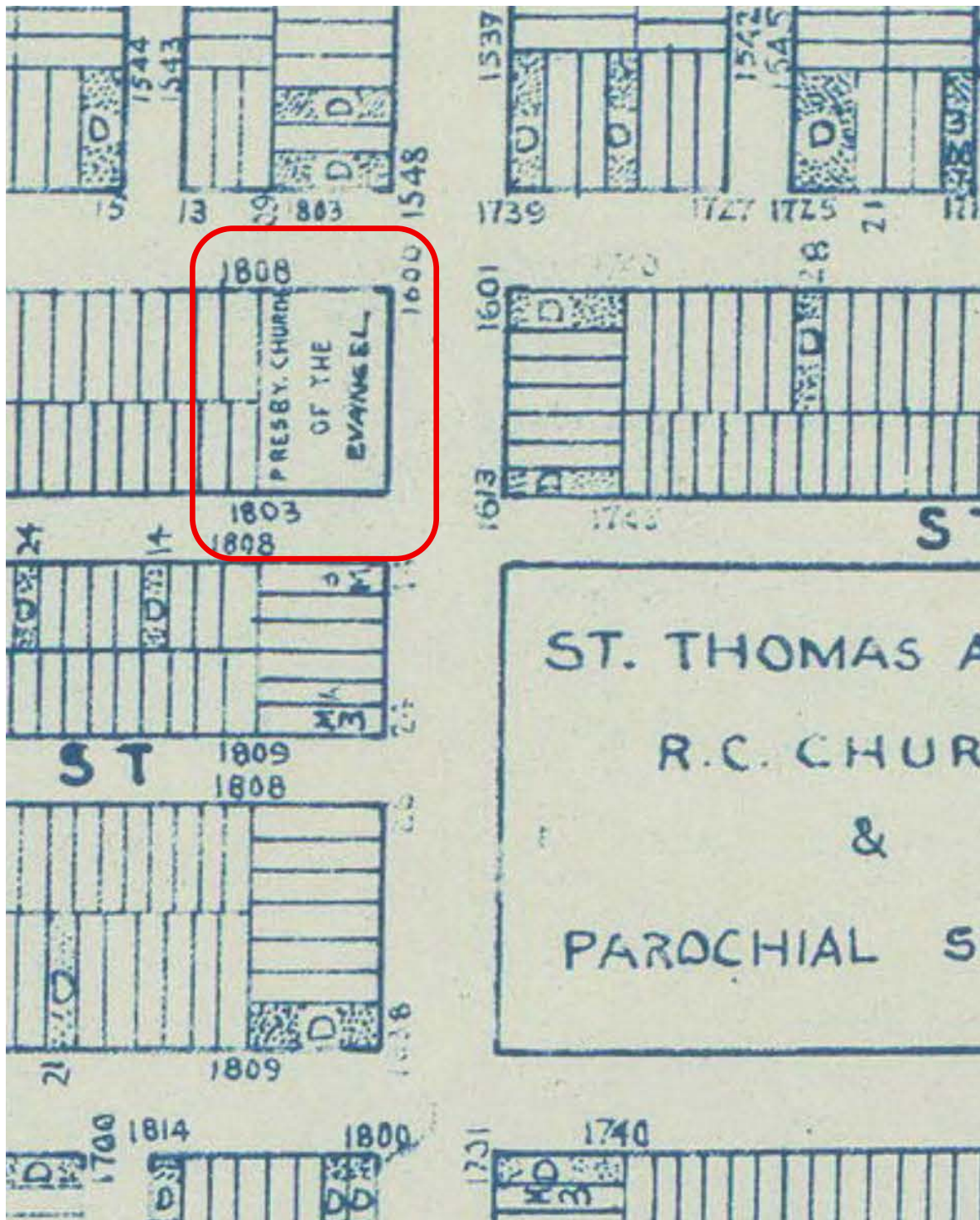
1918 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, vol. 6



Philadelphia Land Use Map, 1942, plate 3A-2



1962 Land Use Maps, plate 3 A-2



The Church at 1800 Tasker Street

We respectfully submit this nomination to the Philadelphia Historical Commission for the addition of the Church at 1800 Tasker Street to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places. Located at 18th and Tasker Streets in Point Breeze, this remarkable Gothic structure was designed by renowned architect Theophilus P. Chandler, Jr. and constructed in 1886, representing a significant piece of South Philadelphia's architectural heritage.

1. Address of Historic Resource: 1800 Tasker Street, Philadelphia PA, 19145

2. Name of Historic Resource

Historic Name: Presbyterian Church of the Evangel; Second Nazareth Missionary Church

Current/Common Name: The Church at 1800 Tasker Street

3. Type of Historic Resource: Building

4. Property Information

Condition: Poor

Current Occupancy/Use: Assembly/A-3 Place of Religious Worship; Under construction for restoration and adaptive reuse

When we took responsibility for the building in July 2024, it was in poor condition. Active leaking was present in every section of the roof with areas structurally unstable from prolonged water damage. Many window panes were broken or missing, and numerous windows had been boarded over, though even the boards were deteriorating. In the chapel, sections of ceiling had collapsed entirely, exposing the sky; elsewhere, ceilings were heavily compromised. The electrical system consisted of knob-and-tube wiring, much of it dangerously patched with lamp wire, though there was no evidence of shorts or fires. The forced-air HVAC system, fueled by natural gas, had been designed to heat only portions of the building. While no visible mold was found, interior finishes were severely degraded, with widespread plaster damage. The foundation appeared largely stable, but the plumbing system was in poor condition, with rusted-through sanitary sewer pipes and missing stormwater drainage components.

We are currently executing a comprehensive restoration project (Permit #CP-2025-002389) that encompasses structural stabilization, window and roof repairs, mechanical system modernization, ADA compliance upgrades, fire safety improvements, and restoration of the original stained glass windows. Our plan incorporates several thoughtfully designed modifications, including the installation of street-level doors and an annex skylight, all of which have been carefully designed to complement the building's historic character.

Throughout this process, we remain firmly committed to preserving the building's architectural integrity while addressing contemporary requirements for safety, environmental sustainability, and accessibility.

5. Boundaries Description

See attached Exhibit A, parcel description from Deed of Consolidation, Philadelphia Doc ID 54359521; and Exhibit B, site plan.

CURRENT PHOTOGRAPHS

From the NE corner of 18th and Tasker



Tasker Street façade



18th Street façade



Fernon Street façade



6. Description

The church building, located at the intersection of 18th and Tasker Streets, stands as a notable example of Gothic Revival ecclesiastical architecture designed by prominent Philadelphia architect T.P. Chandler. The complex consists of three distinct components: the main church structure, an adjoining chapel to the south, and an adjacent row home that was connected to the church with several doorways in 1895.

The main church building exhibits characteristic Gothic Revival elements executed in red stretcher-bond brick with brownstone trim. Most prominent is its corner tower, which is crowned by a distinctive spire with copper finial. The tower, which provides one of two original entrances along 18th Street, features pointed-arch window openings typical of the Gothic style. The building's corner siting allows for dramatic street views of its architectural composition.

The main façade (along Tasker St) is distinguished by a large Gothic-arched window opening, complemented by smaller lancet windows. A prominent stained glass window behind the pulpit is dedicated to Gustavus Benson, a major benefactor of the building's construction. Additional notable stained glass installations include contributions from the now-defunct West Spruce Street Presbyterian Church, as well as the former Cohocksink and Harlan Memorial Sunday Schools. The brownstone trim provides visual contrast against the red brick and appears in window surrounds, water tables, and decorative elements. A two-story chapel wing extends to the south of the main structure and maintains architectural consistency with the main building through matching materials and Gothic Revival detailing.

Although the construction quality of the original building is evident, the structure currently faces significant preservation challenges. The building envelope has been compromised over time, with persistent roof leaks dating back to the 1940s resulting in considerable widespread water damage. All mechanical systems have been removed due to safety concerns. However, engineering assessments indicate that the fundamental structural elements remain sound, providing a viable foundation for rehabilitation.

The rehabilitation currently in progress emphasizes the preservation and restoration of original architectural features while addressing critical infrastructure needs. Key components of the rehabilitation strategy include comprehensive waterproofing and envelope repairs, restoration of significant architectural details, integration of updated mechanical systems, incorporation of ADA-compliant accessibility features, installation of current fire safety systems, and environmental efficiency improvements. New carriage doors have been designed in keeping with the building's Gothic Revival character, ensuring architectural compatibility with the original nineteenth-century design. This careful balance of preservation and modernization will ensure the building's suitability for future use while maintaining its architectural and historical integrity.

The building occupies a prominent corner lot at 18th and Tasker in Point Breeze, exemplifying the pattern of religious institutions that have historically anchored Philadelphia's rowhome neighborhoods. The structure stands at a key intersection within Point Breeze's regular street grid, its spire marking the skyline much like the nearby St. Thomas Aquinas spires at 17th and Morris.

The surrounding blocks maintain their historic density and scale, with contiguous rows of two- and three-story brick homes typical of South Philadelphia's late Victorian-era development. The church property's footprint, massing, and setbacks conform to established patterns seen in comparable Philadelphia religious buildings of the period. Its red brick construction and brownstone trim echo the material palette found throughout Point Breeze, while its Gothic Revival elements appropriately distinguish it as an institutional building.

The site's relationship to the broader neighborhood remains largely unchanged since construction, with the main entrance maintaining its original elevation above street level. This careful integration into the urban fabric, coupled with its architectural presence, positions the building as a significant anchor within Point Breeze's continuing evolution from its nineteenth-century origins through its present-day transformation. Through inclusion on the Register of Historic Places, we seek to ensure the long-term preservation of this significant structure while facilitating a diverse range of uses that will serve the evolving needs of the surrounding community.

7. Significance

Period of Significance: 1886-1906, from the date of original construction to the last major exterior renovation, the addition of the gallery.

Date(s) of Construction and/or alteration:

- 1886 — Cornerstone laid; construction begins on designs by T.P. Chandler, Jr.
- 1887 — Construction complete
- 1895 — Stairs changed and opening cut between the church and the adjoining row home (“annex”)
- 1902 — Steeple constructed by James Johnston; designed by T.P. Chandler, Jr.
- 1906 — Gallery strengthened; designed by Duhring, Okie & Zeigler
- 1908 — James Johnston cuts new opening for door in annex
- 1913 — Smith-Hardican Co. completes “alterations and additions” designed by Duhring, Okie & Zeigler, including installation of electric lighting
- 1927 — New roof
- 1937 — Fire and subsequent repairs
- 1939 — Front of annex building rebuilt
- 1948 — Parapet wall added to west side of building
- 1959 — Steeple damaged by lightning; repaired
- 1966 — Electrically lighted exterior sign added
- 2025 — Restoration begins. Stained glass restoration and re-leading initiated. Failing windows and roof to be replaced and/or repaired. Addition to

third floor to facilitate ADA and fire compliance underway; roof utility areas to be added. Carriage-style doors to be added to main chapel, secondary chapel, and annex. Skylight to be added to annex.

Architect

T. P. Chandler, Jr.

Contribution

Original building (1886-87)
 Stair alteration (1895)
 Steeple addition (1902)

Duhring, Okie & Zeigler

Gallery addition (1906)
 Alterations and additions (1913)

Unknown

Row home at 1612 S. 18th St., i.e. “Annex”
 (sometime between 1888 and 1895)
 Annex rear addition (previously stable; sometime between 1895 and 1910)

Builder

Unknown

Original building (1886-87)
 Annex (sometime between 1888 and 1895)
 Annex rear addition (sometime between 1895 and 1910)

James Johnston

Annex connections (1895)
 Steeple addition (1902)
 Gallery addition (1906)
 New Annex door (1908)

Smith-Hardican Co.

Alterations and additions (1913)

Original Owner: Presbytery of Philadelphia**Current Owner:** 18th and Tasker LLC; Dane Jensen, sole member**Statement of Significance**

The Church at 1800 Tasker Street (the former Presbyterian Church of the Evangel, later Second Nazareth Missionary Church) satisfies the following Criteria for Designation as outlined in the Philadelphia Historic Preservation Ordinance:

Criterion A: Has significant character, interest or value as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the City, Commonwealth or Nation or is associated with the life of a person significant in the past.

The Church at 1800 Tasker Street satisfies Criterion A because it reflects key developments in Philadelphia’s religious and community life,

showing how congregations adapted to urban change over more than a century. It is also associated with the life of prominent architect Theophilus P. Chandler, Jr

This building embodies significant patterns in Philadelphia's religious and social history. Constructed in 1887 by the Presbyterian Church of the Evangel (originally the Fifteenth Presbyterian Church), it was part of a broader effort by the Presbyterian Church to establish strong institutional presences in growing Philadelphia neighborhoods. Its original construction was supported by businessman Gustavus S. Benson.

The congregation's history reflects key aspects of urban religious development. Originally formed in 1850, the Fifteenth Presbyterian Church drew members from Union Church and worshipped at several locations before merging with the West Tasker Street Mission and relocating to 18th and Tasker in 1887. This move marked the congregation's rebranding as the Church of the Evangel and the end of numerical naming conventions for Presbyterian churches in the city.

Over the 20th century, the church's experience mirrored larger urban trends: a decline in membership (from 1,700 in 1887 to just 30 in 1976), demographic shifts, and increasing maintenance challenges for aging religious buildings. The sale of the property to Second Nazareth Missionary Church in 1978 continued this pattern. Like its predecessor, this congregation served an evolving Point Breeze community while attempting to maintain a significant historic structure — a common struggle among urban religious institutions in Philadelphia.

Criterion C: Reflects the environment in an era characterized by a distinctive architectural style; or,

Criterion D: Embodies distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style or engineering specimen; or,

Criterion E: Is the work of a designer, architect, landscape architect or designer, or engineer whose work has significantly influenced the historical, architectural, economic, social, or cultural development of the City, Commonwealth or Nation

The Church at 1800 Tasker Street satisfies Criteria C, D, and E because the building is a high-quality example of Gothic Revival design by Theophilus P. Chandler, Jr., a major figure in Philadelphia architecture, and was later modified by another notable firm, Duhring, Okie & Ziegler.

1800 Tasker Street is an outstanding example of Gothic Revival institutional architecture by Theophilus P. Chandler, Jr., one of Philadelphia's most important architects of the late 19th century.

Chandler's adaptation of high-style Gothic to a working-class context demonstrates both design excellence and sensitivity to urban fabric. This was Chandler's last major commission in South Philadelphia.

The building's defining architectural features — a dramatic spire, red brick with brownstone trim, and a finely detailed sanctuary — reflect Chandler's skill in designing ecclesiastical spaces that are both expressive and site-appropriate. Though Chandler's work in Center City and the Main Line has received scholarly recognition, this church remains underrecognized, a gap likely reflecting historic patterns of class- and race-based marginalization in architectural historiography.

Chandler (1845–1928) was educated at Harvard and trained in the Paris atelier of Joseph Vaudremer. After establishing his Philadelphia practice in 1872, he became a key figure in the city's architectural development. He founded and led the University of Pennsylvania's Department of Architecture and helped professionalize architectural education through his roles at the Spring Garden Institute and the American Institute of Architects (AIA), where he was a founding member and national fellow. His major ecclesiastical works included the Church of the New Jerusalem (Philadelphia), Calvary Presbyterian (Washington, D.C.), First Presbyterian (Pittsburgh), and Bethlehem Presbyterian (Philadelphia).

A significant addition to the church was made in 1906 by the firm Duhring, Okie & Ziegler, another highly regarded Philadelphia architectural practice. The firm's work — particularly that of R. Brognard Okie and H. Louis Duhring Jr. — was noted for its sensitive adaptations of historic buildings and later contributions to the Colonial Revival style. Their gallery addition reflects the continuity of architectural excellence and design awareness that characterizes the site.

Criterion H: Owing to its unique location or singular physical characteristic, represents an established and familiar visual feature of the neighborhood, community or City.

The Church at 1800 Tasker Street satisfies Criterion H due to its striking spire and corner presence, making the church a longstanding visual landmark in the Point Breeze neighborhood.

The church is a defining landmark at the corner of 18th and Tasker Streets. Its commanding spire and finely executed Gothic Revival detailing have made it a longstanding visual anchor within the Point Breeze neighborhood. The building's scale, materials, and form distinguish it within its urban context and contribute to neighborhood identity.

Criterion J: Exemplifies the cultural, political, economic, social or historical heritage of the community.

The Church at 1800 Tasker Street satisfies Criterion J because the building's long use by different congregations illustrates the evolving cultural and social fabric of the community it served.

For over 120 years, 1800 Tasker Street has served as a vital religious and community center in Point Breeze. From its origins with the Presbyterian Church of the Evangel to its stewardship by the Second Nazareth Missionary Church, the building reflects the persistence and adaptation of faith communities in the face of demographic, economic, and institutional change. Its story illustrates broader themes in Philadelphia's history: the expansion and contraction of religious congregations, the preservation challenges faced by aging buildings, and the ways in which architecture can embody and sustain community identity.

8. Major Bibliographical References

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- Permits Issued Yesterday (1913, June 18). *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, p. 38.

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9. Nominator

Organization: 18th and Tasker LLC

Date: 07/18/2025

Name with Title: Dr. Dane Jensen, sole member

Email address: daneajensen@gmail.com

Street Address: 420 West Mermaid Lane, Philadelphia PA 19118

Telephone: (717) 880-1323

Nominator is the property owner.

HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS

Church as originally built, c. 1886



CHURCH OF THE EVANGEL, EIGHTEENTH AND TASKER STREETS.

With steeple addition, between 1902 and 1906

Children's Day
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF THE EVANGEL *6/8/69*
EIGHTEENTH AND TASKER STREETS, PHILADELPHIA



THE FRIENDLY CHURCH

*"If my people, which are called by my name, shall
humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and
turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven,
and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."*
— II Chronicles 7: 14 —

A CORDIAL WELCOME TO ALL

Sometime after the gallery addition in 1906



c. 1918, likely a Liberty Bond rally

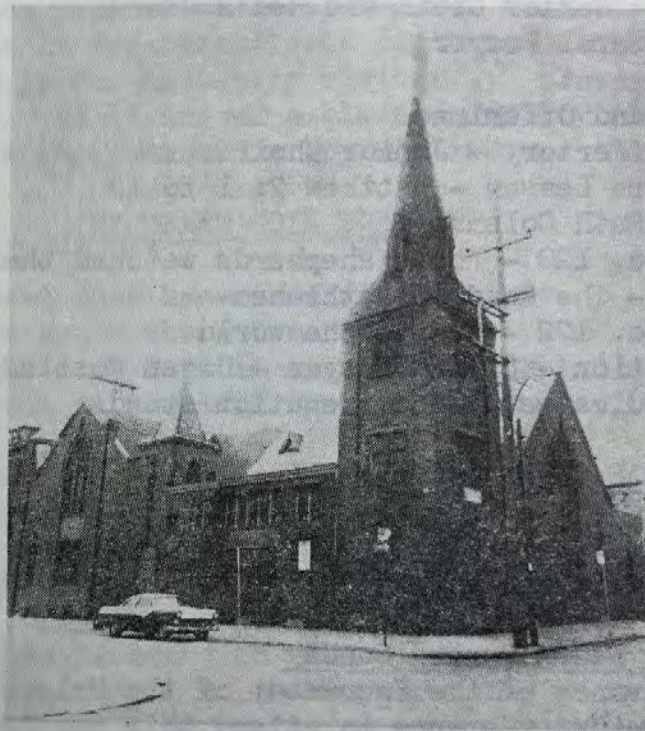


A mid-to-late 1950s American sedan dates this photograph to sometime after 1955

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE
... EVANGEL ...

18th and Tasker Streets

PHILADELPHIA, PA.



- THE FRIENDLY CHURCH -

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder:
and his name shall be called Wonderful,
Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting
Father, The Prince of Peace. ❧ ❧ ❧ Isa.—9:6.

- A CORDIAL WELCOME TO ALL -

HISTORIC NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

The Philadelphia Inquirer
July 09, 1886, p.2

sa- he ya- om ie- er, as- at ap- ert at he L.; ek ta- er, ess in- ist nt, se, ge at ag. vs: .30 .30 or P. P. n), hts ck on the ial one gl- of on-	THE CHURCH WORLD. Religious Notes of Interest Concerning the Different Churches. Next Sunday, according to the church calendar, will be the third Sunday after Trinity. On a recent Sunday there were 1127 persons in attendance at the North Fourth Street Mission. During the summer months there will be a Sunday morning praise service from nine to ten o'clock, with music, responsive reading, blackboard talks and other exercises. The First Baptist Church, Atlantic City, N. J., has completed its house of worship at a cost of \$17,500, of which \$3000 remains yet unprovided for. Mr. W. C. Calder, of the last class at Crozer Theological Seminary, has been appointed a missionary to Burmah, and will be associated with Dr. J. N. Cushing. About \$66,000, or more than half the \$123,000 needed to pay the debt of the Baptist Home Mission Society, has been received. Arrangements have been made for a convention of the National Reform Association, to be held at Ocean Grove, N. J., July 21. Among those expected to be present are Professor McAllister, of Geneva College; Mrs. Woodbridge, of Ohio; Major George A. Hilton, of Washington, and Rev. Dr. McIlvaine, of Newark, N. J. The health of Rev. J. D. Shanks, pastor of Trinity Presbyterian Church of this city, has compelled him to suspend his pastoral work for a time. He has been granted leave of absence until September. Plans are now in preparation for a new Presbyterian church building, to be erected at Eighteenth and Tasker streets. It will be Gothic in style and built of brick and brownstone. The seating capacity will be 600, and it will be ready for occupancy January 1, 1887. It will be for the use of the Church of the Evangel. The largest Congregational church in New Jersey is at Montclair, having 440 members.
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The Philadelphia Inquirer
October 07, 1886, p.3

Church of the Evangel.

The corner-stone of the new edifice of the Presbyterian Church of the Evangel, Eighteenth and Tasker streets, will be laid on Saturday afternoon next. It will be in the Gothic style of architecture, and will be constructed of stretcher brick laid in red mortar, with brownstone trimmings. It will be surmounted by a spire 100 feet in height. There will be two entrances on Eighteenth street, one through the tower. The open roof will be supported by four ornamental columns. The chapel, adjoining the church on the south, will be two stories in height, with a basement, the dimensions being 38 by 65 feet. The total cost of the church building, exclusive of the spire and interior finishing, will be \$14,000.

The Philadelphia Inquirer
May 09, 1887, p.2

OF THE CHURCH OF THE SAVIOUR.

CHURCH OF THE EVANGEL.

The New Edifice at Eighteenth and Tasker Streets Opened Yesterday.

The new Presbyterian Church of the Evangel, Eighteenth and Tasker streets, was opened for worship the first time yesterday morning. The church and chapel adjoining are very handsome structures. They are built in Gothic style, and are of brick, with brown-stone trimmings. The main auditorium has a seating capacity of 500. The seats are handsome cherry-wood chairs, and are arranged in semi-circular form. When occasion requires it the church and chapel can be made communicating by lowering the stained-glass movable partitions that divide the two and are especially arranged for that purpose. The cost of this admirably planned and finely constructed edifice for religious worship was about \$25,000. The special service at the church yesterday were the celebration of the Lord's Supper. Rev. Dr. Gill, the pastor, was assisted by Rev. Dr. J. A. Worden.

Before administering the sacrament, Dr. Worden preached a short sermon, taking for his text: "You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of devils; ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table and the table of devils"—I Cor., x: 21. The sermon was devoted to showing the great sacrifice the Saviour had made for the sins of men in bearing all kinds of insults and torture in order that men might be delivered from the doom of eternal condemnation that otherwise awaited them. The preacher drew a beautiful illustration of a poor slave, who was, before the war, put up by her master for sale to the highest bidder. After the various bidders, said he, had run the price of the poor woman to \$1500 in small bids a stranger entered the auction room and raised the bid \$300, offering \$1800 for the human chattel. "Eighteen hundred and fifty," said one of the other bidders. "Two thousand," promptly called out the stranger. "I can't contend against such a price," said the first bidder, and the woman was knocked down to the stranger. "I bought you," he said to the woman as the conveyance papers were being made out by the lawyer, "to give you your emancipation papers." "What," said the delighted slave, "am I really free? Then," said she, "I will work for you as long as I live; whatever you order me to do I will do, and whenever you order me to go I will go." "How much more fervently," declared the preacher, "ought we to serve Him who has delivered us all from the bondage of eternal slavery by the sacrifice of His own blood for our sake."

In the evening the anniversary of the Sunday school was held. The programme consisted of hymns and other sacred music and an address by Dr. Worden. To-night at 7.45 the church will be formally dedicated. Dr. John Hall, of New York, will preach the dedication sermon. Rev. Dr. Gill, the pastor of the church, will be installed on Thursday evening with appropriate services.

The Times (Philadelphia, PA)
May 09, 1887, p.1

CHURCH OF THE EVANGEL.

Sixth Anniversary of the Sunday School in the New Building.

The Sunday school of the Presbyterian Church of the Evangel, at Eighteenth and Tasker streets, celebrated its sixth anniversary last night. The school has four hundred pupils and a library of six hundred books, with a balance of \$50 in the treasury. Remarks were made by Rev. W. H. Gill, the pastor, Rev. J. A. Worden, and the superintendent, B. S. Keeler.

The new church, which will be dedicated to-night, cost \$25,000. It is plain, neat, comfortable and convenient. It is furnished with opera chairs. The Sunday school rooms are arranged to the best advantage, and in the cellar is a kitchen. The windows are a special feature of the structure. One long window back of the pulpit is in memory of the late Gustavus Benson, who contributed about one-half the cost of the edifice. Another beautiful window is contributed by the West Spruce Street Presbyterian Church, and other smaller ones by the Cohocksink and Harlan Memorial Sunday schools. The auditorium will seat six hundred people easily.

The dedication sermon will be preached to-night by Rev. John Hall, D. D., of New York.

The Times (Philadelphia, PA)
May 10, 1887, p.1

work before the end of the week.

CHURCH OF THE EVANGEL.

Dedicatory Sermon by Rev. John Hall, of New York.

The services in connection with the dedication of the Presbyterian Church of the Evangel, Eighteenth and Tasker streets, were resumed last evening. The pastor, Rev. W. H. Gill, directed the exercises, and the dedication sermon was preached by the Rev. John Hall, D.D., of New York, taking the text, "I would have you wise unto that which is good and simple concerning evil," from St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans, he delivered an eloquent discourse, in which he counseled his audience to seek wisdom only in true and healthy knowledge, and remain ignorant of the vices which are proscribed by the teachings of the church. Of the edifice just reared to the worship of God he asked them to make much, and to continue always to prize and revere its ordinances, privileges and teachings.

The day is not far distant, he said, when the fathers and mothers of the congregation shall have passed away, but he trusted that the memories they will leave behind will be such as to strengthen their children in the faith of Christ and make them love, as they had loved, the beauty of His house and the place wherein His glory dwelleth. The report of the building committee was next read, and showed that the total cost of building the church and purchasing the ground was \$24,395 and the total receipts \$24,553.

The Philadelphia Inquirer
May 13, 1895, p.7

**THE LATEST NEWS
IN REAL ESTATE**

**SOMETHING LIKE MIDSUMMER
STAGNATION SEEMS TO HAVE
STRUCK THE BUILDING
WORLD.**

ANOTHER DECREASE SCORED

**Some New Dwelling Operations for
the Future—A Parsonage for a
West Philadelphia Church—Per-
mits Issued—Buyers and Sellers.
Record of Property Transferred.**

Last week scored another fall down in building work. There were a few more operations than in the preceding week, but the estimated cost was less, as these figures show: Week of April 29-May 4—Permits, 183; operations, 312; estimated cost, \$550,880; week of May 6-10—Permits, 189; operations, 323; estimated cost, \$523,872.

The main fall off was in dwelling work, there having been permits issued for 151 to cost \$268,200 last week, as compared with 150, to cost \$335,100, in the preceding week. Matters were helped out through the taking out of permits for two schools, to cost \$56,000; six manufactories, to cost \$46,541, and a store to cost \$23,000.

John B. Stewart is to build two two-story brick and stone dwellings, 17x50 feet each, at 2255 and 2257 North Tenth street; also a two-story brick and stone dwelling, 15.6x25 feet, on the east side of Waterloo street, north of Columbia avenue.

The interior of the Church of the Evangel, at Eighteenth and Tasker streets, is to undergo some alterations. The stairs are to be changed and an opening cut between the church and adjoining dwelling. James Johnston has the contract.

The Times (Philadelphia, PA)
April 02, 1902, p.10

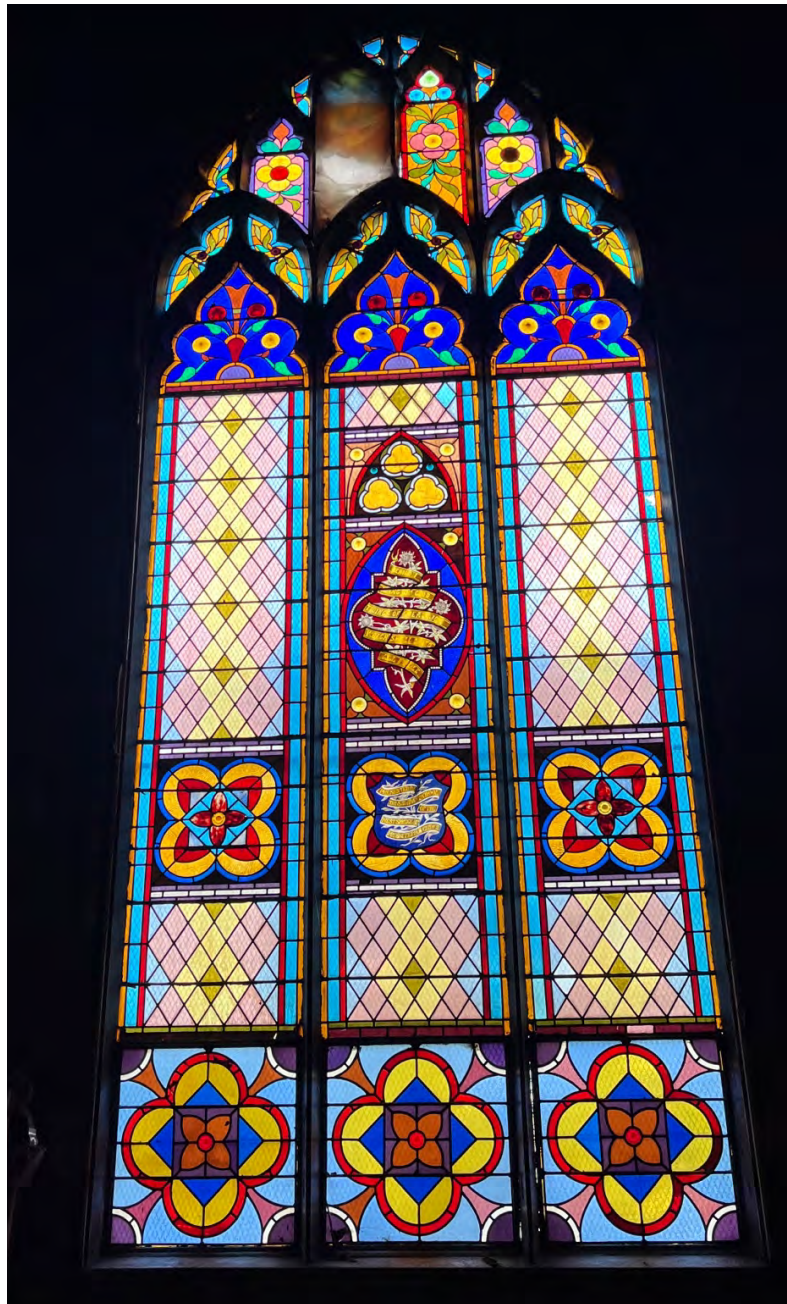
13x38. Cost, \$2,200.
James Johnston has the contract to build a steeple on the Church of the Evangel, southwest corner Eighteenth and Tasker streets. It will be of timber, to cost \$3,200. Plans are by T. P. Chandler, architect. Valentine Gemereck will begin, April 15.

The Philadelphia Inquirer
June 16, 1906, p.11

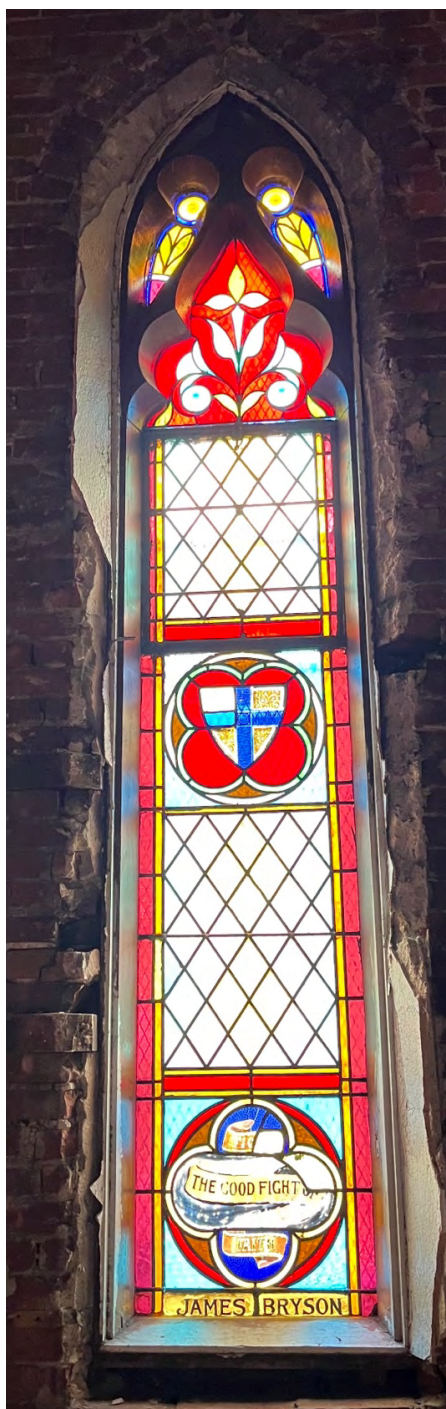
Permits Issued Yesterday
A Schmit, rebuild second story front, 1904 E Oakdale; cost \$205.
Check & Walter, third-story addition, brick, 21x24 ft, E side Germantown, off Cheltenham ave, for Geo P Darrow; cost \$1200.
James Johnston, strengthen gallery, minor interior alterations, S W cor 18th and Tasker sts, for Church of the Evangel; cost \$600; Duhring, Okie & Zeigler, architects.
David Witenberg change front from private

STAINED GLASS TO BE RESTORED

Large window on Tasker Street



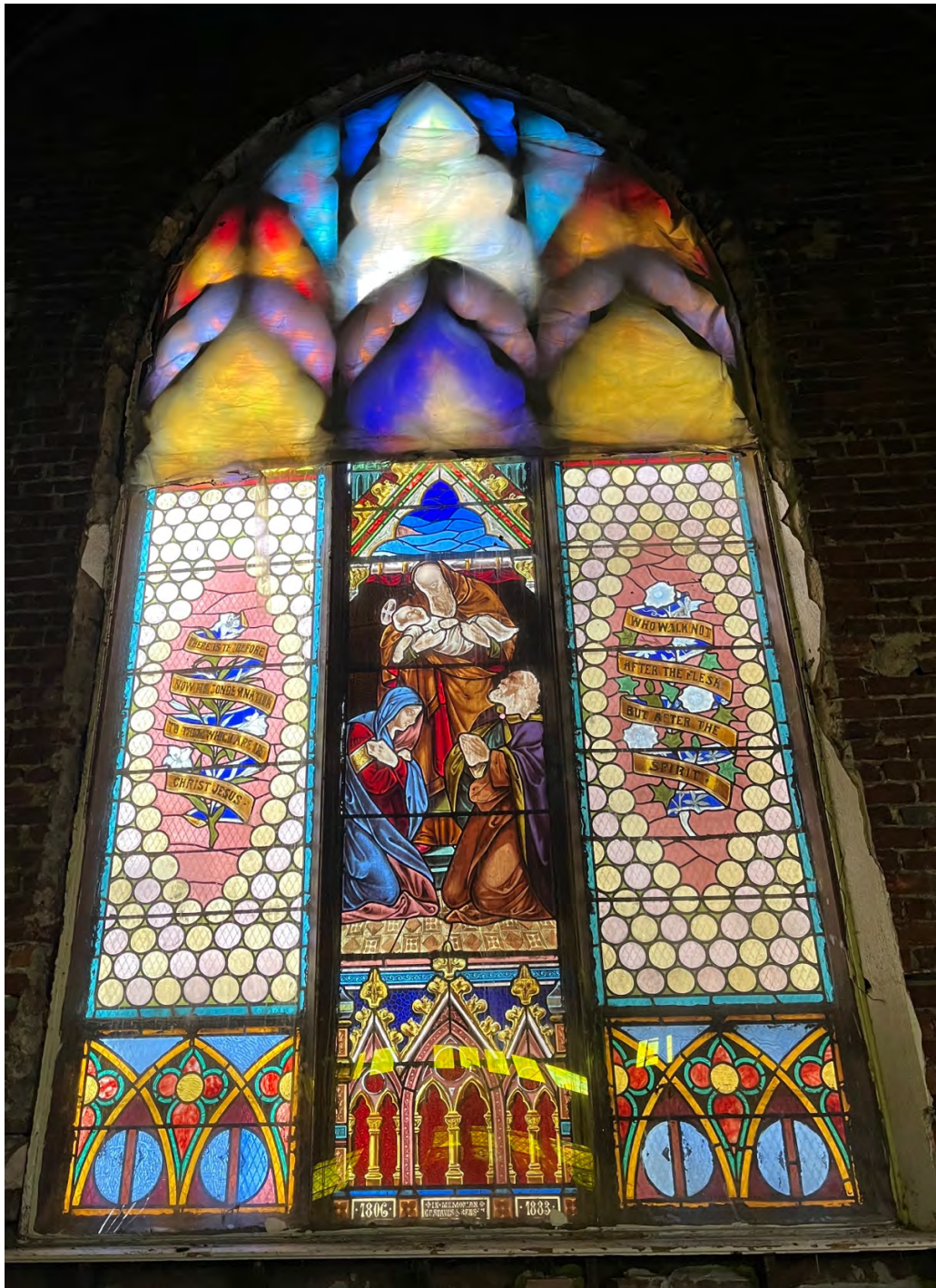
Lancet windows facing Tasker Street



Tasker Street, westernmost window



Large window behind pulpit; facing fire alley



Additional alley windows



RENDERINGS OF PLANNED EXTERIOR CHANGES

Currently permitted and underway, #CP-2025-002389

View from 18th and Tasker, NE corner



View from 18th and Tasker, SE corner



View from 18th and Fernon, SE corner



Tasker façade



Fernon façade



Roof plan



Theophilus P. Chandler, Jr.

