



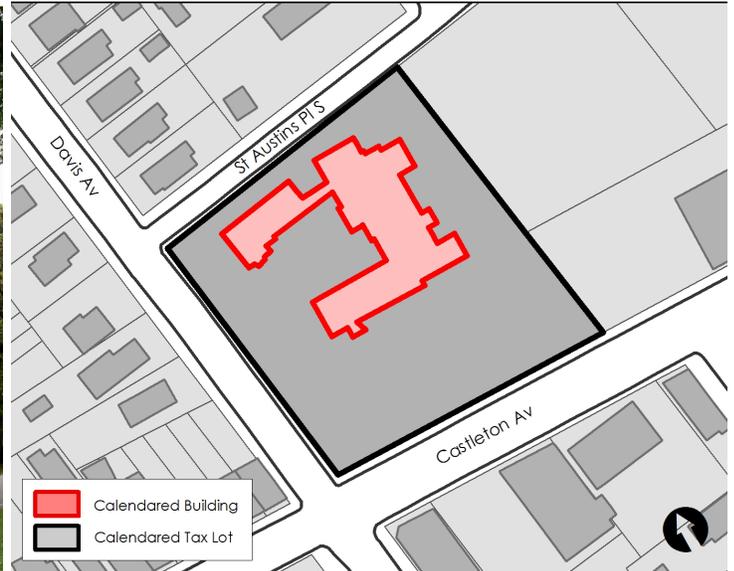
## Landmarks Preservation Commission

### St. Mary's Church, Rectory and Parish Hall

347 Davis Avenue, Staten Island  
Staten Island Block: 00142; Lot: 0001

## Backlog Initiative: Addressing 95 Properties Staten Island Group 1 Items

Staten Island Community Board 1  
Public Hearing Date(s): 09/13/1966; 09/09/1980



Photos 2014

### Special Public Hearings

The Landmarks Preservation Commission will hold a public hearing on the backlog of buildings in the Borough of Staten Island on **October 22, 2015** and encourages interested parties to submit written testimony in advance of that hearing. Each speaker will be given three minutes total to speak, and in that time may address all of the items within Staten Island Group 1, just particular items, or add comments to support written testimony. In order to conduct efficient hearings, we ask speakers to register in advance, and submit their written statements and materials that will be read at the hearing by **October 15, 2015** to [backlog95@lpc.nyc.gov](mailto:backlog95@lpc.nyc.gov).

If you have questions about this property or the hearing process please contact [backlog95@lpc.nyc.gov](mailto:backlog95@lpc.nyc.gov) or call (212) 669-7817. If you would like more information about this property, please see the research file summary (over) and go to our website (<http://www.nyc.gov/html/lpc/html/backlog95>) and click on the link for this building's research file.



**Landmarks Preservation  
Commission**

**St. Mary's Church, Rectory and Parish Hall**

Landmark Type: Individual

**Description**

Built: 1853-1924

Architect: Frank Wills and Henry Dudley, Ralph Adams Cram

Style: Gothic Revival

**Research Staff Hearing Statement (1980)**

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, RECTORY, AND PARISH HOUSE,  
347 Davis Avenue at Castleton Avenue, Staten Island

The St. Mary's Episcopal Church complex located in the West New Brighton section of Staten Island is considered among the most important examples of Gothic Revival architecture in New York City. The complex is composed of three buildings: the small stone church completed in 1853 from the designs of Frank Wills and Henry Dudley; the parish house, built in 1910 and enlarged in 1925; and the rectory built in 1924. The latter buildings were designed by Ralph Adams Cram. As a group these buildings represent a continuity of thought in the design of ecclesiastical structures; all draw their inspiration from similar medieval sources.

The church building is representative of the major mid-19th century movement in Episcopal church design known as ecclesiology. Churches designed to ecclesiological tenets reflect a return to medieval English architectural styles and building methods. Architect Frank Wills was the leading exponent of ecclesiology in America, and both Wills and Dudley designed a number of Gothic Revival churches throughout America during the mid-19th century.

The picturesque St. Mary's Church, with its stone construction, buttressed walls, high peaked roof with slate tiles, and well-defined entry porch and chancel, is reminiscent of a 14th-century English parish church. The 20th-century structures designed by Ralph Adams Cram, the leading Gothicist of his day, sympathetically relate to the original building in both materials and design. The rectory, with its half-timbered details, the parish house, and the church surround a small landscaped garden, creating a handsome effect.