

Church of St. Louis of France  
(Old Saint Louis Cathedral)  
Third and Walnut Streets  
Saint Louis, Missouri

St. Louis City Co

MO-  
HABS No. 31-1

HABS  
MO  
96-SALU,  
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
District of Missouri  
(No. 31)

ADDENDUM  
FOLLOWS...

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Wilbur T. Trueblood, District Officer  
1520 Chemical Building  
St. Louis, Missouri

HABS  
Mo.  
96-344  
1-

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
DISTRICT OF MISSOURI (NO. 31)

<sup>MO-</sup>  
PROJECT NO. 31-1 - CHURCH OF ST. LOUIS OF FRANCE

Walnut, between Second and Third Streets,  
St. Louis, Missouri.

The building consists of main floor  
and basement, and is in good condition.

Date of erection: 1834.  
Architects: Morton and Laveille.  
Builder: James McGuire.  
Number of Drawings: 14.

Occupied by ~~the~~ Roman Catholic Church.  
Owned by the Diocese of St. Louis.

The exterior of the building is of stone.  
On the south, or street front, is a portico  
of four Doric columns. The detail of these  
columns and entablatures, and the detail of  
the interior plaster columns and cornices,  
are very good examples of Greek Revival.

This is said to be the oldest Catholic  
Cathedral in the West. When St. Louis was  
established by the French in 1764, one of  
the city blocks was given to the Catholic  
inhabitants as a site for a church and a  
burial ground.

The first church built was of logs, the next  
of brick, and the third and final church was  
the present Old Cathedral of stone, begun in  
1830 and finished in 1834. This building  
remained the Cathedral Church of the diocese  
of St. Louis until 1914, when the new building  
on Lindell Boulevard became the Cathedral.  
Since that time, the Old Cathedral has been  
officially styled the Church of St. Louis of  
France.

*Wilbur T. Trueblood*  
WILBUR T. TRUEBLOOD

*Reviewed 1936, A.C.F.*

An addendum to:  
Church of St. Louis of France  
(Old Cathedral)  
Second and Walnut Streets  
St. Louis City  
Missouri

HABS No. MO-31-1

HABS  
MO,  
96-SALU,  
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

Addendum to CHURCH OF ST. LOUIS OF FRANCE (Old Cathedral)

HABS No. MO-31-1

HABS  
MO,  
96-SALU,  
1-

Location: North side Walnut Street between Second and Third Streets,  
St. Louis, Missouri.

HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

The following information was recorded by Alexander Piaget and Charles van Ravenswaay at the time the photography was taken:

Built 1831-1834 under direction of Joseph Rosati, first Bishop of St. Louis. See Missouri: A Guide to the "Show Me" State (New York: Duell, Sloan & Pearce, 1941), p. 311.

PROJECT INFORMATION

The Piaget-van Ravenswaay Survey consists of a number of photographs, primarily of sites and structures in Missouri, which were taken before 1938 by Alexander Piaget and after that by Paul Piaget, both in conjunction with Charles van Ravenswaay. Photographs of buildings were incorporated into the HABS collection in 1985 by Laura Rupp and in 1986 by Deborah Fulton, HABS historians. A master list is available in the ~~6121~~ records for MO-1800.