

LISTED ON:	
VLR	12/15/2011
NRHP	02/08/2012

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Church of the Sacred Heart Parish  
other names/site number Sacred Heart Parish of New Bohemia DHR ID# 074-5021

## 2 Location

street & number 9300 Community Lane

N/A	not for publication
N/A	vicinity

  
city or town Petersburg  
state Virginia code VA county Prince George code 149 zip code 23805

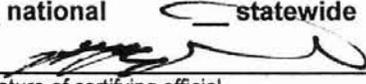
## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

  
Signature of certifying official

12/21/11  
Date

Title

Virginia Department of Historic Resources  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register  determined eligible for the National Register  
 determined not eligible for the National Register  removed from the National Register  
 other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only **one** box.)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	1	buildings
1	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
3	1	<b>Total</b>

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION: Church

FUNERARY: Cemetery

SOCIAL: Parish Hall

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION: Church

FUNERARY: Cemetery

RELIGION: Parish Hall

RELIGION: Parish Rectory

RELIGION: Parish Center

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE-19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS:

Late Gothic Revival

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

**Church:** foundation: Stone

walls: Brick

roof: Asphalt; copper clad (steeple)

**Parish Hall:** foundation: Stone

walls: Wood; Vinyl

roof: Shingle

**Cemetery:** Other: Earth

**Rectory:** foundation: Concrete

walls: Brick

roof: Asphalt

**Parish Center:** foundation: Concrete

walls: Brick

roof: Asphalt

---

### **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

**Summary Narrative Paragraph:** The Church of the Sacred Heart Parish complex is located on just over 12 acres situated on the southwest side of Route 460 in the community of New Bohemia in Prince George County, Virginia, which was populated by Czechoslovakian farmers in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The complex includes three contributing resources: the Gothic Revival-style, brick, Catholic Church (1951); the frame, one-story, Parish Hall (1908) situated at the southern end of the church property; and the Cemetery (1908) lying to the west, behind the church. The first parish church, built in 1906, was demolished in 1954. The Parish Rectory, a one-story, brick dwelling constructed in 1962, is located just south of the 1951 church and is a noncontributing resource. A 1967 one-story, brick, Parish Center located to the northwest of the 1951 church contains classrooms and parish offices. It was originally a free-standing building, but today, a new, brick sanctuary (2006) that draws its design inspiration from the earlier church connects the Parish Center and the 1951 church. The Parish Center wing is a low, one-story, brick structure on a poured concrete slab covered by a broad, front-facing, gabled roof of composition shingles. A 1986 addition is identical in style and construction. Both sections of this building have cornerstones inscribed with the dates of construction.

**Narrative Description of the Church:** The brick, Gothic Revival-style, Catholic Church, the second on this site, consists of a tall, one-story nave section that is covered by a front-facing, gable roof with parapet ends capped with concrete details. A concrete cross is located at the peak of the gable on the east end. The three-by-five bay church has a one-story, one-bay entrance porch on the east end that holds a double leaf, wooden-paneled door that serves as the main entrance to the entire building. The tall bell tower, located at the southeast corner of the church, is covered by a copper-clad, pyramidal roof and houses a bell cast in 1909. That bell formerly hung in the tower of the original 1906 church building.

Characteristic details of the Gothic Revival style are prominently displayed on the church and include a round window in the east end, brick buttresses with concrete caps on the sides, and pointed arched windows. The engraved cornerstone at the southeast corner of the church is inscribed with the date "1906" commemorating the construction date of the original church on this site and "Sacred Heart Church 1951" to memorialize the construction date of the newer building. At the west end of the 1951 church, the gable-roofed altar space, located at the center, is flanked by two, lower, one-story sacristy wings. A ramped entrance is located at the north sacristy section. A small, one-story addition (1960s) located west of the south sacristy wing holds restrooms.

The interior of the 1951 church is a basilican plan with a narthex at the east end and an altar area at the west end. It features a high ceiling of exposed, wooden timbers with painted acoustical tiles inserted between them. The walls are of white plaster with wooden baseboards; the floors are of oak. The stained glass window in the west end of the altar area features the image of St. Wenceslaus, Patron Saint of the Czech people. Two of the side windows are of stained glass, one depicting St. Michael and the other St. Francis of Assisi. The original altar area is now partially walled off with a wall that consists primarily of four, fixed windows and a pair of glazed doors to create a small chapel. A plaster-cast statue of St. Wenceslaus holds a prominent position in the northwest corner of this area. Other furnishings remaining in use are a portion of the main altar table and a portion of the reredos which serve as bases for the statues of St. Mary and St. Joseph. The original communion rail is in place between the altar and a commons area. The 1951 building is currently used as a gathering space and houses artifacts associated with the Czech presence on this site and in the New Bohemia community.

In 2006, a large sanctuary addition was constructed north of the 1951 building. The new sanctuary's cruciform shape, brick construction, Gothic, arched windows, and high-pitched roof all draw their architectural inspiration from the older building. The architect, Robert Winthrop, was charged by the congregation with producing a design that would blend with and continue the Gothic Revival style of the older church. On the interior, the ceiling above the altar and transept is of exposed, composite, wood beams, and the ceiling in the nave is of a more gentle pitch than the roof. There are no supporting columns save for those in the pipe organ gallery. The floor is carpeted. As many items as possible from the 1951 sanctuary were re-used in the new sanctuary including pews, the ministers' chairs, plaster-cast altar reredos, tabernacle, ambo, crucifix, stations of the cross, and other smaller items.

**Narrative Description of Parish Hall:** The Parish Hall (ca.1908) is located on the southern-most edge of the church property. The Hall is a one-story building, covered by a front-facing, gable roof of asphalt shingles. Vinyl siding covers the original wood weatherboard siding. While the building has received several additions, the original core remains intact. A gable-roof entrance-bay, housing double-leaf doors, is located on the east end and was added to the building in the 1940s. The building is set on a foundation of brick piers with concrete block in-fill. Windows are two-over-two, wood sashes. A one-story, hip-roofed kitchen wing was added to the west end of the Hall, also in the 1940s.

On the interior, the original, pressed-tin ceiling, while still in place, has been covered by an acoustical tile, drop-ceiling with inset fluorescent lights. A stage is located at the southwest corner of the single-room space; restrooms were added on the east end. The original, wooden floor is intact, and a joint is visible indicating the terminus of the 1908 structure.

**Narrative Description of Cemetery:** The Parish Cemetery is located west of the church. Many Czech and Slovak family names are represented here; some of the markers are engraved in Czech only. Most markers are of granite or marble, although some highly decorative metal markers are also present. Family plots are often encircled by a low, concrete retaining wall or curbing. The earliest recorded interment is dated 1908. Some of the founding members of the church are buried here. The cemetery remains active and is available to parishioners of Sacred Heart and their immediate families. There are approximately ten interments each year.

A large, concrete statue in the form of a crucifix is located near the eastern edge of the cemetery. This statue was donated by a member of the parish in the 1940s in honor of the church's first two Czech-speaking priests, Konicek and Stefl. There are approximately 150 burials arranged in parallel rows with markers facing both east and west. A paved, circular drive leads to the cemetery which is bounded by a meditation garden on the southern edge and the Norfolk-Southern Railroad on the western edge. Native Red Cedar trees define the eastern limits with the cemetery running to the northern property line where the church property abuts a small commercial office/warehouse complex.

**Narrative Description of Noncontributing Building:**

**Parish Rectory:** Constructed in 1962, a one-story, brick, ranch-style dwelling, stands south of the church. It is set on a poured concrete foundation and is covered by a low-pitched, side-facing, gable roof of composition shingles. Two one-story ells extend off the west side of the house. A connected two-car garage with a cross-gable roof is located at the west end of the northernmost ell.

### 8. Statement of Significance

#### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

#### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

#### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Ethnic Heritage (European History)

#### Period of Significance

1905 - 1952

#### Significant Dates

1905, 1906, 1908, 1951, 1952

#### Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

#### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

#### Architect/Builder

Unknown

**Statement of Significance:** The Church of the Sacred Heart Parish complex is not only the 'heart' of a rural, ethnic, Czech community begun in 1887 that became "New Bohemia," but is also its 'spiritual soul' as the first Czech Catholic parish in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The first Czech residents in what became New Bohemia were farmers who, with their zealous work ethic and strong family values, restored devastated farmlands after the Civil War using European methods of fertilization and crop rotation. The area grew one farmer at-a-time into the ethnic and cultural community of New Bohemia in Prince George County, Virginia. The old Parish Hall and the Cemetery date from 1906-1908 and are associated with the earliest church on the site, constructed in 1906. Together these resources formed the center of the Czech community in New Bohemia by providing a meeting place for farmers and residents to share news and conduct business; a social hall where residents could come together in celebrations incorporating practices, music and dance associated with their European heritage; and a place of worship where the Czech language was used in services until the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. By 1950, the Czech language was no longer used in church services or for inscriptions on grave markers. The acculturation of the Czech community, therefore, can be seen in the 1951 church building. By that time the members were less set apart from their neighbors, families of non-Czech descent were included among the church membership and the architectural style of the new building for that growing congregation is consistent with that of churches of the period throughout Virginia.

Under Criterion A, this complex is the most significant property that remains of New Bohemia and its association with the history and cultural presence of Czech-speaking peoples in Prince George County, Virginia. Two Czech families settled there in 1887, and the community realized the dream of constructing a church in 1906 and securing a Czech priest to maintain their ethnic identity. The parish formed the center and the heart of that community. By 1951, when the new building was completed, the acculturation of Czech families was largely accomplished. Highway improvements and

development around New Bohemia in the 1990s destroyed most of the homes and farms and associated structures once comprising the community. The church remains as a landmark to the New Bohemia Czech community in Prince George County and the life of its residents. It still serves as a place of worship for many of the descendants of those first Czech families, and the 1951 church now houses collections related to the Czech experience in New Bohemia. The church's history as a source of spiritual strength to an immigrant community is carried on today, as Spanish-speaking newcomers to Prince George County are now finding a home at Sacred Heart and contributing to a vibrant community there.

The Period of Significance begins in 1905 when land for a church at New Bohemia was deeded to the Diocese of Richmond and ends in 1952, the year that the new, brick church was dedicated, which represents the culmination of the acculturation of the Czech community.

As a religious property that derives primary significance from its historical importance, the church also meets Criterion Consideration A.

**Historical Background:** The small community of Estes (originally called Wells Station) took root at the crossing of a single-track railroad and an inter-county roadway a few miles southeast of Petersburg in Prince George County by the mid 1880s. The railroad (now a major line of Norfolk-Southern) connected Petersburg with villages and towns to the southeast and Norfolk. The roadway, named Baxter Road, ran from Petersburg to Waverly. Several sections still remain; some retained their original name and others were renamed Lamore Drive, Community Lane, and Pump House Road.

The Civil War brought destruction and suffering to many parts of the United States, particularly in the Southeast. The nine-month long siege of Petersburg and the horrendous battles in what was Prince George County impacted not only city life but the farmlands in Prince George and outlying villages. From the standpoint of the devastated local economy, it was imperative that farmland be restored to production and a viable tax base be re-established.

According to sources cited in John Wells' 2004 study for the Virginia Department of Transportation "The Czech and Slovak Communities in Virginia", Czech immigration to America began in 1848, grew constantly until 1870, then again from 1890 until World War I, with the largest influx in 1905-1906. Few Czechs initially settled in the South, but in 1866, the Virginia legislature passed an Act to encourage immigration and advertisements of land for sale in Virginia published in American journals for immigrants attracted new settlers following the Civil War and many Czech families moved to Virginia. The greatest number of Czech settlers in Virginia lived in Prince George County.

It was in Estes that a small group of Czech immigrants settled to make a new life. The first was Josef Machat in 1887. He found the climate similar to the 'old country' and the land suitable for farming. The Machat and the Kvasnicka families encouraged other Czech families to settle in the area. Some came directly from Europe while others relocated from Canada, Ohio, New York, Kansas, Nebraska, and other territories/states. Most of these families had experienced hardships of many kinds: political and religious oppression in the 'old country,' years of drought, and insect infestation in the Midwest. Coming to Prince George County, these Czech farmers found the land available for purchase at a reasonable price. Wells' 2004 study of the Czech communities in Virginia cites sources indicating that land was selling for as low as five dollars an acre. While the lay of the land was good for farming and there was a good supply of water (from both rain and wells), the fields had been depleted of nutrients and were considered 'too poor' by the "English." Lands once worked by the slaves were now available to new farmers, whose entire families labored in the fields and who understood and put into practice their 'old country' techniques of fertilization (application of manure), crop rotation, and use of cover crops.

A collection of letters in History of the Czechs in the vicinity of Petersburg, Virginia by A. C. Krupar and an unpublished history of the church describe the experience of the first Czechs in Prince George. Unwelcome by the locals and hampered by language barriers, the new farmers were not trusted by most local businessmen and thus could not buy essentials, such as seed and supplies, on credit. Through their quiet persistence and determination, several of the Czechs who were financially secure set up and operated their own stores. These merchants would extend credit to their fellow farmers as well as others of good character, including people of color. As the initial wave of farmers became established, they would welcome additional families to the area, allow them to stay in their own homes (for a year or more), and help them purchase land and begin farming on their own.

While most of the immigrants were farmers, there were also storekeepers, carpenters, wheel makers, blacksmiths, and other craftsmen who supported the agrarian way of life. All contributed to the creation of a close-knit, minority, ethnic community bound by background, language, culture, and faith. It was in this environment and setting that the Church of

the Sacred Heart Parish came into being.

European Bohemia, the origin of many Czech settlers, was by religious preference predominantly Catholic. Most of those who came to Estes were Catholic Christians with strong faith convictions. The Church of the Sacred Heart congregation had its beginnings in the 1890s. In order to meet their sacramental needs, the English-speaking pastor from St. Joseph Church in Petersburg would sporadically travel to a meeting hall on Jerusalem Plank Road (now South Crater Road) and celebrate Mass for the Czechs. Many also traveled by horse and buggy to St. Joseph Church. It was not until 1906, however, that a Czech Catholic church was built in Estes; Father Jan Konicek was assigned to pastor the growing community, living at the rectory in Petersburg for the first year. Under Fr. Konicek's leadership, Sacred Heart Parish became the spiritual and cultural center of the Czech community. Its buildings provided the base for them to assemble, worship, and socialize according to their native customs, and its presence fostered stability within the surrounding area which contributed to the solidification and perpetuation of the "Bohemian" community.

In 1911, Fr. Konicek, Mr. Joseph Wagner and Mr. Frank Kvasnicka traveled by train to Roanoke, Virginia to meet with the president of the Norfolk and Western Railroad about changing the name of the village of Estes to "Bohemia." Railroad executives authorized such changes along their lines. The gentlemen from Estes requested that the village's name be changed to "Bohemia" in recognition of the Czech populace there. The president suggested instead, "New Bohemia," and the community retains that name to this day.

Father Konicek died in 1912, and it was just over a year before a new priest came to Sacred Heart. The arrival of Father Leo Stefl in 1913 provided renewed energy in the congregation. During his leadership the Parish Hall was enlarged and the building was used as a public school for a short time. Weekly recreational activities were held in the Parish Hall and instruction in religious education was provided by the pastor on Saturdays in the church. The Bohemian heritage continued to be a central focus at Sacred Heart, and the church served as the center of the community of New Bohemia. Father Stefl celebrated Mass in Latin, but his sermons and instructions were in Czech. The ethnic background was kept alive further through congregational celebrations of Czech customs and traditional dances as well as education in the Czech language. Father Stefl served until 1939 and was followed in 1940 by Father Stephan Shrahulek. It was under his leadership that a bilingual worship experience was first offered; those attending Mass heard the sermon first in English and then in Czech. The congregation experienced growth under his leadership and other changes. The unpublished history of the church indicates that in the 1950s, Sacred Heart ceased use of the Czech language in its services. John Wells, architectural historian for VDOT explained in a letter in 2005 that the 1951 church building documents the culmination of the Czech migration and acculturation because by 1951, the Czech community was less isolated, less reliant on their native languages and more intermingled with the general population of Prince George County. While members of the founding families remained members of the church, its membership also included families that were not of Czech descent. The church's architectural style is similar to many churches constructed in Virginia during the same period; it has no obvious features that define it as being associated with the Czech community.

Prince George County was home to other Czech churches. The Bohemia or Begonia Congregational Church completed its frame building in 1898; a second building constructed in 1914 was dismantled and reassembled in 1939 as an addition to the Begonia Church. The Czechoslovakian Presbyterian Church constructed a brick church in 1913. St. Paul's Slovak Lutheran Church was organized in 1904 and built a frame building in 1916; it was demolished in 1997. Oakland Baptist Church was called the Czech-Slovak Oakland Baptist Church until the 1950s; it is still active, having dedicated a new sanctuary in 2010. Gregory Presbyterian Church's original building in the community of Prince George Court House dated to 1890 and is believed to have had some Czech or Slovak congregants. A new building, built in 1981, serves the active congregation.

**Church:** The first church building was constructed on a parcel of land deeded to the Bishop of Richmond in 1905 by Marie Hanzlik, a member of one of the 29 founding families of the church. The land lay in the center of the community known as Estes bordered by the railroad and Baxter Road. The work to construct the church was done by the Czechs with timbers and lumber cut and milled from their wooded farmlands. Concurrently, a rectory for the pastor was constructed adjacent to the church in the same manner. On September 17, 1906, the first Mass was celebrated in the new church. It was blessed (dedicated) on September 27, (the eve of the feast of St. Wenceslaus, patron saint of the Czech people) thus becoming the first Czech Catholic Church in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The rectory was also completed in 1906, providing housing for the priest who sometimes had to travel from Petersburg by train, buggy, and sometimes by foot to the church.

By the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, church membership had increased and a larger building for worship was required. The wooden church building of 1906 was replaced in 1951 and consecrated in 1952 to accommodate its growing membership.

This church building, now 60 years old, retains its original exterior appearance. Most notably, the steeple/bell tower (housing the original bell from the 1906 church) surmounted by its original cross, remains as the most prominent landmark visible from every direction. Since 1909, this bell has tolled for weddings and funerals, to announce times of prayer, and call the faithful to worship. The 1906 church was demolished in 1954.

By the year 2000, parish membership had surpassed 300 registered families (a 1000% increase over the original 29 families) and plans were made to expand the worship space. In 2006, the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Sacred Heart Parish, a new worship space was added to the north. The 2006 sanctuary was deliberately designed to incorporate and preserve the architectural style of the 1951 church. Seven of the 20 members of the building committee were descendants of the original 29 families. Through the architect, Robert Winthrop, they extended the feel of the 1951 church by replicating and integrating its style and appearance to the new sanctuary. Notably, not one person voiced a complaint about the change to the worship space.

At present the 1951 portion of the building houses a worship chapel and commons area with displays of church artifacts that visually depict the progression of Sacred Heart Church and Parish in New Bohemia. If it were necessary, the interior of the 1951 building could easily be reconstituted, as originally defined, by returning all worship fixtures from the new, 2006 sanctuary.

**Parish Hall:** Having gathered to dance and celebrate events at their homesteads, the Sacred Heart parishioners wanted a structure for socializing and other cultural celebrations. In 1908 a Parish Hall was built at the far end of the parish property to serve both parish and community needs.

The Hall was used as a social, meeting place by the parish community in which both folk (*beseda*) and polka dances were held. Under Father Konicek's leadership (1905-1911), it was also made available to the local school district and used as a public school for approximately two years (1909-1911), housing grades one through seven in the single-room, open space until a school building was erected on other property diagonally southwest across the railroad tracks.

This Parish Hall also became the business and social meeting place of the Bohemian-Slavonic Farmers Mutual Benefit Insurance Society of Virginia, a company chartered by the General Assembly of Virginia in March, 1900 for the purpose of "...mutually insuring dwellings, barns and other buildings...and their contents...livestock...and personal property of its members who are of Bohemian-Slavonic race or nationality and their kindred, against loss or damage due to fire, wind or lightning." The company and its officers continued to use the building as the central gathering place until the company was disbanded in the 1960s after there was no longer bias or mistrust in obtaining appropriate insurance coverage in the open market.

**Cemetery:** A Parish Cemetery for church members was established within two years of building the first church. The first recorded interment was 1908 (Vendy Cizek). At least fifteen of the original twenty-nine founding families of Sacred Heart Parish are buried here, including Joseph Machat, the first settler, and Father Jan Konicek, the first pastor. Many descendants of the first Czech families are also interred here. Some tombstones have the name of the deceased inscribed in both Czech and English. From 1908 to 1945, twenty-four tombstones were inscribed in Czech. Sixteen of the original founding families have descendants still living in this area of Virginia, and the cemetery now contains the remains of four successive generations. Their markers provide a history of the journey of the New Bohemia Czech parishioners and the growth of the community. The acculturation of the Czech community is also seen in the cemetery. After 1945, inscriptions on grave stones were no longer in Czech and as a whole the grave markers themselves are of typical American forms, without characteristic features identified as Czech.

**Parish Rectory and Parish Center:** Since the 1906 rectory did not have indoor plumbing, this was added in the late 1940s; however, a decade later, the building was no longer serviceable as a residence. A new rectory was constructed in 1962 on the site of the original frame church, which had been demolished eight years earlier. The old rectory continued to serve as space for children's religious education until a dedicated education building (Parish Center) was completed in 1967. That building was further expanded in 1986 to accommodate the growing membership of Sacred Heart. The old rectory was demolished in 1967. Unlike the 1906 church, the materials were found not suitable for reuse and were discarded.

**Summation:** Over the last two decades, development in the area surrounding Sacred Heart Parish including the construction of Interstate 295 in 1990 (occupying approximately 150 acres), a major industrial park, Southpoint, (more than 200 acres), and various businesses, particularly Rolls-Royce North America, Inc. (occupying 1000 acres), has destroyed many of the original buildings and farms of New Bohemia. While the buildings and farms that originally characterized the

area have disappeared, Sacred Heart Parish remains serving a new immigrant community and parishioners as well as those descended from its founding families. The buildings of the Church of the Sacred Heart Parish complex have great religious importance to its parishioners, and they are significant for their association with the first Czech Catholic Church in Virginia as well as for their central role in the development of an ethnic, Czech community in Virginia. Since the early twentieth century, and continuing until the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Sacred Heart Parish was the center of the Czech community of New Bohemia and a major force for the perpetuation of Czech heritage and culture. Today it remains the most important physical feature of a historic community largely lost to development and, as the oldest Czech Catholic Parish in Virginia, takes its place as a center for Czech heritage in Prince George County.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Fogarty, Gerald P. (S.J.), Commonwealth Catholicism – A History of the Catholic Church in Virginia, Notre Dame, Indiana, University of Notre Dame Press, 2001.

Habenicht, Jan, Dejiny Cechu v Americkych (History of Czechs in America), Chicago, Illinois, 1910.

Hanzlik, Joyce, "What Happened to Estes?," Unpublished Manuscript, November, 1989.

Konicek, Jon, Private Hand Written Diaries, New Bohemia, Virginia, 1905 – 1912.

Krupar, A. C., Dejiny Cechu, v okoli Petersburg, Virginia: History of the Czechs in the vicinity of Petersburg, Virginia; Bohemian Land Company, 1915.

Lutz, Francis Earl, The Prince George – Hopewell Story, Richmond, Virginia, William Byrd Press, 1957.

Prince George County Tricentennial Committee, Prince George County, Virginia, Where History Was Made, Richmond, Virginia, Dietz Press, 2003.

Wells, John E. "The Czech and Slovak Communities in Virginia" September 19, 2007.

Charter, Bohemian-Slovanic Farmers Mutual Benefit Insurance Society of Virginia, 1900, Richmond, Virginia, General Assembly of Virginia, 1900.

House Resolution No. 13, Recognizing Czechoslovakian-Americans and their descendents in Virginia, 2006, Richmond, Virginia, General Assembly of Virginia, 2006.

House Joint Resolution No. 512, Commending the Church of the Sacred Heart on the occasion of its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 2006, Richmond, Virginia, General Assembly of Virginia, 2006.

Route 460 Relocation Study, Cultural Resources Architectural Evaluation, Candidate Build Alternative1, VDOT #0460-969-101, PE-101, Coastal Carolina Research, Inc., in association with Parsons Brinckerhoff Quade & Douglas, Inc., 2004.

### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)  
 previously listed in the National Register  
 previously determined eligible by the National Register  
 designated a National Historic Landmark  
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

### Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Virginia Department of Historic Resources,  
Richmond, Virginia; Prince George County  
Regional Heritage Center; Private Collection, Mr.  
Edward Hanzlik

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): DHR ID# 074-5021

---

## 10. Geographical Data

---

**Acreage of Property** 12.223  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>18</u> Zone	<u>293941.5</u> Easting	<u>4117803.6</u> Northing	3	<u>18</u> Zone	<u>293651.2</u> Easting	<u>4118265.4</u> Northing
2	<u>18</u> Zone	<u>293504.6</u> Easting	<u>4118176.8</u> Northing	4	<u>          </u> Zone	<u>          </u> Easting	<u>          </u> Northing

### Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The property being nominated is described in Plat Book #23, page 13, at Prince George County Courthouse and is identified in the County Tax Assessors Office as tax parcel #340(OA) 00-052-0, Rives District.

### Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries match those for the property cited in Deed Book 49, page 218 as recorded December 8, 1905, between Mary Hanzlik and Augustine van de Vyver, Bishop, Diocese of Richmond and modified on December 13, 2002 by Instrument # 03-2982.

---

## 11. Form Prepared By

---

name/title Edward Hanzlik, Frank Pezzillo  
organization Church of the Sacred Heart Heritage Committee date September 14, 2011  
street & number 9300 Community Lane telephone 804-732-6385  
city or town Petersburg state Virginia zip code 23805  
e-mail sacredheart1906@verizon.net

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location. Enclosed.  
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map. None
- **Continuation Sheets** None
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

---

### Photographs:

---

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Church of the Sacred Heart Parish  
City or Vicinity: 9300 Community Lane, Petersburg, Virginia  
County: Prince George  
State: Virginia 23805

Photographer: Deborah Beaudet

Date Photographed: September 11, 2011

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

1 of 13 VA\_PrinceGeorgeCounty\_SacredHeartChurch\_0001

Church of the Sacred Heart Structure, facing northwest

2 of 13 VA\_PrinceGeorgeCounty\_SacredHeartChurch\_0002

Sacred Heart Church structure showing 1951 church (left) and 2006 expansion (right), facing west

3 of 13 VA\_PrinceGeorgeCounty\_SacredHeartChurch\_0003

Church of the Sacred Heart main entrance, facing west

4 of 13 VA\_PrinceGeorgeCounty\_SacredHeartChurch\_0004

Interior of 1951 church showing Gothic-Revival arch and windows, facing west

5 of 13 VA\_PrinceGeorgeCounty\_SacredHeartChurch\_0005

Interior of 2006 expansion, facing north

6 of 13 VA\_PrinceGeorgeCounty\_SacredHeartChurch\_0006

Interior of 2006 expansion, facing north

7 of 13 VA\_PrinceGeorgeCounty\_SacredHeartChurch\_0007

Parish Hall from Community Lane, facing south

8 of 13 VA\_PrinceGeorgeCounty\_SacredHeartChurch\_0008

Concrete Memorial Crucifix denoting entrance to Cemetery, facing west

9 of 13 VA\_PrinceGeorgeCounty\_SacredHeartChurch\_0009

Over-view of Cemetery, facing northeast

10 of 13 VA\_PrinceGeorgeCounty\_SacredHeartChurch\_0010

Some of the oldest headstones in Cemetery, Marie Hanzlik and her son Joseph V. Hanzlik, facing west (Inscriptions in Czech)

11 of 13 VA\_PrinceGeorgeCounty\_SacredHeartChurch\_0011

Headstone of Marie Hanzlik, facing west (Marie Hanzlik deeded property for the church in 1905. Inscription in Czech)

12 of 13 VA\_PrinceGeorgeCounty\_SacredHeartChurch\_0012

Distant view of Church of the Sacred Heart from Bull Hill Road, facing west

13 of 13 VA\_PrinceGeorgeCounty\_SacredHeartChurch\_0013

View of Church of the Sacred Heart from the middle of New Bohemia, facing north (Non-contributing Rectory in foreground and Parish Center to the left)

---

**Property Owner:**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Bishop Francis X. DiLorenzo, Catholic Diocese of Richmond

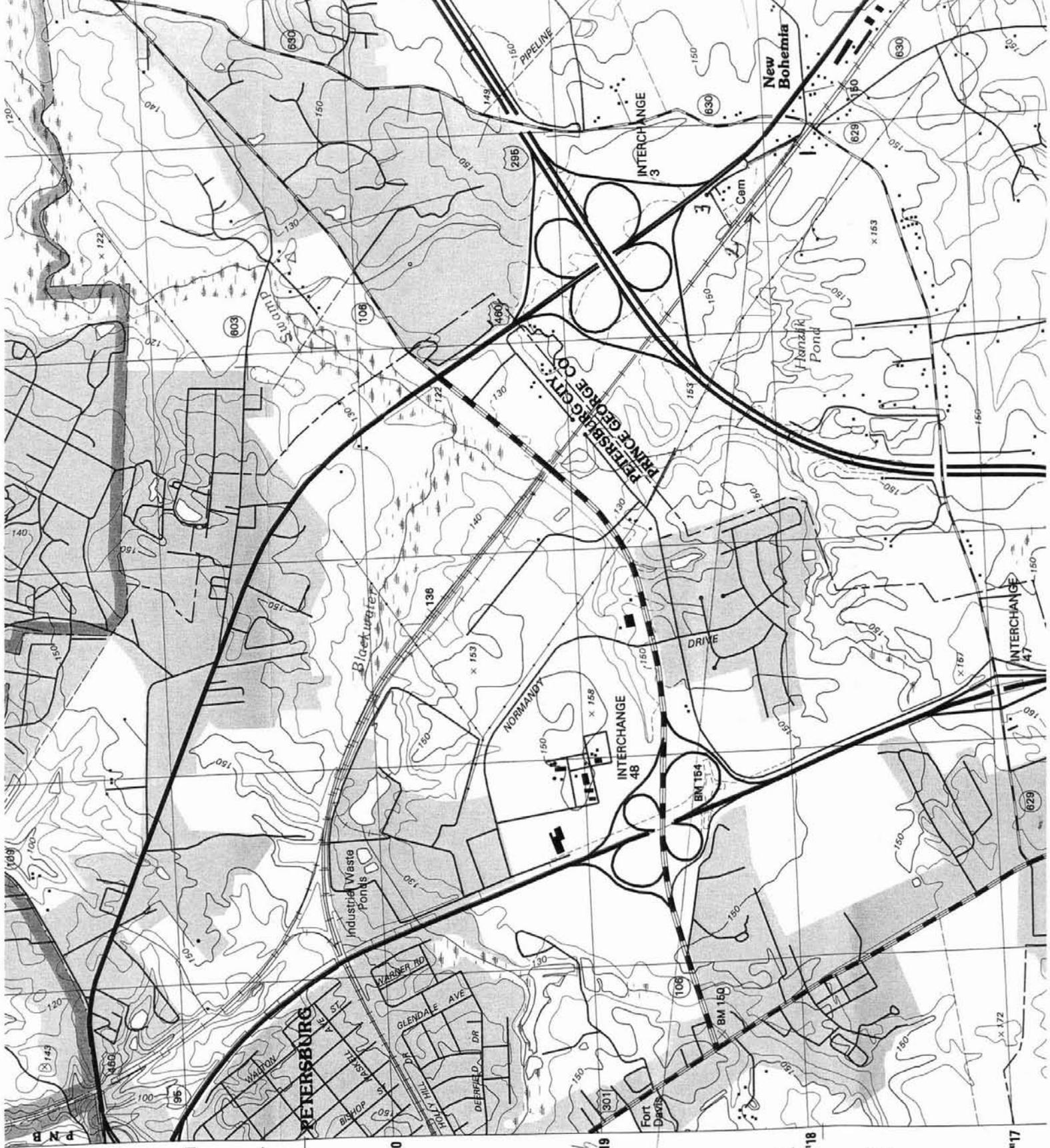
street & number 7800 Carousel Lane telephone (804) 359-5661

city or town Richmond state Virginia zip code 23294-4201

Church of the Sacred Heart Parish (074-5021)  
Name of Property

Prince George County, Virginia  
County and State

properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).  
**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



Church of the Sacred Heart Parish  
 Prince George VA

074-5021	1
E 293941.5	}
N 4117803.6	
E 293504.6	}
N 4118176.8	
E 293651.2	}
N 4118265.4	
Zone 18	

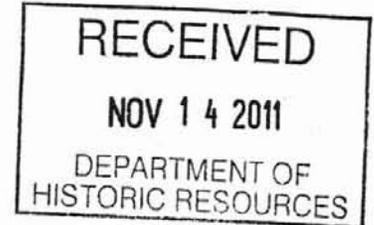


FEAD MCW - 11/15/11

4422 Rives Road  
Petersburg, VA 23805

November 10, 2011

Commonwealth of Virginia  
Department of Historic Resources  
2801 Kensington Ave.  
Richmond, VA 23221



**Re. Church of the Sacred Heart Property, Prince George County**

To whom it may concern:

With regard to the above nomination, I wish to go on record in full support of its approval and forwarding on to the next step of the process of registry as a National Historic Place. I am a direct descendent of Matej Hanzlik and Joseph Machat (my great grandfathers) who were the first Czech settlers in New Bohemia (formerly Estes). I feel that every effort should be made to preserve what little is left of the history of this area.

Thank you for your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Edward G. Hanzlik".

Edward G. Hanzlik  
Adjoining Land Owner