

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH (R.C.)  
1117-1139 Dryades Street  
between Clio and Calliope Streets  
Orleans Parish  
New Orleans, Louisiana

HABS No. LA-1105

HABS  
LA  
36-NEWOR  
03-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Richard Koch, District Officer  
Queen and Crescent Building, New Orleans, Louisiana

## HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

St. John the Baptist Church (R.C.)  
 1117-1139 Dryades Street  
 between Clio and Calliope Streets (north side)  
 Orleans Parish, New Orleans, Louisiana

HABS  
 LA  
 36-NEWOR  
 53-

The present owner is the Congregation of St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church, by whom it was built and has been continuously owned ever since.

The corner stone was laid in 1857, and the church was completed in 1861, Father Jeremiah Moynihan, the pastor, having supervision of the planning and building.

Fifteen stained glass windows were installed in 1902. According to New Orleans City Guide, American Guide Series, Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 1938, p. 368, these windows were made in Munich; the church was gutted by fire in 1907, with only the walls and tower left standing, and was rebuilt at once.

The building was erected in a time of opulence and no expense was spared to make it one of the handsomest churches in the city, but by the time it was completed, at the outbreak of four years of war, there ensued much general financial distress. The parish was unable to meet its obligations, and was declared bankrupt in 1878. The church and the adjacent parish school building were bought by the pastor, Father Kenny, and reverted to the Congregation.

The Catholic Church in New Orleans by Roger Baudier; Nihil Obstat, Francis Leon Gassler, Censor Librarian, July, 1938; Imprimatur, Joseph F. Rummel, S.T.D. Archiepiscopus Novae Die XVIII Julii, 1938; copyrighted by the author 1939, printed by A. W. Hyatt, Printers-Stationers, New Orleans, La., pp. 393, 463, 563.

Further information might be secured by reference to the Archbishop's Chancery, 7845 Walmsley Avenue, New Orleans, La.

## Descriptive Data

The church is 45 feet wide and extends three-quarters of a block back from the street, toward the north. Its seating capacity is 1200.

The walls are brick, and the foundations extend ten feet beyond the walls in all directions. The tower is 125 feet high.

New Orleans City Guide, American Guide Series, Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 1938, p. 368.