A STUDY ON CHURCHES, continued ….

The Laoag bell tower is separated from the main church by a street. The church exterior has been modernized but the basic structure remains intact. Foundation was laid in 1612. See plaque below, right.

The church in Candon (above) has an Eiffel tower in front of it, although this may have nothing to do with the church. The public plaza is where the tower is located.

The church in Dingras (above) is all original, but condemned, rendered unsuitable for use by some earthquake decades ago. The bell tower of the Bacarra church (above right) also is damaged; the top portion fell off in an earthquake fairly recently, with the debris still is on the ground. But the church façade is all modern and spruced up (below), while the side walls are still original with stone/brick and buttresses (below).

As for the Tanjay church, see below. Four pillars have been removed by the present parish priest, without a building permit, or structural calculations, or public hearing. Had it not been for the public's vigilance, he would have removed all the pillars after some unknown truss repair. Hopefully, in the event of an earthquake, it will not go the way of the Dingras church or Bacarra tower. We should put back those pillars.

Danny Gil, 12 June 2008