



United States Department of the Interior


NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

February 11, 2011

Notice to file:

This property has been automatically listed in the National Register of Historic Places. This is due to the fact that the publication of our Federal Register Notice: "National Register of Historic Places: Pending Nominations and Other Actions" was delayed beyond our control to the point where the mandated 15 day public comment period ended after our required 45 day time frame to act on the nomination. If the 45th day falls on a weekend or Federal holiday, the property will be automatically listed the next business day. The nomination is technically adequate and meets the National Register criteria for evaluation, and thus, automatically listed in the National Register of Historic Places.


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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

1. Name of Property

historic name Most Blessed Sacrament School

other names/site number JF-SS-127

2. Location

street & number 1128 Berry Boulevard

NA

not for publication

city or town Louisville

NA

vicinity

state Kentucky code KY county Jefferson code 111 zip code 40215

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

I hereby certify that this x 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 x 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 x local

Signature of certifying official/Title Mark Dennen, SHPO

Date

Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title
Government

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

x entered in the National Register

determined eligible for the National

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other (explain):

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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5. Classification

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

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

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

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

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

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1 | 3 | Buildings |
| | | sites |
| | | structures |
| | | objects |
| 1 | 3 | Total |

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION/church school

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Collegiate Gothic

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Poured concrete

walls: Poured concrete

Brick veneer

roof: Tar and shingle

other: Stone lintels and sills

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Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

Most Blessed Sacrament School (JF-SS-127) is located at 1128 Berry Boulevard in the Oakdale neighborhood of Louisville, Kentucky. The building, begun in 1937 and completed in 1938, is a design by Louisville architect Walter Wagner. The two-story brick building features a full basement, partially above grade. The building sits on a poured concrete foundation. The main façade features a central entrance bay with inset paired wooden doors. The five-bay symmetrical façade is topped by a limestone nameplate and cross. The building is decorated with a nod toward Collegiate Gothic, with its corbelled cornice at the roofline, limestone pilasters, and limestone belt-course. A two-story brick convent - a residence for the Nuns who served as teachers - was added to the building in 1952.

The area proposed for listing contains only the Parish School and some nearby non-contributing service buildings. It is anticipated that the section of the original site that contains the school will be legally parceled off in the near future for development purposes. The building is on a parcel adjacent to a Rectory, Church and parish hall.

Detailed Description

Evolution of Property Owners/Use and Character of Site

The site chosen for Most Blessed Sacrament School was vacant land near the intersection of Taylor and Berry Boulevards in the Oakdale neighborhood.¹ The school was designed to serve children grades One through Eight, as was the pattern developed for Catholic parish schools in Louisville. The area is less than one mile from Churchill Downs. Taylor Boulevard connected Iroquois Park, to the south, to Eastern Parkway. This area began to develop with streetcar-suburbs following the completion of Iroquois Park in the 1890s, and Oakdale incorporated in 1904. The suburb was annexed to the city in 1922.

The School currently sits on a 2.19-acre L-shaped parcel. The parcel is adjacent to Taylor Boulevard on its west side, Berry Boulevard on its north side; residences on the east, and Hathaway Avenue on the south. The lot sits within a densely developed urban setting and is flat. The lot has vegetation only on its north side, along Berry Boulevard, consisting in a small grass yard in front of the school on which are planted 2 mature trees.

Exterior of School

The building is located near the Northwest corner of Taylor and Berry Boulevards. The school is set back from Berry Boulevard and is sited on a slight rise above the street. The two-story building designed of fireproof "brick, steel and concrete construction with terrazzo floors in all classrooms...contain(ing) ... class-rooms, a room for the Sisters, assembly hall, and large cafeteria, which will be used temporarily as a church."² The building will be so constructed that if future needs demand it, as many as eight class rooms may be added without disturbing the present arrangement of the structure."³ When completed in 1938, only six classrooms were needed; the two remaining classrooms were put into service in 1941. The following year, permanent partitions were added to create four additional classrooms and a principal's office. At that time 480 students were enrolled.⁴

Poured Concrete steps provide access to the building from the sidewalk on Berry Boulevard. A frontage of lawn is capped by a low, concrete retaining wall. A parking lot east of the school has

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been associated with the site since its construction. The building sits on a raised foundation of poured concrete.

The center bay of the five-bay main façade features the building's main entrance, facing Berry Boulevard. Double wooden doors are fitted with eight fixed lights. Eight-light side panels flank each door. Multi-pane transoms top the door and panels. The opening is framed by dentiled brick details. Two large lanterns illuminate the entrance. A stone belt course details the building along the bottom sill on the first story. Dentiled brick frames the nameplate for the school and is above the main entrance. The building is fitted with paired eight-over-eight double-hung sash windows on all facades.

The original appearance of the main block was designed in a T-shape 80 feet wide and 130 feet long. The building was enlarged by an addition built in 1952, which housed the Nuns who taught at the school. The six bay, brick addition is attached to the east façade of the main block.

The west façade features a covered entrance to the basement of the building that served as the cafeteria and the church during the period of significance. Paired eight-over-eight double-hung sash windows provide light to the classrooms.

The rear (south) facade provides a covered entrance to the building. Eight-over-eight double-hung sash windows are equally placed in the five bays on both stories. A stack pipe is visible from the façade.

Three Garages, 1970-1990, non-contributing buildings

Three non-contributing garages were erected on the west side of the property outside the period of significance, between 1970 and 1990. The structures are sited without poured foundations, sitting directly on the paved parking lot, and more recently have been used for storage. A chain-linked fence is located at the rear of the garages to provide storage between the buildings.

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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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Social History

Period of Significance

1938 to 1960

Significant Dates

1938

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Wagner, Walter (architect)

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.

Period of Significance (justification)

1938 to 1960: The School was used for religious education purposes from its construction in 1938 until the close of the historic period, 1960. It was significant in the history of religious education during that time.

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Most Blessed Sacrament School (JF-SS-127) meets National Register Criterion A and is significant within the context "Catholic Schools in Louisville, Kentucky 1919-1960", during the period 1938 to 1960, the year the parish school was constructed, and runs until 1960, the conventional end of the historic period. Most Blessed Sacrament is being evaluated for its importance within the area of significance, Social History, and not Education. With the formation of religious schools in Louisville, it was the foundations of the Catholic faith and dissemination of culture they sought to instill in their students. Fifty-one parish schools served Louisville by 1938, and the number rose to sixty-three parish schools, offering grades One through Eight, by the end of the period of significance.

During the period of significance students from parish schools fed into Catholic high schools segregated by gender. Five Catholic High Schools served girls in Louisville: Presentation Academy, Sacred Heart Academy, Mercy Academy, Holy Rosary Academy, and Angela Merici Academy. In addition, five Catholic high schools for boys served the city: Bishop Flaget High School, Bishop David High School, St. Xavier High School, Trinity High School, and DeSales High School. Unlike the parish schools, students could select which high school to attend. Following high school, students could attend two Catholic colleges in the city.

The Most Blessed Sacrament School was built for the main purpose of providing religious education to Roman Catholic students grades One through Eight living within the parish boundaries. The Most Blessed Sacrament School is significant for its role as one of the network of parish schools providing a Christian religious education alternative for Catholic families as commended by the Diocese, and, "reveal(s) the way that Catholic theology unites spiritual activity and educational services as interdependent goals"⁵ This school is a tangible response to the mandate from the Vatican, through the American Bishops, and finally through the Louisville Diocese, to provide religious education for children living in each parish. This school and its sister schools convey the importance placed by Catholics in Louisville on providing private religious, versus secular, or public, learning environments for Catholic children.

Detailed Statement of Significance

Historical Context: Catholic Schools in Louisville: 1919-1960

The religious education of Catholic children across the United States was a focus of the leadership of the Church. The Third Plenary Council of Baltimore, a meeting of American bishops held in 1919, resulted in a directive for the education of America's Catholic children in both academics and the practice of Catholicism.⁶ Called a National Pastoral Letter, the publication set policy for leaders of local diocese and parish priests around the United States. The letter conveyed that secular education was inferior to Christian education. Aware of nativist, anti-Catholic sentiments, the Bishops' letter assures that "our own Catholic schools are not established and maintained with any idea of holding our children apart from the General body and spirit of American citizenship. They are simply the concrete form in which we exercise our rights as free citizens, in conformity with the dictates of conscience. Their very existence is a great moral fact in America."⁷

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The necessity of Christian education for Catholic families had been a priority in Louisville from the late-nineteenth century into the twentieth. The Diocese leadership left no room for interpretation in their directives for the education of minor children in the publication titled, *The Louisville Catholic Family Guide*, first printed in 1887. The paperback guidebook included "A section covering Schools". In brief direct language, the guidebook delineated parental duties of Catholic fathers and mothers:

Parents are under obligation to send their children, both BEFORE and AFTER their First Communion, to Parochial or Catholic School. They should bear in mind that the Church does not merely exhort, but authoritatively commends them to do this.

Only in exceptional cases, and for good reasons, of which the Bishop alone, by the Law of the Plenary Council is to be the judge, as also to give the lawful permission, are parents permitted to send their children to the Public Schools.

Parents should bear in mind that even where permission is lawfully accorded them to send a child to non-Catholic school, they incur, in so doing, a grave responsibility before God...A school without God is no school; and education without religion is but half-education – is no education.⁸

Written by Reverend Louis G. Deppen, the purpose of the annual publication was part almanac and part rulebook for Catholics in the Diocese. The booklet contained a section titled, "What Every Catholic in the Diocese Should Know and Do." The Archdiocese arranged for the Family Guide to be distributed to every Catholic family in every parish. The publication outlined expected behavior, rules, and guidelines. It listed the many Feasts and Fasts of the Church, as they occur in the Diocese, and their Christian obligations in the course of the year. It announced the spiritual consequences for non-compliance.⁹ Deppen's guide prompted a major response: by the turn of the twentieth century, 30 parochial had arisen to serve Louisville's Catholics. In addition, three Catholic orphanages educated their charges.¹⁰

As Catholics stood apart from public education, non-Catholic America offered parallel separations between themselves and Catholics. Immigration restrictions during WWI, which continued during the 1920s, targeted Eastern Europeans, many of whom were Catholic, from entering the country. Not only Nativism, but outright anti-Catholicism expressed itself, especially in the South. The unsuccessful presidential campaign of Catholic Democratic candidate Al Smith in 1928 cemented anti-Catholic feelings across America. These factors, "may have convinced many Catholic parents that public schools would be too anti-Catholic for their children, thus requiring more parishes to form and build schools."¹¹ For example, books and other materials were subject to two kinds of censorship by the Church for use in parish schools. Those published by the Church or affiliates were required to display the "imprimatur" (it may be printed) status prominently on the book. Outside publications thought to be objectionable were placed on the "Index of Prohibited Books" maintained by the diocesan authorities. Regardless of their subject matter, books on the *Index* were not allowed for use by parish teachers and students.¹²

Louisville's Bishop McCloskey established the Diocese School Board in 1887 to establish guidelines for Catholic education in the city. But it had become an inactive group by the 1920s, due to universal compliance by parishes to carry out the standards for Christian education that had been set.

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However, changes made to the statewide educational system, planned in response to secular legislation across the United States to certify schools and teachers, forced bishops into action to preserve the system of Catholic religious schools that existed in Louisville. The fear of losing the right to base the educational framework of parish schools on religious teachings motivated the Diocese to quick action. To address this threat to the social and religious order, Bishop McCloskey in 1925 named Father Felix N. Pitt Secretary of the Catholic School Board to professionalize the Catholic schools and to assure that they would meet the new state standards for schools to continue providing religious education. In a public statement when he was named, Father Pitt declared that first and foremost, "The Catholic schools are religious schools. The main reason for their existence in the words of Pope Pius XI, 'is to co-operate with divine grace in forming the true and perfect Christian.' ...and "boys and girls in our schools .. (have) an enormous body of social and cultural inheritance to which they must be introduced."¹³ Pitt was directed to reorganize and professionalize parish schools in which he reportedly, "did a yeoman's work of organization, standardizing text books, setting up teacher institutes, centralizing record keeping, and instituting a supervisory team throughout the school system."¹⁴ Importantly, Catholic leadership was proactive in ensuring that parish schools met the established guidelines for state sanctioned education, so the parish schools could remain separate, providing what the Diocese had deemed critical to the development of Catholic children: religious instruction as the foundation for all education.

The Catholic diocese and its members lobbied the Kentucky legislature to delay certification until 1926, providing time for "communities of sisters" to become certified to teach.¹⁵ The new state certifications legislated for teachers forced the Diocese to put renewed emphasis on academic standards and teacher training based on the secularly established standards. Those teaching in the Catholic schools quickly complied with the certifications, allowing Diocese parish schools' focus on religious education to remain primary. Sister Mary Adeline O'Leary of Nazareth College, which opened in 1920 to train Nuns in the new standards, remembered the urgency of opening the school. She recounted, "The uneasy feeling that hostile legislators threatened the very existence of private and parochial schools has alarmed Religious Communities throughout the country. As a consequence, all Orders [communities of nuns] are doing their utmost to prepare their members for meeting the most exacting demands that may be placed upon them."¹⁶ By 1926, Louisville Catholics were served by 38 parishes and the number rose to 43 by 1936.¹⁷

New religious schools were added to the Catholic system in 1928 when Christ the King Church was built to serve a west Louisville parish, and Holy Family Church completed in 1929 in south Louisville. The Diocese did not plan new parishes during the Depression years of the 1930s due to financial constraints, and populations also remained fairly static. Three new parishes were established in Louisville in 1937, Most Blessed Sacrament, Our Mother of Sorrows, and Holy Spirit. Important to the Catholic community in Louisville was the elevation of the Diocese to Archdiocese by Papal order in December 1937. This established Louisville as a Metropolitan See, overseeing the Dioceses of Covington and Owensboro, Kentucky and Nashville, Tennessee.¹⁸

Construction of parochial schools gained some slight momentum in the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s and then increased mightily in the 1950s and first half of the 1960s. These parish schools were built to provide Catholic families' religious schools as quickly as they were needed. Unlike earlier eras of elaborate ecclesiastical architecture, these buildings were built frugally and efficiently to get them into service quickly. In evaluating St. Bartholomew School, National Register author Joanne Weeter

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made the following observations about the parish schools that also pertain to this context:

*"Architecturally, the new churches built between 1916 and 1965 were best described as Moderne, or functional, in design, with few distinguishing features. Only two generations earlier, Louisville Catholics had strived to exemplify their European heritage in buildings of English Tudor Gothic, Italian Renaissance, and Byzantine styles. Stylistically, parish structures, including schools, evolved from high art to functional design. Presumably, this trend was in part a reflection of the increased popularity of industrial design and architecture, particularly evident during the Post WWI period. However, it was likely functional as well, since it was far less expensive to construct an industrial box than it was to construct a building in the High Gothic style of years past. With the economic realities presented by the Great Depression, and those followed by WWII materials shortages and war rationing, it makes sense that parish buildings were restrained in form and style."*¹⁹

The 1950s in Louisville experienced an explosion in the formation of parishes in the Archdiocese. With suburbanization, where inner-city residents moved away from the urban core, new parish schools arose at an unprecedented rate. Nineteen parishes came into service in the 1950s, the most ever in any single decade. All of the new parishes completed the school first, in some cases opening the school prior to completion of the church building. Our Lady of Lourdes parish led the way, built in 1950, as the first parish school completed in the 1950s. St. John Vianney, St. Margaret Mary, St. Matthias, and Sts. Simon and Jude all followed in 1951. St. Gabriel the Archangel, Immaculate Heart of Mary, St. Jerome, and St. Leonard were completed as full parishes with independent church and school buildings in 1953. The parish of St. Barnabas was completed in 1955 and Sts. Clement and Pius X both opened schools in 1956. The year 1957 witnessed four new parishes: Guardian Angels, Our Lady Help of Christians, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, and Resurrection. The final year of the decade added three schools in 1959: St. Albert the Great, Our Mother of Good Counsel and Our Lady of Consolation. By 1960 four new parishes were completed: St. Athanasius, St. Basil, St. Martha, and St. Polycarp.²⁰ This brought the total number of parish schools to 63 at the end of the period of significance.

This building trend clearly shows that the leadership of Louisville's Catholic Church was carrying out the mission, with crusader-like zeal to provide religious education to children of Catholic families in Louisville. As population increased in the city, especially following the Baby boom after World War II, the Archdiocese responded by building parish schools enough to meet the needs of all Catholic families in Louisville.

Evaluation of Most Blessed Sacrament School in its Historic Context

The formation of the Most Blessed Sacrament School in 1937 has the distinction of being one of three parishes that began a concerted plan by the Archdiocese to provide religious schools available for every Catholic family in Louisville. The Catholic Diocese of Louisville, through Father William Mulcahy, Pastor, established Most Blessed Sacrament parish at a moment when Louisville was besieged by two crises: the Louisville flood of January 1937, which was the most devastating in the City's history, as well as the ongoing economic Depression of the 1930s.

Two other parishes were founded in 1937 along with Most Blessed Sacrament: Holy Spirit and Our Mother of Sorrows. These natural and financial disasters of the era did not deter Archbishop Floresh from calling for new parishes, or Father Mulcahy, assigned as pastor to Most Blessed Sacrament,

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from his mandate to establish a school. Mulcahy set about raising the money to pay cash for construction with parishioners' subscriptions and other donations. Moreover, the school was the first building completed, unlike earlier decades when Catholic churches were built. The prevailing actions to get religious schools built and serving Catholics families, even before the church was completed, emphasizes the desire and directive from Church leadership to provide religious education to families.

Because the religious-school was the premiere reason for the formation of the parish, Masses, or worship services, weddings, funerals, and baptisms held at Most Blessed Sacrament parish took place in the basement of the school until funds for a church could be constructed. St. Cecilia and St. Denis, along with Our Mother of Sorrows, are examples of this sequence of Catholic Church complex development in Louisville. In this sequence, the school and the church were one, physically and spiritually, and coexisted until the separate church building could be built. Most Blessed Sacrament School conveys the importance, and crucial emphasis placed by Church leadership of providing Catholic religious schools during the period of significance.

From its completion in 1938 until the completion of a separate church in 1963, Most Blessed Sacrament School served all the spiritual and educational needs of the parish. The Catholic Church uses the term "parish" as a geographical range of a church's membership. Parish boundaries, determined by the Diocese through the Chancery Office, represented the area of service for each Catholic Church. The Oakdale neighborhood was identified as the site of the new parish once the population of Catholics moving to the area gained the critical mass of approximately 300 families, a common parish size in Louisville during the period of significance.

As was the mandate by the Diocese, Pastor Father William Mulcahy conducted a census in 1937 to determine the size of the newly planned parish of Most Blessed Sacrament. Father Mulcahy's census - conducted by his personally visiting households to ascertain their religious affiliation - revealed that 300 Catholic families lived inside the parish boundaries.²¹ By the time the cornerstone was laid in September 1937 the number of families seeking to belong to the parish had increased to 350 families.²²

Most Blessed Sacrament parish, like the others in the city, provided a multitude of social functions. Unlike most Protestant denominations whose denomination and pastor create their religious identity and may represent membership across a wide geographic area, Catholics identified strongly with their parish and communities were determined by finite parish boundaries. In this way the parish church and school took on the role of the centerpiece of the Catholic community within a defined geographic area.

The Catholic parish was the social, religious and often political center for a distinct locality. Parishioners (those living within its bounds) developed into tightly knit groups, often with healthy rivalries against other parishes when it came to school, sporting events, and the amounts of dollars raised for citywide causes.

The parish was designed with the priest as the leader of their distinct membership. The membership was given oversight of the activities of their distinct parish, with members serving on parish councils providing a volunteer core for making decisions on finances and building projects. Importantly, the

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parish councils would have overseen the running of the parish school. In Louisville, parishes, including MBS, sponsored annual picnics as fundraisers for the schools. Parishioners would bake cakes, staff games of chance and sell items to raise money for the parish.

This religious community provided mandated rites of passage for their members: baptism, first Holy Communion, confirmation, marriage, and last rites. These represented important events and milestones in the lives of Catholics, and the broad membership would have taken part in these celebrations of faith.

Reverend R.C. Ruff, a member of the Archdiocese School Board, offered the sermon at the laying of the cornerstone. Father Ruff celebrated the addition of the school and parish to the neighborhood. "Not so many years ago this section was bare and unsettled. Today, we have here a splendid highway, along which are studded neat little homes, stores, churches, and schools. It has become a thriving community and an important section of the city of Louisville. Today we are trying to add our part by building a Catholic Church and School for the Catholic people who have built homes here." ²³ Fr. Ruff continued, "Many who are not members of the Catholic faith, often wonder why Catholics build and maintain schools for their children, keep up a separate system of education. To some it seems that there by we are running schools in opposition to the Public School. To these, anything that dims their glory, or casts a shadow of a doubt on their so-called right to such a title, is regarded as un-American and unpatriotic. The History of Our Country does not bear this out... Their opposition then and now is not to public schools, but to secular schools – schools with no religion, schools without God." ²⁴ The laying of the cornerstone for the Most Blessed Sacrament Church provided the opportunity for Church leadership to emphasize the difference and importance of Catholic schools, primarily that they were built on a religious foundation.

The Most Blessed Sacrament parish priests, beginning with Father Mulcahy, lived in a rectory, or priest's home, erected by the Archdiocese during the period of significance. The house continues to serve the parish. A separate church was finally completed in 1963, built only after the funds were in hand by the parish. The Church continues to serve the community.

The Most Blessed Sacrament parish school suffered from lack of enrollment, like many others in the community, and was combined with two others to form Saint Nicholas School in 2007. The building is currently vacant.

Evaluation of Most Blessed Sacrament School's Historic Integrity

The Most Blessed Sacrament School continues to maintain integrity in all seven aspects evaluated for listing in the National Register. Unfortunately, vandals gained entry to the vacant building in 2009 and broke many windows and destroyed several interior features. The basement, formerly the church and cafeteria, experienced severe destruction of light fixtures and other aesthetic features.

Location

Most Blessed Sacrament School maintains its original location. The intersection of Taylor and Berry Boulevards has been modified for traffic flow, but continues to provide the original access to the site.

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Design

The design of the main block exhibits a high level of integrity. The building was altered by the addition of the convent to the main and east façades in 1952. The convent design, architect unknown, does not follow the design of the main block. The windows of the addition are smaller, have different divisions and are not in rhythm with the main block.

Setting

The building continues to enjoy its original setting in the Oakdale neighborhood. The construction of Pioneer Hall in the 1990s changed slightly the relationship of the building to the formerly vacant lot surrounding the building.

Materials

The school maintains its historic materials of brick, stone and concrete. The original window sashes and doors are in place.

Workmanship

The workmanship of the main block is a high quality construction. The addition was built in 1952 with emphasis on frugality, so that its workmanship is harder to observe. The addition was not designed to attach seamlessly to the original, but required the construction of stairs because floor levels did not match. The original contractors, Sullivan and Cozart, were not involved in the completion of the addition.

Feeling

The Most Blessed Sacrament school continues to feel like a school. Its front approach and the preservation of the main entrance and original stairs from the sidewalk are unchanged from its time of construction. It is still part of the parish neighborhood it was built to serve.

Association

The building continues its association with its neighboring buildings.

Conclusion

The Most Blessed Sacrament School was built for the primary purpose of providing religious education to Roman Catholic families' living within defined parish boundaries. This school is a tangible symbol of the mandate from the Vatican, through the American Bishops, and finally through the Louisville Diocese, to provide religious education in each parish. This school conveys the importance placed by the Catholic leadership and followers in Louisville on providing religious, versus secular, schools for Catholic children. Most Blessed Sacrament is important within the area of significance Social History, important for its role as a parish school providing a "sound philosophy of Christian education..."²⁵ for Catholic families in Louisville.

The Catholic schools that arose in the 1930s through the 1960s provided a continuity of social

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function, similar to those built earlier in Louisville. What is different and significant about Most Blessed Sacrament - and the other parish schools built during this period – and what creates a heightened social meaning for these schools is the commitment by the Catholic Diocese to maintain a separate system of religious schools when confronted by changes to state education laws. What would have been much less expensive and challenging for leadership would have been to merge with the secular schools or disband and enroll their children in secular schools. Instead the Catholic Diocese of Louisville redoubled its commitment to providing Christian-focused education for its member's children.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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The Louisville Times, Louisville, KY, various articles.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, various years.

Weeter, Joanne. *St. Bartholomew National Register of Historic Places nomination*, Louisville, KY, 2010.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

____ 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
epository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number : JF-SS-127

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 16 606669E 4228267N
Zone Easting Northing
16 606669 4228267

2 _____
Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing

4 _____
Zone Easting Northing

Most Blessed Sacrament School

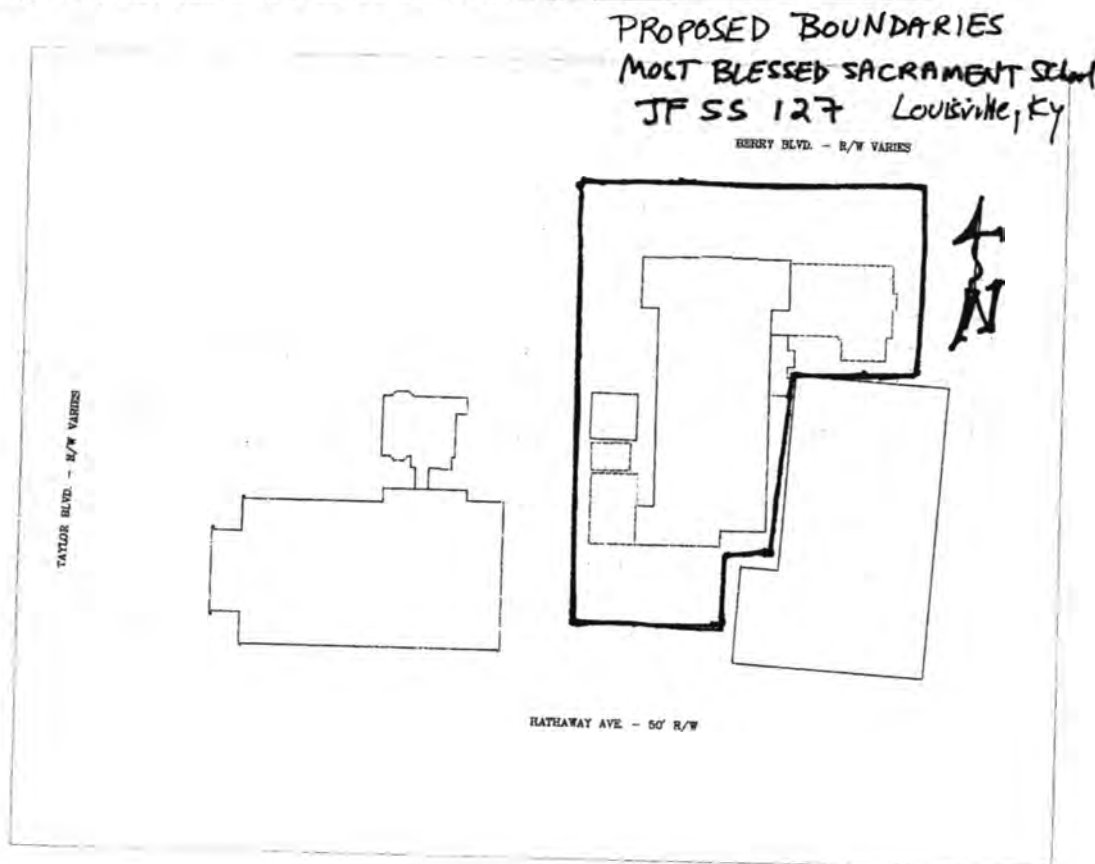
Name of Property

Jefferson, Kentucky

County and State

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

The nominated area includes the Most Blessed Sacrament School building as represented on the Map "Proposed Boundaries Most Blessed Sacrament School Louisville, KY"



Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The proposed boundaries include the school building and the area immediately around the building historically associated with its use, including service access for the school building. The Rectory, Church and Pioneer Hall are not included within the nominated area.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Donna M. Neary

organization

date September 30, 2010

street & number 2336 Brookside Drive

telephone 502-456-2239

city or town Louisville

state KY

zip code 40205

e-mail donnaneary@insight.com

Photographs:

Most Blessed Sacrament School

Jefferson, Kentucky

Name of Property

County and State

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.

The following information is identical for all photographs:

Name of Property: Most Blessed Sacrament School, 1128 Berry Boulevard
City or Vicinity: Louisville
County: Jefferson
State: Kentucky
Photographer: Donna M. Neary
Date Photographed: September 29, 2010

Description of Photographs:

Number 1 of 8. North, Main façade facing south.
Number 2 of 8. Main Façade, detail, facing south.
Number 3 of 8. East Façade, non-contributing addition
Number 4 of 8. West Façade.
Number 5 of 8. West Façade, details.
Number 6 of 8. South, Rear Façade, Pioneer Hall.
Number 7 of 8. East façade, facing southwest.
Number 8 of 8. Church and Rectory on adjoining parcel, facing south and west.

Property Owner:

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

name The Most Reverend Joseph E. Kurtz, D.D., Archbishop of Louisville
c/o David Dutschke, Catholic Charities Parish Social Ministry Department
street & number 291 South Fourth Avenue telephone (502) 637-9786
city or town Louisville state KY zip code 40208

ENDNOTES

- ¹ Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1918. Volume 4, pg. 132.
- ² The Record, Sept. 2, 1937, pg. 2
- ³ The Record, September 12, 1937, page 1.
- ⁴ the Record, December 10, 1942, pg. 4
- ⁵ Weeter, Joanne. *St. Bartholomew National Register of Historic Places nomination, Louisville, KY, 2010*. pg. 6.
- ⁶ Gabert, Glen. In Hoc Signo? A Brief History of Catholic Parochial Education in America. Port Washington, NY: Kennikat Press, 1973, pg. 80-81
- ⁷ Ibid. pg 81-82 Gabert
- ⁸ Deppen, Reverend Louis G. *The Louisville Catholic Family Guide*, Louisville: Chas. A. Rogers, 1887 Page 66.
- ⁹ Deppen, n.p. frontispiece.
- ¹⁰ Kleber, John. *Encyclopedia of Louisville*, pg. 165.
- ¹¹ Ibid. Gabert
- ¹² Ibid., p. 83 Gabert
- ¹³ The Courier-Journal, April 12, 1936, n.p.
- ¹⁴ Crews, Clyde F. *An American Holy Land: A History of the Archdiocese of Louisville*. Wilmington, DE: Michael Glazier, 1984, pg. 253.
- ¹⁵ Ibid., pg 253
- ¹⁶ Ibid., pg. 254
- ¹⁷ Crews, pg. 189.
- ¹⁸ Ibid., pg. 272
- ¹⁹ Weeter, Joanne. Pg. 13.
- ²⁰ Crews, Clyde. Pg.
- ²¹ The Record, April 8, 1937, page 3
- ²² The Record, September 16, 1937, page 1.
- ²³ The Record, Reverend R.C. Ruff, September 23, 1937, page 2.

Most Blessed Sacrament School

Name of Property

Jefferson, Kentucky

County and State

²⁴ The Record, Reverend R.C. Ruff, September 23, 1937, page 2.

²⁵ The Courier-Journal, April 12, 1936.

Most Blessed Sacrament School
 Jefferson Co., KY
 Sketch map = Verbal Boundary Description

0' scale 50' 100' 150' 200'

↑
N

HEATHORIANA DUFFING CO.
 1738 EAST MAIN STREET
 NEW ALBANY, IN. 47150
 D.B. 8047, P.G. 16A
 C-2 ZONING
 TRADITIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD

WON BUE WAREHOUSE
 3006 TAYLOR BLVD.
 LOUISVILLE, KY. 40215
 D.B. 8051, P.G. 748
 C-2 ZONING
 TRADITIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD

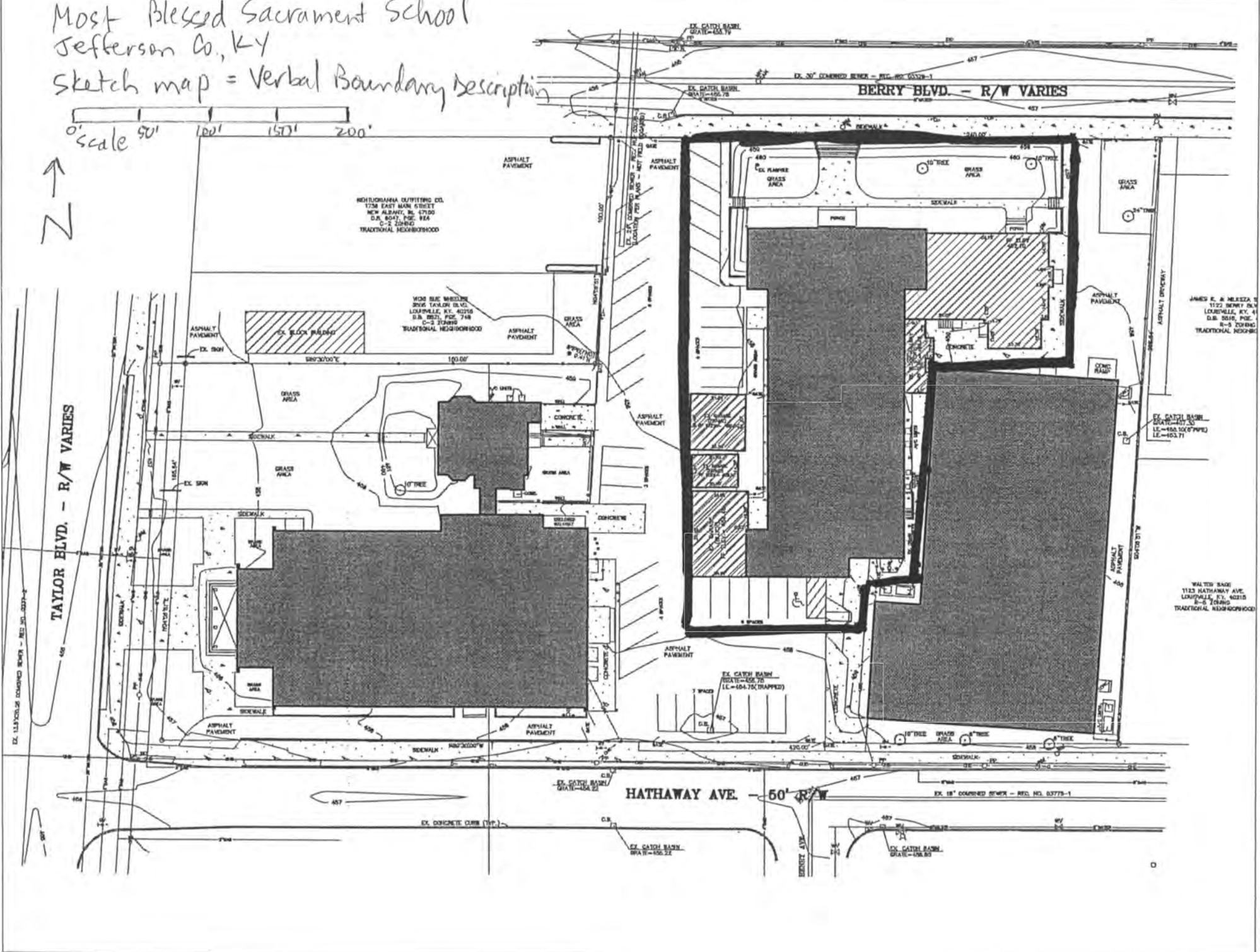
JAMES K. & MESSIAH
 1122 BERRY BLVD.
 LOUISVILLE, KY. 40215
 D.B. 8016, P.G. 41
 R-8 ZONING
 TRADITIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD

WALTER BADE
 1123 HATHAWAY AVE.
 LOUISVILLE, KY. 40215
 R-8 ZONING
 TRADITIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD

TAYLOR BLVD. - R/W VARIES

BERRY BLVD. - R/W VARIES

HATHAWAY AVE. 50' R/W



TAYLOR BLVD. - R/W VARIES

MENTORSHIP OUTFITTERS CO.
1738 EAST MAIN STREET
NEW ALBANY, IN. 47150
D.B. 9041, P.C. 904
C-2 ZONING
TRADITIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD

WOMEN'S BUILDING
3005 TAYLOR BLVD.
LOUISVILLE, KY. 40218
D.B. 9041, P.C. 904
C-2 ZONING
TRADITIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD

HATHAWAY AVE. - 60' R/W

BERRY BLVD. - R/W VARIES

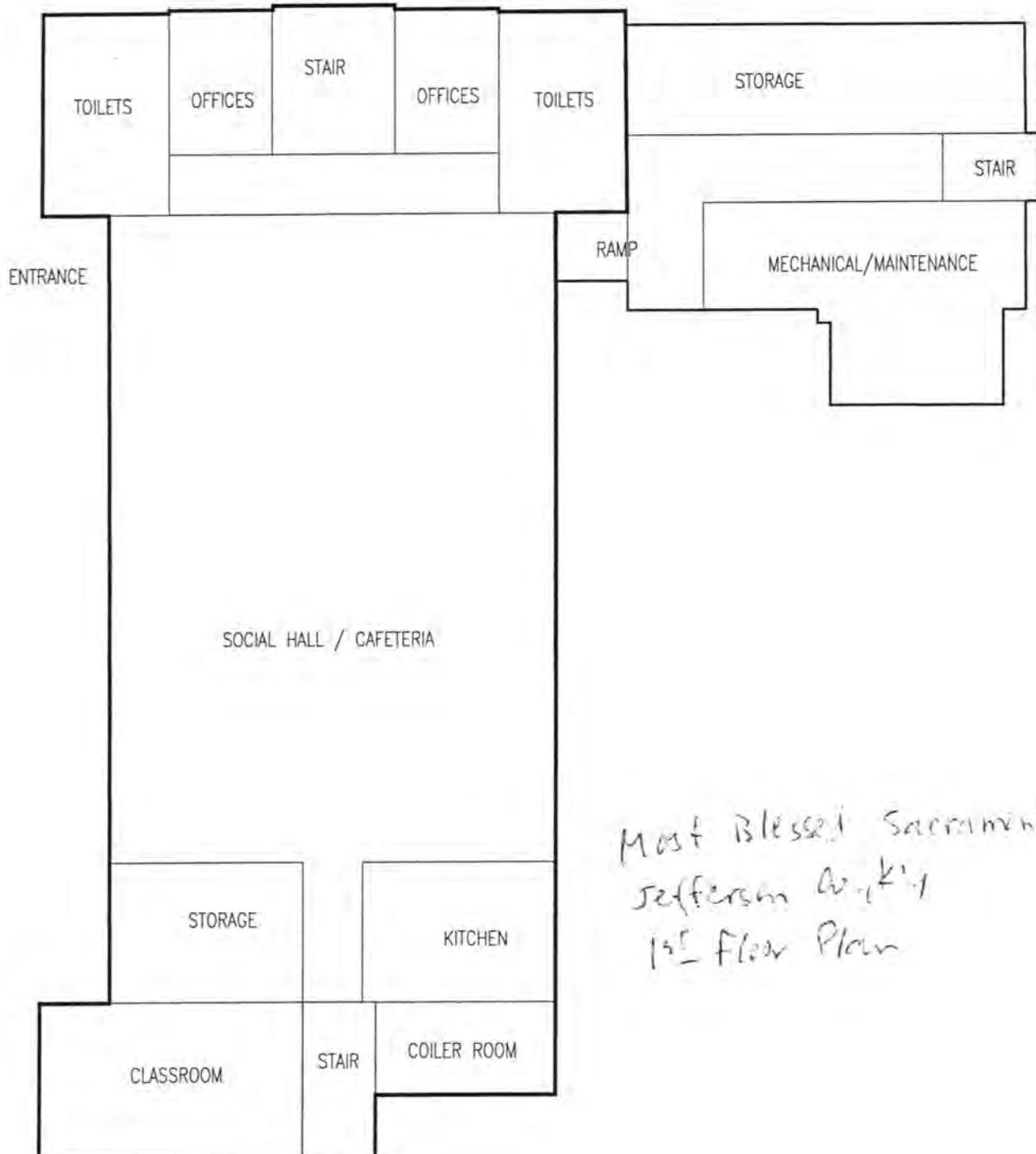
JAMES R. & MELISSA M.
1122 BERRY BLVD.
LOUISVILLE, KY. 40218
D.B. 9041, P.C. 904
C-2 ZONING
TRADITIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD

WALTER BAGE
1123 HATHAWAY AVE.
LOUISVILLE, KY. 40218
D.B. 9041, P.C. 904
C-2 ZONING
TRADITIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD

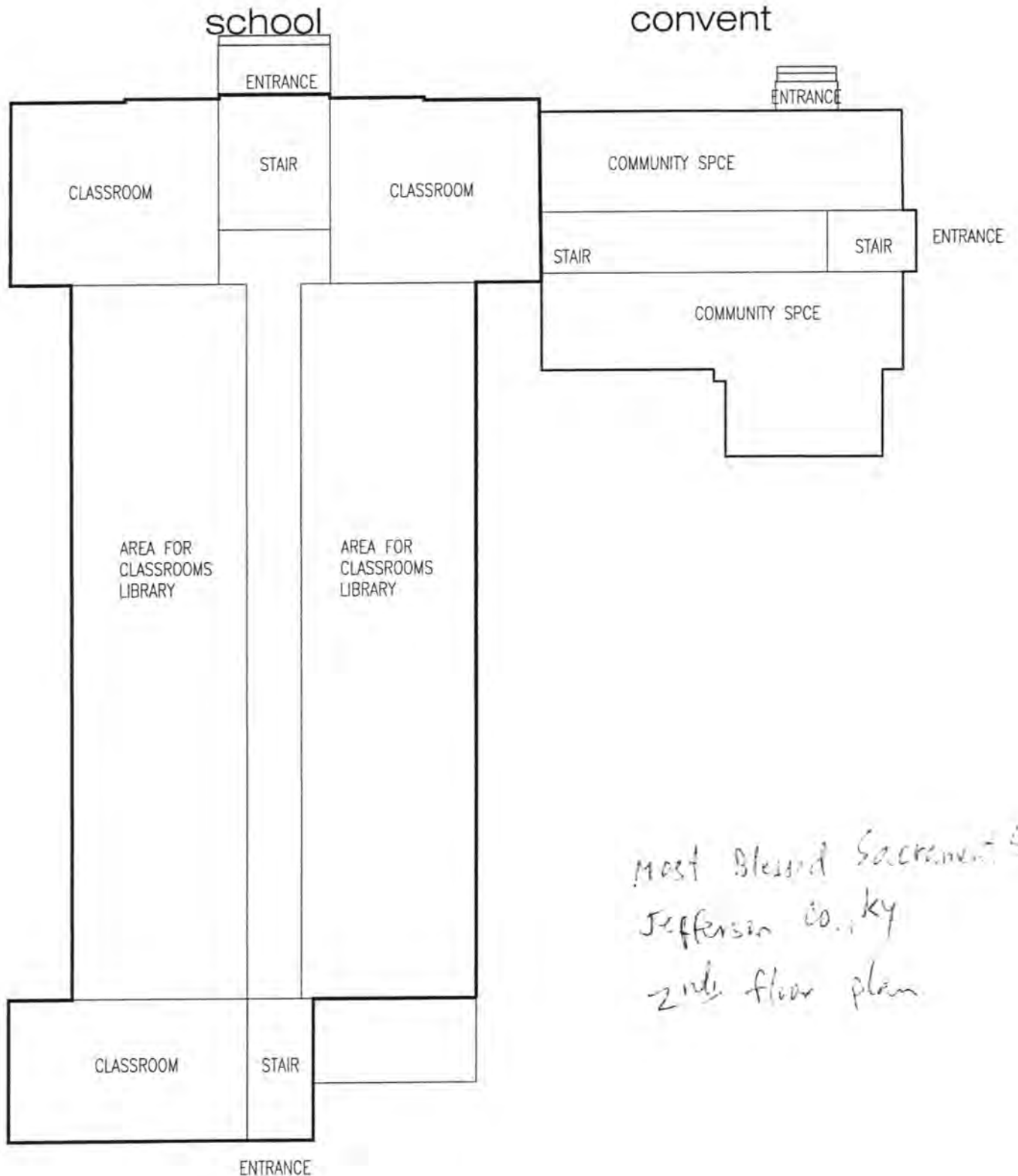


school

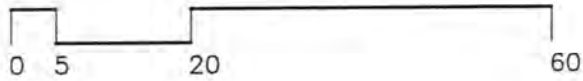
convent



Most Blessed Sacrament School
Jefferson Co., Ky
1st Floor Plan

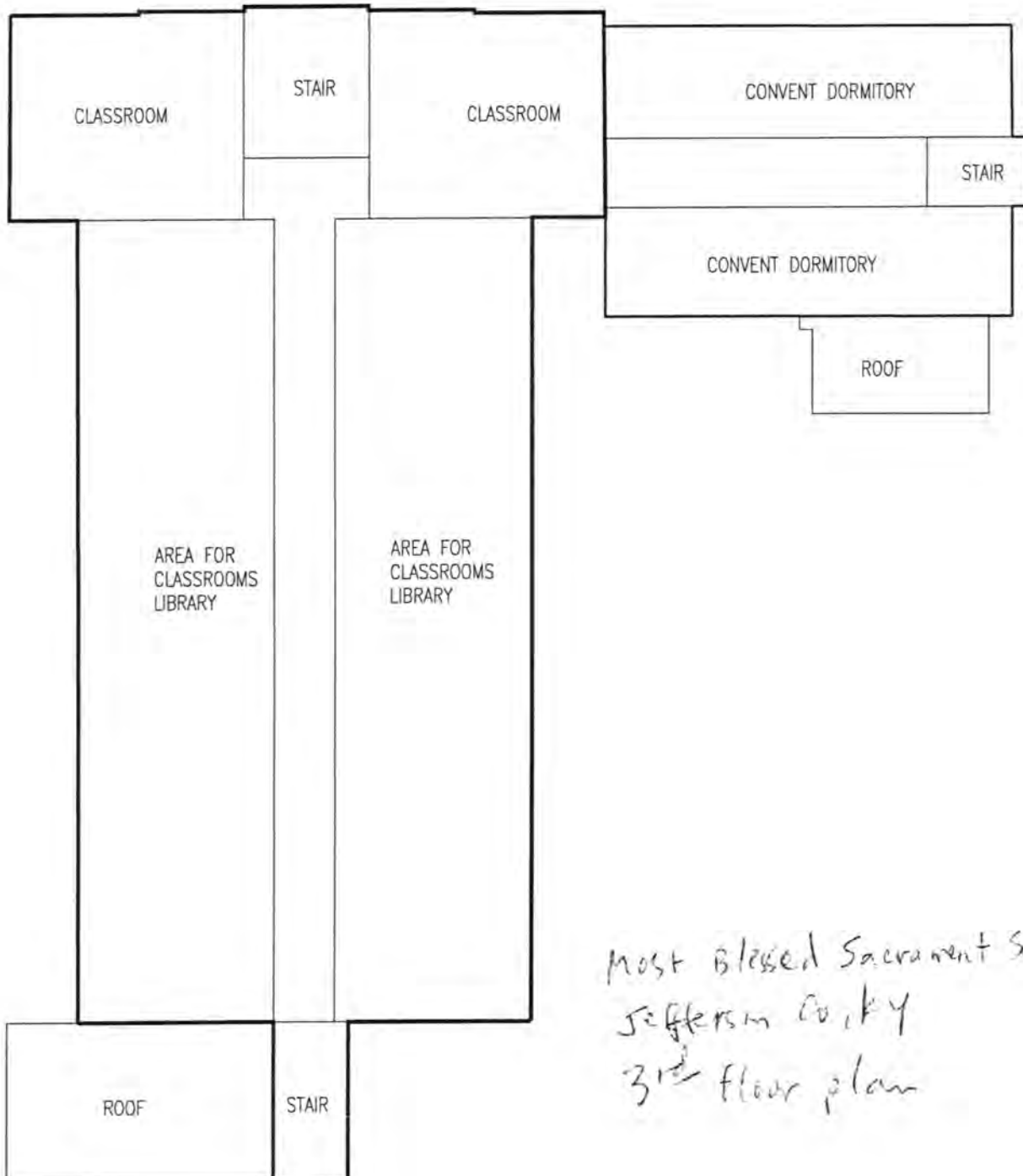


most Blessed Sacrament School
 Jefferson Co., ky
 2nd floor plan



school

convent



Most Blessed Sacrament School
Jefferson County
3rd floor plan

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Most Blessed Sacrament School
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: KENTUCKY, Jefferson

DATE RECEIVED: 12/27/10 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/28/11
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/14/11 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/11/11
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 11000008

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: Y PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

___ACCEPT ___RETURN ___REJECT _____DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Automatic Listing Due to Fed Register notice
Documentation was inadequate, but revisions
were submitted in time for auto list*

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER L. Gumbert DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.













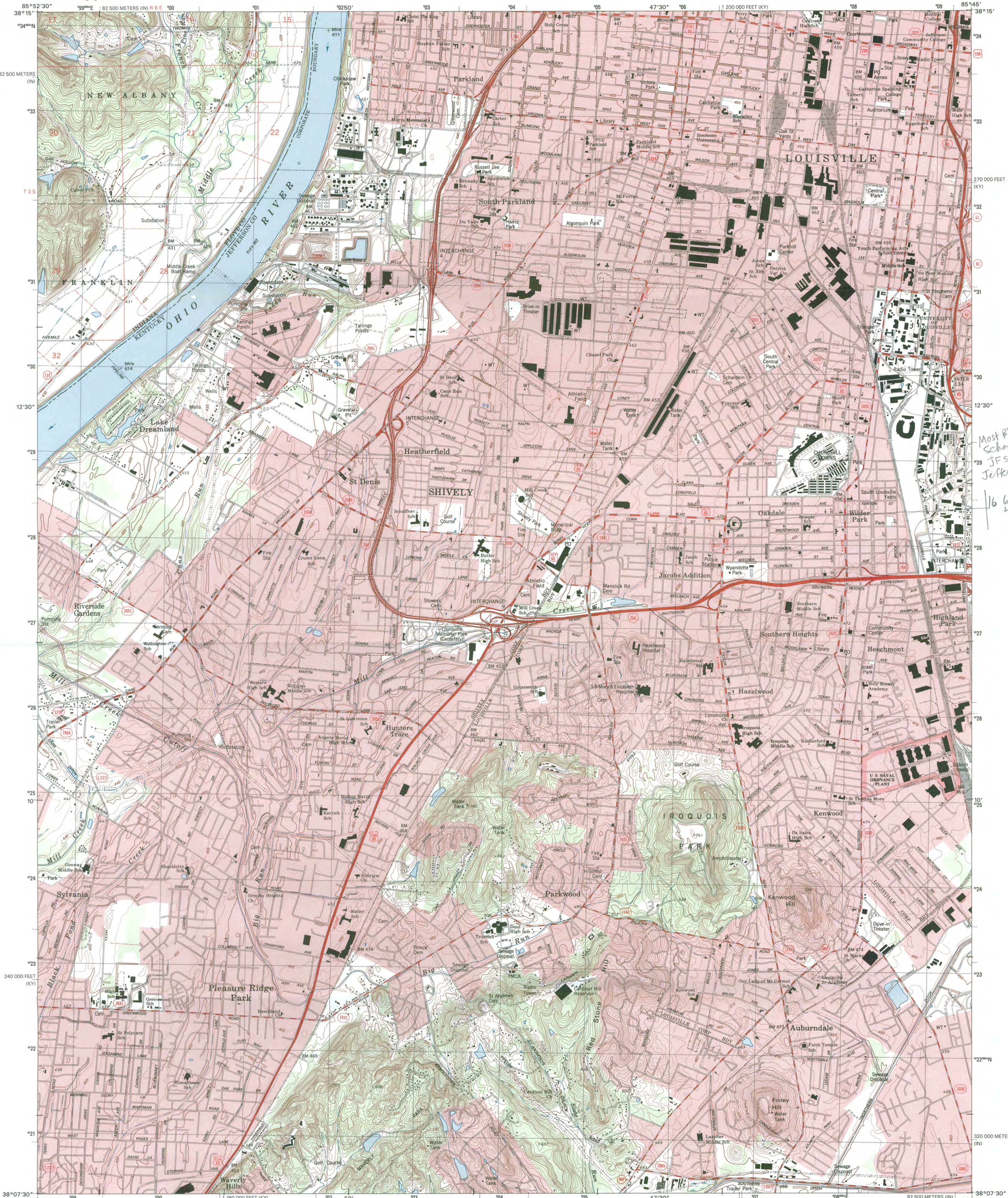




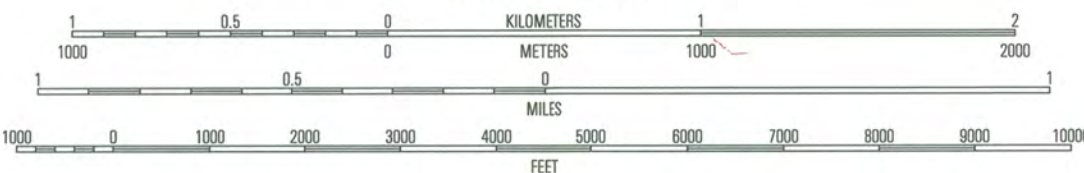
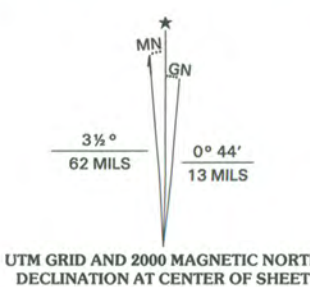


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

LOUISVILLE WEST QUADRANGLE
KENTUCKY-INDIANA
7.5-MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Produced by the United States Geological Survey
Topography compiled 1978. Planimetry derived from imagery taken 1998 and other sources. Survey control current as of 1979.
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83). Projection and 1000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 16.
10 000-foot ticks: Kentucky Coordinate System of 1983 (north zone). 2 500-meter ticks: Indiana Coordinate System of 1983 (east zone).
North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 83 and NAD 27 for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software.
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map.
Landmark buildings verified 1979.



SCALE 1:24 000
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
SUPPLEMENTARY CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC DATUM OF 1929
TO CONVERT FROM FEET TO METERS, MULTIPLY BY 0.3048

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, P.O. BOX 25286, DENVER, COLORADO 80225
KENTUCKY GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40506
KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601
AND INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway hard surface
Secondary highway hard surface
Unimproved road
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Interstate Route
U.S. Route
State Route

| | | | |
|---|---|-------------------|--------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 Georgetown |
| 4 | 5 | 5 Louisville East | |
| 6 | 7 | 8 Brooks | |

LOUISVILLE WEST, KY-IN

1998

NIMA 3860 III NE-SERIES V853

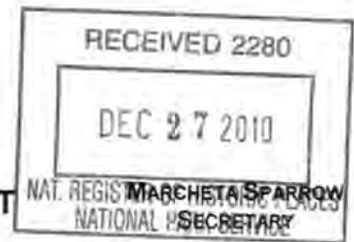
Most Pleasant Sacrament
School
JF 55127
Jefferson County, KY
16 606669E
4228267N





STEVEN L. BESHEAR
GOVERNOR

**TOURISM, ARTS AND HERITAGE CABINET
KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL**



THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
300 WASHINGTON STREET
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601
PHONE (502) 564-7005
FAX (502) 564-5820
www.heritage.ky.gov

MARK DENNEN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

December 22, 2010

Ms. Carol Shull, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service 2280
National Register of Historic Places
1201 "T" (Eye) Street, NW 8th Floor
Washington DC 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed are nominations approved at the December 10, 2010 Review Board meeting. We are submitting them for listing in the National Register:

- J. Hawkins Hart House**, Henderson County, Kentucky
- McBrides Harrods Creek Landing Site**, Jefferson County, Kentucky
- Miller Paper Company Buildings**, Jefferson County, Kentucky
- ✓ **Most Blessed Sacrament School**, Jefferson County, Kentucky
- Jenkins School**, Letcher County, Kentucky

We also have enclosed current owners' signatures withdrawing objections to the listing of the **Joseph Crockett House** in Jessamine County, Kentucky (NR ID #83004587). That property was submitted in 1983 for a Determination of Eligibility, due to the objection of its owner at the time, Mr. Roger Springate, Jr. The DOE documentation was submitted as part of the **Early Stone Buildings of Central Kentucky Thematic Resources**, in 1983. With the new owners supporting listing, we request that the building be placed on the National Register. Along with the current owners' letter are current photographic images of the property.

We appreciate your consideration of these nominations.

Sincerely,

Mark Dennen, SHPO and
Executive Director
Kentucky Heritage Council