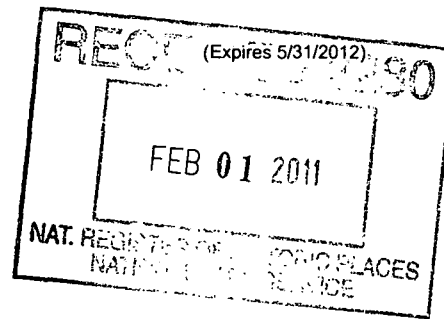


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

106

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 St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church and School Complex

other names/site number St. Rose of Lima Church (KX05-001), St. Rose of Lima School (KX05-001)

2. Location

street & number 1302-1316 S. 5th Street

not for publication

city or town Crofton

vicinity

state Nebraska code NE county Knox code 107 zip code 68730

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 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 Michael J. Amel

Date Jan. 25, 2011

Nebraska State Historical Society

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

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 John Edson W. Beall

Date of Action 3.21.11

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5. Classification

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

☒ private
☐ public - Local
☐ public - State
☐ public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box.)

☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
5	2	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
5	2	Total

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

NA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION: Religious Facility

RELIGION: Church School

RELIGION: Church-related Residence

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION: Religious Facility

RELIGION: Church School

RELIGION: Church-related Residence

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19th and 20th CENTURY REVIVALS:

Italian Renaissance Revival

LATE 19th and 20th CENTURY REVIVALS:

Romanesque Revival / Byzantine Revival

MODERN MOVEMENT: Ranch Style

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Concrete

walls: Brick

roof: Metal, Asphalt Shingle, Metal Ridge

other:

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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 Paragraph

The St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church and School Complex is located on the southwestern edge of Crofton, a community of approximately 754 people in northeastern Knox County, Nebraska. The surrounding landscape is characterized by rolling hills lining the Missouri River Valley. Crofton is located near the intersection of Nebraska Highways 121 and 21 and is approximately 12 miles southwest of Yankton, South Dakota. More specifically, the nominated property includes all of Block 26, of Crofton's Park addition, which measure 115' x 165' with the long side running north-south. Crofton's public schools have been located immediately across South 5th Street from St. Rose of Lima since at least 1909, meaning the two educational centers have historically worked closely together. They currently share a lunch program, with St. Rose of Lima students utilizing the public school's cafeteria. The property is bounded to the south by a busy Highway 12 (Harold Street), but Iowa Street to the north and South 6th Street to west, are quieter and more residential in character.

Five buildings contribute to the historic character of the St. Rose of Lima Complex, including the St. Rose of Lima School and Additional Classroom Building at the north end of the block and the St. Rose of Lima Church, Rectory and Convent to the south. A recent Parish Hall and Garage toward the rear (west) of the property are non-contributing buildings. A paved parking lot dominates the center of the property, which does detract somewhat from the overall historic feeling. However, the contributing buildings retain good historic integrity both individually and as a collection. The 1952 St. Rose of Lima Church and the 1911 St. Rose of Lima School are particularly noteworthy.

Narrative Description

St. Rose of Lima School (Contributing Building)

This two-story brick building with a raised basement was designed in the Italian Renaissance Revival style by architect William L. Steele of Sioux City, Iowa. Contractor Henry F. Worth of Scribner, Nebraska began construction in 1910 and the school building was completed by the spring of 1911. It has been used as a school ever since. The rectangular building has a veneer of buff-colored brick in a running bond of stretcher courses. Darker brick makes up the base, quoins and window hoods. All bricks are decorated with diagonal burn marks. A cast concrete watercourse caps the rusticated base. The medium-pitched, hipped roof with perpendicular cross gable is covered in original tin shingles scored to resemble wood shingles. A bell tower is centered between original metal ridge ventilators. The frame bell tower is original, but it and the building's soffit have recently been covered with vinyl siding. A cross, which is original to the building, sits atop the bell tower. The building's footprint is also a cross with the main body of the building measuring 35 feet long (east-west) and 60 feet wide (north-south). Both the façade and rear elevations have 12 feet wide, 5 feet deep two-story central projections, but the façade projection is flanked by one-story projections, also with 12x5 feet dimensions.

The east facing façade of the school is symmetrical, save a slope in the ground level from south to north (See Photo 1). This allows for a door beneath the watercourse on the north side of the facade. The façade includes three bays. The central bay is defined by brick quoins and its own gable roof. The gable end has been covered with vinyl siding. The main entrance once contained double paneled doors with a fanlight; however, these doors have been replaced with modern glass and aluminum units and the fanlight has been infilled with wood paneling. The entrance is surrounded by a round hood of three rowlock courses that terminate in cast concrete blocks on either side. A cast concrete panel reading, "ST. ROSE SCHOOL, A.M.D.G. 1911" is located above the main entrance.

Flanking the main entrance are one-story, shed-roofed projections. Each contains a single window directly above the watercourse with a round hood that mimics the main entrance. Single elongated windows with a concrete lug sill and round hood are located between the corners of the building and projections. Basement windows were originally located directly under these, but have been infilled with metal sheeting (south) and matching brick (north). On the second story, windows are grouped directly under to soffit with three on the side bays and two in the central bay. Each has its own opening and cast concrete sill. Windows were originally one-over-one double-hung units with wood sashes, but all have been replaced with modern stationary or one-over-one sashes. Arched first story windows have been infilled at the top with paneling.

The side elevations (north and south) are nearly identical with two bays of paired windows on each story (See Photo 1). Second story windows are directly under the soffit and have individual lug sills and openings. First story windows are elongated with lug sills and round hoods. These hoods are identical to those found on façade, except here the rowlock

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arches share a central block on the brick mullion separating the paired windows. On the south elevation four window openings, which are currently infilled with ridged metal sheeting, puncture the base of the building. The top of a historic concrete coal bin is connected to the front half of the north elevation. It extends approximately three-feet above ground level and eight feet from the building's north wall. Quoins decorate both corners of the side elevations from the watertable to the soffit.

Outside of quoins and the watercourse, the rear (west) elevation lacks ornamentation. Like the façade, it has a projecting central bay with a cross gable. An elevated rear first story exit is accessed by concrete steps, which were likely added during the period of significance. A historic steel fire escape with landings at a first story window and second story door in the north wall of the central bay is located on the north. Fenestration includes paired windows in each bay at the basement level and three elongated windows on each of the side bays. All have lug sills and brick mullions. The round window lintels are created with three rowlock courses and match that found above the first story exit in the central bay. On the second story, the central bay has paired windows and the northern bay has three windows grouped under the soffit. Windows in the south bay have been infilled with brick.

Interior

The interior of the 1911 St. Rose of Lima School includes many significant original features despite alterations over the years needed to keep the building functional. These have included the installation of drop ceilings and carpet in hallways and classrooms, as well as mechanical conversions. However, original woodwork (baseboards, chair rail, window and door surrounds), interior paneled doors, built-in storage (See Photo 3) and cast iron radiators have been left in place. In most cases, transom glass has been removed but openings are still intact. Most interior walls are still covered in their original plaster.

The main entrance opens into a vestibule with coat/storage rooms (the one story shed-roofed projections on the façade). A central stair leads up to the first level which has a hallway flanked by two classrooms. An original wooden staircase with interior rail and newel posts leads to the second floor after turning at a well-lit landing. While the steps have been carpeted, the beadboard covering the bottom of the structure is still on display. Like the first floor, the second floor has two classrooms on either side, but also includes a small office in the central projection of the rear elevation (See Photo 2). This office features chair and picture rails, and is one of the few places where the school's original hardwood floors are still exposed. The partially finished basement contains the school's library, computer rooms, bathrooms and the original boiler room. Most of the doors are original wood paneled units, but here many of the transoms are still in place. The library also features built-in cabinetry. Floors in the basement are either wood or concrete, but everywhere except the entry hall and boiler room, they have been covered with linoleum or carpet. Because it is still used for its original function, the interior of the building retains excellent history integrity and still reads very much like an early 20th century school.

St. Rose of Lima School, Additional Classroom Building (Contributing Building)

This simple 60x100 feet building was constructed in 1961 by Hoelsing Bros., a general contracting firm out of nearby Hartington, Nebraska. It was most likely designed by James E. Loftus, an Omaha, Nebraska architect responsible for the St. Rose of Lima Church, Rectory and Convent, as well as an addition to this building. The original 1961 building (commonly known as the "Addition") contains two classrooms. Another two classrooms were added with an almost identical addition to the west end in 1964. The "Addition" is a one-story, rectilinear, Contemporary Style building with a veneer of buff-colored brick laid in a running bond of stretcher courses (See Photo 4). It sits under a wide and low-pitched gable roof with overhanging boxed eaves. The roof is covered in ridged sheet metal, which is either original or closely resembles the original roofing material.

The main entrance is located off 5th Street on the east façade (See Photo 5). It is centered in the building's wide gable end and contains modern aluminum and glass double doors. To the south of the entrance are two windows with stationary upper lights above awning lights. Small one-light awning windows are located to the north. All four windows are deeply inset and have heavy concrete slip sills. A cross and "ST. ROSE SCHOOL" spelled in individual letters are found just north of the entrance. A concrete cornerstone engraved with "ST ROSE SCHOOL, 1961" is located on the northeast corner of the building.

Side (north and south) elevations are nearly identical and include three bays. The two easternmost bays make up the original 1961 "Addition" building, while the western bay was added in 1964. This addition is differentiated by a barely visible seam. The eastern bays contain offices, bathrooms, a mechanical room and the teacher's lounge, which is evidenced by the fenestration pattern of both elevations. On the south elevation, a single stationary-over-awning light window indicates the principal's office at the very east end, while a series of four small single light awning windows located just below the eave light the bathrooms. The north elevation is similar but has three small awning windows followed by an original door

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with three horizontal lights that enters into the teacher's lounge. Each of the "Addition's" four classrooms is lighted with a series of seven stationary-over-awning style windows grouped between the soffit and a continuous concrete slip sill. Currently an air conditioning unit fills the lower light of each middle window. The rear (west) elevation is constructed with concrete block that is currently painted off-white. Its sole feature is a centered entrance containing double metal doors with two rectilinear lights (See Photo 4).

Interior

The interior of the Additional Classroom Building has changed little since its construction in the early 1960s. The central hallway has concrete block walls and linoleum flooring with plastic baseboards. All interior doors are original buff-colored solid wood units with three upper, square, frosted lights (See Photo 6). On the east end, there is a recessed area designed specifically for a water fountain, which contains what may be an original unit. Classrooms have sloped, beamed ceilings and feature built-in coat closets with wood doors and storage space on one end and blackboards along their interior walls. There is no visible difference between the original 1961 building and the 1964 addition, save a line of brown linoleum in the hallway at the building seam.

Parish Hall (Non-Contributing Building)

This relatively large building was constructed to replace the old Parish Hall in 1984 by the Christensen Construction Company of Pender, Nebraska at a total cost of \$254,823.42. It is a simple rectangular building clad in brick veneer under a broad, medium-pitched gable roof with overhanging, boxed eaves. The roof is covered with corrugated metal sheeting. Wide vertical siding is located in the east and west gable ends. By design, the color and pattern of the bricks closely match what was used for the church, rectory and convent. The entrance is centered in the north half of the east façade under a low, protruding gable roof that matches the design of the main building. To the north of the entrance on the wall of the main building "St. Rose Parish Hall" is spelled out in individual letters. Double metal doors with elongated lights lead through a vestibule and into the building's expansive interior which includes a gymnasium and concessions / kitchen area. Here, again, the building is sympathetic to the church, with exposed laminated wood rafters.

Although the Parish Hall does not contribute to the historic St. Rose of Lima Complex due to its recent construction date, its design and materials are sympathetic to the property's contributing mid-20th century resources without creating a false sense of history. When its sympathetic design is combined with its location behind the church, the Parish Hall only minimally impacts the overall integrity of the property (See Photos 13 and 14).

Garage (Non-Contributing Building)

The garage is a small frame building constructed in 1984 along with the parish hall. It has a gabled roof with boxed, overhanging eaves and sits on a shallow concrete block foundation built on a concrete pad. The building is covered in wide synthetic horizontal siding. Similar siding is vertically oriented in the gable ends. The south elevation contains two modern vinyl overhead garage doors. A single metal man door is located to the east of the garage doors. Although this recent building does not conform to the overall aesthetic of the St. Rose of Lima Complex, its small size and location at the back of the block minimize any negative impact on the property's historic integrity (See Photo 14).

St. Rose of Lima Church (Contributing Building)

Construction of the St. Rose of Lima Church began in the spring of 1952 and it was dedicated in May of 1953. Omaha, Nebraska architect, James E. Loftus, created a traditional Romanesque Revival design with subtle Modern and Byzantium Revival influences. The Church has a modified cruciform footprint with a semicircular apse on its west end. It is approximately 136 feet long and 70 feet wide at the transept. The "transept" is created by a series of enclosed rooms to the north and south with individual roofs that are much lower than the nave of the Church (See Photo 7). The nave has a lofty, medium-pitched gable roof with a square tower at its southeast corner. All roofs are covered with asphalt shingles. The Church sits on a poured concrete foundation with a partial basement. Like all of the Loftus-designed buildings on the St. Rose of Lima campus, the Church is clad in buff-colored brick. However, here it has been laid in a common bond rather than a running bond, which was used on the later rectory, additional classroom building and convent.

The east facing façade of St. Rose of Lima Church is a gable end with a square bell tower attached on the north (See Photo 7). Its most noteworthy feature is a large rose window centered in the gable above the main entrance. Both are contained within an inset arch with a hood of four rowlock courses. The rose window is beautifully decorated with stained glass and bold cast stone tracery. A cast stone cross divides the window into quarters, extending down to separate the two sets of double doors of the main entrance. The doors are glass units etched with a cross and rose that date from 2007. Between the rose window and doors is cast stone paneling engraved with "ST. ROSE OF LIMA." The entrance is further framed by simple brick pilasters. Brick corbelling embellishes the gable end. On the south, two small windows with punched openings and cast stone sills light the vestibule. The squared tower is created by four corner pilasters with

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exaggerated fluting, which is repeated on the three exposed walls. Cast concrete with decorative stilted arches matching those created by the corbelling in the previously described gable end caps the tower base, which rises to the ridge of the main building. The brass bell, ordered for \$2,599 from the Petit & Fritzen Bell Foundry in Holland, is protected by a circular, ribbed, cast stone screen with a diamond pattern. The tower screen is capped with a dome and Latin cross.

The side elevations (the vestibule and nave) are divided by simple pilasters into bays of equal width, with the exception of the east bay which is slightly larger. On each side, the four middle bays contain elongated, punched openings with arched tops created by two rowlock courses and stone lug sills. These openings contain stained glass windows featuring various Catholic saints which were added in the years immediately following the Church's construction. Because all the windows of the Church, except those on the façade, are currently covered with a protective screen, they are best viewed from the interior. The front of the north side elevation is dominated by the bell tower, while the back has a gable-roofed addition which includes an entrance, library and sacristy. Attached near the front of the south elevation is a small enclosed multi-sided room with a hipped roof that originally served as the baptistery. At the rear of this side is a gable-roofed addition for the Priest's sacristy. Small shed-roofed projections off the east side of both sacristies create alcoves, which were originally confessionals. The rear (west) elevation is dominated by the apse, which is created by a semi-circular attachment to the main gable-roofed building. Atop this is a second semi-circular, hipped-roofed attachment, which accounts for the vaulted ceiling of the sanctuary.

Interior

Despite significant alterations in 1968 and in the early 1980s to comply with Vatican II and other liturgical changes, the interior of the church still retains good historic integrity of design, materials and workmanship (See photo 8). In the vestibule a solid blond wood door on the north wall leads to a woman's restroom and family room, while two doors on south wall access the men's restroom and stairs to the choir loft. The loft contains the church organ and also provides a close up view of the church's rose window (See Photo 9). After passing through the vestibule, four original blond doors with rectangle lights provide access to the nave. Here parishioners first see the blond wood and marble Baptismal Font. A door on the north wall provides access to the original baptistery, which now serves as a Reconsolidation Room. The spacious nave has five exposed laminate arches of blond wood which accentuate the vaulted ceiling. Each section contains a painted medallion, inlaid with gold leaf, centered at the apex of the arch (ceiling fans were added in 2001) and two original pendant lights. The five eastern sections also contain elongated stained glass windows with arched tops featuring various Catholic saints. These are flanked by much smaller panels featuring Stations of the Cross. Both northernmost sections contain alcoves that originally served as confessionals. The floor of the church is covered in carpeting, but the original pews and kneelers are still present.

Four original statues decorate the entrance to the sanctuary, created by eight wood arches that radiate from the top front forming a semicircular space. The original altar rails were removed in 1968, but were reutilized to make a backdrop for the tabernacle which contains a backlit cross flanked by angels, all installed in 2001. The current marble main altar was constructed from the original side and main altars and still contains the relics of St. Bonosae M. and St. Desiderii M. Doors on sides of the sanctuary lead to priest's and altar's sacristies, which are also connected by a rear corridor.

1957 Rectory (Contributing Building)

The Rectory was constructed in 1957 to replace the old frame parsonage. Also designed by James E. Loftus, the Rectory is a one-story Ranch Style residence clad in brick with an L-shaped plan. Loftus used the same buff-colored brick for the Rectory as he did on the church, but here it is laid in a running bond of stretcher courses and not a common bond. The residence has a concrete block foundation and an unfinished basement. Asphalt shingles cover the complex roof which includes intersecting gabled (east-west) and hipped (north-south) wings. The gable wing terminates at its western end with a pyramidal hipped roof over the garage. On the north-south wing, wall projections on both ends of the east-facing facade have intersecting hipped roofs. The roof has wide overhanging eaves with recessed lighting above entrances. All windows openings are punched with rowlock sills and are located immediately under the soffit. All windows (except in the basement and garage section) were originally wood one-over-one double-hung sashes, but were replaced in 2007 with vinyl units of the same configuration.

The façade faces east toward 5th Street, with the main entrance centered on a recessed wall between two projections. The front door is reached by a short set of concrete stairs and small stoop, a pattern repeated on all other entrances. Each projection contains one set of paired windows. This is repeated to the south of the door on the recessed wall, but a large picture window flanked by one-over-one double-hung units light the living room north of the door. The south façade fronts Harold Street and contains two sections: the east-west wing of the house and the projecting garage at the west end. A second entrance to the house is centered on the east section (See Photo 12). Two punched windows are found to the east

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and two raised openings with paired windows are found to the south. The garage section is solid brick on this elevation, save three raised windows just below the soffit.

The north and west sides of the Rectory are secondary elevations. A paved drive from Harold Street offers access to the attached two car garage with recent vinyl overhead garage doors on the west end of the east-west wing. On the north side of this wing is an entrance into the garage near the corner of the building and two more raised windows to the west. The west-facing elevation of the north-south wing contains a third entrance to the house. To the north is a single punched opening with paired one-over-one double hung windows. Three evenly spaced openings in the same configuration are located to the south. The north end of the north-south wing contains two paired windows with a small, raised bathroom window between them.

Interior

The multiple entrances to the Rectory are indicative of an interior floor plan that incorporates the private and public spaces necessary to a pastor. The east door enters into a hallway flanked by an office to the south and the living room to the north. Continuing west it meets the main north-south hall. The south door enters into this hall, where the housekeeper's quarters and kitchen are immediately accessible to the east and west, respectively. Proceeding north, west of the hall, is the dining room, a second office and two guest rooms. The pastor's bedroom is located in the southeast corner of the Rectory. A guest bathroom and private bathroom are located at the end of the hall. The Rectory retains much of its original interior blond woodwork and sleek modern hardware, including a built-in china buffet in the dining room with rounded wood pulls and glass shelving.

1964 Convent (Contributing Building)

Built in 1964, the Convent is the last Loftus designed building on the St. Rose of Lima Complex. This building replaced an earlier Covenant that was actually a single family home purchased by the parish in 1922. Like the rectory and additional classroom building, the Convent is clad in buff-colored bricks laid in a running bond of stretcher courses. It is a single story Ranch Style residential building with concrete block foundation and full basement. Intersecting wings running east-west and north-south create an L-shaped footprint, with the "elbow" at the southwest corner. The hipped roofs are covered in asphalt shingles and have wide overhanging eaves. The north end of the north-south wing has a gabled roof instead of a hipped roof. Unless otherwise noted all fenestration consists of punched openings with rowlock brick sills that begin just below the soffit and all windows are original one-over-one double hung wood units.

The main façade of the Convent faces south toward Howard Street and contains two sections: the projecting south end of the north-south wing and the recessed south façade of the east-west wing (See Photo 10). Both sections contain entrances reached by a short set of steps comprised of brick capped in concrete and a single iron handrail. The south end section is comprised of two bays. The west bay contains an entrance with its original wood door with frosted lights and a single raised window to the west. The recessed east bay contains three closely-spaced, four-over-four, double-hung windows with individually colored stained glass lights indicating the Convent's Chapel. A decorative brick "screen wall" punched with a cross design separates this section of the facade from the main east-west wing. The main entrance to the Convent is immediately east of the screen, and contains its original wood door with three vertically-arranged frosted lights. A single frosted sidelight is located to the west. To the east are five bays, most of which contains raised, paired windows. The exception is a single, small window in the second bay from the east end.

A ribbon of nine double-hung windows dominates the north side of the east-west wing (See Photo 11). This design provided ample light to the Convent's shared spaces such as the living room, dining room and music room. Another entrance is located in the interior corner of the L-shaped building. Three regular windows and two raised windows provide light to bedrooms and shared bathrooms on the east side of the north-south wing. Four more bedroom windows and two more bathroom windows punctuate the west side of the wing. The south end, where the Chapel is located, is solid brick. The north end and west side of the north-south wing are the Convent's most simplistic elevations. The north wall is the gable end of this wing, which contains only a centered entrance. Here, the eave has a slight return and is almost flush with the wall. A fifth entrance, with its original wood door, is located on the east end of the east-west wing along with a single set of paired windows.

Interior

The interior of the convent has changed very little since its construction in 1964. Shared spaces (living room, music room, dining room) along the north wall of the east-west wing have been converted in to a pre-school classroom (See Photo 11). Original doors into this space are blond, multiple light units. South of this area is the kitchen, which features original blond cabinetry with modern metallic hardware and original countertops. The chapel is located at the west end of the east-west wing. Off of the chapel is a confessional and preparation room for the pastor with original built-in cabinetry. The north-

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south wing features the Sister's quarters, which are accessed by solid blond wood doors off the carpeted hallway. Near the center of the hallway is a laundry chute and telephone alcove. The floors of each small room are covered with linoleum and bathrooms still contain their original pink floor and wall tile, as well as built-in soap holders and medicine cabinets. The basement contains a shared recreation room with a shuffleboard scoring diagram inlaid in the original linoleum.

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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.

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.)

EDUCATION

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1911-1964

Significant Dates

1911; 1952; 1957; 1961 and 1964

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

William L. Steele / Henry F. Woerth

James E. Loftus / United Construction Company

Hoelsing [Bros.] Construction Company

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins in 1911 with the construction and opening of the St. Rose of Lima School, the oldest building on the property. It ends in 1964 with the construction of the Convent and two additional classrooms on the west end of the Additional Classroom Building, the most recent contributing buildings.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

The St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church and School Complex meets Criterion Consideration A for properties owned by a religious institution. The property derives its primary significance from its architecture and as an important center of primary education for a larger minority of the Crofton area's population from 1911 through the present. It is associated with the prominence of Catholic parochial education in Nebraska and broad national trends in education from its construction through the 1960s. Because all but one of the contributing buildings were constructed 50 or more years ago, and because

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the period of historical significance only extends a handful of years beyond the 50-year mark, the property does not need to meet Criterion Consideration G.

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church and School Complex in Crofton, Nebraska is eligible for the National Register at the local level under Criteria A and C. Architecturally, the 1911 St. Rose of Lima School and the 1952 St. Rose of Lima Church represent the early works of significant architects William L. Steele and James E. Loftus, respectively. As a collection, the contributing buildings form a cohesive unit that includes representative examples of building types associated with Catholicism (school, church, rectory, and convent) and styles from Italian Renaissance Revival to Contemporary Ranch. Under Criterion A, the school has served the Crofton area's significant Catholic community as a center for primary education since opening its doors in the fall of 1911. The school's construction and continued significance through the 1960s parallels broad trends in Catholic parochial education in the United States and in Nebraska.

Narrative Statement of Significance

Criterion A: Catholic Education and the St. Rose of Lima Parish

Catholicism played a significant role in Nebraska's educational development since at least 1838, when famous missionary Father Peter De Smet passed through Bellevue on his way to potential converts among western Native American populations. However, the establishment of parochial schools required private funding and such institutions were not common until a significant number of Catholics settled in any given area. In Nebraska, parochial schools began to spring up in cities, towns and rural communities after 1870. According to records of the vicariate of Nebraska, by that year only 20 catholic churches had been erected in Nebraska, Wyoming and Montana and no parochial schools had been established. When the Diocese of Omaha was organized fifteen years later in 1885, there were 22 parochial schools serving 1,911 students in Nebraska alone.¹ In another fifteen years, that number had increased to 38 schools and 5,008 students in Nebraska counties north of the Platte River.² Catholic schools would continue to be established throughout northeastern and north-central Nebraska in the next few decades. As noted in one text on the region, "Although Catholic schools are relatively rare on the Great Plains, parochial education is a long standing part of the educational network of Nebraska."³ Nebraska's numerous parochial schools, while extraordinary for the Great Plains, were part of a nation network of Catholic education which reached approximately 1.3 million students in 1911.⁴ That same year the opening of St. Rose of Lima School in Crofton added another 36 students to that total.⁵

Crofton was platted in 1892 in anticipation of the railroad, an event which would not occur until 1906 when the Chicago and Northwestern finally laid tracks through town. This delay temporarily stifled development. While the town had a public school from its earliest days, it was not until 1909 that a substantial two-and-one-half story public school was constructed on the east side of South 5th Street between Iowa and Harold, immediately across from the recently constructed St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church.⁶ Prior to 1906, Catholic families, most of whom were of German descent, attended mass in Menominee with the St. Boniface Parish, or later, in Constance with St. Joseph's Parish. The railroad brought more Catholic settlers to the area and stability to Crofton, resulting in the incorporation of St. Rose of Lima Parish on October 8, 1906 as part of the Diocese of Omaha. The parish, made up of some 19 families at the time, quickly funded the construction of frame church which was dedicated on January 29, 1908. This building served as a church until the dedication of a new church in 1953, and then as a parish social hall. It was demolished in 1985 after the dedication of the current parish hall.⁷

The St. Rose of Lima Complex, however, was far from complete in 1908. Along with their new pastor, Father Alberts, the parish was eager to heed "the call from the Vatican to build parish schools" and provide area children with a "Catholic education," through the eighth grade, when—at least theoretically—students were secure enough in their faith to enter the public high school across the street.⁸ This desire for a parish school is well illustrated by the nearly \$8,000 the parish was

¹ *Illustrated History of Nebraska*. Volume II. ed. J. Sterling Morton, Lincoln, NE: Jacob North & Company, 1906, 440.

² *Ibid.*, 441. Nebraska was divided into the Diocese of Omaha and the Diocese of Lincoln (south of the Platte) in 1887.

³ *The Great Plains Region: The Greenwood Encyclopedia of American Regional Cultures*. ed. Amanda Rees. Westport, CT: The Greenwood Press, 2004, 371.

⁴ *The Catholic Encyclopedia*, Knights of Columbus, 562, V13, 1912.

⁵ *Companions on the Journey*, 19.

⁶ Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office. "Preliminary Inventory of Historic & Architectural Sites in Crofton (Knox Co.), Nebr., January 15, 1975."

⁷ *Companions on the Journey*, 69, 71 and 87.

⁸ *Companions on the Journey*, 73.

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able to raise by the building's completion. First, however, the new school would need a site. In 1910 the parish purchased lots 15, 16 and 17 of Block 26, Park Addition, located immediately south and west of the church, which sat on lots 1-4 of the same block. They hired Henry F. Worth of Scribner, Nebraska as the lead contractor and received architectural plans from Souix City, Iowa architect, William L. Steele. Upon completion, the parish had spent a total of \$17,194.90 on their beautiful new Renaissance Revival school building, which was dedicated on August 30, 1911.⁹

When it opened in the fall of 1911, the St. Rose of Lima School housed 36 students and three teachers from the School Sisters of St. Francis in Milwaukee, Wisconsin: Sisters Edmunda, Luitgard and Agreda I. Until 1922 when a nearby house was purchased for use as a convent, nuns teaching at St. Rose of Lima lived on the school's second floor. Enrollment grew along with the parish and in just four years there were 133 students at St. Rose of Lima.¹⁰ However, the population of Knox County grew by only 752 individuals between 1910 and its 1930 peak of 19,110, and enrollment would steady considerably after 1915. In 1934, the school reported 134 students, just one more than there had been 1915. While the parish likely would have welcomed more students, the fall-off in growth probably eased any pressure to expand facilities during the difficult decades of the 1920s, 1930s and WWII. During this period, the popular "God's Acre" program was started at St. Rose of Lima, where parishioners would donate the equivalent of their yield from one acre of corn to a parish building fund.¹¹

While not entirely clear, it seems likely some of the proceeds from the program, along with a general increase in prosperity, funded the post-WWII construction boom at St. Rose of Lima which included the purchase of the remained lots on Block 26 and the construction of a new church in 1952, a rectory in 1957, an addition classroom building in 1961 and a convent in 1964. The impressive Romanesque Revival church was constructed on lots 5 and 6 of what was now the St. Rose of Lima block, at a cost of \$127,482.69. Interestingly, in Crofton the St. Rose of Lima parish chose to focus their funds on the construction of substantial brick school building first, waiting forty-seven years to build a brick church. The brick rectory and convent were situated on the southern end of the block and replaced earlier frame structures. All of the buildings constructed by the St. Rose of Lima Parish in the 1950s and 1960s were designed by Omaha architect, James E. Loftus, who brought a modern aesthetic to his designs. Eventually, all of the older frame buildings owned by the parish gave way to the wrecking ball and today the block has a decidedly mid-20th Century feeling that illustrates the prosperity of the period. The sole exception is, of course, the 1911 School.

Parallel to this construction boom, enrollment at St. Rose of Lima School also increased, rising to a peak of 291 students in 1968.¹² This increase can likely be attributed to any number of factors including the famous baby-boom and the relative affluence of the period, which would have allowed more families to afford a Catholic education. Perceived threats like Communism and the growing counter-culture in America, paralleled by the liberalization of the Catholic Church, likely made a religious education more desirable. Whatever the reasons, the St. Rose of Lima School in Crofton was not alone in seeing its enrollment skyrocket during the 1960s. During that decade, enrollment in Catholic schools peaked nationally with approximately 5.2 million students and 13,000 schools.¹³ In Nebraska, new Catholic high schools were built in Omaha (Creighton Prep, 1959 and Paul VI, 1967), Lincoln (Pius X, 1956) and David City (Aquinas High School, 1961) during this period, among others.¹⁴ In Crofton, increased interest in a Catholic education necessitated more classroom space at St. Rose of Lima. Instead of adding to the 1911 building, however, the parish decided to build a modern additional classroom building on the northeast corner of the block in 1961. Just three years later, another two classrooms were added to the west end of the building.

The construction of the convent for the seven Sisters of St. Francis and the classroom building addition in 1964 physically represent the zenith of parochial education in Crofton. St. Rose of Lima School reached its peak enrollment in 1968, but this was also the year the school hired its first lay teachers.¹⁵ By the 1970s, enrollment in Catholic schools was already in a steep decline and by 1990 it had fallen to 2.5 million students in 8,719 schools.¹⁶ However, Catholic education continues to

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Ibid., 77.

¹² Ibid., 20.

¹³ National Catholic Education Association, "Catholic School Data," online at: <http://www.ncea.org/news/annualdatareport.asp>. Accessed, December 7, 2010.

¹⁴ American Institute of Architects, "Loftus, James E[dward]," in *AIA Directory*, 1970 and "History," Pius X High School Website online at: <http://www.piusx.net/About/history.aspx>.

¹⁵ The transition to lay staff was completed in 2007 when the last Sister of St. Francis retired. Between 1911 and 2007 approximately 160 different Sisters taught at St. Rose of Lima. Interestingly, this order of Sisters based in Wisconsin reached their peak population of 4,000 in 1964. *Companions on the Journey*, 23-24.

¹⁶ National Catholic Education Association, "Catholic School Data."

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thrive in Nebraska with over one hundred primary and secondary schools, including St. Rose of Lima in Crofton.¹⁷ The school remains an important place for primary education in the Crofton area with an enrollment of 105 students in Preschool through 8th Grade. Enrollment continues to compare favorably to public schools in Crofton which currently serve 484 students (K-12), some of whom attended Catholic primary school. Furthermore, because the 1909 Public School (KX05-004) no longer stands across the street, the 1911 St. Rose of Lima School building is the only remaining historic resource associated with education during Crofton's early period of settlement. On a more personal scale, approximately 2,000 students have graduated from 8th grade at St. Rose of Lima School since 1911 and the buildings serve as a poignant reminder of their early spiritual and academic experiences.

Criterion C: William L. Steele, James E. Loftus and Catholic Architecture in Northeastern Nebraska

The entry for "Roman Catholicism" in the *Encyclopedia of the Great Plains* concludes that despite a general decline, "the religious landscape of the Plains is still dotted with Catholic churches, schools, seminaries, hospitals, orphanages and monasteries."¹⁸ Many of these buildings represent a community's most impressive architecture, ranging in style from Gothic and Romanesque Revival in the earliest periods of Euro-American settlement through the Modern Style of second generation churches in the mid-20th Century. Traditionally, the Catholic Church has regarded architecture as a sacred expression deserving of great effort and funding. For instance, architectural historian Michael S. Rose has created three laws for Catholic churches: verticality, permanence and iconography.¹⁹ The first of these lifts the eye toward the heavens, the second ensures quality design and materials, and the third requires a high level of decorative and ornamental detail that creates great visual interest. It is not surprising, then, that approximately 20 Catholic churches and/or complexes in Nebraska are already listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

William L. Steele and the St. Rose of Lima School (1911)

In northeastern Nebraska, a good number of early to mid-20th Century Catholic buildings were designed by architects William L. Steele (1875-1949) and James E. Loftus (1908-1975?), who appear to have been favorites of the Archdiocese of Omaha. Steele is, of course, better known for his contributions to Prairie School architecture, most notably his design of the Woodbury County Courthouse in Sioux City, Iowa which was completed in 1918. However, he was also responsible for any number of churches and schools in the region, particularly in his early period, which has been described by architectural historian Mark L. Peisch:

Steele designed a number of local buildings and houses, none of them exceptional as designs. Although his admiration of Sullivan was sincere, Steel could not find clients willing to build in other than a traditional manner—a familiar story at that time.²⁰

Thirteen years later, the authors of *The Prairie School in Iowa* also noted "Sioux City was conservative aesthetically..."²¹ Many of these "local buildings" were in the greater Sioux City region, including northeastern Nebraska. Specifically, he provided plans for at least 14 Catholic buildings in Nebraska during his career, including schools in Elgin, Butte, Bow Valley, Atkinson, Dixon, Randolph and Emerson, and in 1911, the St. Rose of Lima School in Crofton (See Developmental History for a complete list).²²

If Steele could not find progressive clients in Sioux City, Catholic parishes in northeastern Nebraska were unlikely to be swayed by the Prairie Style movement and, indeed, all his Catholic schools in Nebraska were designed in revivalist styles. In general they can be divided into two loose families: Tudor Revival and Renaissance Revival. The former was used for schools in Atkinson, Elgin and Dixon and is most noticeably expressed in steeply gabled projecting bays/dormers flanked by castellations. In contrast, Steele's Renaissance Revival schools in Bow Valley, Butte and Crofton all have hipped roofs with rounded entrances and first story windows and smaller rectangular windows immediately under the soffit on the upper story. Of these, St. Rose of Lima is the by far the best articulated example of the style. For instance, it features quoins, a rusticated base, a full-height projecting central bay, and decorative brickwork around arched windows and entrances, while these features are lacking on the Catholic schools in Bow Valley and Butte. It is possible that the St. Rose of Lima School was designed, at least in part, in response to the public school constructed in Crofton in 1909. This building also featured quoins and a full-height, gable-roofed central bay that projects from the main wall face. The St. Rose of Lima parish may have sought to architecturally compliment—or perhaps compete with—the public school just across 5th Street.

¹⁷ *The Great Plains Region*, 371.

¹⁸ *Encyclopedia of the Great Plains*, ed. David J. Wishart, Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 2004, 756.

¹⁹ Rose, Michael S. *Ugly As Sin: Why They Changed Our Churches from Sacred Places to Meeting Spaces - and How We Can Change Them Back Again*, New York: Sophia Institute Press, 2001, 23.

²⁰ Peisch, Mark L., 80.

²¹ Wilson, Richard Guy, and Sidney K. Robinson, 24.

²² Steele, William L. "Vital Statistic and Professional Record of Wm. L. Steele, Architect, Omaha, Nebraska, Sept. 1941."

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Steele was an important architect for the Catholic Church in northeastern Nebraska during the early part of the 20th century, and the St. Rose of Lima School is the most significant example of his use of the Renaissance Revival Style for a parochial school building in the region. The 1909 S.S. Peter and Paul Catholic School in Butte was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1992 for its association with parochial education in Boyd County, but not for architectural significance. While not his most exceptional work, it is certainly representative of his early career. Furthermore, since the demolition of the 1909 public school building, it is by far the best example of the Renaissance Revival Style in Crofton.²³

James E. Loftus and the St. Rose of Lima Church (1952)

Born on December 30, 1908 in Spokane, Washington, James E. Loftus graduated from Montana State University in 1932 with a bachelor's degree in architecture. He worked as a draftsman and construction supervisor in Great Falls, Montana until the Public Works Administration brought him to Omaha, Nebraska in 1938. For a brief period between the Great Depression and the outbreak of WWII, Loftus spent time as a draftsman for the Omaha architectural firms Prinz & Wallace and Edward J. Sessinghaus. Then in 1941 he joined the war effort, serving as the Chief Architect of the Omaha District Office, U.S. Army Engineers until 1946. Two years earlier, Loftus began moonlighting and after resigning from the Army Engineers, he took on his own private practice. He would go on to design approximately 15 Catholic churches and schools in Nebraska between 1944 and 1970 (See Developmental History for a complete list). Loftus also had a thriving practice in Iowa, and like Steele, was often selected for projects within the Archdioceses of Omaha and Sioux City.²⁴

Between 1951 and 1953 Loftus designed a handful of churches in Omaha, Ravenna, and Genoa, Nebraska and Algona, Iowa that, like St. Rose of Lima in Crofton, blend modernist and traditional forces. These churches are strikingly similar in their aesthetic and overall design. Each has a main gable-roofed body coupled with a side tower, but Loftus also ensured that each was somehow unique. St. Cecilia in Algona has a stepped entrance surround and ziggurat bell tower that simultaneously evokes tradition and the geometric stylization of Art Deco. In Ravenna, Loftus coupled a steeply gabled body with a circular tower and gothic tracery in the inset arch above the wide entrance for Our Lady of Lourdes. St. Rose of Lima in Crofton has a square tower with exaggerated fluting and an oversized cross dividing its inset main entrance and rose window. More traditional are St. Rose of Lima in Genoa and St. Andrews in Omaha, which both feature buttresses and castellations. All except St. Andrews and the nominated church feature strongly stylized metal spires atop their towers. St. Andrews has a simple cross, while St. Rose of Lima in Crofton features a faintly Byzantium Revival dome with a metallic cap and cross.²⁵

Despite numerous modernist touches, Loftus kept these five churches very much within the bounds of traditional Catholic architecture. St. Rose of Lima in Crofton is clearly designed in the Romanesque Revival style and features a traditional cruciform footprint and semicircular apse. However, Loftus's designs for churches in Nebraska, alongside Roman Catholic doctrine, would undergo dramatic changes in the 1960s. When comparing these early works to churches he designed in Stanton and Harrington, Nebraska in the late 1960s the change is remarkable. His round Holy Trinity Church (1967) in Harrington abandons tradition in a way unimaginable before the Second Vatican Council (Vatican II) in the mid-1960s brought about dramatic liturgical changes that sought to liberalize the church. St. Peters in Stanton, an A-frame encased in a one-story building with a low gable roof completed in 1969, is almost as dramatic a departure. Previously constructed Catholic churches were also heavily impacted by Vatican II. In Crofton, the communion bar was removed and the main altar rotated to face the congregation in 1968, just sixteen years after the St. Rose of Lima Church was completed.

The significance of James E. Loftus as an architect will be further determined with the passage of time; however, he was clearly a leading figure in the design of second generation Catholic buildings in Nebraska and Iowa during the 1950s and 1960s. The St. Rose of Lima Church in Crofton is a wonderful example of his early design work. It is by far Crofton's best example of Romanesque Revival architecture, while also illustrating the growing influence of modern architecture. Finally, the St. Rose of Lima Church is arguably the most architecturally significant building of any style, type or function in Crofton.

Criterion C: The Modern Catholic Complex

In addition to the individual architectural significance of the St. Rose of Lima School and Church, the nominated property is also significant as a collection that includes buildings that make up a typical Catholic complex: a church, school, rectory and convent. Prior to construction of a new rectory and convent in 1957 and 1964, respectively, the parish pastor and Sisters of St. Francis lived in single family homes that had been purchased from private citizens and converted to their new

²³ Ibid. and Nebraska Historic Resources Survey and Inventory. "Preliminary Inventory of Historic & Architectural Sites in Crofton (Knox Co.), Nebr., January 15, 1975," and "Reconnaissance Survey Final Report of Knox County, 1988," were particularly useful.

²⁴ Loftus, James, E. "Architect's Roster Questionnaire, AIA," 1944 and 1953; American Institute of Architects, "Loftus, James E[dward]," in *AIA Directory*, 1956, 1962 and 1970.

²⁵ Few properties designed by Loftus have been entered into the Nebraska Historic Resources Survey and Inventory because they are just becoming old enough. Photos of these churches were accessed on the Archdioceses of Omaha and Arch Diocese of Sioux City websites.

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use. Both were simple foursquare houses that were architecturally sympathetic to the adjacent frame church constructed in 1908.²⁶ Only the 1911 St. Rose of Lima School was built with brick and architect-designed. When the parish constructed their second church in 1952, the school building finally had a counterpart in architectural materials and style. For the rectory, convent and additional classroom building (1961 and 1964) the parish again turned to Omaha architect James E. Loftus, whose simple modern designs complimented but did not overshadow the complex's more important buildings. All three buildings are designed in the Contemporary or Contemporary Ranch style and have low rooflines and elongated footprints. The parish and Loftus elected to use the same buff colored brick as was used to construct the church for all three buildings. This continuity of materials was maintained during the construction of the new (non-contributing) parish hall near the rear of the complex.

The rectory, convent and additional classroom building would not likely be considered individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, but they certainly contribute to the Complex's overall historic and architectural significance. Each offers insight into how Loftus and other architects were able to fuse modern style with very traditional functions. What is more, all three of the "minor" buildings at the St. Rose of Lima Complex retain excellent historic integrity. Together, the buildings of the St. Rose of Lima parish in Crofton are "a significant and distinguishable entity," eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. That two of the buildings are individually significant as early works by important architects for the Archdiocese of Omaha and as excellent representations of their respective architectural styles only further solidifies the St. Rose of Lima Church and School Complex as architecturally significant.

Developmental history/additional historic context information

William L. Steele in Nebraska: Schools and Churches

St. Cecilia's, Omaha (with Kimball, Steele and Sandham)

St. Frances de Chantal Church, Randolph, CD12-073

St. Joseph's, Walthill, TS06-131

St Patrick, Jackson, DK04-003

Public School, Hubbard, DK03-003

Public School, Martinsburg, DX05-007

St. Boniface School, Elgin, AP03-005

St. Peter and Paul School (1909), Butte, BD03-054*

St. Peter and Paul School, Bow Valley, CD03-004

St. Joseph School, Atkinson, HT02-067

St. Ann School, Dixon, DX03-015

St. Rose of Lima School, Crofton (1911)

St. Andrew, Bloomfield, KX02-089

St. Francis de Chantal School, Randolph,

Sacred Heart School, Emerson, DX04-002

United Brethren Church, near Laurel

St. Agnes Academy Addition, Alliance

St. Catherine's Academy Addition, Jackson

St. Mary's Academy Addition, O'Neill

James E. Loftus in Nebraska: Schools and Churches (1951-1969)

St. Andrew's Church, Omaha (1951, \$70,000)

St. Rose of Lima Church, Crofton (1952, \$130,000)

St. Rose Church, Genoa (1952, \$125,000)

Grade School, Omaha (1952, \$130,000)

Church, Ravenna (1953, \$130,000)

Grade School, Omaha (1953, \$300,000)

Church, Omaha (1953, \$400,000)

Our Lady of Lourdes School, Omaha (1955)

St. Stanislaus Church and Rectory, Omaha (1955)

Creighton Prep School, Omaha (1957)

Creighton Prep Faculty Residence, Omaha (1961)

Aquinas High School, David City (1961)

St. Michael's Church, Central City (1967)

²⁶ *Companions on the Journey*, 78.

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Paul VI High School, Omaha (1967)
Holy Trinity Church, Harington (1967)
St. Peter's Church, Stanton (1969)
St. Mary's Church, Leigh (1969)

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

American Institute of Architects, "Loftus, James E[dward]," in *AIA Directory*, 1956, 1962 and 1970.

Encyclopedia of the Great Plains, ed. David J. Wishart, Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 2004.

Illustrated History of Nebraska. Volume II. ed. J. Sterling Morton, Lincoln, NE: Jacob North & Company, 1906.

Loftus, James, E. "Architect's Roster Questionnaire, AIA." 1944 and 1953.

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<http://www.ncea.org/news/annualdatareport.asp>. Accessed, December 7, 2010.

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Rose, Michael S. *Ugly As Sin: Why They Changed Our Churches from Sacred Places to Meeting Spaces - and How We Can Change Them Back Again*, New York: Sophia Institute Press, 2001.

Steele, William L. "Vital Statistic and Professional Record of Wm. L. Steele, Architect, Omaha, Nebraska, Sept. 1941"

St. Rose of Lima Parish History Book Committee. *Companions on the Journey, 1908-2008: St. Rose of Lima Centennial, Crofton, Nebraska*, Sioux Falls, SD: Pine Hill Press, 2007.

The Catholic Encyclopedia, Knights of Columbus, 562, V13, 1912.

The Great Plains Region: The Greenwood Encyclopedia of American Regional Cultures. ed. Amanda Rees. Westport, CT: The Greenwood Press, 2004.

Wilson, Richard Guy and Sidney K. Robinson. *The Prairie School in Iowa*, Ames: The Iowa State University Press, 1977.

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: St. Rose of Lima archives

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): KX05-001 (1911 School); KX05-007 (Church)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property .44 acres

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

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1	<u>14</u> Zone	<u>622690</u> Easting	<u>4731722</u> Northing	3	<u>14</u> Zone	<u>622796</u> Easting	<u>4731580</u> Northing
2	<u>14</u> Zone	<u>622796</u> Easting	<u>4731722</u> Northing	4	<u>14</u> Zone	<u>622790</u> Easting	<u>4731580</u> Northing

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

The nominated property is bounded by West 5th Street on the east, Harold Street on the south, West 6th Street on the west and Iowa Street on the north. It included the entirety of Block 26, Park Addition, Crofton, Knox County, Nebraska.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries include all of the continuous property historically owned and associated with the St. Rose of Lima Catholic parish in Crofton, Nebraska.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	<u>Jessie Nunn / National Register Coordinator</u>	
organization	<u>Nebraska State Historical Society</u>	date <u>December 10, 2010</u>
street & number	<u>1500 R Street</u>	telephone <u>402-471-4775</u>
city or town	<u>Lincoln</u>	state <u>NE</u> zip code <u>68501</u>
e-mail	<u>jessie.nunn@nebraska.gov</u>	

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.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

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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: St. Rose of Lima Church and School Complex
City or Vicinity: Crofton
County: Knox
State: Nebraska

Photographer: Patrick Haynes, NSHS
Date Photographed: October 6, 2010

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 01 of 14.** St. Rose of Lima School, east-facing façade and south elevation. Aspect: NW
- 02 of 14.** St. Rose of Lima School, interior, stair and second story, Aspect: W
- 03 of 14.** St. Rose of Lima School, interior, second story, built-in storage. Aspect: SW
- 04 of 14.** "Classroom Addition," south side and west end. Aspect: NE
- 05 of 14.** "Classroom Addition," east façade and north side. Aspect: SW
- 06 of 14.** "Classroom Addition," interior hallway. Aspect: W
- 07 of 14.** St. Rose of Lima Church, east-facing façade and south elevation. Aspect: NW
- 08 of 14.** St. Rose of Lima Church, interior, Sanctuary and Alter. Aspect: W
- 09 of 14.** St. Rose of Lima Church, interior, close-up of stained glass rose window. Aspect: E
- 10 of 14.** Convent, south-facing façade and east end of north/south wing. Aspect: NW
- 11 of 14.** Convent, interior, pre-school classroom. Aspect: NW
- 12 of 14.** Rectory, south elevation and attached garage. Aspect: NE
- 13 of 14.** Non-contributing Parish Hall (foreground, west); St. Rose of Lima School, south elevation (middle); "Classroom Addition (background, east); Aspect: N
- 14 of 14.** Non-contributing Parish Hall (foreground), west end; Non-contributing garage (background). Aspect: NE

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

name St. Rose of Lima Parish, Archdiocese of Omaha

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate 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.).

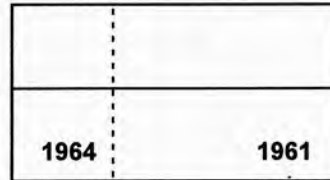
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

IOWA STREET

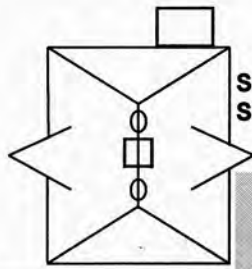
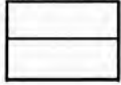
**ST. ROSE OF LIMA CHURCH / SCHOOL
CAMPUS: Site Plan** (not to scale)

— Boundary (NC) = Non-contributing

Additional Classroom
Building



Garage (NC)

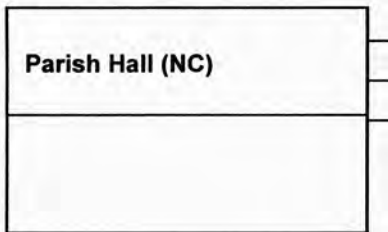


St. Rose of Lima
School (1911)

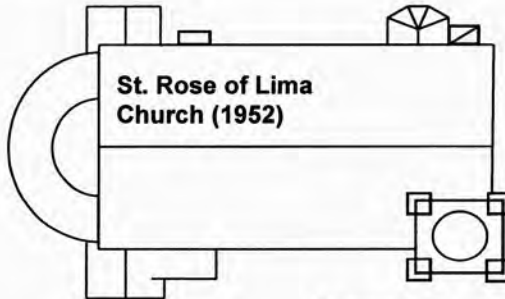


PARKING / PAVED

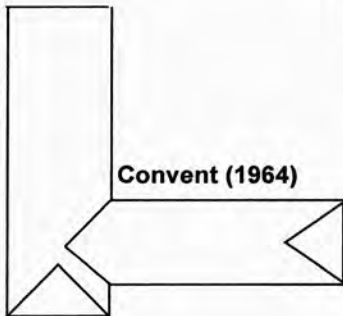
Parish Hall (NC)



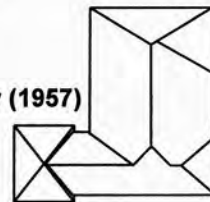
St. Rose of Lima
Church (1952)



Convent (1964)



Rectory (1957)



WEST 6th STREET

WEST 5th STREET

HAROLD STREET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church and School Complex
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEBRASKA, Knox

DATE RECEIVED: 2/01/11 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 3/09/11
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/24/11 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/19/11
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 11000106

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 3-21-11 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ 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.



St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church ^{and} School Complex
1300 Block, W. 5th St.

Crofton, Knox County, Nebraska

Photo 1 of 14

NEHR81 #: KX05-0001 (School)
KX05-007 (church)

NE Knox County - St. Rose of Lima - 0001



St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church and School Complex
1300 Block, W. 5th St.

Crofton, Knox County, Nebraska

Photo 2 of 14

NeHRSI #: KX05-001 (School)
KX05-007 (Church)

NE-KnoxCounty-St.RoseOfLima-0002



St. Rose of Lima Catholic
Church and School Complex

1300 Block W. 5th St.

Photo 3 of 14

Ne HRSI #: KX05-001 (school)
KX05-007 (church)

NE-Knox County-St. Rose of Lima-0003



St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church and School Complex
1300 Block W 5th St
Crofton, Knox County, Nebraska
Photo 4 of 14

NEHRSI #: KK05-001 (school)
KK05-007 (church)

NE-KnoxCounty-St. Rose of Lima-0004



St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church ^{and} School Complex
1300 Block W. 5th St
Crofton, Knox County, Nebraska
Photo 5 of 14

NeHRSI #: KX05-001 (school)
KX05-007 (church)

NE Knox County - St. Rose of Lima - 0005



St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church and School Complex
1300 Block W. 5th St.
Crofton, Knox County, Nebraska
Photo 6 of 14

NetHSI #: KX05-001 (school)
KX05-007 (church)

NE-KnoxCounty-St. Rose of Lima-0006



St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church and School Complex
1300 Block, W. 5th St
Crofton, Knox County, Nebraska
Photo 7 of 14

NE HRSI #: KX05-001 (school)
KX05-007 (church)

NE-Knox County - St. Rose of Lima - 0007



St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church and School Complex
1300 Block, W. 5th St,
Crofton, Knox County, Nebraska
photo 8 of 14

NeRSI #; KX05-001 (school)
KX05-007 (church)

NE-KnoxCounty-St.RoseOfLima-0008



St. Rose of Lima Catholic
Church and School Complex
1300 Block, W. 5th St.

Crofton, Knox County, Nebraska
Photo 9 of 14

NeHRSI #: KX05-001 (school)
KX05-007 (church)

NE-KnoxCounty-StRoseOfLima-0009



St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church and School Complex
1300 Block, W. 5th St.

Grafton, Knox County, Nebraska

Photo 10 of 14

NeHBS #: KX05-001 (School)
KX05-007 (Church)

NE-KnoxCounty-St.RoseofLima-0010



St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church and School Complex
1300 Block, W. 5th St.

Crofton, Knox County, Nebraska
Photo 11 of 14

NetHRSI #: KX05-001 (school)
KX05-007 (church)

NE-Knox County-St. Rose of Lima-0011



St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church and School Complex
1300 Block, W. 5th St
Crofton, Knox County, Nebraska
Photo 12 of 14

NeHRS# : KX05-001 (school)
KX05-007 (church)

NE-Knox County-St. Rose of Lima-0012



St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church and School Complex
1300 Block, W. 5th St
Crofton, Knox County, Nebraska
Photo 13 of 14

NE HRSI #: KX05-001 (school)
KX05-007 (church)

NE-Knox County-St. Rose of Lima-0013

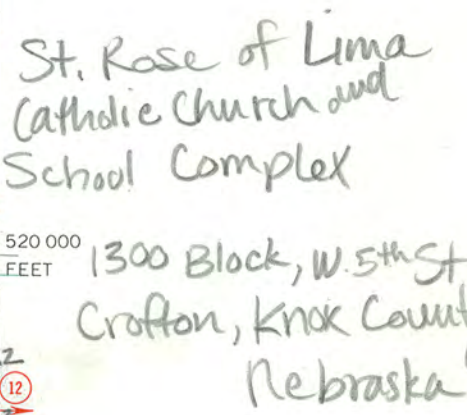


St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church and School Complex
1300 Block, W. 5th St
Crofton, Knox County, Nebraska
Photo 14 of 14

NEHRSI #: KX05-001 (school)
KX06-007 (church)

NE-KnoxCounty-St.RoseOfLima-0014

BLOOMFIELD NE QUADRANGLE
NEBRASKA-KNOX CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



1. E622690
N4731722

2.E622796
N4731580

3. EG2Z796
N4731722

†.E622690
N4731580

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey as part of the Department of the Interior program for the development of the Missouri River Basin

Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1968

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum

10,000-foot grid based on Nebraska coordinate system, north zone

1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 14, shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked


THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface _____

Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface _____

Unimproved road, fair or dry weather _____

 State Route

BLOOMFIELD NE, NEBR.
N4237.5—W9730/7.5

1968

AMS 6469 II NE—SERIES V875

Nebraska
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



January 25, 2011

J. Paul Loether
National Register—National Historic Landmarks Programs
National Park Service
1201 "I" Street NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20005

RE: St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church & School Complex
Crofton, Knox County, Nebraska

Dear Mr. Loether:

Please find enclosed the National Register of Historic Places nomination form for the above resource. This form has met all notification and other requirements as established in 36 CFR 60.

If you have any questions concerning this nomination, please let me know.

Sincerely,


L. Robert Puschendorf
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosure

1500 R Street
PO Box 82554
Lincoln, NE 68501-2554
p: (800) 833-6747
(402) 471-3270
f: (402) 471-3100
www.nebraskahistory.org



United States Department of the Interior


NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

March 21, 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.

Edson Beall 
Historian
National Register of Historic Places
Phone: 202-354-2255
E-mail: Edson_Beall@nps.gov
Web: www.nps.gov/history/nr