United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms* Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

St. Mary's Church (Roman Catholic) historic and/or common 2. Location 8433 239th Street East street & number not for publication First New Trier ____ vicinity of congressional district city, town 22 Dakota code 037 Minnesota state code county 3. **Classification** Ownership Status **Present Use** Category X occupied _ district public ____ agriculture museum X building(s) X private _ unoccupied commercial park _ work in progress structure both educational private residence site **Public Acquisition** Accessible entertainment X_ religious government _ object in process X__ yes: restricted scientific _ being considered _ yes: unrestricted industrial transportation no military other: **Owner of Property** 4_ name St. Mary's Church street & number Route 1 state Minnesota 55031 city, town ___ vicinity of New Trier Location of Legal Description 5. courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dakota County Government Center 1560 West Highway 55 street & number Hastings state Minnesota 55033 city, town **Representation in Existing Surveys** 6. Statewide Survey of Historic title has this property been determined elegible? ____ yes ____ no Resources date 1979 federal ____ state ____ county ____ local depository for survey records Minnesota Historical Society -- 240 Summit Avenue-Hill House

city, town St. Paul

state Minnesota 55102

7. Description

Condition		Check one
<u>X</u> excellent	deteriorated	unaltered
good	ruins	<u>X</u> altered
fair	unexposed	

Check one <u>X</u> original site moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

St. Mary's Church is located on the brow of a hill overlooking the village of New Trier. It was designed in the Beaux Arts Classic style in 1909 by St. Paul architect Paul Ries.

The building is constructed of red brick with white glazed brick accents, and set on a foundation of stone. Major features of the facade are a baroque gable with corner finials; grouped pilaster strips of white brick; round-headed windows and doorways; a window shrine with pediment above the main door; and a square belfry with a pyramidal roof. Single pilasters of white brick define the bays down the length of the building. Two remnants of the older churches on this site are incorporated into the present one. The cornerstone of the stone church, dated 1864 and bearing the inscription, "Sancta Maria Schuz Kirche," is located in the vestibule. A five-foot tall painted wooden statue of St. Mary made in 1862 occupies the window shrine over the main door.

Alterations have included removal of the domed upper portion of the original belfry, rebuilding of the entrance stairways in concrete, and replacement of the original soft white brick with a harder variety.

8. Significance

1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 _X 1800–1899	architecture	community planning	Indscape architectur Iaw Iterature Iteratury Indicator Iterature Iterature	science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater
Specific dates	1909	Builder/Architect Ge	eorge J. Ries	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The primary significance of St. Mary's Church lies in its association with the German heritage of the population in southeastern Dakota County. German Catholic immigrants settled the area in 1854. Initial religious services were held in local cabins until a log church was built in 1856 in the village of New Trier, named for the former home of a majority of the settlers. A frame chapel was constructed a few years later, followed by a larger stone church in 1864 as the congregation expanded. In 1909 the present masonry church was built in the Beaux Arts Classic style. Families from St. Mary's Parish were instrumental in forming four other parishes in the region: Cannon Falls, 1866; Miesville, 1873; Vermillion, 1882; and Hampton, 1900. These towns and the rural areas surrounding them remain the most ethnically homogeneous parts of Dakota County. The Church is also significant for its design, which has elements such as the baroque gable and original domed belfry that suggest architectural ties to the churches of Germany.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Centennial History, Parish of St. Mary, New Trier. Privately published, 1956. Interview, Father Marvin Klaers, May 1979.

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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Note: These changes apply to St. Mary's Church in Dakota County, Minnesota.

REFERENCE NUMBER: 79001233

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: Dakota

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC): Church of St. Mary (Catholic)

CITY:

VICINITY OF:

ADDRESS:

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS:

huis M. archabal

JUN 1 7 1988

Nina M. Archabal State Historic Preservation Officer

Date