


City, Village or Town: <b>1 Eau Claire</b>		County: <b>Eau Claire</b>	Surveyor: <b>M. Taylor</b>	Date: <b>11-11-81</b>
Street Address: <b>418 N. Dewey Street</b>		Legal Description: <b>see continuation sheet</b>		Acreage: <b>less than one acre</b>
Current Name & Use: <b>Sacred Heart Church (Eau Claire MRA)</b>		Current Owner: <b>Sacred Heart Church (Eau Claire MRA)</b>		
Film Roll No. <b>EC 4L</b>	Current Owner's Address: <b>416 N. Dewey Street</b>		Special Features Not Visible In Photographs: UTM: <b>zone 15</b> Easting: <b>618620</b> Northing: <b>4963630</b> USGS Eau Claire East Quadrangle 1:24,000 Interior visited? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Negative No. <b>15</b>				
Facade Orient. <b>E</b>				

N. Dewey Street  
418

<b>2</b> Original Name & Use: <b>preferred Sacred Heart Church</b> Dates of Construction / Alteration: <b>1928</b> Architect and/or Builder: <b>Unknown</b>	Source <b>A</b>	Previous Owners	Dates	Uses	Source
	Source <b>A</b>				
	Source				

**3** Architectural Significance

Represents work of a master  
 Possesses high artistic values  
 Represents a type, period, or method of construction  
 Is a visual landmark in the area  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_  None

**4** Historical Significance

Assoc. with lives of significant persons  
 Assoc. with significant historical events  
 Assoc. with development of a locality  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 None

Architectural Statement:

**See continuation sheet.**

Historical Statement:

**See continuation sheet.**

Plat Map #5

**5** Sources of Information (Reference to Above)

**A** on building

**B** History of Eau Claire County, 1914, p. 512.

**C** Barland, L. 1965. The Rivers Flow On. p. 312.

**D**

**E**

**F**

**6** Representation in Previous Surveys

HABS  NAER  WIHP  NRHP  landmark  
 other: \_\_\_\_\_

**7** Condition

excellent  good  fair  poor  ruins

**8** District: \_\_\_\_\_

pivotal  contributing  non-contributing

initials: \_\_\_\_\_ date: \_\_\_\_\_

**9** Opinion of National Register Eligibility

eligible  not eligible  unknown  
 national  state  local initials: met

41/15

SACRED HEART CHURCH (418 N. Dewey Street)  
Intensive Survey Form - Continuation sheet (1)

ARCHITECTURAL STATEMENT:

Description: The reddish-brown brick Sacred Heart Church is an apsidal structure covered by a gable roof. Twin front towers and side aisles lining the nave of the building project from the main block. The square towers, mirror images, highlight the design and depart from the style's more commonly observed pattern of unmatched towers. Lantern-like belfries mark the uppermost stage of the corner features. The belfries' openings are round arched and the crowning domical roofs, each supporting a Latin cross, are metal covered. Blind arcades identify the polygonal section between the belfries and the square tower bases, which feature narrow two story round arched openings on three sides. The church's main gable includes a large rose window divided in wagon wheel fashion. Below are five small round arched windows with pronounced archivolt trim. At the ground level a shallow pavilion encompasses three side-by-side entrances all contained within compound arches. This lower floor is further distinguished by an arcade-like corbel table, a feature repeated above the rose window outlining the pitch of the gable roof and along the eaves of the north and south facades. These facades are defined by additional round arched windows. The side aisles are characterized by long openings separated by thin pilasters, while the upper walls are punctuated by five groups of three windows with the center opening a larger version of its flanking neighbors. A small wooden cupola straddling the roof ridge near the rear of the church marks the interior altar area.

(1981 photos - 38/7,8)

Significance: Erected in 1928, Sacred Heart Church is a locally distinguished example of late Neo-Romanesque architecture. The imposing church structure, located on a bluff overlooking the city, is a prominent visual feature of the city's commercial and residential center. Characterized by identical twin towers, an over-sized rose windows, and a multiplicity of round arched openings, the church contributes significantly to the quality and variety of Eau Claire's architectural heritage.

HISTORICAL STATEMENT:

Eau Claire's first Catholic congregation was organized in 1858 by Father Napoleon Mignault of the Catholic church in nearby Chippewa Falls. A church was erected on N. Barstow Street and the mission named St. Peter's. In 1865 the parish was officially established and the name changed to St. Patrick's. Ten years later Sacred Heart Church was founded when a number of German-speaking families formed a separate parish. Father Paul Geyer was Sacred Heart's first pastor. A frame church and school were erected immediately but they were replaced by brick structures - the church in 1880 and the school in 1910. Sacred Heart Hospital, founded in 1889 and located approximately half a block north of the church, was also part of the complex. Today the hospital buildings contain the Eau Claire Academy, a child and adolescent treatment center. In 1921 Father Francis Orthen became pastor of Sacred Heart and was responsible for the construction of the present church building. It was dedicated on May 1, 1929, by the Most Reverend Alexander McGavick, Bishop of LaCrosse (E C).

SACRED HEART CHURCH (418 N. Dewey Street)  
Intensive Survey Form - Continuation sheet (2)

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

The Sacred Heart Church property is located within a rectangle described as follows: Beginning at a point 50 feet north of the intersection of N. Dewey Street and Division Street, proceed west 187 feet, south 92 feet, east 187 feet, and north 92 feet to point of beginning. The land is located in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 17, Town 27 North, Range 9 East.