

United States Department of Interior  
National Park Service

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16  
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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900A). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Saint Luke's Church Complex

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 1800-1816 Jefferson Street N/A not for publication

city or town Two Rivers N/A vicinity

state Wisconsin code WI county Manitowoc code 071 zip code 54241

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   nationally   statewide X locally. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Alicia Z. Corr  
Signature of certifying official/Title

December 14, 2000  
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property   meets   does not meet the National Register criteria.  
(  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State of Federal agency and bureau

Saint Luke's Church Complex  
Name of Property

Manitowoc County, WI  
County and State

#### 4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that the property is:  
 entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.  
 determined eligible for the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.  
 determined not eligible for the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.  
 removed from the National Register.  
 other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Edson H. Beall 2/9/01

#### 5. Classification

Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district
<input type="checkbox"/> public-state	<input type="checkbox"/> site
<input type="checkbox"/> public-federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure
	<input type="checkbox"/> object

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include listed resources within the count)	
Contributing	Noncontributing
4	0
	buildings
	sites
	structures
	objects
4	0
	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

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-related residence  
RECREATION AND CULTURE/museum  
VACANT/NOT IN USE

#### 7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
MID-19TH/Gothic Revival  
LATE VICTORIAN/Queen Anne  
LATE 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> C. REVIVALS  
Classical Revival

Materials  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
foundation stone  
walls brick  
roof asphalt  
other slate

**Narrative Description** (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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Continuation Sheet

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Two Rivers, Manitowoc County, WI

## **GENERAL DESCRIPTION**

The St. Luke's church complex is made up of four buildings: the church, the currently vacant school, the rectory, and the old convent, now used as the Two Rivers Historical Society museum. The four buildings are located in downtown Two Rivers, a small community in northeastern Wisconsin. The complex of four buildings, parking area, and playground take up the eastern one-half of an entire block. Commercial buildings and a fast-food restaurant and parking lot take up the western half of the block. To the east of the church complex is part of the large Hamilton factory that takes up several blocks. North of the church complex is the beginning of a residential neighborhood, and south of the complex is the community's large city hall and other downtown buildings.

The four buildings of the church complex have little to no setbacks along the north, south, and east elevations. Behind the west elevations of the buildings is a large asphalt-paved area that is used for parking and was used for the school playground when the school was active. A tall, chain-link fence marks the western border of the site and extends between the old school building and the old convent. Because much of the site is either paved or filled with buildings, there is little landscaping.

A very small lawn separates the east elevation of the school from the sidewalk and there are small lawn spaces in the front and sides of the old convent and the rectory. Some mature shrubs decorate the old convent and the rectory and a small courtyard sits between these buildings. This courtyard features a brick wall that extends between the buildings. In front of the wall is a religious statue sitting on a low concrete platform. Behind the wall is a large maple tree. Raised planters also accent this wall. Some shrubs decorate the southeast corner of the church building, as well.

Because of their imposing appearance, the four buildings of the St. Luke's Church complex make up an attractive streetscape along Jefferson Street. All of the buildings are constructed of brick and all have been painted a light grey. The two largest buildings, the school and the church, anchor the ends of the site, while the smaller buildings sit between them. The two smaller buildings have a harmonious size and scale and all of the buildings have been well-maintained.

Historically, the buildings of the complex all related to the activities of St. Luke's Catholic Church, one of the most important religious institutions in Two Rivers. The buildings still appear to be related, but two no longer support the church's activities. The old convent has been the museum for the

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Two Rivers Historical Society for several years and the school has been vacated and will soon be converted into an apartment building. The harmonious architecture and historic appearance of the buildings, though, still reflect their original uses.

**DESCRIPTION OF BUILDINGS**

**St. Luke's Catholic Church**  
1816 Jefferson St.  
1891-1892  
Gothic Revival

The church is a very tall, Gothic Revival style building with a rectangular plan and a steeply-pitched gable roof covered with slate shingles. Projecting from the center of the roof is a small pent-roofed cupola. A large brick chimney projects from the west elevation end wall. All of the church walls are constructed of cream brick that has been painted light grey. The walls sit on a coursed limestone foundation and are accented with narrow brick corbeling under the roof eaves and tall, stepped, brick buttresses at the corners and along the north and south walls. Between the buttresses along the north and south walls are tall Gothic-arched openings filled with pictorial stained glass.

The front of the building is dominated by the tall, stepped tower that rises from the center of the east elevation. The tower has a very tall pent roof topped with a pinnacle and a plain cross. At the base of the roof are four gables accented with small rose windows. The belfry sits under the roof. It is decorated with a brick corbeled cornice. On each side of the belfry is a set of three tall, narrow, Gothic-arched, louvered openings. Under the belfry is a brick base accented on the east elevation with a cross in a circle.

The lower half of the tower is the entry pavilion for the church. It is decorated with a brick corbeled cornice, stepped buttresses at the corners, and a pair of tall and narrow Gothic-arched openings directly over the entrance. The entrance is recessed behind a gothic-arched opening that is decorated with a large keystone. Filling the entrance is a set of doors topped with a very tall Gothic-arched transom. On the west elevation of the building, the apse projects from the west wall. It has a hexagonal form with a pent roof.

According to historic photographs, the above-described details are original to

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the building. Details that have been added more recently include two small entry pavilions that flank the original entrance on the east elevation. These entry pavilions are rectangular, brick structures with flat roofs and concrete foundations. The entry doors are topped with gothic-arched transoms. The entry pavilions cover the two original entrances set into wall laid with bricks in a pattern that suggested stonework. A group of three tall and narrow Gothic-arched openings sat above the original entrances. They are still extant and filled with pictorial stained glass. Above these openings are two stone medallions.

Other small, modern, one-story additions project from the west, southwest, and south elevations of the church. A small brick ell with a flat roof projects from the apse along the west elevation. A smaller identical ell projects from the southwest corner of the church building. A one-story "breezeway" ell, constructed of brick with modern floor-to-ceiling openings, connects an entrance in the south elevation of the church with the northwest corner of the rectory. A handicapped-access ramp has been built along the lower part of the south elevation of the church. It has a limestone base that resembles the church foundation, a concrete ramp, and a metal balustrade.

The interior of the church has two levels, the first floor, which contains the worship space, and the basement, which houses the kitchen and the church hall. The architectural and decorative details of the first floor date to a 1992 renovation. The decorating scheme was prepared for the congregation by the Studios of Potente, Inc. of Kenosha, Wisconsin. The modern church interior reflects the changes in Catholic tradition and liturgy that have taken place since St. Luke's was built in the late nineteenth century.

Originally, the church's first floor interior was typical of nineteenth and early twentieth century Catholic churches. It featured a very elaborate carved altar, two elaborate side altars, a heavy wooden communion railing or balustrade that ran in front of the altars, and several sets of heavy, dark, wooden pews sitting in a straight line to the back of the nave. The historic decor included elaborately painted walls and ceilings and large wood carvings known as "stations of the cross," along each side wall.

The church's first floor interior was remodeled and renovated at least three times prior to the 1992 remodeling. Each time, the interior decoration was simplified, including the removal of some of the elaborate wall decoration and removing the communion railing. The current decoration is even more simplified, but some historic features of the church's original interior are still extant.

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One of these historic features is the arched and vaulted roof. Along the side walls the arches are supported by tall brackets that resemble Corinthian columns. Pilasters with Corinthian capitals also frame the apse. Hanging from the vaulted ceiling are light fixtures installed in 1901. These light fixtures have long, tube-like glass shades decorated with Gothic-influenced metal trim. Another historic detail is the choir loft at the back of the nave. The loft has two small tiers of old wooden pews flanking a large pipe organ. The pipe organ is enclosed in a tall and massive wood-paneled box. Finally, behind the modern wooden altar is an old wood-carved altar, probably dating to 1925, when a new high altar was donated to the church.

The 1992 alterations can be seen in the other details of the first floor. Behind the three entrances to the church is a narrow vestibule. This area of the church has modern wall surfaces, an acoustical tile ceiling, and a clay tile floor. Clay tile also covers a staircase that leads into the rear of the first floor, which is divided from the main body of the church by a glass wall. The glass wall is made up of vertical and horizontal oak beams, large lights, and several wood and glass entry doors. The room created by the glass wall is carpeted and has an acoustical tile ceiling. Modern staircases on each end of the room lead to the choir loft.

The features of the church that date to the 1992 remodeling effort include a round marble baptismal font that sits in the center of the main aisle at the back of the nave. The floor is covered with a combination of modern carpeting and vinyl flooring, and two rows of modern wooden pews sit at an angle toward the altar. The modern altar sits at the end of a wooden platform that extends into the sanctuary. The wooden platform is raised by three steps along three of its sides. Flanking the platform are rows of chairs. The modern altar is raised another several steps from the platform. The altar, itself, is a very tall, wooden structure decorated with stylized pinnacles and Gothic-influenced carved wood panels.

The walls of the church are plain and painted in light colors with gold paint accenting the brackets of the ceiling arches. Gold paint also accents the arches, themselves, and the pilasters and arches that decorated the location of the old side altars.

The basement of the church building has also been modernized with an asbestos tile floor, an acoustical tile ceiling, and florescent light panels. The walls of the basement are concrete block and have been painted. The kitchen is at the west end of the basement. There are two entry doors, two large openings, and one small opening punctuating the main kitchen wall. The kitchen is

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furnished with modern cabinets, appliances and stainless steel counters and sinks.

The church building is in excellent condition and is actively used for religious services and congregational activities. Maintaining a large, historic, downtown church building is difficult for many congregations, but St. Luke's 1992 renovation was a vote of confidence for its continued use in the 21st century.

**St. Luke's Rectory**  
1814 Jefferson St.  
1895, 1925, 1946  
Architect: Christ Tegen; Builder: John Hoffman  
Queen Anne

The rectory is a two and one-half story Queen Anne style building that has an overall rectangular plan. The rectory consists of a main block built in 1895, a rear addition built in 1925, and an office addition built in 1946. The entire house is constructed in brick that has been painted a light grey. The walls of the main block and the 1925 addition sit on a limestone foundation. The main block of the house has a square form with a hip roof covered with slate tiles. Two large rectangular brick chimneys project from the roof peak. Projecting from the north and south sides of the roof are gable-roofed dormers. These dormers are covered with wood shingles and the dormer eaves are decorated with brackets, bargeboards, and crosspieces. A pair of single-light sashes fill the front walls of the dormers.

Most of the decorative features of the main block are attached to the east or main elevation. These details include a central tower that rises almost to the top of the roof. This tower has a gable roof that is decorated with brackets, bargeboards and a crosspiece. Under the gable is a pair of single-light sashes under an elliptical arch. The sashes are decorated with a rough stone lintel. A round arch decorates a second set of round-arched sashes in the center of the tower.

Flanking the central tower on the second story are two projecting bays. Originally, these bays extended through the first story, but they have been cut off by the one-story addition. The bays feature brick corbeled cornices under pent roofs that project from the hip roof of the main block. There are single-light sashes in the east walls of the bays and narrow single-light sashes in the north and south walls of the bays. Other details of the main block include tall, single light sashes that punctuate the north and south

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walls, a row of brick corbeling under the roof eaves, and two belt courses.

In 1925, a two-story addition was made to the back of the rectory. The gable roofed addition projects from the west elevation of the main block and extends slightly south of the south elevation of the main block. This addition has little decoration and its windows are simple single-light sashes. In 1946, the front office addition was made to the east or main elevation of the main block. It is a one-story rectangular ell with a hip roof and brick walls. Small modern openings under the eaves flank the main entrance and also on the north and south elevations of the addition. The entrance is covered with a projecting overhang that has a flat roof supported by brick walls. A modern entry door leads into this area of the rectory. Also built after World War II was a one-story garage, which covers the entire west elevation of the building. The garage has a sloping shed roof, brick walls, and a large, modern garage door opening.

Like the interior of the church, the interior of the rectory has been remodeled several times, although the building's original floor plan and the floor plan from the 1925 addition is extant, along with many original details. The bulk of the modern features of the house appear to date from the late 1950s, possibly 1958, when significant renovations also took place in the school building.

The main entrance to the rectory leads into the office addition. A set of steps leads up to the two offices of this addition. The north office is occupied by the church secretary, while the south office is currently vacant. Both offices have carpeted floors, wood paneled walls, and acoustical tile ceilings.

Entry into the main block of the rectory is through the original entry door. This wood panel and glass door is decorated with a transom that is partly filled with a stained glass sunburst. The entry door leads into the rectory's main hallway and a staircase to the second floor. At the back of the staircase, the hallway is interrupted with another door and transom. This transom is also filled with stained glass, in this case, a square panel with a floral pattern.

On either side of the staircase are entrances to the two offices on the north side of the main hallway. On the south side of the hallway is the large living room. In back of the living room is a private bedroom. A large closet is located along the hallway just before it leads into the dining room. The hallway is carpeted and the walls are covered with wallpaper. The trim around

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the doors is simple and includes narrow cornice moldings. The doors, themselves, are simple wood panel interior doors with period hardware. The doors and trim are original to the house.

The first floor offices, dining room, and living room are all decorated in a similar manner. The floors are covered with carpeting, the walls are covered with modern wood veneer paneling, and the ceilings have acoustical tiles. The exception is the living room ceiling, which is decorated with light colored beams. In the paneled rooms, the moldings are modern or nonexistent. An original built-in bookcase with leaded glass doors is still extant in the living room.

The kitchen is behind the dining room. It is completely remodeled with modern cabinetry, appliances, and vinyl flooring. Just south of the kitchen is a staircase leading to the basement and on the other side of the stairs is a small wing that includes a bathroom and a bedroom. This area of the house is the interior of the 1925 addition to the rectory.

The staircase to the second story is one of the original features of the house. The staircase wall is covered with dark wood paneling. The treads of the staircase are carpeted, but the elaborate balustrade is exposed. This balustrade features spiral posts with square bases attached to a wide railing. The newel and other posts are square and feature cornice moldings and recessed panels. The staircase curves at the top and opens up to a central hallway that runs through the second story of the main block.

The hallway has a carpeted floor, acoustical tile ceiling, and walls covered with wallpaper. The trim around the doors and windows in the hallway is original and consists of plain moldings decorated with bulls eye blocks at the corners. The hallway has wide baseboards and simple wood paneled doors with their period hardware.

There are four bedrooms in this part of the second story. All of the bedrooms have similar details, including original plaster ceilings, wallpapered wall surfaces, narrow wood flooring, old metal steam radiators, and wood trim around doors and windows that is identical to the trim in the hallway. There is only one exception; one of the bedrooms on the north side has been carpeted. Three of the bedrooms are furnished for guest rooms and one of the bedrooms is used as a work room.

At the rear of the main block is the 1925 addition. It has a narrow hallway running along the west wall of the main block. At the north end of the hallway

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there is a small bathroom and at the south end is a small office. A narrow private bedroom lies in between these rooms. A rear staircase also leads off of the hallway. The bathroom has plaster walls and ceilings and a vinyl floor. The hallway and office are carpeted. The hallway has plaster walls and a plaster ceiling, while the office has walls covered with wood veneer paneling. The wood trim around the wood paneled doors is similar to the trim described in the rest of the second floor.

The rectory is in good condition and is still being used for its original purpose.

**Convent**

1810 Jefferson St.  
1903, 1916, 1931  
Architect (1931): W. Fred Dolke Jr.  
Queen Anne

The old convent is a two and one-half story building with simple Queen Anne architectural details. The building was constructed in three parts as a home for the nuns who staffed St. Luke's Parochial School. The main block was built in 1903, then a rear addition of bedrooms and a chapel was added in 1916. Finally, in 1931, the south ell was added, which resulted in an enlarged dining room and a second story dormitory room. Also in 1931, some alterations were made to the interior that give the building its current appearance.

The main block was originally a rectangular structure with a rear wall at the location of the west wall of the south ell. The main block has a hip roof covered with slate shingles. Hip roof dormers project from the east and north sides of the roof. The dormers have a pair of single lights. Projecting from the south side of the roof is a gable-roofed dormer that is also the roof of a shallow two-story bay. This dormer is covered with wood shingles and has a pair of single-light sashes at the center of the gable. Under the overhanging eaves of the roof of the main block is a narrow wooden frieze decorated with modillions.

The walls of the main block are constructed of brick painted a light grey. Punctuating the brick walls are single-light sashes decorated with flat stone lintels and stone sills. The entire main block sits on a limestone foundation. The main entrance is in the east elevation of the main block. It consists of a simple wood and glass door covered with a small porch that has a gable roof with a pediment supported by turned posts.

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In 1916, a two-story addition was made to the back of the convent. It added two bedrooms and a chapel on the first floor and four bedrooms on the second floor. This addition has the same exterior features as the main block, including a hip roof covered with slate shingles, overhanging eaves with a narrow frieze and modillions, a limestone foundation, brick walls, and single-light sashes. The sashes, though, are undecorated. Across the rear of the addition is a one-story enclosed porch. The porch has a flat roof and is enclosed with single-light sashes sitting on wooden panels. Projecting from the roof of the addition is a tall dormer with a flat roof and walls covered with slate shingles. Along the west wall of the dormer is a set of doors flanked by pairs of single-light sashes. A metal fire escape platform and ladder leads from the dormer entrance to the roof of the porch.

In 1931, the convent's interior was remodeled and the south ell was added. This ell increased the dining room space on the first story and added a dormitory room on the second story. Although it was 30 years after the original construction of the convent, this ell was built in the same style as the rest of the building. Its jerkin head gable roof is covered with slate shingles. The gable end is covered with wood shingles and has a pair of single-light sashes. The roof is overhanging and is decorated with modillions and a narrow frieze. The walls are brick and they sit on a limestone foundation. The openings in the ell are single-light sashes that are paired on the south end of the ell. The sashes are decorated with flat lintels and stone sills.

The 1931 plans for the convent indicate that a porch was to be built in the area between the west wall of the ell and the south wall of the 1916 addition. This area is currently filled in with a later-added garage. The garage has a slightly sloping flat roof that has a stepped parapet on the south elevation. The walls are constructed of brick and in the west elevation is a modern single garage door.

The floor plan for the convent is consistent with the plan that was prepared for the 1931 remodeling. A few alterations have taken place since that time, but the floor plan has remained the same. The original uses of the rooms will be noted, but, today, the rooms are all furnished with displays from the Two Rivers Historical Society. Some of these displays, though, relate to the historic use of the building.

The main entrance leads into a foyer with a staircase to the second floor. The entry door and small window to its right are decorated with simple oak trim that is repeated throughout the building. The flat oak trim features

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narrow cornice moldings and wide, plain, baseboards accent the floor. There is also a picture molding in the foyer. The staircase is also constructed of oak. It is a curved open-string staircase that has oak paneling on the side wall. The balustrade is made up of turned posts and the newel post and other large posts are square with cornice moldings and recessed narrow panels. The staircase is carpeted.

To the left of the foyer is a room called the reception room on the 1931 plans. The museum staff indicates this was also the music room where the nuns gave piano lessons. Ahead of the foyer is an area that was remodeled in 1931. Originally two rooms, the space is now one large room that was called the community room on the 1931 plans. The museum staff indicates that this was the "work" room for the nuns, probably for their school duties. This room has oak trim like that of the foyer and the floor is carpeted. Large fluorescent light fixtures hang from the ceiling. A large built-in cabinet sits along one of the walls. Other cabinets have been added by museum staff for displays.

A large doorway leads into the dining room, originally about half of the size it is now. Simple oak trim accents the doors and windows of the room. There are a number of cabinets in the room related to the museum use of the building and large tables for the same purpose. To the right of the dining room is the kitchen. This kitchen has been remodeled since 1931, but has the same size as seen on the 1931 plans. The kitchen has modern vinyl flooring that extends into the dining room, modern cabinets and modern appliances.

A narrow hallway leads from the dining room to the 1916 addition at the rear of the house. At the right is the staircase leading to a side entrance and to the second floor. This staircase has a plain balustrade and plain newel posts with simple moldings. The staircase is carpeted, and the hallway is covered with vinyl flooring. The woodwork in this section of the building is also oak and is similar to that found in the main block. Covering the rooms in this section of the house are simple wood paneled doors with period hardware.

Behind the staircase is the chapel. The front of the chapel has been covered with modern wood veneer paneling and in the recessed apse is a simple altar of wood veneer. The chapel is carpeted and has several long pews that fill the room. The museum staff retains this room as a chapel. To the left of the chapel is a narrow hallway with two rooms. The 1931 plans indicate that these rooms were bedrooms, but the museum staff indicates that their use had changed. The east bedroom was converted into a "robing room," a room with built-in closets that were used to store vestments. There is a display of Catholic religious objects in this room, including historic vestments. The

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other room was used as an office for the principal of St. Luke's School.

The second floor of the building housed the sleeping quarters. In the main block, there is a central hallway that is trimmed with simple moldings, wide baseboards, and five-panel wood doors. A picture molding runs along the upper walls. The hallway floor is carpeted, but the rooms have vinyl flooring.

There are five bedrooms, a large dormitory room, and a large bathroom off of this hallway. Four of the bedrooms are very small and narrow, while the bedroom in the southeast corner of the floor is slightly larger. Four bedrooms sit in a row on the south side of the floor, with the large dormitory room behind these bedrooms. On the north side of the floor there is a small bedroom and a large bath behind it. According to the 1931 plans, the four bedrooms on the south side are located where there had been only two bedrooms. Also, the bathroom was originally much smaller, enlarged into the space once occupied by another bedroom. Prior to the addition of the south ell, a smaller bedroom was located where the dormitory was built.

At the rear of the second floor is the 1916 addition. At the north end is the staircase that leads from the first floor. It continues to the third floor. The addition also added four bedrooms, two on each side of a short hallway that is an extension of the hallway in the main block. The addition's architectural details match the rest of the floor and include simple moldings around plain wood paneled doors.

The Two Rivers Historical Museum staff has not changed the floorplan of this story, using each room to house and interpret different aspects of Two Rivers history. But, like the chapel on the first story, one of the bedrooms has been maintained for its historic purpose, with a simple metal bed and table, suggesting a nun's room. The large bathroom has also been retained. The dormitory houses a large doll collection of the museum, but the room still retains the row of sinks that were used by the nuns and novices that slept in this part of the building.

The third story of the building is not open to the public and appears to have been vacant for a number of years. The bulk of the third story is attic space over the main block. This area is unfinished. Over the 1916 addition, the area was finished with two bedrooms (where the large dormer is located on the exterior of the building). Also in this area of the floor was a small bathroom and a large closet. This area was simply finished with plain doors and trim and an old linoleum floor. It is in poor condition due to lack of use and the bathroom has been taken over almost totally by a new furnace.

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The sisters left the convent in 1993 and since 1994 the building has been privately owned and leased to the Two Rivers Historical Society. It is in good condition.

**St. Luke's School**

1800 Jefferson St.

1909, 1921, 1931, 1958

Architect (1909): Henry A. Foeller

Architect (1921): Foeller & Schober

Architect (1931): W. Fred Dolke Jr.

Architect (1958): Sylvester Schmitt

Builder (1909): J. E. Utke

Classical Revival

St. Luke's School consists of a three-story Classical Revival-influenced main block with a two-story addition. Both the main block and the addition have exposed basements. The main block was built in 1909 and the same architect completed the plans for the 1921 addition. A 1931 remodeling effort made significant changes to the interior of the building, and a 1958 remodeling effort made the most notable changes to the exterior.

The main block of the school has a gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. Raised parapets decorate each of the end walls. The front parapet is topped with a cross at the gable peak. The walls of the main block are constructed of brick painted a light grey. Under the roof eaves is a cornice of simple brick corbeling and similar corbeling decorates the parapets. At the corners of the main block, the bricks are laid in a pattern that suggests stone quoins. Above the raised limestone foundation of the main block are several belt courses. The two story addition has a flat roof and little decoration besides brick corbeled corners that are identical to the corners of the main block. The addition also sits on a raised limestone foundation. A smooth stone water table accents both the main block and the two-story addition.

There are numerous openings punctuating the walls of the main block. These openings differ slightly from the original 1909 appearance. An historic photograph shows that in the north and south elevations of the main block, the openings consisted of what appear to be single light sashes placed in a pattern that was repeated on all the stories. This pattern was made up of two groups of three windows flanking and slightly separated from a central group of five windows. This pattern is still extant on the third story and in the raised foundation. On the first and second stories, the two flanking groups of three separate windows have been converted into a large three-light window and

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one single-light window. The central group of five windows was converted into a large four-light window flanked by two single light windows. All of the windows have been either fully or partly enclosed. On the third story and in the raised foundation, the windows have been enclosed with wood panels and an occasional modern sliding window. On the first and second stories, two-thirds of the windows have been enclosed with glass blocks.

The main or east elevation still retains its original window pattern. Above the main entrance is a set of transoms. Above the transoms is a set of three openings and above this detail is a set of three large openings with transoms.

Finally, in the gable parapet is a set of three openings under an elliptical brick arch. All of these openings have been enclosed either with wood panels and single lights or glass blocks. Flanking this central window group on the east elevation are pairs of windows on each story, including the foundation story. Like the others, these openings are either enclosed with wood panels and modern sliding windows or glass blocks.

Much of the rear or west elevation of the main block is covered up by the addition, but there are a few single openings above and on the north side of the addition that have been enclosed with wood panels or glass blocks. The openings of the addition are slightly different on the north and south elevations. On the north elevation, the openings consist of banks of six-light windows that are two-thirds enclosed with glass blocks. To the east of these windows are single windows, one partially enclosed with glass blocks and the other filled with a multi-light sash. On the south elevation are similar window banks. But, above the side entrance is a large transom that is enclosed and above the transom is a large opening enclosed with wood panels and small single lights. This opening was originally filled with two large single lights and two smaller lights. The raised foundation of the addition has the same pattern of openings as in the main block. And, like the main block, these openings are enclosed with wood panels. Also in the foundation of the addition, along the north elevation, are two single garage door openings covered with wood and glass doors.

The main entrance to the school is in the raised foundation of the east elevation. This entrance consists of two sets of modern metal and glass doors decorated with limestone pilasters and plain stone capitals that support a flat roof. Above the roof is a row of three transom openings that are enclosed and above these openings is a carved plaque with the inscription, "St. Luke's School." The side entrance in the south elevation of the addition is decorated in a similar manner. The entrance has a set of metal and glass doors with a

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large glass transom and large sidelights. The entrance is decorated with limestone pilasters, stone capitals, and a flat roof. Above the roof is a large transom that has been enclosed. Concrete steps lead up to both entrances.

The major alterations to the exterior consist of an asphalt roof, new aluminum windows with glass block enclosures, and new entry doors, all installed in 1958. It is unclear when the other windows were enclosed, possibly also in 1958 or it may have been a later alteration.

As mentioned earlier, the interior details of St. Luke's School largely reflect the 1931 remodeling, but these changes did not affect the floor plan of the 1909 building and the 1921 addition. One of the major architectural changes to the interior of the building in 1931 was the installation of new flooring materials throughout the school. This change had a major impact on the appearance of the main staircase of the building, which sits at the east end of the main block. The 1931 remodeling effort installed terrazzo flooring throughout the staircase and hallways of the entire building. Probably installed at that time was a new metal balustrade for the staircase. This balustrade is made up of metal posts in a cross pattern attached to a round metal railing. The newel and other posts are square with rounded tops, metal moldings, and panels with a stylized arrow detail. Newel posts are larger and more rectangular. The staircase travels from the basement of the building all the way to the third floor auditorium.

The basement floor plan included the gymnasium, locker rooms, club rooms, utilities, and a large classroom. In the main block, the boy's and girl's locker rooms are located on either side of the main staircase. These small rooms feature acoustical tile ceilings and ceramic tile on two-thirds of the wall surfaces. The ceilings and tile walls date from the 1958 remodeling. The floors are covered with terrazzo, installed in 1931, and the fixtures date from that era, as well.

The bulk of the basement is split between the gymnasium and the large space opposite the gym called the club rooms on the 1931 remodeling plans. The gymnasium is on the north side of the basement. It appears to be original to the 1909 building and has a maple floor, walls trimmed with wooden wainscoting, and a decorative pressed metal ceiling. Round columns support a beam that runs through one side of the gym space. Across a hallway are two large spaces called the club rooms. These rooms have acoustical tile ceilings, plaster walls and old asbestos tile floors.

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At the west end of the basement is the 1921 addition. The original plans for this space included a boiler room, garage, janitor's space and a "sodality or manual training room." The sodality referred to was, perhaps, a reference to a young women's organization, the Sodality of the Blessed Virgin. In the 1931 remodeling plans, this space was remodeled for a kindergarten room. The room was given a new maple floor, two small bathrooms, and a separate entrance with a staircase. The room also has plaster walls and a plaster ceiling and built-in oak shelves. All of the rooms in the basement are lit with modern fluorescent lighting fixtures.

The first two floors of the school building have identical floorplans. There are six classrooms, three on each side of a wide hallway, in the main block. Two side-by-side classrooms sit alongside small hallways on both floors of the 1921 addition. The main staircase sits at the east end of the main block on each floor and in the 1921 addition, a staircase sits at the south end of the small hallway. Also on each floor there is a small room on the north side of the hallway in the 1921 addition. On the first floor, this room is raised and reached by a set of wooden stairs. These rooms were used for offices.

The hallways of the main block have the same features on both the first and second stories. They have plaster walls and ceilings, terrazzo tile floors, banks of large cabinets or "lockers" between the classroom doors. Called "wardrobes" in 1931 when they were added to the school building, these lockers are wide, with closet-size, heavy, wooden doors. The lockers are framed with wide wood moldings and cornice lintels and the doors are affixed to the floor and locker ceilings with heavy metal fixtures. The locker doors swing open and their interiors have metal shelving and brackets for clothing. The flooring is an extension of the terrazzo in the hallways.

Wide wood moldings accent the classroom doors of the main block, which replaced the original classroom doors in 1931. Also at that time, a large transom over each door was enclosed. The doors have wood panels and large panes of frosted glazing. On the classroom side, the doors are trimmed with narrow wood moldings and large cornice lintels.

The classrooms all have similar features including blackboards that span the center of the three interior classroom walls. Under some of the blackboards there is wood paneling and all of the classrooms have wide wood baseboards. In all of the classrooms, parts of the blackboards have been covered over with modern "dry-erase" style boards or with "bulletin" board material. On the 1931 plans, the classrooms were to have new maple floors installed. However, each of the classrooms have terrazzo floors. Acoustical tile ceilings in all the

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classrooms were a 1958 addition and all of the classroom have modern fluorescent light fixtures.

In the main block, two of the classrooms have been slightly altered for non-classroom uses. On the first floor, the classroom in the southeast corner has been divided in half by a wooden partition so it could be used as an office or for other purposes. On the second floor, the classroom in the northwest corner has been divided into small offices by similar wooden partitions.

The four classrooms of the 1921 addition are similar to those of the main block. They have terrazzo floors, acoustical tile ceilings, fluorescent light fixtures, and walls with large blackboards. Like the main block, some of the blackboards have been covered up with "dry-erase" or "bulletin" board materials, and above the blackboards on some walls there has been modern wood veneer paneling installed.

The classroom doors in the 1921 addition are solid, five-panel, wood doors topped with extant transoms. Also, the classrooms of the addition have two sets of the lockers that were put in the hallway of the main block in 1931. Since there are no lockers in the small hallways outside of the classrooms in the addition, the lockers were probably added to the classrooms due to lack of space in the hallways.

The third story of the main block contains the school auditorium, also known as "Marquette Hall." The auditorium takes up most of the space of the floor and features an arched ceiling supported by large arched beams that extend from pilasters along the walls. The auditorium has plaster walls and a plaster ceiling. The walls are trimmed with an oak chair rail, wide baseboards, and moldings with cornice lintels that decorate the window openings and interior doorways. The floor is covered with narrow maple boards.

At the center of the auditorium's west wall is the stage. It has an elliptical arch and is framed by a painted cornice molding and oak wainscoted panels. The light fixtures and curtains of the stage are still extant. Flanking the stage are the "dressing rooms" or backstage preparation areas. At the back of the auditorium are two rooms. On the north side is a classroom. It is decorated like the other classrooms of the main block. It has large blackboards, wood paneling under the blackboards and window openings, plaster walls and ceilings, and a maple floor. On the south side is an old kitchen. It has mid-twentieth century fixtures, counters, and cabinets.

The school was vacated in 1998 and is in fair to good condition. Many of the

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school's features are old and well-used, but it is clear that while the school was in use, these features were well-maintained. In particular, the fine lockers in the hallways and the woodwork, in general, is in good condition in spite of over 60 years of use by elementary school children. The terrazzo floors and main staircase are in very good condition.

The school building has been acquired by a development firm for the purpose of conversion into an apartment complex. The development firm is planning on using the tax credit program for the conversion of this building and plans to retain as many historic details as possible. The adaptive re-use of this building will be an asset in downtown Two Rivers and the plans are being enthusiastically supported by the city government.

Saint Luke's Church Complex  
Name of Property

Manitowoc County, WI  
County and State

#### **8. Statement of Significance**

Applicable National Register Criteria  
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the 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.)

- 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 of age achieved significance within the past 50 years.

#### **Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Areas of Significance  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

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Period of Significance

1891-1931 (1)

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Significant Dates

N/A

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Significant Person  
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

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Architect/Builder

Foeller, Henry A.; Tegen,  
Christ; Dolke, W. Fred (2)

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The St. Luke's Church Complex is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under criterion C for local architectural significance. It is architecturally significant because the complex, as a whole, is a fine example of an intact historic church complex, with a high level of integrity. The St. Luke's Church Complex includes historic buildings that reflect the growth and development of an important local religious institution: the church building, rectory, convent, and school. All of these buildings originally were constructed within a 20-year period and their architectural styles, scale, building materials, and placement on the site makes this complex a harmonious and architecturally significant streetscape of related buildings.

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

Two Rivers is located at the place where two rivers converge to flow into Lake Michigan. It was an attractive location to Native Americans and later, to Europeans who traded with them. French explorers probably passed by the city's location on their journeys down the western shore of Lake Michigan as early as the late 1600s, but the first recorded visit to the site was in 1779. In that year, it was reported that a trader, Monsieur Fay, made contact with some Native Americans there. A more frequent visitor to the area in this era was Jacque Vieau, who traded with Native Americans near the location of Two Rivers for a number of years at the turn of the nineteenth century. Vieau never made a permanent settlement at or near Two Rivers, and it would be about 40 more years before white settlers would permanently locate there. (3)

Land sales in the Two Rivers area began in 1831, after the Menominees ceded their land rights, but little activity in Two Rivers occurred until 1835, when non-resident land speculators purchased tracts. The first settlers engaged in lumbering and a small lumber mill operated for a short time. They also engaged in fishing for several decades. By 1843, there were 25 people in the Two Rivers settlement and eight or 10 houses. During the later 1840s, lumbering in the area boomed and remained an important industry until 1860. The success of the lumbering and fishing industry during this time attracted immigrants from Germany, Norway, and Ireland to Two Rivers. By 1850, Two Rivers had grown to almost 1,000 people and had developed a small business district to support this population. (4)

St. Luke's Church was founded during the early settlement period in Two Rivers. Beginning in 1845, traveling priests came to Two Rivers and held religious services for a small group of Catholic settlers in their homes. Father Joseph Brunner, one of the traveling priests, helped formally establish

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St. Luke's Church in 1851. In 1852 and 1853, Father Brunner helped the congregation erect a log church. In 1853, Father Brunner was re-assigned and St. Luke's was served by several other missionary priests until 1857, when the diocese assigned a priest exclusively to St. Luke's. (5)

By 1863, St. Luke's parish had over 100 members and in that year they made an addition to the log church. In 1867, the parishioners began the first school in a nearby rented building. In 1877-78, the congregation built a two-story school building, and by 1887, the school had a large enough population for the parish to engage the Sisters of St. Francis as teachers. These sisters staffed the school until 1891, when the Sisters of St. Agnes took over the school. The sisters were housed in rented quarters across the street from the church until the convent was built. (6)

The early St. Luke's Church congregation came from several different ethnic groups, including German, French and Polish groups. By 1889, the congregation numbered 370 and the old church was too small to serve these numbers. At this time, the families of Polish descent decided to form their own congregation, Sacred Heart Church. Despite this loss of members, St. Luke's parishioners decided to go ahead with a new church building in 1891. In April of that year, work on the new building began. On October 23, 1892, the completed church was dedicated. (7)

In 1895, the congregation voted to build a new rectory next to the new church building. They hired Manitowoc architect Christ Tegen to design the building, which was completed by builder John Hoffman in the fall of 1895. By the time St. Luke's Church celebrated its golden jubilee in 1901, there were over 350 families in the congregation, and the total church population numbered over 1,600. Most of these families were of German ethnic heritage, but there were a number of French and Czech families in the congregation, as well. (8)

In 1903, the congregation built a new convent for the school sisters next to the rectory and, in 1904, an addition was made to the old school building. The popularity of St. Luke's School was enhanced in 1905, when the congregation voted to make it a free school. In 1909, the congregation hired Henry A. Foeller of Green Bay to make the plans for the new school. The twelve-classroom building was completed later that year and included a gymnasium and an auditorium. The growth of the church continued during the early twentieth century, and, in 1916, an addition was made to the convent. In 1921, a five-room addition was made to the school, and in 1925, an addition of several rooms was made to the back of the rectory. (9)

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In 1924, another new parish was formed out of St. Luke's. The new St. Mark's Church was located on the south side of Two Rivers. Despite the formation of a new church, by 1925, the population of St. Luke's had risen to 808 families and a total of 3,354 parishioners. Even during the hard economic times of the 1930s, St. Luke's congregation continued to make improvements to its buildings. In 1931, major improvements were made to the school interior and an ell was added to the convent, along with interior renovations. In 1936, the interior of the church was redecorated. This work included repainting, remodeling the side altars, and replacing the communion railing and the stations of the cross along the walls. (10)

In 1946, another addition was made to the Rectory and in 1958, more improvements were made to the school building. In particular, the school's windows were replaced and partially enclosed and new doors and a new roof were installed. The enrollment of 749 stressed the space in the school by the mid-1950s, and it was decided that another new parish and school would be formed out of St. Luke's. In 1957, Holy Redeemer Church was established on the north side of Two Rivers. The Catholic population in Two Rivers also financially supported the Sacred Heart Seminary in Oneida, and Roncalli High School, a Catholic High School serving the Manitowoc County area. (11)

During the 1960s, changes in Catholic liturgical practices resulted in alterations to the interior of St. Luke's Church. The celebration of the mass changed so that the priest now faced the worshipers and a new altar was added to the sanctuary, along with the removal of the communion railing. By the mid-1970s, worship at St. Luke's Church, like at other Catholic churches in the United States had become more casual, but the commitment of local Catholics to St. Luke's Church remained just as strong. In 1976, the church still had over 800 families as members and around 3,000 total parishioners. St. Luke's School was an active elementary school with teachers still living at the adjacent convent. (12)

Today, St. Luke's Church is a large and active parish. Although many congregations find it difficult to maintain large, older buildings, in 1992, St. Luke's congregation funded extensive renovations of their church, an important step in keeping the church at its current location. The rectory is still being used for the priests' residence and other religious activities. The convent, though, was closed in 1992 and, in 1994, it became the museum for the Two Rivers Historical Society.

In recent years, it became economically difficult to maintain all of Two River's Catholic elementary schools and St. Luke's and St. Mark's Schools were

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consolidated. St. Mark's School housed the lower grades, while St. Luke's housed the upper elementary grades (5-8). In 1998, St. Luke's School closed and all of the students are now at St. Mark's. In the future, a new Catholic elementary school will be built for all of the Catholic elementary students of Two Rivers. The renovation of St. Luke's School into an apartment building, maintaining its historic appearance, will retain St. Luke's historic streetscape and a significant historic resource of an important religious institution in the community.

**AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE: ARCHITECTURE**

The buildings of the St. Luke's Church complex are architecturally significant at the local level because they are individually good and relatively intact examples of late nineteenth and early twentieth century architectural styles. More importantly, though, the buildings, together, are a fine and intact example of the growth and development of a turn-of-the-twentieth-century church complex. The buildings were constructed between 1891 and 1909 using similar construction materials and harmonious architectural styles. Whether by chance or by plan, the buildings also have a harmonious scale, even though they are not all the same size. The placement of the large church and school buildings on each end of the site, with the residences of almost the same size and scale in between, created a streetscape of buildings that complement each other and present a unified appearance that reflects the buildings' history.

Three of the buildings in the St. Luke's Church Complex are good examples of historic architectural styles. The church is a good example of the Gothic Revival style as it was interpreted for churches late in the nineteenth century. The rectory is a good and interesting example of the Queen Anne style. The school is a simple, but good example of a Classical Revival-influenced institutional building.

The Gothic Revival style was one of the picturesque reactions to the classical Greek Revival style. Details of the Gothic Revival style are pointed arch openings, decorative bargeboards, pinnacles, towers, buttresses, and battlements. The style was particularly popular for churches, and Gothic details on churches are often more ornate than on houses. The style faded in popularity for houses by 1880, but lived on in churches until well into the mid-twentieth century. Even today, many new churches are built with pointed arches and steeply-pitched roofs that reflect the Gothic Revival style. (13)

St. Luke's Church is a good example of the Gothic Revival style because it

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contains many of the style's important details executed with a high level of construction methods and materials. Its Gothic details include the steeply-pitched roof, tower with tall spire, Gothic-arched openings, and abundance of buttresses. The exterior of the church has a good level of integrity. The alterations are small in comparison to the overall scale of the building and do not overly detract from the historic quality of the church.

The modern appearance of the church interior does lower the building's integrity somewhat, but the overall plan of the interior has remained intact, as do some of the historic details, including the vaulted ceiling and arches of the sanctuary, the location of the main altar, and the choir loft. The retention of the old altar, possibly dating from 1925, adds an important sense of the past to the sanctuary. Although much of the interior is modern, the decoration of the sanctuary is of high quality and reflects good modern design.

The rectory is an interesting interpretation of the Queen Anne style. The Queen Anne style was popular in Wisconsin between 1880 and 1910, and is seen in the state in large numbers. The Queen Anne style is characterized by asymmetry and irregularity of plan and massing. Queen Anne houses often express their asymmetry with a variety of surface materials such as wood shingles, stone veneer or stucco. Most Queen Anne houses in Wisconsin are of frame construction with clapboard or other wood siding, but there are some outstanding brick Queen Anne houses in the state, as well. Common details of the style include steeply-pitched multiple gable or combination hip and gable roofs, gable projections, bays with elaborate hoodmoldings or cornices, round or polygonal turrets or oriel, classical details, and large, wrap-around verandas. Fenestration is usually irregular both in size and in placement of openings. Queen Anne houses built after 1900 tend to be less picturesque and more symmetrical than their earlier counterparts and have classical details that reflect the emerging popular Colonial Revival style. (14)

The Queen Anne style rectory has many of the above-mentioned features, including a steeply-pitched hip roof with several projections. The projecting dormers, bays and the central tower give the roofline an asymmetrical appearance, even though the form and massing of the house is generally rectangular. Also adding to the asymmetry of the design and the variety of surface textures are the brick corbeled decoration and the arches that decorate the main elevation of the house.

The modern addition on the front elevation detracts somewhat from the exterior integrity of the rectory, but the building's overall form and massing tend to

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overwhelm this alteration. Most of the building's original exterior details are extant and illustrate the interesting design of this house. The interior has also suffered some loss of integrity, particularly from the application of modern wood veneer paneling on the first floor. But, most of the house's historic woodwork is still extant, especially on the second floor, which has seen little remodeling. One fine detail, the main staircase, is intact, and its unusual spiral balustrade makes it one of the best historic details of the building. Also, most of the alterations of the interior, i.e., carpeting and wood veneer paneling, only cover over historic details of the house and could be exposed at some future date.

The convent does not stand out as an important example of an architectural style, but it features simple Queen Anne details that contribute to the overall architectural significance of the complex. It is also one of the buildings of the complex with the highest level of integrity. The original main block of the convent was a simple rectangular building with a Queen Anne style bay projecting from the south elevation and the overall form and massing of the style. Interestingly, the addition to the south elevation completed in 1931 resembled the Queen Anne style of the main block, rather than reflecting a more modern style. The result is that this addition does not detract from the original style of the building.

The convent also has the highest level of interior integrity of all of the buildings of the complex, with features that reflect both the original construction date of 1903 and the additions of 1916 and 1931. The floor plan dates to the 1931 remodeling and the wall surfaces and architectural trim date from the historic construction dates of the building. The only significant modern alterations were made to the kitchen and the chapel. The use of the old convent as a museum, with some rooms that still reflect its historic use, helps retain the historic appearance of the building.

The St. Luke's School was designed with details from the Classical Revival style. The Classical Revival was one of the first styles to emerge from a reaction to the exuberant and picturesque styles of the mid to late nineteenth century. The style was popular in Wisconsin between 1895 and 1935. Developed by prominent architects, many of whom studied at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris, the Classical Revival style was popularized at the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 in Chicago, which featured a "white city" of formal, classical buildings painted white. Details of Classical Revival buildings include symmetrical form and massing and heavy, classical architectural ornamentation. Because of the heaviness of the style, it is seen most commonly on public and institutional buildings. (15)

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The Classical Revival style was a popular choice for school buildings and the style was used even for smaller, simply-decorated buildings like St. Luke's School. The style can be seen in the school building primarily in its form and massing and the symmetrical placement of its openings. The prominent parapets on the end walls are elements of the style, as are the brick corbeled corners that suggest limestone quoins. The raised foundation not only provided important space and light for a basement story, but also suggested an architectural detail used frequently in large Classical Revival buildings.

Despite some alterations from the post-World War II era, the school building has retained a good level of integrity. The enclosure of the windows was an inappropriate alteration, but most of the opening spaces are extant and historic photographs can help replicate the original windows. The interior of the school still has the floorplan from the original 1909 building and the 1921 addition. Architectural details primarily date from the 1931 renovation, and the high quality of the materials used in the interior have survived intensive use by grade-school children.

The extant auditorium on the third floor of the school is an outstanding feature that dates from the original 1903 construction date. The fact that it survived throughout the entire history of the school, with most of its original features intact, is of note and adds to the integrity of the school's interior. Another feature that has been maintained from the original construction date of the school is the gymnasium in the basement floor. The flooring, wall surfaces, columns, and pressed metal ceiling are details that reflect the era in which they were constructed. And, although the classrooms have had some alterations during the twentieth century, the extant blackboards and room layouts reflect the original plan of the school building. The details from the 1931 renovation, primarily the balustrade of the main staircase, the heavy, wooden lockers, and the terrazzo floors are not original, but are beautiful, high quality historic details.

**Architects**

Adding to the architectural significance of the St. Luke's complex is the fact that some noted local architects were involved in the plans for some of the individual buildings of the complex. For example, the rectory was designed by **Christ H. Tegen**. Tegen was born in Germany in 1856 and attended college there, training as an architect. He came to the United States in 1883, lived in Manitowoc for two years, then spent six years in Milwaukee. He had a prolific design career in Manitowoc, executing plans for many prominent buildings in that city and the entire area. Among his noted designs are the Dempsey Block

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Two Rivers, Manitowoc County, WI

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(1902), the Schuette Brothers Department Store (1900), the Manitowoc County Courthouse (1906), all in Manitowoc. He was also responsible for the design of a number of residences in Manitowoc, and other institutional buildings in the area. (16)

Christ Tegen designed two other known buildings in Two Rivers around the time he designed the rectory in this complex. In 1905, he designed the nearby St. John's School (1707 E. Park St., Central Park Historic District), a Romanesque Revival influenced school building. In 1907, he designed the Stephany Block (1618 Washington St., Central Park Historic District), a Classical Revival commercial building. When the fine Queen Anne style rectory is added to Tegen's Two Rivers' work, it shows that he was adept in designing a variety of buildings in a variety of popular styles. All of these buildings are high quality designs that add to the architectural diversity of Two Rivers.

The original 1909 design for the St. Luke's School was executed by Green Bay architect **Henry A. Foeller**. Foeller, under the firm name, Foeller and Schober, also completed the design of the 1921 addition to the school building. Foeller, and later Foeller and Schober, was one of Wisconsin's most prolific and important early twentieth century architectural firms.

Henry A. Foeller was born in the Alsace region of France in 1871. He immigrated to Oshkosh, Wisconsin when he was 14 and attended the high school and old teacher's college there. While in Oshkosh, he worked under the noted Wisconsin architect, William Waters, and was with Waters when Waters designed the famous Wisconsin pavilion for the Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893. In 1895, Foeller moved to Green Bay and was a partner in the firm of Clancy & Foeller. Foeller's most important partnership was with Max W. Schober, which began in 1910. In 1928, the firm added Edgar Berners and became Foeller, Schober & Berners. In the 1930s, Foeller retired from active practice, and he died in 1938, but the firm retained his name for a time. In 1940, the firm was renamed Foeller, Schober, Berners, Safford & Jahn. After World War II, Max Schober's son, Leonard, replaced his father in the firm and in 1963, Paul Kilp joined as a major partner. At that time, the firm became Berners-Schober & Kilp. In 1983, the firm was renamed Berners-Schober Associates, Inc. And was still known by that name as late as 1998. (17)

An inventory of Henry Foeller's commissions in Wisconsin reveals hundreds of designs, including public, commercial and residential buildings. In Foeller's obituary in *The Wisconsin Architect*, his most notable commissions were listed as the hospital for the criminally insane (Central State Hospital) and the southwest wing of the state prison at Waupun. Foeller and/or Foeller and

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Schober also designed the Waupun Public Library. His and his firm's other noted designs included St. John's Church, the Kellogg Public Library, East High School, Columbus Community Club, St. Vincent and St. Mary's Hospitals, the Green Bay Press-Gazette Building, and the Greater Green Bay YMCA, all in Green Bay. Foeller and/or Foeller and Schober also designed the Doty Park Community House and Bridges, the Neenah High School, St. Margaret Mary's Church, and the Wilson Elementary School in Neenah, Wisconsin. He and his firm designed the Jefferson Elementary School and the Menasha High School in Menasha, Wisconsin and many residences in northeastern Wisconsin. (18)

The St. Luke's School building was not one of Foeller or Foeller and Schober's largest or most well-known designs, but was part of the firm's prolific work in northeastern Wisconsin. Although the school building was a simple design, its attractive appearance and use of Classical Revival style elements reflects the high quality of Foeller's work. The building is well-proportioned and its details blend in well with its neighbors. Because Foeller and Schober designed the addition to the school building in 1921, as well, it blends in with the building's original architectural style and features.

The 1931 alterations to the school building and the convent were executed by W. Fred Dolke Jr. of Chicago. The addition to the convent reflects the original design of the building more than any type of work of Dolke. The alterations to the school were executed in an attractive manner, but except for the modern style of the balustrade of the main staircase, these alterations do not reflect a particular style that can be attributed to Dolke.

**Conclusion**

The individual buildings of the St. Luke's Complex are good examples of historic architectural styles, but more importantly, the complex, as a whole, is architecturally significant because it presents a harmonious streetscape of related buildings that have compatible styles, scale, and building materials. The larger brick structures anchor the ends of the site and their similar scale provides an attractive and prominent frame for the two smaller buildings between them. The two smaller buildings, also of similar scale, construction materials and style, add to the harmony of the entire streetscape.

The good level of integrity of all of the buildings also adds to the significance of the complex. The buildings have most of their historic details intact. The school, which has the most exterior alterations, will soon be renovated, and these alterations will be reversed. Except for the small addition on the front of the rectory, the buildings all present a very

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good level of historic integrity. Some of the buildings' interior features have been altered, but, overall, the amount of modernization does not overwhelm the historic details that are still extant. The most altered interior is the church, but the high level of exterior integrity of this building makes the modern interior less intrusive. The other buildings have good interior integrity, in particular the convent and the school building.

St. Luke's complex is a typical property type for Catholic institutions, expressed as a concentrated cluster of functionally related, but separately constructed, buildings housing the church, religiously affiliated school, and church related residences. Because of the good architectural style, the harmonious scale, the similar building materials, and the good historic integrity of this group of related structures, the St. Luke's Church Complex stands out as a historic landmark in the city of Two Rivers, a landmark that merits recognition from the National Register of Historic Places.

**CRITERIA CONSIDERATION**

A: Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

The church building and rectory are currently owned by St. Luke's Congregation, a religious institution. The church building and rectory are currently used for religious purposes. The complex, though, is being nominated solely for its architectural significance and not for any relationship with a particular religion or for its religious practices.

The school and convent were recently purchased by MetroPlains which intends to convert the school building into 33 senior apartments. The city of Two Rivers will eventually gain title to the convent and lease the building back to the Two Rivers Historical Society.

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL**

The Burial Sites inventory maintained by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin indicates that a historic Indian - White Cemetery was located about where St. Luke's Church now stands. Three burials were unearthed at this location while digging sewer trenches. Other burials may be located elsewhere on the property.

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**Notes to Section 8:**

(1) John P. Schmitt, *A Century of Service to God 1851-1951 St. Luke's Congregation Two Rivers, Wisconsin*, Two Rivers: St. Luke's Church, 1951, pp. 38-44.

(2) *Ibid.*; Building Plans, on file in the church office, St. Luke's Church, Two Rivers, Wisconsin.

(3) Elmer Frederick Beth, "History of Two Rivers, Wis.," unpublished manuscript (taken from his University of Wisconsin undergraduate thesis), 1927, pp. 1-3, on file in the Lester Public Library, Two Rivers, Wisconsin; Evan Gagnon, *Neshotah The Story of Two Rivers, Wisconsin*, Stevens Point, WI: Worzalla Publishing Company, 1969, pp. 1-9.

(4) Beth, pp. 7-8; Gagnon, pp. 12-14; Louis Falge, ed., *History of Manitowoc County Wisconsin*, Chicago: Goodspeed Historical Association, [1910], pp. 400-401; Arthur H. Lohman, "Early Days in Two Rivers, Wisconsin 1848-1900," Manitowoc County Historical Society Occupational Monograph 50, Series 1983, n.p.

(5) Schmitt, p. 35; *St. Luke's Annual Diamond Jubilee Number 1851-1926*, Two Rivers, WI: St. Luke's Church, 1926, pp. 4-7.

(6) Schmitt, pp. 37-38; *St. Luke's Annual*, pp. 8-9.

(7) Schmitt, pp. 38-39.

(8) Schmitt, pp. 39; Louise M. Schmitt, ed., *St. Luke's Parish 1851-1976*, Two Rivers, WI: St. Luke's Church, 1976, n.p.

(9) Schmitt, pp. 29-42.

(10) Schmitt, pp. 43-44; *St. Luke's Annual*, p. 20; *St. Luke's Parish*, n.p.

(11) *St. Luke's Parish*, n.p.

(12) *Ibid.*

(13) Barbara Wyatt, ed., *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin*, Vol. II, Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1986, Architecture, p. 2-3.

(14) *Ibid.*, p. 2-15.

(15) *Ibid.*, p. 2-18.

(16) HNTB, "Manitowoc Intensive Resource Survey Final Report," Manitowoc, WI: City of Manitowoc Planning Department, 1988, p. 123.

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(17) "Henry Foeller, Architect, Dies at Green Bay," *The Wisconsin Architect*, July 1938, p. 3; Berners-Schober Associates, Inc., "Celebrating A Century of Designing Environments," pamphlet on file in the Architects' Files, Historic Preservation Division, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin; "Foeller, Henry A.," information from the Architects' Files, Historic Preservation Division, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.

(18) *Ibid.*

Saint Luke's Church Complex  
Name of Property

Manitowoc County, WI  
County and State

### 9. Major Bibliographic References

#### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

\_\_\_\_\_

### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property \_\_\_\_\_ 1 acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

A	<u>1/6</u>	<u>4/5/4/6/2/0</u>	<u>4/8/8/8/5/4/0</u>	B	<u>1/6</u>	<u>4/5/4/7/0/0</u>	<u>4/8/8/8/5/4/0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<u>1/6</u>	<u>4/5/4/6/2/0</u>	<u>4/8/8/8/4/4/0</u>	D	<u>1/6</u>	<u>4/5/4/7/0/0</u>	<u>4/8/8/8/4/4/0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carol Lohry Cartwright, Consultant  
organization prepared for MetroPlains, Inc. date 7-24-2000  
street & number W7646 Hackett Rd. telephone (414) 473-6820  
city or town WhiteWater state WI zip code 53190

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### Continuation Sheets

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.

Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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**MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES**

Beth, Elmer Frederick. "History of Two Rivers, Wis." Unpublished manuscript (taken from his University of Wisconsin undergraduate thesis), 1927. On file in the Lester Public Library, Two Rivers, Wisconsin.

Berners-Schober Associates, Inc. "Celebrating A Century of Designing Environments." Pamphlet on file in the Architects' Files, Historic Preservation Division, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.

Building Plans. On file in the church office of St. Luke's Church, Two Rivers, Wisconsin.

Falge, Louis, ed. *History of Manitowoc County Wisconsin*. Chicago: Goodspeed Historical Association, [1910].

"Foeller, Henry A." Information from the Architects' Files, Historic Preservation Division, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.

Gagnon, Evan. *Neshotah The Story of Two Rivers, Wisconsin*. Stevens Point, WI: Worzalla Publishing Company, 1969.

"Henry Foeller, Architect, Dies at Green Bay." *The Wisconsin Architect*, July 1938, p. 3.

HNTB. "Manitowoc Intensive Resource Survey Final Report." Manitowoc, WI: City of Manitowoc Planning Department, 1988.

Lohman, Arthur H. "Early Days in Two Rivers, Wisconsin 1848-1900." Manitowoc County Historical Society Occupational Monograph 50, Series 1983.

Schmitt, John P. *A Century of Service to God 1851-1951 St. Luke's Congregation Two Rivers, Wisconsin*. Two Rivers: St. Luke's Church, 1951.

Schmitt, Louise M., ed. *St. Luke's Parish 1851-1976*. Two Rivers, WI: St. Luke's Church, 1976.

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*St. Luke's Annual Diamond Jubilee Number 1851-1926.* Two Rivers, WI: St.  
Luke's Church, 1926.

Wyatt, Barbara, ed. *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin, Vol. II.*  
Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1986, Architecture.

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Two Rivers, Manitowoc County, WI

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**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The St. Luke's Church Complex site is a rectangular parcel with the following boundaries: Beginning at the intersection of the south curb line of Nineteenth Street and the west curb line of Jefferson Street, then west along the south curb line of Nineteenth Street to the rear lot lines of 1800-c.1820 Jefferson St., then south along these lines to the north curb line of Eighteenth Street, then east along this line to the west curb line of Jefferson Street, then north along this line to the point of beginning.

**VERBAL BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The boundary described above includes all of the buildings of the St. Luke's Church Complex and their historic site, including the rear parking-playground area that has been part of the church property since the school building was erected in 1909.

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Two Rivers, Manitowoc County, WI

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**St. Luke's Church Complex**, Two Rivers, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin. Photos by Carol Cartwright, June, 2000. Negatives on file in the Historic Preservation Division of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.

**Views:**

- 1 of 25: Site view of St. Luke's Church Complex, view from the northeast.
- 2 of 25: View of St. Luke's Church, view from the northeast.
- 3 of 25: Interior, St. Luke's Church, sanctuary, looking west.
- 4 of 25: Interior, St. Luke's Church, sanctuary, looking east.
- 5 of 25: St. Luke's Rectory, east elevation, view from the northeast.
- 6 of 25: Interior, Rectory, view of the main staircase.
- 7 of 25: Interior, Rectory, view of the main hallway, first floor.
- 8 of 25: Interior, Rectory, view of the cabinet in living room.
- 9 of 25: Interior, Rectory, second floor, view of main staircase.
- 10 of 25: Interior, Rectory, second floor, view of main hallway.
- 11 of 25: St. Luke's Convent, east elevation, view from the east.
- 12 of 25: Interior, Convent, view of main staircase.
- 13 of 25: Interior, Convent, view of dining room.
- 14 of 25: Interior, Convent, view of second floor bedroom.
- 15 of 25: Site view, St. Luke's Church Complex, view from the southeast.
- 16 of 25: St. Luke's School, south elevation, view from the southeast.
- 17 of 25: Interior, School, main staircase.
- 18 of 25: Interior, School, main staircase detail.
- 19 of 25: Interior, School, hallway of main block, lockers.
- 20 of 25: Interior, School, classroom in main block.
- 21 of 25: Interior, School, classroom in addition, lockers.
- 22 of 25: Interior, School, classroom in addition.
- 23 of 25: Interior, School, gymnasium in basement.
- 24 of 25: Interior, School, classroom in basement.
- 25 of 25: Interior, School, auditorium on third floor, looking at stage.

Saint Luke's Church Complex \_\_\_\_\_ Manitowoc County, WI \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Property County and State

**Property Owner** \_\_\_\_\_

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

For the Church and Rectory

name St. Luke's Catholic Church \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number 1814 Jefferson St. \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Two Rivers \_\_\_\_\_ state WI \_\_\_\_\_ zip code 54241

**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. 470 *et seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects, (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

Saint Luke's Church Complex \_\_\_\_\_ Manitowoc County, WI \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Property County and State

**Property Owner** \_\_\_\_\_

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

For the old Convent (Two Rivers Historical Society Museum)

name Two Rivers Historical Society \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number 1622 Jefferson St. \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Two Rivers state WI zip code 54241

**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. 470 *et seq.*).

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Saint Luke's Church Complex \_\_\_\_\_ Manitowoc County, WI \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Property County and State

Property Owner \_\_\_\_\_

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

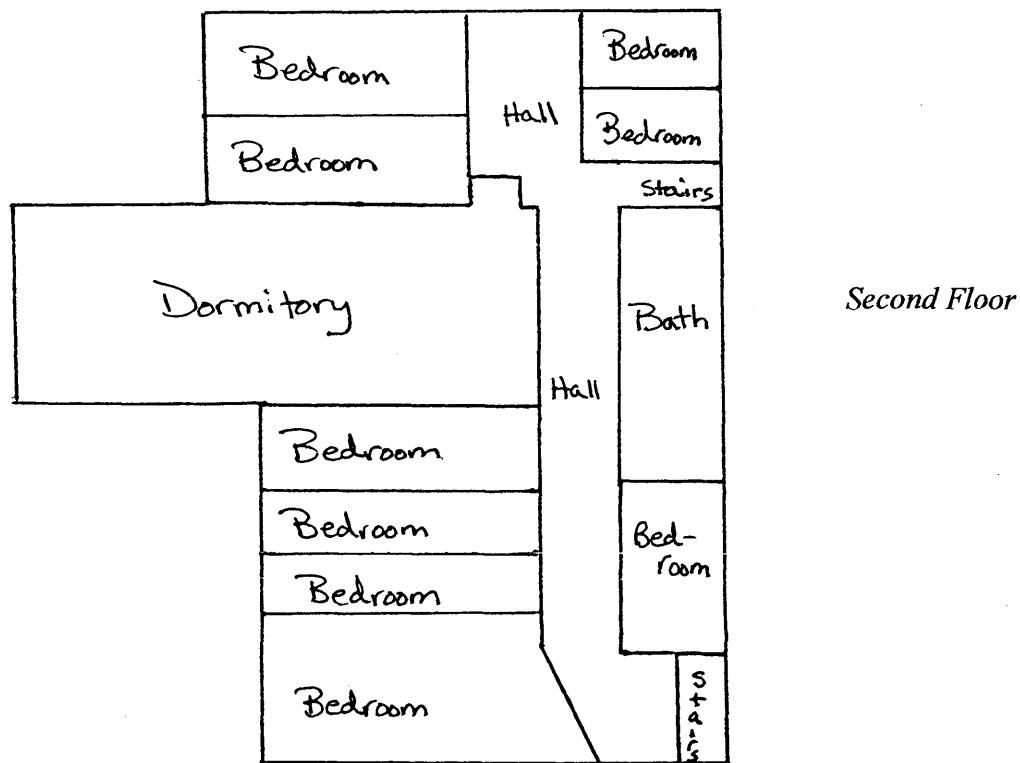
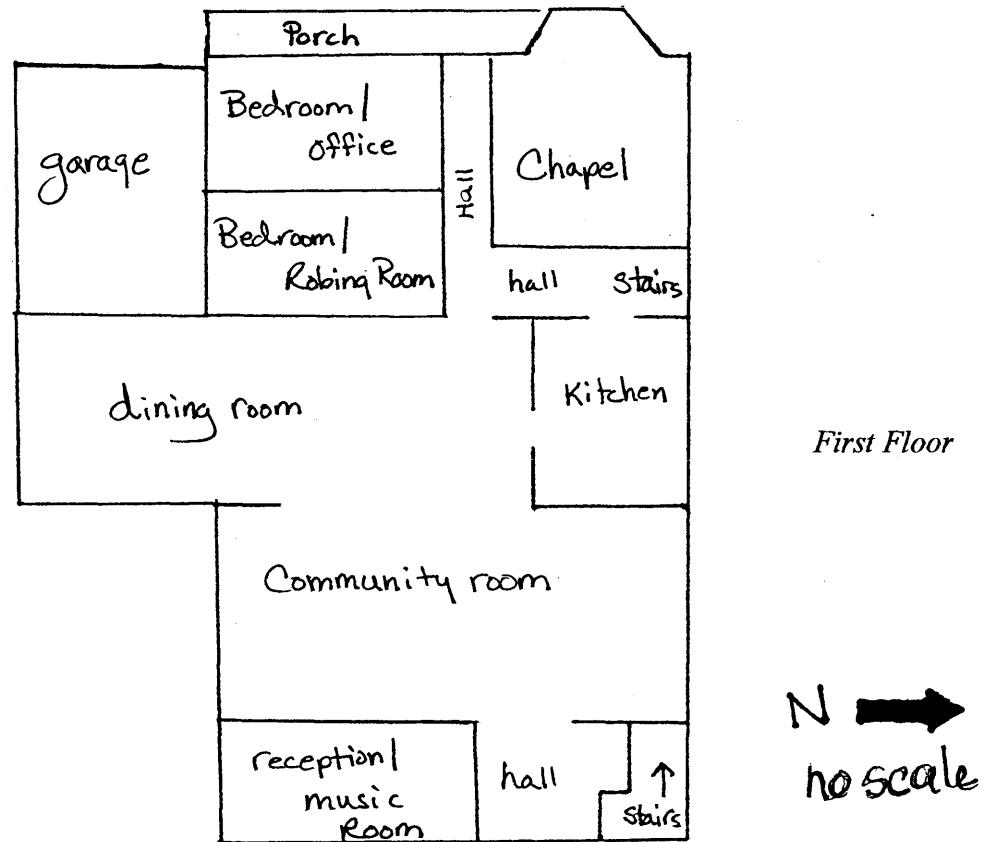
For the old School

name MetroPlains Properties Inc \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number 1600 University Ave., Suite 212 telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town St. Paul state MN zip code 55104

**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. 470 *et seq.*).

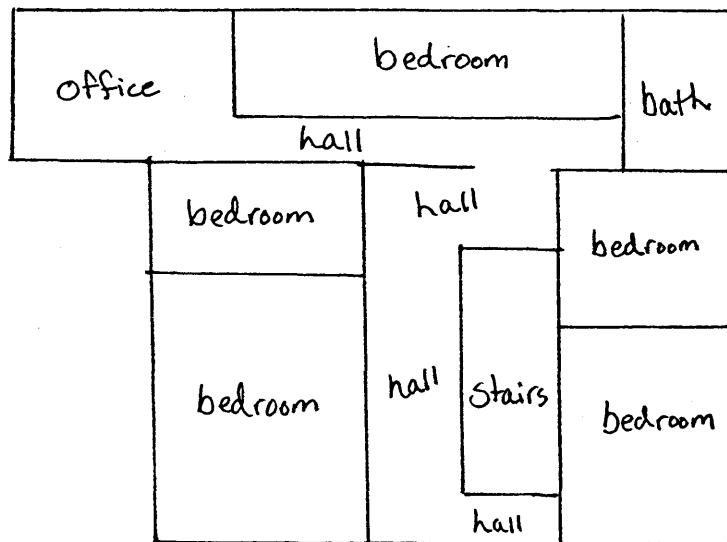
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**ST. LUKE'S CONVENT FLOOR PLAN**  
 (Two Rivers Historical Museum)  
 St. Luke's Church Complex  
 Two Rivers, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin



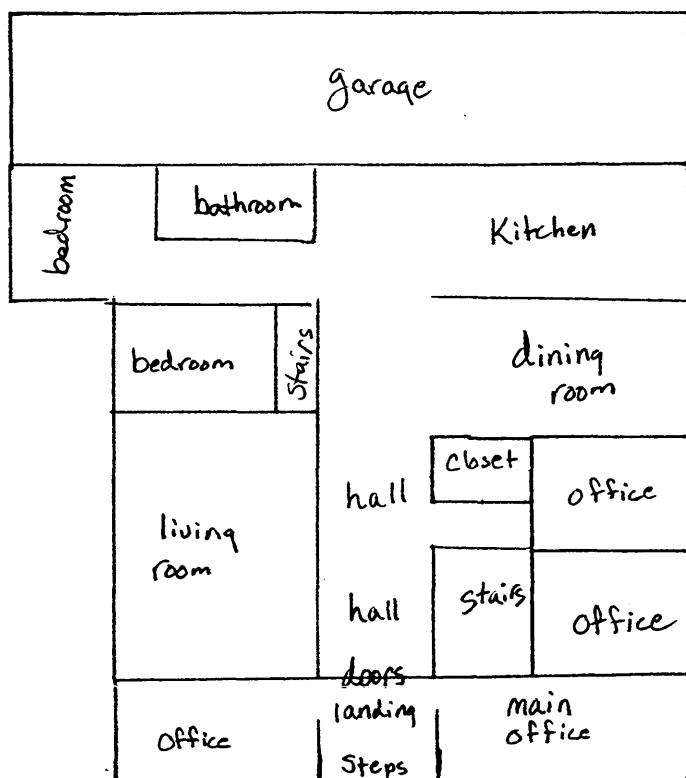
## ST. LUKE'S RECTORY FLOOR PLAN

St. Luke's Church Complex  
Two Rivers, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin



Second Floor

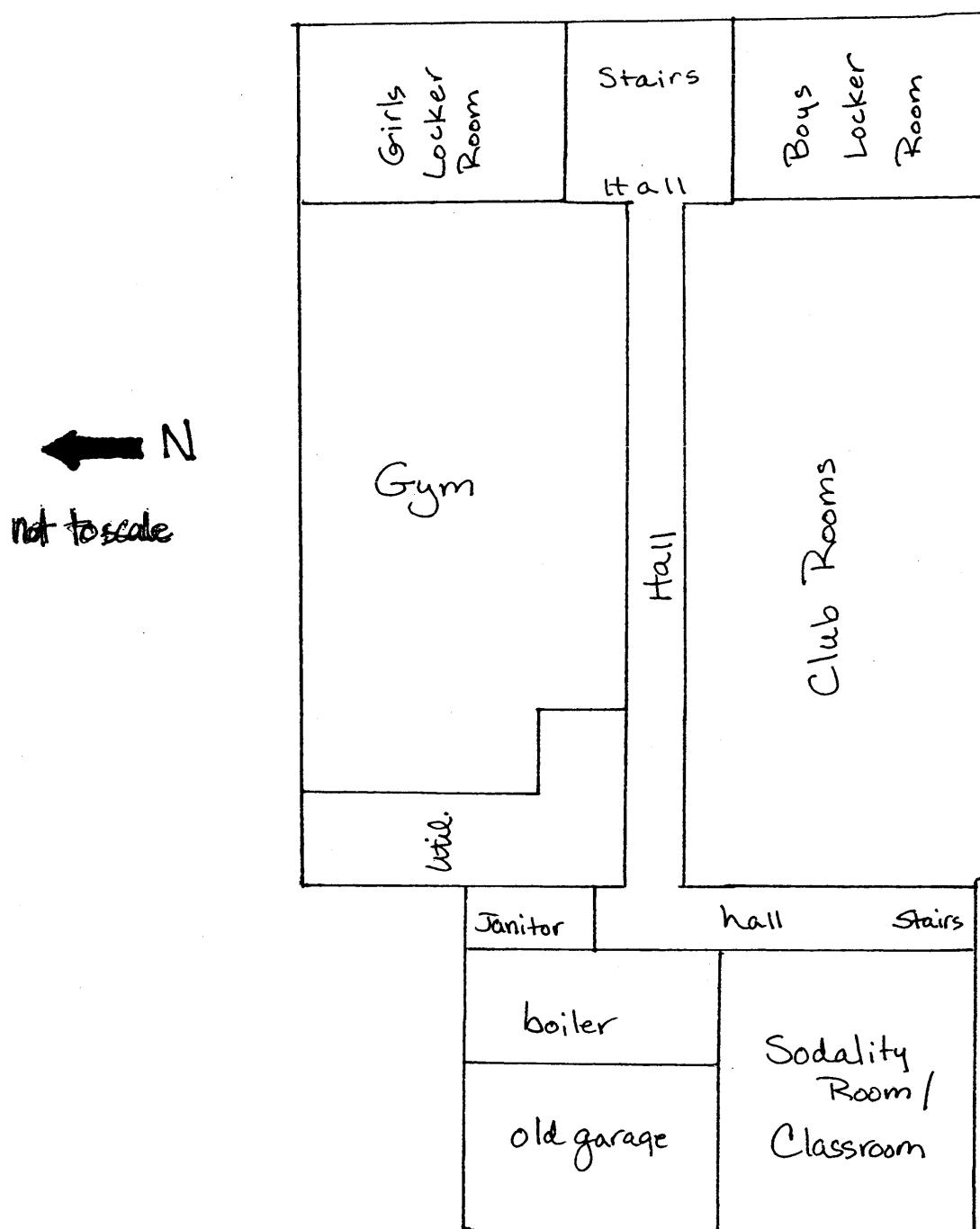
N →  
not to scale



First Floor

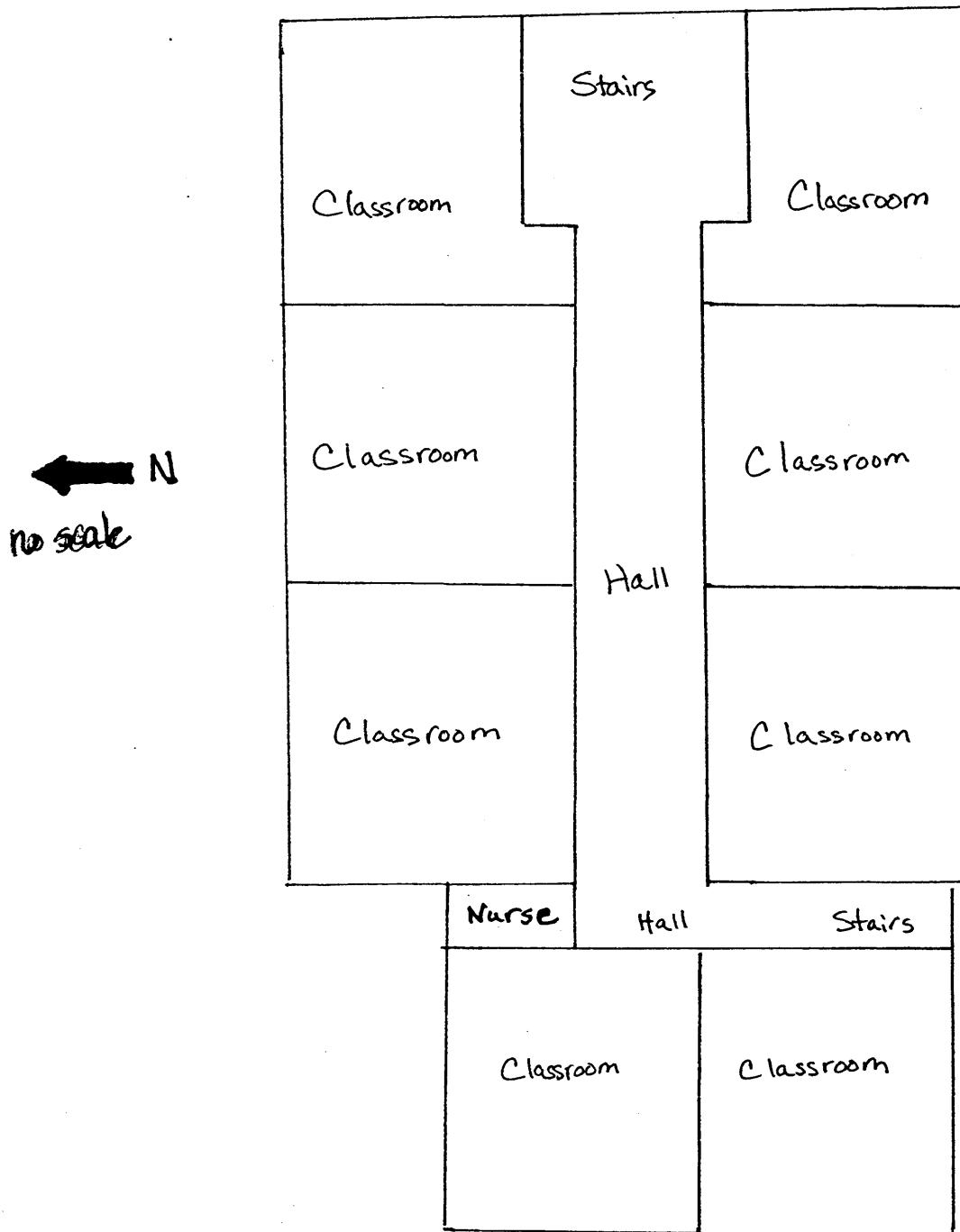
**ST. LUKE'S SCHOOL FLOOR PLAN**

St. Luke's Church Complex  
Two Rivers, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin



*Basement Floor*

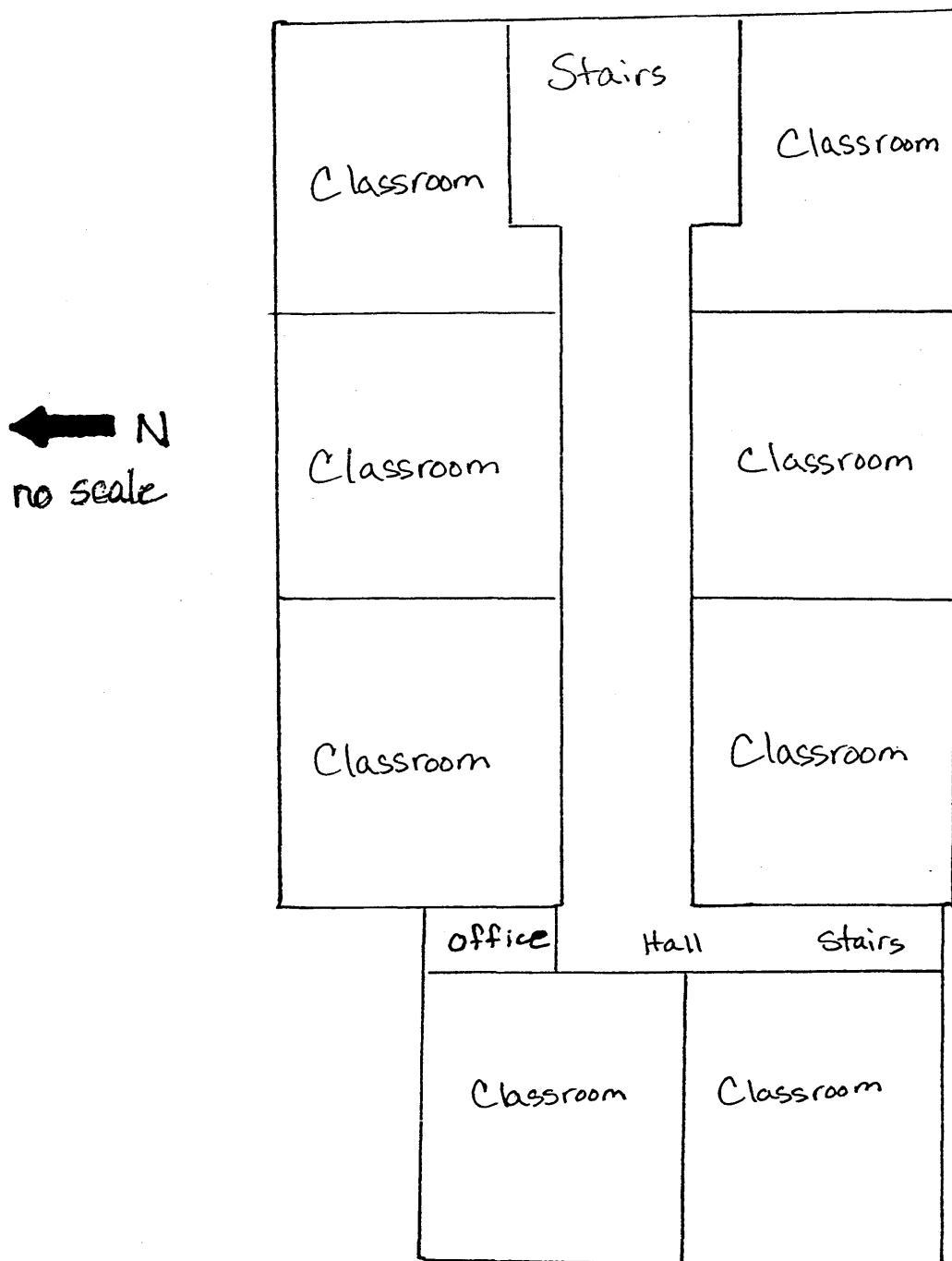
**ST. LUKE'S SCHOOL FLOOR PLAN**  
St. Luke's Church Complex  
Two Rivers, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin



*First Floor*

**ST. LUKE'S SCHOOL FLOOR PLAN**

St. Luke's Church Complex  
Two Rivers, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin

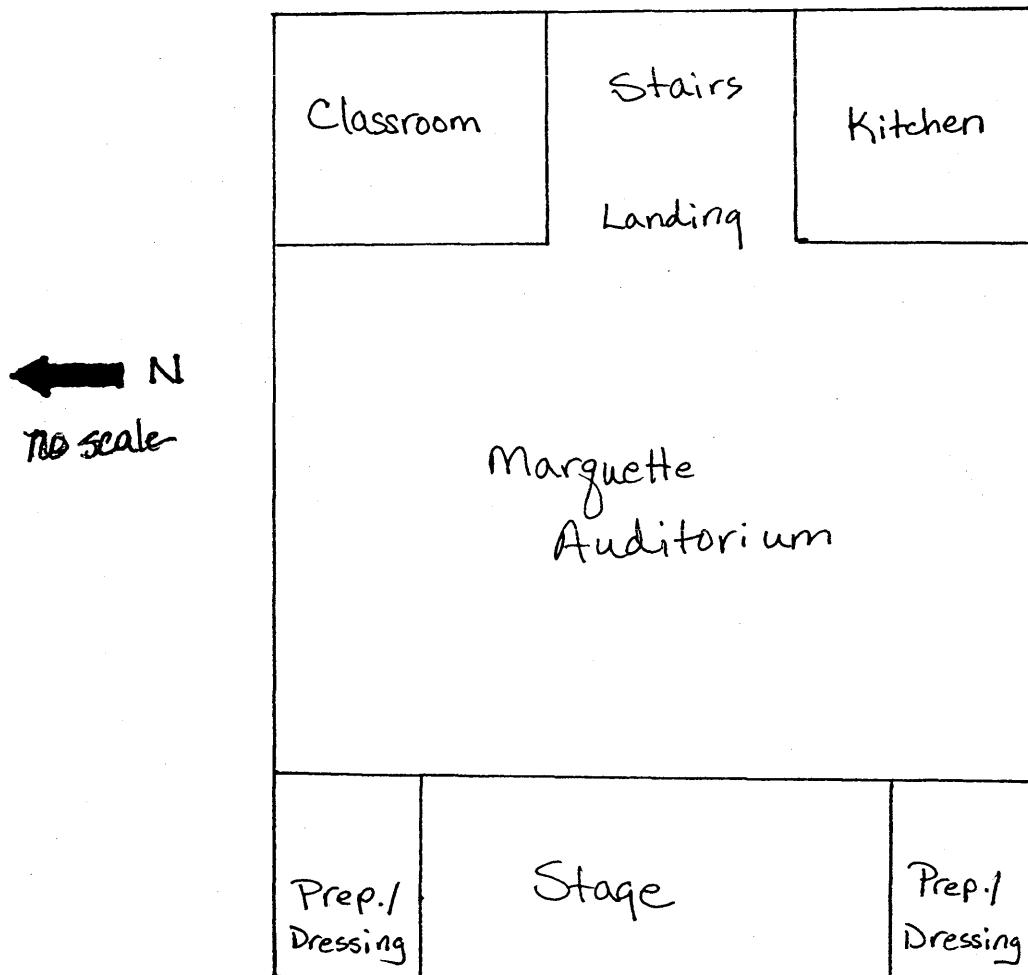


*Second Floor*

**ST. LUKE'S SCHOOL FLOOR PLAN**

St. Luke's Church Complex

Two Rivers, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin



*Third Floor*