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INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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" on the appropriate line 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 ST. JOSEPH'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH AND CEMETERY HISTORIC DISTRICT

other names/site number St. Joseph's, Bauer

2. Location

street & number One mile east of junction County Rd. G76 & SE 97th St. N/A not for publication

city or town Lacona X vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Marion code 125 zip code 50139

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this (X nomination \_ request for determination of eligibility) meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property (X meets \_ does not meet) the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant (\_ nationally \_ statewide X locally). (\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature]  
Signature of certifying official/Title  
State Historical Society of Iowa

12/17/94  
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 or Federal agency and bureau

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
- \_ removed from the National Register.
- \_ Other, (Explain)

[Signature]  
Signature of Keeper

Edson H. Beall

Entered in the National Register

Date of Action 1.24.95

St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church and Cemetery Historic District  
Name of Property

Marion County, Iowa  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many lines as apply)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one line)

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

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- buildings(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
1		sites
		structures
		objects
2	0	Total

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

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGIOUS, Religious structure

FUNERARY, Cemetery

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

RELIGIOUS, Religious structure

FUNERARY, Cemetery

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN/Gothic

LATE VICTORIAN/Romanesque

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

foundation STONE

walls BRICK

WOOD

roof METAL

other GLASS

STONE

**Narrative Description**

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

St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church and Cemetery Historic District  
Name of Property

Marion County, Iowa  
County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" on one or more lines for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" on all the lines that apply)  
Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT  
ARCHITECTURE  
ETHNIC HERITAGE/European

**Period of Significance**

1876 - 1913

**Significant Dates**

1876, 1913

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

**Narrative Statement of Significance** - (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

**9. Major Bibliography 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):**

- previous determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Record
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historical Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository

St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church and Cemetery Historic District  
Name of Property

Marion County, Iowa  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property Two acres +/-

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 | 15 | 474 165 | 4561 165 |

Zone Easting Northing

2 |    |          |          |

Zone Easting Northing

3 |    |          |          |

Zone Easting Northing

4 |    |          |          |

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title William C. Page, Public Historian  
organization St. Joseph's R. C. Church date June 6, 1994  
street & number 520 East Sheridan Avenue telephone 515-243-5740; FAX 515-243-7285  
city or town Des Moines state Iowa zip code 50313

**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)

**Property Owner**

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

name St. Joseph's Church of Bauer, Iowa  
street & number c/o Robert Greubel, President; R. R. #1 telephone 515-947-2201  
city or town Lacona state Iowa zip code 50139

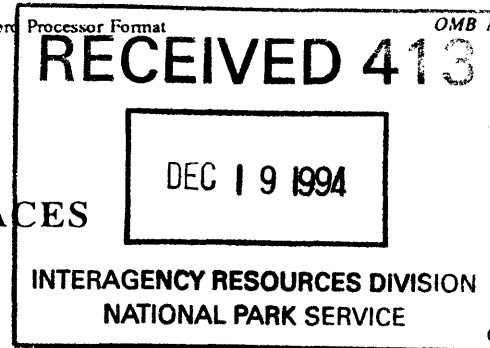
**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to 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.

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National Park Service

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church and Cemetery Historic District, Marion County, Iowa.

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION

St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church and Cemetery Historic District is located in a rural area in the southwestern part of Marion County, Iowa, near the intersection of the paved County Road G76 and a gravel road in Dallas Township about five miles west of the city of Melcher. The paved road is also known as S. E. 76th Avenue in nearby Warren County.

This historic district forms the focal point for the defunct village of Bauer, formerly an unincorporated, rural community consisting of a general store, post office, and cluster of single-family dwellings associated with German settlement. This site is situated on the crest of a hill. The surrounding land is very hilly, riven by White Breast Creek to the north and to west and by other creeks on the south and east. These creeks provide drainage to the immediate area and flow into the Des Moines River. The land in this area is farmed with crops and livestock.

The historic district consists of a rectangle of land measuring 468'x183' (see map on page 11) and contains two contributing resources. The first contributing resource, St. Joseph's Church, consists of a brick sanctuary with a tower and belfry, an attached frame sacristy, and the surrounding church yard. For convenience, this resource is referred to as the "church" in this nomination. The second contributing resource, St. Joseph's Cemetery, is located directly east of the church and consists of land laid out in grave plots, a gate and fence, a pedestrian walk, an out-of-doors altar, grave markers, and plantings of vegetation. This resource is referred to as the "cemetery." Although there are other resources located adjacent to the historic district, they are excluded from this nomination for reasons discussed on pages 7-8.

### CHURCH

St. Joseph's Church, classified as a building, is counted as one contributing resource to the historic district.

#### Exterior of Building

Completed in 1876 and facing west, this edifice stands approximately 78 feet east of a county gravel road. The building contains three elements: a sanctuary, tower and belfry, and sacristy. The sanctuary is 1-story, brick, and rectangular in shape. It measures 60' x 41', with the narrow side as facade. A tower, which measures 13'7" x 18', projects from the facade and contains a belfry. The 1-story, frame sacristy, measuring 16'5" x 20'3", is attached to the east wall of the sanctuary. The church yard, which surrounds the building, measures 210' x 183'.

The foundation of the sanctuary and tower is stone, locally quarried, and original to the building's construction. The stone above grade is dressed and the top course is beveled to form a water table. An historic account mentions the laying of a cornerstone for this church.

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No stone in the foundation contains writing, so it is presumed that the cornerstone mentioned was without distinguishing marks, or, perhaps it may have referred to a tablet dated 1876 above the front entryway.

Walls of the sanctuary, tower, and belfry are load-bearing brick. Material for the brick came from a nearby claypit. The brick were fired on site. Each corner of the building features a square column delineated by the remaining wall surface being inset. Brick corbeling is situated directly beneath the eaves on the north, west, and south elevations of the sanctuary, as well as surrounding the belfry. The corbeling on the west elevation of the sanctuary is laid diagonally to parallel to the slope of the gabled roof. Windows feature Gothic arches, worked in brick, and dressed stone sills. Bonding of the walls is American (or running) bond.

The roof of the sanctuary is facade-gabled and covered with pressed metal shingles. The eaves of the sanctuary are roughly two feet wide. The belfry is covered by a hipped roof with pressed metal shingles. Each elevation of the tower features Italianate-influenced brackets immediately below the tower roof. A set of paired brackets is situated in the center of each of these elevations, flanked on each side with two additional single brackets.

The east elevation of the building features double rose windows. The lower window is somewhat larger than the upper rose window. Although the ceiling of the sanctuary blocks the upper rose window from interior view, this window the window is visible on the exterior. Original mullions appear to remain in place on it.

The tower is the most complex exterior element. Squat in appearance, it is divided into a lower tower and an upper tower. The upper tower is distinguished from the lower one by being somewhat smaller. A course of stone separates the lower and the upper towers. A large, dressed stone cross stands on this course on the building's west elevation. Although the lintels of the upper tower's windows also feature Gothic arches, they protrude slightly from the face of the wall and give the tower another embellishment in distinction from the lintels of the sanctuary where they are flush with the walls. Although the top of the upper tower's walls also feature denticulation, these dentils are also more elaborate than those of the sanctuary.

The tower features two bells and housing apparatus to peal them by hand. The east bell, cast by J. G. Struckstede and Brother of St. Louis, Missouri, is dated 1881 and dedicated to the honor of the saints ["Ad Honorem Sts.]. The west bell, cast by the same firm and also dated 1881, was dedicated to St. Joseph ["Sancta Joseph"]. This writing is cast on the bells.

The 1-story, frame, sacristy forms a wing connected to the southeast corner of the sanctuary. It features stone footings and clapboard siding, and is covered by a gable roof with asphalt shingles. Its windows contain 4/4 double-hung sash. A transom stands over the five-paneled exterior door on the south elevation. This wing was constructed after the sanctuary and tower (Leo Metz, personal communication), probably in the late Nineteenth Century.

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Interior of Building

The interior of the sanctuary consists of one large room divided into two areas. The altar area is situated on the east end of the room on a raised platform. The remaining area in the sanctuary provides seating for the congregation. A center aisle and two side aisles divide this area into four sections. Pews, installed in the church between 1880 and 1881, remain in place in the balcony, while the oak pews on the main floor appear to be somewhat later. A high altar, installed in 1880, was removed following Vatican II in the 1960s. This reform within the Roman Catholic Church introduced many changes to liturgy and traditional church design. Two side altars, also thought to have been installed in 1880s, remain extant. The side altar on the northeast features St. Mary the Virgin holding the infant Jesus, while the side altar on the southeast features St. Joseph.

The sanctuary features stained and colored glass windows. Most were given by members of the parish in memory of a deceased relative. Several of the religious subjects in these windows depict Christian saints often associated with German Catholicism, such as St. Mary the Virgin and St. Boniface, the English missionary historically known as the "Apostle of Germany." Other windows depict Ss. Francis of Assisi, Joseph, Barbara, and Catherine of Siena. These windows were installed over a period of years prior to World War I. The interior also features a series of Stations of the Cross, worked in plaster and installed in 1916. (They were later relocated to different positions in the sanctuary.)

The sanctuary walls at one time were decorated with a variety of oil paintings. Although some have been removed, two large paintings remain fixed to the east wall. One features Christ's Ascension and the other features Jesus Knocking at the Door. Several smaller oil paintings and stenciled borders of hearts and religious symbols, thought to have been installed in the first decade of the Twentieth Century, may exist beneath wood paneling, dating from the 1980s.

The ceiling of the sanctuary features a barrel configuration clad with pressed metal. A balcony is situated at the rear of the sanctuary. It contains additional seating and a large reed organ manufactured by the Estey Organ Company of Brattleboro, Vermont, and installed in the church circa 1900.

The first floor of the tower provides a vestibule, as well as a stairway to the balcony and to the belfry. The stairway features an original newel post, as well as treads, risers, banister, and balusters. The doorway from the tower to the balcony has a Gothic arch. The belfry contains the bells discussed above. Bells have historically played an important role in the Bauer community. An elderly resident said they "used the bells all the time." He also recounted that the two bells weighed a total of two tons (Leo Metz, personal communication). Occasionally the bells still knell for funerals.

The sacristy contains one room. It is used to house ecclesiastical furnishings and to make preparations for the Mass. The interior of the sacristy features wood cabinets, which appear to

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be original to the room. This woodwork features natural finishes. A door on the south elevation gives access to the outside, while a door on the west elevation provides access to the sanctuary.

### Church Yard

The church yard, which together with the church is included as one contributing resource, consists of the lawn, pedestrian walks, and plantings immediately surrounding the church. Two mature evergreen trees flank the facade of the church. A concrete walk connects the main entrance to the church and a parking area situated on the south. Another concrete walk runs along the south elevation of the church and sacristy to the cemetery. A parking lot is situated to the south of this walk. The remainder of the church yard is planted in lawn.

In earlier years, a picket fence stood between the church and the road and dramatically defined the church yard (see historic photograph on page 26). A row of deciduous trees paralleled this fence within the yard and a wagon gate stood on the south end. A row of hitching posts stood between the road and the picket fence. A second set of hitching posts also stood in front of the rectory (Leo Metz, personal communication). The fence, hitching posts, and trees were removed many years ago. At one time, a stone walk ran from the entrance to the sanctuary to the road. Although this feature is nonextant, it can be seen in an historic photograph on page 28.

### **CEMETERY**

St. Joseph's Cemetery is classified as a site and counted as one contributing resource to the historic district. It contains land laid out in grave plots, a gate and fence, a pedestrian walk, an out-of-doors altar, approximately 73 grave markers, and plantings of vegetation. The boundaries of the cemetery, which measures 183' x 258', consist of a fence on the east, new plantings of evergreen trees on the south, a fence on the west, and a line of maple trees on the north.

### Layout

St. Joseph's Cemetery measures about 183' x 258' and plots are laid out in a grid pattern. The main entrance to the cemetery is on its west boundary, adjacent to the church yard. A paved pedestrian walk along the south side of the sanctuary and sacristy runs to the entrance of the cemetery leads to the cemetery entrance. This entrance is defined by a metal fence and gateway. The gateway consists of vertical members supporting an arch with the words "St. Joseph's Cemetery" worked into the arch. The western boundary of the cemetery is further



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defined by a wire fence running north and south along this boundary. Wire fences also define the eastern, southern, and northern boundaries of the cemetery.

The pedestrian walk and altar physically divides St. Joseph's Cemetery into three sections, the North Section, South Section, and East Section (see "Boundaries of Historic District" map on page 11). The pedestrian walk extends from the entrance of the cemetery to the altar. The altar forms a terminus for the pedestrian walk and features a life-sized crucifixion sculpture.

The North Section of the cemetery contains 14 rows of plots and the South Section also contains 14 rows. Rows one through five in the North Section (numbering from the west) are restricted for child burials and about three dozen plots are given over for this purpose. The remaining rows in the North and South Sections are unrestricted as to age. A collection of seven irregularly laid out graves cluster beneath a tree in the northern limits of the North Section. These are also for child burials. (The names for these sections are not historic and are used in this nomination for clarity.)

Burials and grave markers in South Section and the North Section face east. Burials and grave markers in the East Section face west. That is, all burials and grave markers face the altar.

#### Gate and Fence

A iron pipe and wire fence runs north and south between the church yard and the cemetery and serves to define these two areas. The fence features a variety of cast iron finials on the fence posts. The metal gate features an arch, supported by two columns, with the words "St. Joseph's Cemetery."

#### Pedestrian Walk

A concrete pedestrian walk runs from the entrance of the cemetery to the altar. This is a 1978 replacement of an earlier concrete walk, whose location conforms to the central corridor within the cemetery's original layout.

#### Altar

Situated in the center of the cemetery, this altar forms a terminus for the pedestrian walk. The altar is constructed of flagstone with two poured concrete steps in front of it. The altar features a sculpture of the Crucifixion, approximately ten feet in height. Life-size figures of Mary and John flank that of Jesus on the Cross. These sculptures are constructed of metal and coated with paint. They are thought to date prior to World War I. The cross is made of wood. The base of the altar was rebuilt in the early 1990s. Edward Ford of Knoxville, Iowa, repaired the

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sculptures at the same time. The sculptures, which appear to be products of a religious supply house, are unsigned.

Grave Markers

The grave markers in the cemetery date from 1851 through the 1990s. They comprise a range of styles, shapes, colors, and sizes. Materials consist of several varieties of stone, including limestone and granite. Many of the older monuments have a feeling of verticality to them, while the newer ones generally convey a more massive feeling. Monuments are placed in north-south rows.

Saint Joseph's Cemetery contains 40 cross-on-stone grave markers. These cross-on-stone markers feature free-standing Christian crosses carved on top of the grave marker itself. Cross-on-stone markers can be divided into the following typology according to the shape of the stone they surmount:

CROSS-ON-TABLET

The earliest type of cross grave marker in the St. Joseph's Cemetery, the cross-on-tablet marker consists of a small, tablet-like marker surmounted by a stone cross. Although they vary in height, typical examples stand about 2' 6" above grade. The example marking Joseph Helmel's grave features the initials "I. H. S." carved into the horizontal member of the cross.

St. Joseph's Cemetery contains seven examples of this type of grave marker.

CROSS-ON-SHAFT

The cross-on-shaft grave marker consists of a stepped base, surmounted by a thin rectangular column, and capped with a carved stone cross. Although they vary in height, several examples measure 5' high. This type of grave marker conveys a decidedly vertical feeling.

These grave markers date from the last quarter of the Nineteenth Century, about midway within the time period wherein cross markers were erected at St. Joseph's.

St. Joseph's Cemetery contains 21 examples of this type of grave marker.

CROSS-ON-BLOCK

This type of grave marker consists of a massive, rectangular block, capped with a cross. It conveys a feeling of weight and permanence. Although they vary greatly in height, several examples stand 6' high.

These grave markers date from the first and second decades of the Twentieth Century.

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St. Joseph's Cemetery contains 12 examples of this type of grave marker.

**VARIATIONS**

Although insufficiently important to merit separate categories, variations of the above types also exist. During the 1920s, for example, several block-type grave markers were erected, which featured crosses carved on the block itself rather than surmounting it.

Around the turn of the Twentieth Century, the Offenburger family erected a cross-on-block grave marker with an "I. H. S." inscription carved in it, reminiscent of Joseph Helmel's.

Several additional notes are in order concerning the design of grave markers at St. Joseph's. In addition to the crosses-on-stone discussed above, most of the other markers also feature a Christian cross carved somewhere on the stone. The few grave markers in the cemetery without crosses are mostly modern.

In addition to the cross, the heart is another frequently employed symbol. This is particularly true in the Infant and Children's Section of the cemetery. The grave marker for Sister Columba, the only member of a religious order in the cemetery, also features a heart.

Only a handful of grave markers in St. Joseph's Cemetery feature finials in the shape of urns. Although these are frequently found in Victorian cemeteries in Iowa, they are noticeably absent at St. Joseph's. Another feature is also absent--iron cross grave markers. These markers are sometimes associated with German settlements in Iowa. They can be seen in St. Boniface's Cemetery in Westphalia (Shelby County), as well as Immaculate Conception Cemetery in Haverhill (Marshall County), which features the work of blacksmith Matthew Edel.

Plantings

Four mature maple trees stand along the north boundary of the cemetery. Several evergreen trees flank the fence which separates the church yard from the cemetery. A long row of immature evergreen trees stands on a north-south axis at the east end of the cemetery. A stand of immature evergreen shrubs is situated along the south edge of the cemetery.

**EXCLUDED RESOURCES**

Several resources associated with St. Joseph's Church and the village of Bauer are situated nearby. Included among these resources is a schoolhouse-convent, rectory, and single-family dwelling. None of these resources is included within the boundaries of the historic district. Although they call attention to the evolution of Bauer and the history of the parish, they lack

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architectural distinction under National Register Criterion C and were excluded from the nomination for this reason. While they might be eligible under Criterion A, this determination must wait for further investigation. Constraints of time and budget limited the scope of this project.

The following information about these excluded resources is included here to provide context.

### Schoolhouse-Convent and Associated Structures

St. Joseph's Schoolhouse-Convent stands about one hundred feet north of the sanctuary. Completed in 1904, this 2-1/2 story, frame building is covered with a gable front roof. A projecting wing at the rear is covered with a side-gable roof, which ties into that of the main block. A 1-story entrance, constructed somewhat later, stands at the front of the schoolhouse, and a 1-story porch, original to the building, is situated within the ell formed by the main block and the rear wing. This building was used both as a schoolhouse and a convent throughout most of its history.

A 1-story, board and batten outbuilding, whose construction was contemporary with the schoolhouse, stood about 60 feet northeast of it. This outbuilding was razed in 1992. A modern pavilion is located directly southeast of the schoolhouse, and a concrete slab has recently been laid to the east in preparation for construction of another pavilion-like building.

### Rectory

St. Joseph's Rectory stands across the gravel road from the church. Constructed in 1913, this building replaced an earlier rectory (nonextant) constructed in 1873. The new rectory, a 2-1/2 story, frame house, features a flared, compound hipped-roof and an expanded American Four Square design. Used as a rectory until 1969, this building was sold by the parish in 1972. It now serves as a private dwelling. When in use as a rectory, the grounds contained vegetable gardens and fruit trees, cared for by nuns and students. The rectory stood on a parcel of five acres, most of which was rented for crop farming.

### Other

Several other historic resources associated with the village of Bauer also remain standing within the vicinity. A 1-1/2 story, frame, single-family dwelling stands directly south of the Rectory. Other historic resources at Bauer, such as the general store and post office and the home of Steve Metz, an early settler, are nonextant, although historic archaeological information might be recovered from their sites.



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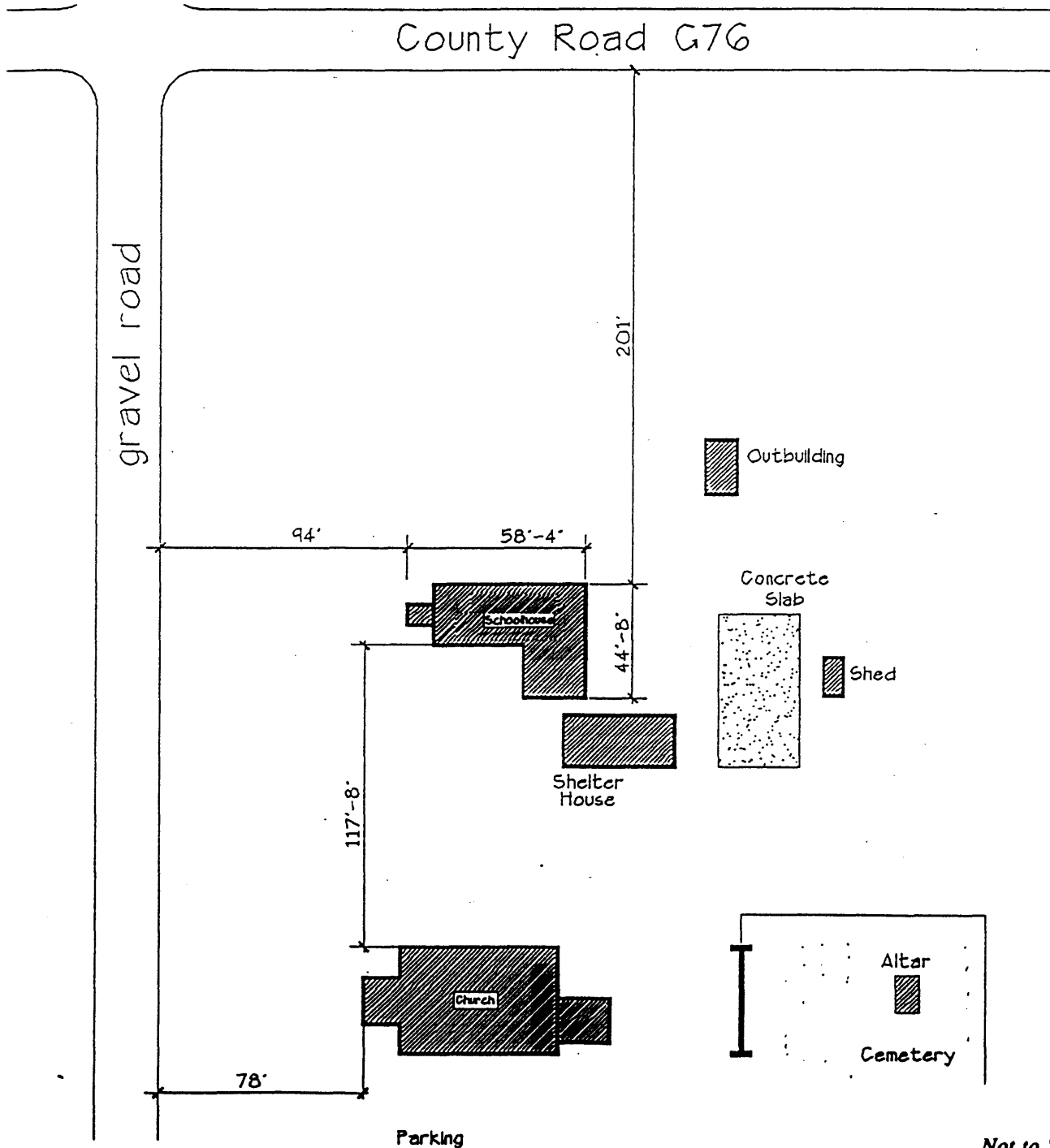
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## SITE MAP



Not to Scale.

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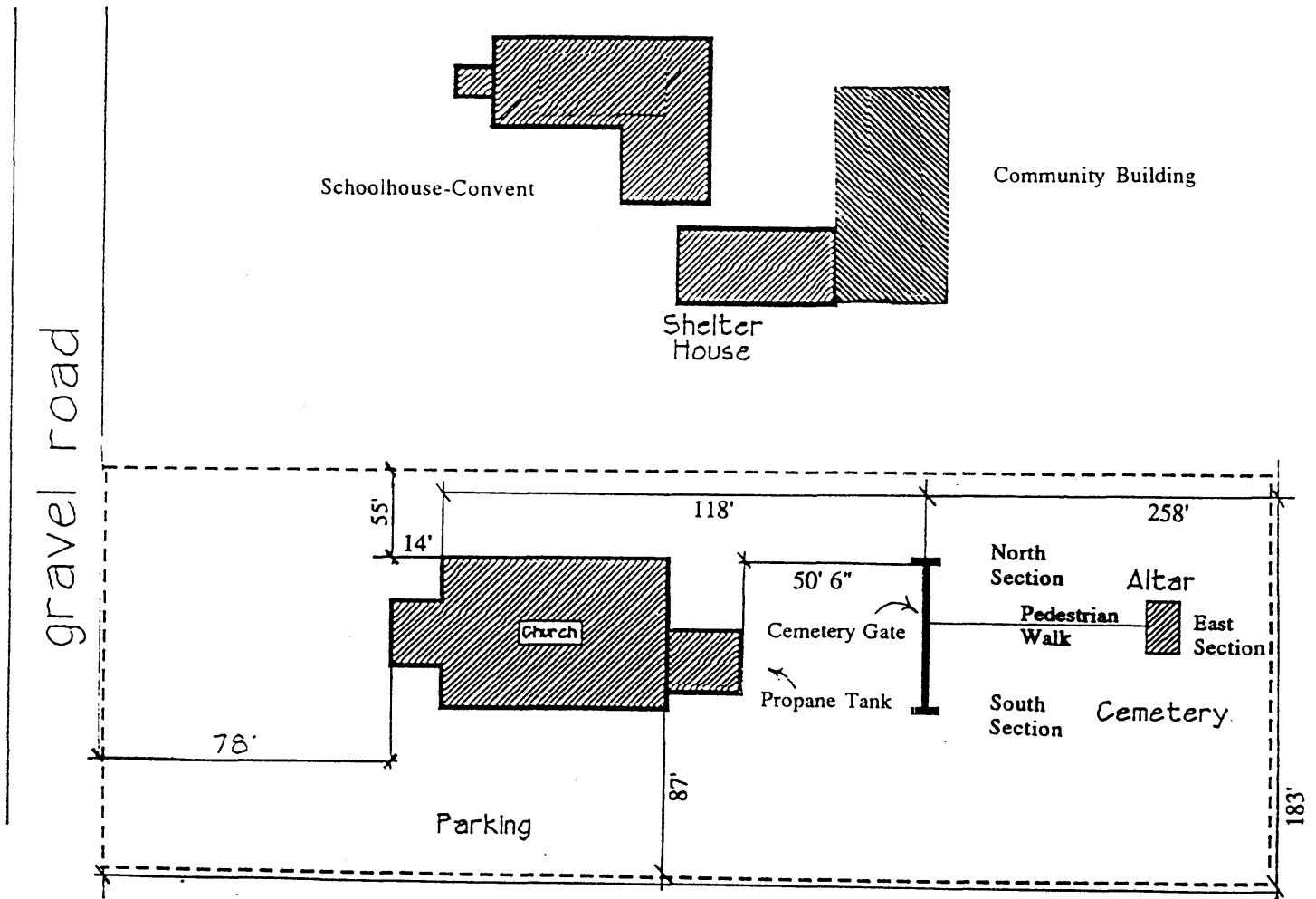
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## BOUNDARIES OF HISTORIC DISTRICT



Not to Scale.

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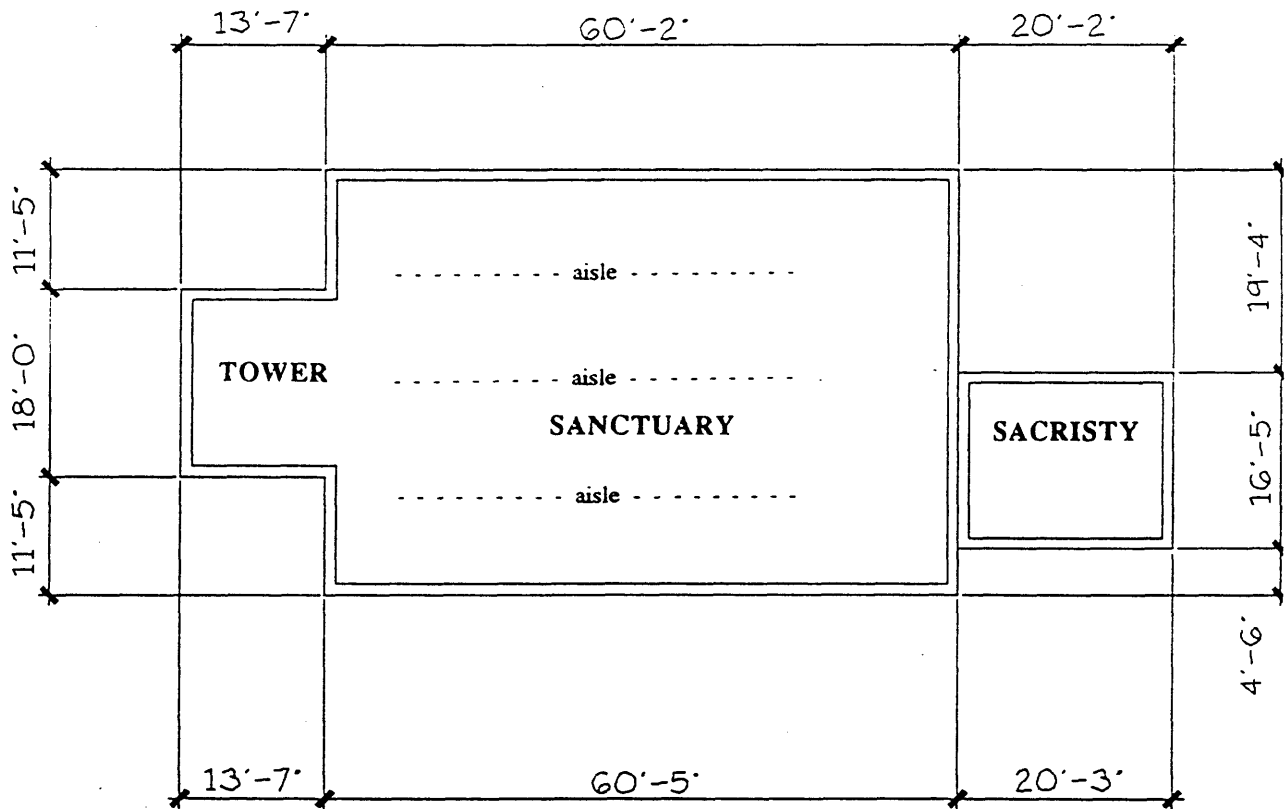
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## CHURCH PLAN



Source: Computer plan by David D. DeBord.



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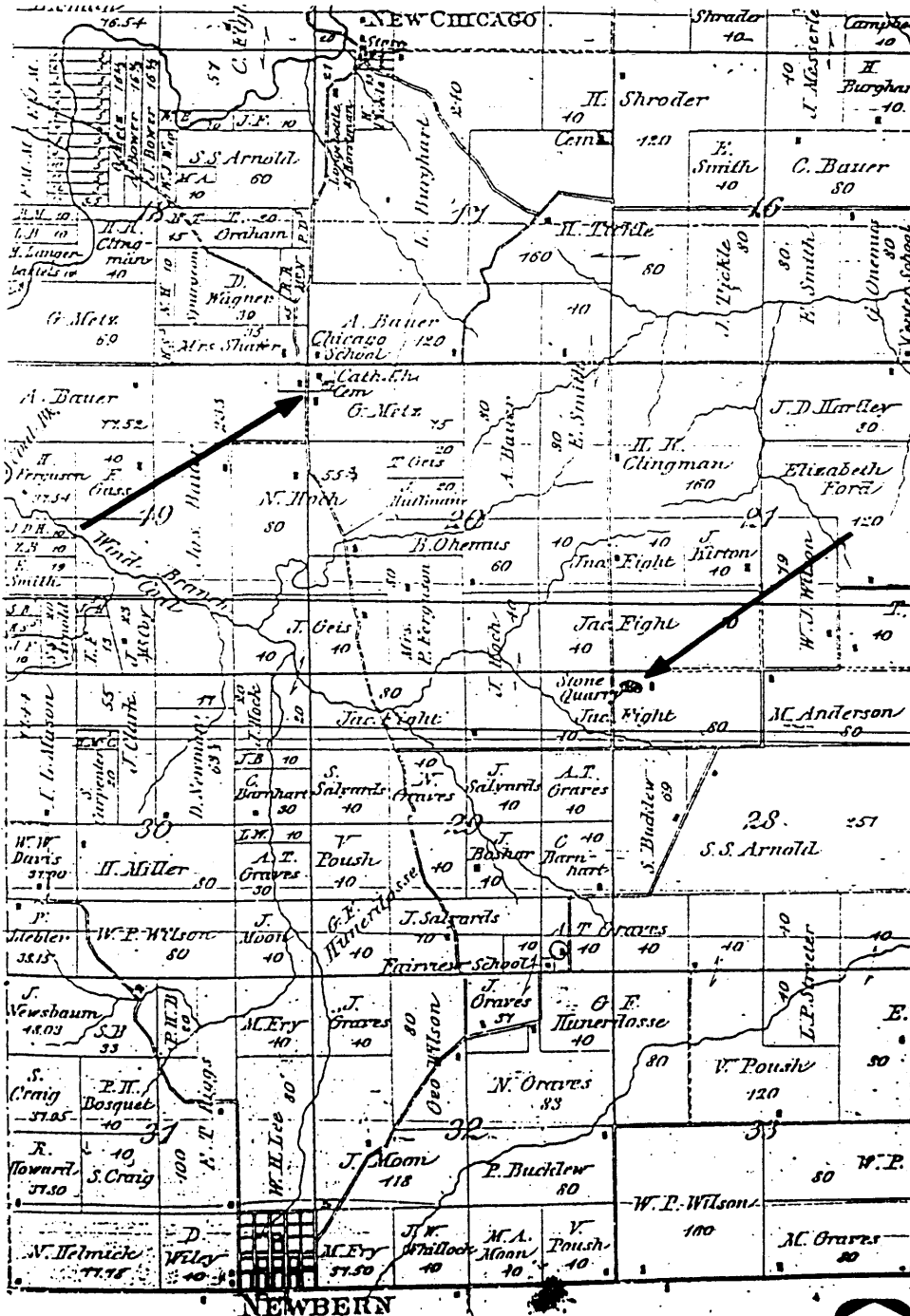
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## MAP OF AREA IN 1875 ARROWS LOCATE HISTORIC DISTRICT & STONE QUARRY



Source: Atlas of Marion County, Iowa, 1875.



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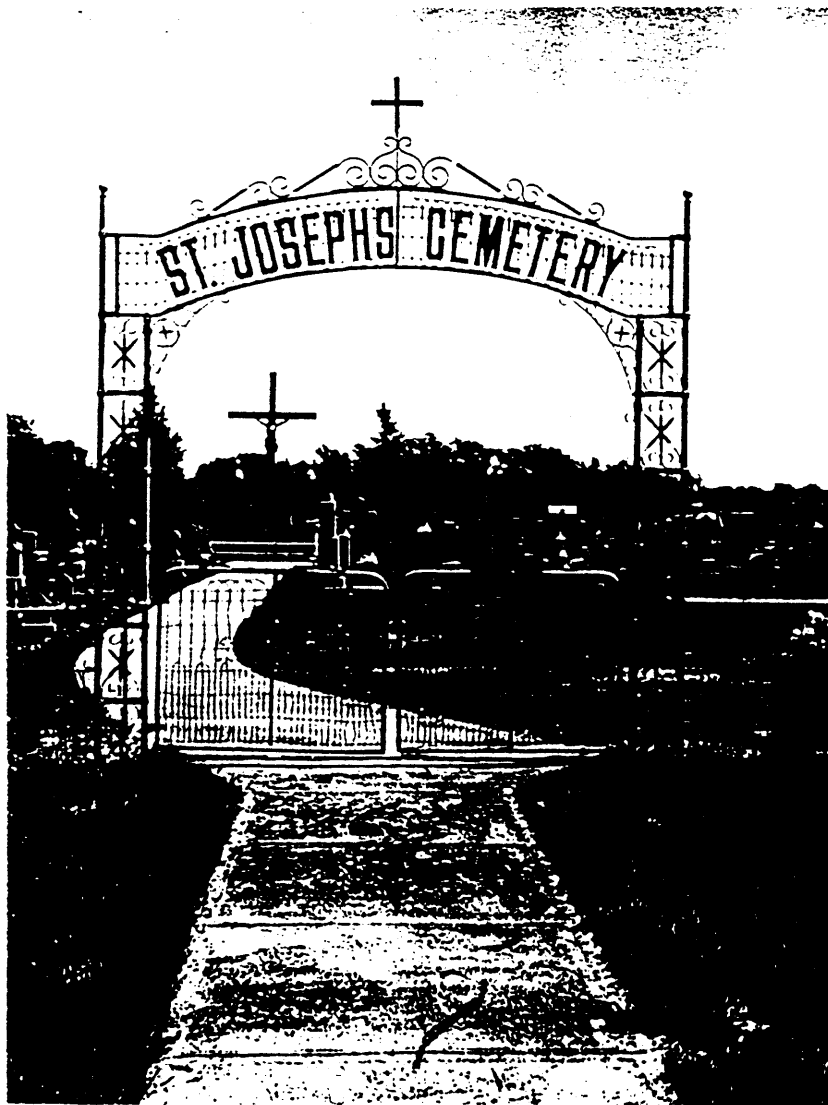
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## ENTRANCE TO CEMETERY AND ALTAR



Source: William C. Page, photographer, May 1993.

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### SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

Forming the centerpiece of the now defunct village of Bauer, Iowa, St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church and Cemetery Historic District is significant under National Register Criterion C on the local level as an outstanding embodiment of architecture influenced by ecclesiastical design brought to Iowa by the original settlers from their native Germany. Constructed between 1873 and 1876, the present brick church building owes its architectural influence to an eclectic blend of vernacular Romanesque and Gothic styling. The massive tower and belfry, double rose windows, and complex brickwork provide good examples. The cemetery also calls attention to the influence of Germanic architectural design. More than three dozen of its stone grave markers feature free-standing Christian crosses surmounting the markers, a practice associated with funerary traditions in the settlers' native land.

This historic district is also significant under National Register Criterion A on the local level. The Germans at Bauer constituted the longest lived, best documented, and probably largest German settlement in Marion County, Iowa. This rural community throughout its history looked to St. Joseph's Church as its center of cultural, educational, social, as well as religious life. A series of contemporary newspaper articles document the early history of this institution. Not only do they provide a window on the parish's development, they also provide an outstanding example of how the wider Catholic community in Iowa encouraged and fostered the creation of such rural settlements in the state.

National Register Criteria Consideration A applies for this resource. Although the property is owned by a religious institution and used for religious purposes, the property qualifies for the National Register because it derives primary significance from its distinctive architectural design.

National Register Criteria Consideration D also applies for this property. Although it includes a cemetery, this cemetery qualifies for the National Register because it also derives primary significance from its distinctive architectural design.

The period of significance for this property comprises the years between 1876 and 1913, the time of paramount German influence within the parish. A significant date is 1876, the year construction of the present church building was completed. Another significant date is 1913, an appropriate time to symbolize the end of German influence in the parish because the last sermon regularly preached in that language occurred then.

### CHURCH DESIGN

The church building is significant as a fine, local example of ecclesiastical design featuring an eclectic blend of Germanic Romanesque and Gothic elements. Three diagnostic characteristics stand out in this regard: the massive tower and belfry, multiple rose windows, and complex

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brickwork. The siting of the building at the crest of a hill is another characteristic of Germanic ecclesiastical traditions.

The church is also significant because it was constructed using local materials and erected by local builders.

### Tower and Belfry

The tower and belfry at St. Joseph's comprise the building's most outstanding architectural elements. They make the first impression on the approaching visitor and their central location and massive proportions recall many parish churches in Germany. (See page 26 for a picture of one example, although not specifically the model for St. Joseph's.)

Dominated by its tower, the solid and fort-like feeling of this church stands in marked contrast to later Nineteenth Century ecclesiastical design within the Roman Catholic Church in Iowa, whose emphasis is on vertical elements, such as narrow towers, steeples, and steeply pitched roofs. Although this is the third generation church on the site, it is the first permanent structure. (The two earlier churches were constructed of log.) The siting of this church at the crest of a hill allows the tower and belfry to dominate in all directions the surrounding countryside, a characteristic of European church traditions.

At all times, the belfry and bells have played an important role in the community. Even the impermanent first church included a belfry as an architectural feature, a phenomenon of sufficient importance to merit mention in the 1915 *History of Marion County*.

A hewed log house of worship, only 16 by 18 feet in size, with a small belfry, was erected. (Volume I, p. 287)

### Rose Windows

The employment of double rose windows at St. Joseph's calls attention to a Germanic architectural design transplanted to Iowa. Architectural historian Louis Grodeck notes that an abundance of rose windows are "typically Late Romanesque traits" in Germanic lands (Grodeck 1977:261) and cites the cathedral at Worms as a notable example. Single rose windows are common features of Nineteenth Century Roman Catholic churches in Iowa, but multiple rose windows are not. As such, the examples at Bauer stand out as uncommon.

### Brickwork

The use of brick for churches is an ancient German characteristic. Throughout much of the Middle Ages, this region of Europe was notably unreceptive to the employment of stone,

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preferring to employ brick materials. A regional Gothic style emerged from this phenomenon, particularly in northern Germany, which is now known as "Backstein Gotik," or brick Gothic (*Ibid.*:251). Stone was used to a greater extent in the south. St. Joseph's illustrates a careful regard to brickwork. In addition to its brick, load-bearing walls, decorative elements, such as lintels and corbelled cornices, are also worked in this material. The corbels are of particular interest. On the facade, they are laid diagonally to parallel the slope of the gabled roof. Employment of such brickwork is typical of ethnic German architecture in the Midwest from the middle of the Nineteenth Century through the 1870s and 1880s.

### Local Building Materials and Builders

St. Joseph's Church is additionally notable because of its construction with local building materials and by local builders.

Limestone was widely available in Dallas Township, as is indicated by numerous outcroppings of stone shown in the 1875 map of Marion County. This stone provided foundation material for early buildings and structures in the area. In spite of the quality and availability of limestone, however, its use seems to have been limited to foundations. This may relate to ethnic traditions among the German settlers of the area, whose preference for brick is noted elsewhere in this nomination.

Many of the building materials for this church originated on site. A quarry for the church's limestone foundation was located southeast of the building. Clay for the brick was also excavated, formed, and fired on site under the direction of Jacob Metz. Members of the parish undertook the construction of the building.

The church building is of further interest because it was constructed by local builders with locally produced building materials. Stone for the building came from a quarry located nearby to the southeast. Clay for the brick was extracted, formed, and fired on the site. Jacob Metz, an original member of the parish, supervised the brick kiln operations, and members of the parish constructed the building.

Laying of the cornerstone occurred in 1875, as was recorded by a newspaper reporter:

The corner stone of a new Catholic church was laid on Oct. 3 at Newbern, Marion Co. The blessing of the cornerstone was performed by Rev. John Baumann, the parish priest. Father S. Cann gave the special sermon. (*Die Iowa*; October 21, 1875, p. 5 c. 4; Downing translation.)

The building was dedicated in 1876, at which time one can assume it was substantially complete.

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### Interior

Although significance for the interior of the church is not claimed, it contains points of interest. In 1880, for example, a correspondent for the German-Catholic newspaper, *Die Iowa*, reported that two new altars were installed.

Newbern, Marion Co. . . . two fine altars blessed. A high altar (about \$400) and one to Blessed Mother (\$100) by Buscher & Kramer. Rev FS Wieland is to have the blessing. . . (*Die Iowa*, September 27, 1880, p. 5, c. 3; Downing translation.)

(A third altar, depicting St. Joseph, was later installed. The high altar was removed following Vatican II.) By 1881, pews for congregational seating had also been installed (*Die Iowa*, March 3, 1881). Some of these remain in service today in the balcony.

These several examples show that the interior of the church was improved gradually over the course of years as the parish could afford such expenditures. The preference given the altars over personal comfort indicates priority.

### CEMETERY DESIGN

St. Joseph's Cemetery is significant because it calls attention to ethnic funerary traditions embodied in architectural design, which the settlers of Bauer, Iowa, brought with them and reestablished following their trans-Atlantic emigration from Germany. The cemetery contains more than three dozen late Nineteenth and early Twentieth Century cross-on-stone grave markers. Although this was (and is) a common feature in Central European cemeteries, it is outside mainstream American funerary practices.

### Grave Markers

The grave markers featuring these crosses are additionally significant because they illustrate an on-going attachment to ethnic traditions long after Bauer residents settled the area. Indeed, the most elaborate of these memorials, which constitute an apogee of the tradition, date from the late 1890s and early 1900s, a full half century after the initial settlement of Bauer. The cost and effort to purchase and transport these markers to St. Joseph's Cemetery is another indication of the importance and respect parishioners attached to these funerary customs.

The blending of stylistic design and ethnic tradition is another point of interest in the cemetery. While the design of the bases of these cross-on-stone markers follow the progression of stylistic influences on grave markers in America over a period of some sixty years, these influences did not supplant the ethnic tradition of the crosses. The earliest such object in the

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cemetery, Joseph Helmel's grave marker dating from circa 1860, features a cross-on-tablet design, the tablet design comprising the earliest stylistic influence in St. Joseph's Cemetery. The use of the German language on this grave marker heightens its association with Helmel's native home. The grave markers for Theresa Bauer and for Andrew and Amelia Griesbaum feature a stone shaft design, more in keeping with late Victorian tastes in America. The carved crosses, which surmount them, strongly accent this vertical feeling. During the first decades of the Twentieth Century, American taste shifted in favor of massive grave markers. Here again, custom at St. Joseph's followed mainline practices. Yet the grave markers of Frank and Theresia Gass (circa 1910) and Landelin and Ana C. Offenburger (circa 1911) carry on the free-standing cross tradition. The sources from which these grave markers were purchased are unknown.

Layout

Canon law within the Roman Catholic Church historically prescribed an area set aside for infant burials within cemeteries. It also prescribed separate sections for baptized Catholics in communion with the Church and for baptized albeit non-practicing Catholics. St. Joseph's Cemetery conformed to these prescriptions in setting aside an infant burial section. A separate section for non-practicing Catholics was not implemented at Bauer.

**GERMAN SETTLEMENT AT BAUER**

St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church and Cemetery Historic District historic district is significant as an outstanding example of German settlement in Marion County, Iowa. The Germans at Bauer constituted the longest lived, best documented, and probably largest German settlement in this county. Throughout their history, these settlers looked to St. Joseph's Church as the center for their cultural, educational, and social, as well as their religious life. A series of contemporary newspaper articles document the early history of this institution. Not only do these documents provide a window on the parish's development, they also picture St. Joseph's as a case study and show how the wider Catholic community in Iowa encouraged and fostered the creation of such rural settlements in the state.

Early Settlement

First opened for Euro-American settlement in the 1840s, Marion County quickly experienced an influx of settlers from both domestic and overseas immigration. Much of this settlement consisted of individual families seeking fertile farmland. Several notable examples of colonization also took place. Although the Dutch colonies at Amsterdam and Pella in Marion County constituted the largest such immigration in the county, other colonization also took place. German settlement in Dallas Township provides another example. This colony of pioneers formed in Indiana after the emigration of individual families from Germany.

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Riven as it is with numerous creeks and streams, the western portion of Dallas Township in Marion County offered rich timberland. Because it was located west of the Red Rock Line, separating Sac and Fox lands from those of Euro-Americans, this township was not settled until these Native Americans surrendered the area in 1845. In their wake, German-Americans settled the area, attracted by the rich timber. Numerous timber lots were staked out along the many creeks, as is evident in the *Andreas Atlas* map of 1875. Community centers were also established. Bauer was established as a Catholic settlement. New Chicago, a village situated about one mile north of Bauer, was established as a Lutheran settlement about 1854. More than one dozen families organized a church with membership numbering some 45 (*Pioneers of Marion County*, p 343). By 1875, New Chicago included a store in Section 8 and a schoolhouse nearby in Section 17. Three miles south of Bauer, in Section 32, the town of New Bern was also established. Although this village was apparently platted, it was never incorporated, and the establishment of Bauer appears to have eclipsed the importance of New Bern. Nineteenth Century descriptions of the area, for example, frequently speak of New Bern and Bauer interchangeably.

The Germans at Bauer constituted the longest lived, best documented, and probably largest populated German settlement in Marion County. This is corroborated by the fact that the Catholic church in the county seat town of Knoxville, established as a mission in 1877 or 1878, did not obtain a resident priest until 1913. (*History of Marion County*, 1915, p. 287). St. Joseph's Church, in contrast, had already received such an appointment by 1877. Concerning German Protestants in the county, by 1907, their community center at New Chicago had disappeared from the map. New Bern had already waned by this time, as well.

Throughout its history, the rural community of Bauer looked to the institution of St. Joseph's Church as its center. As the *History of Marion County* reports:

Bauer is a little hamlet in the western part of Dallas Township, about twenty miles southwest of Knoxville, and was named for one of the early settlers in that locality. No official plat of the place was ever filed in the recorder's office. It is located in the northwest corner of section 20, township 74, range 21, where St. Joseph's Catholic Church was established in 1874, and the village grew up about the church. (*History of Marion County*, 1915, p. 159).

Actually the German Catholic community at Bauer had been established in 1854. At that time, a group of four families, who had left their homes in Franklin County, Indiana, arrived in Dallas Township. Drawn to Iowa because of its rich lands and opening frontier, these families stopped in New Bern for information about potential farm sites and were directed to an area about three miles to the north.

Joseph Bauer (d. 1879) provides a good example of such a settler. Born in Hanover, Germany, he and his brother Alloys Bauer immigrated to Indiana in 1833. In 1848 and 1849



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the two brothers relocated to Section 19 of Dallas Township in Marion County, Iowa (*Pioneers of Marion County*, p. 341).

Emigration from Germany to Bauer continued following the American Civil War. In 1869, for example, Nicholas Hoch moved to the area. A native of Bavaria, Hoch took up farming as an occupation and lived in Section 19 of Dallas Township (*Atlas of Marion County*, 1875, p. 8). By 1875, Hoch owned more than 130 acres of land near Bauer (*Ibid.*, p. 3),

Three contemporary accounts describe the Bauer settlement during six critical years of its early life. Written by an itinerant reporter for the Catholic periodical *Die Iowa* [*The Iowa*], these accounts give a sense of the settlement's development during the later 1870s and early 1880s. A report from 1875 points out many attractions to encourage new settlement at Bauer. Included among them are the fertile land, a strongly German population, a well established and growing parish, prospects of a new and commodious church building, and a resident pastor.

The mission conducted by the Fathers Becker and Haag, S. J. at Chariton, Lucas Co. and at St. Joseph's Church near New Bern, Marion Co. was crowned with great success. [Describes Mary of Perpetual Help, a former mission of St. Joseph's at Rose Mount in nearby Warren County.] Rose Mount is only five miles from New Bern with its almost completely German church of St. Joseph. I'd like to urge German Catholics to show some courage and go to these parts and settle. In New Bern alone there are about 40 German families, with a beautiful church set in 10 acres of land and hedged in, a good spring and apple orchard near the church, with a Catholic, German school in Winter. Near St. Joseph's church the German pastor has his home, Father Baumann. This Summer a splendid new brick church is to be built there. The material is already at the site. There is a fine school building with resident German Catholic teacher who comes from the Teacher's College in Milwaukee.

There is lots of good land left hereabout, as far up as Indianola, the seat of Warren Co. Once and for all it can be said that Iowa is the finest land for farming that we have in the U. S., so that the gentleman from Wisconsin was so right when he said recently he'd rather give \$40 for an acre of land in Iowa than \$10 for one in Wisconsin. [Continues with a letter of correspondence praising Iowa.] (*Die Iowa*, July 1, 1875, p. 5, c. 4; Downing translation.)

The article singles out education for particular mention. Not only is there a new schoolhouse, there is also a professionally trained teacher. This emphasis indicates the importance these settlers placed on education.

Two years later, another contemporary account describes additional improvements at Bauer. According to this account, the number of families had doubled within the settlement since 1875:

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Correspondence. Newbern and Rosemount, Warren County, Iowa. Three miles from Newbern, a little town in the southwest corner of Marion County Iowa right on the border of Warren County stands in the middle of a lovely prairie a beautiful brick church that declares itself afar as Catholic by its cross. . . Only the rectory and schoolhouse along with a farmhouse are there. Even that almost unavoidable in America devil's chapel, a saloon, is missing here.

The German community belonging to the church, about 80 families, is scattered in grove and field far away! Twenty years ago the first settler came here but only recently did they get their own German pastor in the person of Father Baumann who soon knew how to win the affection of his parish children. A year and a half ago Father Wieland took his place. . . The new church was finished and in spite of bad times. . . The interior is outfitted as fair and pleasant as the outside. The stations and new statue of the Blessed Virgin are gifts of pious people. (*Die Iowa*; May 24, 1877, p. 5 c. 1; Downing translation.)

Improvements continued to be made on the new church:

Correspondence: Dear Editor! . . . An hour later the slow train [carrying the correspondent from Harper, Iowa] came . . . to New Bern. . . Rev. Wieland is pastor. I had been this way 2 years back as agent for the *Herold des Glaubens* [Herald of Belief]. What a change! The church has 2 new glorious gothic altars; the high altar and one of the BVM and the pews are in. . . [paragraph continues to describe the nearby settlement of Rosemount]. (*Die Iowa*, March 3, 1881, p. 5. c. 5; Downing translation.)

In addition to describing the physical improvements to the church, these accounts also illustrate the attempts among the German Catholic hierarchy to encourage Catholic settlement in Iowa during the late Nineteenth Century. Such attempts are further illustrated by an article published in the *Die Iowa* newspaper in 1881:

Correspondence: New Bern, Marion Co, March 4th. With so many Catholic families in Iowa and elsewhere looking for a new home, it's good to point out the advantages of our locality, the cheap land. . . fruitful. . . good timber supply. . . coal underneath the land. . . good water. . . beer too. Mr. Wm Linck of West Pt. Lee Co, bought a brewery and got it going. . . For information; N. Hoch or Wm Linck jr, Newbern. (*Die Iowa*, March 17, 1881, p. 5, c. 5; Downing translation.)

An historic photograph of St. Joseph's parish, pictured on page 27, attests to such an attempt at Bauer. With hundreds of individuals pictured, this photograph graphically illustrates the size and vitality of this parish in the late Nineteenth or early Twentieth Century. It also illustrates the role St. Joseph's played as a gathering place for this rural neighborhood.

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In conclusion, it appears that the status as an ethnic minority reinforced the native habits and community identity among the German settlers at Bauer. Dominant as the Germans were in this locale, it should be remembered that overseas emigration into Marion County remained limited. In 1870, for example, U. S. Census figures revealed that of the county's population of 24,436, only 2,705 were foreign born. At this time, the proportion of native to foreign born was about the same for Dallas Township where Bauer is located. At this time, the township numbered a total population of 1,066 with 936 native and 130 foreign born (*Pioneers of Marion County*, p. 346). One sense of the political independence of these German settlers can be judged from the fact that none of these community settlements was formally incorporated as a town.

### St. Joseph's as a Cultural, Educational, and Social Center

St. Joseph's Church served as the center for cultural, educational, social, and linguistic traditions among German Catholics in southeastern Marion County. It also had a pan-county influence in this regard, apparent from its position as mother church for missions established in the nearby communities of Rosemount and Lacona in Warren County, Iowa.

As an institution, St. Joseph's promoted German cultural traditions, particularly in the fields of music, education, fine art, and horticulture. Music appears to have been particularly prominent. Already in 1877, for example, a visitor noted that:

The choir is a model considering that it is in a farming community and the degree to which music is cultivated can be seen from the fact that the young people have formed a brass orchestra which performed at the church blessing last year, with the loud praise of the clergy present. (*Die Iowa*; May 24, 1877, p. 5 c. 1; Downing translation.)

The ability of these settlers to acquire musical instruments and to provide musical instruction to young people indicates not only a respect for this art but also music appreciation, talent, and training among the adult population.

The importance settlers at Bauer placed on education is indicated by their employment of teaching staff. Already in 1877, for example, the parish had obtained the services of a full-time teacher.

For the school this fall a regular teacher will be installed. He comes from the school in Milwaukee. (*Die Iowa*; May 24, 1877, p. 5 c. 1; Downing translation.)

Strong support for education continued at Bauer. In 1904, for example, the parish constructed a 2-1/2 story, frame schoolhouse near the church. This building provided facilities for both the schooling of children and as a convent for the nuns, who taught there.

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Social intercourse among the community centered on the church because there were few other institutions to provide the setting for society. The continued use of the schoolhouse and convent long after its closing as a school provides one example of the on-going function St. Joseph's plays as a community center yet today.

The use of German as everyday language for the settlers at Bauer provided a strong sense of community identity. During the pastorate of Father Alban Rudruff (1887-1890), an attempt was made to instruct children and conduct services in English. The parish strongly resisted these attempts. German continued to be widely spoken locally into the priesthood of Father Charles Dohrmann (1911-1920). In an interview in 1926, after he left this post, Dohrmann reported that sermons were traditionally given in German when he arrived. Gradually a dispute arose between the older and younger members of the congregation over the language to be used in the sermons. The younger members wanted English, at least part of the time. By 1913, their will prevailed, and the last regularly scheduled sermon in German was given at Bauer on March 5, 1913. Had this conversion to English not occurred at this time, it would almost certainly have followed United States entry into World War I and the subsequent interdiction of German culture in Iowa and the nation.

The parish at Bauer also calls attention to the intent among German settlers to recreate in Iowa the environment of their homeland. A correspondent for *Die Iowa* noted in 1877, for example:

This would be an ideal spot to build a way of the cross around the hill in the shade of the trees, as in Germany. . . and at St. Donatus, Jackson County, Iowa, as Rev. Father Flammang so specially did. (*Die Iowa*: May 24, 1877, p. 5 c. 1; Downing translation.)

Although it is not known if this newspaper correspondent discussed such a plan with the parish at St. Joseph's, the incident provides a good example of links among German Catholics in Iowa and attempts to recreate aspects of their homeland in the New World. The design of St. Joseph's Church and the employment of cross-on-stone grave markers in the cemetery, both discussed below, further illustrate this phenomenon.

As the Twentieth Century progressed, the German population at Bauer became more closely associated with mainline America. Increased transportation, popular entertainment, and communication technology broadened the scope of life in the community and reduced the influence of ethnic traditions. As in the past, however, the community remains loyal to its focus, St. Joseph's Church.

### POTENTIAL FOR HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Although the site's potential for archaeological research is, as yet, unevaluated, such potential exists. The archaeological remains of the two earlier log churches, which stood on this site, as well as privies which likely stood on the church grounds might be discovered. Other potential may also exist north of the National Register boundary regarding habitation associated with the parish schoolhouse and

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convent. Sites of the claypit, brick kiln, and stone quarry might also be identified and further explored.

### METHODOLOGY

#### Research Design

During early discussion with parish leaders, several potential nomination formats were evaluated. Should this be treated as an historic district or as an individual nomination? After weighing all possibilities, and in conference with the staff of the State Historical Society of Iowa, a district nomination was decided upon. This format allowed the parish to showcase the significance of the church and the cemetery while retaining some flexibility to deal with the future of the schoolhouse-convent.

During the preparation of this nomination, it became clear that a typology of the cross-on-stone grave markers would facilitate evaluation of St. Joseph's Cemetery. To this end, these grave markers were analyzed and classified. Because their design varied, it proved helpful to categorize them according to the shape of the stone they surmount. These results are contained in a typology presented in Section 7 of this nomination.

#### Sources of Information

Several sources of oral history provided invaluable information for this nomination. They included Leo Metz, a life-time member of the Bauer community and St. Joseph's Church, who was interviewed before his death in 1992.

Louise Schneider and Mary Bauer helped compile a burial list for St. Joseph's Cemetery. This invaluable document could not document, however, the earliest burials in the cemetery because the information has been lost to time and the grave markers are nonextant.

The Reverend Monsignor Lawrence A. Beeson, administrator of the Diocese of Des Moines, shared his experience of many years within Roman Catholic institutions in Iowa. Having served a variety of ethnic parishes, as well as later work in pastoral administration, Beeson corroborated the fact that funerary customs within German-American parishes can be distinguished from other ethnic groups within the Roman Catholic Church. In particular he cited the prominence of the Christian cross as a design element on Germanic grave markers, the large size of these markers, their deeply cut lettering, and the quality of their materials. Beeson also noted the desire of parents to have the names of their children listed on the back of the marker. In particular, he cited both the Lutheran and Roman Catholic parishes of Shelby County, Iowa, in this respect. In conclusion, Beeson discussed the respect Germanic peoples have traditionally paid to death, its accompanying rites and customs, and their cemeteries in

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reflecting these concerns. Beeson also suggested the cemeteries at Luxembourg and Monticello, Iowa, as well as the Conception Abbey at Conception, Missouri, for comparison.

To follow-up on the Shelby County lead, the author of this nomination consulted Leah D. Rogers, archaeologist of Mount Vernon, Iowa. She had recently completed a National Register nomination for St. Boniface's Church and Cemetery at Westphalia, Shelby County, Iowa. This nomination showed that the Christian cross also was a prominent design element at this site. The nomination additionally pointed out that iron crosses, both hand wrought and cast, served as grave markers and that a German-American newspaper advertisement, which surfaced during research, indicated that they could be purchased through a firm in St. Louis, Missouri.

### Additional National Register Potential

As more information becomes available about German settlement patterns in Iowa--and Bauer's role in them--this nomination might be reevaluated. It could possibly be expanded to include the other historic resources associated with this settlement and additional significance claimed under National Register Criterion A.

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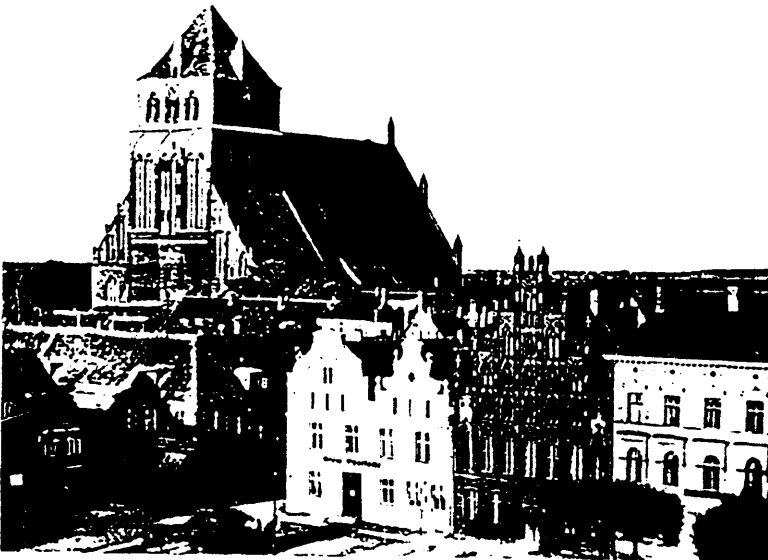
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## ST. MARY'S CHURCH GREIFSWALD, GERMANY

NOTE CENTRAL TOWER

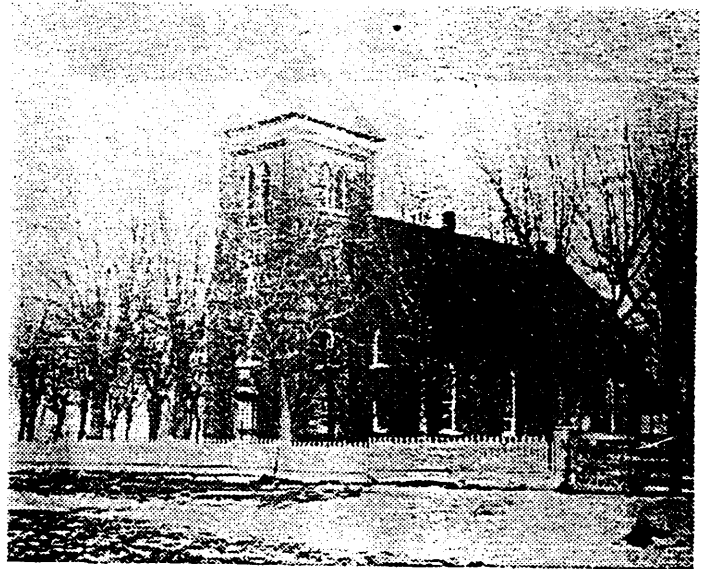


Greifswald, Marienkirche (und Marktplatz), um 1295-um 1350

Source: Kamphausen, p. 74.

## ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH CIRCA 1900

LOOKING NORTHEAST



An early picture of the Parish Church at Bauer, Iowa.

Source: *St. Joseph's Church, Bauer, Iowa.*



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### PARISHIONERS CIRCA 1900



An early Parish Group Picture.

Source: *St. Joseph's Church, Bauer, Iowa.*

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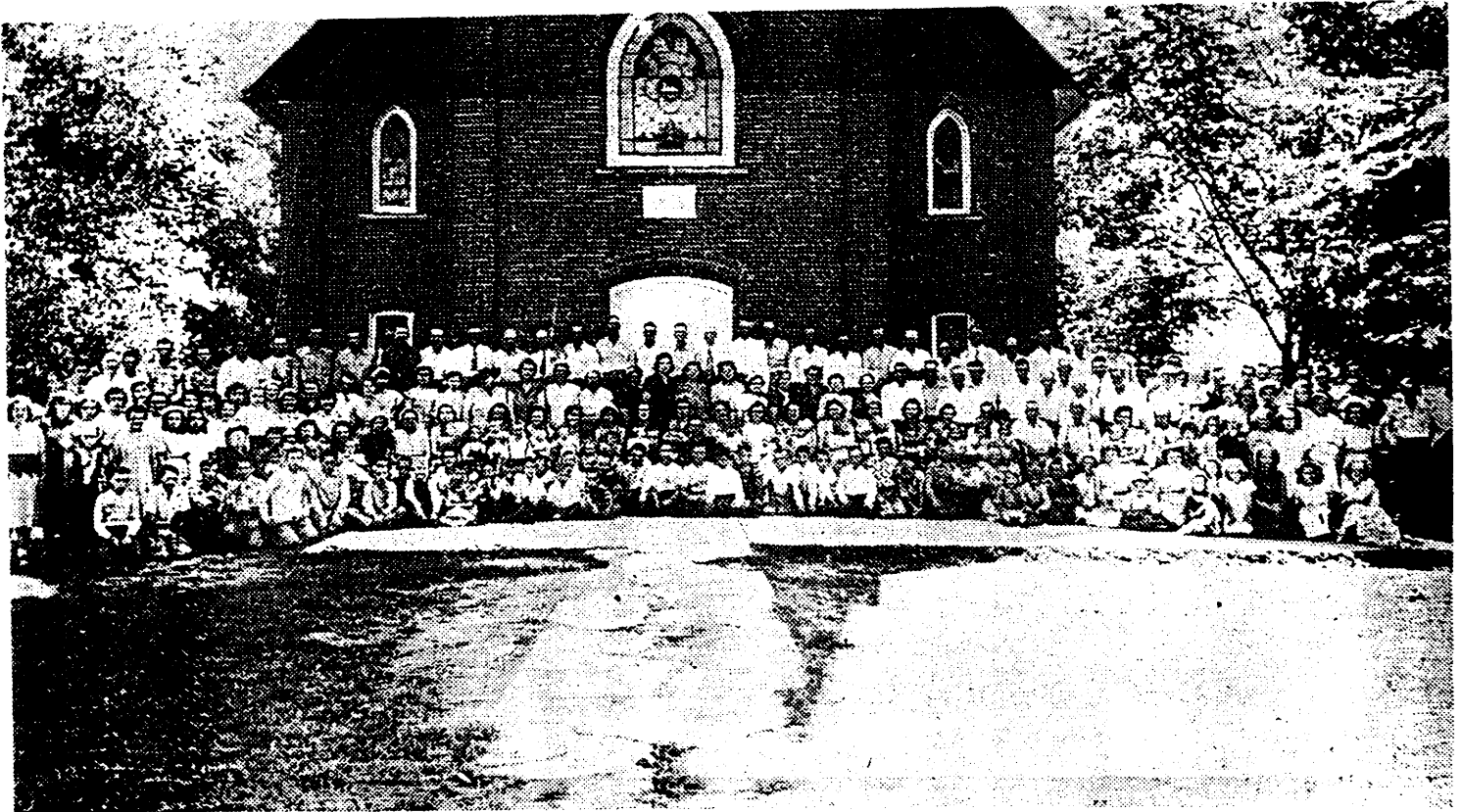
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## PARISHIONERS IN 1953



1953 Parish Group

Source: *St. Joseph's Church, Bauer, Iowa.*

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PRIMARY

"Abstract of Title." Property St. Joseph's Church, Bauer, IA.

Anonymous; *Anthony Schneider Family Record*; Privately printed and bound; 1976.

Anonymous; *Our Family Tree* [George Metz family genealogy]; Privately printed and bound; No date. Xerox courtesy Leo Metz.

Anonymous; *The History of Marion County, Iowa, Containing A History of the County, its Cities, Towns, etc.*; Des Moines; Union Historical Company; 1881. Reprinted by Marion County Genealogical Society; Knoxville, IA; 1975; pp. 765-766.

"Cemeteries of Marion County, Iowa"; Marion County Genealogical Society; Harland, IA; Typescript bound by R. C. Booth enterprises; 1976; pp. 390-395. [Does not list several of the oldest graves.]

Dittmer, Hilda Greubel; Transcription of Greubel Family Entries in Parish Register of Reiterwiesen, Germany, with additional genealogical information; Typewritten MS; No date.

Donnell, William M.; *Pioneers of Marion County. Consisting of a General History of the County*; Des Moines; Republican Steam Printing House; 1872.

Downing, J. K., editor & translator; *"Der National Demokrat" of Dubuque, Iowa for February 1858-February 1859*; Privately printed; Loras College; Dubuque, IA; 1979.

Downing, J. K., editor & translator; *"Die Iowa" 1880, News from the Weekly German Language Newspaper*; Privately printed; Loras College; Dubuque, IA; 1979.

Downing, J. K., editor & translator; *"Die Iowa" 1875-1876, News from the Weekly German Language Newspaper*; Privately printed; Loras College; Dubuque, IA; 1976.

Downing, J. K., editor & translator; *"Die Iowa" 1877-1878, News from the Weekly German Language Newspaper*; Privately printed; Loras College; Dubuque, IA; 1977.

*History of Marion County, Iowa, Containing A History of the County, its Cities, Towns, etc., The*; No Author; Union Historical Company; Des Moines, IA; 1881.

Marion County W. P. A. Records. Alphabetically typed list of veterans' burials. St. Joseph's Cemetery may or may not have been included. St. Joseph on list but scratched out.

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Wright, John W., and W. A. Young, editors; *History of Marion County, Iowa, and Its People*; Chicago; The S. J. Clarke Publishing Company; 1915. 2 volumes. Volume I, pp. 101-103, 159-160, 287.

### MAPS AND ATLASES

*Atlas of Marion County, Iowa*; 1875; Philadelphia; Harrison & Warner. Does not show Bauer.

*Atlas of Marion County, Iowa*; 1901; Chicago; Arthur M. Hovey.

*Atlas of Marion County, Iowa*; 1909; Knoxville, IA; Midland Map Company.

*Atlas and Plat Book of Marion County, Iowa*; 1917; Knoxville, IA; *Knoxville Journal*.

*Atlas and Rural Directory of Marion County, Iowa*; 1937; Minneapolis; Jackson Publicity Service.

### SECONDARY

Grodeck, Louis; *Gothic Architecture*; New York; Harry N. Abrams, Inc., Publishers; 1977.

Kamphausen, Alfred; *Backstein Gotik*; Munich; Wilhelm Heyne Verlag; 1978.

Kuback, Hans Erich; *Romanesque Architecture*; New York; Harry N. Abrams, Inc., Publishers; 1975.

*Saint Joseph Church, Bauer, Iowa 1853-1953*; Privately printed centennial publication; No pagination. Contains numerous historic photographs.

*St. Peter Catholic Church [Franklin County, Indiana] 1833-1933*; Privately printed centennial publication.

Schmidt, Madeleine M., C. H. M.; *Seasons of Growth; History of the Diocese of Davenport 1881-1981*; 1981; Davenport, IA; The Diocese of Davenport.

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ORAL INFORMANTS

Beeson, Rev. Msgr. Lawrence A.  
1993 Personal communication with William C. Page, September 22.

Bishop, Jean  
1992 Personal communication with Joanne R. Walroth, May 31.

Metz, Leo (1918-1992)  
1992 Personal communication with Joanne R. Walroth, May 31.

Rogers, Leah D.  
1993 Personal communication with William C. Page, September 23.

FIELD NOTES

William C. Page conducted a field inspection of the cemetery in 1993 and categorized the cross-on-stone markers according to the typology developed for them in this nomination.

The following table lists the cross-on-stone grave markers at St. Joseph's Cemetery. The list also contains the surname appearing on the stone and an approximate date of its erection. Because the stone may mark several burials, the date of the first burial is given. The cross-on-stone is also shown according to the typology developed in the body of this nomination.

CROSS-ON-STONE GRAVE MARKERS AT ST. JOSEPH'S

KEY  
T = Cross-on-tablet  
S = Cross-on-shaft  
B = Cross-on-block

Earliest Date on Stone	Surname	Type
1857	Geis	S
1870	Bauer	S
1879	Bauer	S

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<u>Earliest Date on Stone</u>	<u>Surname</u>	<u>Type</u>
1885	Freuh	S [cross missing]
1889	Steinbach	S
1891	Gass	S
1892	Hoch	T
1894	Miller	S
1894	Smith	B
1895	Griesbaum	S
1895	Offenburger	B
1897	Flaminger	S
1897	Ripperger	S
1898	Bauer	S
1900	Gass	S
1900	Ohnemus	S
1901	Hoch	S
1901	Long	S
1901	Offenburger	S
1902	Griesbaum	S
1902	Ohnemus	B
1903	Hoffman	T
1903	Metz	S
1904	Metz	T
1906	Columba (nun)	S
1910	Gass	B
1910	Wadle	B
1911	Offenburger	B
1912	Bauer	B

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<u>Earliest Date on Stone</u>	<u>Surname</u>	<u>Type</u>
1912	Volkers	B
1913	Miller	B
1913	Schaffer	S
1914	Freuh	B
1915	Ohnemus	T
1916	Hoffman	T
1918	Ljuba Polic [written in Polish]	S
1918	Seuferer	B
1924	Schneider	B
Illegible & 1926	Helmel	T
No date & 1916	Fost	T

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### GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

#### Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at a point 285 feet south of the southeast intersection of Marion County Road G76 and a gravel road--which runs along the section line between Sections 19 and 20 in Dallas Township--thence east 468 feet, thence south 183 feet, thence west 468 feet, to the point of beginning.

#### Boundary Justification

The boundary of the historic district contains the church edifice, church yard, and cemetery. These are the site's resources significant under National Register Criterion C. The boundary excludes several other resources, which may be eligible for inclusion in the historic district under National Register Criterion A, but which were excluded from the nomination for reasons discussed on pages 7-8.



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### LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

1. St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church and Cemetery  
Historic District  
Vicinity Melcher, IA  
Looking southeast  
William C. Page, Photographer  
May 31, 1993
  
2. St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church and Cemetery  
Historic District  
Vicinity Melcher, IA  
Looking north  
William C. Page, Photographer  
May 31, 1993
  
3. St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church and Cemetery  
Historic District  
Vicinity Melcher, IA  
Looking east  
William C. Page, Photographer  
May 31, 1993
  
4. St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church and Cemetery  
Historic District  
Vicinity Melcher, IA  
Looking west  
William C. Page, Photographer  
May 31, 1993