National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

MAR - 5 2008 MAR - 5 2008 NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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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 10-9000a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.
A Manual Research

1. Name of Property		
Historic name Other name/site number	St. Michael School & Convent 195-1080-0003 / 195-1080-0005	
2. Location		
Street & number 700	& 704 Ainslie Avenue	not for publication
City or town Col		
State Kansas Code k		Zip code 67631
3. State/Federal Agency Certi	fication	
Historic Places and meets the meets does not meet nationally statewide Patrick Zoliner, Deputy State Kansas State Historical State or Federal agency and	e Historic Preservation Officer Da Society	16 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property operty be considered significant mments.) 9/08 ate
Signature of commenting office	cial /Title Date	
State or Federal agency and	bureau	
4. National Park Service Certi herby certify that the property is Gentered in the National Reg See continuation sh determined eligible for the Register See continuation sh determined not eligible for National Register removed from the National Register other, (explain:)	gister	Ball Date of Action 4.16.08

St. Michael School and Convent Name of Property		Trego County, KS County and State					
5. Classification							
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)					
 ☑ private ☐ public-local ☐ public-State ☐ public-Federal 	 building(s) district site structure object 	Contributing Noncontributing 2 buildings sites sites					
Name of related multiple property li (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a	sting multip le property listing.)	Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register					
N/A							
6. Function or Use							
Historic Functions (Enter Categories from instructions)		Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)					
RELIGION / School		VACANT / NOT IN USE					
RELIGION / Residence							
7. Description							
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)		Materials (Enter categories from instructions)					
LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN		Foundation: STONE: Limestone; CONCRETE					
MOVEMENTS: CRAFTSMAN		Walls: BRICK					
		Roof: WOOD: Shingle; ASPHALT					
		Other:					

.

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

St. Michael School & Convent Name of Property

8 Statement of Signifi

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions) ARCHITECTURE		
A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history	EDUCATION		
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.	Period of Significance		
D Property has yielded, or likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.	1916-1957		
Criteria Considerations Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	Significant Dates		
Property is:	1916; 1925		
A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.			
B removed from it original location.			
C a birthplace or grave.	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)		
D a cemetery.	N/A		
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.			
F a commemorative property.	Cultural Affiliation		
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years	<u>N/A</u>		
	Architect/Builder		
Varrative Statement of Significance Explain the significance of the property on one or more	Smith. C. C.		
continuation sheets.)	Dreiling, Peter A.		
. Major Bibliographical References			

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 #	Primary location of additional data: State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency Federal agency Local government University Other Name of repository:
recorded by Historic American Engineering	Kansas State Historical Society
Record #	

	I & Convent			County, KS	
Name of Property			Cour	ity and State	
10. Geographical I	Data				
Acreage of Property	Less than one				
1 4 0 Zone Easting 2	s of the property on a continuation sheet.)		Easting	Northin	ng
oundary Justification Explain why the bounda	aries were selected on a continuation sheet.)				
1. Form Prepared B	λy				
Name/title	Donna Malsom / KSHS Staff		·····		
Organization	Collyer Community Alliance Association	_ Date _	June 2007		
Street & number_	PO Box 1	Telephon	e 785-769-5203		
City or town	Collyer	State K	S Zij	code <u>676</u>	31
Additional Documen	tation	····			
	with the completed form.				
Submit the following items v					
Submit the following items v					
Continuation Sheets laps A USGS map (7.5 A sketch map for Photographs	or 15 minute series) indicating the property's lo historic districts and properties having large acr		erous resources.		
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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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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St. Michael School & Convent Collyer, Trego County, KS

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The St. Michael School (1916) and Convent (1925) buildings are located at the south end of Ainsle Avenue, Collyer's main north-south thoroughfare. The school and convent, which are no longer owned and operated by the church, are located north of the St. Michael Catholic Church. Built in 1940, the church continues to host religious services. It is not part of this nomination.

St. Michael School - 700 Ainslie Avenue (1916) - Contributing

Led by Father Michael P. Dreiling, St. Michael Catholic Church parishioners raised funds to erect the St. Michael School, which was completed in 1916. The now-closed school is located on the east side of Ainslie Avenue at the south edge of town. It shares the block with the St. Michael Catholic Church and convent, which are located south of the school. Angled parking spaces are located along the street in front of the building. There is no playground equipment or other structures on the site.

Exterior

The west-facing school was constructed of Redox brick and native limestone quarried from nearby Bunker Hill and Victoria. With its hipped roof, hipped dormers, wide overhanging eaves, and multi-light windows, the building reflects the popular Craftsman and Prairie styles of the early 20th century. The building has a new wood shingle roof. Tall windows dominate both the first and second stories of the side (north and south) elevations. Today, some of these window openings are boarded to protect intact wood windows, while others have been filled in with glass blocks. Limestone sills accent the window openings. The building's limestone foundation extends approximately three feet above grade. There are several basement windows that have been boarded for protection.

The building's main entrance is centrally located on the west elevation. A set of double doors topped by a rounded four-part transom is set within a projecting central bay with limestone accents. The name of the school and the year of its opening are set in limestone above the entrance. The central bay is flanked by two square second story (four-light) windows on each side (measuring 5'h x 4' 6"w). Below each window is tall brick and limestone detail that accentuates the building's height. There is a centrally located hipped dormer with two windows that is clad in wood clapboard siding. Four concrete steps with limestone sidewalls lead to the double door entry.

The south (side) elevation is dominated by windows each measuring 8' 6" tall x 4' 6" wide. Two windows on the first floor and the corresponding two windows on the second floor have been removed and filled in with glass blocks. The date of this change is not known, but it is believed to have been done in the 1960s or 1970s. The remaining three first floor windows that have not been removed have been covered with plywood to prevent vandalism.

The east (rear) elevation includes a small one-story hipped roof brick addition that was added to make room for restrooms. Behind this centrally located addition is evidence of the original rear entrance,

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St. Michael School & Convent Collyer, Trego County, KS

suggesting that a hallway bisects the building. Above the addition is a single second-story window. Immediately south of the window is a second-story fire escape door with a transom window. The door was recently damaged and the opening has been covered with plywood to protect the interior. A metal fire-escape/stairway leads from the door to the ground below. There is a centrally located hipped dormer with two windows that is clad in wood clapboard siding. The dormer is flanked by two brick chimneys.

Like the south elevation, the north (side) elevation is dominated by windows each measuring 8' 6" tall x 4' 6" wide. Three windows on the first floor and the corresponding three windows on the second floor have been removed and filled in with glass blocks. The date of this change is not known, but it is believed to have been done in the 1960s or 1970s. The remaining two first floor windows that have not been removed have been covered with plywood to prevent vandalism.

Interior

There are four classrooms – two on each floor – measuring 19' 6" x 35' and a large third floor attic space measuring 25' x 34'. There is a partial basement with cement floor and walls that measures 13' 6" x 24' that housed the heating system. The floors are all made of pine boards. Each floor features an east-west central hallway with one classroom on each side. The spacious hallways include coat hooks for children's coats and bags and access to a large well-worn wood staircase. A single five-panel wood door topped by a glass transom window leads into each classroom. All but one classroom retain most or all of their chalkboards. The classrooms also retain most of their original woodwork, baseboards, window trim, plaster walls, wood floors. The north classroom on the second floor has sustained damage and has been stripped of some features including baseboards and chalkboards.

The school closed in 1968 and has been through several owners since that time. Aside from the changes to the windows, the school has remained remarkably well intact. It sustained some interior damage on the second floor and attic due to a faulty roof, which was recently replaced.

2. St. Michael Convent - 704 Ainslie Avenue (1925) - Contributing

Exterior

The two-story brick-faced convent house is located south of the school and also faces west. The building features a low-pitched hipped roof with exposed rafter tails. There is a simple internal brick chimney. The cement foundation is faced with brick. A one-story porch with a hipped roof stretches the width of the front (west) elevation and measures 23' 6" x 7' 6". The building retains its original three-over-one wood windows with brick sills and exterior storms. The single-door entrance on the west elevation is slightly off center to the north and is flanked by one window on the north and two on the south.

The south (side) elevation includes two pairs of first floor windows and three single second floor windows. There are two single basement windows located below the paired windows.

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St. Michael School & Convent Collyer, Trego County, KS

The east (rear) elevation is dominated by a single-story enclosed porch with a hipped roof that includes a rear entrance. This back porch measures 15' 6" x 7' 6". Concrete steps lead to the rear entrance. There are three second story windows on this elevation.

The north (side) elevation includes three single second story windows, while the first floor features a small central window flanked by paired windows.

The building has central heating and cooling and is on the city's sewer system. The building's full basement houses the heating and air units.

Interior

The front entrance leads into a small parlor at the building's northwest corner that measures 12' x 13' 6". The adjacent room to the south measures 15' 6" x 13' 6" and includes a small storage closet. The southeast room (or dining room) measures 14' 6" x 13' 6" and also includes a small storage closet. Both of these small closet spaces have been recently fitted with small sinks and plumbing to accommodate their use as dining rooms. The northwest room (kitchen) measures 13' x 11'.

At the center of the house is a stairway leading to the second floor living space. At the foot of the stairs is a small bathroom that measures 5' x 7' 3". There are six bedrooms, a small bathroom, and a single shared linen closet on the second floor all flanking a large central hallway that runs east-west.

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St. Michael School & Convent Collyer, Trego County, KS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The St. Michael School and Convent buildings are being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the area of Education and Criterion C in the area of Architecture. These two early twentieth-century church buildings reflect a period of hope, growth, and prosperity in the St. Michael Parish and the greater Collyer community. The period of significance, 1916 - 1957, begins with the construction of the school and ends at the arbitrary fifty-year cut-off set by the National Register program.

Local History and Parish History

With a population of less than 150, Collyer is one of the principal towns in the sparsely populated Trego County, Kansas. Located 14 miles west of WaKeeney, the county seat, Collyer was officially platted in 1879. With the goal of establishing a community on the Kansas Plains, a group of settlers from Chicago led by Colonel Pratt arrived at a railroad stop about three-fourths of a mile southwest of the present site of Collyer in March of 1878. The town was named after The Reverend Robert Collyer, a Unitarian minister. Collyer has had a strong Catholic heritage since its founding. The first Irish settlers came with the Chicago group in 1878. In 1880, another colony of Irish settlers arrived, and in 1889 a group of Catholic Bohemains settled in Collyer. A group of Catholic German immigrants from Odessa, Russia, arrived in 1901. Evidence of this growing Catholic population came in 1906 when the St. Michael Parish welcomed its first resident priest, Father Herman F. Weber. Although he didn't stay long, he started a building fund that would eventually lead to the completion of a church building in 1909.

The St. Michael Parish traces its roots to these early years. There is some dispute as to when the first church building was erected, but church records note the first baptism was on December 10, 1884. A large stone church was erected in 1909 and was replaced by the current stone church that was built in 1942.

Financial hardships slowed the progress of erecting a parochial school. There was an indebtedness of \$1,500 at St. Michael when Father Michael Dreiling arrived. Droughts and dust storms had negatively impacted crop production for the previous three years. With land values also plummeting, church contributions suffered and barely \$35 were collected during Dreiling's first three months at St. Michael. Dreiling also sensed a lack of understanding of the need for a Parish school. He noted in his memoir: "I preached many sermons to convince them of the necessity and the excellence of a parish school. They had to be instructed and their minds enlightened in this matter to make them realize that a parochial school was an essential part of he parish."

¹ The Reverend Michael P. Dreiling, The True Story of My Life (dates?), 111.

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St. Michael School & Convent Collyer, Trego County, KS

One of Dreiling's first actions was to rent 80 acres of land that his parishioners worked, planted, and harvested on behalf of the church. Nearly \$900 was yielded from that patch of land, and this was the beginning of the St. Michael School building fund. When only 10 percent of parishioners donated one cent for every bushel of wheat they had harvested on their own land when asked, the church leadership levied from each family of the Parish three cents for each bushel of wheat raised that year. This yielded a much larger return and laid the groundwork for the construction of the school.

From 1913 to 1915 Dreiling gave religious instructions to all the children in the Parish. They ranged in age from six to 15. During May of 1916, Dreiling and two others, his sister Salomia and Rose Thiel, conducted religious instructions. However, Dreiling did not feel that this provided enough religious education and plans for a school building moved forward.

C. C. Smith of Salina designed the two-story brick building, and Peter A. Dreiling of Victoria served as head carpenter. Site preparation for the school's construction began in the fall of 1916, and the concrete foundation was poured. Limestone rock was excavated from the Victoria and Bunker Hill areas and delivered to the school site where John Hamerschmidt dressed the rock. On March 17, 1917, the first rock for the water table was laid. The exterior of the building was finished on June 12, 1917. The cost of the building totaled \$7.500. By the time the school was completed, indebtedness totaled \$2,500 – an obligation that was met in 1920. The school was dedicated on September 29, 1917. The school welcomed 91 students during its first month of class.

Dreiling struggled to retain Sisters to teach at St. Michael School, primarily because the living arrangements called for the Sisters to live on the school's third floor. Almost immediately the Parish began planning for the construction of a convent house where Sisters could live.

The two-story brick convent was erected between the school and the church. Father Anthony Shaefer oversaw the building's construction, which was completed in 1925. Although the St. Michael School opened in 1917, it struggled until the Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia arrived in the fall of 1926. The first Sisters to arrive were Sister Geraldine Boudreu, Sister Angela Doyle, and Sister Alverita Rajewski. Three to five Sisters taught at the school and lived at the convent – depending on the number of students enrolled each year. The number of students fluctuated over the years from a high of 75 in 1926-27 to a low of 31 in 1967-68.

In April of 1968, Bishop Cyril Vogel wrote as follows to Father Urban Iffert, who was then the Pastor of St. Michael Parish: "I am indeed sorry to have to write to you formally announcing that the Sisters of St. Joseph will withdraw their Sister-teachers at the end of the present semester. The Sisters feel that the small number of pupils makes it difficult to continue and operate an efficient school...I take this occasion to offer a word of sympathy to those parents who must regret this drastic step and are unhappy to see the end of the parochial school in this Parish. Parents and members of St. Michael's now have a most serious obligation to plan and work for a strong CCD program to promote the religious education of the grade and high school students of the Parish."

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St. Michael School & Convent Collyer, Trego County, KS

The St. Michael School closed its doors after 42 years under the leadership of the Sisters of St. Joseph. Much of the school's furniture and equipment was sold, and the school building and convent house were put up for sale. In April of 1975, Dr. Dean Carman purchased the two buildings for personal use. In 2002, the Collyer Community Alliance Association purchased the buildings in an effort to save and preserve them.

Architecture

Machine-produced materials increasingly dominated early 1900s construction. Wood frame and stone schoolhouses were still the norm in Kansas, but a number of brick school buildings were constructed throughout the state. Victorian and Revival influences generally gave way to the Arts and Crafts and Bungalow styles, reflected by the hip roofs.

Although erected nearly ten years apart, the two St. Michael buildings compliment one another architecturally. They are made of the same red brick and feature a similar square block form with a hipped roof. The school includes limestone and brick accents that give it a sort of sophistication, while the convent is more simply styled to resemble a residence of the period. Early twentieth-century schools typically reflected established stylistic trends. Small town schools – public and religious – were usually less ornate than larger city schools. As was typical of the period, St. Michael School featured a symmetrical façade with a central entrance as the dominant architectural expression. The building's Craftsman characteristics are primarily reflected in the building's form, low roof pitch, and third-story dormers. Similarly, the convent features a low-pitched roof and includes subtle expressions of the Craftsman era including exposed rafter tails and multi-light wood windows.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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St. Michael School & Convent Collyer, Trego County, KS

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Cutler, William G. History of Kansas. Chicago: Andreas Publishing Company, 1883.

Dreiling, Michael P. The True Story of My Life. Undated.

Files of St. Michael School and Parish, Collyer, KS.

Kennedy, P. J. Catholic Register. 1926.

The Collyer Advocate. 19 July 1917; 27 September 1917; 4 October 1917; 11 October 1917.

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St. Michael School & Convent Collyer, Trego County, KS

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The St. Michael School is located at 700 Ainslie Avenue. The St. Michael Convent is located at 704 Ainslie Avenue. Both buildings are owned by the Collyer Community Alliance Association. The legal description for both buildings is as follows: The north two hundred thirty-five feet (N 235') of the west one hundred seventy-five feet (W 175') of block fifty-eight (58) of the Original Townsite of the City of Collyer, Kansas.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

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The nominated property includes the remaining parcel associated with the school and convent.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

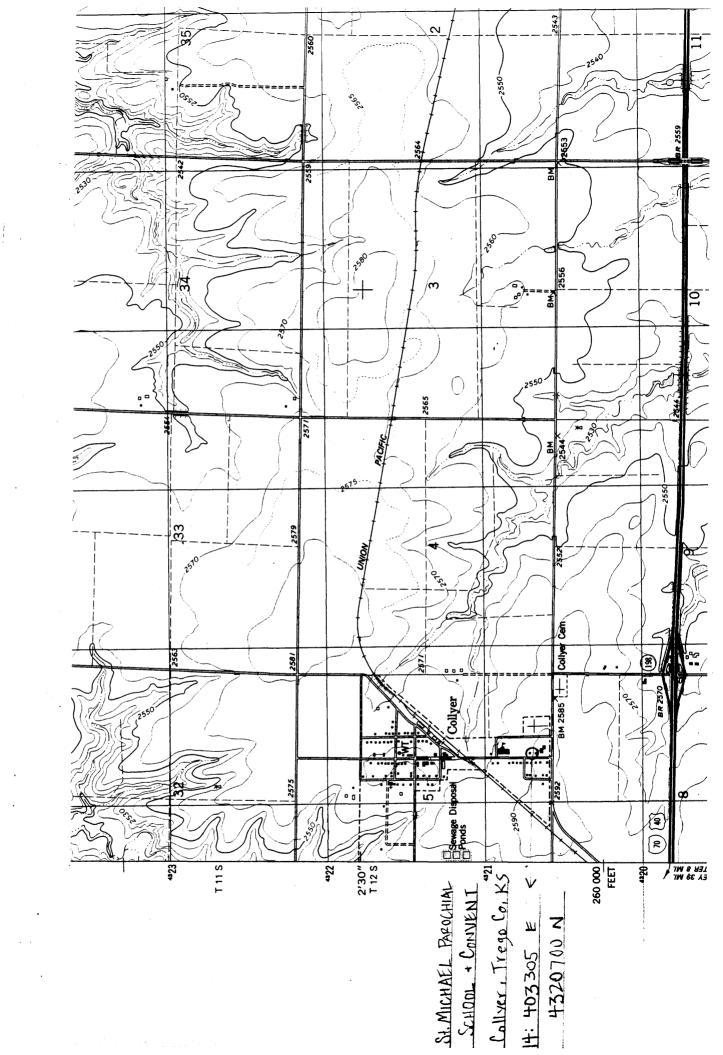
Section Number <u>Photos</u> Page <u>9</u>

St. Michael School & Convent Collyer, Trego County, KS

PHOTOGRAPIC INFORMATION

Property: St. Michael School Location: 700 Ainslie, Collyer, Trego Co., KS Photographer: Sarah J. Martin Date: September 11, 2007

- Photo 1: St. Michael School, west (front) elevation, facing E Photo 2: St. Michael School, southeast corner, facing NW Photo 3: St. Michael School, east (rear) elevation, facing W Photo 4: St. Michael School, east (rear) elevation, addition, facing SW Photo 5: St. Michael School, north (side) elevation, facing SE Photo 6: St. Michael School, west (front) elevation, above entrance, facing E Photo 7: St. Michael School, west (front) elevation, main entrance, facing E St. Michael School, west (front) elevation, detail of 2nd story window, facing E Photo 8: Photo 9: St. Michael School, interior first floor hallway, facing E Photo 10: St. Michael School, arch window above main entrance, facing W Photo 11: St. Michael School, first floor classroom door and transom, facing N Photo 12: St. Michael School, close-up of transom window, facing N Photo 13: St. Michael School, first floor, south classroom, facing W Photo 14: St. Michael School, first floor, south classroom, facing NE Photo 15: St. Michael School, third floor attic, facing SW Property: St. Michael Convent Location: 704 Ainslie, Collyer, Trego Co., KS Photographer: Sarah J. Martin Date: September 11, 2007 Photo 16: St. Michael Convent, southwest corner, facing NE Photo 17: St. Michael Convent, southeast corner, facing NW Photo 18: St. Michael Convent, east (rear) elevation, facing W Photo 19: St. Michael Convent, north (side) elevation, facing S Photo 20: St. Michael Convent, interior, first floor, northwest room and front entrance, facing W Photo 21: St. Michael Convent, interior, first floor, northwest room, facing NE Photo 22: St. Michael Convent, interior, southwest room, facing W Photo 23: St. Michael Convent, interior, first floor, southeast room, facing SW
- Photo 24: St. Michael Convent, interior, second floor hallway, facing E
- Photo 25: St. Michael Convent, interior, south second floor rooms, facing W
- Photo 26: St. Michael Convent, basement, facing SE



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY St. Michael School & Convent NAME :

MULTIPLE NAME :

STATE & COUNTY: KANSAS, Trego

3/05/08 4/08/08 DATE RECEIVED: DATE OF PENDING LIST: 3/24/08 DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/18/08 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 08000310

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: Ν

ACCEPT

4.16.0% DATE REJECT

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RETURN

Entered in The National Register of Historic Places

RECOM.	/CRITER	TA

REVIEWER

DISCIPLINE

TELEPHONE

DATE

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.