

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received AUG 9 1983
date entered

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

1. Name

historic St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church

and/or common St. Patrick's Church

2. Location

street & number ^{117.} Route #1 _____ not for publication

city, town Adell ^{Vic.} _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district

state Wisconsin code 55 county Sheboygan code 117

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Milwaukee Archdiocese attn: Archbishop Rembert G. Weakland

street & number 345 N. 95th Street Box 2018

city, town Milwaukee _____ vicinity of _____ state Wisconsin 53201

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Sheboygan County Courthouse

street & number 615 N. Sixth Avenue

city, town Sheboygan _____ state Wis. 53085

6. Representation in Existing Surveys (continued)

title Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places has this property been determined eligible? _____ yes no

date 1977 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records State Historical Society of Wisconsin 816 State Street

city, town Madison _____ state Wis. 53706

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

St. Patrick's Church is a split field stone rural Gothic Revival building of approximately 37 x 77 feet. It is symmetrical, with a 4 x 13 foot bell tower at the center front, which rises above the gabled roof. The tower narrows toward the top with a yellow brick bell cote, ending in a gabled roof with a cross at the ridge. Entrance to the church is gained through double wooden doors with a stained glass tympanum, depicting a ship heading for a church on shore. Above the doors in the middle of the tower is an arched window of a diamond-patterned red and green leaded stained glass with a grape-patterned panel at each side. The window matches the four on each side, east and west, of the church. Each has a church symbol at the apex of the arch and the name of its donor on a central diamond-shaped pane. Between the long arched windows and the bell cote on the tower is a small arched oculus.

The exterior of the church remains generally as it was when built in 1877. Trim has been painted and storm windows were added in 1958. In 1913 an area was excavated under the building to accommodate a coal burning furnace to supplement the wood burning stove in the church. A new roof was added in 1953. Then in 1958 the furnace was replaced with an oil burning furnace and in 1962 a 9 x 12½ foot fieldstone entrance to the basement furnace area was constructed on the west side. Fieldstones from local fields and contributed by the congregation were used to make the entrance match the original church as closely as possible. At the center of the north face (rear) of the church there is a 3-foot-wide arched door of 5½ inch vertical board with painted iron hinges which leads to the sacristy. This is believed to be the original door.

The interior of the church appears to have maintained its structural integrity, although some changes have taken place through the years. Little is known about the original appearance, since most early records were destroyed in a fire at the Mother Parish in Random Lake in 1895. Major renovations were made in 1953 and 1979. The 4 x 10 foot vestibule/entrance contains a stairway to the balcony. Entrance to the nave is through double doors, to the left of which stands a 5 foot plaster statue of the Virgin and to the right a statue of Jesus Risen. The wooden balcony overhangs the nave by 5 feet and is supported by square pillars, spanned by a bracketed balustrade which runs the full width of the balcony. The balustrade is intricately carved and supports a rail. All decorative trim in the church is painted wood. The walls and ceiling are cream with decorative rust, gold and green and trimmed with gold leaf. The five buttresses support the braced, coved ceiling. Originally three lanterns hung from the ceiling which were removed in 1979 and replaced with eight black wrought lanterns from the old St. Nicholas Hospital Chapel in Sheboygan. The original pine pews were replaced with pews from St. Nicholas and were installed in 1979 as well. The side walls of the nave each hold six plaster Stations of the Cross, between the stained glass windows, and were installed in 1918. The Palladian-style altar containing a statue of St. Patrick, is original. A new altar table, built to match in 1965, faces the nave in front of the original. On the right side of the altar on a hanging pedestal is a statue of St. Joseph, and on the left the Virgin. The original side altars beneath these statues were removed in 1979.

St. Patrick's Church is located one mile east of the village of Adell (previously known as Sherman), or three tenths of a mile east of Highway 57, on County Trunk A, Township of Sherman, Sheboygan County, Wisconsin. The church stands on a high point on the eastern most edge of Sherman Township with rolling farmland sloping downward toward the east into Holland Township where the original Irish settlers which comprised its early congregation established their farmsteads. The church is a landmark in its (See continuation sheet)

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6. Sheboygan County Landmarks

10/17/76

Earl Galbraith (414-458-4640)
1002 Indian Avenue
Sheboygan, Wi. 53085

He is the historian and keeps the files of inventory and documents
for the Landmarks group.

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character and isolated setting.

The church stands about one hundred fifty feet north of County Trunk A, with asphalt driveways on either side leading to a parking lot to the rear or north. Beyond the church, to the north, approximately 500 feet to the far side, is the cemetery, which has expanded south through the years toward the church. Although the cemetery is not included in the nomination, the names (O'Hara, McKenna, Byrd, Hannon, Dunn, Reilly) and dates (as early as 1857) on tombstones testify to the Irish heritage of the parishoners and the early era of their settlement.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1877¹ **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

St. Patrick's Church is one of a small number (as yet undetermined) of rural Gothic Revival churches in the State, especially distinguished by its fieldstone construction. The building represents an architecturally significant period and method of construction. The church is associated with the rural settlement of the Irish in Holland and Sherman Townships of Sheboygan County.

Architectural

St. Patrick's stylistic character is rural Gothic Revival. Although there are other examples of the period in the county, the building is the only known example in the area closely resembling examples promulgated by leading figures like Upjohn, Downing, Woodward and Vaux. The church is symmetrical, having a rectangular nave with a bell tower addition at the center front. The bell tower was very important as a symbol and design element.² In the gothic style church, a picturesque treatment of materials is favored and is reinforced by use of fieldstone as in this church.³ Also typical of this style, are the pointed arched window openings⁴ and wooden doors with heavy iron strap hinges,⁵ now existing only on the rear door of the church.

This small rural Gothic Revival church was described by Wisconsin Architectural Historian Richard W. E. Perrin in his book Historic Wisconsin Buildings as a "highly colorful and beautifully textured wall of split fieldstone masonry. The masonry in this church is of especially fine quality with a wide range of color. Accents of black are provided by split basalt boulders which are brown on the weathered surfaces. Red conglomerate and pink granite boulders are blended with buff dolomite and pink rockface granite on the south front combine for a colorful effect with the yellow brick of the bell cote and arch voussoirs at the door and window openings."⁶ The architect/builder of the church is unknown.

Historical Background

Though Holland Township was primarily settled by Hollanders, there is also evidence in the 1850, 1860 and 1870 United States Census records that people whose origin was listed as Ireland also settled this township and a small segment of eastern Sherman Township surrounding St. Patrick's church.

Little is known about Irish settlement in the area and in fact, Sheboygan County. Irish immigrants arrived in America in the 1840s and 1850s due to the potatoe famine and political issues in their homeland.⁷ They often worked in the East before being able to move west. They worked at construction, mostly railroad, until they could afford the price of land or a farm.⁸ Irish to Wisconsin arrived first in Milwaukee and then moved north into Washington, Ozaukee and Sheboygan counties.⁹ According to census data for 1840 - 1870 the Irish were the second largest foreign-born group in Wisconsin and their entrance into the State preceeded the Germans, but they were gradually outnumbered.¹⁰ In Sheboygan County they arrived first in Mitchell and then in Holland and Sherman Townships, settling near each other as did most ethnic groups (see Continuation sheet)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Zillier's History of Sheboygan County V.I. p. 261
History of St. Patrick's Church 1853-1978 (125 anniversary brochure)
Gustav Buchen, Historic Sheboygan County, 1944
Sister Justille McDonald, History of the Irish in Wisconsin in the Nineteenth Century, 1954

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Random Lake 7.5'

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

16	424940	482194910
Zone	Easting	Northing

B

Zone	Easting	Northing			

C

Zone	Easting	Northing			

D

Zone	Easting	Northing			

E

Zone	Easting	Northing			

F

Zone	Easting	Northing			

G

Zone	Easting	Northing			

H

Zone	Easting	Northing			

Verbal boundary description and justification Commencing from County Trunk A at the Southwest corner of the Southeast quarter of Section 1, T.13N, R.21D; thence 300 feet north to an iron pipe in the ground; thence 90 degrees East 150 Feet to the fenceline at the East edge of property; thence 90 degrees south 300' to Cty. Trk. A; thence 90 degrees west to point of origin.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Miriam Rowe

organization N/A

date 10/25/82

street & number 905-D Eagle Heights

(608)
telephone 238-8786

city or town Madison

state Wis. 53705

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Jeffrey W. Dean

title Director of Historic Preservation, SHSW

date August 2, 1983

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register:

Entered in the
National Register

date 9/8/83

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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because of common background, language and religion. In 1860 the combined populations of Abbott (Sherman) and Holland Townships was 3,740, 720 or more than 19% of which were Irish-born immigrants.¹¹ Because in Ireland the people looked to their priest for leadership and guidance, it was natural that this same spirit developed in their newly established communities here in America.¹² Such would have been the case with St. Patrick's, where the rural immigrant community surrounding it¹³ looked to the church and its pastor as the nucleus for their social and spiritual needs, making it an inseparable part of this Irish community.

The exact date of the founding of St. Patrick's church is unknown, because of a fire at the Mother Parish at Random Lake in 1895 which destroyed early records. A history of the Catholic Church in Wisconsin states that in 1853, St. Patrick's was attended monthly by Rev. Patrick Bradley from St. Mary's of Cascade.¹³ The original church, of log construction, which stood to the front and west of the present church, was a mission church of St. Mary's church in Cascade. Services were held once a month and the other Sundays the congregation walked the five miles to Cascade for their spiritual needs.¹⁴ The log structure was either sided with clapboard or a frame church replaced it, since a past member remembered a frame building on the site.¹⁵ In 1877, the new stone church which stands today was erected.¹⁶ Although the present church was not the first constructed on the site, its association to the immigrant community would have retained its value in the latter part of the 19th Century.

Footnote: Verification of the Irish settlement of the area east of St. Patrick's becomes clearer when you see the property ownership on the plat maps of 1862 and 1875. Though it is difficult to read many names on census records, I was able to find many names indicating Irish origin to clearly show the small enclave of Irish farmsteads surrounded by mostly Hollanders in Holland Township and Prussian and English in Sherman Township. It is this enclave of Irish whose names appear in the history of St. Patrick's church and on the tombstones in the cemetery.

References:

- 1 Rummell, Rev. Leo, O. Praem, History of the Catholic Church in Wisconsin, Wisconsin State Council Knights of Columbus, Madison, Wisconsin, 1976, p. 101
- 2 Rifkind, Carole, A Field Guide to American Architecture, Plume Books, Times Mirror, New York, 1980, p. 138
- 3 Op Cit, p. 137
- 4 Ibid
- 5 Op Cit, p. 138
- 6 Perrin, Richard W. E., Historic Wisconsin Buildings, Milwaukee Public Museum Publication of History #4, 1962, p. 75
- 7 Buchen, Gustav, Historic Sheboygan County, 1944, p. 302
- 8 Ibid
- 9 Buchen, Op Cit, p. 303
- 10 McDonald Sister M. Justille, History of the Irish in Wisconsin in the Nineteenth Century, The Catholic University of America Press, Washington, D.C., 1954, Preface
- 11 McDonald, Op Cit, p. 272
- 12 Rummell, Op Cit
- 13 Ibid
- 14 Ibid

(continued)

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8. References continued:

- 15 St. Patrick's Church, 1853-1978, compiled and written by Bernadette Mondlock, 1978
16 Rummell, Op Cit

General References:

Downing, A. J., The Architecture of Country Houses, Dover Publications, Inc., New York, 1969

Vaux, Calvert, Villas & cottages, The Great Architectural Style-Book of the Hudson River School, Dover Publications, Inc., New York, 1970

9. Major Bibliographical References:(continued from item #9)

Zillier's History of Sheboygan County, Volume I. p. 261

Buchen, Gustav, Historic Sheboygan County, 1944

History of St. Patrick's Church 1853- 1978, A 125th Anniversary brochure compiled and written by Bernadette Mondlock

McDonald, Sister Justille M., History of the Irish in Wisconsin in the Nineteenth Century, The Catholic University of America Press, Washington, D.C., 1954.

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Major Bibliographical References:(continued from item #9)

Zillier's History of Sheboygan County, Volume I. p. 261

Buchen, Gustav, Historic Sheboygan County, 1944

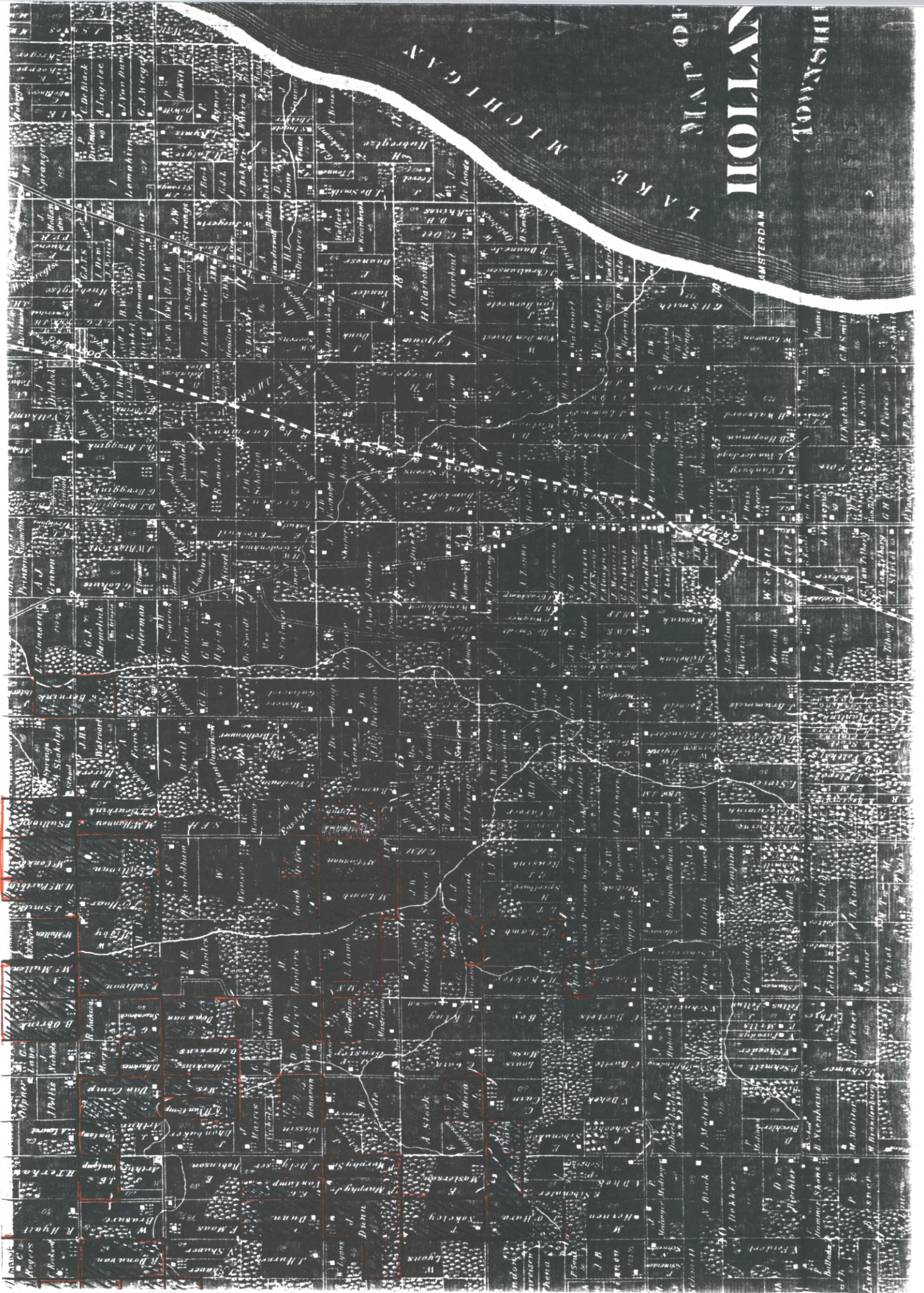
History of St. Patrick's Church 1853- 1978, A 125th Anniversary brochure compiled
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McDonald, Sister Justille M., History of the Irish in Wisconsin in the Nineteenth Century,
The Catholic University of America Press, Washington, D.C., 1954.



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Vaux, Calvert, Villas & cottages, The Great Architectural Style-Book of the Hudson
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LAKE MICHIGAN
 HOLLAND TOWNSHIP
 AMSTERDAM

IRISH 
OTHER 

SHERMAN TOWNSHIP

1875



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