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Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

United States Department of 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" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900A). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Fifth Street School
other names/site number Thirteenth District Primary School No. 2

2. Location

street & number 2770 North Fifth Street N/A not for publication
city or town Milwaukee N/A vicinity
state Wisconsin code WI county Milwaukee code 079 zip code 53212

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

David J. Leubuna
Signature of certifying official/Title

1/17/2018
Date

State Historic Preservation Office - Wisconsin
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 commenting official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

Fifth Street School
Name of Property

Milwaukee
County and State

Wisconsin

4. National Park Service Certification

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



3-5-2018

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(check as many boxes as
as apply)

private
 public-local
 public-State
 public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

building(s)
 district
 structure
 site
 object

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

contributing	noncontributing
1	0 buildings
0	0 sites
0	0 structures
0	0 objects
1	0 total

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

N/A

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

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)
EDUCATION/School

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)
VACANT/Not In Use

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)
LATE VICTORIAN/Romanesque

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)
foundation STONE
walls BRICK

roof SYNTHETICS

other

Narrative Description

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

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)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1888-1908

Significant Dates

1888

1908

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Schnetzky, Herman

Moller, John (1908 addition)

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Fifth Street School

Milwaukee

Wisconsin

Name of Property

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9. Major Bibliographic References

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

Previous Documentation on File (National Park Service):

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

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

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

1 16 4306894 879163
 Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
 Zone Easting Northing

2 _____
 Zone Easting Northing

4 _____
 Zone Easting Northing

See Continuation Sheet

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

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Jean L. Guarino, Ph.D.	date	June 1, 2017
organization	Consultant for MacRostie Historic Advisors	telephone	(708) 386-1142
street & number	53 W. Jackson Boulevard	zip code	60604
city or town	Chicago	state	IL

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Milwaukee
County and State

Wisconsin

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/title	Ben Marshall	date	June 1, 2017
Organization	Gorman & Company	telephone	608-835-5534
street & number	200 N. Main Street	zip code	53575
city or town	Oregon	state	WI

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 20503.22

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Fifth Street School
Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin

Section 7 Page 1

The Fifth Street School is located at 2770 N. Fifth Street in the Harambee neighborhood of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Harambee is a former agricultural community on the city's North Side that experienced rapid residential development and annexation in the late-nineteenth-century. Fifth Street School was originally called Thirteenth District Primary School No. 2. Its name was changed to Fifth Street School in 1912, when the Milwaukee School Board voted to name schools according to the streets upon which they were located. It retained the Fifth Street School name until it closed as a school building in the 1960s.

The Fifth Street School was built in three stages. An original three-story school building was built in 1888, followed by a two-story north block in 1908 that blends seamlessly with the main block. Both the original building and north block were designed in the Romanesque Revival style. A two-story south block was built in 1960 and features a restrained modernistic appearance.

The school building is located on the west side of a half-block parcel of land bounded by Fourth Street on the east, Fifth Street on the west, West Christine Lane on the south and West Hadley Street on the north. The east half of this parcel features the former school playground, which is paved with concrete, and two buildings: an early-twentieth-century Gothic Revival church on the northwest corner of Fourth Street and Christine Lane, and an adjacent brick-clad rectory/social hall that fronts upon Christine Lane and likely dates to the 1970s/1980s. The northeast corner of Fifth and Hadley streets features the former Nunn-Bush Shoe Company factory building (1915) that later served as the Milwaukee Enterprise Center. The school is situated in the heart of a residential neighborhood that features modest late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century frame houses as well as some new construction houses. The school property is enclosed by a chain-link fence.

The building has excellent exterior integrity, retains its original form, brick masonry walls, fenestration, roofline, and decorative detailing. Its main corridors, stairways, and entrance vestibules remain largely unchanged, although many of the classrooms have been subdivided into office space by removable partition walls. The third floor of the 1888 block retains its original auditorium.

Building Exterior

The Fifth Street School is rectangular in plan, faces west onto Fifth Street, and is set back approximately thirty feet from the public sidewalk. Both the 1888 central block and 1908 north block were designed in the Romanesque Revival style and visually blend together seamlessly. The two sections are situated on a raised basement and are constructed of cream-colored brick. The brick walls have been painted white except for at the basement level which is painted brown. The building has a

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steeply pitched pyramidal roof covered with asphalt shingles. The roof has two brick chimneys: one on the west slope that has been truncated, and one on the south slope that is detailed with blind arches. The building's 1888 and 1908 blocks have a total of four public entrances that access the building's four stairways. Fenestration on the first and second floors of the 1888 and 1908 blocks was originally comprised of tall, four-over-four wood-sash windows. The upper sashes of all windows have been infilled with solid board panels, but the lower sashes have been retained. All windows on both of these blocks are detailed with stone sills and many have jack arch lintels. Their foundations are of stone.

The two-story 1960 south block spans the entire south elevation of the 1888 central block. This flat-roofed cinderblock building is clad in buff colored brick and has a concrete foundation.

Primary (west) facade

The unified west (front) facade of the building's 1888 and 1908 blocks features three gabled wall dormers (two on the original block and one on the north block), the parapets of which are detailed with round-arch brick corbeling. Varied projecting and recessed wall planes add visual interest to the façade design. At the apex of all three gabled wall dormers is a globe ornament nestled within a metal foliate base. Near the apex of the southernmost gable wall dormer is an original decorative ribbon that appears to be terra cotta and identifies the school's early name: "XIII Dist School." This façade has two original front-gable entrance vestibules with brick walls that are painted brown and project beyond the wall plane. The front of each vestibule has tall window openings infilled with wood boards: two on the south vestibule and three on the north vestibule. The sides of both vestibules each feature an original metal cornice and a pair of metal doors.

The west façade has ten bays in the 1888 block and 12 bays in the 1908 block. Its raised basement level is lined with original six-light wood hopper windows. The first and second story windows are arranged alone, in pairs, or in groups of three. Their upper sashes have been infilled with solid board panels, but the lower sashes—each with four lights—have been retained. All windows are detailed with stone sills and many have jack arch lintels. The upper floor windows beneath the gabled wall dormers are arranged beneath broad brick arches. Some window spandrels feature decorative brickwork arranged in a lattice-like pattern. Other decorative detailing includes a corbelled brick stringcourse between the first and second stories and the use of dentil molding across the roofline. The west facade also includes a single pyramidal-roofed dormer with a grouping of three wood-sash windows that illuminate unfinished attic space. Their upper sashes have been removed, but the lower sashes—each with nine lights—have been retained.

The west facade of the 1960 south block lacks any fenestration. It has a pair of metal doors accessed via three concrete steps and sheltered by a metal canopy.

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North (side) façade

The symmetrical north façade of the building (1908 north block) has ten bays. The six-bay central portion of the wall plane is slightly recessed, which carries over into the roof form. Its raised basement level is lined with original six-light wood hopper windows. First and second story windows are arranged alone. Their upper sashes have been infilled with solid board panels, but the lower sashes—each with four lights—have been retained. Some of the window openings on this elevation have been infilled with brick. All windows are detailed with stone sills and have jack arch lintels. Other decorative detailing includes a corbelled brick stringcourse between the first and second stories. The north façade also includes a centrally-located pyramidal-roofed dormer with a grouping of three wood-sash windows that illuminate unfinished attic space. Their upper sashes have been removed but the lower sashes—each with nine lights—have been retained.

East (rear) façade

The east façade has ten bays in the 1888 block and 12 bays in the 1908 block, which includes a boiler room at its south end that is fronted by a brick smokestack. Varied projecting and recessed wall planes add visual interest to the façade design. The 1888 block of this façade features two gabled wall dormers that have parapets detailed with round-arch brick corbeling. At the apex of both is a globe ornament nestled within a metal foliate base.

The east façade has three entrances, one in the 1888 block and two in the 1908 block. The southernmost entrance (in the 1888 block) has an original front-gable vestibule with brick walls that is painted brown and projects beyond the wall plane. Its front facade has three tall window openings infilled with wood boards and each of its sides feature an original metal cornice and a pair of metal doors. The boiler room near the center of the east façade has a metal door. The northernmost entrance (in the 1908 block) has a vestibule situated in-between the classroom block and the boiler room. It features a pair of original wood double doors with multi-paned glazing spanned by a multi-paned transom with wood muntins. This entrance has been boarded-over on the exterior and its doors are only visible from inside the building.

The raised basement level of this façade is lined with original six-over-six wood-sash windows, of which the lower sashes are below ground. First and second story windows arranged alone, in pairs, or in groups of three. Their upper sashes have been infilled with solid board panels, but the lower sashes—each with four lights—have been retained. All windows are detailed with stone sills and many have jack arch lintels. The upper floor windows beneath the gabled wall dormers are arranged beneath broad brick arches. Some window spandrels feature decorative brickwork arranged in a lattice-like pattern. Other decorative detailing includes a corbelled brick stringcourse between the first and second stories and the use of dentil molding across the roofline. The east facade also includes a single pyramidal-roofed dormer (in the 1908 block) with a grouping of three wood-sash windows that

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Fifth Street School
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illuminate unfinished attic space. Their upper sashes have been removed, but the lower sashes—each with nine lights—have been retained.

The east facade of the 1960 block has two square window openings that are infilled with brick as well as three entrances: two single metal doors and a pair of metal doors topped by a metal canopy.

South (side) facade

The school's two-story brick-clad flat-roofed 1960 block stretches across the south wall of the original 1888 block. Its symmetrical south façade has five bays. The first floor has four groups of six windows and the second floor has five groups of windows. Fenestration is comprised of single-pane windows above hopper windows on both floors. The south elevation of the 1888 block is visible above the second story of the 1960 block. It features a gabled wall dormer with a parapet detailed with round-arch brick corbeling. Its apex features a globe ornament nestled within a metal foliate base. Fenestration throughout the south elevation of the original 1888 block was originally comprised of tall, four-over-four wood-sash windows arranged alone, in pairs, or in groups of three. The upper sashes of all windows have been infilled with solid panels, but the lower sashes have been retained. All windows are detailed with stone sills and many have jack arch lintels. The upper floor windows in the gabled wall dormers are arranged beneath broad brick arches. Some window spandrels on this elevation feature decorative brickwork arranged in a lattice-like pattern.

Building Interior

The 1888 central block and the 1908 north block are internally connected at the basement, first, and second floor levels by a north-south double-loaded corridor. The central corridors on these floors open directly onto the building's four stairways through double-doors, some of which are original. The northeast and northwest stairways are situated directly across the hall from each other, as are the southeast and southwest stairways. The four stairways are accessed from the outside via entrance vestibules that have internal wood double-doors with multi-light windows topped by multi-light transoms and flanked by multi-light fixed windows. The stairways have solid wood sides, rather than railings, and wood treads. Stair landings feature original wood windows and wood casings. An elevator with solid metal doors is situated at the southeast corner of the building.

Both the first and second floors have double-loaded corridors with wood flooring. Original plaster ceilings throughout both floors have been covered with suspended tile systems. Interior walls on these levels are comprised of wood lath and plaster or drywall. Doors throughout the first and second floors are varied and all are non-original. The former classrooms flanking the central corridor on both floors have been subdivided into a variety of spaces, some of which retain their original slate blackboards and original wood shelving. Original wood flooring on both floors is extant beneath wall-to-wall carpeting

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and is uncovered in some second floor spaces. The second floor retains a couple of its original classrooms, one of which has exposed wood flooring.

The third floor of the 1888 block retains its original floor plan and finishes, which consist of wood floors and plaster walls and ceilings. This level features a large auditorium that also served as a gymnasium. It is accessed through tall, original wood-paneled doors that have retained their original decorative hardware. This space has original wood flooring, wood wainscoting with decorative metal heating grilles, original wood window casings, and a raised stage at its west end. The third floor of the original block has two other rooms that feature original wood paneled doors, wood flooring, and blackboards. One of these rooms opens onto expansive unfinished attic space above the 1908 block.

The basement's double-loaded corridor has brick walls, flooring covered with vinyl tiles, plaster ceiling covered with tile, and features some original wood paneled doors. It is flanked by a variety of spaces, including classrooms, bathrooms and a boiler room. The original bathrooms on this level feature octagonal tile flooring and original pedestal sinks; toilet stalls with marble partition walls and wood shutter doors; and expansive semi-circular stone communal sinks. All of these fixtures are geared to the height of children. The basement also features some original classrooms with wood flooring, plaster walls, and built-in bookshelves as well as cafeteria spaces at the north end of the building where the flooring has been covered with vinyl tiles.

Both floors of the 1960 block are arranged along a single-loaded east-west corridor that terminates at stairways on either end. The first floor is subdivided into a wide variety of spaces of different sizes. The second floor is primarily comprised of five classrooms strung out along its length. Spaces within this block have vinyl tile flooring, acoustical tile ceilings, partition walls comprised of drywall, and cinderblock outer walls.

Integrity

Fifth Street School has excellent historic integrity from its period of significance (1888 to 1908). The building retains its overall exterior appearance from this period, including its overall historic site, form, brick masonry walls, fenestration, roofline, dormers, exterior entrance vestibules, and detailing. Exterior changes are mainly limited to the installation of metal doors on three of the projecting entrance vestibules, the replacement of the upper sashes of original wood double-hung windows with solid boards, and the shortening of one of the chimneys.

The building retains its original circulation system of double-loaded corridors opening onto four original stairways, each of which are accessed from the building's four entrance vestibules. The stairways and entrance vestibules remain unchanged and retain their original wood flooring and doors.

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Stair landings feature original wood windows and wood casings. After its conversion to a health center in 1978, many of the school's first and second floor classrooms were subdivided into smaller offices or reconfigured as medical rooms with removable partition walls; however, several classrooms in the basement and on the second floor remain intact.

Original wood flooring is extant throughout the building, most notably in its central corridors, although in many spaces it has been covered with wall-to-wall carpet. Although covered with suspended systems, the original plaster ceilings throughout the school have also likely been retained. A number of spaces feature original chalkboards. The basement classrooms and bathrooms remain largely unchanged. The third floor auditorium is intact, as is the remaining finished portion of the third floor, which features original wood paneled doors, wood flooring, and window casings.

The 1960 two-story addition is a small-scale building that spans the length of the 1888 block's south elevation and does not detract from its overall significance. The upper two floors of the original block's south elevation remain visible above the flat roof of the 1960 block.

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Fifth Street School
Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin

Summary

The Fifth Street School in Milwaukee is locally significant under National Register Criterion C for Architecture as an excellent example of the Romanesque Revival style. The period of significance extends from 1888 (the year that the original block was constructed) to 1908 (the year that its north block was completed). The original three-story school building was designed by Herman Schnetzky, a prominent German-born Milwaukee architect who was versatile in a variety of architectural styles. It was one of at least two dozen schools built between 1883 and 1892 to accommodate the city's rapid population growth. The north addition blends seamlessly with the main block. A flat-roofed modernistic south block was erected in 1960.

The Fifth Street School is an excellent example of the Romanesque Revival style, which was widely used in the design of Milwaukee public schools during 1880s and 1890s. This brick masonry edifice features hallmarks of the style, such as the use of gabled wall dormers detailed with miniature round arches, steeply pitched pyramidal roof, and windows grouped beneath decorative round arches. Stylistically, the school represents a period in which Milwaukee public school buildings featured a picturesque appearance with high quality craftsmanship and decorative detailing. The building has excellent exterior integrity, retaining its original form, brick masonry walls, fenestration, roofline, dormers, entrance vestibules, and decorative detailing that exemplify its significance as a Romanesque Revival style public school building dating to the 1880s.

History of Milwaukee's Harambee (formerly Garfield Park) neighborhood

Fifth Street School is located in Milwaukee's Harambee (formerly Garfield Park) neighborhood, which extends from North Avenue to Capitol Drive, a distance of two miles. The neighborhood's original name is tied to the history of the local park. The park was established in 1866 by the Milwaukee Schuetzen Gessellschaft, a German shooting society, at Third and Burleigh streets. It was acquired by Frederick Pabst in the 1890s and renamed Pabst Park. When the heirs sold the land to the City of Milwaukee in 1921, the City renamed the public park Garfield Park for President James A. Garfield.

In the early-1800s, the present-day Harambee neighborhood was a farming district located beyond Milwaukee's northern limits, which then extended only to North Avenue. It was settled by German immigrants who had their own trading center, Williamsburg, along Green Bay Road, between today's Burleigh Street and Keefe Avenue. Milwaukee expanded northward in the mid-nineteenth century, its limits reaching Center Street in 1855 and Burleigh in 1856. Residential development began to replace the north side farming district in the 1870s when the city was adding residents at the rate of nearly 400 each month. In 1891 Williamsburg, by then a suburban community of blue-collar workers, became

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Fifth Street School
Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin

part of Milwaukee. Third Street (now Martin Luther King Drive) comprised the retail thoroughfare of the heavily German district whose residents were mainly families who walked or took the streetcar to Milwaukee's factory districts. In 1915, the Nunn-Bush Shoe Company built a large factory in the heart of the neighborhood at Fifth and Hadley streets, across the street from the half-block parcel that encompassed Fifth Street School.¹ The exception to working class settlement of the district were Palmer, First and Second streets, between North Avenue and Center streets, which comprised the residential "gold coast" of the north side German community and featured imposing houses in the latest architectural styles.

Residential development reached northward to Capitol Drive in the 1920s, during that time the then-Garfield Park neighborhood remained heavily German. A large-scale industrial district developed in the northeast corner of the community during this decade, with factories that produced everything from shoes to pianos. The largest factory was the Seaman auto body plant on Richards Street which contained more than one million square feet of floor space and employed 6,500 workers at its peak in 1926, many of whom lived in the neighborhood.² African-American residents began moving into the Garfield Park district in the 1930s, establishing their own churches and businesses in buildings formerly used by the German community.

African-American migration up Third Street increased rapidly after World War II as white Milwaukee residents began to move from their traditional ethnic neighborhoods to newer suburban communities. Residents took part in the civil rights struggles of the 1960s, during which time Fifth Street School was referred to as a "Negro School" due to its all-black student body. The Milwaukee riot of 1967 began on the corner of Third Street and North Avenue in the district. At around this time, the construction of Interstate I-43 bisected and dismantled the Bronzeville neighborhood, the cultural and economic center of the African-American community, displacing residents to transitioning neighborhoods like Garfield Park.

Sometime in the mid-1970s, the Garfield Park neighborhood received the name Harambee, which is generally accepted as meaning "pulling together" in Swahili. By 1982 the neighborhood was 82% black.³ The community's economic struggles during this period were largely due to the loss of manufacturing jobs in neighborhood factories. However, many grassroots community organizations and churches have worked to promote pride and stability in Harambee over the past several decades. Many of the old homes of the German gold coast have been maintained or are ongoing restoration. Today, the Harambee community's many advantages include a mixture of fine historic houses, a prime

¹ John Gurda, *Milwaukee: City of Neighborhoods* (Milwaukee: Historic Milwaukee, Inc., 2015) 223.

² Ibid, p. 225.

³ University of Wisconsin-Extension Center for Economic Development Records, 1967-1991: "Harambee 1872-1974," Box 8, Folder 7. Area Research Center-University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

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Section 8 Page 3Fifth Street School
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location on the edge of downtown, a unique rolling landscape, and an eclectic mix of businesses.⁴

Overview History of Milwaukee Public Schools

Fifth Street School was built during the administration of William E. Anderson, who served as Superintendent from 1883 to 1892, previously working as a Milwaukee principal. He was a progressive in curriculum revision and instituted mandatory German language classes as well as experimental physics and cooking classes. Anderson built two dozen schools to accommodate Milwaukee's rapid population growth during his nine-year tenure, one of which was Fifth Street School. Others included Clybourn Street, Dover Street, East High School, Eighth Street, Fourth Street, Garfield Avenue, Highland Avenue, Hopkins Street, Lee Street, Longfellow, Madison Street, Maryland Avenue, McKinley, Mineral Street, Mound Street, Palmer Street, Park Street, Prairie Street, 17th Avenue, Third Street, Trowbridge Street, Walnut Street, and Windlake Avenue.⁵ Schools of this period typically had gyms and auditoriums or more often "gymnatoriums" on the top floor.

Many of these schools were designed by the city's most respected architects, especially Henry Koch, with others designed by Herman Schnetzky and Eugene Liebert. However, Anderson objected to the process by which architects for school buildings were selected by the City Council, arguing that the responsibility of selecting sites and plans should be transferred to the Board of Education, something that wouldn't occur until 1905.⁶ The spurt of new construction during Anderson's tenure could barely keep up with enrollment growth. In the first weeks of 1893, Superintendent George Peckham told the *Milwaukee Journal* that 26 barracks were in use to house an overflow of students. Additionally, space had been rented by the school board to use as classrooms in the Sixth, Ninth, Thirteenth and Eighteenth districts. Despite the need for additional school buildings during the 1890s, construction slowed later in this decade due to the Panic of 1893 and an ensuing economic depression.

A number of new buildings were erected or renovated in the early 1900s, including the Fifth Street School, which gained a large new addition in 1908. In 1906, the Board of Education created an Architectural Division and hired D.C. Otteson—who had supervised the construction of Ferry & Clas's 1898 Milwaukee Public Library—to run it. In 1912, the board appointed Milwaukee architectural firm Van Ryn & DeGelleke as Milwaukee Public School (MPS) architects on a half-time basis. For the next 12 years, the firm helped construct a number of buildings. In the same year, the school board

⁴ Other sources reviewed for this essay: Kathleen Neils Conzen, *Immigrant Milwaukee, 1836-1860* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1976); Kitchell Whyte, *Wisconsin Heritage* (C.T. Branford Co., 1954).

⁵ William Lamers, *Our Roots Grow Deep, 1836-1974*, Second Ed. (Milwaukee: Milwaukee Public Schools, 1974)

⁹.

⁶ For Anderson's discussion of this topic, see: Milwaukee Public Schools, Thirtieth Annual Report of the School Board of the City of Milwaukee, 1889: 46-56.

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abandoned the old district numbering system due to changes to ward boundaries that followed the expansion of the city. Instead, the board voted to name schools according to the streets upon which they were located.⁷

In the early 1910s, MPS created an extension department, which opened social centers and playgrounds in a number of schools. During this period, the school board adopted a policy of creating larger and better equipped school grounds; larger school buildings, rather than an increased number of smaller buildings; and a new type of school building with modern facilities and large assembly halls on the ground floor, rather than on the upper levels. “Many older schools had been built on small sites—‘quarter squares’—and a program to provide adequate playgrounds for them in the 1920s and for decades thereafter demanded the purchase and demolition of groups of houses,” wrote William Lamers in *Our Roots Grow Deep*.⁸ The larger playgrounds were an acknowledgement not only of the importance to children of physical activity, but also of the greater role schools played in neighborhoods.

Otteson died in 1922 and in this same year the Milwaukee Public Schools reorganized the Architectural Division, creating the Bureau of Buildings and Grounds. Minneapolis architect Guy E. Wiley was named Assistant Chief of the department and served as full-time architect for MPS during his nearly 39 year tenure. Wiley directed the construction of new school buildings starting in the 1920s and by 1943 the Milwaukee Public School District comprised 118 buildings.⁹ New construction was halted during World War II, commencing again in the late 1940s. In the post-war era, many properties adjacent to schools were purchased to expand playgrounds. The postwar baby boom forced MPS to contract the services of local architectural firms for new school designs, with its construction division performing a supervisory role.

The final addition of Fifth Street School was constructed in 1960 during a postwar spurt of new construction. In 1951, voters approved a \$10 million school bond referendum, which was intended to help fund \$18.2 million in work needed to erase what a report called “a critical housing shortage” for MPS. This demand for new schools resulted from an increasing birth rate, substantial growth in city population, and aging school buildings. In 1962 the *Milwaukee Sentinel* reported that voters approved a \$29 million bond offering to fund a five year facilities plan.¹⁰ New additions constructed onto existing schools during this period were frequently modernistic in style, often featuring horizontal strips of windows, smooth wall planes, and flat roofs.

⁷ Robert Tanzilo, *Historic Milwaukee Public Schoolhouses* (Charleston: The History Press, 2012).

⁸ Lamers, 15.

⁹ Robert Tanzilo, *Historic Milwaukee Public Schoolhouses* (Charleston: The History Press, 2012) 31.

¹⁰ *Ibid*, 36

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The Milwaukee public school system experienced great changes since the 1960s as desegregation was followed by the emergence of magnet specialty schools and resurgence in the popularity of neighborhood schools. The establishment of School Choice and Charter Schools, as well as a declining population of school age children and an aging infrastructure have all impacted Milwaukee's collection of public educational buildings. As the number of students decreases, more school buildings are closed. Since 2004, at least 32 buildings have closed; about half of these remain vacant, while others have been repurposed, either for educational purposes or for adaptive use as housing.

History of the 5th Street School (originally Thirteenth District Primary School No. 2)

Planning for the Fifth Street School began in 1887 when Milwaukee's heavily German North Side district was experiencing rapid population growth. As of early 1887, the city's Thirteenth Ward had just two schools, a primary school for lower grades and a district school for upper grades. They were located at the corner of Center Street and Island (Palmer Street today) and the corner of Lee (today's Meinecke) and Weil Street. The May 3, 1887 *Proceedings of the Milwaukee School Board* contained a resolution to build a second primary school on land recently acquired:

Whereas, the Thirteenth District School and the Thirteenth District Primary School do not afford sufficient accommodations for the public who desire to send their children to the schools in that part of the city; Resolved that the Common Council be and are hereby requested to take into consideration the needs of this part of the city for further school accommodations; and, Resolved that in the opinion of this Board the extension of school facilities in in that part of the city would best meet immediate and future demands by the erection of a Primary School on the lots lately purchased for that purpose.¹¹

The initial parcel purchased by the city for a school on Fifth Street, between Christine Lane and West Hadley Street was too small. On September 6, 1887, the Board of Education asked the City Council to purchase two adjacent lots.¹² The school was built in 1888 and originally called Thirteenth District Primary No. 2 until 1912 when the name was changed to Fifth Street School. The land cost \$4,000 and the building cost \$30,215.¹³ In his 1888 Annual Report, Superintendent William Anderson stated:

In the Thirteenth Ward a primary school of eight rooms has been filled, and since the opening of the school the hall provided for general exercises has been divided into two class rooms. The

¹¹ *Milwaukee Public Schools Proceedings*, May 3, 1887: 287.

¹² *Milwaukee Public Schools Proceedings*, September 6, 1887: 86.

¹³ *Milwaukee Public Schools Annual Report*, 1910.

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Fifth Street School
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*need of further school accommodations in this ward seems as urgent as ever.*¹⁴

The new school on Fifth Street was designed by architect Herman P. Schnetzky as a twin to the school he designed at 2318 W. Walnut Street (demolished), also built in 1888. Both of these brick masonry Romanesque Revival style buildings featured steeply pitched pyramidal roofs, gabled wall dormers, and round-arches that framed window openings. (See Figures 10 and 11.) They were erected as part of Milwaukee's school house building boom that occurred in the 1880s and early 1890s and resulted in the construction of at least twenty-four new buildings. Although Fifth Street School featured fine craftsmanship in brick, the need for cost-savings ensured that ornamental detail was not overly elaborate.

Fifth Street School's original block featured eight classrooms that flanked wide, double-loaded corridors on the first and second floors. It had two main entrances and two corresponding stairwells—one each on the east and west elevations—that facilitated the ingress and egress of students. Bathrooms and the cafeteria were in the basement and the third floor featured a large auditorium that was also used as a gymnasium. Extremely tall double-hung windows provided ample light and ventilation to the rooms on all three floors. The raised basement was well-lit by a series of double-hung and hopper windows. The building was situated on the southwest quarter of the half-block bounded by North Fifth Street, North Fourth Street, West Hadley Street, and West Christine Lane. Single-family houses were situated to the north and east of the school on this block.

Completion of Fifth Street School did not ensure sufficient accommodation for children of the surrounding neighborhood. The Thirteenth District Primary School No. 3, built at the corner of Third and Ring streets, was opened on November 9, 1891. Even then, more classrooms were needed in this ward, as noted in the school board's 1892 Annual Report:

*At this moment the most pressing need for more room is in the Eight, Tenth, Eleventh, Thirteenth and Seventeenth wards... The Thirteenth Ward, by the annexation of the Williamsburg district last year, and the inadequate size of the building lately provided, has reached a point where, in order [to] satisfy the legitimate demands of the citizens for proper instruction to their children, it must have a large new district school.*¹⁵

In 1908, Fifth Street School was expanded to the north with an eight-classroom wing that blended seamlessly with the appearance of the original block. It entailed the acquisition of three parcels at a cost of \$6,985 and the demolition of three existing houses. The addition was built at a cost of

¹⁴ Milwaukee Public Schools Annual Report, 1888: 38.

¹⁵ Milwaukee Public Schools Annual Report, 1892: 39.

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\$32,988.¹⁶ It was designed by local architect John Moller who began practicing as an architect in 1892 and later went on to partner with architect George Ehlers. Moller also designed the residences of several prominent Milwaukeeans, as well as the St. James Episcopal Church parish house (1899).¹⁷

The 1927 Report of the Superintendent of Schools includes a photo of Fifth Street School. The caption mentions that the school had “sixteen classrooms, and a small assembly hall on the third floor, besides rooms used for social center purposes.”¹⁸ Starting in the 1910s, Milwaukee featured an innovative social center program, using school buildings to provide after-hours classes and recreation for residents of the city’s ethnically-diverse neighborhoods. It was managed by the Division of Municipal Recreation and Adult Education of the Milwaukee Public Schools and reflected early-twentieth-century Progressive Era efforts to improve education and inspire community in American cities. However, research at the Milwaukee Public Library and the Milwaukee County Historical Society revealed no information regarding the extent to which Fifth Street School may have been involved in the city’s social center program.

Enrollment at Fifth Street School increased from 726 to 800 students between 1927 and 1964. In 1960, a two-story south wing was erected at a cost of \$163,788, which provided much-needed additional classroom space.¹⁹ It was probably at this time that the Board of Education acquired the parcels to the east for expansion of the school yard. Also during the 1960s, Fifth Street School featured an all-black student population that reflected the demographic changes underway in the surrounding neighborhood since World War II. In June 1964 the school—located in what was then called the “inner core” area—was profiled in a series of four articles titled, “Inside a Negro School,” published in the *Milwaukee Sentinel*. Parents interviewed at the time had conflicting viewpoints toward school integration. Fifth Street School was closed in 1978, with students transferred to the nearby Garfield Avenue School at 2215 N. Fourth Street. After its closure, the school was converted into the Harambee Health Center, and later as the Isaac Cogg Community Health Center. Cogg Health Center operated in the facility until 2007 and the building has been vacant since that time.

Fifth Street School was originally called Thirteenth District Primary School No. 2. Its name was changed to Fifth Street School in 1912, when the Milwaukee School Board voted to name schools according to the streets upon which they were located. It retained the Fifth Street School name until it closed as a school building in the 1960s.

¹⁶ *Milwaukee Public Schools Annual Report*, 1910.

¹⁷ *Milwaukee, a Half Century's Progress, 1846-1896* (Milwaukee: Consolidated Illustrating Company, 1896) 197.

¹⁸ *Where We Go To School: Sixty-Eight Annual Report of the Superintendent of Schools*, June 1927: 27.

¹⁹ Joe Botsford, “Inside a Negro School-I: Special Efforts Much in Evidence,” *Milwaukee Sentinel* (June 10, 1964).

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The Romanesque Revival Style

Fifth Street School is an exemplary example of the Romanesque Revival style, which was widely used in the design of Milwaukee public schools during 1880s and 1890s. This was the revival of the round-arched medieval style that preceded the pointed-arch Gothic. It was initially popular in the 1840s and 1850s for the design of new churches and public buildings. Early examples include Richard Upjohn's Church of the Pilgrims in Brooklyn, New York (1846) and Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., designed by James Renwick in 1846. Common characteristics include the use of semicircular arches for door and window openings, sometimes in series as a form of wall ornament. The round arch form is sometimes repeated in miniature beneath stringcourses and or in the raking eaves of gables. Buildings in the style often feature steeply pitched gable or pyramidal roofs. Massing may be symmetrical or asymmetrical. The later "Richardsonian Romanesque" derivation of the style was popular nationwide from the 1870s through the 1890s and was used for schools, high-style houses, and commercial buildings. Hallmarks of this later and more picturesque version include squat columns, deeply recessed windows within rough-faced masonry walls, and pressed metal bays and turrets.

The Romanesque Revival and its later Richardsonian Romanesque derivation were popular in small towns, suburbs and cities in Wisconsin. The publication, *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin*, edited by Barbara Wyatt, identifies several early examples of the style used mainly for ecclesiastical buildings. These include First Congregational Church in Platteville (1869, NRHP 85001359) and St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Johnsburg, Fond du Lac County, built 1857 with coursed, rough-cut limestone (NRHP 80000137). Other examples identified are the Gates of Heaven Synagogue (1863, NRHP 70000030) and the elaborate Carrie Pierce House (1857, NRHP 72000048), both in Madison and designed by the partnership of Samuel Donnel and August Kutzbock. Another excellent example of this round-arch style is Greenfield Church in West Allis, Wisconsin, designed by Herman Schnetzky, the architect of Fifth Street School.

Milwaukee features numerous high-style buildings of varying types designed in the Romanesque Revival style, including:

- Turner Hall at 1034 N. 4th Street (1883; Henry Koch; NRHP 77000041)
- Steinmeyer Building at 1044-1050 N. 3rd Street (1883; George Ferry and Alfred Clas; NRHP 87000494)
- St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 914 E. Knapp Street (1884; Edward Townsend Mix; NRHP 74000110)
- Loyalty Building at 611 N. Broadway (1886; Solon S. Beman)
- Sentinel Building at 225 E. Mason Street (1892; Walter Holbrook)
- Pfister Hotel at 424 E. Wisconsin Ave. (1893; Henry Koch; NRHP 86002325)

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- The Saddlery (The Joys Building) at 233-243 N. Water Street (1894; Tharinger and Bruecker; NRHP 84003724)
- Federal Building at 517 E. Wisconsin Ave. (1899; W.J. Edbrooke; NRHP 73000082)
- St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church at 1927 N. 4th Street (1876) (NRHP 84004014)

The Romanesque Revival was the predominant architectural style used for educational buildings in Milwaukee during the 1880s and 1890s. The Wisconsin History and Architecture Inventory identifies a total of 45 schools built in those two decades, 18 of which were designed in the Romanesque Revival style. Of this group of eight schools, three were designed by the German-born architect Henry Koch, who received many public school commissions:

- Garfield Avenue School at 2215 N. Fourth Street, 1887; NRHP 84003735 (Figure 17)
- Golda Meir School at 1542 N. Fourth Street, 1890; NRHP 84003720 (Figure 18)
- Albert E. Kagel School at 1210 W. Mineral Avenue, 1890 (Figure 21)

These three brick masonry schools have a picturesque appearance and are among the more ornate examples of Milwaukee's Romanesque Revival style school buildings. The Koch-designed schools combine steeply pitched pyramidal roofs with multiple gabled pavilions and wall dormers. Two of them—the Golda Meir and Kagel schools—are distinguished by rusticated limestone cladding at the first floor level. Entrances and upper story windows are grouped beneath broad, round arches. The Garfield Avenue School feature spandrels with decorative brickwork and its roofline has two pyramidal-roofed cupolas.

Cost-saving measures undertaken by the Milwaukee school board by the late 1890s resulted in buildings with less elaborate detailing. For example, both Victor L. Berger School at 3275 N. Third Street (1894; Van Ryn & DeGelleke) and the Alexander Mitchell School at 1728 S. 23rd Street (1894) are similar in scale and massing to the above-mentioned schools and also have pyramidal roofs. Yet, their corner pavilions lack the gabled parapets and wall dormers that create a more complex roofline at the Koch-designed schools. The use of round arches are limited to their first floor entrance pavilions, although both schools feature some rusticated stonework at the basement level as well as cupola ventilators on the roof.

The Fifteenth District School No. 2 at 1312 N. 27th Street (1892; Van Ryn & DeGelleke) features a steeply pitched pyramidal roof and gabled pavilions, but it does not feature round arches, and its Romanesque detailing is mainly limited to the use of rusticated lintels and a belt course. The Robert M. Lafollette School at 3239 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee (1898; H.S. Van Ryn) and the Siefert School at 1547 N. 14th Street (1903) display the restrained use of round arches at their entrances and uppermost stories. The former has modest Classical detailing, such as gabled window pediments and dentil

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molding. The private St. Stephen's School at 1126 S. 5th St., Milwaukee (1892), designed by Fifth Street School architect Herman Schnetzky and his partner Eugene Liebert, has gabled pavilions and wall dormers and its fenestration is grouped beneath both segmental and round arches.

Fifth Street School is comparable to the best examples of Romanesque Revival style schools in Milwaukee, namely, the three above-mentioned schools designed by Henry Koch. Like the Koch-designed schools, Fifth Street School has a tall, pyramidal roof as well as gabled wall dormers. Unlike those schools, it also features pyramidal-roof dormers that enhance the complexity of its roofline. It is the only one of these examples that has gabled wall dormers detailed with a series of miniature corbelled round-arches. Other Romanesque Revival hallmarks at Fifth Street School include the grouping of windows beneath broad, brick arches. The building features high quality craftsmanship and detailing with some spandrels featuring decorative brickwork arranged in a lattice-like pattern and the use of lunettes beneath the decorative arches. Other picturesque elements of Fifth Street School include its projecting brick masonry gable-roof entrance vestibules, a corbelled brick stringcourse between the first and second stories, and the use of the dentil molding across the roofline. Windows are detailed with stone sills and jack arch lintels. The apex of its gabled parapets features an ornament unique to Schnetzky-designed schools—a globe ornament nestled within a metal foliate base—which the architect also used on his St. Stephens School at 1126 S. 5th Street in Walker's Point, Wisconsin.

The 1888 original block and the 1908 north block of Fifth Street School appear to have been constructed at the same time as their east and west facades blend together seamlessly. The 1908 block is sympathetic to the original building in terms of its massing, brick masonry walls, fenestration, roofline, and entrance vestibules. It duplicates the Romanesque Revival elements of the original 1888 block as well as its other decorative features. Thus, the 1908 north block enhances the original building and does not adversely affect its integrity in any way. Together, both sections comprise a large-scale, visually prominent building in Milwaukee's Harambee neighborhood. The Fifth Street School stands apart as one of the best examples of Romanesque Revival style schools in Milwaukee and retains its historic form, brick masonry walls, roofline, fenestration and detailing.

The school's two-story 1960 block, which extends across the south elevation of the original 1888 block, does not adversely impact its significance. The upper stories of the older building's south elevation are easily visible above the flat roof of its adjacent modernistic wing.

Architect Herman Schnetzky

Herman P. Schnetzky (1850-1916) immigrated to Milwaukee from Wriezen, Germany in 1868 at the age of eighteen. A year later, the city directory lists him as a draftsman for the architectural firm of Koch & Mygatt. Henry Koch and George Mygatt were two of the city's most prominent architects, but

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their partnership dissolved in 1870 when Koch established an independent practice. Schnetzky's name was absent from city directories from 1871-73. He appeared again in 1874 as an assistant architect to Koch. Koch and Schnetzky formed a partnership in 1883 which was dissolved by 1887 when Schnetzky established his own practice.²⁰

Working as an independent architect from 1887-1890, Schnetzky designed both the Fifth Street School and the nearby Walnut School at 2318 W. Walnut in 1888. The two buildings featured nearly identical Romanesque Revival style designs and third-floor auditoriums that doubled as gymnasiums. (See Figures 10 and 11 for photos of both schools. The Walnut School was razed in 1978.) Both the Fifth Street and Walnut Street Schools resembled Schnetzky's 1887 Greenfield School in West Allis, Wisconsin, which also featured gabled wall dormers and decorative round-arches on the wall planes (See Figure 24). Another extant Romanesque Revival style school by Schnetzky is St. Stephen's at 1126 S. 5th Street (1892; NRHP 78000120) in Walker's Point. His commercial buildings in Milwaukee included the Blatz Brewing Company Office at 1120 N. Broadway (1890; NRHP 83003404) and the Mayer Boot and Shoe Company at 100 E. Pleasant Street (1892; NRHP 84003728), all designed in the Romanesque Revival style. (See Figures 15 and 16.) Schnetzky also designed some impressive ecclesiastical buildings in Milwaukee, including St. Martini Evangelical Lutheran Church at 1557 W. Orchard Street (1887; NRHP 87001741) and St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church at 804 W. Vliet Street (1889; NRHP 92000459), both in the High Victorian Gothic style.

In 1891, Schnetzky formed a partnership with Eugene Liebert, another former Koch employee, which lasted for five years. Schnetzky & Liebert designed the 1892 addition to the Queen Anne style Maryland Avenue School at 2418 Maryland Avenue in Milwaukee. Other buildings produced by this partnership include Victorian Gothic style St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church at 1445 N. 24th Street (1891) as well as the J.P. Kissinger & Company Building at 330 N. Water Street (1893; demolished) and the Germania Building at 135 W. Wells Street (1896; NRHP 83003405), both designed in the Neoclassical style. Schnetzky later formed the architectural firm of Schnetzky & Son with his son Hugo. Their works included the George Ziegler Candy Company Building at 408 Florida Street (1907), Kilbourn Masonic Temple at 827 N. 11th Street (1911; NRHP 08000656) and the Milwaukee Paper Box Company at 1560 W. Pierce Street (1920; NRHP 13000956). Schnetzky became a member of the American Institute of Architects in 1912, four years prior to his death.²¹

Conclusion

The Fifth Street School in Milwaukee is locally significant under National Register Criterion C in the

²⁰ City of Milwaukee, "Historic Designation Study Report: St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex," 1990.
²¹ Information on buildings designed by Schnetzky was obtained from the Wisconsin Architecture and History Inventory.

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area of Architecture as an excellent example of the Romanesque Revival style, which was widely used in the design of Milwaukee public schools during 1880s and 1890s. This brick masonry edifice features hallmarks of the style, such as the use of gabled wall dormers detailed with miniature round arches, steeply pitched pyramidal roof, and windows grouped beneath decorative round arches. Stylistically, the school represents a period in which Milwaukee public school buildings featured a picturesque appearance with high quality craftsmanship and decorative detailing. Fifth Street School has excellent exterior integrity, retaining original materials, roofline and decorative detailing that exemplify its significance as a Romanesque Revival style public school building dating to the 1880s. It was designed by Herman Schnetzky, a prominent German-born Milwaukee architect who was versatile in a variety of architectural styles. Based on examples of Romanesque Revival schools in Milwaukee, the Fifth Street School is comparable to the best examples of the style, namely, the schools designed by Henry Koch that are highlighted in this nomination.

Preservation Activity and Archeological Potential

Following its closure, the Fifth Street School building remained vacant. The property was sold to Gorman & Company for redevelopment. While Native Americans have a long history associated with the area that is now known as the city of Milwaukee, an archaeological investigation at this site was outside the scope of the nomination project; archeological potential has not been assessed.

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Fifth Street School
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Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundary is the entire parcel associated with Fifth Street School and the address 2770 N. Fifth Street. It is situated on the block bounded by Fifth Street on the west, Fourth Street on the north, Christine Lane on the south, and Hadley Street on the north.

Boundary Justification:

The boundaries encompass the entire parcel of land currently associated with Fifth Street School in Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin.

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Fifth Street School
Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin

Name of Property: Fifth Street School

City or Vicinity: Milwaukee

County: Milwaukee

State: Wisconsin

Photographer: Jean L. Guarino, Ph.D.
Independent Architectural Historian

Location of Original Digital Files: State Historic Preservation Office, Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, WI

Date Photographed: May 15, 2017

Description of Photograph(s) and Number:

- 1 of 22: Front (west) facade of original 1888 block, looking east.
- 2 of 22: Detail of gabled wall dormer on original 1888 block, looking east.
- 3 of 22: Detail of brickwork on original 1888 block, looking east.
- 4 of 22: Globe light atop gabled wall dormer on original 1888 block, looking east.
- 5 of 22: Front facade of north wing, looking east.
- 6 of 22: Front (west) and side (north) facades, looking southeast.
- 7 of 22: Rear (east) facade, looking northwest.
- 8 of 22: View of south wing, looking northeast.
- 9 of 22: Basement dining room, long northwest.
- 10 of 22: Basement classroom, long southwest.
- 11 of 22: Basement toilet stalls with marble partitions.
- 12 of 22: Communal sinks in basement.
- 13 of 22: Entrance vestibule on north wing, looking southwest.
- 14 of 22: Typical north wing staircase, looking southwest.
- 15 of 22: Second floor classroom looking west.
- 16 of 22: Second floor corridor, looking south.
- 17 of 22: Second floor classroom, looking northeast.

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18 of 22: Second floor stairwell landing showing windows with original wood casing, looking southwest.

19 of 22: Detail of original decorative hinge on a third floor wood paneled door to auditorium.

20 of 22: Third floor auditorium, looking northwest.

21 of 22: Entrance doors to third floor auditorium, looking north.

22 of 22: Decorative grille and wainscoting in third floor auditorium, looking north.

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Figure 2: Basement Plan for Fifth Street School.

Figure 3: First Floor Plan for Fifth Street School.

Figure 4: Second Floor Plan of Fifth Street School.

Figure 5: Third Floor Plan of Fifth Street School.

Figure 6: 1894 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map showing original Fifth Street School Building with houses to the north and east.

Figure 7: 1910 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map showing Fifth Street School expanded to the north with its 1908 addition.

Figure 8: 1969 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map showing expansion of Fifth Street School site to the east.

Figure 9: Fifth Street School circa 1927.

Figure 10: Walnut Street School, located at Twenty-Third and Walnut streets, ca. 1927.

Figure 11: Undated aerial photo showing Fifth Street School and its 1960 addition.

Figure 12: Joe Botsford, "Inside a Negro School-I: Special Efforts Much in Evidence," *Milwaukee Sentinel*, June 10, 1964.

Figure 13: Joe Botsford, "Inside a Negro School-II: Teacher Defends Inner Core Efforts," *Milwaukee Sentinel*, June 11, 1964.

Figure 14: Greenfield School in West Allis, Wisconsin, 1887; Herman P. Schnetzky.

Figure 15: Mayer Boot and Shoe Company at 100 E. Pleasant St. in Milwaukee; 1892; Herman Schnetzky.

Figure 16: Blatz Brewing Company Office Building at 1120 N. Broadway (1890); Herman Schnetzky.

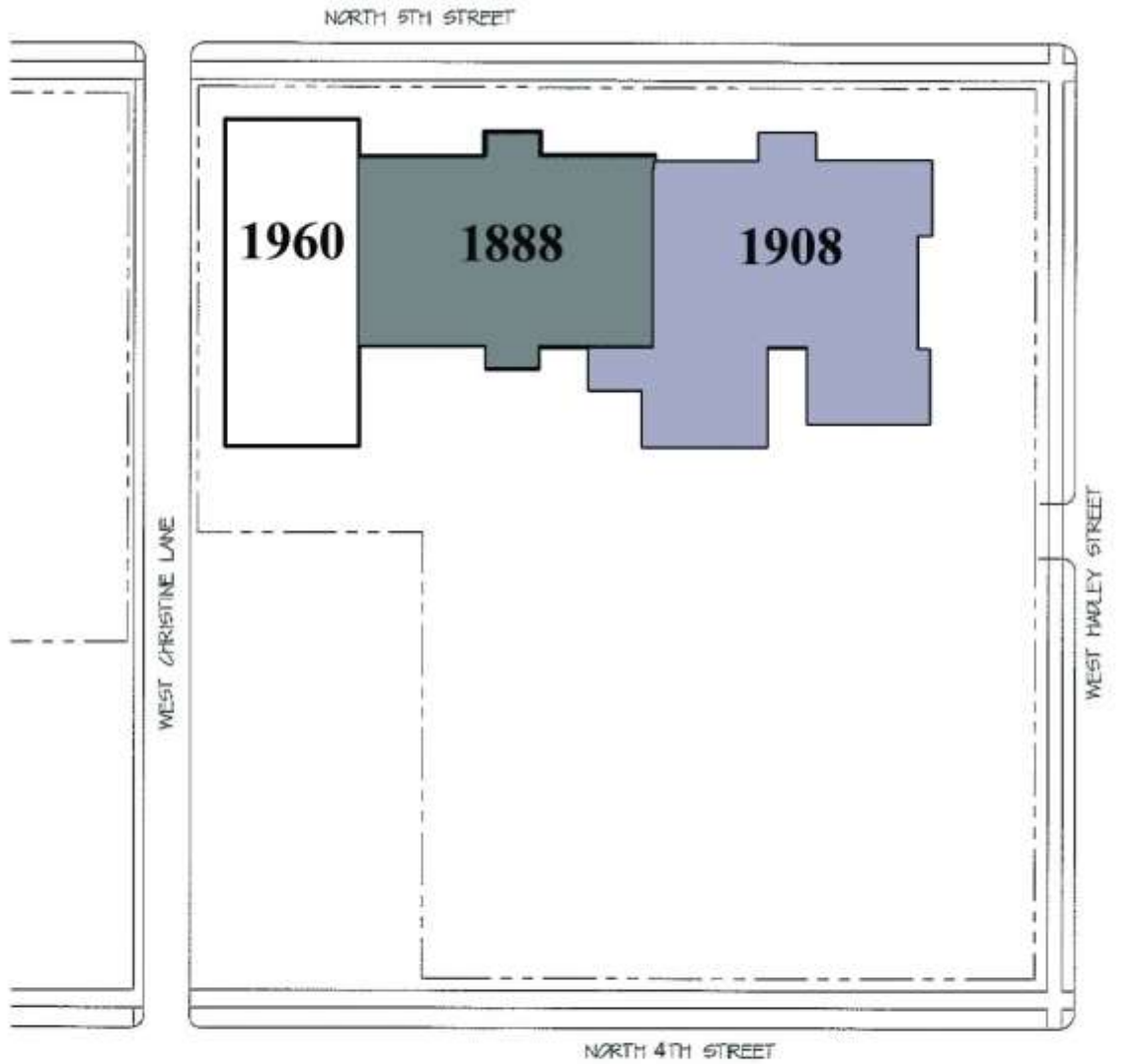
Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

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Fifth Street School
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SITE PLAN

SITE NO. 164 - 5TH STREET FACILITY (FORMERLY ISAAC COBBS COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER)
2710 N. 5TH STREET MILWAUKEE, WI 53212
DATE: 9/29/08



Figure 1: Site Plan for 5th Street School showing the original 1888 building in the center and the 1908 and 1960 additions.

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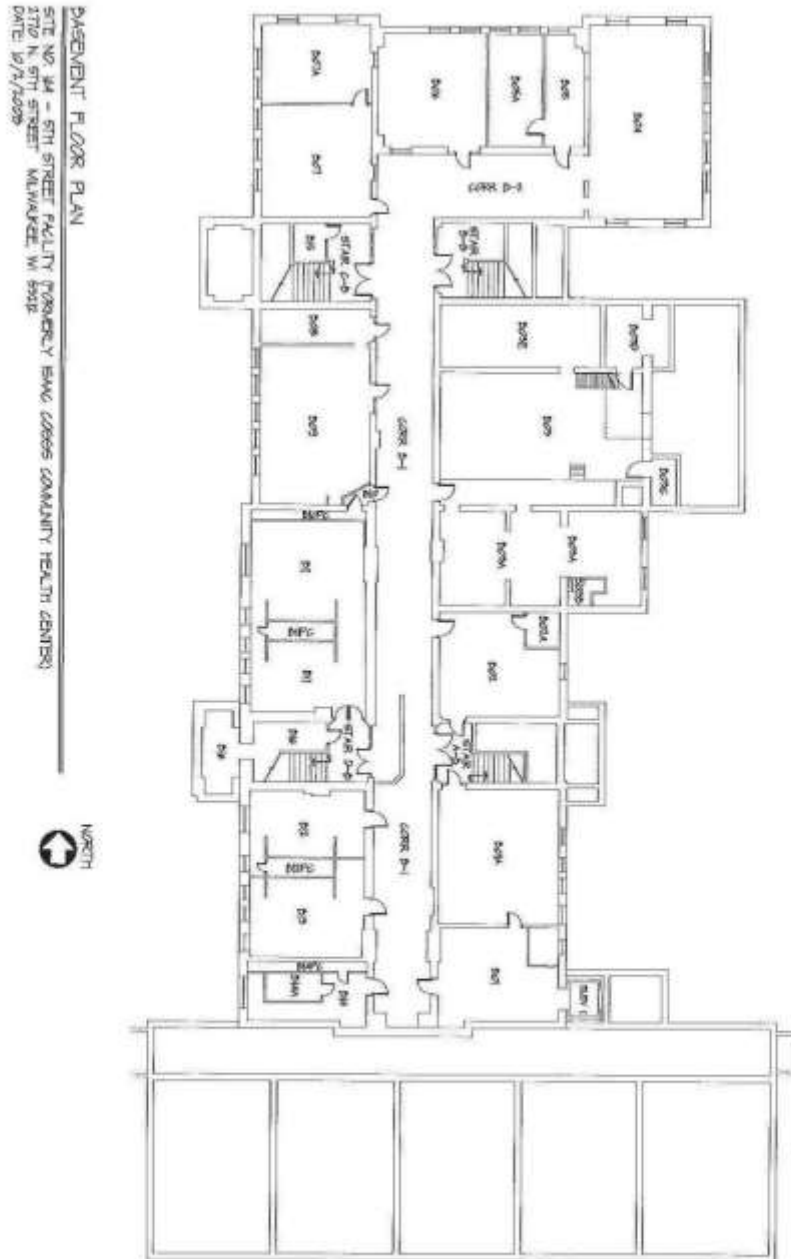


Figure 2: Basement Plan for Fifth Street School

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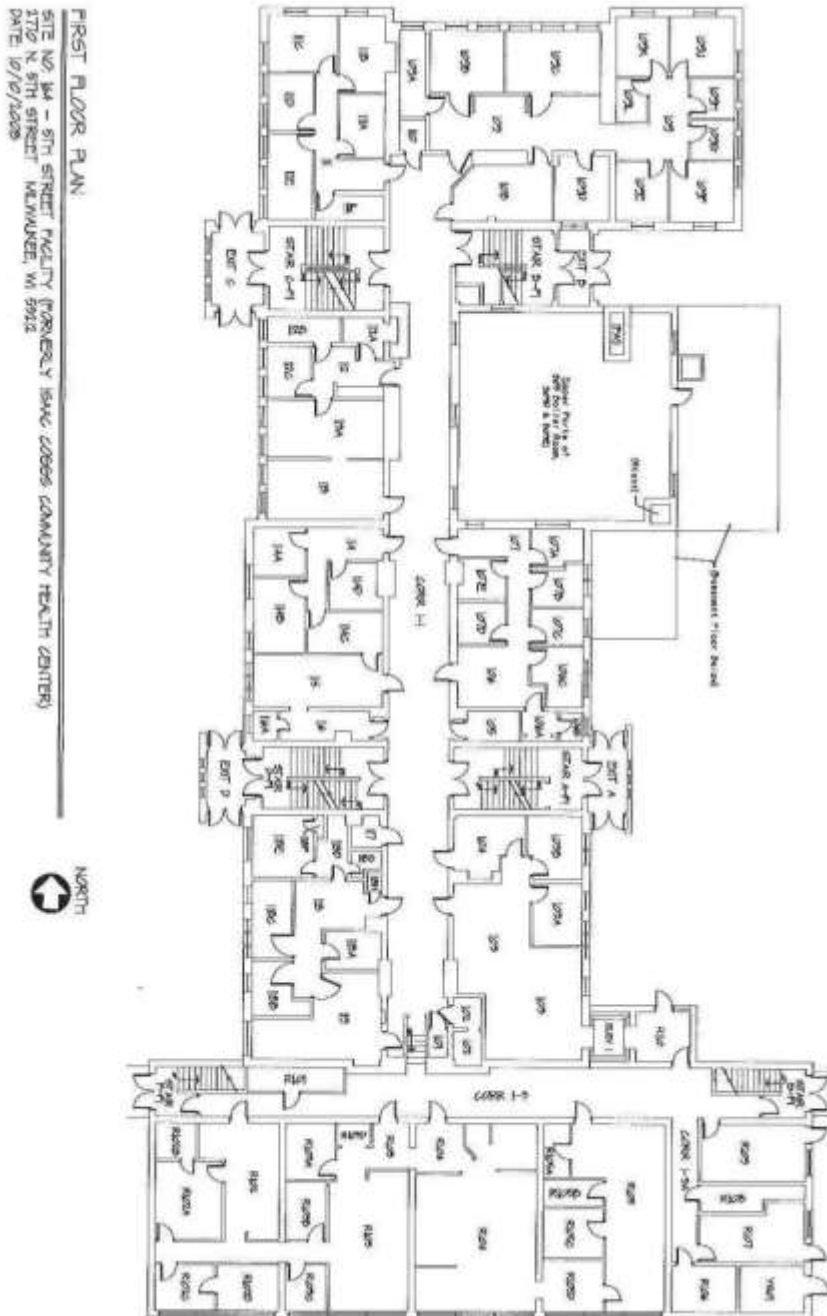


Figure 3: First Floor Plan for Fifth Street School

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Fifth Street School
Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin

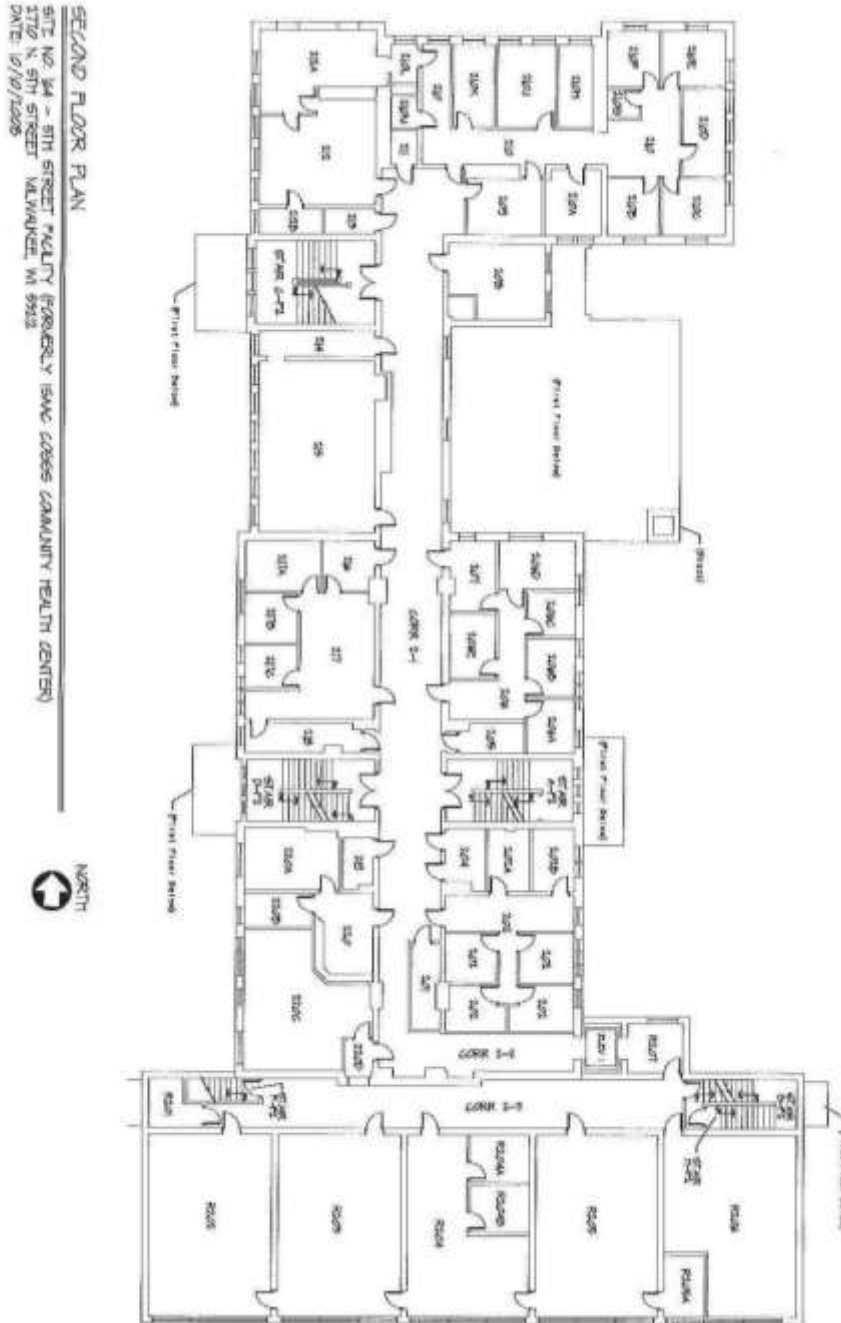


Figure 4: Second Floor Plan of Fifth Street School

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Section figures Page 6

Fifth Street School
Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin

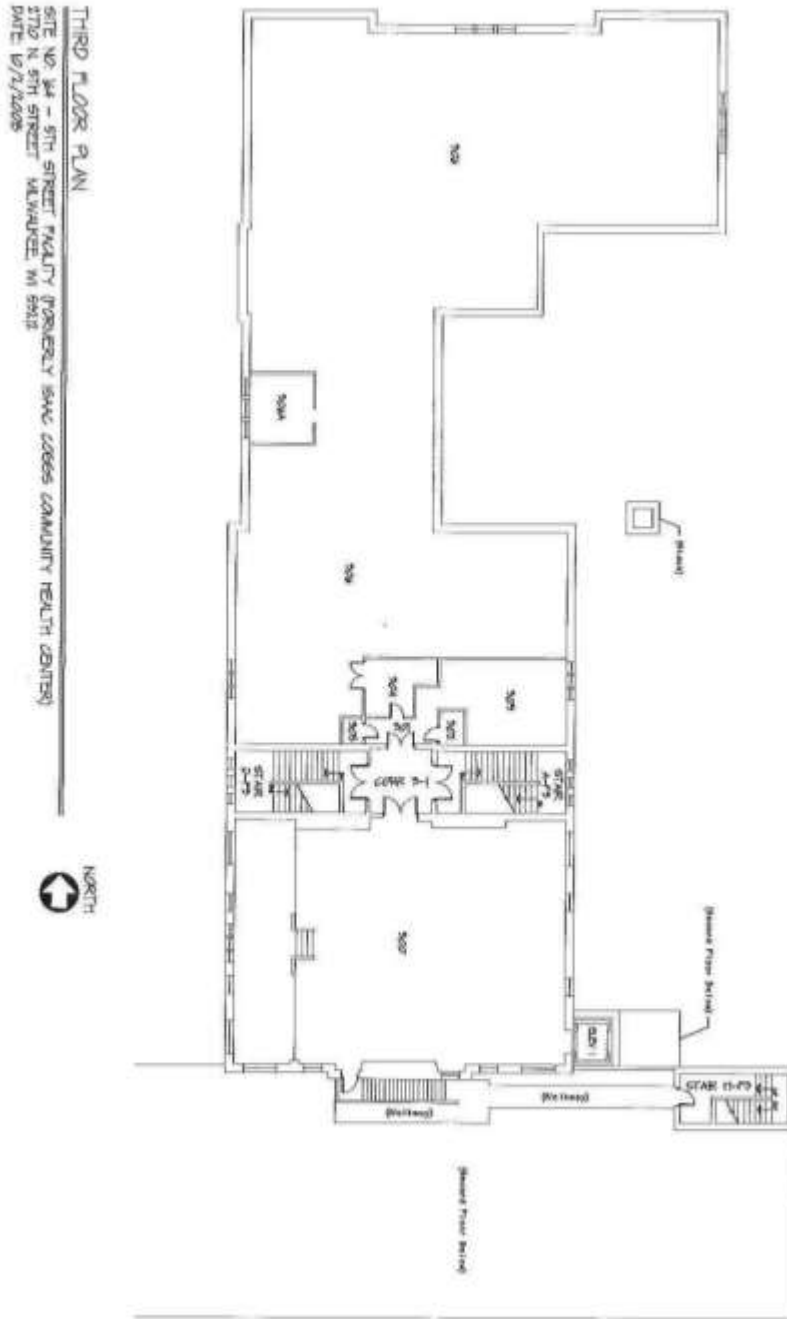


Figure 5: Third Floor Plan of Fifth Street School

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section figures Page 7

Fifth Street School
Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin

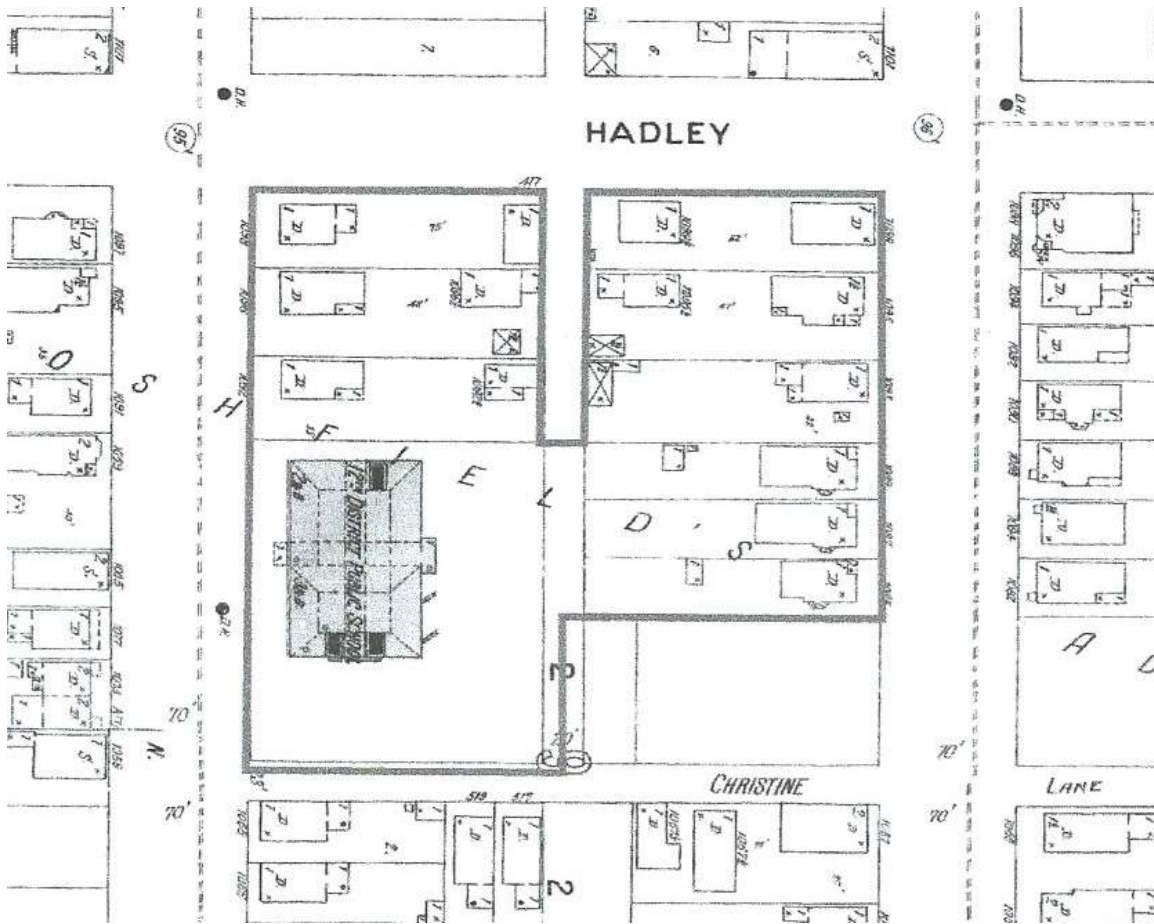


Figure 6: 1894 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map showing original Fifth Street School Building with houses to the north and east.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section figures Page 8

Fifth Street School
Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin

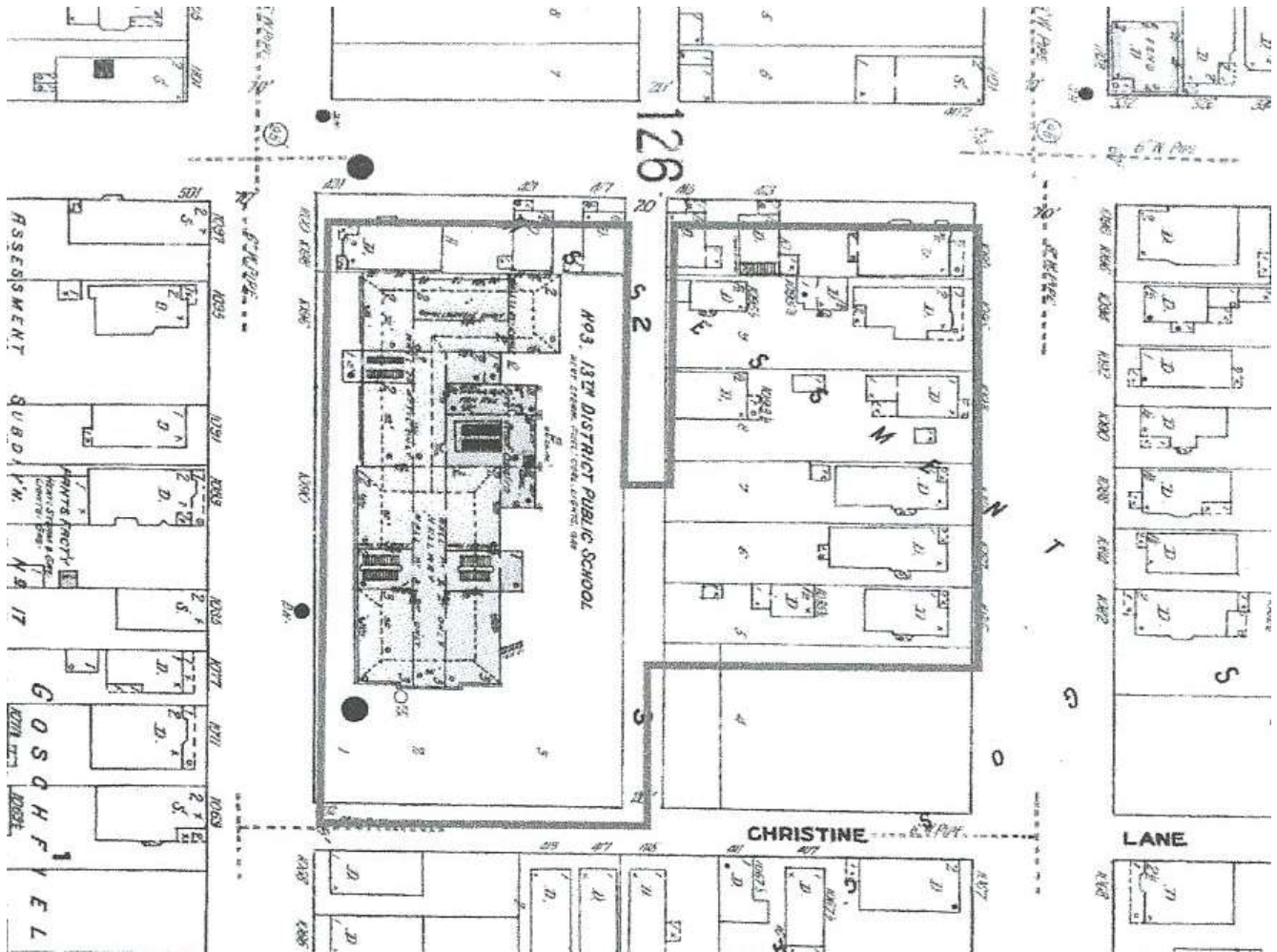


Figure 7: 1910 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map showing Fifth Street School expanded to the north with its 1908 addition.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Section figures Page 9

Fifth Street School
Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section figures Page 10

Fifth Street School
Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin

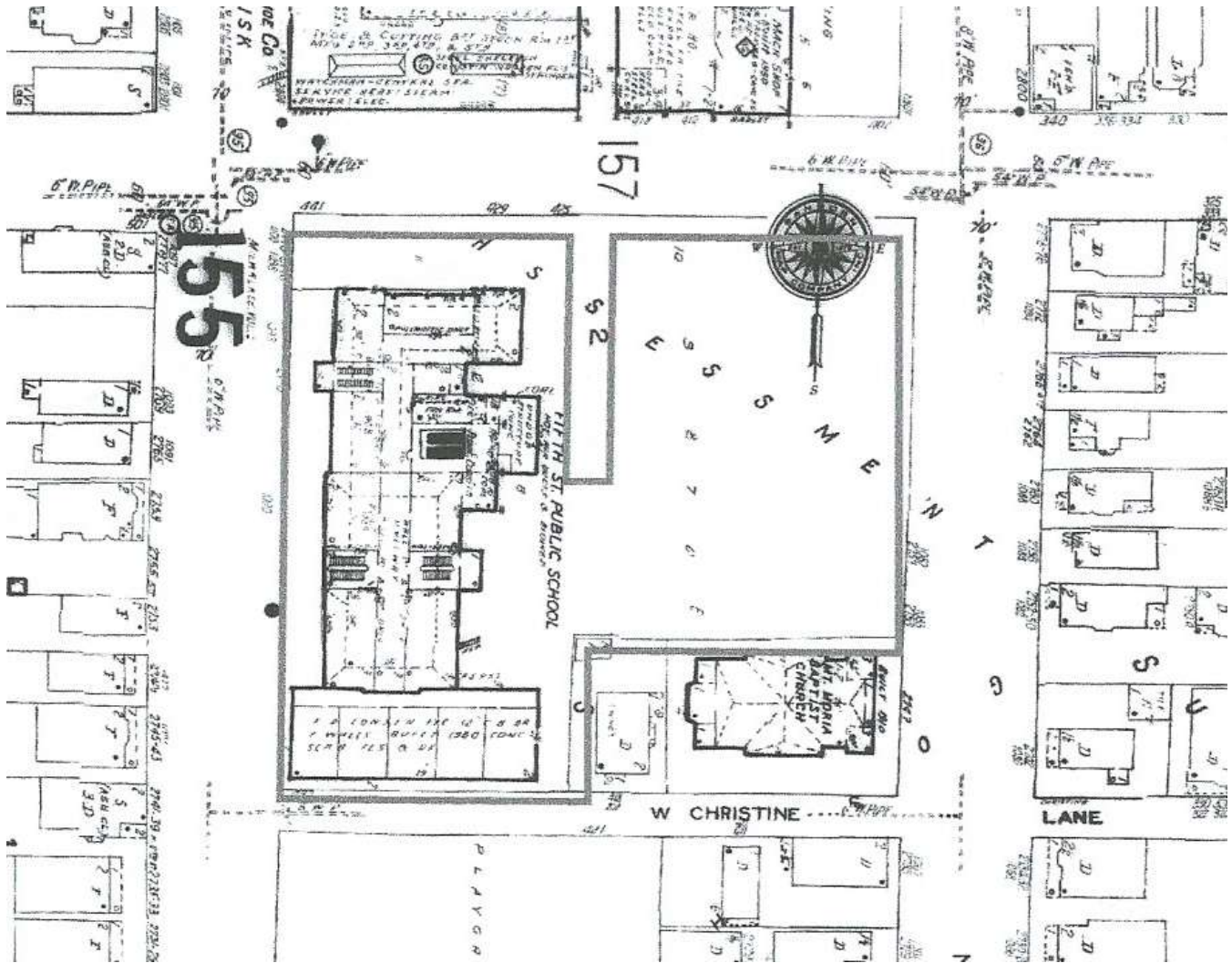


Figure 8: 1969 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map showing expansion of Fifth Street School site to the east.

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National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

Section figures Page 11

Fifth Street School
Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin



Figure 9: Fifth Street School circa 1927. *Where We Go To School: Sixty-Eight Annual Report of the Superintendent of Schools*, June 1927.

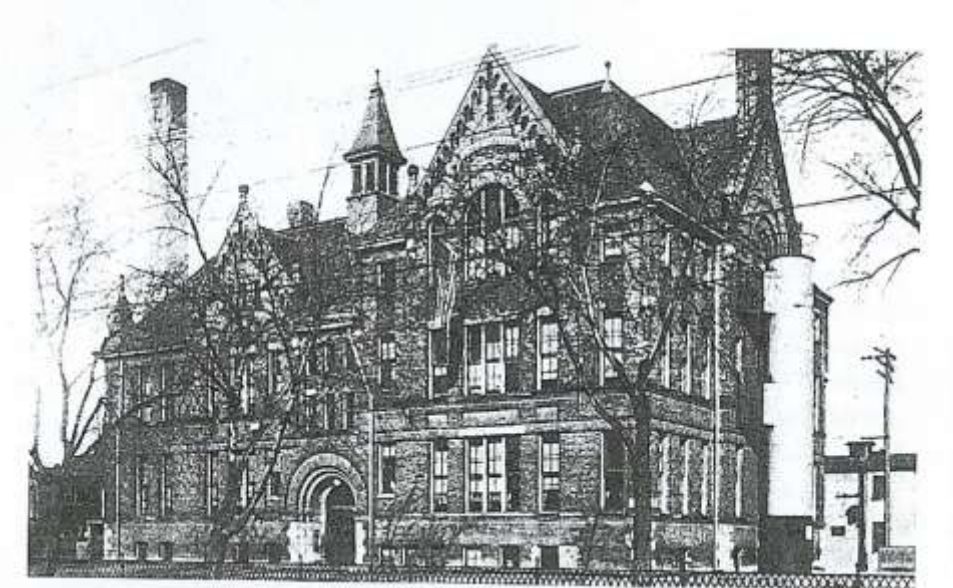


Figure 10: Walnut Street School, located at Twenty-Third and Walnut streets, ca. 1927. This was also designed by Herman Schnetzky and was a twin of Fifth Street School. It was destroyed by fire in 1978 and subsequently razed. Source: Robert Tanzilo, *Historic Milwaukee Public Schoolhouses* (Charleston: The History Press, 2012) 56. *Where We Go To School: Sixty-Eight Annual Report of the Superintendent of Schools*, June 1927.

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Fifth Street School
Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin



Figure 11: Undated aerial photo showing Fifth Street School and its 1960 addition. Source: Milwaukee Public Library.

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Section figures Page 13

Fifth Street School
Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin



Figure 12: Joe Botsford, "Inside a Negro School-I: Special Efforts Much in Evidence," *Milwaukee Sentinel*, June 10, 1964.

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National Park Service

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Fifth Street School
Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin



Figure 13: Joe Botsford, "Inside a Negro School-II: Teacher Defends Inner Core Efforts," *Milwaukee Sentinel*, June 11, 1964.

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

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National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

Section figures Page 15

Fifth Street School
Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin



Figure 14: Greenfield School in West Allis, Wisconsin, 1887; Herman P. Schnetzky. Source: Wisconsin Architecture and History Inventory.



Figure 15: Mayer Boot and Shoe Company at 100 E. Pleasant St. in Milwaukee; 1892; Herman Schnetzky. Source: Wisconsin Architecture and History Inventory.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

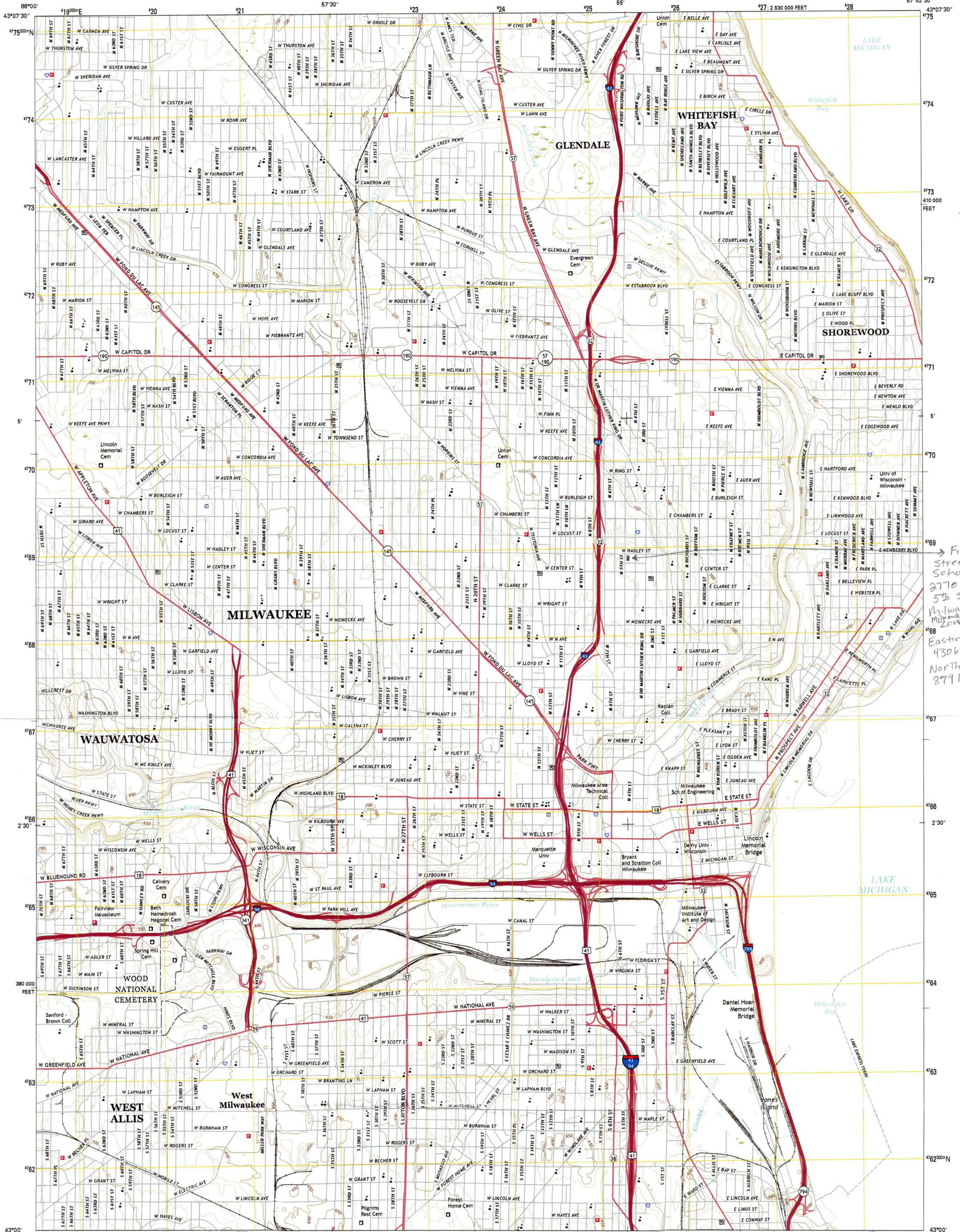
Section figures Page 16

Fifth Street School
Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin



Figure 16: Blatz Brewing Company Office Building at 1120 N. Broadway (1890); Herman Schnetzky. Source: Wisconsin Architecture and History Inventory.

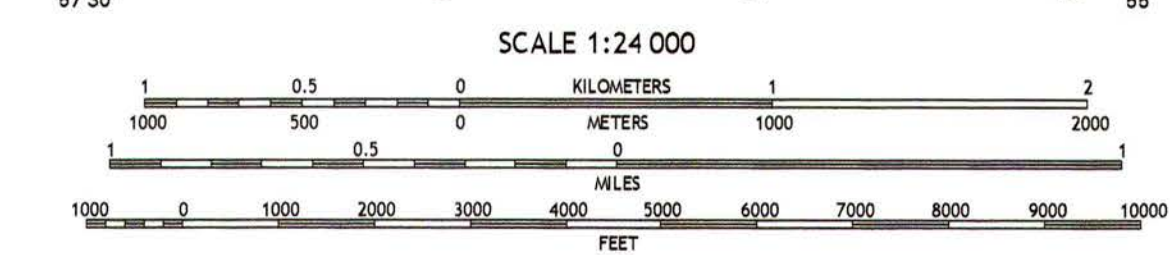
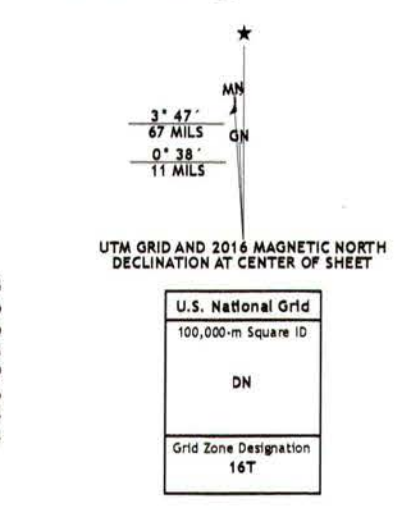
___End Figures



Produced by the United States Geological Survey
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83)
World Geodetic System of 1984 (WGS84). Projection and
10 000-foot ticks: Wisconsin Coordinate System of 1983 (south
zone)

This map is not a legal document. Boundaries may be
generalized for this map scale. Private lands within government
reservations may not be shown. Obtain permission before
entering private lands.

Imagery.....NAIP, June 2013
Roads.....U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 - 2016
Names.....GNIS, 2016
Hydrography.....National Hydrography Dataset, 2013
Contours.....National Elevation Dataset, 1999
Boundaries.....Multiple sources; see metadata file 1972 - 2016
Public Land Survey System.....BLM, 2014
Wetlands.....FWS National Wetlands Inventory 1977 - 2014



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Expressway	Local Connector
Secondary Hwy	Local Road
Ramp	4WD
Interstate Route	US Route
	State Route

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

1	2	3	1 Menomonee Falls
			2 Thiensville
			3 Wauwatosa
4		5	6 Milwaukee CE
			7 Greendale
			8 South Milwaukee

MILWAUKEE, WI
2016

NSN 7 6 4 3 0 1 6 4 0 3 4 9 1
NSA REFNO. USGSX24K29472



XII-DIST SCHOOL

HEALTH CENTER

BUSHWICK AVENUE AND PARKING
ENTRANCE - BUSHWICK
AND AFTER BUSHWICK AVENUE.
ENTER PARKING LOT
FROM PARKLEY STREET
SEE SIGN
ENTRANCE



XIII · DIST · SCHOOL ·









5th

STOP





RIV. DIST. SCHOOL











EXIT

NOTICE
DO NOT USE
EXCEPT
IN CASE OF
EMERGENCY



EXIT

NOTICE
NO SMOKING
NO ALCOHOL
NO DRUGS







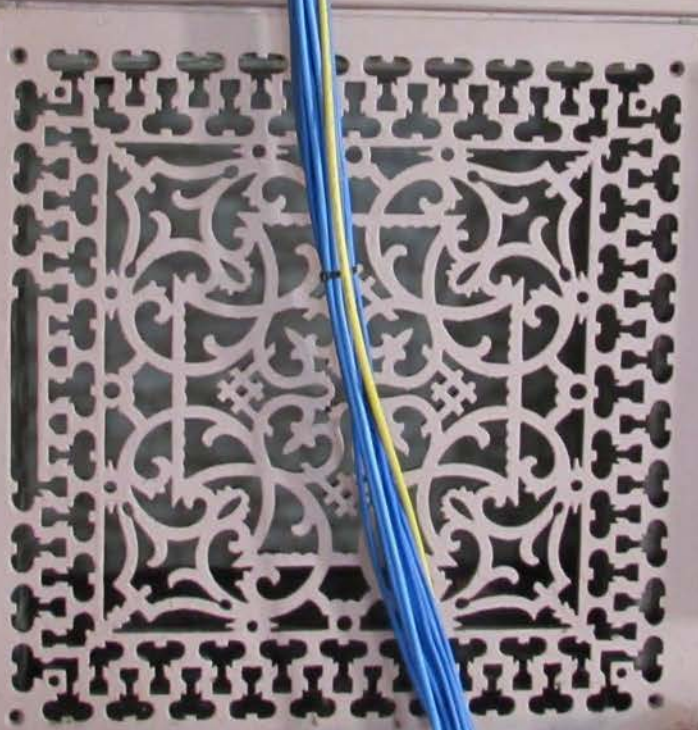








CAT5e
Panel C



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 1/18/2018 Date of Pending List: 2/21/2018 Date of 16th Day: 3/8/2018 Date of 45th Day: 3/5/2018 Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PDIL | <input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver | <input type="checkbox"/> National | <input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Period |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CLG | |

Accept Return Reject 3/5/2018 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria:

Reviewer Jim Gabbert Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2275 Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



Office of the City Clerk

RECEIVED
NOV 10 2017

Jim Owczarski
City Clerk

Rebecca N. Grill
Deputy City Clerk

November 7, 2017

RECEIVED 2280
JAN 18 2018
NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Ms. Peggy Veregin
National Register Coordinator
Wisconsin Historical Society
816 State Street
Madison, WI 53706-1488

Dear Ms. Veregin:

RE: CLG Review of the National Register Nomination
of the Fifth Street School / Thirteenth District primary
School No. 2 at 2770 North 5th Street

In accordance with the provisions of the Certified Local Government Agreement between the City of Milwaukee and Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Office, the Milwaukee Historic Preservation Commission reviewed the National Register nomination of the Fifth Street School / Thirteenth District School No. 2 at 2770 North 5th Street. In voting to support the nomination on November 6, 2017, the Commission determined that the property is an excellent example of the Romanesque Revival Style by the prominent architect Herman Schnetzky. Commissioners were impressed by the German character that Schnetzky added to the building through the use of prominent corbelling, something not seen in other school buildings of the era. Given its distinctive design, Commissioners are pleased that the school will have yet another life under new ownership and that the building will be adaptively reused.

If you need additional information or have any questions, please feel free to contact Carlen Hatala of the Historic Preservation Commission staff at (414) 286-5722.

Sincerely,

Matt Jarosz, Chair
Milwaukee Historic Preservation Commission





RECEIVED
DEC 15 2017
BY:

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DAVID BOWEN

WISCONSIN STATE ASSEMBLY

10TH DISTRICT

December 13, 2017

Wisconsin Historic Preservation Review Board
c/o Peggy Veregin
Wisconsin Historical Society
816 State Street
Madison, WI 53706



Dear Peggy,

Thank you for contacting me in regards to the nomination of the *Fifth Street School, 2770 N. 5th Street, Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, WI* for the Wisconsin State Register of Historic Places and National Register of Historic Places.

I strongly support the work of the Wisconsin Historical Society and its contributions to the protection and celebration of Wisconsin's rich cultural heritage, and all of the economic and social benefits that citizens receive from the development and protection of historical sites and landmarks.

I would be honored to support the nomination of the *Fifth Street School* in the 10th Assembly district, and I believe it would serve not only as a welcome addition to the Wisconsin State Register of Historic Places, but would provide my constituents, and those outside my district the opportunity to celebrate a piece of protected history in Milwaukee.

Once again, thank you for contacting me about this matter, as I believe it to be one of great value and importance to my constituents and the history of my home city and state. Please do not hesitate to contact me again if I can be of further assistance to you.

In service,

David Bowen
State Representative
10th Assembly District



WISCONSIN
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY



TO: Keeper
National Register of Historic Places

FROM: Peggy Veregin
National Register Coordinator

SUBJECT: National Register Nomination

The following materials are submitted on this Seventeenth day of January 2018, for the nomination of the Fifth Street School to the National Register of Historic Places:

- 1 Original National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form
- 1 CD with NRHP Nomination form PDF
- Multiple Property Nomination form
- 22 Photograph(s)
- 1 CD with image files
- 1 Map(s)
- 16 Sketch map(s)/figures(s)/exhibit(s)
- 2 Piece(s) of correspondence
- Other:

COMMENTS:

- Please ensure that this nomination is reviewed
- X This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67
- The enclosed owner objection(s) do or do not constitute a majority of property owners
- Other: