

AUG 28 1989

NATIONAL REGISTER

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name St. Vincent de Paul School
other names/site number CP-N-260

2. Location

street & number 117 Main Street n/a not for publication
city, town Newport n/a vicinity
state Kentucky code KY county Campbell code 037 zip code 41071

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> objects
			<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.

David L. Morgan Signature of certifying official 6-25-89 Date
State Historic Preservation Officer, Commonwealth of Kentucky, KY Heritage Council
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. Patrick Andrews 10/11/89
 See continuation sheet. _____
 determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet. _____
 determined not eligible for the National Register. _____
 removed from the National Register. _____
 other, (explain:) _____

for Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Education/School

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Work in Progress

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Jacobethan Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Limestone

walls Brick

roof Composition

other Stone Trim

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

Architecture

1916

1916
1927

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

McClory, Harold

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Anonymous. Sixtieth Annual Report of the Superintendent of Schools of Newport, Kentucky for the Year Ending June 30th, 1908. Vesper Print., Cincinnati, 1908.

Anonymous. Pictorial and Industrial Review of Northern Kentucky: Historical Souvenir. Nineteen Hundred and Twenty-Three. Kenton and Campbell Counties. Published by the Northern Kentucky Review. Fennell Building, Newport, KY, 1923.

Anonymous. History of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Our Heritage, Fundraising Booklet, 1957.

Anonymous. St. Vincent de Paul Church Dedication Booklet, 1960. (n.a., n.p.)

Anonymous. Parish Pictorial Directory. St. Vincent de Paul Parish, 1981.

Maes, Bishop. "Town of Clifton near Newport, KY." handwritten notes dated January 12, 1911.

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Kentucky Heritage Council

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 1.2643

UTM References

A

1	6	7	1	7	3	8	0	4	3	2	8	4	8	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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Newport Quadrangle

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Situated in the State of Kentucky, Campbell County, City of Newport, being part of John W. Schneider's Resubdivision of the Clifton Suburban Home and Building Company Subdivision, Block "C," as recorded in Plat Book 1 Page 46 B at the Campbell County Courthouse, and more particularly described as follows:

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire city lot that has historically been associated with the property.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Leah Konicki or Charles Atkins
organization Atkins-Elrod & Associates date April 24, 1989
street & number 1246 Parkway Avenue or 33 Pike Street telephone 606/261-9246 or 431-1604
city or town Covington state KY zip code 41011

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetST. VINCENT DE PAUL SCHOOL
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKYSection number 7 Page 1

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The St. Vincent de Paul School building is a two-story brick building, rectangular in plan, with a symmetrical facade that is highlighted by decorative stone panels and stone trim. The building is located in the heart of the Newport neighborhood known as Clifton, originally a suburb. The school building signifies the activities of the Catholic Church in northern Kentucky neighborhoods. It was the first building constructed in the St. Vincent de Paul parish, and therefore predates both the rectory on the west and the much later church on the east. The school building has been the focus of the Catholic community in Clifton for 70 years. The school is a vernacular interpretation of the Jacobethan Revival, a style that was widely used for academic buildings in the early twentieth century.

The city of Newport is an old Ohio River town with an abundance of nineteenth century buildings and intact neighborhoods. Newport originally developed in the flat basin area adjacent to the river in the mid-nineteenth century. The historic residential neighborhoods in the original section of Newport reflect this era of development. The Newport neighborhood of Clifton developed much later, beginning in the last decade of the nineteenth century, but especially in the first decades of the twentieth century. The Clifton area is primarily residential; the houses are primarily bungalows popular in the early twentieth century. Interposed with the modest residential stock is an occasional commercial building.

The St. Vincent de Paul School is situated in an area that is primarily institutional. Directly across the street is the Baptist Convalescent Home, which has a large expanse of lawn facing Main Street and is a low rise building that was recently expanded to the north and east. The Convalescent Home is located on the site of the Campbell County Protestant Home; thus, the area has always been institutional in character. To the west of the school building is the parish rectory, constructed in 1922. The rectory building features stylistic elements characteristic of the era that make it typical of the area. Further to the west the character of the area is again residential, with modest gable fronted bungalows. To the east of the school is the parish church. Completed in 1957, the church is a modern beige brick structure that is not out of keeping with the neighborhood in scale or setback.

The St. Vincent de Paul School was built in two stages. The original west wing was built in 1916. The symmetrical facade features a slightly projecting central bay that contains the main entrance, which opens onto the central hall. The entrance consists of paired panel doors with a transom defined by stone work. Above the door is a tripartite window below a stone panel with the name of the school. Below the parapet

 See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SCHOOL
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY

Section number 7 Page 2

is a second stone panel with the year "1916". The wings flanking the projecting entrance bay each contain four bays, with double hung windows with transoms framed as a group by continuous stone lintels and brick detailing accented by sandstone corner pieces. The front is highlighted by stone coping outlining the parapet roof and a stone string course. The facade features regularly placed diamond and square stone panels. The main facade is clad in wire cut brick, while the sides and rear are made of common brick and are plainly detailed. The entire structure rests on a cut limestone foundation. On the rear wall the line demarcating the original structure is clearly visible. At the ground level a modern concrete block structure has been added to the rear elevation.

On the interior, the building consists of four classroom divided by a main hall with stairs oriented north to south, and a secondary hall running east-west. The buidling as originally built in 1916 consisted of the west wing only and contained a church on the first floor and two classrooms on the second floor. Remanants of this arrangement are visible in the filled-in arch over the first floor front classroom door and the steps inside the classroom door leading up to the level of the classroom. The interior is largely unornamented and utilitarian in appearance, as befits its long use as a primary school.

The building was enlarged in 1927. At that time, a two story wing was added on the east which contained classrooms on the first floor and classrooms and living quarters for the Sisters who taught at the school on the second. The main staircase is located in the center of the symmetrical floor plan and leads from the first to the second floor. It appears that this staircase was originally an open staircase, but was at some point enclosed and altered. A curved baluster and newel posts remain in place, although the stair rail has been replaced with solid panels. The addition was said to have nearly doubled the size of the building. The rooms in this wing again are utilitarian and simply detailed. It appears, due to the design of the facade, the materials used, and the absence of a visible seam, that the front facade was constructed in 1927 to unify the appearance of the building.

The basement originally served as a playground for the school children. It retains rough-finished stone and brick on the perimeter walls. The main room in the basement has a finished floor and ceiling with fluorescent light fixtures, and one wall of built-in cupboards. The basement also contains a boiler and other mechanical equipment.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetST. VINCENT DE PAUL SCHOOL
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKYSection number 8 Page 1

The St. Vincent de Paul School building is significant under Criterion C as an good example of a relatively little-discussed architectural style, termed here "Jacobethan Revival" due to its presence on an educational structure. Jacobethan Revival was popular in the early Twentieth Century for schools, especially college campuses. In an expanded sense, the style of St. Vincent de Paul school can be related to more pervasive architectural trends in domestic and commercial architecture popular in the years 1915-25. These influences can be traced to the Craftsman style articulated by Gustav Stickley. Since the context for the non-residential expression of Craftsman architecture has not yet been developed for any areas of Kentucky, the nominated property is not evaluated within that context; however, among the Roman Catholic schools in the Newport, Kentucky, area, this building is the only example of the design mode and it retains a high degree of integrity of design, materials, and workmanship--two factors which cause it to be held as significant. Thus, the school building is important for showing a local acceptance among Catholic Church officials for secular design styles which were tremendously popular and malleable during the years immediately before and after the first World War.

History of Newport The Northern Kentucky communities of Newport and Covington have been closely tied to Cincinnati and to each other since their establishment in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. The city of Newport was incorporated in 1795, only a few years after Cincinnati; Covington was incorporated in 1814. All three originally developed in the flat basins on either side of both the Ohio and Licking Rivers. Newport originated on the eastern shore of the Licking River where it meets the Ohio, opposite Cincinnati and Fort Washington.

The area was developed originally due to free land grants given to all Revolutionary War soldiers. The site of Newport was granted to General James Taylor, Sr., of Virginia. With two of his sons, General Taylor decided to buy land grants of adjacent parcels from holders. In 1791 Taylor's sons came to Kentucky to survey the land and to lay out the town, which they named Newport after the admiral in charge of the first ship to reach Jamestown in the colony of Virginia.

Newport grew and prospered through the nineteenth century. In the mid-nineteenth century much of this growth was due to the immigration of large numbers of Europeans, many of whom settled in Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky. Many of these immigrants were Catholics from Ireland and Southern Germany.

History of Clifton Through much of the nineteenth century, development remained in the flat land near the rivers because it was difficult to gain access to the hillsides. In the late nineteenth century, however, improvements in transportation made it more practical to develop the hillsides. It was at this time that the city of Clifton, a hillside suburb of Newport, was developed. Clifton was incorporated in 1888 by developers who chose the site due to its proximity to Newport, the spectacular views of Newport and Cincinnati afforded from the hillside, and its natural setting. One of the first buildings in Clifton was the Campbell County Protestant Home, which See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetST. VINCENT DE PAUL SCHOOL
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKYSection number 8 Page 2

opened in April 1888. The home was located on Main Avenue on the site of the present day Baptist Convalescent Home, opposite the St. Vincent de Paul School.

By July 1889 more than 200 acres were under development, and this building boom lasted nine years, until a bank collapse in 1897. In 1900 construction began again in Clifton. Clifton grew in large part because many of the Italian laborers who helped building the L&N railraod quarried stone in Clifton for the railroad trestles, and decided to stay in the community.

As early as 1906, the city of Newport attempted to annex Clifton, which they tried to do periodically for the next nearly 30 years. Finally, in 1935, the citizens of Clifton voted in favor of annexation and became a neighborhood of Newport.

History of the Catholic Church in Newport The Catholic Church has been an important institution in both Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky since the early nineteenth century. The first Catholic Church was built in Cincinnati in 1819, and the Diocese of Cincinnati was formed in 1821. The first Catholic Church in Northern Kentucky, St. Mary's, was built in Covington in 1834; Newport's first Catholic Church, Corpus Christi, followed ten years later. It was not until 1853, however, that the Diocese of Covington was formed to serve the 7,000 Catholics in northern and eastern Kentucky.

During the mid-nineteenth century Cincinnati, Covington and Newport experienced tremendous growht due to a large influx of European immigrants, many of whom were Catholics from Ireland, Italy, and Southern Germany. This increase in the Catholic population created a demand for new parishes and new church buildings. Newport's second parish, St. Stephen's, was dedicated in 1854 and Immaculate Conception followed in 1855. These three parishes served the needs of Newport's Catholic community through the remainder of the nineteenth century, although each parish expanded and built new buildings to meet the changing needs of the parish. The parishes of St. Vincent de Paul and St. Francis de Sales in the adjoining communities of Clifton and Cote Brilliante were not formed until the early 1900s.

History of St. Vincent de Paul Parish The Catholic community in the growing suburb of Clifton was part of Newport's St. Stephen Parish. In 1910, several residents of Clifton organized to request their own parish and to build a church-school. They established the St. Anthony's Men's Society and the St. Ann's Ladies Society, which together raised \$1800 through dues, donations and contributions. This money was used to buy a site located on Main Avenue, but many in the parish felt this location was not suitable because it was too far from the center of the parish. Nonetheless, in 1911, 93 Catholic families of Clifton began contributing ten cents a month toward a building fund. Of the 93 families, it is reported that 51 were German, 23 Italian, and 14 Irish.

In 1916, Father Herman Wetzels was appointed to complete the building project. A site on Main Avenue between Home and 18th Streets was selected, which was considered more favorable because of its central location. This lot, the current site of the parish school, was purchased for \$600 plus exchange of the property previously

continued

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetST. VINCENT DE PAUL SCHOOL
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKYSection number 8 Page 3

purchased. An architect, Harold McClory, was hired to design and build a building suitable for both a church and a school. The cornerstone was laid in April 1916, and five months later the completed building was dedicated the day before school started on September 24, 1916. The two-and-a-half story brick building consisted of two large classrooms on the second floor, a church with a capacity of 250 on the first floor, and a basement playground. The school had an enrollment of 72 pupils when it opened, which grew to 140 by 1920. Classes were taught by the Sisters of Divine Providence. The Sisters of Divine Providence "particular work was the Christian education of youth on all levels." The Sisters originally arrived in Newport in 1889, when they located their American headquarters there. The Sisters of Divine Providence eventually operated parish schools in Kentucky, Ohio, West Virginia, and Rhode Island. In Newport, the Sisters taught at four of the Catholic schools in the city, including Corpus Christi, Academy Notre Dame of Providence, and St. Francis de Sales (in addition to St. Vincent de Paul).

Because of the continued growth in the parish, it became apparent that one building was no longer enough. In 1922, a rectory was built on the lot west of the school building. In 1923 a basement church holding 420 parishoners was built on the corner of 18th and Main. This structure was intended to serve as the foundation for a separate church building; however, the new church was not completed until 1957. Finally, in 1927 the east wing was added to the originaly church-school building. This addition nearly doubled the size of the buidling. In addition to providing more classrooms, the new structure also contained living quarters for the Sisters who taught at the school. The Sisters resided there until 1956, when a 10-room house was purchased for them.

The school building continued in operation until 1984 when it was closed due to the reorganization of Catholic schools in Newport. It has been vacant since that time. In 1988, when bids for demolition of the structure were sought, a former graduate stepped forward to purchase the school for adaptive reuse as apartments. In conjunction with the rehabilitation, a Historic Preservation Certification Application Part 1 Evaluation of Significance was filed in late 1988 requesting a preliminary determination for individual listing in the National Register. The buiding was determined eligible by the Kentucky Heritage Council and the National Park Service.

Context As stated above, St. Vincent de Paul School is significant as an example of a school buidling built as a result of the commitment and dedication of Catholic families in a growing parish to education their children. Built originally in 1916 and remodeled and given a new facade in 1927, the school is one of five remaining school buildings built by the Catholic Church in Newport to accommodate the growing and changing needs of the Catholic community. The Catholic school buildings remaining in Newport are varied in style and scale, and date from diverse eras. For example, the Notre Dame of Providence School, the former girls high school, on Sixth Street (NR 1985) was built in 1903 and is a fine, intact example of Beaux Arts Classicism. It has been converted into apartments. The former St. Stephen Parish school, now Holy Spirit Elementary at Ninth and Wahsington, was built in 1912 and is an example

continued

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SCHOOL
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY

Section number 8 Page 4

of the Neoclassical Revival style. The building is essentially unaltered. The Corpus Christi parish combined its church and school in one structure built in 1902. The church is the center bay of this unique Spanish Colonial Revival-influenced building, and the three-story wings contain the classrooms. The former St. Francis de Sales parish school, now Holy Spirit Junior High, and Newport Catholic High on Carothers Road were both built after 1950.

In summary, the St. Vincent de Paul church is significant for its architectural styling among parochial schools in the Newport area. The integrity of the school's 1916 appearance was changed by the addition in 1927. However, the change is in total sympathy with the design parameters of the Craftsman-associated styling, which depends upon symmetrical facades as an aesthetic unifying device. It was not confirmed but very likely that the original plans contained provisional elevations for the 1921 addition.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SCHOOL
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY

Section number 9 Page 1

Reis, Jim. "Newport's neighbor: Annexation battles marked Clifton's history".
Kentucky Post, date unknown.

Ryan, Rev. Paul E. History of the Diocese of Covington, Kentucky. (On the Occasion
of the Centenary of the Diocese 1853-1935). Copyright 1954, The Diocese of Covington.

Stoeckle, Rev. R. J. A Brief History, Parish Pictorial Directory. St. Vincent de Paul
Parish, 1975.

Wetzels, Herman J., Pastor. Historical Sketch of St. Vincent de Paul Church, handwritten
notes, June 2, 1920.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SCHOOL
CAMPBELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY

Section number 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description continued

Commencing from a point in the corner of the east line of Home Street and the south line of Main Street, North 38 degrees 55' east 162.00 feet to a point in the south line of Main Street, said point being the point of beginning; thence continuing along the south line of Main Street, north 38 degrees 55' east 85.00 feet; thence leaving the south line of Main Street, south 51 degrees 05' East 97.00 feet; thence north 38 degrees 55' East 8.00 feet; thence south 51 degrees 05' east 38.00 feet; thence north 38 degrees 55' east 70.10 feet to a point in the west line of Eighteenth Street; thence along the projected west line of Eighteenth Street, south 41 degrees 27' 15" east 188.10 feet; thence South 41 degrees 02' west 206.74 feet; thence north 51 degrees 05' 33" west 215.81 feet; thence north 38 degrees 55' east 75.00 feet; thence north 51 degrees 05' west 97.00 feet to a point in the south line of Main Street, said point also being the point of beginning.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number Photos Page 1

St. Vincent de Paul School, Campbell Co., KY

Same for all photos

St. Vincent de Paul School , Campbell County, KY
117 Main Avenue, Newport

Chuck Atkins, Photographer
Photographs taken December, 1988
Negatives located Atkins-Elrod & Associates, 33 Pike Street, Covington, KY

Photo 1: view to east of main facade

Photo 2: view to north of back and side

Photo 3: view to south of side and front

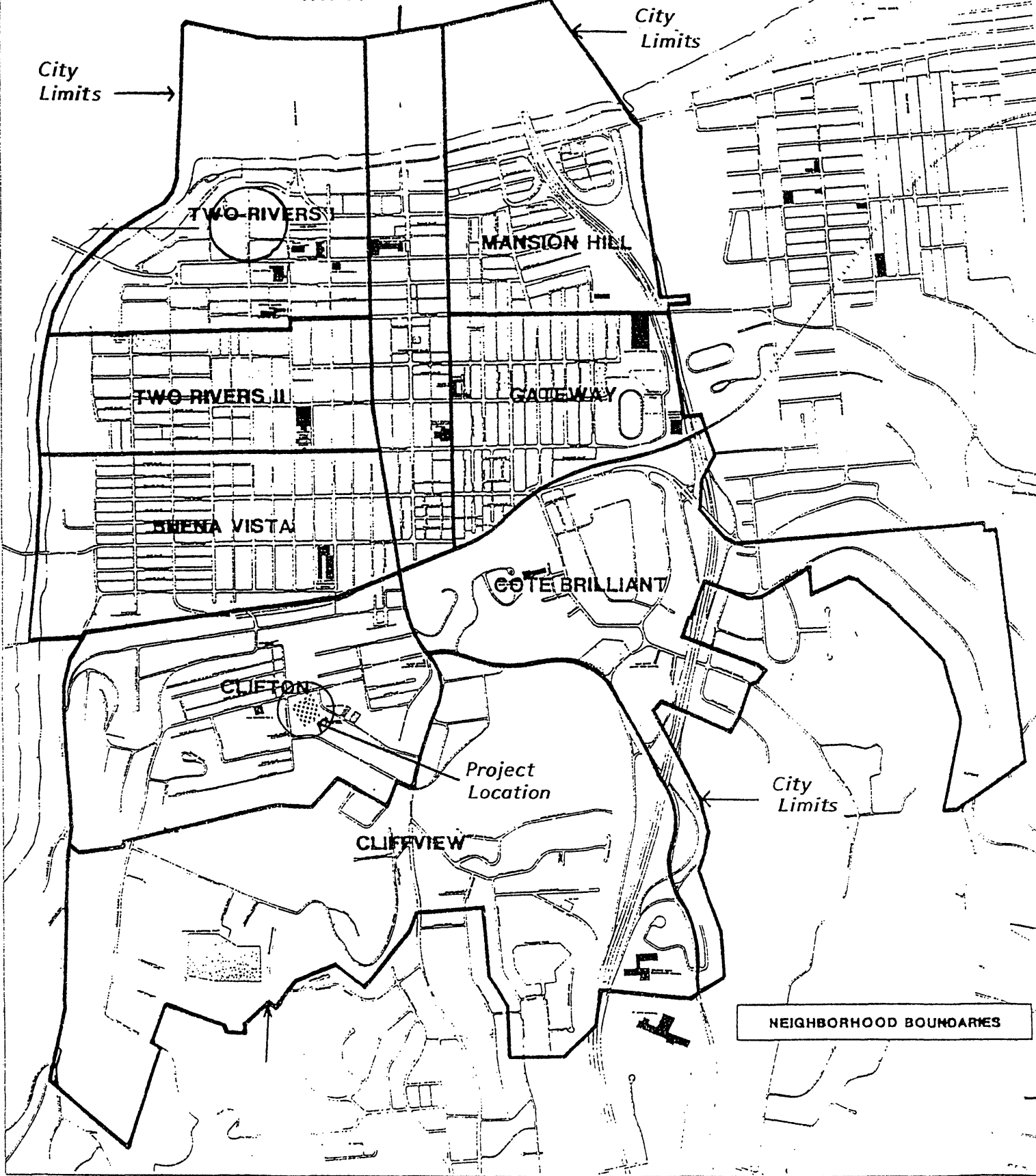
Photo 4: view to west of back

Photo 5: interior view of classroom; originally used as church

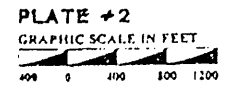
Photo 6: door to first floor classroom (originally church entrance); remnants of arch visible

Additional photographic prints are included which are labelled on the back of the print. These prints do not have white borders, so should be considered supplemental documentation.

St. Vincent de Paul School (CP-N-260)
Newport, Campbell County, Kentucky



CITY OF NEWPORT, KENTUCKY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

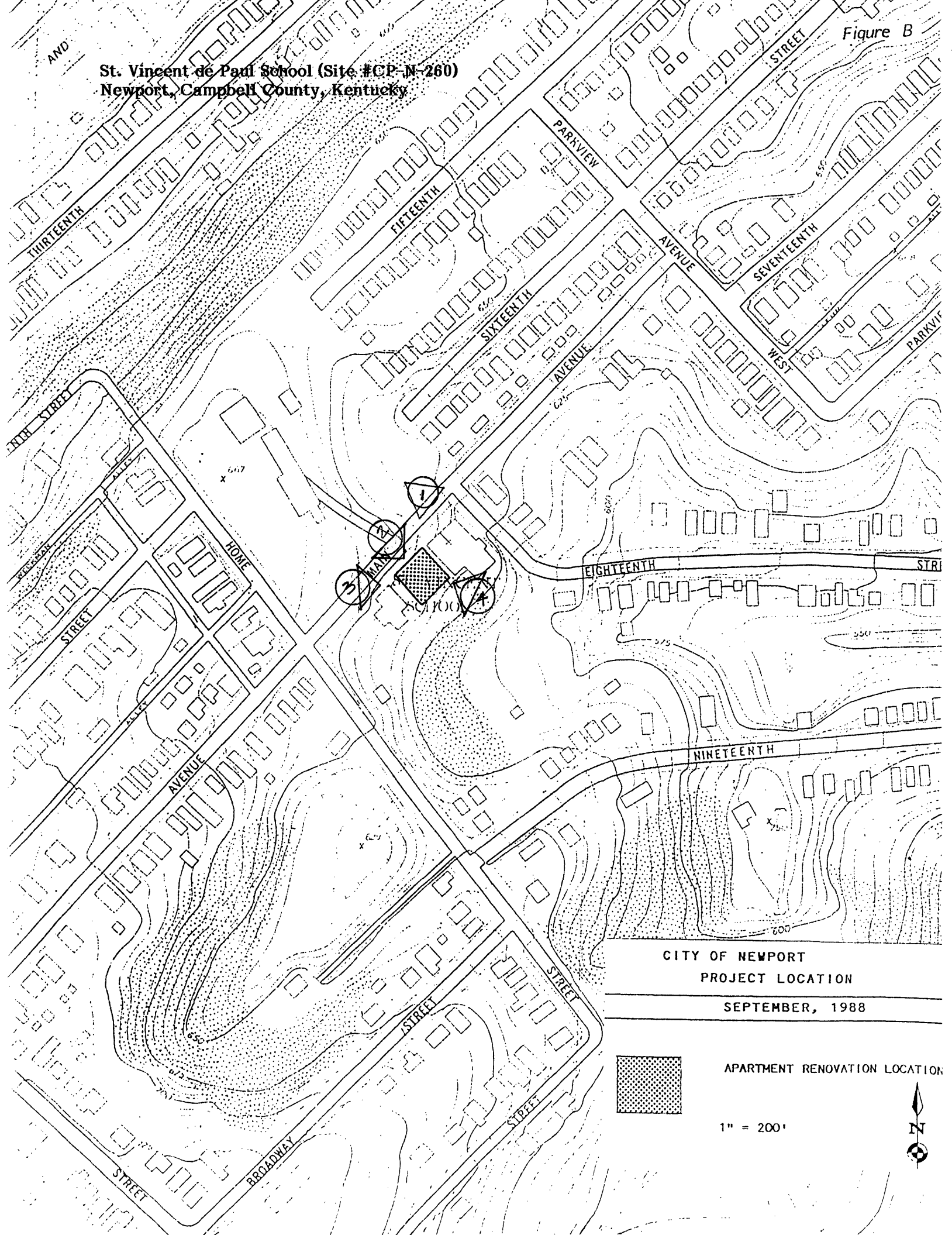


BASE MAP SOURCE:
Northern Kentucky Area Planning Commission
Updated by Woolpert Consultants, 1987.



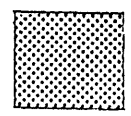
**St. Vincent de Paul School (Site #CP-N-260)
Newport, Campbell County, Kentucky**

Figure B



**CITY OF NEWPORT
PROJECT LOCATION**

SEPTEMBER, 1988



APARTMENT RENOVATION LOCATION

1" = 200'

