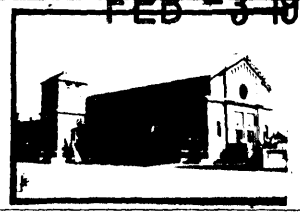


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MONTANA HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL INVENTORY

Site # 8



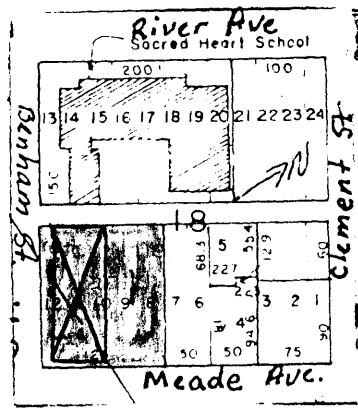
Legal Description: Original Townsite Elk 18 Lots 8-12

Address: 316 W. Benham

Ownership Name: Bishop of Great Falls, Montana

private address: Great Falls, Montana

Roll # 2 Frame #32-39



Location map or building plan with arrow north.

Historic Name: Sacred Heart Church

Common Name: Sacred Heart Church

Date of Construction: 1925 estimated documented

Architect: Brynjulf Rivenes

Builder: John Holm

Original Owner: Roman Catholic Church

Original Use: Church

Present Use: Church

RESEARCH SOURCES: Note all records consulted to determine dates of construction, original owners, builders, uses, etc.

Title Search: _____ Tax Records: N/A

Bldg. Permit: N/A Census Records: _____

Sewer/Water: N/A Sanborn Maps: 1900-1929

Directories: Newspapers:

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

The Catholic Church in Glendive: Its History, 1886-1986. Glendive: Boss Printing, 1986.
Rev. J.A. Pettit "History of Glendive Catholic Church", 1937. On file at
Glendive Public Library Vertical File.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

 Describe present appearance of structure/site, then contrast and compare that with its original appearance, noting additions, alterations, and changes in materials. Discuss significant architectural features.

A large rectangular masonry church with gable roof, bell tower, large concrete step entryway, arched windows and front facade with elaborate brick detailing. Structure has three front bays and eight side bays. Roof is diamond patterned asphalt shingle. Roof has extending eaves with crown molding and decorative modillions under rake and eaves with front facade frieze board. Upper half of front facade included centered concrete semi-circular arch enclosing a circular stained glass window with concrete surround and alternating polychrome header detailing. Arch is flanked by two pilasters and has a series of small brick arches with concrete bases arranged above it in a triangular shape. A large entablature with concrete molding, patterned brick and concrete frieze and concrete architrave separates upper and lower halves of front facade. Lower half has two large tiered or corbelled pilasters on each side of door and center brick pilaster separating the two sets of double doors. Pilasters have decorative capitals. Area above doors features concrete arches, polychrome header detailing, and two headers border circles, two with glass and two with flower patterned concrete relief.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION: Describe the persons, important events, and/or historical patterns associated with the structure/site and surrounding area.

The first Catholic Church in Glendive was established in 1886 in the Congregational Church building constructed 1882/1883 on the corner of Power and Sargent Street on the east side of town. It was sold to the Catholic Congregation on April 6, 1886, the Feast Day of Julianna. The church was called St. Julianna Catholic Church.1) In the Early 1920's, the congregation needed a new church. The property at the corner of Meade and Benham was purchased at a price of \$4,500.00. Church construction began in 1924 and the cornerstone was laid May 10, 1925, during the pastorate of Father John Webber. The church was completed March 12, 1926 and first mass was held May 29, 1926. The church was constructed at a cost of \$50,000 and had a seating capacity of 550. A \$7,500 bungalow-style rectory (since demolished) was constructed at the same time. A \$5,000 organ was installed in the church about 1927.2) In 1955, a church school was constructed on the corner of Benham and River Avenue. In 1970 the rectory was torn down and a garage and a portion of school ground were constructed where the rectory has stood. In 1973-1974 extensive interior remodeling occurred, including:

- "the removal of the statemary altars, statues, and railings, an installation of a main altar facing the congregation, and the removal of the baptismal font from the vestibule. All doors, windows, pews, and kneelers, were removed and replaced. Sections of the walls were alternately covered or painted and the floors carpeted."3) In 1976 parish members landscaped grounds and planted

Footnote Sources: new grass, shrubs, and flowers.

1. The Catholic Church In Glendive P.17.
2. IBID pp.17-18.
3. IBID, p. 19.
4. IBID p. 19.

INTEGRITY: Assess the degree to which the structure/site, and surrounding area accurately convey the historical associations of the property.

The church possesses excellent integrity of setting, design materials and workmanship.

The decorative detailing of the interior of the building was largely removed during the 1973-74 renovation.

HISTORICAL and/or ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE: Justify how the persons, important events, or historical patterns associated with structure/site lend the property significance and/or describe the ways in which the structure embodies the distinctive characteristics of a particular period, building type, or style.

Designed by locally significant architect Brynjulf Rivenes, the Sacred Heart Church is an excellent example of Early Italian Christian styling, with Italian Romanesque influence evident and a modified campanile tower. The building qualifies for listing in the National Register under criterion C, and its size, design, materials, and workmanship make it one of the most impressive buildings in the community. Notable design features include the large gable roof nave, the foursquare hipped roof campanile tower, the use of multiple concrete and brick arches (both large and small) above the doors and windows, the large rose window above the main entrance, and the large double doors of the entry that feature decorative panels and relief crosses. The wide concrete stairway leading up to the main entrance is flanked by massive brick railings on top of which are located iron lamp standards with glass globes. A high level of craftsmanship is evident in the use of polychromatic brick patterns and the relief concrete architrave and belt course work. Another distinctive decorative element of the church is the blind arcade corbelling found on the front facade under the overhanging, bracketed eaves.

FORM PREPARED BY:

Name: Bill Babcock

Address: Missoula, MT.

Date: August 1987

GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Acreage: Less than an acre

USGS Quad: Glendive, MT 1967 7.5'

UTM's: 13/521690/5216950

Physical Description (Continued)

Double doors are thick painted hardwood with multipanels and cross ornamentation in each panel. Front side windows have stretcher header arches and concrete and patterned brick sides and stained glass windows. Front steps are flanked by brick railings with concrete tops and corner pillars with round decorative steel light posts and round white lights.

Side of church has arched stained glass windows similar to front window and, like front, a concrete water table below which are wood frame fixed basement windows. Side tower has pyramidal hip roof, extending eaves with exposed rafters, two bays with wood frame louvered panels below which is diamond shaped polychrome brick detailing. It is set apart from lower level by thick concrete belt course under which there is brick detailing.

A concrete and brick monolith with enclosed glass covered sign is located at corner of Meade and Benham.

Crosses are located at the ends of the main gable ridge and on the top of the tower.

A rectangular concrete block flat roof garage with front and rear metal garage is located to the north of the church.

Historical and/or Architectural significance (cont.)

Slight losses of integrity include some loss of integrity of setting with replacement of rectory with a garage and playground in 1970 and 1976 landscaping. However, these alterations on the site detract little from overall impressiveness of structure. Remodeling in 1973-1974 while extensive was confined to interior of church.

Although churches are generally excepted for listing on the National Register, this church is considered a landmark structure on the west side of Glendive and is a pivotal structure in the neighborhood in which it is located. It also possesses sufficient architectural distinction for listing on the Register and was designed by Brynjulf Rivenes, a noted Norwegian-born architect who worked extensively in eastern Montana, out of his Miles City office.