

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 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 any 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 St. Luke's School and Recreation Center

other names/site number _____

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number 212 East Main not for publication N/A
city or town St. Lucas vicinity N/A
state Iowa code IA county Fayette code 065 zip code 52166

=====

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

=====

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant _____ nationally _____ statewide X locally. (_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Ronell J. Soike
Signature of certifying official
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

July 13, 2005
Date

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 or other official _____

Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

Edson H. Beall 8/24/05

entered in the National Register

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):

Edson H. Beall

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>2</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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

=====
8. Statement of Significance
=====

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

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a 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 1911
1950

Significant Dates 1911
1950

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation _____

Architect/Builder Boeding, Francis X.
Schuh, Francis L.

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

=====

9. Major Bibliographical References

=====

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

- 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

Name of repository: Fayette County Courthouse, West Union, Iowa

=====

10. Geographical Data

=====

Acreage of Property 2.5

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

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	15	587100	4768600	3	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____

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 Jeanette Hlubek-Dietzenbach/Clair Blong e-mail address meldietz@yahoo.com
organization St. Lucas Historical Society date January 30, 2005
street & number 212 East Main Street telephone 563-778-2710 (Reg. Agent)
563-387-0364
Dietzenbach
city or town St. Lucas state IA zip code 52166

=====
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 the SHPO or FPO.)

name St. Lucas Historical Society; Darla Goerend
street & number 212 East Main telephone 563-778-2710 (agent)
563-778-2787 (Goerend)
city or town St. Lucas state IA zip code 52166

=====
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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7

Page 1

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

=====

7. Description

Narrative Description.

St. Luke's School and Recreation Center are located in St. Lucas, Iowa, in Auburn Township, Fayette County, in the Northeast corner of Iowa.

St. Luke's School and Recreation Center sits on a very prominent hillside across from the magnificent and tall gothic St. Luke's Church that occupies the crest of the largest hill in St. Lucas. These structures are located on East Main Street in St. Lucas one block from the center of the town. Together these structures visually dominate the town and represent the unity and vibrancy of spiritual and educational values that have defined this Catholic German-American community for the past 150 years. St. Luke's School is a three-story structure with a light red brick exterior, six large classrooms, three on each of two floors. St. Luke's Chapel, located in the basement seats 300 people. A small annex was added in the late 1940's for high school use and consists of one small rectangle room (19' by 27') on each floor. The Recreation Center was added to the complex in 1950. The Recreation Center is a hollow clay tile structure measuring 100 feet in length and 60 feet in width. The main floor of the building is a gymnasium. The basement floor has a large open area which formerly housed a dining area and two bowling lanes.

On the south façade of St. Luke's School, facing East Main Street, the main entrance is nestled between three tall classroom windows on each side. These windows are framed on the top and bottom with limestone. The second floor has two arched windows at the center and again three tall classroom windows on each side. These windows are framed on the top and bottom with limestone. Each window is a wooden double hung one-over-one sash unit with interior storm windows. Many of the large glass panes are original.

The attic level features a graceful Romanesque influenced window that consists of three slender arched windows in the center. This window set is flanked by a sloping roof covered with light gray asphalt shingles. These three arched windows are framed with brick on the top and limestone on the bottom. The original roofing materials were wooden shingles. The foundation is made of large limestone blocks. The foundation for the south façade has three square colored glass windows on each side of the main entryway and rises four to six feet above the landscape.

The east side façade of St. Luke's School begins with a solid limestone block foundation rising six to eight feet above the landscape. The first and second floors have five tall symmetrically spaced windows on each floor. These windows are framed on the top and bottom with limestone. Each window is a wooden double hung one-over-one sash unit with interior storm windows. The attic level has Palladian windows in the center and is flanked by the sloping roof covered with light gray asphalt shingles. These three attic windows are framed with brick. The northeast portion of the east side façade contains the five glass windows of the annex on each of two floors.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7

Page 2

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

=====
Narrative description continued

The north side of St. Luke's School begins with a solid limestone foundation about ten feet above the landscape. The first and second floor levels have three tall windows for each of the two classrooms on each level. These windows are framed on the top and bottom with limestone. Each window is a wooden double hung one-over-one sash unit with interior storm windows. The northern exposure windows on the first floor were temporarily covered with plywood in recent years to conserve heat in the winter months. The attic level has three slender arched windows in the center and is flanked by the sloping roof covered in gray asphalt shingles. These three attic windows are framed with brick.

The west side of St. Luke's School begins with a solid limestone block foundation rising about ten feet above the ground. The foundation has a ground level doorway into the Chapel area that covers about one half of the lower level of the School. There is also a door and tile enclosed entryway to the Recreation Center. The first floor level has two large classrooms with four tall symmetrically spaced windows in each room for a total of eight windows. The second floor level has two large classrooms with four symmetrically spaced windows in each room for a total of eight windows. All of these first and second story windows are framed on the top and bottom with limestone. Each window is a wooden double hung one-over-one sash unit with interior storm windows. The attic level has two sets of three slender arched windows in the center of each classroom and is flanked by the sloping roof covered with light gray asphalt shingles. These attic windows are framed with brick.

The four asphalt roof sections steeply slope up to the center flat section of 11' by 30' in size. The center flat section is covered with tarpaper and a temporary rubber membrane. The original flat roof section was edged with ornamental metal ridges.

The interior of the first and second floor classrooms is quite similar. Each room has tongue-and-groove wood flooring, plastered walls, wood trimmed windows and doorframes. The interior doorways have a transom and wood door with a large glass pane in the top half of the door. The solid interior walls have blackboards mounted about 2 and one half feet from the floor and the blackboards are about three feet tall. These extend along the length of the two interior walls.

The main hallway has tongue-and-groove wooden flooring which has been covered with block tile and wooden doorways to each classroom. The doors are wooden and the top half is beveled glass. The hallway walls are plastered and partially covered with a textured wallpaper. One inside wall and the exterior wall of the stairway leading to the second floor are covered with ship-lap stained a mahogany color. A large wooden stairway with an ornate wooden banister leads to the second level classrooms. The stairway has two rises of ten steps each. These two rises are joined by a five-foot platform. At the end of the hallway is a narrow stairway to the basement level containing the chapel, dressing room, toilets and utilities.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7

Page 3

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

=====

Narrative Description continued

The second level hallway has tongue-in-groove wooden flooring which has been covered with linoleum and wooden doors to each of the classroom. The doors are wooden and the top half contains beveled glass. Two classrooms have doors at the north and south ends of the hallway. The hallway walls are plastered except for the exterior wall of the attic stairway which is covered with ship-lap stained to a dark mahogany color. The upper level hallway has a wooden doorway and door which leads to the attic level.

The entrance to the attic is a wooden stairwell broken into two rises, one about twenty steps and the other about 6 steps. These rises are divided by a wooden platform of about 6 feet in length. The second set of steps reverses direction 180 degrees. The attic area is completely open and unfinished. The key features of the attic are its wooden tongue-in-groove flooring and the completely exposed large wooden beams and wooden substructure of the sloped and flat roof surfaces.

The basement of the school contains the chapel (one half of the floor space) and has the original furniture, including 27 wooden pews, a wooden altar and many of the worship artifacts. The chapel walls are plastered and painted a light pink. The lower part of the walls are covered with a light brown wainscoted paneling up to chair rail height. Adjacent to the North side of the chapel is a small dressing room and three toilets (one fourth of the floor space). The remaining one fourth of the floor space consists of a corridor area with storage which drops down about ten feet to a sub-basement that contains the oil boiler and utilities. This sub-basement is walled with limestone and has a concrete floor. The interior wood walls are covered with fire-proof sheet-rock.

Recreation Center

St. Luke's Recreation Center was built in 1950 to provide St. Luke's Grade and High School with physical education facilities, basketball court and bowling alleys, food service for 275 students and parish organization meeting and dining room space and also community meeting room space. The Recreation Center was constructed for approximately \$50,000.00 with funds provided by William Henry Regnery, the principal benefactor of the parish and school.

The east side of the Recreation Center faces the School, is 100 feet in length and sits about 18 feet from the School. The east side foundation is made of poured concrete and rises from one foot above grade on the south end to approximately 12 feet above grade on the north end as the grade drops with the contour of the hillside. Above the concrete foundation the east side is constructed of glazed light colored hollow clay tile block. Centered near the top of the east side are 3 sets of two steel framed windows of 4 feet in height and 7 feet in width. The east façade also contains 4 evenly distributed two-foot wide wall pilasters of clay hollow tile block that house and support the four steel bowed trusses that carry the weight of the roof.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7

Page 4

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

=====

Narrative Description continued

The east side also contains the passageway (corridor) between the school and the recreation center. The corridor also contains a concrete stairway into the basement level of the Recreation Center. The corridor is 18 feet in length and 10 feet in width. The passageway floor is level with the main floor of the gym and is covered with light green tile. The west and north walls of the corridor are constructed of the same hollow clay tile as the Recreation Center. The ceiling of the passageway is made of tongue-and-groove Douglas fir. The corridor also has two steel doors, one opening to the South and one to the north. The passageway door into the school is of solid wood and the door onto the main floor of the gym is made of steel with a meshed wire glass window in the top portion of the door.

The south side of the Recreation Center measures 60 feet in width and faces East Main Street. The south side foundation is made of poured concrete and its exposure varies in height from 12 feet on the west end to one foot on the east end of the foundation. The main entrance section is centered on this south façade of the building and measures 32 feet in width and 8 feet in depth. The main entrance section and the south façade are both made of the light colored glazed hollow clay tile. The top of the south facade contains four stepped levels to cover the contour of the bowed roof on the Recreation Center. These four levels are capped with a concrete ledge. The main entrance section projects from the primary façade and features three stepped levels also capped with a concrete ledge. Two pilasters extend above this section and are capped with concrete. On each side of the double entry doors are two steel framed windows. These windows are 4 feet high and 2.5 feet wide. The main entrance floor is covered with light green tile and the ceiling with tongue-and-groove Douglas fir. Located in front of the center are two cast iron light poles with globe ball fixtures. Adorning the top of the front entrance of the center is a concrete statue of a Guardian Angel and child.

The west side of the Recreation Center faces the St. Lucas downtown and is 100 feet in length and has a narrow fire roadway running along its entire length to the north side of the building. The west side foundation is made of poured concrete and rises about 12 feet above grade on the south end to approximately 14 feet above grade on the north end as the grade drops with the contour of the hillside. The west side foundation wall also contains 3 sets of steel framed windows measuring 5.5 feet in height and 7 feet in width. Above this exposed concrete foundation the west facade is constructed of glazed light colored hollow clay tile block. The west façade also contains 4 evenly distributed two-foot wide wall pilasters of the hollow clay tile that house and support the four steel bowed trusses that carry the weight of the roof.

The north side of the Recreation Center measures 60 feet in length and faces an old pine tree windbreak. The north side foundation is made of poured concrete and its exposure varies in height from 14 feet on the west end to 12 foot on the east end of the foundation. The north façade is made of the light colored glazed hollow clay tile which extends all the way to the top of the bowed roof and follows that contour. There are no windows on the north façade of the building. Two pilasters extend from the ground to the bowed roof.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7

Page 5

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

=====

Narrative Description continued

The lower level of the Recreation Center has exposed concrete walls and a concrete floor. This lower level is open space that was used for food service, bowling alleys and meeting room space. It contains three rows of 5 steel posts 16.5 feet apart that support the main floor of the basketball court on the main floor of the building. The lowered ceiling is at a height of 8 feet and is made of track-mounted off white sound absorbent material.

The main floor of the Recreation Center is covered with hard maple tongue-and-groove flooring and configured as a basketball court with two sections of wood bleachers located on both the east and west sides of the court. The interior walls of the main floor of the Recreation Center are the exposed hollow clay tile blocks.

The ceiling is an open area and exposes the four large bowed steel trusses (running east and west) and the intermediate steel trusses (running south and north) that support the wood decking of the bowed roof. The Recreation Center roof consists of an outer layer of heavy tar coating laid over several layers of heavy industrial tarpaper that is attached to the wood decking of the bowed roof. The bowed roof is supported by the intermediate steel trusses and the heavy bowed steel trusses.

The main floor of the Recreation Center is currently used for industrial storage and the lower level is used as a physical workout facility, including karate classes.

Integrity

Today, St. Luke's School remains virtually undisturbed since the historic period. The original design and historic fabric and materials are in a high state of preservation. Although most interior furnishings have been removed, the school building remains as it was during the highpoint of its role in educating the youth of the community. The flat center portion of the roof has seriously deteriorated and is in need of immediate repair to prevent rain and bird entry to the attic and damage to the structure. Recently, a temporary rubber membrane was placed over the flat roof area and two sloping surfaces and valley to stop the rain from leaking into the school until a new roof can be installed.

The St. Luke's Recreation Center structure remains virtually undisturbed since its historic period as an integral part of the St. Luke's School. The bowling alley and some of the food facilities have been removed but the rest of the interior is intact. The roof is in relatively good condition and the heating system and plumbing remain in use.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

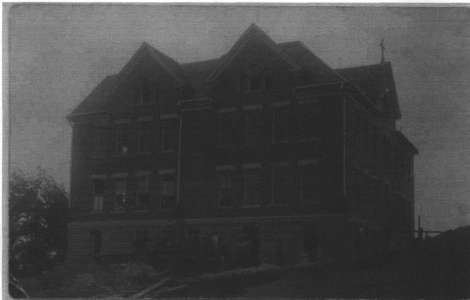
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7

Page 6

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

Construction of St. Luke's School - 1911 Father Francis X. Boeding pictured with construction workers.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7

Page 7

St. Luke's School and Recreation Center

Fayette County, Iowa

St. Luke's School pictured circa 1930's, viewed from Southeast corner of the property.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

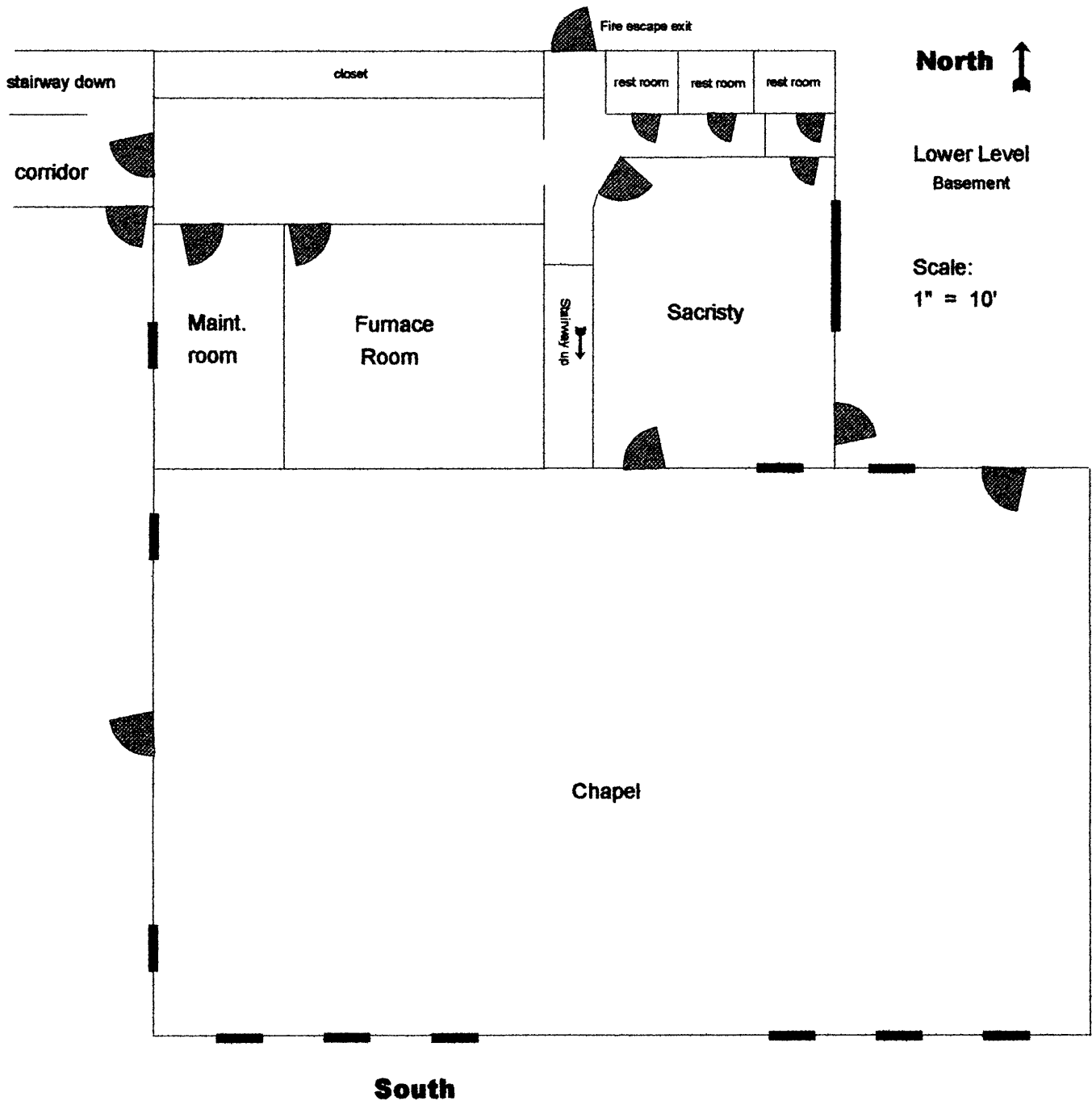
Section 7 Page 8

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

=====

Floor Plan - Basement Level - St. Luke's School - November, 2004 -

Measured and drawn by Mel Dietzenbach



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

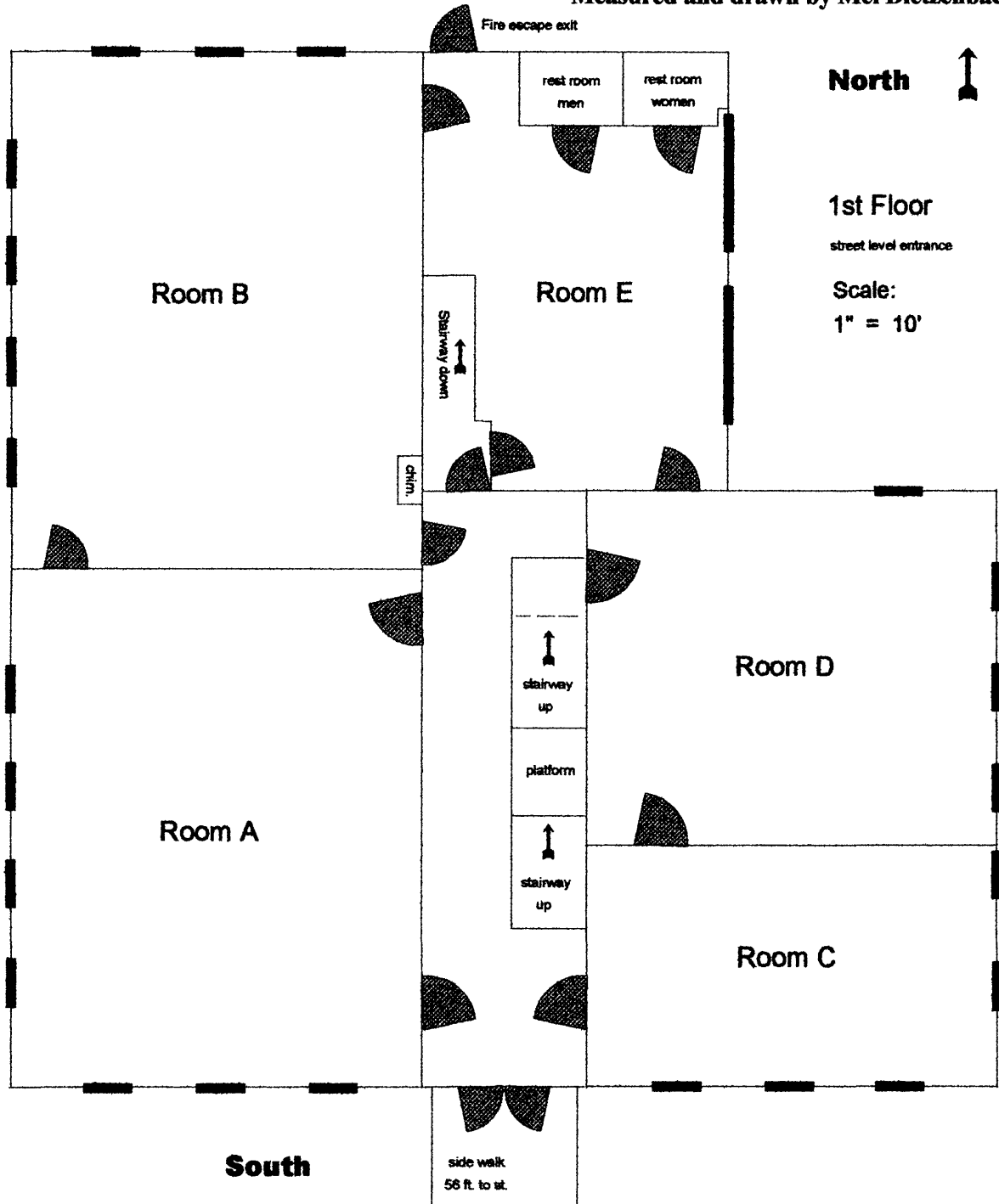
Section 7

Page 9

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

=====
Floor Plan - First Floor - St. Luke's School - November, 2004 -

Measured and drawn by Mel Dietzenbach



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

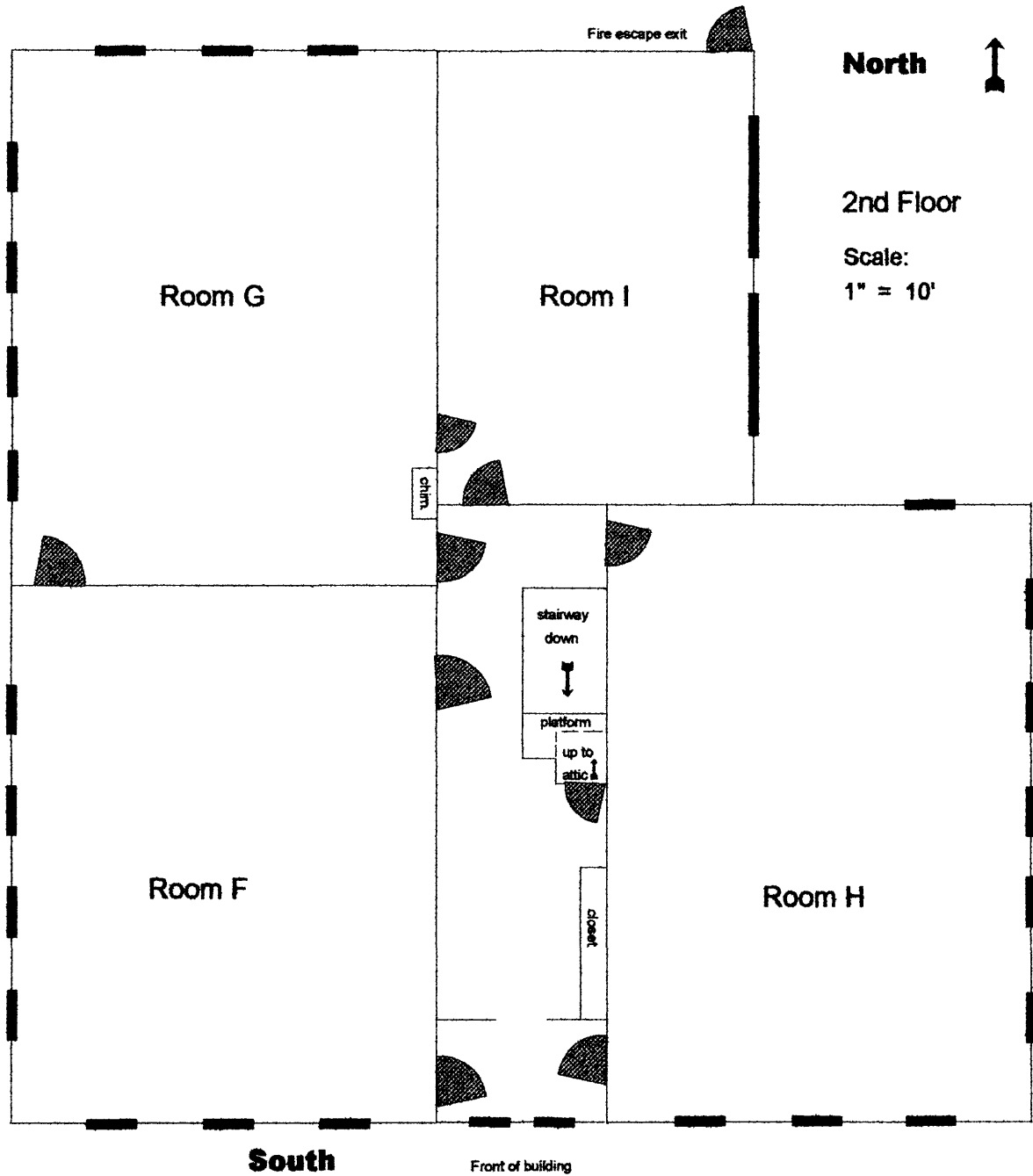
Section 7

Page 10

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

=====
Floor Plan - Second Floor - St. Luke's School - November, 2004 -

Measured and drawn by Mel Dietzenbach



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7

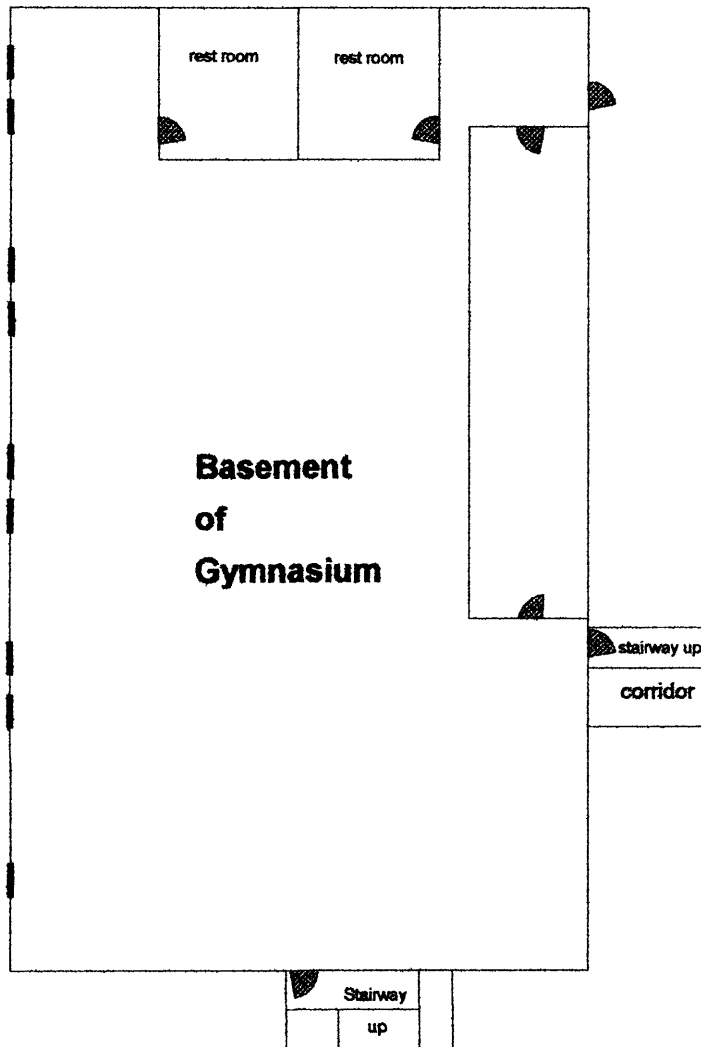
Page 11

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

=====

Floor Plan - Basement - Recreation Center - November, 2004 -

Measured and drawn by Mel Dietzenbach



North ↑

Scale:
1" = 20'

South

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7

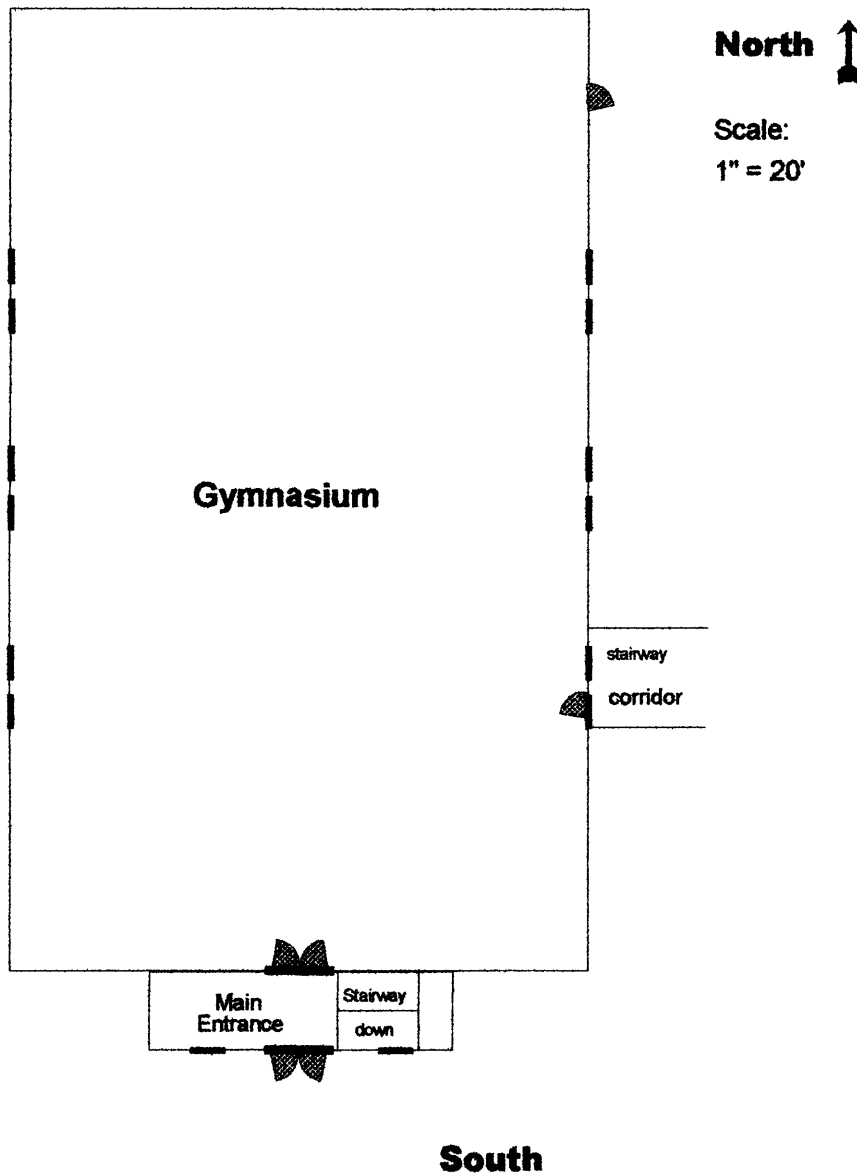
Page 12

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

=====

Floor Plan - Gymnasium Level - Recreation Center - November, 2004 -

Measured and drawn by Mel Dietzenbach



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 13

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

8. Statement of Significance

St. Luke's School is locally significant under Criterion C as a unique architectural example of the Georgian Revival style which attempted to restore order and simplicity to buildings after the exuberant styles of the 19th century. The design and detailing were more refined and complex and classical elements and detailing more pronounced. St. Luke's is also significant because it is one of the few remaining schools of that era present within a twenty five mile radius of this Northeast Iowa locality. This nomination meets the requirements for criterion consideration A as the school is being nominated for its architecture.

Father Francis X. Boeding utilized the Georgian Revival style in the design of St. Luke's School that was constructed in the summer of 1911. The present large St. Luke's School was erected that summer at a cost of \$13,636.31. The building of the present school was necessitated because a new frame school, built by Father Boeding in 1905, was destroyed by fire on February 11, 1911.

The Georgian Revival style was popular in America from the 1880's well into the twentieth century. It is often considered a subset of the Colonial Revival style, along with the Dutch Colonial Revival and several other revival styles. These styles represented a late 19th century desire to restore order to architecture and while they were based on historical examples, they were rarely historically accurate copies. The popularity of these revivals was also fueled by America's centennial in 1876 and the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago.

The Georgian Revival style recalls the "Georgian" style, popular in England during the 1700's and brought to America by way of British pattern books and immigrating tradesmen. The Georgian Revival style was disseminated across the country in books and periodicals, including *The American Architect and Building News*, which in 1898 began a series called "The Georgian Period: Being photographs and measured drawings of Colonial Work with text."

Common features of the Georgian Revival include: symmetrical facades; hipped or double-pitched roofs, or roofs with a flat deck and balustrade; central part of the façade set apart, sometimes projecting or with a pediment; a prominent central entrance; rectangular, double-hung windows (sometimes arched in religious buildings); Palladian windows used as focal points. St. Luke's school has many of these features, including a hipped roof with a flat deck and a central entrance emphasized by a gabled wall dormer piercing through the cornice. The entrance is further emphasized by an arched door. While the majority of the windows are rectangular, double-hung sashes, two windows above the central entry area are arched and Palladian windows are featured in each of the gabled wall dormers.

The school houses six large classrooms and a chapel in the basement, which seats 300 persons. Mr. Jake Thiel was the master carpenter for the School. St. Luke's Parish members helped in the construction process that lasted about six months and was completed for the new school year.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 14

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

=====

Statement of Significance continued

According to oral history, St. Luke's School was conceived by Father Boeding. He may have consulted with Anton Zwack, contractor and builder from Dubuque, Iowa. Zwack built several significant buildings in Iowa: Kane Hall at Loras College, a library in Clinton and St. Luke Church in St. Lucas, Iowa, in 1914.

St. Luke's School contained grades one through grade eight from 1911 until 1941. Rt. Rev. Msgr. Schuh established the St. Luke's High School in 1941 and the High School produced nearly 350 graduates by the time it closed in 1967 due to the school consolidation process.

In 1947, because of increasing enrollment, an annex was added to the present structure for high school use. Previous to this time, the school was using several large rooms in an 1876 convent. A new smaller brick convent was being built. This necessitated the building of the annex for school use.

The Recreation Center was built in 1950 by Monsignor Francis L. Schuh. The Recreation Center is a very good example of mid-twentieth century Moderne that fits well with the Georgian Revival school design. The center is attached to the school by a closed walkway.

The Center was built for multiple uses. The high school basketball teams could have home games and a gym to practice in. The building was also used for community recreation. Two bowling alleys were installed in 1951. The lunchroom became the meeting place for many civic and church groups.

For a time, St. Luke's students were joined with students from the neighboring town and school St. John Nepomucene. The school closed in 1997 because of the merger of St. Luke parish of St. Lucas, St. John parish of Fort Atkinson and Holy Trinity school of Protivin. The consolidated "Trinity Catholic School" was formed and the students moved to the facility at Protivin which was a newer building.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8

Page 15

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

=====
Statement of Significance continued

Cultural and Educational Background.

The town of St. Lucas and the Catholic Church in St. Lucas have been inseparable for most of their 150 years. Both came into being in 1855 because of the strong faith and the entrepreneurial spirit of the German Catholic settlers. This religious and business zeal was nourished especially during Father F.X. Boeding's long pastorate, 1882-1928. These were the years of greatest growth in the town and the church.

St. Luke's School played a very significant role in the religious, educational, cultural and economic identity of the German, Luxembourg and Swiss Catholic immigrants to St. Lucas, Iowa. St. Luke's School clearly shaped and maintained a distinct German-American sense of community over the decades of the past century but also uniquely prepared its students to be active participants in the American way of life.

"The community was so homogeneous-made up almost entirely of devout German-American Catholic farmers-that no one saw a need to separate residents' spiritual and civic lives, said Stammeyer, who in the 1920's was among the first students at the school to use textbooks printed in English rather than German."¹

The heavy stress on the importance of education led to significant flow of persons, now serving throughout the nation, into the clergy and professions. Father Francis Boeding from 1882-1928 and Rt. Rev. Msgr. Francis Schuh from 1928 to 1967 shaped and led the role of St. Luke's School in preserving and transforming of German-American individual and community values over the decades.

Father Boeding studied the classics in Paderborn; philosophy and theology in Munster, Germany; and theology and architecture in Montreal, Canada in the 1870s. He was appointed pastor of St. Luke's Church in September 1882 and for over 46 years was pastor and driving force in St. Luke's School.

Father Boeding also set about to build the Parish. "The first thing was to increase the number of Catholic families. In 1882, the St. Luke's Parish numbered about 75 families. At the time of Rev. Boeding's death in 1928, there were 180 families with 975 souls."³

Another of Father Boeding's goals was to reawaken the confidence of the parishioners in farming. This young priest came to St. Lucas at a time when this great wheat-field community was sadly devastated by the cinch wheat bug. The farmers were discouraged and the times were bad. This he did by making a study of the land and by urging the people to plant corn and to specialize in blooded stock."⁴

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8

Page 16

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

=====

Statement of Significance continued

“Whenever there was a farm for sale in the vicinity of his parish, Father Boeding bought it. He had no money, but he secured the farm by means of an option to purchase. Then he went in search of a Catholic family...and another new family was added to the St. Lucas parish.”⁵ Father Boeding was a spiritual father and at the same time the inspiration and helping hand to the St. Lucas community’s growth and prosperity. He also loved trees and was instrumental in the planting of hundreds of evergreens and apples on the parish and school grounds and evergreen and fruit orchards on the farms. Many still stand today.

Of critical importance in the development and sustaining of St. Luke’s School was the role of the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration of St. Rose Convent from La Crosse, Wisconsin. “Our long time pastors, Father Boeding (46 years) and Rt. Rev. Msgr. Francis Schuh (41 years), always had good relationships with St. Rose Convent. The parish and school produced an unusually large number of religious vocations, with a majority of young women (29) joining St. Rose Convent in LaCrosse.”⁶

Many of the St. Luke’s School alumni fondly recall these Franciscan teaching nuns. Linus Bodensteiner states, “Sister Theola was an excellent teacher. I learned more from her in my last year of school than in all the other grades. She was no-nonsense and more strict. She had a knack for keeping order. She was also kind and fair, and commanded our respect.”⁷ Lorraine Kuennen notes, “...the sisters and priests who taught us gave us a very well rounded education. They instilled in us a zest for learning that continues to this day, and has enriched our lives immeasurably.”⁸

These teaching nuns placed a heavy emphasis on learning and the value of education that led many students to pursue higher education and positions in the clergy and professions across the nation. In 120 years of the life of St. Luke’s School, 26 students went on to become priests and 56 students entered the religious life as nuns or as brothers. Many other graduates entered the teaching, medicine, law, government professions, business, trades and farming with the solid educational basics they acquired in St. Luke’s School. “It was wonderful, the nuns were like college professors. We got a top-notch education,” said Kathleen Boeding Drilling, a grand-niece of Rev. Francis X. Boeding, the priest who drafted the preliminary design for the 1911 school house.⁹

Throughout its history St. Luke’s High School was very competitive academically and in its baseball and basketball programs. The St. Luke’s High School students produced an award winning monthly newspaper with a circulation of over 320 copies. Enrollment at St. Luke’s Grade and High School peaked in the early 1960 at over 275 students. The High School closed in 1967 and the Grade School continued for three more decades finally closing its doors in 1997.

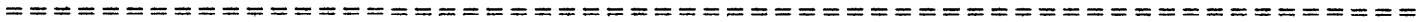
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8

Page 17

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**



Statement of Significance continued

Comparison

St. Luke School has a unique design – simplistic, yet more ornate and grand than many of the other schools of the area. The school is a prominent part of the skyline of the small village of St. Lucas and the placement of the school on the top of a hill across from the beautiful gothic St. Luke Church only adds to its appeal. Within the town of St. Lucas, the only other school is the one-room wood frame "Public School" which is located below the hill in the central part of the town. For several years, the public school was used by the Catholic School. The facility could accommodate one class so each year one grade level would attend Mass and then walk down the hill to their classroom. Historically, it was the kindergarten or the fourth grade that attended school at the public school. For many years, the "Public School" was staffed by one of the teaching nuns of the parish. The nun was paid by the public system, which was a unique situation.

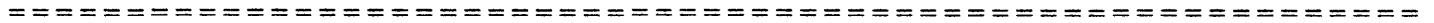
It is difficult to find a comparable school in the area. Schools were located in many of the neighboring towns which are from 5 to 20 miles distance from St. Lucas. Almost all of these schools have been torn down in the last years which speaks to their quality but more so, to a lack of preservation attitude. A similar example is St. John Nepomucene Catholic School located in the historic town of Fort Atkinson which is five miles away. Comparing St. Luke's School to St. John's, built in 1908, one would note the more simplistic architecture of St. John's. Both schools were built of red brick and had similar classroom arrangement and similar classroom window alignment. The difference in architecture is very obvious when it comes to the attic area and the arched palladian windows. St. Luke's School displays a certain flair in architecture which sets it apart from the others. It is important to note that St. John's School has since been torn down(1999).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 18

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**



Statement of Significance continued

1 Orlan Love. "St.Lucas school built on faith," Cedar Rapids Gazette (October 28, 2003), page 8B.

2 Archdiocese of Dubuque, The Centennial History of the Archdiocese of Dubuque (Dubuque, Iowa: the Archdiocese of Dubuque, 1937), page 212.

3 Ibid.

4 "Rev. Francis X. Boeding," The Witness (October 10, 1928).

5 Ibid.

6 Lorraine Bodensteiner Kuennen, email to Clair K. Blong, September 1, 2003, page 1.

7 Lorraine Kuennen e-mail to Clair Blong, November 13, 2003.

8 Ibid.

9 Love, Op. Cit., Page 8B.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8

Page 19

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

**Classroom - St. Luke's School - circa 1912
Instructor - Sr. Amata, Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration**



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8

Page 20

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

=====

Public School - St. Lucas, Iowa - Circa 1920's - Nun with Students - Photo for Comparative Study



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8

Page 21

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

=====

St. John Nepomucene Catholic School - Fort Atkinson, Iowa
Photo for comparative purposes - Photo taken in 1999 - Previous to being torn down.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 22 **St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

=====

References

Arnold A. Boeding, "My Uncle Francis Xavier Boeding." Dubuque, Iowa, February 1951.

Rev. Arnold A. Boeding. "My Uncle Francis Xavier Boeding," in his Five Generations of Boedings. (December 1980), pages 40-47.

"Rev. Francis X. Boeding (1853-1928)," The Witness (October 10, 1928).

"1882-1926 Rev. Francis X. Boeding," in 125 Years: St. Luke's Church, 1855-1980. St. Lucas, Iowa: St. Luke's Church, 1980, pages 18-25.

"Corpus Christi Celebration Draws Many to St. Lucas...." The Union (May 29, 1940).

"Father Boeding: 46 Years Work," Jericho Community Echo (August 24, 1939) Vol. 55, #34, page 4.

"From Farm Boy to National Priest Hero," The Witness (December 3, 1942) Vol. XXII, # 42.

Sister Mary Imogene Klein. Greater Love: The Life of Chaplain Aloyious H. Schmitt, Lieutenant (jg.), U. S. Navy. Dubuque, Iowa: Loras College History Thesis, August 1961.

Orlan Love. "St. Lucas school built on faith," Cedar Rapids Gazette (October 28, 2003) pages 1B and 8B.

The Parish Bulletin. St. Lucas, Iowa: St. Luke's Parish, weekly.

"Pearl Harbor Survivor Recalls Father Schmitt," The Telegraph Herald (December 7, 1980)

"Preservation begins on a cornerstone of St. Lucas: School is first project of St. Lucas Historical Society," The Union (June 25, 2003), pages 1 and 5.

"Remembering U.S.S. Oklahoma Chaplain Father Aloysius Schmitt," Calmar Courier (December 4, 2001) pages 8-9.

"Rt. Rev. Francis Leo Schuh," in 125 Years: St. Luke's Church, 1855-1980. St. Lucas, Iowa: St. Luke's Church, 1980, pages 26-37.

Rev. Msgr. Francis L Schuh, Biography of Father Aloyious Schmitt. St. Lucas, Iowa, 1947. 20 pages.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9

Page 23

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

=====

References continued

“St. Lucas in Pictures,” The Union, West Union, Iowa, July 1, 1976.

“St. Luke’s Church, St. Lucas, Iowa,” in Centennial History of the Archdiocese of Dubuque (Dubuque, Iowa: Archdiocese of Dubuque, 1937), pages 210-213.

“St. Luke’s School,” in 125 Years: St. Luke’s Church, 1855-1980. St. Lucas, Iowa: St. Luke’s Church, 1980, pages 37-46.

St. Luke’s School (S.L.S.) Highlights. St. Lucas, Iowa: St. Luke’s High School, 1941- 1967.
(Detailed record of School academic and sports activities and history of the St. Luke’s Parish and School)

St. Luke’s Church. St. Lucas, Iowa: St. Luke’s Parish, 1997

“St. Lucas Society Preserves History,” Calmar Courier, (July 1, 2003), pages 1 and 12.

“St. Lucas Historical Society...Preservation effort begins,” The Witness (August 17, 2003) page3.

“St. Lucas Historical Society receives non-profit status,” New Hampton Tribune (June 27, 2003) page 3.

“St. Lucas Jubilee Issue,” Jericho Community Echo (August 31, 1939), Vol. 55, #35.

“St. Luke’s Celebrates 125th Jubilee,” The Union (October 23, 1980) page 3.

“St. Luke’s to celebrate 125th Jubilee,” Calmar Courier (October 9, 1980) page 1.

“Thriving Iowa community has avoided ‘Melting Pot’,” Des Moines Sunday Register (January 25, 1981), pages 1A and 3A.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 10 Page 24 **St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

=====
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Parcel "O" in the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 5, Township 95 North, Range 9 West of the Fifth P.M., City of Saint Lucas, Fayette County, Iowa, and more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the Southeast Corner of Said Quarter-Quarter Section; Thence North 89° - 07' - 04" West (Record Bearing) 379.50 Feet along the South Line of said Quarter-Quarter Section to the Southwest Corner of Lot 5 of Kuennen - Rausch Addition to the City of St. Lucas and the point of beginning; Thence continuing North 89° - 07' - 04" West 250.89 feet along said South Line; Thence North 05°-43'-07" East 135.47 feet; Thence South 89° - 07' - 04" East 237.50 feet to the West line of said Lot 5; Thence South 00°-02'-57" West 135.00 feet along said West line to the point of beginning, containing 0.757 Acre, including 0.026 acre of East Main Street Right-of-Way, subject to easements of record. per survey of Paul R. Herold recorded as file no. 2003-561, Fayette County, Iowa.

Parcel "P" in the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 5, Township 95 North, Range 9 West of the 5th P.M., City of St. Lucas, Fayette County, Iowa, and more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the Southeast corner of said Quarter-Quarter Section; Thence North 89°-07' -04" West (Record Bearing) 630.39 feet along the South line of said Quarter-Quarter Section to the Southwest Corner of Parcel O in said Quarter-Quarter Section and the Point of Beginning; Thence continuing North 89° -07' -04" West 112.21 feet along said South Line to the Southeast Corner of Parcel C in said Quarter-Quarter Section; Thence North 03° -27' -50" East 267.93 feet along the East Line of Parcels C and D in said Quarter-Quarter Section to the Northeast Corner of said Parcel D; Thence North 73° -52'-39" East 209.91 feet; Thence North 00° -02' -57" East 283.03 feet to the Centerline of County Road W14 (North Main Street); Thence Northeasterly along a 954.93 foot radius curve concave Northwesterly 34.56 feet (said curve having a long chord of North 60° -16'-55" East 34.56 feet) along said Centerline to the Northwest Corner of Lot 7 of Kuennen-Rausch Addition to the City of Saint Lucas; Thence South 00° -02' -57" West 400.21 feet along said West Line and the Southerly extension thereof to the Southwest Corner of Parcel N in said Quarter-Quarter Section; Thence South 89° -07' -04" East 115.50 feet to the South East Corner of said Parcel N and the West Line of Lot 6 of said Subdivision; Thence South 00° -02' -57" West 94.50 feet along the West Line of Lots 6 and 5 of said Subdivision to the Northeast Corner of said Parcel O; Thence North 89° -07' -04" West 237.50 feet; Thence South 05° -43' -07" feet, both along said Parcel O to the Point of Beginning, containing 1.709 acres, including 0.035 acre of County Road W14 (North Main Street) and 0.024 acre of East Main Street Right-of-Ways, subject to easements of record. ...Per Survey of Paul R. Herold recorded as File No. 2003-561, Fayette County, Iowa.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 10

Page 25

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

=====

Verbal Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the school and Recreation Center.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

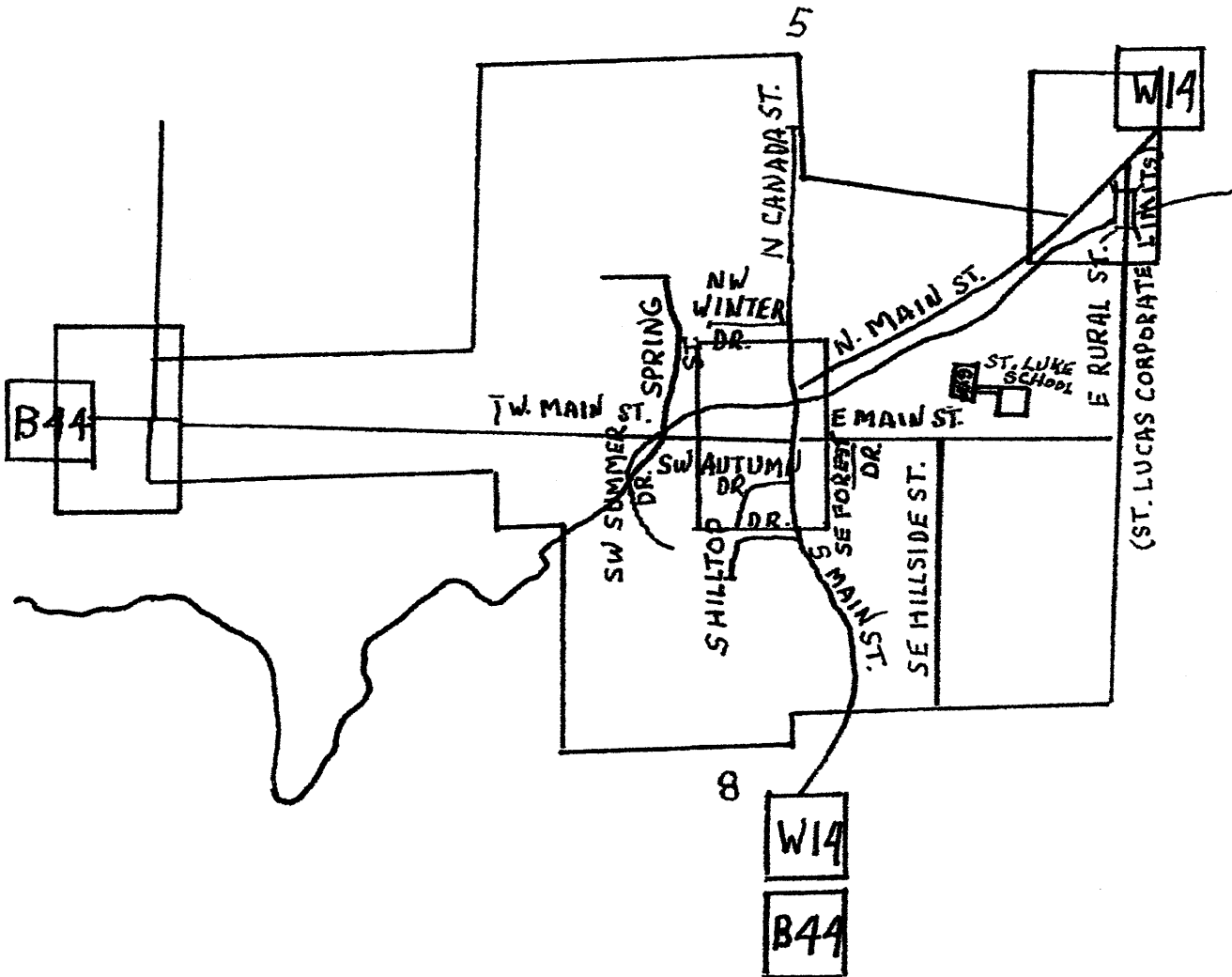
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section Documentation Page 26 **St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

=====

**Taken from City Map - St. Lucas, Iowa - Rural Road Atlas - 911 - County of Fayette
Published by Upper Explorerland Planning Commission - Postville, Iowa**

(Not to Scale)



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

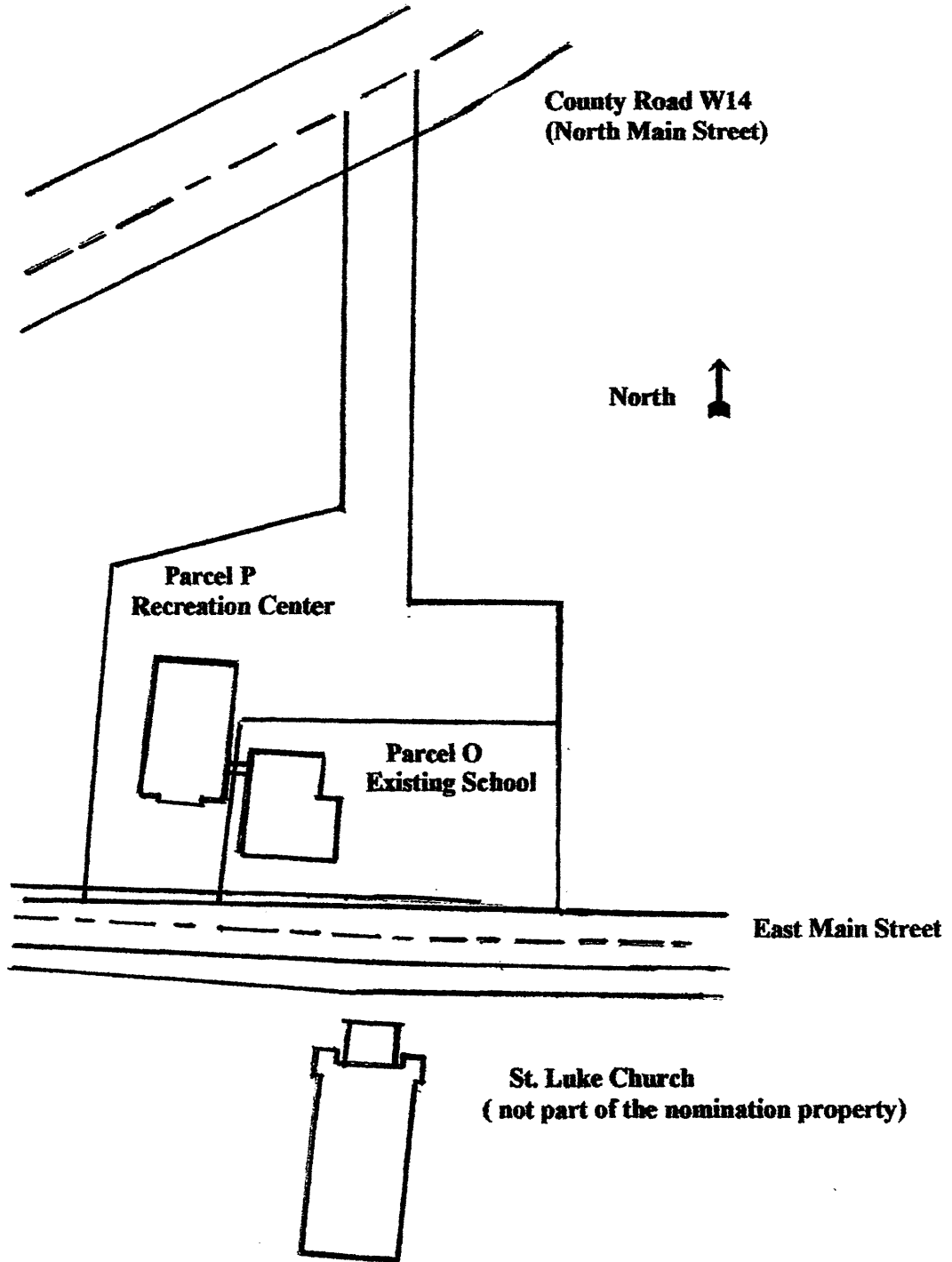
Section Documentation

Page 27

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

=====
Site Plan - Parcel O and Parcel P

(Not to Scale)



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section Photographs Page 28

**St. Luke's School and Recreation Center
Fayette County, Iowa**

=====
Photographer: Melvin Dietzenbach
Date of Photographs: September 3, 2003
November 28, 2004
Location of Negatives: Melvin & Jeanette Dietzenbach Residence, Decorah, Iowa

- No. 1 Front View of St. Luke School, viewed from the South Side(East Main Street)2003
- No. 2 St. Luke School viewed from Southeast corner, 2003
- No. 3 St. Luke School viewed from SW corner, 2003(similar view as historic construction photo)
- No. 4 St. Luke School viewed from Northeast corner, 2003
- No. 5 St. Luke School and addition viewed from Northwest corner, 2003
- No. 6 Entrance and Stairway viewed from South, 2003
- No. 7 Classroom A, viewing the Northwest corner, 2003
- No. 8 Classroom A, viewing the Southeast corner, 2003
- No. 9 Hallway, Second Floor, viewed from the North, 2003
- No. 10 Classroom F, viewing the Southwest corner, 2003
- No. 11 Classroom H, viewing the Southeast corner, 2003
- No. 12 Chapel, viewing the Southeast corner, 2003
- No. 13 Chapel, viewing the Southwest corner, 2003
- No. 14 Attic, 2003
- No. 15 Corridor (passageway), viewed from the South (East Main Street), 2004
- No. 16 Front View of Recreation Center, viewed from South (East Main Street), 2004
- No. 17 Recreation Center, viewed from the Southeast corner, 2004
- No. 18 Recreation Center, viewed from the Southwest corner, 2004
- No. 19 Recreation Center, viewed from the Northeast corner, 2004
- No. 20 Recreation Center, viewed from the Northwest corner, 2004
- No. 21 Interior of Recreation Center (gym), viewing Northwest corner, 2004
- No. 22 Interior of Recreation Center (gym), viewing the North wall, 2004
- No. 23 Interior of Recreation Center (gym), viewing the Northeast corner, 2004
- No. 24 Interior of Recreation Center Basement, viewing the Southwest corner, 2004
- No. 25 Complex from left to right: Gym, School, and St. Luke Church, viewed from the West, 2005