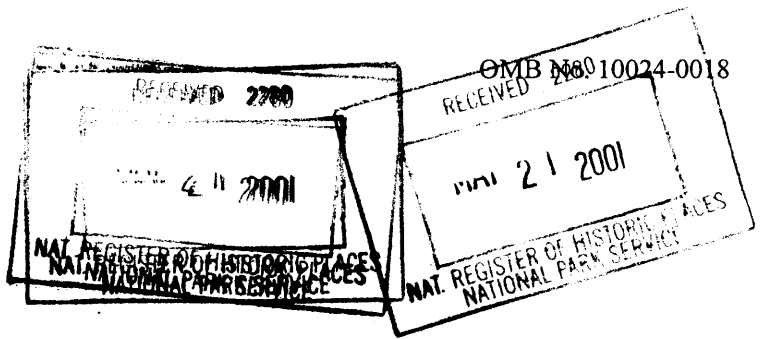


=NPS Form 10-900
(January 1992)

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**

685



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 Holy Cross Church and Convent

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 3001 Bay Settlement Road not for publication N/A

city or town Green Bay vicinity N/A

state Wisconsin code WI county Brown code 009 zip code 54311

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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.)

Alicia L. Cal
Signature of certifying official/Title

May 15, 2001
Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer-WI

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 certifying official/Title

Date

State or federal agency and bureau

Holy Cross Church and Convent
Name of Property

Brown County, Wisconsin
County and State

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) _____

Joe Edsall
Signature of the Keeper
Beall 6/28/01
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property Category of Property
(Check as many as apply.) (Check only one box.)
 private building(s)
 public-local district
 public-state site
 public-federal structure
 object

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

| | Contributing | Noncontributing |
|------------|--------------|-----------------|
| buildings | 6 | 1 |
| sites | 0 | 0 |
| structures | 0 | 0 |
| objects | 0 | 1 |
| total | 6 | 2 |

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
RELIGION/religious facility
RELIGION/church-related residence

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
RELIGION/religious facility
RELIGION/church-related residence

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)
LATE VICTORIAN/Romanesque
LATE VICTORIAN/Italianate
LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)
foundation STONE
walls BRICK
roof ASPHALT
other CONCRETE

Narrative Description

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

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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section 7 Page 1

Holy Cross Church and Convent
Green Bay, Brown County, Wisconsin

Introduction

The Holy Cross Church and Convent complex consists of a collection of six contributing buildings built between 1862 and 1932 to house the activities of the Holy Cross Catholic Church and the Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Cross Convent. As the church community expanded, each newly constructed building reflected the prevailing style of the era. The complex includes a mix of late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century Revival styles and vernacular forms. The Holy Cross Church and Convent is recommended as eligible under *Criterion C: Architecture*, as an exception to *Criterion Consideration A* for religious properties.

Description

Setting

The Holy Cross Church and Convent is located northwest of the intersection of Bay Settlement and Church roads, approximately six miles northeast of the city of Green Bay. The complex includes 5.8 acres of land, six contributing buildings, one non-contributing object and one non-contributing building. The buildings lie within an irregularly shaped parcel facing Bay Settlement Road on a hilltop amid agricultural lands that are interspersed with low- to medium-density residential development. The buildings face southeast and are laid out north to south in a linear fashion with clusters of trees and shrubbery (Photograph Nos. 1 and 2).

The Holy Cross Church is the southern-most building in the complex. To its north are the rectory and garage, and slightly northwest of the rectory are the Old White Laundry and Bathhouse/Outhouse buildings. The northern-most property in the complex is the Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Cross Convent. Constructed in three separate phases, the convent building consists of two contributing sections and one non-contributing section, that together consist of one building. Standing in the convent's courtyard is a non-contributing statue. A non-contributing frame garage is situated in the northwest corner of the complex. To the rear of the property is an orchard associated with the complex, but outside the period of significance. Planned by Mother Gabrielle Gungwirth, the orchard was planted by the Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Cross Convent in 1949.³

Holy Cross Church

1931

Contributing

The Holy Cross Church is located in the southeast corner of the complex, close to the intersection of Bay Settlement and Church roads, facing a paved parking lot (Photograph No. 3). The church was constructed in 1931 of brown brick by Green Bay architect William E. Reynolds to replace the original 1852 frame church.⁴ The church features a Basilica plan. It has a gable roof with asphalt shingles. The building has arched concrete surrounds over all the windows and entryways. Designed in the Romanesque Revival style, the church retains its original exterior features.

The main east-facing facade of the church features the entryway flanked by two square towers. Both towers contain three vertical sets of paired windows on the front and side facades, and paired round medallions with stars. The towers are topped by cross-gables with parapets. The higher of the two towers has paired elongated arched openings and the original 1852 bell. Between the towers the gable is ornamented by an oculus window, tear drop concrete molding, and a stone cross. The centrally-located entryway has

³ Sister Nancy of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Cross Convent, interview by Joy D. Caudill, 23 July 1999.

⁴ Berners, Schober, 18 August 2000. Berners, Schober and Associates holds the original tracings for the church plans indicating W.E. Reynolds as architect.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section 7 Page 2

Holy Cross Church and Convent
Green Bay, Brown County, Wisconsin

paired doors with two single doors on either side. Above the doors are scrolled panels in the shape of quatrefoils. Three arched surrounds enclose the three entryways and stained-glass windows on the church's main facade.

The side north- and south-facing facades feature arched windows surrounded by segmented panes (Photograph Nos. 4 and 5). Brick buttresses with foliated concrete caps line each side. To the rear, the west facade has one elongated buttress reaching from the foundation to the gable peak. To either side of the buttress are arched stained-glass windows. A circa 1940, one-story, flat roof non-contributing addition extends to the north and south. The addition has paired, one-over-one windows with concrete surrounds. A brick chimney is located in the southwest corner of the church addition.

The interior of the church is dominated by an ornate barrel vaulted ceiling supported by columns with stylized Ionic capitals (Photograph No. 6). The interior retains the original Basilica floor plan, which includes two rows of pews and three aisles. The pews are original to the church. The east wall features a choir loft with hand-carved raised diamond panels.⁵

The church's Romanesque Revival features are retained in the arched windows, towers, and the overall form and massing. Alterations to the rear arched windows in the late 1990s were completed in a style that complements the building's original fenestration pattern. The circa 1940 rear addition lies to the rear of the building and is constructed with the same brick and concrete accents found on the main building. The addition is not visible from the main facade and, as such, it does not diminish the building's integrity.

Holy Cross Church Rectory *Contributing*
Built in 1862, this stone, two-story cube is the oldest existing building within the complex. The rectory has Italianate-style details characterized by the low-pitched hipped roof, narrow windows and bracketed cornice. The walls are constructed of local limestone with cut stone quoins. The house's tall, narrow windows are symmetrically placed and retain the original limestone lintels and sills. The windows have been replaced with newer double-hung, one-over-one sash windows (Photograph No. 7).

The main, east-facing facade has a centrally-located entryway flanked by two windows. The entryway is recessed and ornamented with corner quoins, a three-pane transom, and a cornice hood with brackets. The second story includes three evenly-spaced windows. The side, south-facing facade consists of three sets of windows, while the north facade has a one-story addition with a metal, standing-seam roof. This hipped roof addition was built circa 1900 with the same limestone, quoins and cornice as the rest of the house. The addition has a centrally-located interior chimney, which suggests that the addition served as a kitchen. Due to the early construction date and the use of similar materials, the addition does not diminish the integrity of the rectory.

On the rear facade of the rectory is a small, circa 1950 one-story addition with concrete stucco (Photograph No. 8). The addition features two picture windows facing west. A side entryway is gained by a concrete stoop and wrought-iron railing. Small windows are located on either side of the door. Above the addition, three windows on the second-story face west. Due to the small size of the rear addition, it does not diminish the rectory's overall integrity.

The interior of the rectory has been converted for use as office space. Each floor contains four rooms.

⁵ Father Tim Shillcox, interview by Beth A. Wielde, 1 June 2000.

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Holy Cross Church and Convent
Green Bay, Brown County, Wisconsin

The Italianate features of the rectory, such as its fenestration pattern, bracketed eaves and hipped roof remain prominent. The windows, although replaced, are the same size, shape, and style as the original windows. The later circa 1950 addition is small and not visible from the front of the house. Despite modest modifications, the rectory retains a significant amount of integrity to warrant its contributing status.

Holy Cross Church Rectory Garage *circa 1930* *Contributing*
Between the church and the rectory lies a circa 1930 garage constructed of brick and stone. The garage shows Craftsman-style influences with corner brackets under the eaves, and a low-pitched, convex-flared hip roof. Although not built in conjunction with the house, the garage retains good integrity and fits within the complex's period of significance.

"Old White Laundry" *circa 1870* *Contributing*
This circa 1870 frame, one-story building has a front gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. The vernacular building is clad with clapboard siding and rests on a stone foundation, which is covered with a concrete veneer. The building features two-over-two, double-hung sash windows and an interior brick chimney. The main north-facing facade features a centrally-located window, an offset entryway, and a small oculus window in the gable peak. The entrance is gained by concrete steps and an iron railing (Photograph No. 9).

The side, west-facing facade includes four asymmetrically arranged windows. In 1921 the building was raised and a basement constructed.⁶ A small, modern entryway leads into the basement level. The basement windows are covered with plywood. Entrances leading into the two building levels have historically been separate.⁷ The east facade has three sets of regularly-spaced windows. The rear facade contains no fenestration or decorative elements.

The interior consists of one room each on the basement and first floors. The building now serves as a storage facility and a root cellar for fruits and vegetables grown on the property. The Old White Laundry retains its form and original details and has excellent integrity. It is a contributing element in the church complex.

*Bathhouse/Outhouse*⁸ *circa 1880* *Contributing*
A circa 1880 frame bathhouse/outhouse is located to the immediate south of the Old White Laundry building. This one-story cube has Italianate-style details matching the rectory, including a hipped roof and decorative brackets in the eaves. The wood exterior cladding has been inscribed to appear as limestone to match the rectory. The main east-facing facade includes a four-paneled entrance door. Small windows facing south and west indicate the section of the building used as a privy. The north and south-facing side facades each feature a long, narrow, two-over-two window (Photograph No. 10).

The interior is divided into two rooms. The front room consisted of the washroom and housed a tub, while the second room contained the privy. The building is now used for storage. The Italianate features of the bathhouse/outhouse complement the rectory. The building exhibits excellent integrity and is considered to be contributing.

⁶ "History of the Sisters of St. Francis," 86.

⁷ Sister Rose Jochmann, interview by Beth A. Wielde, 8 June 2000.

⁸ Sisters of St. Francis, interview by Joy D. Caudill, 16 July 1999; Father Tim Shillcox, interview by Joy D. Caudill, 27 July 1999.

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Holy Cross Church and Convent
Green Bay, Brown County, Wisconsin

Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Cross Convent 1916, 1932, 1959 *Contributing*
The Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Cross Convent consists of two contributing portions of the building presently connected by a non-contributing mid-section, constructed over a 43-year period. The original frame convent building, constructed c. 1880 stood where the 1959 portion is today. First the 1916 portion to the south was attached to the c. 1880 convent building, and later the 1932 portion to the north was attached before to old convent was replaced by the 1959 non-contributing portion⁹. The two contributing portions of the building as have Colonial Revival and Gothic Revival details. The various construction phases are all of red brick. The current convent building is L-shaped in form and was built in sections – initially the 1916 section then the 1932 portion, and finally the 1959 replaced an earlier convent that also joined the two buildings.

The 1916 section lies at the southern end of the convent with its main facade facing Bay Settlement Road. Constructed of red brick, the building rests on a concrete plinth atop a limestone foundation. The building is two stories and has a rectangular form. A gabled roof with cornice returns is topped with a stone cross. The windows are symmetrically arranged and framed with arched brick hoods and concrete sills. Small lancet windows are visible in both gable ends of this section (Photograph No. 11). Although many of the windows have been replaced, the size and shape of the openings have not been altered.

The southeastern corner of the building features a two-story turret on the main facade. The turret has a flat roof and a decorative cornice. The main facade displays a two-story center bay with a flat roof with a decorative cornice. The bay has five windows on the first story and two on the second story. The front of the second-story bay features a decorative brickwork panel with corner quoins. Both side facades display regular fenestration patterns with no architectural detail. The rear, west-facing facade includes three, large, two-story arched porch openings enclosed with windows.¹⁰ The convent was designed by the prominent Green Bay architecture firm Foeller, Schober, and Berners.¹¹ The 1916 section has good integrity.

As the convent population increased, the Holy Cross Convent built a larger section to the convent to the north in 1932. This building was designed by Green Bay architect William E. Reynolds.¹² This three-story section of the building is rectangular in form with a flat roof. The building rests on a partially exposed concrete foundation. Paired, double-hung sash windows are framed with concrete lintels and sills. The top of the building is decorated with Colonial Revival details, including a brick cornice, concrete dentils, a roof parapet, and rectangular medallions.

The main facade of the 1932 section faces south. The entrance has double doors, side lights, and a transom. The entrance is surrounded by a one-and-one-half story concrete pilaster molding, topped with a cross. The east- and north-facing facades feature regularly-spaced windows. The west end of the building was incorporated into the 1959 addition. Overall, the 1932 section of the convent has undergone very little change and exhibits good integrity (Photograph Nos. 12 and 13).

⁹ Sister Rose Jochmann, 19 Jan 2000.

¹⁰ Sister Rose Jochmann, 8 June 2000.

¹¹ Berners, Schober, 18 August 2000. Berners, Schober and Associates holds the original plans for the 1916 convent plans.

¹² Berners, Schober, 18 August 2000. Berners, Schober and Associates holds the original blueprints for the 1932 convent plans indicating W.E. Reynolds as architect.

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Section 7 Page 5

Holy Cross Church and Convent
Green Bay, Brown County, Wisconsin

The 1959 addition was built on the site of the original 1880 convent. This section joins the 1916 and 1932 convents into one L-shaped building. This section of the convent was also designed by Foeller, Schober, and Berners.¹³ Simple in design, this brick, four-story, rectangular section has a flat roof and paired, one-over-one windows. A concrete belt course runs above the fourth-story windows. The front facade faces Bay Settlement Road, forming a courtyard with the 1916 and 1932 convent wings. A modern entryway is centrally located on the main facade. The second-story features a four-lobed, foil medallion complementing the Neo-Gothic Revival details of the earlier 1916 section. The rear facade contains three large bay/garage doors and a small garage addition. This 1959 section of the convent is contemporary in styling and contains modest ornamentation (Photograph No. 12). As such, this section does not detract from the integrity of the earlier convent buildings on either side. Although the 1959 section of the building is considered a non-contributing element, the convent as a whole is contributing, serving as a good example of an early twentieth-century convent.

St. Francis Statue *circa 1959* *Non-Contributing*
Standing in the convent courtyard is a marble statue of St. Francis, which dates to the late 1950s when the 1959 addition was constructed. The marble statue was donated from the Sisters of the St. Matthew's Parish.¹⁴ The statue does not fall within the period of significance and is non-contributing.

Garage *1948* *Non-Contributing*
Located in the northwest corner of the complex is a 1948 rectangular garage with gable roof and a greenhouse extension. The garage contains several small windows, five garage bay doors, and an entrance door. At the southern end, a greenhouse addition extends from the garage (Photograph No. 14). The building has no architectural detail and does not fall within the period of significance. This building is non-contributing.

Integrity of the Holy Cross Church

The Holy Cross Church and Convent and the associated buildings exhibit a high level of architectural integrity for the period of significance, 1862-1932. The Holy Cross Church retains excellent integrity and forms the nucleus of the religious complex. The most prominent addition to the complex, the 1959 convent section that connects the two older convent buildings, was designed in a manner to complement, rather than detract, from the two earlier building sections. Even though the 1959 addition does not diminish the integrity of the complex, it does not fall within the period of significance and is considered a non-contributing element of the convent building.

Changes made to the Holy Cross Church and associated buildings have been limited and do not diminish the overall integrity of the complex. Modifications are not visible from the front of the complex. Taken as a whole, the Holy Cross Church and Convent serves as a fine example of an intact late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century Catholic church and convent.

¹³ Berners, Schober, 18 August 2000. Berners, Schober and Associates holds the original plans for the 1959 convent plans.

¹⁴ "History of the Sisters of St. Francis," 144.

Holy Cross Church and Convent
Name of Property

Brown County, Wisconsin
County and State

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.)

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Architecture

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 our prehistory or history.

Period of Significance
1862-1932

Significant Dates¹
1862
1916
1931, 1932

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

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 grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age achieved significance
within the past 50 years.

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder²
Foeller, Schober, and Berners
Reynolds, William E.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

¹ "Parish History, . . . Our Story," Collection of the Holy Cross Catholic Church Archives, n.d., 4, records the rectory's 1862 construction date; "History of the Sisters of St. Francis," Collection of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Cross, n.d., 6, records the date of construction for the 1916 section of the convent; Berners, Schober and Associates Inc., telephone interview by Chad David Moffett, 18 August 2000, revealed original architectural drawings dating the 1931 church; "History of the Sisters of St. Francis," 102, records the date of construction for the 1932 convent section.

² Berners, Schober and Associates Inc., telephone interview by Chad David Moffett, 18 August 2000.

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Section 8

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Holy Cross Church and Convent
Green Bay, Brown County, Wisconsin

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Holy Cross Church and Convent is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under *Criterion C: Architecture*, as an exception to *Criterion Consideration A* for religious properties, as an example of a Catholic church, rectory, and convent complex exhibiting features of late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century Revival styles of architecture.¹⁵ *Criterion Consideration A* applies to this complex because these religious properties derive their significance from architecture. The complex is also significant as a property type; it displays the distinctive characteristics of late 19th and early 20th century rural church complexes. The 1916 convent section is the work of the locally prominent architecture firm of Foeller, Schober, and Berners. The 1931 church and the 1932 convent section are the work of Green Bay architect W.E. Reynolds. The period of significance spans from 1862 to 1932 to encompass the historic construction dates of these buildings.

Historic Context

Historic Background

French traders and trappers first settled the Bay Settlement area along the eastern shore of Green Bay in 1817. During the mid-nineteenth century the settlement moved further inland as economic emphasis shifted away from fishing and trapping and centered on agricultural pursuits. Periodic lakefront flooding prompted settlement on the inland bluffs. The settlement formed around a small Catholic chapel established in 1834 by Father Theodore Van den Broek, a Dutch Catholic missionary.¹⁶ After public land sales became available in 1834, settlers purchased land near the chapel and a crossroads community developed. In the early 1850s, Father Edward Daems, a Belgian priest, arrived to assist Van den Broek. Daems helped to attract several Belgian immigrant families to the Bay Settlement parish.¹⁷ By 1850, the community included approximately 125 families, including many Dutch and Belgian immigrants.¹⁸

Daems purchased parish land at the crossroads of what is now Bay Settlement and Church roads for \$9.00 an acre.¹⁹ In 1852, a church was built of white pine and served the congregation until 1931 when the present church was constructed. The rectory was constructed next to the church in 1862, and a school (non-extant) was completed six years later by the parishioners. Teachers at the school were parish nuns who resided in the second-story of the Holy Cross Church Rectory.²⁰ These women, called the

¹⁵ The Holy Cross Church and Convent was also considered under *Criterion A: Exploration/Settlement*. However, research found that *Criterion A* applied only to the original convent (c. 1880) and church (1852); since neither building is extant, this criterion was eliminated.

¹⁶ Virginia Dell, "Bay Settlement: A Hamlet in Northeast Wisconsin," *Voyageur*, 14, No. 1 (Summer/Fall 1997), 5; Pauline LaFrombois and the Bay Settlement Historical Society, *A Glimpse Into the Past: A History of the Town of Scott*, (N.p., 1976).

¹⁷ Dell, 4-14; Math Tlachac, "Belgians Heed Priest's Advice and Locate in Bay Settlement," *Algoma Record-Herald*, Vol. 101, No. 8 (July 25, 1973), n.p.

¹⁸ Sylvia Hall Holubetz, *Farewell to the Homeland* (Green Bay, Wisc.: Brown County Historical Society, 1984), 17-24; Dell, 9; "Parish History, 4-5; "Norbertine Parish," Collection of the Holy Cross Catholic Church Archives, n.d., 3.

¹⁹ "Parish History," 4.

²⁰ Pauline LaFrombois and the Bay Settlement Historical Society, *A Glimpse Into the Past: A History of the Town of Scott* (n.p., 1976), 78.

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Holy Cross Church and Convent
Green Bay, Brown County, Wisconsin

Community of Religious Women, later formed the Rule of the 3rd Order of St. Francis in 1874. By the late 1870s, the convent order had grown large enough to warrant its own building for the sisters' simple manner of living. Plans were drawn up in 1879, and the building was completed by the end of 1880. In 1883, the convent took the name "Sisters of St. Francis of Bay Settlement," and later became known as the "Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Cross."²¹

By 1895, Bay Settlement consisted of 152 families, mostly Dutch, German, French, and Belgian. The settlement had a small commercial center and community activities focused on church-related events such as weddings, graduations, communions, and funerals.²² In 1904, priests from the Norbertine Order staffed the Holy Cross Church, using their philosophy of "community and communion" to provide religious guidance to the parish.²³ As the commercial center of Bay Settlement slowly declined in the early twentieth century, the Norbertine priests were able to sustain and expand the religious community of Holy Cross. The church's operational funds were derived from a tiered-pew rental system rather than annual dues. Renovation and repairs to church buildings were most often done by members of the congregation aided by funds generated from special church events like dinners and bazaars.²⁴

The growth of the church community is marked by new construction on the site during the early twentieth century. In 1916, a new convent addition was constructed just south of the original circa 1880 building to accommodate the growth in the convent population.²⁵ In 1931, the old frame church was replaced with a Romanesque-style brick church; and, as the Sisters' population continued to grow, a Colonial Revival-style convent addition was built on the property in 1932. In the latter-half of the twentieth century Holy Cross Church and Convent have continued to grow from 321 households in 1992 to more than 600 households in recent years.²⁶ As a result of surrounding residential growth, Bay Settlement was recently incorporated into the City of Green Bay.²⁷

²¹ LaFrombois, 78.

²² Dell, 12.

²³ "Norbertine Parish," 3.

²⁴ LaFrombois, 80-81.

²⁵ Sister Rose Jochmann, 8 June 2000.

²⁶ Dell, 12-14.

²⁷ "History of Holy Cross Parish," Collection of the Holy Cross Catholic Church Archives, n.p., n.d.

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Section 8 Page 3

Holy Cross Church and Convent
Green Bay, Brown County, Wisconsin

Architecture

The Holy Cross Church and Convent is a collection of late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century architectural styles and vernacular forms. Each building reflects an architectural style with stylistic influences prevalent during the time in which the building was constructed. The diversity of styles presents a chronology of architecture within this religious community. The collection is also an example of a small, rural religious complex with buildings reflecting the functions of the religious community.

*Italianate (1850s-80s)*²⁸

The Italianate style is marked by a square floor plan, boxy proportions, wide eaves with ornamental bracketing, and a gently sloped hipped roof – often punctuated with cupolas. The style generally features tall, narrow windows with hoods. Italianate houses in Wisconsin are common, and are often found with a boxy massing and abbreviated details such as bracketing, bays, and window hoodmolds. The style was featured in architectural pattern books, allowing the style to be utilized by a broad audience of both wealthy and middle income homebuilders of the time.²⁹

The Holy Cross Rectory displays many features of Italianate architecture. The primary characteristics are the rectory's boxy massing and the wide eaves, which include numerous brackets. The square floor plan is topped with a gently sloping roof, also characteristic of the style.

*Romanesque Revival (1855-85)*³⁰

Romanesque Revival architecture, introduced to the United States in the 1840s, is marked by the repetition of the arched windows, entrances, and heavy massing. The style includes the use of round and square towers topped with parapets or pyramidal roofs. The style includes masonry walls and squared stonework on asymmetric facades.³¹

The Holy Cross Church displays features of the Romanesque Revival style. The church displays these features prominently, with arched windows found on both its main and side facades. Notably, the church's main facade features two square brick towers that frame a central stained-glass window and door arrangement. The use of towers and the facade's asymmetrical massing is characteristic of the Romanesque Revival style. Symmetrical compositions, seen in the side facades of the Holy Cross Church, are also Romanesque in style. This style was considered appropriate for ecclesiastical buildings.

20th Century Revival Styles

The Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Cross Convent borrows on a mix of popular styles popular in the early 20th century. The 1916 section employs Gothic Revival characteristics in the arched lintels, lancet windows, a corner turret/tower entrance, and a two-story

²⁸ Barbara Wyatt, Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin, Vol. 2, "Architecture," Madison, Wis.: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1986, 2-9.

²⁹ Paul Jakobovich, As Good As New: A Guide to Rehabilitating the Exterior of Your Old Milwaukee Home (Milwaukee, Wisc.: Department of City Development, 1993), 14; and Virginia McAlester and Lee McAlester, A Field Guide to American Houses (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1984), 212.

³⁰ Wyatt, 2-9.

³¹ McAlester, 301.

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Holy Cross Church and Convent
Green Bay, Brown County, Wisconsin

centered bay.³² The 1932 section of the convent features Colonial Revival influences with its decorative main entrance, denticular brick and concrete cornice, and fenestration pattern. While the Convent buildings do not represent the more academically correct interpretations of the revival styles, these buildings are similar to many other institutional buildings where elements of a style are represented by applied decorative features, fenestration patterns and forms and massing characteristic of the historic style.

Other Buildings in Complex

Many buildings within small communities were not built as high-style examples of architecture, but as simple building forms with abbreviated or mixed stylistic elements. The front gable roof form displayed in the balloon frame Old White Laundry is characterized by the placement of the main facade in the gable end of the building. The Bathhouse/Outhouse is a small building with a hipped roof and modest Italianate-style details. The Holy Cross Rectory's garage is a circa 1930, one-story, hipped-roof building that is constructed of brick and stone. Large decorative brackets and a hipped roof suggest details borrowed from the Craftsman style.

Architects

The 1916 section of the Holy Cross Convent was designed by the architectural firm of Foeller, Schober, and Berners of Green Bay. The firm's principal, Henry A. Foeller (1871-1938), came to Wisconsin in 1885 and attended Oshkosh Teachers College and apprenticed with William Waters (1843-1917), a prominent Wisconsin architect. Foeller started practicing architecture in the Green Bay area in 1898.³³ Later Max W. Schober and Edgar H. Berners joined Foeller to establish the firm. The firm was prolific within Wisconsin, designing commercial buildings, public buildings, grandstands, gas stations, convents, churches, and institutional and educational buildings. Henry Foeller was named a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects in 1937.³⁴

The 1931 Holy Cross Church and the 1932 section of the Holy Cross Convent were designed by William E. Reynolds (died c. 1934). Little is known of the life of Reynolds. Beginning in 1897, he worked out of his home at 109 South Roosevelt Street in Green Bay, changing addresses often until locating his office at 113 South Roosevelt Street. Reynolds also designed Saint Mary of the Angels Church and Convent located at 645 South Irwin Avenue in 1903, and is attributed to designing the Main Hall of Saint Norbert College (listed on the National Register) in De Pere, Wisconsin.³⁵

³² McAlester, 197-99.

³³ Howard, Needles, Tammen, and Bergendoff, *City of Green Bay Intensive Survey, Final Report* (December 1998), 186-187. Report available at the Division of Historic Preservation, State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

³⁴ "Henry Foeller, Architect, Dies at Green Bay," *The Wisconsin Architect* (July 1938), 3; Hunt, Elizabeth Scott, "Scrapbook of the Late Mr. Henry A. Foeller," *The Wisconsin Architect* (September 1954), 8; "Henry A. Foeller," Wisconsin Architects File, available at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

³⁵ Howard, Needles, Tammen and Bergendoff, 190; "W. E. Reynolds," Wisconsin Architects File, available at the Division of Historic Preservation, State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

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Continuation Sheet**

Section 8 Page 5

Holy Cross Church and Convent
Green Bay, Brown County, Wisconsin

Statement of Significance

The Holy Cross Church and Convent is a collection of buildings that illustrate the architectural evolution of a religious complex from 1864 to 1932. The buildings feature elements of the Italianate, Gothic Revival, Romanesque Revival, Colonial Revival, and Craftsman styles. The Romanesque Revival church stands as the complex's focal point and presents excellent architectural integrity. Combined with the good integrity present in the other buildings, the Holy Cross Church and Convent serves as an excellent example of a Catholic church and convent complex. Evaluated as a whole, the complex is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under *Criterion C: Architecture* with the implementation of *Criterion Consideration A* for religious properties that derive their significance from architecture.

The Holy Cross Church and Convent further represents the evolution of a religious complex. Buildings were added, and earlier less substantial buildings were replaced, as the congregation and the religious Order of Sisters of St. Francis grew and prospered. The period of significance encompasses the construction of the principal buildings of the complex and of their supporting outbuildings. With the exception of the former school building, all major buildings remain extant with a high level of integrity. The complex further represents the various functions of the religious community: church, rectory, and convent, as well as the supporting functions of the residences, including a garage, bath house and laundry facility. In addition, these buildings portray the religious ideals and mission of the community during the period of significance.

Holy Cross Church and Convent
Name of Property

Brown County, Wisconsin
County and State

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

(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

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Name of repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 5.8 acres

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

| | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | <u>1/6</u> Zone | <u>4/2/9/2/4/0</u> Easting | <u>4/9/3/3/7/6/0</u> Northing | 3 | <u>1</u> Zone | <u>1/1/1/1</u> Easting | <u>1/1/1/1</u> Northing |
| 2 | <u>1</u> Zone | <u>1/1/1/1</u> Easting | <u>1/1/1/1</u> Northing | 4 | <u>1</u> Zone | <u>1/1/1/1</u> Easting | <u>1/1/1/1</u> 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 Stacey C. Pilgrim, Beth A. Wiede, and Chad David Moffett; Historic Preservation

organization MEAD & HUNT, Inc. date August 2000

street & number 6501 Watts Road telephone (608) 273-6380

city or town Madison state WI zip code 53719

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps: A U.S. Geological Survey 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)

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**National Register of Historic Places
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Holy Cross Church and Convent
Green Bay, Brown County, Wisconsin

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- Sister Rose Jochmann of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Cross Convent. Interview by Beth A. Wielde, 8 June 2000.
- Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Cross Convent. Interview with Joy D. Caudill, 16 July 1999.
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Section 10 Page 1

Holy Cross Church and Convent
Green Bay, Brown County, Wisconsin

Verbal Boundary Description

Starting at the northwest corner of the intersection of Bay Settlement and Church roads, the complex boundary proceeds northeast approximately 450 feet along the existing edge of pavement of Bay Settlement Road forming the east boundary. The boundary then follows the private access road on the north side of the property and proceeds northwest for 317 feet before turning west for 348 feet. The boundary turns south for 464 feet to Church Road. The boundary follows the existing edge of pavement along Church Road for approximately 460 feet until returning to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

The complex boundary includes buildings that retain good integrity associated with the Holy Cross Church and Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Cross Convent. The boundary includes four main resources – the Holy Cross Church, the Holy Cross Church Rectory, the Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Cross Convent, and the Old White Laundry. Auxiliary buildings include the Holy Cross Church Rectory's garage and the bathhouse/outhouse. The immediately adjacent landscape and a 1949 orchard also lie within the complex boundary and although they are non-contributing, these elements are part of the siting and setting of the complex, reflecting its rural character. Located within the orchard is a 1948 garage, which is the only non-contributing building within the complex boundary.

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Continuation Sheet**

Section 11 Page 1

Holy Cross Church and Convent
Green Bay, Brown County, Wisconsin

Photographs

Photograph 1 of 14

Holy Cross Church and Convent
Green Bay, Brown County, Wisconsin
Photograph by Beth Wielde, Mead & Hunt, 2000
View of property looking northwest
(For the photographs listed below, the information is the same as above, except as noted.)

Photograph 2 of 14

View of property looking northeast

Photograph 3 of 14

View of Holy Cross Church looking west

Photograph 4 of 14

View of Holy Cross Church looking northwest

Photograph 5 of 14

View of Holy Cross Church looking southwest

Photograph 6 of 14

Interior view of Holy Cross Church

Photograph 7 of 14

View of rectory looking southwest

Photograph 8 of 14

View of rectory looking east

Photograph 9 of 14

View of "Old White Laundry" looking southeast

Photograph 10 of 14

View of bathhouse/outhouse looking north

Photograph 11 of 14

View of 1916 section of convent looking west

Photograph 12 of 14

View of 1932 section (left) and 1932 section (right) forming courtyard; view looking west

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(Rev. 8-86)
Wisconsin Word Processing Format
(Approved 1/92)

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National Park Service

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Section 11 Page 2

Holy Cross Church and Convent
Green Bay, Brown County, Wisconsin

Photograph 13 of 14
View of convent looking southwest

Photograph 14 of 14
View of non-contributing garage looking northwest

Holy Cross Church and Convent
Name of Property

Brown County, Wisconsin
County and State

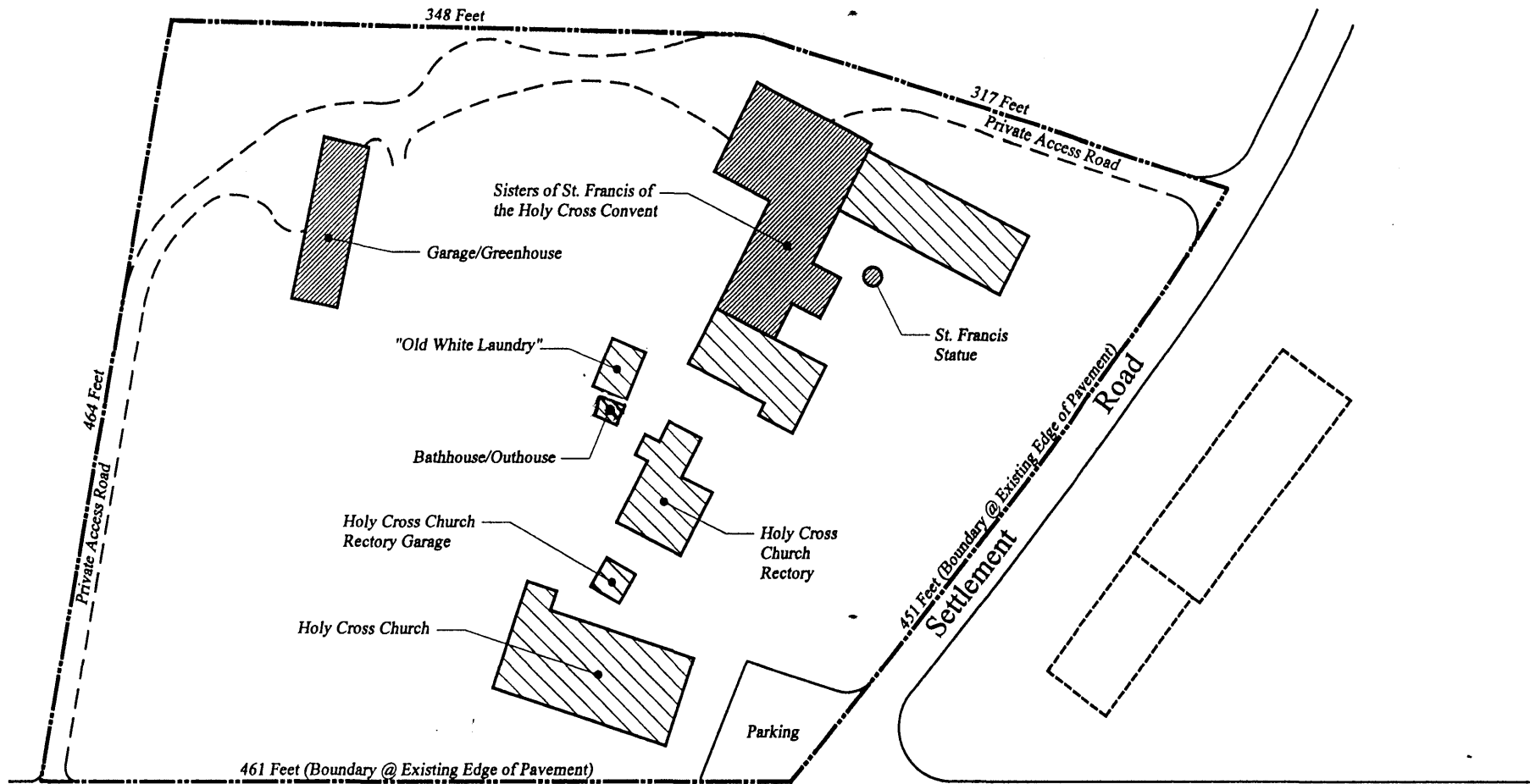
Property Owner
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

Convent:
name Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Cross Convent
street & number 3025 Bay Settlement Road telephone (920) 468-0595
city or town Green Bay state WI zip code 54311

Church:
name Diocese of Green Bay
street & number PO Box 23825 telephone _____
city or town Green Bay state WI zip code 54305-3825

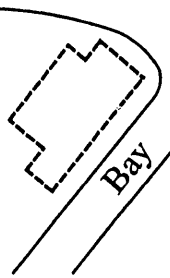
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain 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.






Church

Road



Legend:

-  Holy Cross Church and Convent Boundary
-  Contributing
-  Non-Contributing



Holy Cross Church and Convent

Green Bay, Brown County, Wisconsin

