NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

OMB NO RECEIVED 2280 2.6 1996 NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

OMB No. 1024-0018

1. Name of Property

historic name Church of Saint Anthony

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number <u>604 South Center Street</u> not for publication N/A city or town Casper vicinity N/A state Wyoming county <u>Natrona</u> code WY code 25 zip code 82601 State/Federal Agency Certification 3.

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this ______ nomination ______ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property _____ meets ____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant _____ nationally _____ statewide _____ locally. (_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official

11/13/96 Date

State Historic Preservation Office State or Federal agency and bureau

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In my opinion, the property meets Register criteria. (See continuation s ional comments.)		ational
Signature of commenting or other official	Date	
State or Federal agency and bureau		
4. National Park Service Certification		
See continuation sheet. // / determined eligible for the See continuation sheet. See continuation sheet. determined not eligible for the Mational Register removed from the National Register other (explain):	Signature of Keeper Date of Act	
5. Classification		
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes <u>x</u> private <u>public-local</u> <u>public-State</u> <u>public-Federal</u> Category of Property (Check only one box) <u>x</u> building(s) <u>location</u> <u>site</u> <u>site</u> <u>structure</u> <u>object</u>		

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Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
	buildings
	sites
	structures
	objects
1	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register $\underline{N/A}$

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) $\underline{\rm N/A}$

6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) Cat: <u>Religion</u> Sub: <u>Religious Facility</u>

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions) Cat: <u>Religion</u> Sub: <u>Religious Facility</u>

7. Description Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions) Lombard Romanesque Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions) foundation <u>Poured concrete</u> roof <u>Tile</u> walls <u>Red-black face brick</u> other _____

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

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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.
- <u>x</u> 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) <u>Architecture</u> <u>Religion</u>

Period of Significance 1920 to 1946

Significant Dates 1920

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

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Cultural Affiliation
Architect/Builder <u>Architects: Garbutt, Arthur; Weidner, Charles T.;</u> Sweeney, James P./Donahoe Construction Co.
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.)
<pre>Previous documentation on file (NPS) preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested previously listed in 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</pre>
Name of repository:
See Continuation Sheets for continued bibliography
10. Geographical Data
Acreage of Property <u>less than one</u> UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing 1 13 391740 4744100 3
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.)

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11. Form Prepared By	
name/title <u>Robert G. Rosenberg, Historian</u> organization <u>Rosenberg Historical Consultants</u> date <u>July 31, 1996</u> street & number <u>739 Crow Creek Road</u> telelphone <u>(307)632-1144</u> city or town <u>Cheyenne</u> state <u>WY</u> zip code <u>82009</u>	
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 <u>Church of Saint Anthony</u>	
street & number 604 South Center Street	
telephone <u>(307) 266-2666</u>	
city or town <u>Casper</u> state <u>WY</u> zip code <u>82601</u>	

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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.0. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Church of Saint Anthony Natrona County, Wyoming

7. Description

The Church of Saint Anthony is located at 604 South Center Street and occupies the northwest corner of South Center Street and East Seventh Street. The church was constructed in 1919-1920 and designed by the Casper architectural firm of Garbutt, Weidner, and Sweeney. The church is built of brick and marble with a tile roof and rests on a concrete foundation with a full basement. The brick is laid in stretcher bond and consists of various shades of red interspersed with lesser numbers of charcoal-colored brick. The distinctive square bell tower, tile roof, round arched windows and corbel tables closely resemble churches in Italy and represents the Romanesque Revival architectural style.

The facade or east side of the building faces South Center Street. The narrow gabled narthex is two stories high and has a steeply pitched roof. The ridgeline of the narthex is carried on throughout the nave and apse to the west side of the church. However, a series of interesting rooflines of varying heights are created by lower shed-roofed additions or wings on either side of the narthex, by the gable-roofed nave, which extends in height and width beyond the narthex on the north side, and by the square bell tower located on the south side of the narthex, which interrupts the roofline of the nave and extends above all rooflines. The main entrance is centered between brick pilasters whose centers are accentuated by a pattern of header bond bricks. There is a lamp-like light fixture mounted on the pilaster on either side of the entrance. The entrance consists of twin-leaf one-light oak doors set in a marble pedimented semi-circular arched entry with fluted composite columns and tiled roof. There is a prominent circular-shaped marble relief of Saint Anthony and the Child within the arch of the entry. Cement steps lead upward on either side from the sidewalk to the entry doors. They are fronted by a stepped brick wall capped with marble. A stained glass rose window is centered above the pedimented entry. The pilasters extend upward on either side to an arched corbel table and a projecting metal cornice with dentils. Varying decorative brick patterns are incorporated in and around the corbel table and gable end. A cross is located on the peak of the roof of the narthex. The remainder of the facade consists of the lower narthex additions on either side of the entry, which repeat the same pattern of brick pilasters, arched corbel tables and projecting cornices. Each addition has a single narrow elongated arched window with stained glass in the facade.

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The square bell tower is the most distinctive single element of the church. It occupies the southeast corner of the building formed by the intersection of the narthex and the nave. The south and east sides of the tower that face the streets have twin narrow elongated round arched stained glass windows that extend from the eave of the nave roof to the base of the belfry. There are shorter matching windows in the south side below the level of the nave roof eaves. The windows are set in recessed panels created by brick pilasters that form the corners of the tower. The belfry area has an open round arch in each side with an ornate iron balconet. There is a terra cotta belt course extending around the tower at the bottom of the belfry arches. The tower is capped with a projecting cornice with dentils and a tiled pyramidal-shaped roof topped by a white cross.

The north side of the church continues the pattern of the facade with round arched stained glass windows set in recessed panels separated by brick pilasters and capped with arched corbel tables. The northeast corner of the building contains the lower addition to the narthex, which has three narrow round arched windows in the north side. The tile shed roof is clearly visible from this side, as is the arched corbel table above the shed roof on the north side of the taller portion of the narthex and on the east side of the nave. There is also a basement entrance with a concrete retaining wall located below the northeast corner of the nave. The north side also reveals the side-gabled transept, whose ridgeline is slightly lower than that of the nave. The north gable end of the transept consists of a recessed panel with two round arched stained glass windows, a circular window above, an arched corbel table, and a projecting cornice with dentils. The ridge of the transept is crowned with a white cross. There is a one-story mansard-roofed addition built onto the west side that contains various rooms built behind the altar area of the apse. There is an entrance to this addition on the north side with a concrete stoop, steps, and wrought iron railing. The ell created by the juncture of the transept and the apse contains a massive rectangular-shaped brick chimney capped with concrete or marble that extends beyond the ridges of the intersecting roofs.

The west side of the building contains the gable end of the two-story apse. The gable end contains a recessed panel delineated by brick pilasters and an arched corbel table. The recessed area is accented by a triangular-shaped design with an interesting brick pattern. The apse has a projecting cornice with dentils and a white cross set on the ridge of the tiled roof. The lower

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one-story mansard-roofed addition contains a series of round arched windows without a corbel table, a projecting cornice with dentils, and a tile-covered roof.

The south side of the building essentially repeats the designs and materials of the north side. The south end of the gable-roofed transept is clearly visible from this side and is identical to the north gable end with two round arched stained glass windows, a circular window, an arched corbel table, and a projecting cornice with dentils crowned with a white cross. There is a matching brick chimney located in the ell created by the juncture of the apse and transept. There is a round arched entrance located in the east end of the south side of the one-story mansard-roofed addition. There is also a round arched entrance in the east side of the transept that has a stepped brick wall capped with marble that shields the concrete steps leading up to it. The remainder of the south side contains five round arched stained glass windows in recessed panels in the nave that are identical to those on the north side, and the south sides of the bell tower and the narthex. The lower shed-roofed addition of the narthex has a round arched recess for twin windows but it is bricked in.

The most remarkable interior feature of the Church of Saint Anthony consists of the altars built of Carrera marble imported from Italy. The altars were changed about thirty years ago when priests began facing the congregation while delivering Mass. Therefore, a portion of the altar was separated from the remainder and moved forward (east) toward the pews, enabling the priest to stand behind the detached portion facing the congregation. There is now a cushioned wooden seat for the priests located in the intervening space between the main altar and the detached portion. It is impossible to detect any scars on either of the altars as a result of the separation process. There is a smaller marble altar on either side of the main altar formerly used for visiting priests. This practice was suspended by the Second Vatican Council about thirty years ago, so that they are no longer used as altars and are more properly called shrines.

The interior woodwork, including wainscotting and pews, is oak generally stained in a dark tone. The pews are original but have been refinished in a lighter tone and have been repositioned on an angle facing slightly inward. The oak floors in the nave have been replaced and are slanted on the same angle as the pews. The raised altar area retains the original wood floors,

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which have been refinished. A marble railing that originally encircled the raised altar area has been removed. The windows are Italian stained glass. The windows in the nave of the church depict the Annunciation, the Visitation, the Nativity, the Presentation, the Finding of the Temple, the Agony in the Garden, the Crucifixion, the Resurrection, the Ascension, and the Descent of the Holy Spirit. There are additional stained glass windows in the apse of the church. The stained glass windows were cleaned and releaded about one year ago. Plexiglass covers that had been placed over the exterior of the windows to prevent vandalism were removed and replaced with a type of protective glass that allows more light to pass through the stained glass windows.

The south portion of the apse contains the Blessed Sacrament Chapel and "cry room," where parents with crying babies can sit and view the service through a glass window without disturbing the rest of the congregation. The glass window is a recent modification. The Sacristy is located directly behind the altar and contains the priests' dressing room, vestments, and sacred vessels. There is an entrance from the sacristy to the main portion of the church directly behind the altar, and a space was left between the massive altar and the west wall of the church to provide access by the priests. There is a confessional booth located on the south side of the nave in front of the pews. The exterior of the confessional retains the original wood but the interior has been refinished. It appears that the confessional may have been relocated, as it now covers a portion of one of the stained glass windows.

The church organ is located directly opposite the confessional on the north side of the church. The choir and the organ were originally located on the raised platform to the right or north of the altar area. Speakers for the electric organ are located in the choir loft, which is located in the upper portion of the narthex. This area is accessible by a set of stairs on the north side of the narthex. The choir loft is now used only for overflow of the congregation. The opposite or south side of the narthex has an entrance that gives access to the bell tower and a set of stairs leading to the top. The bell ropes extend downward to the bottom of the tower, and the bells can be rung from this location. There is a wooden baptismal font located in the center of the narthex between the main entry and the entrance to the nave. Other changes to the interior consist of new lights that are suspended from cables and can be lowered for bulb replacement.

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Church of Saint Anthony Natrona County, Wyoming

A full finished basement was completed for the church about fifteen years ago, and an outside entrance was constructed. It is used for banquets and receptions.

The transept that is clearly delineated on the exterior of the Church of Saint Anthony is not evident from the interior. Therefore, the rose windows and other stained glass windows seen on the exterior of the transept are not visible on the inside. It is unclear whether this represents a later modification or if this characteristic is part of the original plan.

The rectory is located at 624 South Center Street, adjacent to the church on the north. It is built on the former location of the Hiestand House, a twostory frame residence that was acquired by the church during World War II. When the church decided to construct a new rectory, the Hiestand House was sold to an individual and moved to another location. Bids were taken for the construction of a new rectory in 1949, and the priests moved into the new building on July 25, 1950. The rectory has not been included in the nomination due to its age and the fact that during the period of historical significance of the church, the Hiestand House was located at this location.

Other features of the property include the Grotto, which is located north of the rectory. The property on which the grotto is located was purchased by the church in 1970, and an existing building was razed in order to build the grotto. Due to its recent age and location, it is also not included in the nomination. Finally, a statue of the Pieta is located on the lawn southeast of the church. It was donated by a parishoner in 1976 and has a plaque stating the circumstances of its donation. It is not associated with the period of historical significance of the Church of Saint Anthony and for that reason has not been included in the nomination.

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Church of Saint Anthony Natrona County, Wyoming

8. Significance

The Church of Saint Anthony was constructed between 1919 and 1920 and is an exceptional example of Romanesque Revival architecture with its semi-circular arched windows and door openings, square tower, and decorative element along the corbel table. It also represents one of the crowning achievements of Arthur M. Garbutt, the head of the prominent Casper architectural firm of Garbutt, Weidner, and Sweeney. This firm was responsible for designing many of the most significant schools, commercial buildings, and residences in Casper during the oil boom period from 1914 to 1925. Therefore, the Church of Saint Anthony is eligible under National Register Criterion C in the area of architecture as an outstanding example of the Romanesque Revival style in religious buildings and as the work of a master architect, Arthur M. Garbutt.

The antecedents of the Church of Saint Anthony can be traced to a group of Irish women, who in 1897 began a fund raising campaign to build a Catholic church in Casper. They were Mrs. John Trevett, Mrs. J.P. Smith, Mrs. William F. Dunn, Miss Julia Mahoney and Mrs. Oscar Hiestand. When the success of their campaign became apparent, Father Thomas M. Lenihan, the Bishop of the Catholic Church in Wyoming, formed a building committee. Sufficient funds had been raised by the end of the year, and in 1898 Casper received its first resident priest, Reverend James A. Keating. He soon called for bids on construction of the first Catholic church, and the contract was let to John Trevett for a sum of \$1650. This wood frame church was to be constructed at the corner of First Street and Center Street, and ground breaking ceremonies were held on March 15, 1898.

There was already a large Irish contingent in Wyoming who were pioneers in the sheep industry. A downturn in Wyoming's cattle industry in the late 1880s due to severe blizzards and overpopulation of the range provided an opportunity for the expansion of sheep raising. Sheep rancher John Mahoney encouraged his relatives to come to Wyoming to help him in the sheep business. His optimistic letters lured such men as Pat Sullivan and his cousin Richard Tobin to the Casper area to raise sheep. The discovery of oil in Salt Creek and the subsequent construction of a refinery at Casper also brought more Irishmen into the area. The passage of the Dingley Tariff in 1897, which provided protection against raw wool imports, also served to boost the Wyoming sheep industry. As more successful Irish sheep ranchers sent for friends and relatives from the Old Country, the region's Irish

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population expanded. Many took part of their pay in ewes and worked until they had enough sheep to start their own herds. Casper soon became a wool shipping center for the surrounding region.

The second priest at Saint Anthony's, Father George Bryant, was appointed in 1900 and set about building a large two-story wood frame rectory next to the church. The finished product nearly dwarfed the church building and had a cupola and rambling porches.

Many of the early parishoners of Saint Anthony's were also prominent men in the City of Casper and the surrounding region. Pat Sullivan and his cousin "Red" Tobin formed the VI Sheep Company near Midwest, which operated for the next sixty-five years. Sullivan also served two terms in the State House and four terms in the State Senate. W.F. Dunn went into real estate and also owned a wool warehouse in Casper. John Tripeny came to Casper as a teenager and later opened the Tripeny Drug Store and became one of Casper's leading merchants.

In 1915, Father John H. Mullins was appointed as pastor of the Church of Saint Anthony. He quickly realized that the parish had outgrown the little wooden church. Casper was entering a period of unprecedented growth due to the booming oil industry, and a new church building was needed. He purchased the building site at the corner of East Seventh Street and South Center Street for \$4750. He apppointed a building committe composed of Patrick O'Connor, A.A. Schulte, Angus McPherson, M.J. Burke, John Daly, J.L. Bigenheimer and A.E. Biglin. The local architectural firm of Garbutt, Weidner, and Sweeney designed the imposing edifice. The committee accepted their plans, but World War I and a nationwide influenza epidemic postponed the actual construction of the church. Finally, on May 2, 1919, the Building Committee let a contract to the Donahoe Construction Company, St. Paul, Minnesota, to build the new church. Originally the contract was let for \$58,657, and the firm was to complete the building by December 20, 1919. On September 7, 1919, the Cornerstone Ceremony was performed by Right Reverend Patrick A. McGovern. The church was dedicated on August 20, 1920, at a final cost of around \$150,000.

Under Father Mullins' influence, St. Anthony's Catholic School was constructed and dedicated on September 10, 1927. Several Sisters were recruited to teach and were housed in a six-room convent at 634 Durbin. The

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first school contained 201 students in grades 1-6. The following year a seventh grade was added and in 1929, an eighth grade.

During the Great Depression, the Church of Saint Anthony set up soup kitchens for the hungry and arranged to provide shelter for the homeless in houses left vacant by the large number of people who moved away from Casper when the oil boom declined. However, the location and building of the Casper Air Base in 1942 created 4,000 jobs in the city and vastly improved the economic climate.

The church acquired the Hiestand property and the two-story frame house located just west of the church. In 1949-50, the house was moved and a new rectory built on the site. The interior of the church was "restored" by Carl Matthias Wise, an architectural and decorative designer from St. Louis, Missouri. However, it is unclear what modifications he made to the interior. In 1949, a new addition was built for the school, and the existing facilities The additions included eight new classrooms, a library, a were remodeled. principal's office and a combination hall and auditorium. There was also a kitchen and serving facilties and a kindergarten. In 1955, a new convent was built for the Sisters at 623 South Wolcott. In 1969-1970 the church basement and interior was completed at a cost of \$27,859.54. The architect for the project was Jan Wilking of Casper; the choir loft was also redecorated at that time. In 1981, St. Anthony's School became staffed with lay faculty and principal. As a result, the convent built to house 30 nuns was closed and eventually became the Catholic Conference Center.

Monsignor James O'Neill is the current Pastor of the Church of Saint Anthony. The membership today is about 2500. NPS Form 10-900-a ((8-86)

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Church of Saint Anthony Natrona County, Wyoming

- 9. Major Bibliographical Preferences
- "Church Dedication is Impressive Event." <u>The Casper Daily Tribune</u> 16 August, 1920, p. 1,3.
- "Cornerstone of New Church is Placed Sunday." <u>The Casper Daily Tribune</u> 8 September 1919.
- Doherty, Linda L. <u>An Irish Legacy: Casper's Catholic Community 100</u> <u>Years of Faith</u>. Casper, Mountain States Lithography Company, 1987.
- Garbutt, Irving. "Classic Architecture Marked Casper's First Oil Boom." <u>Casper Journal</u> 29 October 1994.

<u>Casper Centennial, 1889-1989, Natrona County, Wyoming</u> <u>1890-1990</u>. Dallas, Texas: Curtis Media Corporation.

- "Industrial Edition." <u>The Casper Daily Tribune and Wyoming Weekly</u> <u>Review</u>, January 22, 1922, pp. 8-9.
- Mokler, Alfred James. <u>History of Natrona County, Wyoming, 1888-1922</u>. Chicago, Ill.:R.R. Donnelly & Sons Company.
- O'Neil, Monsignor James. Personal Communication, Church of Saint Anthony, Casper, Wyoming, March 9, 1996.
- Property Records, Tax Assessor's Office, Natrona County Courthouse, Casper, Wyoming.
- Starr, Eileen F. <u>Architecture in the Cowboy State, 1849-1940</u>. Glendo, Wyoming: High Plains Press, 1992.

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Church of Saint Anthony Natrona County, Wyoming

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The property is located at 604 South Center Street, Casper, Wyoming, and occupies the northwest corner of the intersection of South Center Street and East Seventh Street, Lots 6-7, Block 27, Casper Addition.

Boundary Justification

The east and south boundaries are defined by the curb and gutter along South Center Street and East Seventh Street respectively. The north and west boundaries are formed by the north and west building lines of the church and exclude the rectory, which occupies Lot 8, and all other associated church properties and parking lots in the immediate vicinity.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 96001631 Date Listed: 01/30/97

Property Name: Church of Saint Anthony County: Natrona State: Wyoming

Buildings Designed by Garbutt, Weidner, and Sweeney in Casper MPS Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Signature of the Keeper

January 30, 1997 Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Sect. 5: "Buildings Designed by Garbutt, Weidner, and Sweeney in Casper MPS" is, hereby, entered for Name of Related Multiple Property Listing.

Sect. 8, Significance: "Religion" is, hereby, deleted as an area of significance since nomination does not claim or justify criterion A. Also, Criterion Consideration A is entered to indicate that the property is a religious property, and the period of significance is changed to "1920" to correspond to the date of construction.

Sheila Bricker-Wade, National Register coordinator, of the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment on January 29, 1997.

DISTRIBUTION: National Register property file Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)