

RECEIVED 413

1589

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 Form 10-900. 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.

INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1. Name of Property

historic name Saints Peter and Paul Church

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Junction C64 and X47 N/A not for publication

city or town Petersburg N/A vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Delaware code 055 zip code N/A

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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] 12/8/94
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State Historical Society of Iowa
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

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.
 - removed from the National Register.
 - other, (explain): _____

[Signature] Edson H. Beall 1-24-95
Signature of the Keeper Entered in the National Register Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	4	build
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	4	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register

N/A

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION / religious facility

RELIGION / religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS:

Late Gothic Revival

foundation STONE: Limestone

walls STONE: Limestone

roof ASPHALT

other STONE: Limestone

METAL: Copper

Narrative Description

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

Saints Peter and Paul Church is a dominant feature of eastern Iowa's rural landscape. Located in the heart of Petersburg on the crest of one of the region's gently rolling hills, the building casts an imposing shadow over the small town. The church was constructed in 1905 of limestone and incorporates many of the Late Gothic Revival features found in ecclesiastical buildings of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Significant architectural details include the building's cruciform plan, its prominent steeples, buttresses, lancet windows, and arches. The building has undergone few changes and maintains its architectural integrity.

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.)

Property is:

- 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 or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1905

Significant Dates

1905

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder
HEER, MARTIN.

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

9. Major Bibliographical 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 (38 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:

SS. Peter and Paul Church
Name of Property

Delaware County, Iowa
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Two (2) Acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

15	64.6	6.2.0	4.7	1.2	7.4.5
Zone	Easting		Northing		

3

Zone	Easting		Northing		

4

Zone	Easting		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 Sara Anne Daines

organization _____ date 1 December 1993

street & number 1090 Grove Terrace telephone 319 / 589-4213

city or town Dubuque state IA zip code 52001

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 SHPO or FPO.)

name SS. Peter and Paul Church Corporation; ATTN: Reverend Steven Rosonke

street & number RR 2 BOX 114 telephone 319/875-7992

city or town Dyersville state Iowa zip code 52040

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to no properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required 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.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED 413

DEC 19 1994

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Saints Peter and Paul Church, Petersburg, Delaware County, IA

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

Building Plan and Dimensions

The building is designed using the cruciform or cross shaped plan, typical of churches of Gothic architecture. This "cross" is formed by the intersection of the nave, chancel or sanctuary and apse with the transepts. A trio of steeples is located at the base or eastern end of this cross. The semi-polygonal sanctuary and a rectangular sacristy are located at its crown.

The building's plan includes five impressive portals or entrances. The primary entrance is located at the base of the central steeple at the east elevation of the building. Entrances are also located in the adjoining steeples at the southeast and northeast corners of the building and at the south and north ends of the transepts. Secondary entrances to the sacristy and the basement are located along the north and south elevations of the building.

There are six vertical bays on both the north and south elevations of the building. The steeples located on the east elevation of the church create three additional bays. The north and south elevations of the building are mirror images of one another.

The church is one hundred and fifty feet (150') long and fifty-four feet (54') wide. The transepts are seventy-four feet (74') wide. The sacristy is fifteen feet (15') by twenty-five feet (25'). The exterior walls of the building are thirty-three feet (33') in height with the interior arches of the sanctuary and transepts roughly forty-five feet (45') high. The building has an east-west orientation.

Construction Materials

The building is constructed of limestone quarried in Stone City, Iowa. The foundation and walls are constructed of rock faced stone with the decorative elements formed of smoother sawed stone. The stone is square cut with regular courses. The building has been sandblasted and repointed.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Saints Peter and Paul Church, Petersburg, Delaware County, IA

EXTERIOR ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES:

The exterior architectural features of Saints Peter and Paul Church have, for ease of description, been broken down into the following elements: roof, steeples, windows, entrances, and miscellaneous elements.

Roof

The building has a modified hipped roof with its ridges running the length of the nave and the transepts. The east end of the roof is gabled.

A series of three gabled dormers are located along both the north and south elevations of the building. Two gabled dormers are located between the steeples and the transept with the third gabled dormer placed between the transept and the sanctuary. Three additional gabled dormers are located along each transept with one gabled dormer per elevation. A total of twelve gabled dormers have been incorporated into the building's design with the largest being located on the north and south ends of the transepts.

Small stylized crosses serve as finials for the gabled dormers along the east and west faces of each transept and those located along the north and south elevations of the nave. Larger, more simple crosses can be found atop the peaks of the gabled dormers located at the north and south ends of the transepts.

The roof has a slight overhang and a boxed cornice. The fascia board is simply designed with a slight curve and a double row of half round bead molding.

The roof and gabled dormers are steeply pitched. They are covered with dark brown asphalt shingles.

Steeple: Three prominent steeples are located on the building's east facade.

● Center Steeple

The center steeple, one hundred and forty-five feet (145') in height and fifteen by fifteen feet square, is the largest of the three and serves as the primary

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Saints Peter and Paul Church, Petersburg, Delaware County, IA

entrance to the church. Enclosed staircases providing access to the church's choir loft, are located on both the north and south elevations of the steeple. It is flanked by two smaller steeples, each with its own entrance.

Four lancet arches with multi-foiled tracery provide access to the steeple's belfry. Louvered wood shutters have been installed inside the arches.

A polygonal spire with four gable walls serving as its base, is set atop the square steeple. The spire, salvaged from an earlier church constructed by the parish on the site in 1868, is covered with copper sheathing which has been painted. A simple cross, twelve feet in height, adorns the spire. A decorative pinnacle is located at each of the four corners of the steeple.

- **Flanking Steeples**

Two smaller steeples, one hundred and twenty feet (120') in height and twelve by twelve feet square, have been constructed at forty-five degree angles to the northeast and southeast corners of the building. The shape of the steeples varies. Their base is square. The upper one third of the structure is octagonal in shape. Eight lancet arches with cinquefoil tracery provide access to the belfries. The walls of the steeple are gabled. The spires are polygonal in shape. A simple eight foot tall cross adorns each spire.

The smaller flanking steeples are identical in appearance.

Windows:

A defining architectural feature of the building is its decorative frosted and stained glass windows with their multi-foiled tracery. The windows are topped by an stepped arch of smooth, sawed limestone. Decorative stone outlines the window frames setting them apart from the building's rock-faced walls. A simple stone sill finishes off each window.

1000 Form 10-83
NPS-83

Call Agency for assistance

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

Saints Peter and Paul Church, Petersburg, Delaware County, IA

The stained glass windows were designed and manufactured in Munster, Germany under the direction of Victor von der Frost. Each depicts an important religious figure or biblical event.

- Lancet Windows

The church's lancet windows generally fall into one of the following groupings:

Sets of three lancet windows:

- A trio of narrow lancet windows consisting of a single large narrow window flanked by two longer and equally narrow windows. Located at the ends of the transepts, the windows in the north transept depict the birth of Jesus while the windows in the south transept represent the Ascension. The building has a total of two sets of windows grouped in this fashion.
- A trio of narrow lancet windows consisting of a single window flanked by two smaller windows. These windows are located in the gables of the gabled dormers along the north and south elevations of the nave. Similar groupings are located on each of the faces of the steeples which flank the main entrance. The building has a total of fourteen sets of windows grouped in this fashion.
- A single trio of narrow mid-sized lancet windows is located in the mid-point of the center steeple on its east face. The windows are simply framed with a large keystone at the center of their pointed arch.

Coupled lancet windows:

- Small side-by-side lancet windows are located in the basement entrances on the south and north elevations of the building. A total of two sets of windows are grouped in this fashion.

NPS Form 1040-4
2-88

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

Saints Peter and Paul Church, Petersburg, Delaware County, IA

- Small side-by-side narrow lancet windows are located in the base of the two smaller steeples. The building has a total of four sets of windows grouped in this fashion.

Single lancet windows:

- A total of six large single lancet windows are located beneath each of the gabled dormers along the south and north elevations of the nave. The windows located along the north elevation of the nave depict the following scenes or individuals: St. Boniface, Our Lady of Lourdes, and the conversion of St. Paul. The following are represented in the windows located along the south elevation of the nave: Joseph in Egypt, the Good Samaritan, and the presentation of the Keys of the Kingdom to St. Paul.
- Single mid-sized lancet windows are located beneath each of the gabled dormers of the transepts. The stained glass windows depict the following figures or scenes: the Presentation of Christ, the Annunciation, the Transfiguration and the Descent of the Holy Spirit. There are a total of four of these mid-sized windows.
- A series of smaller narrow lancet windows are located on each of the steeples and the east elevation of the church with additional windows of varying sizes and dimensions scattered throughout the building, in the various secondary entrances and along the sacristy. There are two of these smaller lancet windows located on the east elevation of the building, two in the center steeple, seven on the north elevation, two on the west elevation and seven on the building's south elevation.
- Large lancet windows with elaborate multi-foiled tracery are located in each of the steeples, above the entrances. There are a total of three of these windows.
- Small lancet windows serve as transom windows above the entrances to the sacristy. There are two such transom windows.

NPS Form 10-900-9
2-89

OMB Approval No. 1024-0070

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

Saints Peter and Paul Church, Petersburg, Delaware County, IA

• **Decorative Windows:**

A number of round and triangular shaped windows have been incorporated into the design of the building. The windows are outlined by smooth sawed limestone which sets them apart from the building's rock-faced walls.

- A large rose window is located above the trio of lancet windows located in both the north and south ends of the transepts. The windows' decorative tracery is an eight-lobed pattern with simple cusps. There are two large rose windows in the church.
- Smaller rose windows are located in the gables of the gabled dormers of the east and west elevations of each transept. The windows' decorative tracery is a four-lobed pattern with simple cusps. There are a total of four small rose windows in the church.
- A small triangular, almost shield-shaped, window is located above the larger rose windows in the south and north ends of the transepts. There are a total of two of these windows in the church.
- A small circular window is located in each of the gables of the center steeple. There are a total of four of these windows in the steeple.

• **Miscellaneous Windows:**

A series of lesser non-character defining double hung windows are located in window wells along the base of the building.

Entrances:

Massive lancet arches highlight the entrances along the east facade of the church. Decorative roll molding above each arch creates a gable-like effect. A small stone trefoil tops the "gables" above the entrances in each of the smaller steeples. A simple stone cross adorns the molding above the primary entrance. A stylized stone

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 7

Saints Peter and Paul Church, Petersburg, Delaware County, IA

"arrow" pointing skyward has been placed in the peak of the gable, below the stone cross. The building's secondary entrances are framed by smooth, sawed stone.

Eight-paneled wood doors with quatrefoil molding provide access to the church. Double doors may be found at the three entrances on the east facade of the building. Single doors are located in the transept entrances. Simple six paneled doors are located at the secondary entrances.

Steps are located at each entrance. The steps to five of the entrances have closed balustrades with smooth stone caps and pipe railing systems. A simple pipe railing runs along the steps which lead to the sacristy.

Miscellaneous Elements:

A multiplicity of simple stone buttresses are placed throughout the building. Topped by caps of smooth stone, the vertical lines of the buttresses are interrupted by the placement of contrasting kneestones at regular intervals. Stone gablets top the buttresses located along the walls of the three steeples.

Other architectural features include the belt coursing of smooth stone, the building's dentil-like stone work, the stone moldings found along the roof line of the sanctuary and throughout the steeples, the recessed corbeled stone work of the steeples and the repeating pattern of ornamental arches evident in the steeples and east facade of the building.

Two plaques have been incorporated into the walls of the building. The first, carved in limestone, is located in the south wall of the sacristy and lists the names of the church's pastor, architect, members of the building company, and members of the building committee. The second, carved in highly polished granite, is located in the east facade, south of the center steeple, and identifies the name of the building and the year it was completed.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 8

Saints Peter and Paul Church, Petersburg, Delaware County, IA

INTERIOR ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES:

The spacious interior of the church is a wonder of craftsmanship, rich Gothic ornamentation and religious artifacts.

A series of delicate fan vaults are located throughout the building. Two rows of five Corinthian columns line the nave. Rich wood wainscotting protects the lower portions of the walls, a repeating pattern of lancet arches incorporated into its design. The walls are decorated by series of stylized floral stencils. Fresco work -- completed by Joseph Walters of Dubuque, Iowa -- depicting various religious scenes and figures covers the ceiling. Pews, providing seating for approximately five hundred, line the center isle and two side isles. A choir loft is located at the east end of the nave. The flooring is maple.

The church's ornate and elaborately carved altars, pews and confessionals were designed and built by E. Hackner of the Hackner Altar Company of LaCrosse, Wisconsin. His work was described at the time as "undoubtedly (some) of the best ever manufactured by the designer. The spectator is at once impressed with the completeness and majesty of the same. Everything that Gothic design could furnish to enhance beauty and devotion seems to have come together here in a most remarkable manner." ("New Church is Consecrated", Dyersville Commercial, October 26, 1906) These pieces were constructed of elm and richly decorated with a variety of pinnacles, finials, columns, arches, elaborately carved panels and statuary.

The semi-circular high or main altar is located in the middle of the sanctuary. It is forty feet (40') high and eighteen feet (18') wide. The altar table and tabernacle are made of highly polished Italian marble inlaid with mosaic work. Two side altars have been placed to the north and south of the high altar. Each measures thirty-six feet in height and is ten feet in width. A votive altar is located in the south transept. A pieta altar in the north transept. Each is thirty-four feet (34') high and ten feet (10") wide.

Double confessionals are located along the east walls of both the south and north transepts.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 9

Saints Peter and Paul Church, Petersburg, Delaware County, IA

The organ, located in the choir loft, was acquired by the church from the Teller Organ Company of Erie, Pennsylvania in 1939.

Statuary depicting the stations of the cross are mounted along the walls of the nave.

The names of the many "sponsors" of the building's interior furnishings, statuary, frescos and windows are inscribed in German on or adjacent to each piece. The phrase "Geschenk von" -- a gift from -- is used throughout the building.

ALTERATIONS TO BUILDING:

The following are the only known alterations or modifications that have been made to the exterior of the building. These activities are easily reversed or have had a minimal effect on the architectural integrity of the building.

- The stone has been sandblasted and repointed
- The building has been re-roofed
- Pipe railings have been installed along the steps
- Aluminum storm doors have been installed at secondary entrances
- Metal gutter system has been installed
- Storm windows have been installed over the original windows

The interior of the church has undergone several changes since its completion in 1905. The hanging pulpit and the original light fixtures were removed in 1956. The communion rail was removed between 1973 and 1975 and used in the construction of the present communion stations and the lecture stands. The original stenciling around the window openings was restored in 1982.

OUTBUILDINGS:

Behind the church are two outbuildings: a one story rectangular wood frame building with a side gabled roof and a small wood shed of similar construction. The rectory, built in 1917, and an Art Deco parochial school are located just north of the church.

One of the four structures are considered to be contributing structures for the purposes of this nomination.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 10

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL CHURCH
Petersburg, Delaware County, Iowa

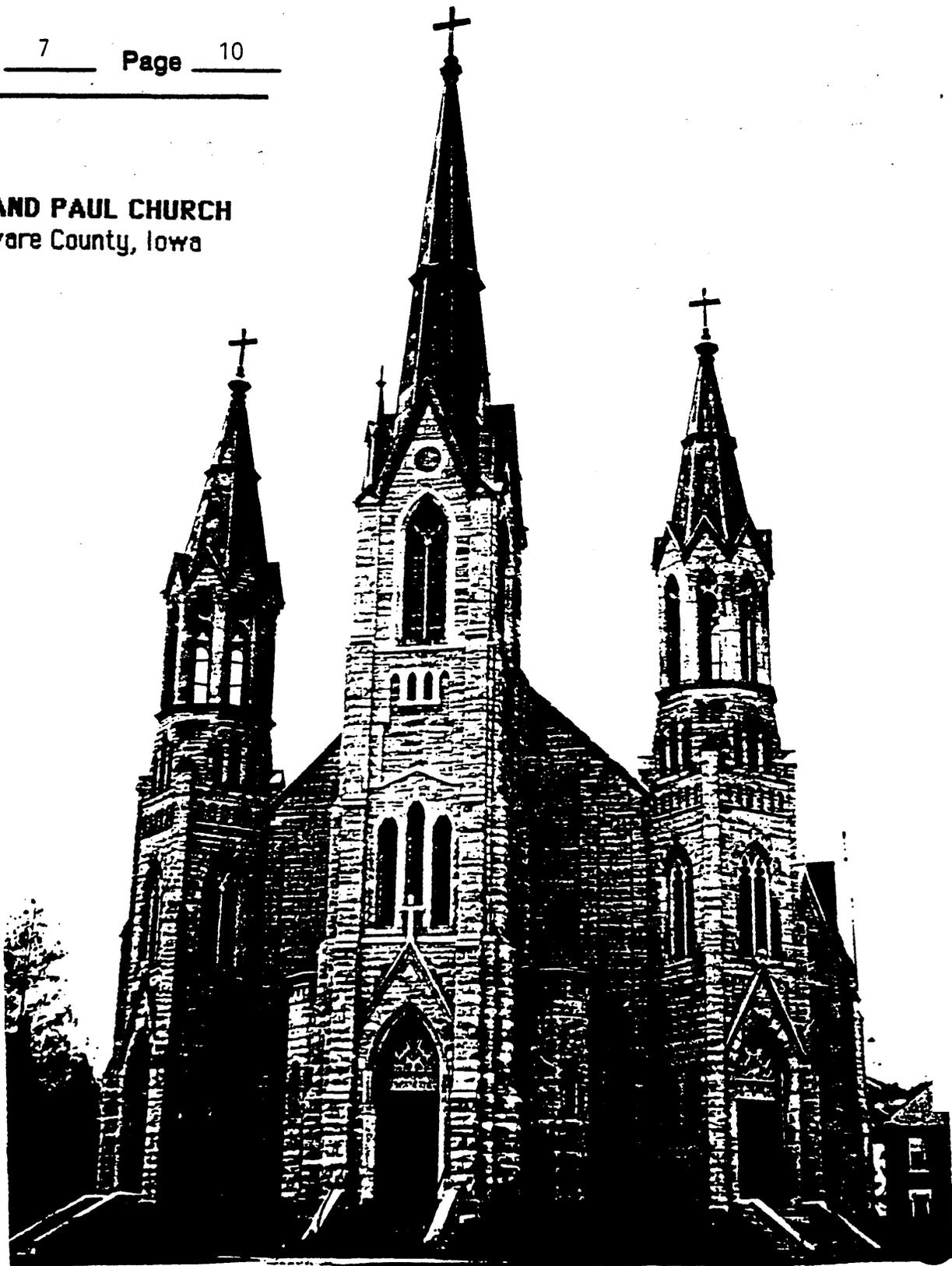


ILLUSTRATION 1: Otting, Loras C., "Gothic Splendor in Northeast Iowa." The Palimpsest, Vol. 66 No. 5, September-October 1985, page 154.

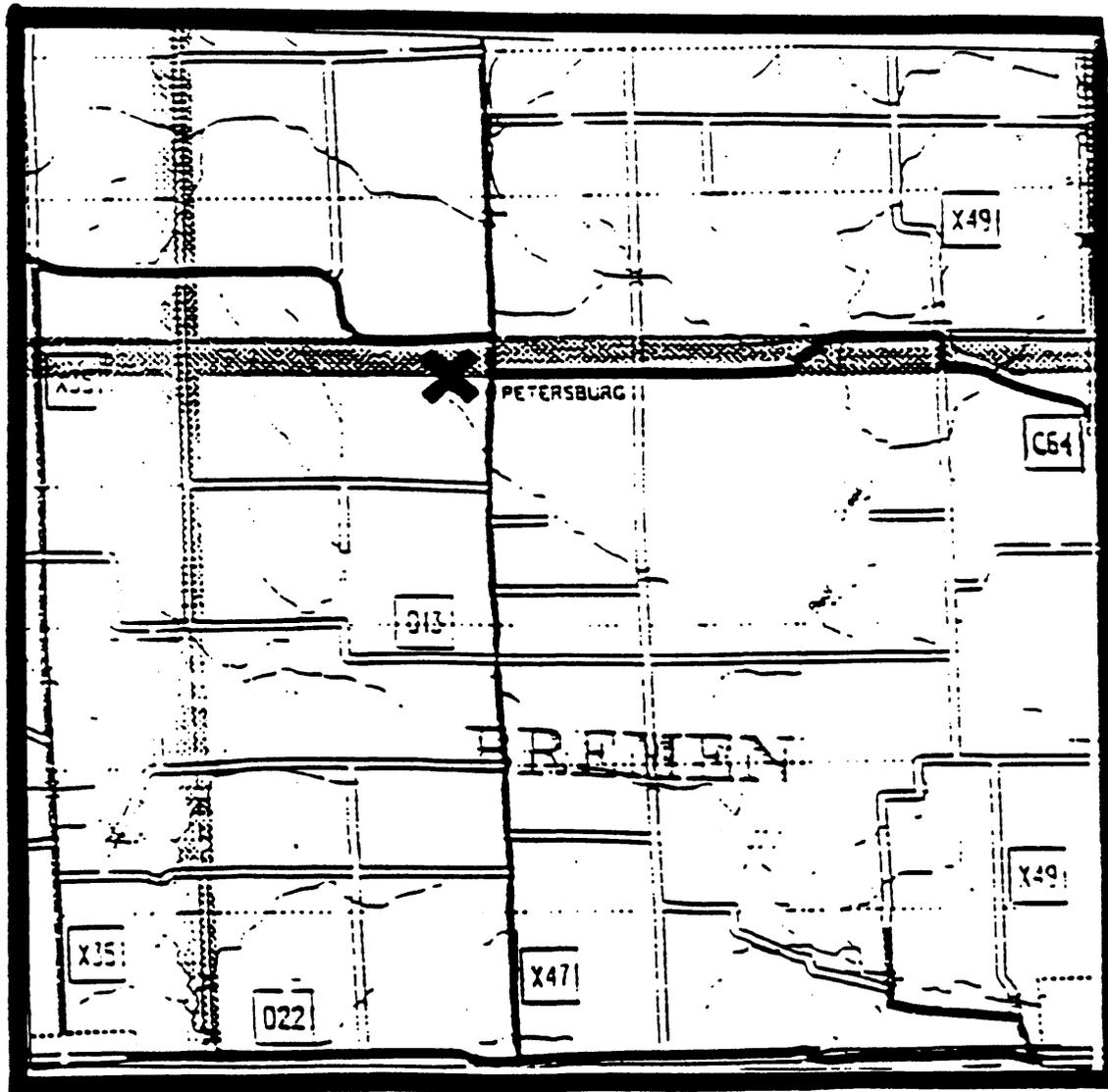
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 11

LOCATION MAP
SAINTS PETER AND PAUL CHURCH
Petersburg, Delaware County, Iowa

ILLUSTRATION 2



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 12

LOCATION MAP
SAINTS PETER AND PAUL CHURCH
Petersburg, Delaware County, Iowa

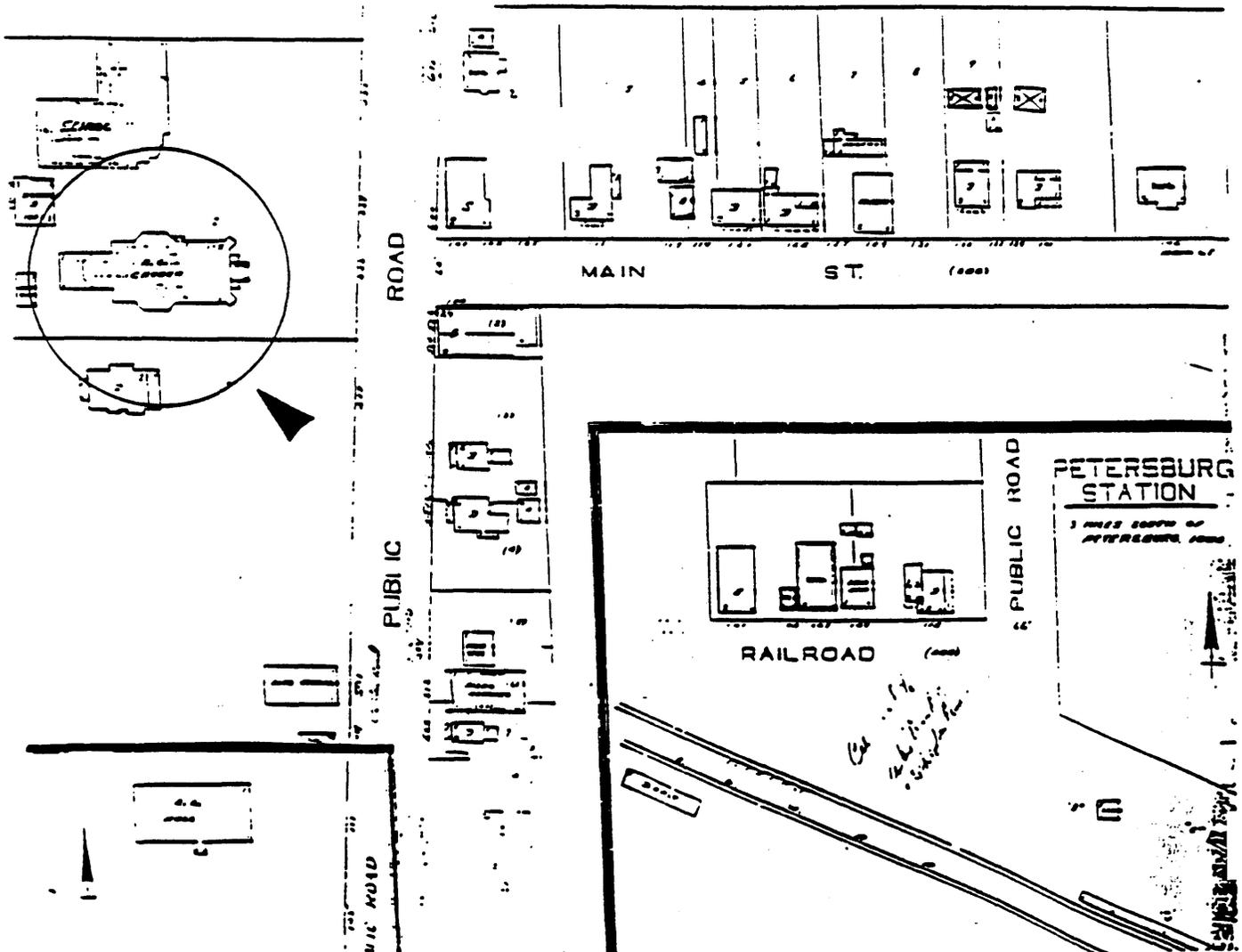


ILLUSTRATION 3: Iowa Insurance Service Bureau, Petersburg, Iowa, October 1933.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

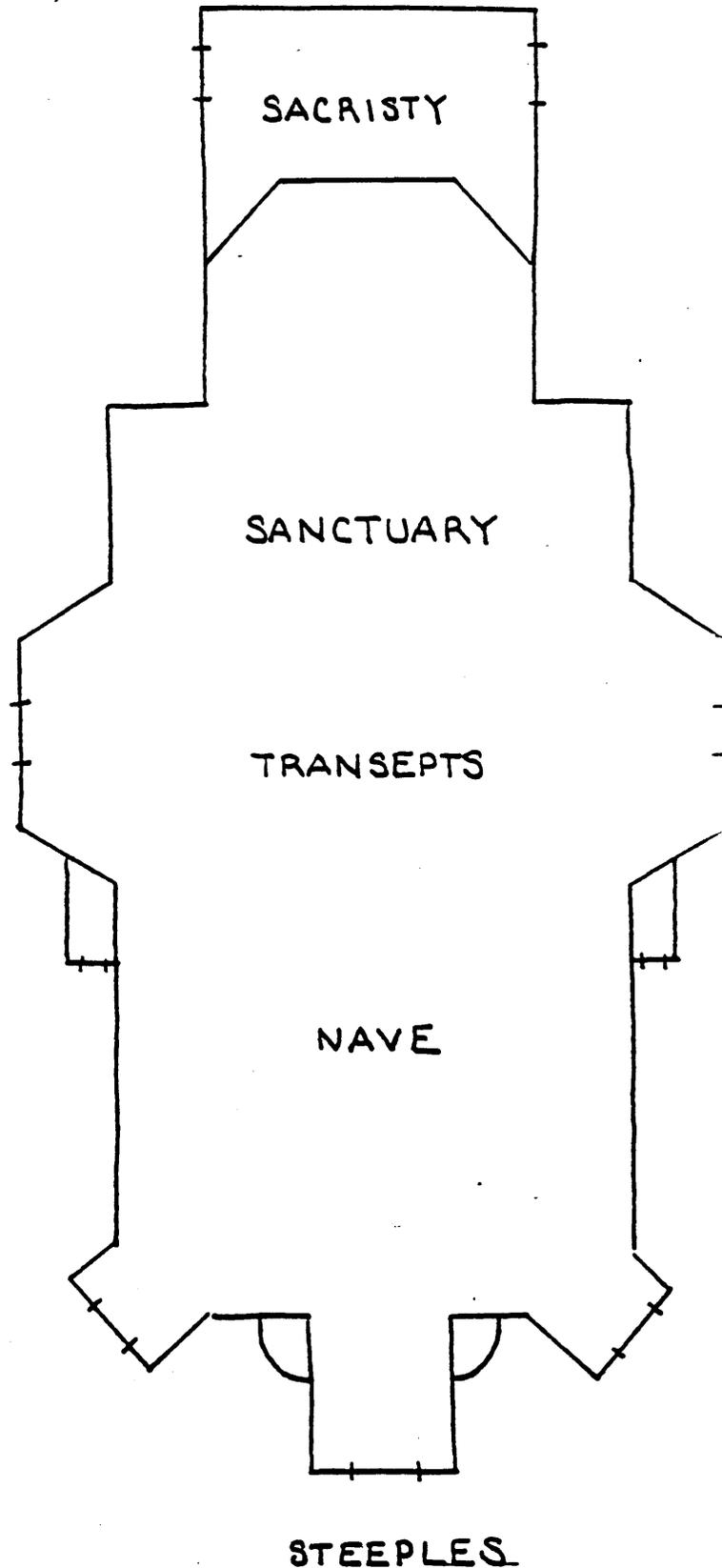
Section number 7 Page 13

FLOOR PLAN
SAINTS PETER AND PAUL CHURCH
Petersburg, Delaware County, Iowa

ILLUSTRATION 4



 EQUALS FIVE FEET



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 14

Saints Peter and Paul Church, Petersburg, Delaware County, IA

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Saints Peter and Paul Church, completed in 1905, is an excellent example of Late Gothic Revival architecture. A religious property, the building would not normally be considered for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, however it clearly complies with the criteria consideration in that its primary significance is drawn from its architectural distinction, not its religious association, and that it has maintained its architectural integrity.

The building represents the work of a little known regional architect, Martin Heer.

Significant Architectural Qualities:

The smooth simple silhouette of Saints Peter and Paul Church reflects many of the features which typify Late Gothic Revival architecture. Its stone masonry, varied architectural detail, rose and lancet windows, multi-foiled stone tracery, simple buttresses, and vaulted construction were superbly translated into what has been described as one of the "Gothic gems" of Iowa. The building serves as a tribute to the devotion, craftsmanship and sacrifice of its German parish.

The church, located at the terminus of Petersburg's Main Street, towers over the small village. Established in the early 1870s, this primarily residential community is comprised of simple one and two story wood structures. None of the buildings are as prominent nor as architecturally significant as Saints Peter and Paul Church. There are no other examples of Gothic architecture in the community.

The church is one of four outstanding Gothic churches constructed in Iowa in Delaware and Dubuque counties in the late 19th and early 20th centuries: St. Boniface Church in New Vienna, St. Francis Xavier in Dyersville, and Holy Trinity Church of Luxembourg. Though their Gothic influences are apparent, the buildings themselves are unique. St. Boniface Church (1884-1887) is constructed of locally quarried white magnesia limestone. The building has a single two hundred foot (200') tall steeple. St. Francis Xavier (1887-1889) is brick with massive twin towers. The third, Holy Trinity Church, was constructed of brick in 1874 with a single 172' steeple. Saints

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 15

Saints Peter and Paul Church, Petersburg, Delaware County, IA

Peter and Paul Church is perhaps the most impressive and unique of the group with its prominent silhouette and its three steeples

Architect:

The church was commissioned by its pastor, Father Wm. B. Sassen, in 1903. The selected architect, Martin Heer, arrived in the region in the mid-1880s and remained in the area for thirty years. His offices were located east of Petersburg, in Dubuque, Iowa. Heer's advertisements noted that he was an "Architect and Superintendent" whose speciality was churches. He provided drawings, plans, working drawings, details, estimates and specifications for all kinds of public and private buildings.

He is credited with having designed the following religious buildings: Holy Ghost Catholic Church & School, Dubuque, Iowa (1896); Sts. Peter & Paul Church, Petersburg, Iowa (1905); School and Convent, Fort Atkinson, Iowa (1906) and St. Boniface Catholic Church, Clinton, Iowa (1908). Heer was also the architect of at least one commercial building -- the Eichhorn Building in Dubuque, Iowa (1889) -- and a school in Fort Atkinson, Iowa (date unknown).

Craftsmen and Builders:

The limestone plaque installed in the exterior wall of the sacristy credits the following individuals with Saints Peter and Paul Church's construction: Most Reverend John J. Keane and Reverend Wm. B. Sassen. Building Committee members listed on the plaque: Joe Bagge, Joe Gebhard, B. Bergfeld, B. Mensen, J. Deppe, J. Bruggemann, J.H. Osterhaus, H. Loesche, H. Scherbring, H. Lammers, G. Schmeders and Con. Schmueker. The plaque also notes the membership of the church committee: Joe Bagge, Clem Klostermann, J.G. Goedken and H. Willenborg.

The foundation was built by M.J. Mersch, and its superstructure by F.D. Schnak, a contractor from Dubuque, Iowa.

The high degree of craftsmanship evident in the stonework of Saints Peter and Paul Church is also apparent in the richly detailed and elaborately carved altars, pews and

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 16

Saints Peter and Paul Church, Petersburg, Delaware County, IA

professionals of the church. Designed and built by E. Hackner of the Hackner Altar Company of LaCrosse, Wisconsin, the pieces were described as some of the best ever manufactured by the company.

Construction on the building was completed in 1905 at a cost of eighty-five thousand dollars (\$85,000).

The building has undergone few exterior changes since its construction in 1905. It retains the qualities which establish it as an excellent example of Late Gothic Revival architecture.

MARTIN HEER

}

Architect...

AND Superintendent



254 Eighth Street.
DUBUQUE, IOWA.

ALL KINDS OF _____
Drawings for Buildings, Monuments, Etc.
Plans, Working Drawings, Details.
Estimates and Specifications for all Kinds
of Public and Private Buildings.
Churches a Specialty.

ILLUSTRATION 5.

Dubuque of Today: The Key City. Historical, Descriptive and Biographical, Commercial and Indus
(Dubuque, Iowa: The Telegraph Job Printing Company, 1897).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 17

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL CHURCH
Petersburg, Delaware County, Iowa



ILLUSTRATION 6: Merry, John F., ed., History of Delaware County Iowa And Its People
(Chicago, IL: The S.J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1914), page 321.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 18

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL CHURCH
Petersburg, Delaware County, Iowa



ILLUSTRATION 7: Hoffmann, Rev. Matthias M., ed., Centennial History of the Archdiocese of Dubuque. (Dubuque, Iowa: Columbia College Press, 1938) page 214.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 19

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL CHURCH
Petersburg, Delaware County, Iowa

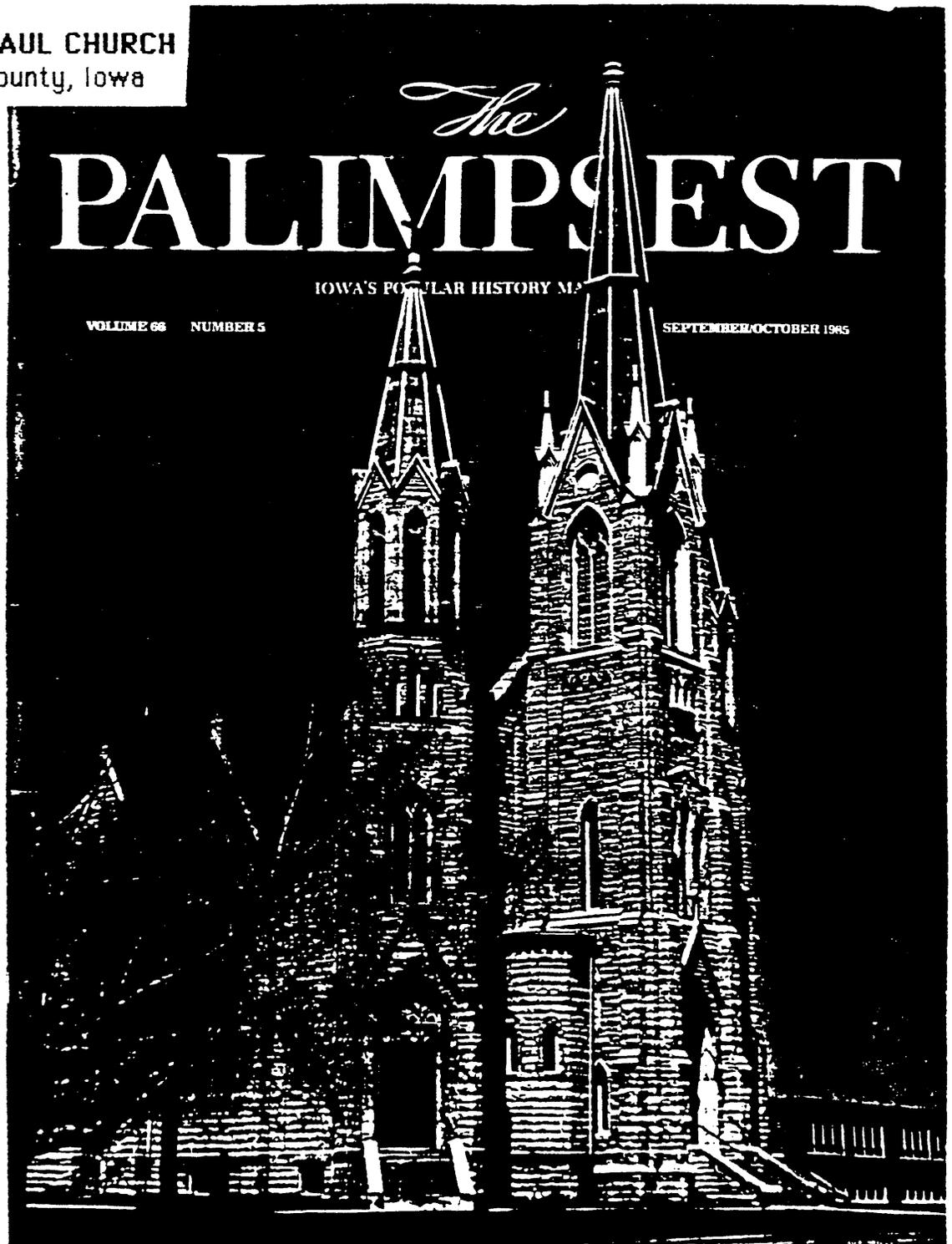


ILLUSTRATION 8: Otting, Loras C., "Gothic Splendor in Northeast Iowa." The Palimpsest, Vol. 66 No. 5, September-October 1985, cover page.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 20

Saints Peter and Paul Church, Petersburg, Delaware County, IA

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

"Church of SS. Peter and Paul, Petersburg, Iowa", Undated Mimeograph.

City Directories, Dubuque, Iowa: 1881-1913.

Deeds. Delaware County Courthouse, Manchester, Iowa.

Dubuque of Today: The Key City. Historical, Descriptive and Biographical. Commercial and Indus
(Dubuque, Iowa: The Telegraph Job Printing Company, 1897).

Harris, Cyril M., ed., Illustrated Dictionary of Historic Architecture. (New York, New York:
Dover Publications, 1977).

"Heer, Martin" Architects in Iowa, Historic Preservation Bureau, State Historical Society
of Iowa, Des Moines, Iowa.

Hoffmann, Rev. Matthias M., ed., Centennial History of the Archdiocese of Dubuque. (Dubuque,
Iowa: Columbia College Press, 1938).

Iowa Insurance Service Bureau, Petersburg, Iowa, October 1933.

Merry, John F., ed., History of Delaware County Iowa And Its People (Chicago, Illinois: The S.J.
Clarke Publishing Company, 1914).

"New Church is Consecrated," Dyersville Commercial, 26 October 1906.

Otting, Loras C., "Gothic Splendor in Northeast Iowa." The Palimpsest, Vol. 66 No. 5,
September-October 1985

Whiffen, Marcus. American Architecture Since 1780: A Guide to the Styles. (Cambridge,
Massachusetts: The M.I.T. Press, 1969).

Witte, John L., History of SS. Peter and Paul Church: Petersburg, Iowa, (Loras College, Dubuque
Iowa, 1950).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 21

Saints Peter and Paul Church, Petersburg, Delaware County, IA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Legal Description: Lot 2 NE1/4 NE1/4 Section 5 Township 89 N Range 3 W

Verbal Description: Commencing at a point at the northeast corner of the SE1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 5 Township 89 North of Range 3 West, running west 40 rod thence north 8 rod, thence east 40 rod, thence south 8 rod to starting point

VERBAL BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

oundary description reflects the original plat of land deeded to the Right Reverend John Hennesey, Bishop by Peter Domeyer and his wife, Elizabeth Domeyer on May 18, 1868 for purposes of erecting a church.

Petersburg is named for Peter Domeyer, one of the area's earliest settlers.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page 22

Saints Peter and Paul Church, Delaware County, Iowa

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION: Photographs

- Name: Saints Peter and Paul Church
Location: Delaware County, Iowa
Photographer: Sara Anne Daines
Date of Photograph: November 11, 1993
Location of Negative: State Historical Society of Iowa
Description of View: NE Corner, North Side, Facing SW
Photograph Number: #1

- Name: Saints Peter and Paul Church
Location: Delaware County, Iowa
Photographer: Sara Anne Daines
Date of Photograph: November 11, 1993
Location of Negative: State Historical Society of Iowa
Description of View: SE Corner, South Side, Facing NW
Photograph Number: #2

- Name: Saints Peter and Paul Church
Location: Delaware County, Iowa
Photographer: Sara Anne Daines
Date of Photograph: November 11, 1993
Location of Negative: State Historical Society of Iowa
Description of View: East Side, Facing West
Photograph Number: #3

- Name: Saints Peter and Paul Church
Location: Delaware County, Iowa
Photographer: Sara Anne Daines
Date of Photograph: November 11, 1993
Location of Negative: State Historical Society of Iowa
Description of View: Section South Side, Facing NE
(Sacristy and Sanctuary)
Photograph Number: #4

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

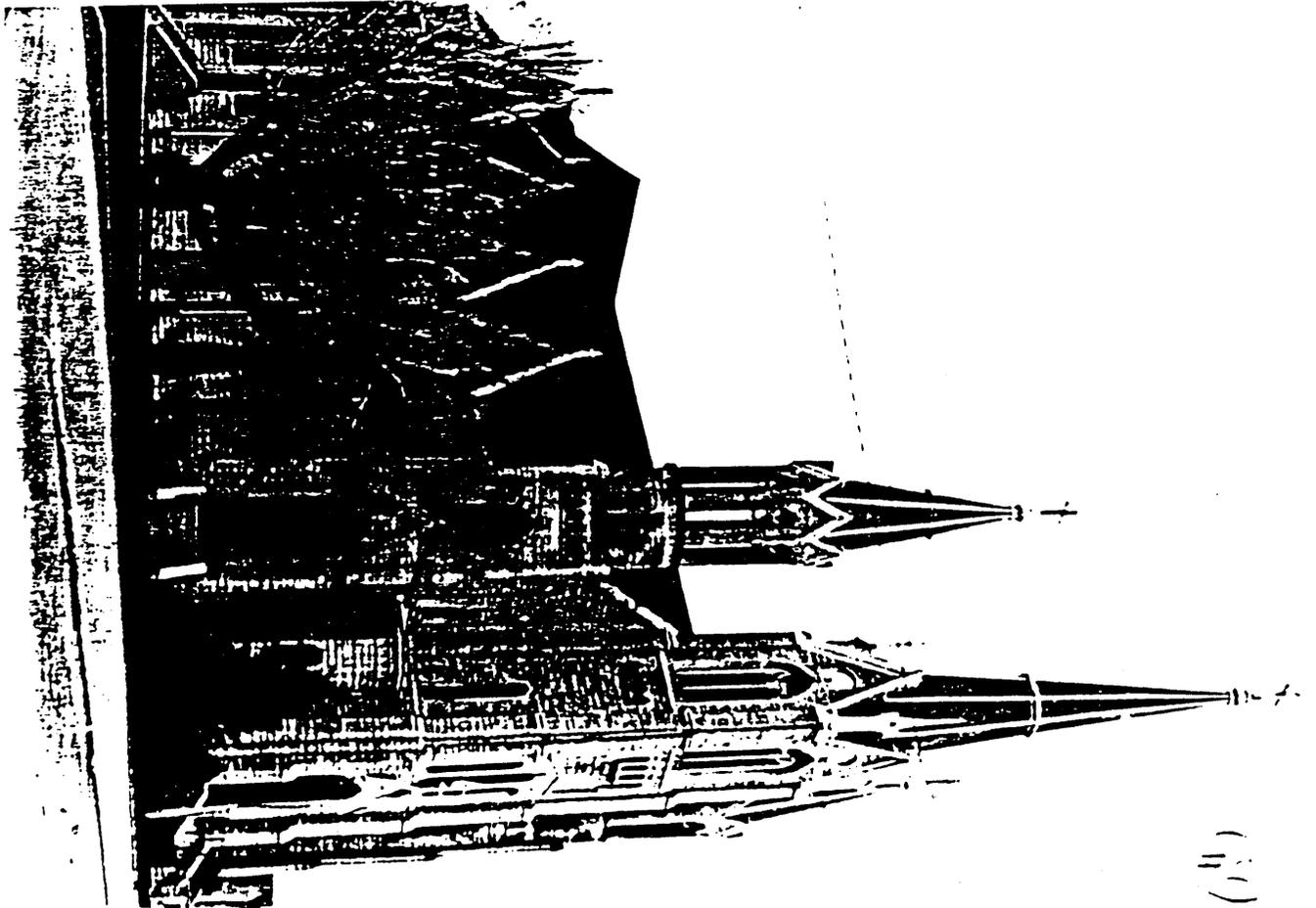
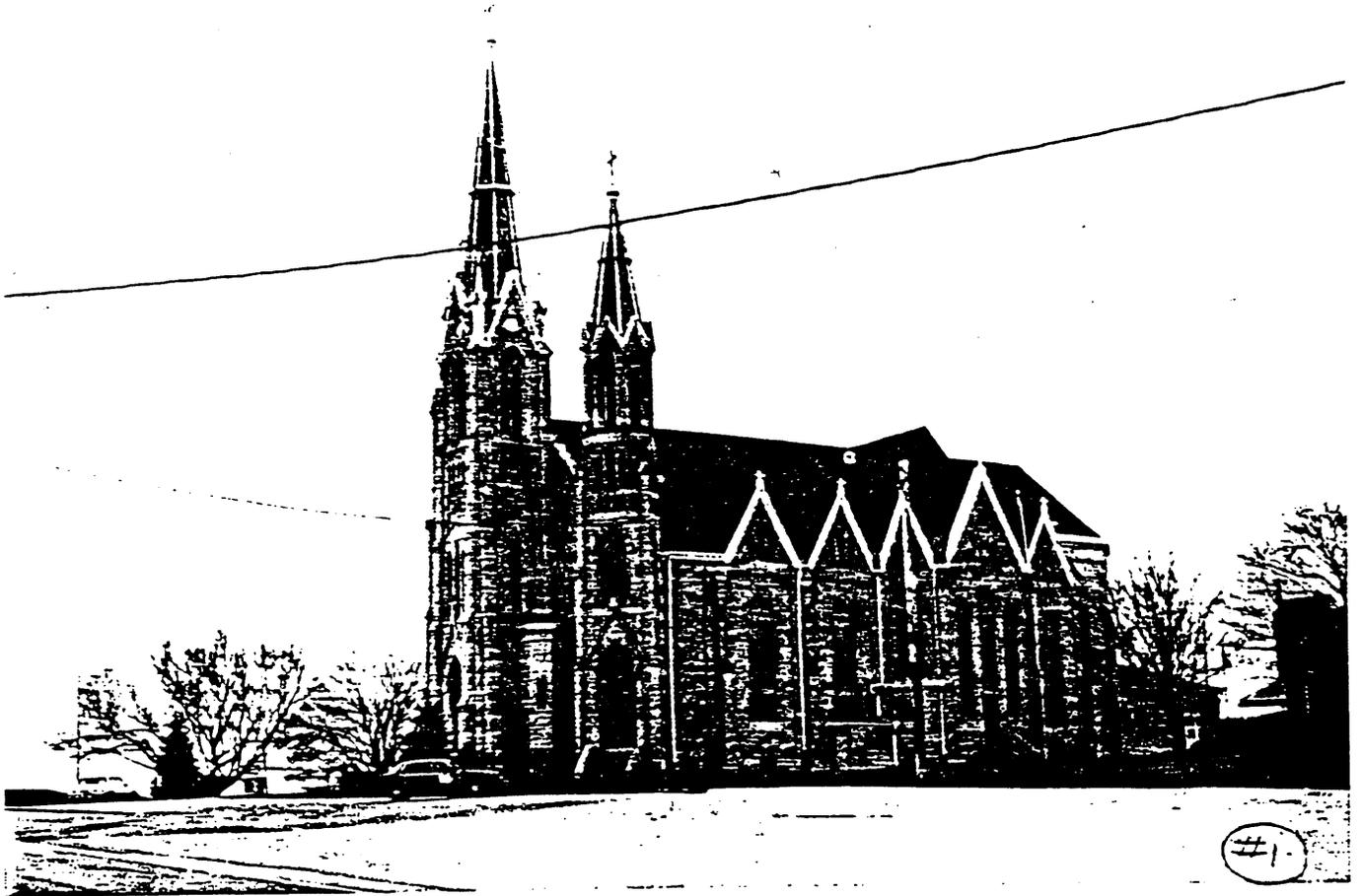
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page 23

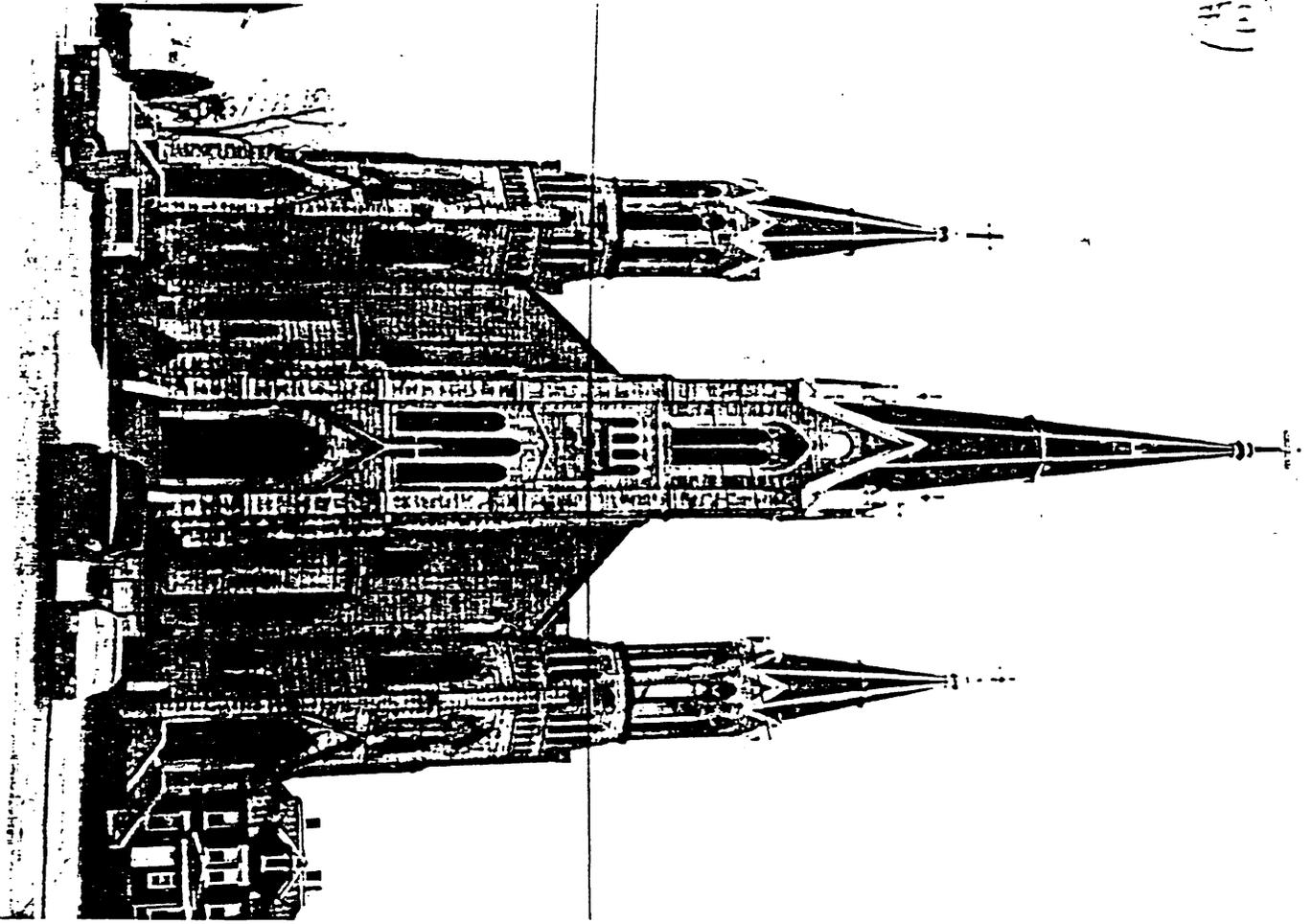
Saints Peter and Paul Church, Delaware County, Iowa

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION: Photographs

- Name: Saints Peter and Paul Church
Location: Delaware County, Iowa
Photographer: Sara Anne Daines
Date of Photograph: November 11, 1993
Location of Negative: State Historical Society of Iowa
Description of View: Section North Side, Facing South
(Transepts)
Photograph Number: #5
- Name: Saints Peter and Paul Church
Location: Delaware County, Iowa
Photographer: Sara Anne Daines
Date of Photograph: November 11, 1993
Location of Negative: State Historical Society of Iowa
Description of View: West Side, Section South Side, Facing NE
(Sacristy)
Photograph Number: #6



(11)



(12)

