

56-1500

NPS Form 10-900

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)



United States Department of Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If 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 St. Joseph's School
other names/site number St. Mary's Springs Academy

2. Location

street & number 95 East Second Street N/A not for publication
city or town Fond du Lac N/A vicinity
state Wisconsin code WI county Fond du Lac code 039 zip code 54935

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.)

Jim Daegu Date 6/28/17
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State Historic Preservation Office - Wisconsin
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

Name of Property

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):

Blank lines for certification details

Signature of the Keeper: Barbara Wyal

Date of Action: 8-21-17

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as apply)
X private
public-local
public-State
public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)
X building(s)
district
structure
site
object

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count)
contributing noncontributing
1 buildings
sites
structures
objects
1 0 total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
RELIGION/church school

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
VACANT/not in use

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/ Late Gothic Revival

foundation CONCRETE
walls BRICK, STONE

roof ASPHALT

other

Narrative Description

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

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.)

- 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)

Education

Period of Significance

1928-1967

Significant Dates

1928

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Stepnoski, Frank J.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Name of Property

County and State

9. Major Bibliographic References

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

Previous Documentation on File (National Park Service):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State Agency
 - Federal Agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.524 acres

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

1 16T 383848.93 4847948.50
Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing

2 _____
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	Emily Ramsey	date	November 7, 2016
organization	MacRostie Historic Advisors LLC	telephone	(312) 786-1700
street & number	53 West Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1142	zip code	60604-3619
city or town	Chicago	state	IL

Name of Property

County and State

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/title	Kevin McDonell	date	November 7, 2016
organization	Commonwealth Development Corp.	telephone	(608) 709-5677
street & number	54 E. First Street	zip code	54835-4204
city or town	Fond du lac	state	WI

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.

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St. Joseph's School
Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

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Start description on line below

Summary Paragraph

St. Joseph's School is located at 95 East Second Street in downtown Fond du Lac, two blocks west of the city's Main Street commercial thoroughfare. The school, completed in 1928, is one of three surviving St. Joseph's Parish buildings including a c.1880 coach house and 1909 church, both of which are just west of the school building. The building is currently vacant.

St. Joseph's Parish was founded in 1847 as the "mother church" of Roman Catholics in the city of Fond du Lac. Originally known as St. Louis before acquiring its current name in 1871, St. Joseph's Parish retains no extant buildings or other improvements built prior to circa 1880. The entire St. Joseph's Parish complex, as it currently exists, was built in stages over a roughly 50-year period. This building history consists of a church constructed in 1909, a school constructed in 1928 (the subject building), and a coach house originally constructed circa 1880 for a neighboring house, then acquired by St. Joseph's Parish in 1954. The entire parish complex is located southeast of, and a short distance from, Fond du Lac's historic downtown in a neighborhood largely comprised of free-standing houses. Across South Marr Street, to the west and northwest, the visual character of the neighborhood changes with churches, commercial buildings, and institutional buildings associated with the downtown area.

In 1928, St. Joseph's Parish built the current school building designed by Frank J. Stepnoski. The building is located to the east of the church building facing south onto East 2nd Street, and occupies a parcel of land on a city block bounded by South Marr Street, East 2nd Street, Ellis Street, and East 1st Street. A large paved parking lot owned by the parish is located north of (behind) the school building and is accessed from East 1st Street. A small non-historic garage is located between the church and school, set back from the street.

Narrative Description

Setting

St. Joseph's School is located in the center of the city of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin two blocks west of the city's major commercial thoroughfare, South Park Avenue. The surrounding neighborhood contains dense development of single-family houses. The school is nestled in this residential development and is one of three buildings comprising St. Joseph's Parish, located at the intersection of S. Marr Street and E. 2nd Street. The other two buildings include a coach house and a church, both located west and immediately adjacent to the school building. A paved parking lot separates the school and church buildings. A shallow yard runs along the south side of the building. At the north (rear) is a

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paved parking lot.

Exterior

St. Joseph's School building was completed in 1928 in a simplified Late Gothic Revival architectural style with Tudor Revival details. It is two stories in height and is clad with reddish-brown brick with gray limestone trim. It is T-shaped in plan, with classrooms facing south onto E. 2nd Street and a rear auditorium/gymnasium wing extending north into the rear parking lot and toward E. 1st Street. Both the main classroom block and rear wing have flat asphalt roofs and horizontal bands of windows. The foundation of the building is concrete.

Primary (south) Façade

The primary (south) façade faces East 2nd Street. It is symmetrical, with a centered entrance pavilion projecting slightly in front of classroom wings extending to either side, ending in slightly projecting end pavilions.

Most ornamental detailing is focused on the main (south) building entrance. A short flight of seven limestone steps with flanking retaining walls lead to a pair of non-historic doors set in non-historic framing with side lights and transoms. This entrance is set within a somewhat flattened, ogee-arched opening embellished by a Tudor Revival-style limestone surround with drip moldings and panels. Above the doorway, metal lettering spells out "ST. JOSEPHS SCHOOL." Above the entrance, the pavilion is simply detailed with vertical piers in a modernized Gothic manner rising to stone finials at the roofline. Spandrels with decorative checkerboard-laid brick are below tall narrow window openings (now filled with non-historic infill panels).

The flanking classroom wings are rectilinear in form and simple in detailing. Brick-clad walls are pierced with horizontal bands of window openings on both first and second floors. These window openings have been infilled with small, non-historic windows and non-historic infill panels, but continue to convey a visual understanding of their original size and scale. The basement windows retain their historic configuration with one-over-one, double-hung sash. Gray limestone is used for a water table separating the basement and first floor and for window sills. The roof parapets are mostly straight, and are stepped adjacent to the entrance and end pavilions. Limestone, Gothic-style tracery highlights the parapet walls. Small medieval-inspired ornamented plaques with shields dot the parapet and extend across all four sides.

West (side) Façade

The west façade is composed of three bays and then the building footprint recesses toward the rear wing. The walls are of red brick and there is a limestone belt course separating the basement and raised first floors, and a string course separates the second floor from the parapet wall. The south bay has a

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window opening at the raised basement level, flanked by louvered vents. Above the belt course, the wall is blank, the only variation is a frame of raised brick which forms a tall, recessed brick panel and having limestone blocks at each corner. The center bay projects slightly and has, at each of the three levels, evenly spaced and stacked window openings, two per floor. The two basement level windows are infilled with solid panels, while each of the four windows above has a limestone sill and a small metal window inserted into dramatically reduced window openings. The north bay has two window openings at the raised basement level, matching the basement level openings in the first two bays. Above the belt course, there is a masonry opening with a limestone sill at both the first and second floors. Originally each opening had a band of five windows, the windows separated by wood mullions. Each window was composed of three sash with divided lights. These bands of windows have been removed. Now there are two, small metal windows per floor, the remainder of the window openings infilled. Various utility vents, conduit, and meters are located on this side.

East (side) Façade

The east façade is a mirror image of the west side. The primary difference is that the centered, slightly projecting bay has an entrance at grade. The door opening interrupts the belt course and the limestone belt course curves into an arch above the door.

North (rear) Facade

The north (rear) wall is divided into two parts by the gymnasium wing that projects forward. The east half is composed of three bays following the same pattern of ornament as the west and east side walls. The end bay has a blank panel with the difference that ornamental limestone panels ornament the parapet wall. The middle bay has an entrance at grade with a limestone arched surround and the third bay has rows of infilled windows, two at the basement level, and three each at the second and third floors. The west half is different only in that it doesn't have the arched entrance, otherwise the configuration is similar to the east half.

Rear Wing

The three walls of the rear gymnasium wing are of red brick, and are similar to the rest of the building. The sides of the wing are divided into five bays by brick pilasters. Each bay has a limestone sill at the same level as the belt course; some (but not all) of the bays once had large windows that have now been infilled. The parapet wall is unadorned. The end of the wing has a center entrance with narrow flanking windows set high on the wall. This entrance and two window grouping are ornamented with limestone surrounds. At each end of this wall is a single entrance and a square window above; these entrances are unornamented. At the upper part of the wall there are no windows, but it is ornamented with limestone at the parapet level. The parapet is capped with a stone cross and a limestone coping. At the third floor, additional limestone enframements and medallions articulate the façade. Black residue on the façade at the third floor suggests the removal of additional limestone pieces.

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Interior

The interior of the building follows the original T-shape floorplan. The classroom spaces, offices, common spaces, and restrooms are divided across three floors. Each floor has a primary circulation corridor that is oriented east-west and stairs are located at each end of the corridor. The corridors are finished with a mix of polished and painted concrete floor and terrazzo floor. At the ground floor, a chair rail runs along the corridor walls. Shelves, benches and hooks are installed in the corridors for student use. On the upper floors, glazed brick runs half-way up the walls, with painted walls above. The ceiling contains dropped acoustic tiles and florescent lights. Many historic, paneled wood doors with divided light transoms and wood door enframements remain. Two primary stairs, one in the east wing and one in the west, provide access to all three floors. A stair at the center entrance pavilion provides access from the south, main entrance to the lower level/ground floor. The stairs are finished with terrazzo steps and simple, painted metal hand rails. Other secondary, narrow stairs exist in the classroom wings to the north. These are also finished with concrete stairs and simple metal hand rails.

Classrooms are located in the east-west wings on the first and second floors. The classrooms are divided into various sizes and are finished with a mix of wood flooring, replacement vinyl tiles, carpet, and terrazzo. The ceilings have dropped acoustic tiles and florescent lights. Various generations of chalk boards and white boards are affixed to the painted plaster walls. On each floor, toilet rooms are located adjacent to the north east stair well. Toilet rooms are finished with tile floors and tile walls. Offices are also located throughout the building and contain a mix of historic wood floors, vinyl replacement tiles, and non-historic carpeting.

The projecting north wing at all three floors was historically not sub-divided and used for larger group gatherings. At the ground floor, the space was sub-divided for use as a cafeteria. Non-historic wood panels are attached to the walls. Some historic wood floors and multi-light, divided wood and glass doors remain. At the first floor, the north wing contained the gym, formerly used as the auditorium. The space retains historic features, including wood floors, glazed brick on the walls, arched wood entry enframements, and an articulated beam ceiling. A historic stage remains at the north end of the space. At the second floor, the historic balcony is accessible. The balcony remains wood floors, stairs, decorative plaster and cove moldings at the ceiling.

Integrity

St. Joseph's School has good to excellent exterior integrity, retaining its historic location, site, general overall form, and materials, and the vast majority of detailing. The building retains its original footprint and massing, with few non-historic alterations or additions. The exterior retains a majority of its original 1928 Late Gothic Revival masonry ornamentation, most notably a highly detailed, two-

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story entrance pavilion along 2nd Street, stone quoining, spandrels and pinnacles. Although the school's original windows and several doors and door frames were replaced, original window and door openings remain.

The school building also retains its original 1928 spatial layout including classrooms and circulation. Corridors and stairs remain relatively unaltered. Most interior finishes also remain, including plaster walls, brick wainscoting and wood-and-glass classroom doors. Classrooms retain historic spatial configurations. Upper-level corridors retain their original terrazzo floors, glazed brick wall cladding, and wood classroom doors and transoms. Many classrooms retain original wood floors, decorative trim, and built-in cabinetry. The school also retains its original terrazzo interior stairs and decorative metal railings. The original plaster ceilings are intact throughout above non-historic dropped ceilings.

Overall, the St. Joseph's School building retains excellent architectural integrity with most of its historic 1928 character-defining interior features still intact, and in good condition.

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Summary

St. Joseph's School, located at 95 East Second Street in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, was designed by the Fond du Lac architectural firm of Frank Stepnoski and Son. Built in 1928, it was the third building of the St. Joseph's Parish complex. The school is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Education, historically significant for its association with primary school education in Fond du Lac. Parochial schools are an important part of the total educational picture, serving children not enrolled in public school. The establishment and expansion of St. Joseph's Parish reflects the growth and development of the city of Fond du Lac. The period of significance spans from 1928, the year the school was constructed, to 1967, the fifty-year cut off for historic significance.

Overview of Parish History

Situated in east-central Wisconsin on the southern shore of Lake Winnebago, the city of Fond du Lac developed as a small largely working- and middle-class city with a variety of industries, including lumber mills and the Chicago & NorthWestern Railroad in the nineteenth century and varied manufacturers in the early-twentieth century. These industries drew European immigrants to the city, including German, Irish, and French-Canadian. Most members of these ethnic groups were Roman Catholic, for whom the city's Roman Catholic parishes, including St. Joseph, were centers of education, fellowship and faith.

St. Joseph's Parish was established in 1847 as St. Louis Church, the "mother church" of Fond du Lac Catholics. St. Joseph's was renamed in 1871 when St. Louis, the last of three national parishes, was renamed St. Joseph's. The new parish became an important parish for Irish Catholics and was a significant community institution for many first-generation Irish Catholic immigrants and their descendants as a place for faith and a shared culture. Since its inception in 1928, St. Joseph's School was an important educational facility serving the growing population of Catholic families in Fond du Lac. It was constructed as an elementary school during a Progressive Era of education reform in Fond du Lac after a number of nineteenth century school buildings were deemed shabby and unhealthy.¹ Under the direction of school district superintendent L. A. Williams, a number of old school buildings were torn down and an aggressive public school building campaign began. Although not included in the public school building initiative, St. Joseph's School represents some of the education ideals popular at the time including large, clean, and spacious facilities. This parochial school remained an important educational institution into the post-World War II era, later serving the larger population of

¹ Michael D. Lempinen and Les Ross, "Intensive Survey Report, Architectural and Historical Survey Project, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin," Prepared for the City of Fond-du-Lac (Wisconsin, May 1989), 73.

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Fond du Lac youth beyond those of Irish-Catholic descent. The church was closed in 2007, while the school building continues to be used for Catholic-based education today as St. Mary Springs Academy.

Criteria Consideration A

St. Joseph's School was constructed and owned by a religious institution during its period of significance; however, it derives its significance from its association with the history of education in the community separate from religious belief or doctrine. The building therefore meets the requirements of Criteria Consideration A.

An Overview of the History of Fond du Lac

The city of Fond du Lac is a largely working- and middle-class city in Fond du Lac County, located on the Fond du Lac River at the southern tip of Lake Winnebago in east-central Wisconsin. It was historically centered, economically speaking, around the railroad and lumber industries, which drew European immigrants as residents to the city during the period of its greatest development in the nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. In support of Fond du Lac's large Roman Catholic immigrant population, Catholic parishes, including St. Joseph's Parish, were established in the early decades of the city's history.

The part of the State of Wisconsin where Fond du Lac is located was first explored by French Catholic missionaries and fur traders most likely between the 1670s and 1718. The name "Fond du Lac" means "farthest or end of the lake" in French and appears to have become associated with this general area during this early period of European exploration.² In 1787, the Fond du Lac area officially became part of the United States as part of the Northwest Territory. That year, a European trading post was established at the forks of the Fond du Lac River. Although abandoned sometime before 1819, this post served early European traders and trappers in their interactions with Ho-Chunk Indians living in the area, as did a trading post established that year in the area.³

By the 1820s, the fur trade was waning, and Native Americans were being removed from their land for resettlement on reservations or pushed further west. Europeans began to settle in the Fond du Lac area permanently in the 1830s, starting with the 1835 purchase of 3,705 acres of land at the mouth of the Fond du Lac River into Lake Winnebago by the Fond du Lac Company, led by James Duane Doty and George McWilliams. At this time, the city of Fond du Lac was platted. Soon after, early pioneers

² Ibid., 9.

³ Ibid.

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Colwert and Edward Pier each purchased 160 acres of Doty's original plat of Fond du Lac from the Fond du Lac Company, and Colwert Pier and his wife Fanny began operating a tavern, inn, and land office as agents for the company. The Piers are acknowledged as the first permanent European settlers of Fond du Lac.⁴

In 1838, the Fond du Lac Company recruited a doctor, Mason C. Darling, to settle in the new community. Darling saw opportunity in real-estate development and purchased 80 acres from the company. Through shrewd business moves, Darling was able to center the new settlement's development on his acreage, which became the center of Fond du Lac's historic downtown.⁵

Despite the efforts of Darling and other early residents, the new town grew slowly, reaching a population of only 400 by 1847. That year, the Wisconsin territorial legislature authorized a village charter for Fond du Lac.⁶ Commercial activity quickened in the next few years, thanks to receiving a branch line of the Chicago & NorthWestern Railroad. By 1852, when the community received a city charter, Fond du Lac was a bustling city of approximately 5,000, centered on several lumber mills making 12 million board feet of lumber and 6 million shingles a year. Besides eight hotels and numerous shops and other commercial ventures, the city now had four elementary schools and six churches of major denominations, including St. Louis Roman Catholic Church (the parent church of St. Joseph's Church), which was started in 1847.⁷

The combination of the lumber industry and the Chicago & NorthWestern Railroad encouraged a period of rapid growth in Fond du Lac. By the Civil War period of the 1860s, the city had grown in size to 10,000 residents, many of whom worked in the lumber mills and the railroad's car shops. Other industries included flour mills and iron works.⁸ However, the lumber industry was waning by this time, and combined initially with the 1873 economic panic, which affected economic growth in general throughout the United States, Fond du Lac began to slow in economic growth despite the efforts of new industries, including tanneries, machine shops and similar endeavors. A small resort industry centered on Lake Winnebago and local artesian wells grew in popularity; however, those new industries were unable to offset the economic might of the declining lumber industry.⁹

In 1875, Fond du Lac had 15,308 residents. The 1989 "Intensive Survey Report" for the city noted that,

⁴ Ibid., 10.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid., 8.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

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in 1875, the community had "18 churches, six banks, a dozen hotels, four foundries, 14 sawmills, and two flour mills."¹⁰ Church buildings were built in Fond du Lac's downtown area, including buildings for St. Joseph's Parish and its sister parish, St. Mary.¹¹

It was not until the early 1900s that Fond du Lac's economy began to recover from the decline of the lumber industry. Railroad repair shops owned by the Soo Line and the Chicago & NorthWestern Railroad employed around 1,700 men in 1912. The city's industrial base diversified further with companies such as the Fred Rueping Leather Company, the Sweet Company, the Moore and Galloway Lumber Company, the Huber and Fuhrman Drug Mills, the Giddings and Lewis Company, the O.C. Steenberg Company, the Vulcan Manufacturing Company, the Galloway-West Company, and the Bechaud Brewing Company. Between the railroads and these and other industries, Fond du Lac remained a prosperous small city of commerce and industry until the post-World War II era.¹² (It was during this era of prosperity and growth that the current St. Joseph's Church building was constructed in 1909.)

The post-World War II era saw some stagnation in industrial output and the removal of much retail activity from Fond du Lac's historic downtown to the city's west side, although specialty retail shops remain in the historic downtown, along with many government offices and professional service providers.¹³ Several historic church buildings, including St. Joseph's Church building, remain downtown, located on or near Marr Street. Industry has declined with the general rise of overseas manufacturing since the 1960s, which has adversely affected former industrial communities through much of the United States, including Fond du Lac. Despite the decline in manufacturing, Fond du Lac remains an attractive and vibrant city and a center for outdoor recreation. The city today has 43,021 residents as of the 2010 United States census.¹⁴

Ethnic Communities and Religious Denominations in Fond du Lac

The earliest permanent Fond du Lac settlers were native-born Americans. However, the first period of the town's growth in the 1840s coincided with unrest and revolution in much of Europe, especially in the German-speaking states of Central Europe, as well as the potato famine in Ireland. In 1850 in Wisconsin, more than one-third of the state's population of 305,000 was foreign-born. In Fond du Lac

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Ibid., 98-99.

¹² Ibid., 11-12.

¹³ Ibid., 12

¹⁴ "American Fact Finder," United States Census, http://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml; accessed December 6, 2015.

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itself, there were over 2,000 foreign-born residents. The population skewed young in age, under 30, and a majority were single men, most of whom worked in the lumber mills. Many people came from Ireland and the of German states, but throughout the general Fond du Lac area, immigrants from a variety of European countries settled, including Welsh, French-Canadians, Scots, and Norwegians.¹⁵

These immigrants to Fond du Lac, brought a number of religions with them, and through them, the developing city saw the founding of a number of religious institutions. The first church service in the Fond du Lac area is believed to have been held in 1839, when the Rev. Jesse Halsted presided over a service in the home of physician Mason C. Darling. In 1843, a circuit for the Methodist Episcopal Church was established, and circuit-riding preachers held services in a variety of local homes.¹⁶ Some Germans were also Methodist. The German Methodist Episcopal Church was founded in 1859, later known as St. Matthew's.¹⁷

There was a great expansion of Roman Catholicism in Fond du Lac during the nineteenth century as German, Irish, and French-Canadian immigrants came to the city to work in lumber mills and other businesses and industries. These distinct ethnic groups soon wanted their own Catholic parishes and schools. New parishes based on nationality were split from the main Catholic Church, St. Louis, established in 1847, during the years before and after the Civil War. In 1860, Germans, French, and a number of English-speaking Catholics, including the Irish, still worshiped here. By 1871, however, the French and Irish Catholics had separated from the congregation. The French Catholics formed a new St. Louis Church and the old church was renamed St. Joseph's. Although St. Joseph's was home to several ethnic groups, the parish served a large portion of Fond du Lac's Irish population.

One early settler, Dr. Carl de Haas, is credited with encouraging many of his fellow Germans to settle in the Fond du Lac area through the publication of a booklet entitled, *North America, Wisconsin, Hints for Emigrants*. Published in 1847, it was widely circulated in German-speaking states in Europe. De Haas himself lived in the neighboring town of Calumet and, in 1871, founded the German weekly newspaper *Norwestlicher Courier* in Fond du Lac.¹⁸

Other religious denominations included the Baptists, Congregationalists, Episcopal, and Presbyterians, among a handful of groups smaller in size. Congregationalists and Episcopalians came to Fond du Lac as part of a general wave of immigration from New England, New York and other northern states, and

¹⁵ Lempinen, "Intensive Survey Report," 1-2.

¹⁶ Ibid., 97.

¹⁷ Ibid., 10.

¹⁸ Michael Mentzer, *Fond du Lac County: A Gift of the Glacier*.

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the denomination was prominent among early Yankee settlers. In the twentieth century, Congregationalists merged with the Christian Church to form the United Church of Christ. The Lutheran Church is the largest Protestant denomination in Wisconsin and is also prominent in the city of Fond du Lac. Large numbers of ethnic German and Scandinavian immigrants belonged to this denomination, which historically was divided into three synods, the Wisconsin Synod, the Missouri Synod, and the Norwegian Synod. Other religious groups came later or were smaller in size. Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church and the Jewish Synagogue both established a presence in Fond du Lac in the late-twentieth and early-twentieth centuries. Within this context of a multitude of local faiths, St. Joseph's School and the associated parish provided Fond du Lac's growing Roman Catholic population with a religious, educational, and social hub (see below for a history of St. Joseph's Parish).

History of Education in Fond du Lac

Educational facilities in Fond du Lac followed the typical development pattern of other communities in the state, beginning with the establishment of the first school in the city in 1843.¹⁹ This one-room school building was located on Main Street (no longer extant) and moved locations several times before it was destroyed by a fire in 1848.²⁰ Around this same time, the first Franklin School building was constructed. This school served as the first, partially tax-supported public school in the city. Although the original school building was destroyed by a fire that same year, a new building was constructed in 1849. This school building would also be replaced in 1907.

In 1850, Fond du Lac began a new era of building larger schools with the establishment of the Marr School (no longer extant). Just two years later, the new school was nearing its capacity with the city's quickly growing population. A new school district system was established in 1852, which separated Fond du Lac into four public school districts. By 1854, the city's school superintendent consolidated districts one through three into Union School District No. 1, also known as the Union School District, and built the Cotton Street School (no longer extant). The Marr Street School continued to serve the rest of Fond du Lac's population. The two districts were accommodating roughly 900 children at this time.²¹

Between 1860 and 1893, 17 small school buildings were erected to meet increased enrollment. Despite the surge in school building construction during the late-nineteenth century, many of these schools were crowded and poorly equipped to handle the growing populations of school-age children.

¹⁹ Lempinen, "Intensive Survey Report," 72.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Ibid., 5.

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Residents in 1860s Fond du Lac at first rejected local efforts to fund city schools, considering them expensive luxuries. The Wisconsin legislature passage of the Free High School Law of 1875, which provided funding for high schools statewide, and help created a statewide mandate for a modern school building.²² In 1894, Fond du Lac Mayor E. E. Atkins spearheaded a movement to bring major city-wide renovation efforts to district school buildings. The new city school superintendent, L. A. Williams initiated what became a Progressive Era of new schools in Fond du Lac during the turn of the twentieth century. During this time, emphasis was placed on replacing, rather than renovating, many of the inadequate school buildings with new and improved facilities. Nine new school buildings were constructed in Fond du Lac between 1896 and 1907. As of the 1989 Intensive Architectural Survey, only one historic elementary school building from this era was still extant: the new Franklin School (constructed in 1907 to replace the 1848 school building) located at 401 S. Military Road.

By the 1911-1912 school year, the city had 3,510 students attending public schools. The school building program proved to be a success as the new public schools quickly filled up. The next school constructed in Fond du Lac following the Franklin School (1907) was not until 1914 when the Bragg School (no longer extant) opened. The Garfield School was then constructed in 1922, and was the last of the Progressive Era schools constructed in Fond du Lac.

Secondary education in Wisconsin was largely provided by private academies during the nineteenth century. These schools often emphasized modern language, mathematics, literature, and history.²³ Kenosha was the first city in the state to develop a public high school in 1849, although the rest of the state was slow to follow. State legislature allowed for two or more districts to form a union high school district by 1856, which by 1870, included 14 communities throughout the state.²⁴ By 1875, there was some state aid available for high schools through the Free High School Law. Numbers quickly grew after this, with over 200 high schools in the state by 1900 and over double this number by the mid-twentieth century.

Fond du Lac citizens began advocating for a public high school by 1858. By January of 1859, high school classes for 100 students began in rented quarters. A formal high school would not be built until 1865. The new building was constructed on Merrill Street (no longer extant), and went through a series of additions until 1926. The school was consolidated with the new Fond du Lac High School, which was constructed in 1922 on the site of the old Garfield elementary school at 382 Linden Street. The

²² *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin: A Manual for Historic Properties (Wisconsin CRMP): Education*. Madison: Wisconsin Historical Society, 1986.

²³ Lempinen, "Intensive Survey Report," , 73

²⁴ Ibid.

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only secondary school building still extant in 1989 was the original section of the Fond du Lac Senior High School. By 2011, however, it had been largely demolished.²⁵

A number of private schools were established over time as well in Fond du Lac, including private religious schools. The first of which was Rev. O. W. Cooley's Wisconsin Female Seminary (no longer extant) established in 1853 as a finishing school for young women. In 1854, a private English and German school opened (no longer extant), offering lessons in English, German, French, and Latin. A number of smaller private schools followed suite, including Butterfield's English and Classical School in 1848 (no longer extant), Adam's School for Young Ladies in 1847 (no longer extant), and Grafton Hall School for Girls and Young Ladies in 1895 (no longer extant). One of the most successful private schools in Fond du Lac was the Merrille Institute, which opened in 1866 (extant; local Landmark) and mirrored the curriculum offered in the public high schools but also offered specialty courses in French and music. The school only operated until the 1880s and the building was converted into apartments by 1900.²⁶

Only three extant buildings associated with private religious education in Fond du Lac were identified in the 1989 Intensive Architectural Survey: St. Mary School (1949. NRHP 2017), St. Joseph's School (1928), and a school associated with St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran School (1925). Of these schools, only St. Joseph's School retains adequate integrity for potential individual listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

History of St. Joseph's Parish

The completion of St. Joseph's School in 1928 was a highlight of the history of St. Joseph's Parish, and reflected Fond du Lac's economic and population growth and the need for more modern educational facilities citywide in the early-twentieth century. As the elementary school associated with Fond du Lac's most prominent Roman Catholic congregations, St. Joseph's School played a significant role in the social and religious lives of thousands of Fond du Lac's citizens.

St. Joseph's Parish is considered the "mother parish" of all Roman Catholic parishes in the city of Fond du Lac. It was established in 1847, the same year that Fond du Lac received a village charter from the Wisconsin territorial legislature, and was originally known as St. Louis. The Rev. F. X. Bonduel, an itinerant priest, founded the church. A modest wood-frame church building was built in 1847 on land

²⁵ Heritage Research, Ltd., "Historical & Architectural Resource Survey, City of Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI," Prepared for Fond du Lac Historic Preservation Commission (2011), 89.

²⁶ Lempinen, "Intensive Survey Report," 75.

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that was provided by Isadore Snow. In 1854 and 1860, the church was enlarged and a parsonage was built. None of this is extant.²⁷

The next two decades saw a great expansion of Roman Catholicism in Fond du Lac as German, Irish and French-Canadian immigrants came to the city to work in lumber mills and other businesses and industries. These separate and distinct ethnic groups all wanted their own Catholic parishes, and new parishes were split off from St. Louis Church during the years before and after the Civil War. Irish Catholics were first to achieve their goal of a national parish with the creation of St. Patrick Parish in 1855. German Catholics followed eleven years later, in 1866, with the establishment of St. Mary Parish. Finally, French-speaking Catholics formed a new St. Louis Parish in 1871, and the old St. Louis Parish was renamed St. Joseph.²⁸ Although not specifically designated as a parish for any particular ethnic group, a large number of the parish's congregation were Irish American.²⁹

Three years later, in 1874, the old wood-frame church built in 1847 was moved to allow the construction of a large, more visually-impressive brick church for St. Joseph's Parish. Built in the Romanesque Revival architectural style, the new St. Joseph's Church (replaced by the current church building and no longer extant) was located on the current site of St. Joseph's Church, but faced west onto Marr Street rather than south onto Second Street as the current church building does.³⁰ The dedication of the building's cornerstone took place on May 7, 1874. Construction lingered for more than a decade, with completion in 1888. Close to the 1888 church completion, a rectory (no longer extant) was built to serve the parish.³¹

On the night of September 24-25, 1908, St. Joseph's Church burned along with several other nearby churches and a good section of the surrounding neighborhood in a fire that has become known to later generations of Fond du Lac residents as "The Night the Churches Burned." Besides St. Joseph's Church and the neighboring rectory, other buildings that were destroyed or badly damaged during this fire were the Grant School, St. Peter Lutheran Church and the First Congregational Church. The financial loss to St. Joseph's Parish was estimated at \$75,000.³²

²⁷ Ibid., 98.

²⁸ Ibid., 98-99.

²⁹ Mary Ann Wettstein, *150 Years of Catholic Faith: Retracing the Steps* (Fond du Lac, Wisconsin: Action Printing, 1998), 100; "Historical & Architectural Resource Survey, City of Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI," Prepared for Fond du Lac Historic Preservation Commission by Heritage Research, Ltd. (2011), 75.

³⁰ Lempinen, "Intensive Survey Report," 99.

³¹ Wettstein, *150 Years of Catholic Faith*, 101, 107.

³² Lempinen, "Intensive Survey Report," 107-108.

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Construction of a new St. Joseph's Church (the current church building) proceeded quickly. The razing of the old church ruins was completed in October.³³ By March 1909, an Illinois architectural firm, Turnbull and Jones, had been selected, and plans and specifications were ready. The contract was let in May 1909 to Thomas O'Connell of Fond du Lac; the cost was estimated at \$44,858. The stone mason was the Hutter Construction Company.³⁴ A "pure gothic design" was selected.³⁵ The foundation was in place for a cornerstone dedication on August 16, 1909. At 134 feet in length by 96 1/2 feet in width, the new Gothic Revival-style church building was built of Fond du Lac limestone with Bedford limestone trim and seated 960. It occupied the same location at the northeast corner of Second and Marr streets as the destroyed church building, but it was oriented to Second rather than Marr. It was dedicated on September 23, 1910.³⁶ At the same time, a stone rectory (no longer extant) was built next to the church, facing Second Street.³⁷ The parish constructed a long awaited elementary school building in 1928.

St. Joseph's Church was renovated in 1949, then later in 1970. That year, \$100,000 was spent on refurbishing the interior of the church, taking into consideration changes in worship services brought about by Vatican II, including a new altar and pews.³⁸ At the same time, the parish rectory and school were redecorated. The parish acquired an adjacent Italianate-style house and coach house in 1954. Located just north of the church building on the southeast corner of First and Marr streets, the house had long been a funeral home. In 1957 the house became the parish library.³⁹ The house itself has been torn down, but the coach house remains as part of the parish complex.

St. Joseph's Parish was consolidated with other Fond du Lac Catholic parishes to form the Holy Family Catholic Community in 1999. St. Joseph's Church saw its last mass on November 12, 2007. Some of the church building's stained-glass windows have subsequently been removed.⁴⁰

History of St. Joseph's School

St. Joseph's Parish had long wanted an elementary school, but debt incurred from construction of the

³³ "Historical & Architectural Resource Survey, City of Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI," 75.

³⁴ "Contract is Let," *Daily Reporter*, May 7, 1909; "Historical & Architectural Resource Survey, City of Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI," 75.

³⁵ Wettstein, *150 Years of Catholic Faith*, 74.

³⁶ *Ibid.*, 108-109; "Contract is Let," *Daily Reporter*, May 7, 1909; "New Church a Fine Edifice," *Daily Reporter*, September 23, 1910.

³⁷ Wettstein, *150 Years of Catholic Faith*, 109.

³⁸ "St. Joseph's Plans Work on Interior," *Commonwealth Reporter*, January 3, 1970.

³⁹ "St. Joseph's Parish Library is named for Father Williard," *Commonwealth Reporter*, March 25, 1957.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.*

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1874 and 1909 church buildings had delayed the permanent establishment of one.⁴¹ In the early 1870s, St. Joseph's Parish operated a small school on East First Street. Then in 1885, the Sisters of St. Agnes established a school in the church basement.⁴² Around 1912, Father John J. Collins took over as pastor of St. Joseph Parish, tackling the huge church debt and challenging the trustees to take on yet another financial project – a new parish school.⁴³ Beginning in 1917, Father Collins began corresponding with the Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, Sebastian Messmer, regarding plans and possible land acquisitions for a new school. Construction of the new \$200,000 school building started early in 1928, and was considered Father Collins' crowning achievement. Although reducing the parish debt was at the forefront of his early pastorate years, he was quoted as saying, "Now I have reached the height of my life's ambition."

Located east of the existing church and facing Second Street, the subject building was constructed on the site of an earlier convent building occupied by the Sisters of Mercy. It was designed in a simple Late Gothic Revival architectural style with Tudor Revival details. The cornerstone was blessed on April 22, 1928, and the building dedication occurred in early October that same year.⁴⁴ The school was staffed by the Sisters of St. Agnes, who resided at the convent located just east of the school at 111 East 2nd Street (extant).⁴⁵ The convent, formerly the Kalk-Haber House, was purchased from Mr. Haber in 1927 for \$1 by St. Joseph Parish.⁴⁶ The house would serve the next 80 years as a convent for the sisters who taught at St. Joseph's School.⁴⁷ Following the death of Father Collins in 1932, Father Henry G. Riordan took his place as pastor. Father Riordan embraced the newly founded school as his own, taking special care to reach a diocesan rating of "excellent" during his time there.⁴⁸ He also formed the St. Joseph's Home and School Association, one of the first of its kind in the area.⁴⁹ St. Joseph's School had 200 students in 1929 and 870 pupils in 1960.⁵⁰

St. Joseph's School later consolidated with St. Mary School in 1975 in order to maintain a Catholic school presence in Fond du Lac after both schools suffered significant decreases in enrollment.⁵¹ The school was remodeled with new windows in the 1990s. The building most recently housed a, parochial

⁴¹ Wettstein, *150 Years of Catholic Faith*, 111-112.

⁴² *1987 Directory of St. Joseph's Catholic Church*, 15.

⁴³ Wettstein, *150 Years of Catholic Faith*, 111.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.*, 112.

⁴⁵ Heritage Research, Ltd. "Historical & Architectural Resource Survey," 75.

⁴⁶ Fond du Lac Historic Preservation Commission, "Local Historic Designation Booklet – Draft," 45.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.*

⁴⁸ Wettstein, *150 Years of Catholic Faith*, 115.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.*

⁵⁰ "St. Joseph's Church Rebuilt in 1909 after Downtown Fire," *Commonwealth Reporter*, February 6, 1960.

⁵¹ Heritage Research, Ltd. "Historical & Architectural Resource Survey, 75.

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school, St. Mary's Springs Academy. Currently, the building is vacant.

Frank J. Stepnoski – Architect

Frank J. Stepnoski (1880-1952), the architect of St. Joseph's School building, was born in the province of Galicia, Austria.⁵² He emigrated to New York City in 1904, and worked for the architectural firm of Smith & Lazarus for 3 years. In 1907, he moved to Oshkosh, Wisconsin, where he soon married and had a son, Sylvester J., born in 1910, who would eventually join his father in practice. Stepnoski and his family moved to Fond du Lac in 1913, where, between 1915 and 1919, Stepnoski worked as an interior designer for the lumber firm of Moore & Galloway. In 1920, Stepnoski became a registered architect in Wisconsin. He opened a Fond du Lac office and an early design was the paper board factory for the Fond du Lac Paper Company.⁵³

Through his career, Stepnoski designed a number of Fond du Lac buildings, including the National Oil Filling Station, the Marcoe Store and flat building, the Moose Temple (1924), the Commercial National Bank Building (1922-23), and a pavilion for Lakeside Park. He also was the architect for school buildings for both St. Peter and St. Patrick Roman Catholic parishes, as well as the school buildings for St. Peter (1925), St. Joseph (1928), St. Mary (1949; designed in partnership with his son, Sylvester). His son Sylvester later designed St. Mary's Convent building.

Comparable School Buildings – Fond du Lac

St. Joseph's School is one of the few remaining school buildings in Fond du Lac representative of the Progressive Era of school reform that took place during the turn of the century, which served to replace the old, inadequate school buildings of the nineteenth century. Many of these early schools in Fond du Lac were razed after they were deemed shabby and unhealthy by Mayor E. E. Atkins in 1894.⁵⁴ Later, a number of Progressive Era school constructed during the turn of the century were also razed. These include the Doty Street School (1896), Lincoln School (1897), Washington School (1897), Jefferson School (1901), Grant School (1901), McKinley School (1904), Union School (1905), Cleveland

⁵² Fond du Lac Historic Preservation Commission, "Local Historic Designation Booklet – Draft," p. 83. The booklet credits Sylvester Stepnoski with design of St. Joseph's School, in addition to St. Peter's School, and St. Mary's School. Sylvester's father, Frank Stepnoski designed St. Peter's School and worked in conjunction with his son on the 1949 design of St. Mary's School. Based on this information, it seems fair to conclude that St. Joseph's School was also designed by Frank Stepnoski.

⁵³ Michael D. Lempinen and Les Ross, "Intensive Survey Report, Architectural and Historical Survey Project, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin," Prepared for the City of Fond-du-Lac, Wisconsin, May 1989, Architects and Builders, p. 5.

⁵⁴ Lempinen, "Intensive Survey Report, 73.

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School (1907), Bragg School (1914), and the Garfield School (1922).

Extant public and parochial schools in Fond du Lac constructed before 1950 include:

- **Merrille Institute (1868; Italianate; 29 South Military Road)** – the school operated until the 1880s and was converted into apartments in 1900. The building is a local landmark and has been determined potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, according to the Fond du Lac intensive survey conducted from 1991-1992, and again in the updated survey conducted in 2011.
- **Franklin School (1907; Neoclassical style; 401 South Military Road)** – this is the only surviving public school constructed during the Progressive Era of new school buildings in Fond du Lac under superintendent, L. A. Williams during the turn of the century. An intensive survey conducted in 2011 found that the school *did not retain sufficient* architectural integrity to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.
- **Fond du Lac Senior High School (1922; Collegiate Gothic style; 382 Linden Street)** – the 2011 survey found the school building largely demolished and *no longer eligible* for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.
- **St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran School (1925; Collegiate Gothic style; 35 East 2nd Street)** – although this school was determined potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places on the Fond du Lac intensive survey conducted from 1991-1992, the updated survey conducted in 2011 found significant loss of integrity and deemed the building *no longer eligible*.
- **St. Patrick's Catholic School (1938; Gothic Revival style; 37 East Follett Street)** – the school building was surveyed in 2011, but was not specifically identified as potentially eligible or ineligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The exterior appears to retain a fair level of historic integrity with the exception of non-historic replacement windows.
- **St. Mary's School (1949; 63 East Merrill Avenue)** – The school, constructed in 1949, was determined eligible for individual listing and in 2017 was listed in the National Register of Historic Places. (NR # 100000948)

Of the seven surviving pre-1950 schools in Fond du Lac, only a few aside from St. Joseph's School

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retain adequate integrity for listing on the National Register of Historic Places: St. Patrick's Catholic School; St. Mary's School; and the Merrille Institute, which has not been utilized as a school since the 1880s. The Merrille Institute was converted into apartments in 1900. Although St. Patrick's Catholic School retains a fair level of historic integrity on the exterior (interior condition unknown), the school is much smaller than St. Joseph's School.

St. Joseph's School operated as a school from the time of its construction in 1928, until very recently and retains good architectural integrity, including original features and finishes and overall floor plan and circulation patterns. The building plays an important role in the history of education in Fond du Lac, and is one of the few remaining school buildings from the boom in Progressive Era school reform during the turn of the twentieth century.

Summary of Eligibility

St. Joseph's School, designed by the Fond du Lac architectural firm of Frank Stepnoski and Son and built in 1928, is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Education. The school represents the history of education in Fond du Lac and is an important part of Fond du Lac's history, both within the context of private parochial schools and within the larger framework of education in the city. The establishment and expansion of St. Joseph's Parish reflects the growth and development of the city of Fond du Lac, as Irish, German, and French-Canadian immigrants settled in the community. Later, the Progressive Era ushered in an expansion of new school building to serve the needs of the growing community. Parochial schools were part of the movement to expand educational facilities and contributed to the effort to relieve over-crowding in schools. Of the seven schools remaining from the historic period of late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century school expansion, one school has been listed in the National Register of Historic Places (St. Mary's School, NR #100000948) and only one other is eligible for listing (Merrille Institute). St. Joseph's School is among the finest examples of eligible schools in the city of Fond du Lac and has excellent integrity. The period of significance for spans from 1928, the year the school was constructed, to 1967, the fifty-year cut off for historic significance.

St. Joseph's School also meets Criteria Consideration A as a building built by a religious institution and owned by that religious institution during its period of significance, but which possesses and secular historical significance separate from religious belief or doctrine. It is significant as an elementary school building that exemplifies the historic importance of education and the growth of the population in the context of Fond du Lac.

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Verbal Boundary Description:

Beginning at the southwest corner of the lot at East Second street, the boundary extends east along the concrete sidewalk fronting the St. Joseph's School building approximately 200 feet. Turning at the southeast corner of the building, the boundary extends approximately 238 feet to the north. At this northeast corner of the building, turning to the west, the boundary extends approximately 200 feet. At the northwest corner of the building, turning to the south, the boundary extends approximately 119 feet. At this point, a small spur of the boundary juts to the west in a rectangular-shaped border extending 14 feet to the south, 20 feet to the north, and 7 feet to the west. The boundary continues 137 feet to the south, encompassing the whole of the building's boundaries.

Boundary Justification:

The nomination boundaries encompass a parcel of land that includes the entire St. Joseph's School building in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, including associated landscaping and walkways that immediately surround the school. Areas that were historically part of the larger church complex, including shared parking lots and separate buildings including the parish and coach house, are excluded from this nominated parcel. The nominated boundary provides sufficient setting for the building while excluding extraneous land.

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Photo Log

Name of Property:	<u>St. Joseph's School</u>		
City or Vicinity:	<u>Fond du lac</u>		
County:	<u>Fond du lac</u>	State:	<u>Wisconsin</u>
Photographer:	<u>Terry Tatum</u>		
Date Photographed:	<u>November 6, 2015</u>		
Location of Original Files:	<u>Wisconsin Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office, Madison, WI</u>		

Photo 1 of 14:	South facade - looking northwest.
Photo 2 of 14:	South facade, main entrance detail – looking north.
Photo 3 of 14:	North and west facades – looking southeast.
Photo 4 of 14:	East and north facades – looking southwest.
Photo 5 of 14:	Lower level library – looking northwest.
Photo 6 of 14:	First floor, east stair – looking north.
Photo 7 of 14:	First floor, main south stair – looking north.
Photo 8 of 14:	First floor corridor – looking west.
Photo 9 of 14:	First floor, typical classroom – looking northwest.
Photo 10 of 14:	First floor auditorium – looking north.
Photo 11 of 14:	Second floor, door detail – looking east.
Photo 12 of 14:	Second floor, typical classroom – looking northwest.
Photo 13 of 14:	Second floor, typical classroom – looking northeast.
Photo 14 of 14:	Second floor, auditorium balcony – looking west.

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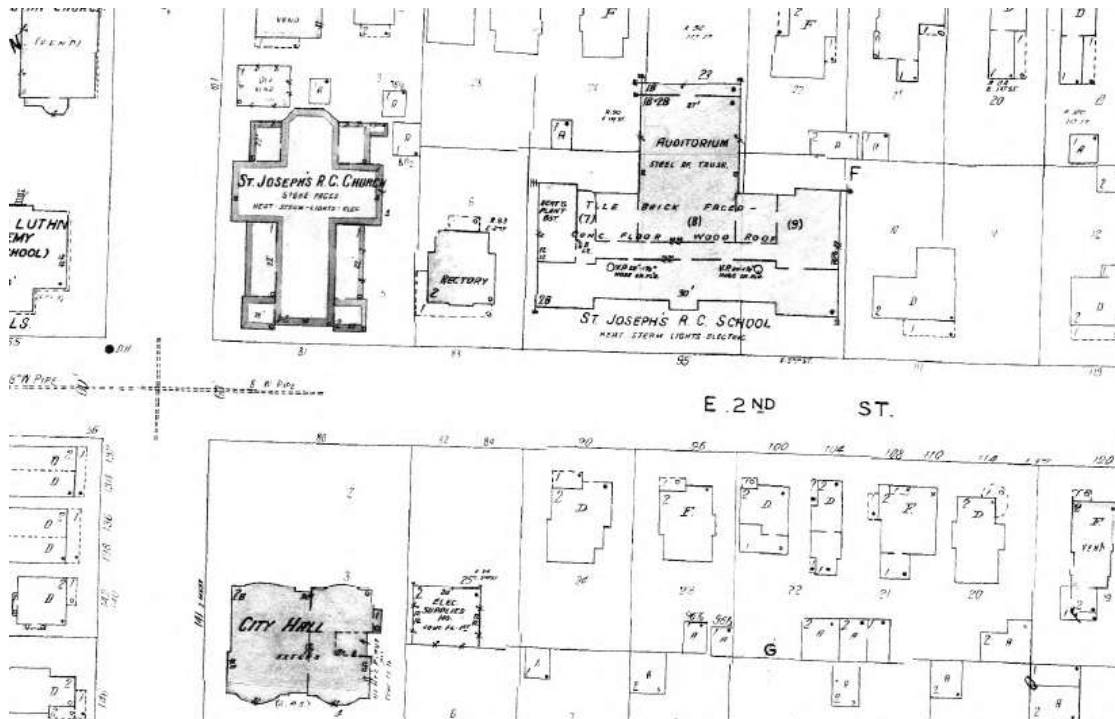
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- Figure 1:** Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1950
- Figure 2:** Construction of St. Joseph's School, 1928, Mary Ann Wettstein. *150 Years of Catholic Faith in the Fond du lac Area: Retracing the Steps*. December, 1998.112.
- Figure 3:** Classroom in St. Joseph's School, 1945, Mary Ann Wettstein. *150 Years of Catholic Faith in the Fond du lac Area: Retracing the Steps*. December, 1998.115
- Figure 4:** St. Joseph's School, 1989 St. Joseph's School, WHS AHI, 1989.
- Figure 5:** Site plan and photo key
- Figure 6:** Lower level plan and photo key
- Figure 7:** First floor plan and photo key
- Figure 8:** Second floor plan and photo key

Figure 1: Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1950.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

St. Joseph's School
Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

Section figures Page 2

Figure 2: Construction of St. Joseph's School, 1928.

Source: Mary Ann Wettstein. *150 Years of Catholic Faith in the Fond du lac Area: Retracing the Steps*. December, 1998.112.



Figure 3: Classroom in St. Joseph's School, 1945.

Source: Mary Ann Wettstein. *150 Years of Catholic Faith in the Fond du lac Area: Retracing the Steps*. December, 1998.115.



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Continuation Sheet

St. Joseph's School
Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

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Figure 4: St. Joseph's School, 1989.
Source: St. Joseph's School, WHS HPPH, 1989.



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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

St. Joseph's School
Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

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Figure 5: Site plan and photo key



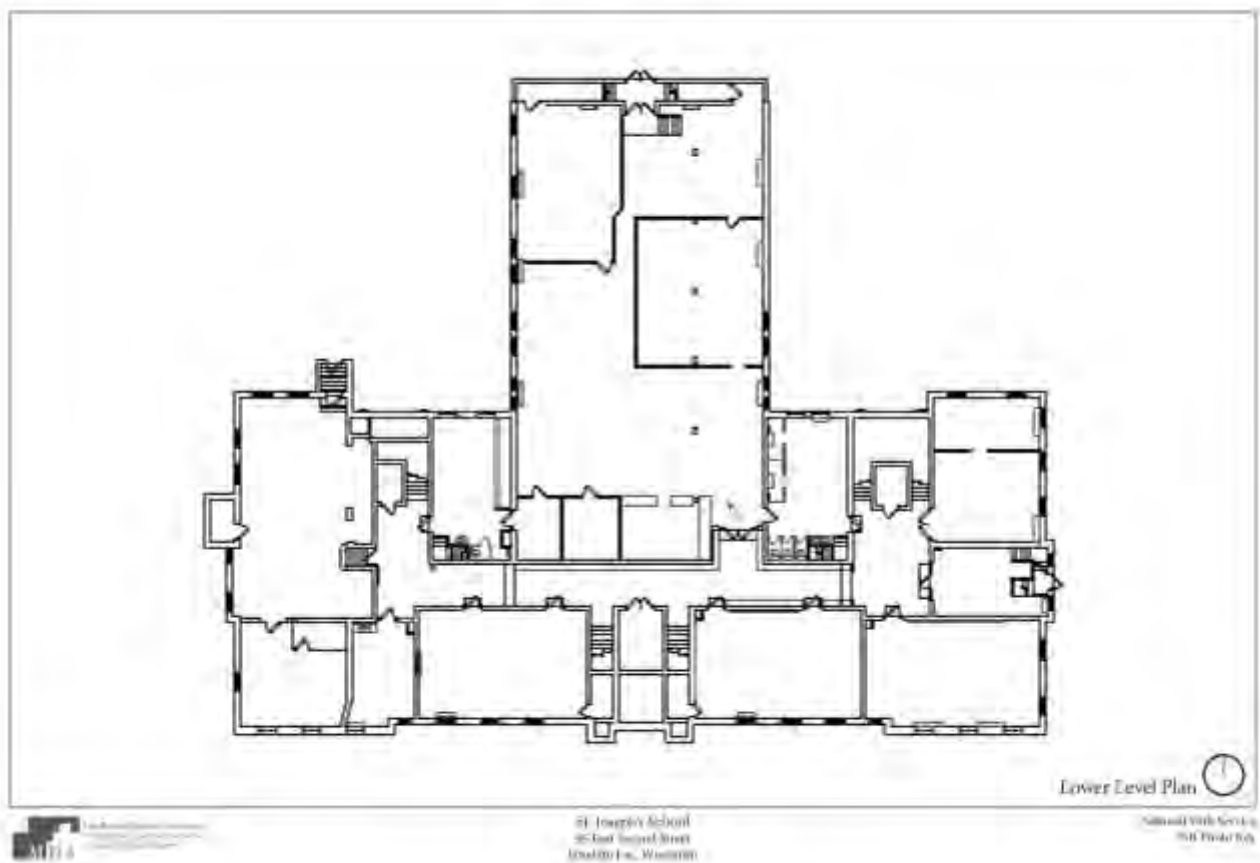
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

St. Joseph's School
Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

Section figures Page 5

Figure 6: Lower level floor plan and photo key



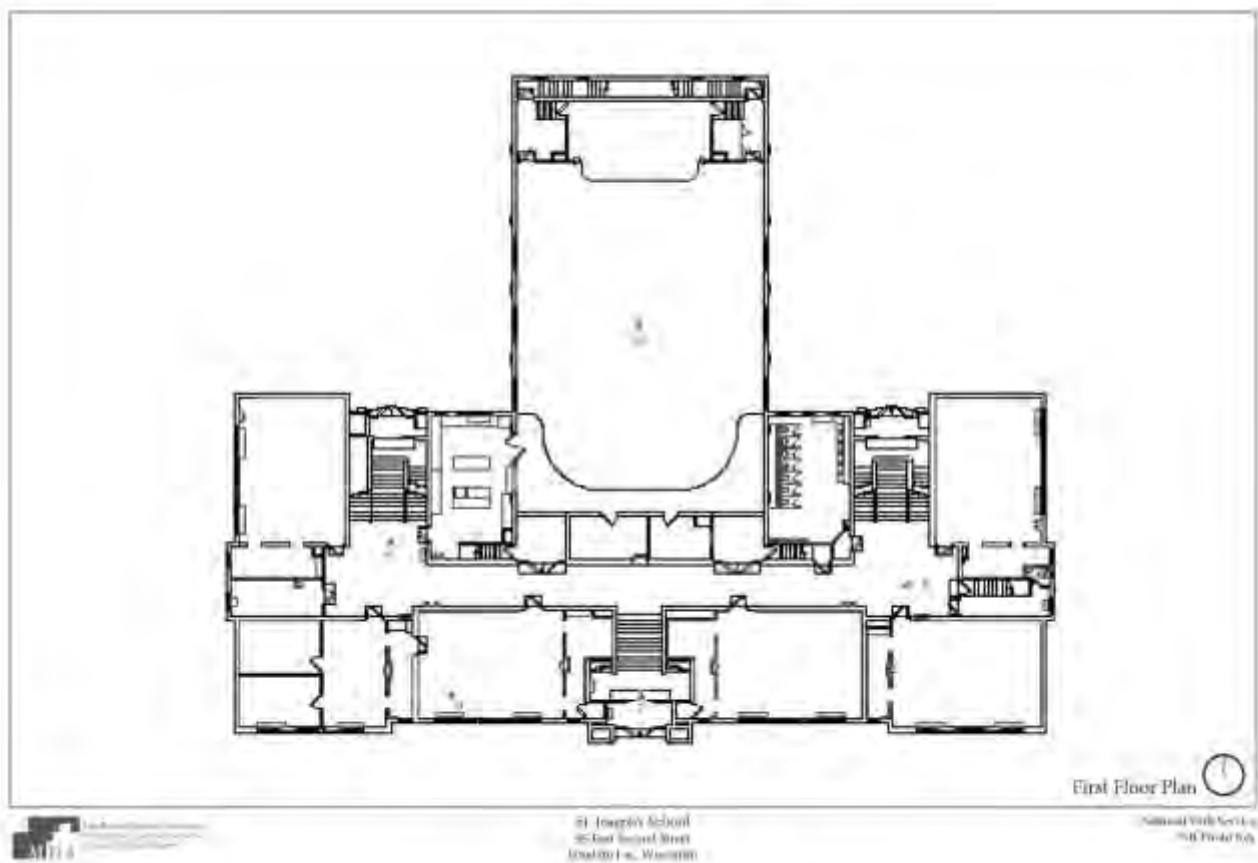
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

St. Joseph's School
Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

Section figures Page 6

Figure 7: First floor plan and photo key



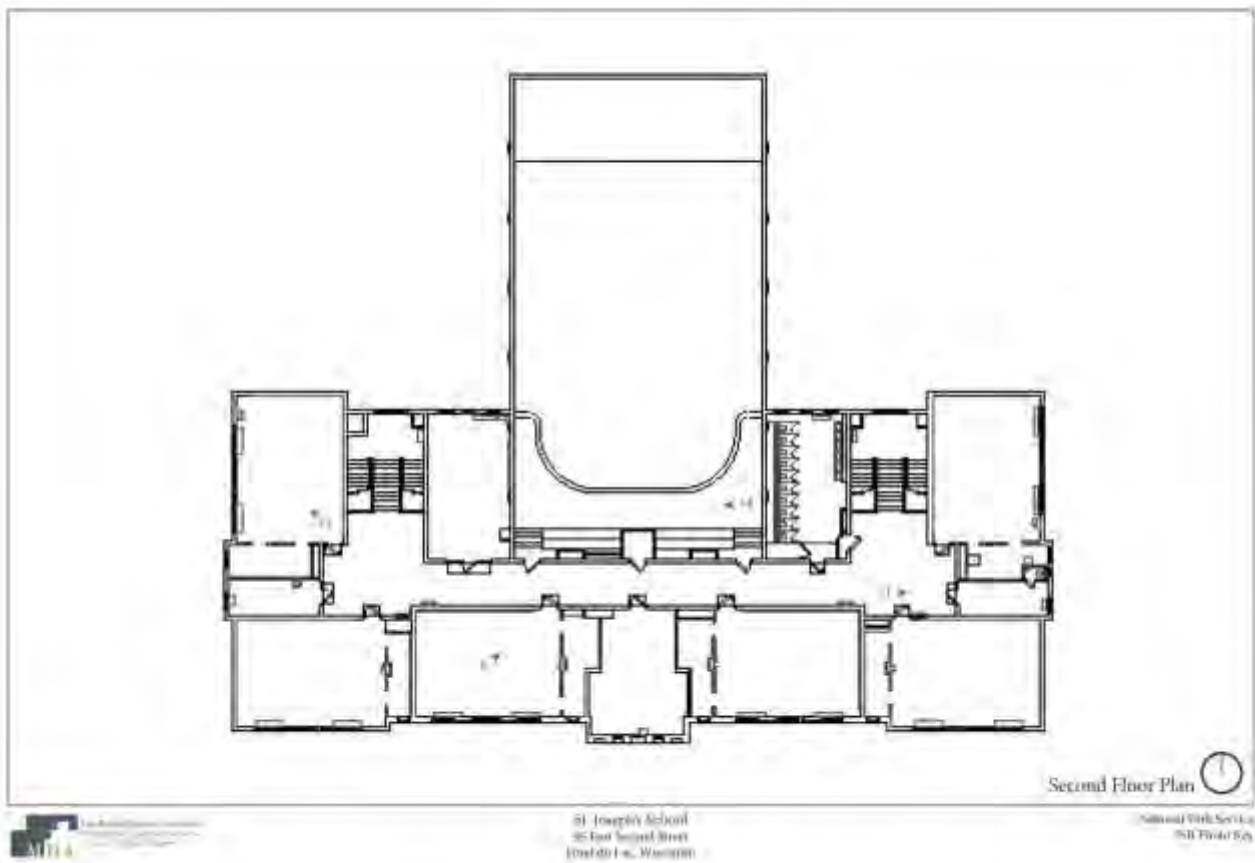
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

St. Joseph's School
Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

Section figures Page 7

Figure 8: Second floor plan and photo key



St. Joseph's School, Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County

43.775479° - 88.443297°

16T, Easting 383848.93, Northing 4847948.50



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



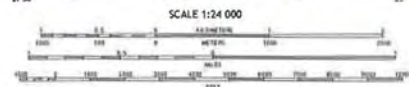
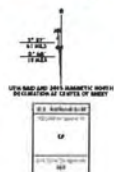
FOND DU LAC QUADRANGLE
WISCONSIN-FOND DU LAC CO.
7.5-MINUTE SERIES



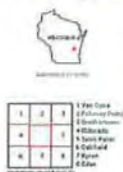
Produced by the United States Geological Survey
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83)
World Geodetic System of 1984 (WGS84), projection and
1:250,000 scale Universal Transverse Mercator, Zone 16T
10 000-foot false-northing Coordinate System of 1983 (North
Zone)

This map is not a legal document. Boundaries may be
generalized for this map scale. Please check with the government
jurisdiction that may be affected. Check for updates before
making a purchase.

Map 1:250,000
Scale: 1:250,000
Date: July 2013
Author: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013
Editor: U.S. Geological Survey, 2013
Cartographer: National Geographic, 2013
Boundaries: National Geographic, 2013
Public Land Survey System: BLM, 2013
Waterways: U.S. National Waterway Inventory, 2013



SCALE 1:24 000
CENTROID INTERVAL 16 FEET
NORTH AMERICAN VERTICAL DATUM OF 1983
The map was produced in conformance with the
National Geospatial Program US Topo Product Standard, 2011.
A metadata file associated with this product is available at www.usgs.gov



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Expressway	State Road
Secondary Hwy	Local Road
Route	Trail
Interstate Route	US Route
	State Route

1:250,000 Scale

1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9
0	0	0	0

FOND DU LAC, WI
2013







ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

95

WELCOME
ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

WELCOME
ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL



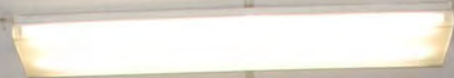




COMMUNITY NEEDS & RESPONSE

Read

READING





DOWN

UP

Beaming One

NOVEMBER
Be
Thankful













"BECOMING
ONE"



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 7/7/2017 Date of Pending List: 8/2/2017 Date of 16th Day: 8/17/2017 Date of 45th Day: 8/21/2017 Date of Weekly List: 8/24/2017

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PDIL | <input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver | <input type="checkbox"/> National | <input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Period |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> CLG | |

Accept Return Reject 8/21/2017 Date

Abstract/Summary
Comments:

Recommendation/
Criteria

Reviewer Barbara Wyatt Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2252 Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.

GLENN GROTHMAN
6TH DISTRICT, WISCONSIN

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

COMMITTEE ON
OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM



UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

24 WEST PIONEER ROAD
FOND DU LAC, WI 54935
(920) 907-0624

1217 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-2476

GROTHMAN.HOUSE.GOV

May 9, 2017

Wisconsin Historic Preservation Review Board
c/o Peggy Veregin
Wisconsin Historical Society
816 State Street
Madison, WI 53706

Wisconsin Historic Preservation Review Board:

I am writing in support of the St. Joseph's School's nomination to the Wisconsin State Register of Historic Places and the National Register of Historic Places. The school, located in Fond du Lac, is part of the Sixth Congressional District which I represent.

St. Joseph's School was built in 1928 and it still plays a vital role in the education of the many members of the Fond du Lac community today. The School has had an immeasurable impact on the history of education in the Fond du Lac community through its progressive ideas and by educating many who were from different cultural backgrounds. This building provides students and visitors a unique look back at the educational environment of the Pre-WWII era up to present day.

Please give all due and fair consideration consistent with current federal law and agency regulations, keeping me apprised of your efforts and findings by contacting Mr. Alan Ott, District Director, at 24 West Pioneer Road, Fond du Lac, WI 54935 or by calling 920-907-0624. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Glenn Grothman".

Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress



WISCONSIN
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY



TO: Keeper
National Register of Historic Places

FROM: Peggy Veregin
National Register Coordinator

SUBJECT: National Register Nomination

The following materials are submitted on this Sixth day of July 2017, for the nomination of the St. Joseph's School to the National Register of Historic Places:

<u>1</u>	Original National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form
<u>1</u>	CD with NRHP Nomination form PDF
<u> </u>	Multiple Property Nomination form
<u>14</u>	Photograph(s)
<u>1</u>	CD with image files
<u>1</u>	Map(s)
<u>8</u>	Sketch map(s)/figures(s)/exhibit(s)
<u>1</u>	Piece(s) of correspondence
<u> </u>	Other:

COMMENTS:

<u> </u>	Please ensure that this nomination is reviewed
<u>x</u>	This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67
<u> </u>	The enclosed owner objection(s) do or do not constitute a majority of property owners
<u> </u>	Other: