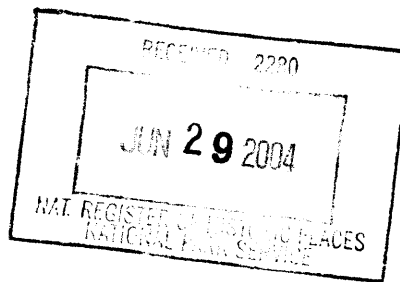


**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**



**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If 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. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

other names/site number St. Mary Catholic Church Historic District

2. Location

street & number 502, 518, 520 South Second Street, 214 Herder Street [N/A] not for publication

city or town Guttenberg [N/A] vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Clayton code 043 zip code 52052

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Signature *Ronell G. Soike* Date *June 28, 2004*
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property [X] 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

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 of the Keeper

Date of Action

Linda McClelland *8/12/04*

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District
Name of Property

Clayton County, Iowa
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
4	2	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
4	2	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

Historical And Architectural Resources of Guttenberg, Iowa, 1850-1955

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Religion/religious facility
Education/school
Domestic/institutional housing

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Religion/religious facility
Education/school
Domestic/institutional housing

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian/Italianate
Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals/Colonial Revival
Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals/Gothic Revival
Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals/Tudor Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone
walls brick

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 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.

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 (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 #

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Ethnic Heritage/German
Education
Religion

Architecture

Period of Significance

1894-1954

Significant Dates

1894
1899
1903

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Brinkman, Rev. Joseph H.
Krajewski, Casimir Ignatius

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository: #

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District
Name of Property

Clayton County, Iowa
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 [1]5 [6]5[6]6[4]5 [4]7[3]8[1]0[2]
Zone Easting Northing

2 [1]1 [6]5[5]6[4]9 [4]7[3]7[9]7[8]
Zone Easting Northing

3 [1]5 [6]5[5]5[7]4 [4]7[3]7[9]7[4]

4 [1]5 [6]5[5]5[6]5 [4]7[3]8[1]0[2]

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 James E. Jacobsen

organization History Pays! Historic Preservation Consulting Firm date April 2, 2004

street & number 4411 Ingersoll Avenue telephone 515-274-3625

city or town Des Moines state Iowa zip code 50312-2415

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the complete 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 St. Mary Catholic Parish: Attn. Rev. Marvin Bries

street & number 502 South Second Avenue, Box 847 telephone 563-252-1247

city or town Guttenberg state Iowa zip code 52025

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.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa

7. Narrative Description:

The St. Mary's Catholic Church District occupies an entire city block. Its four historic red brick buildings comprise an architecturally unified parish complex. Three of these buildings are closely spaced with regard to their dates of construction (1894-1904), shared a common designer, and feature distinctive raised limestone foundations and red brick superstructures. A fourth building, the convent (1926) was designed to blend in with the earlier buildings.

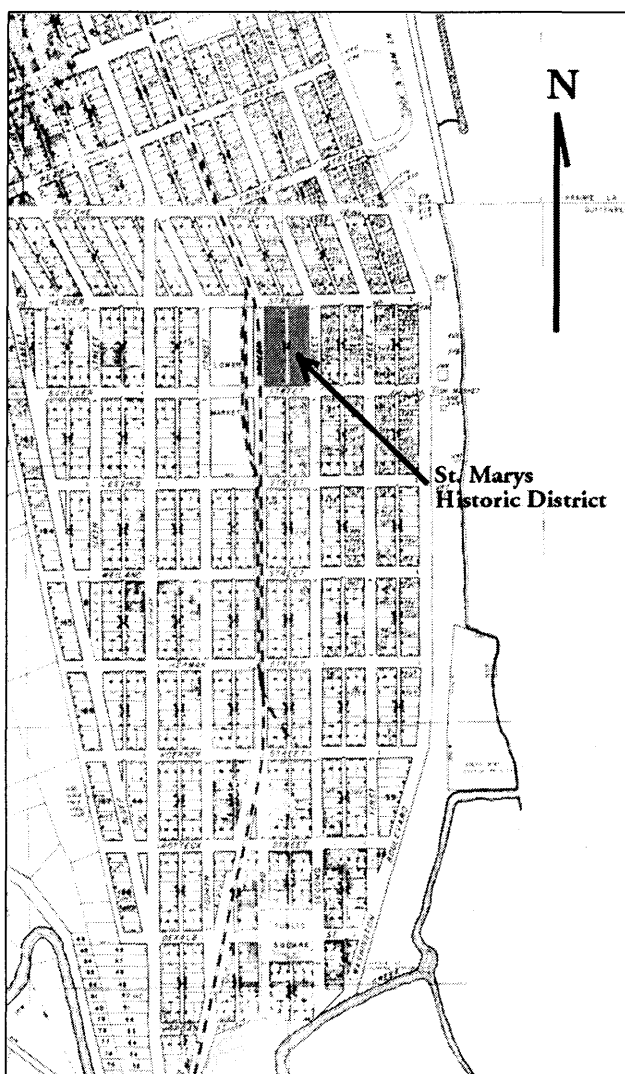


Figure 1: Location map, St. Mary's Catholic Church District
(Current City Plat, Annotated)

The parish block is just south and slightly west of the center of the historic city of Guttenberg, Clayton County, Iowa. The block is on the west edge of a raised river valley terrace that for many years marked the western edge of the city proper (Figure 1). The area to the immediate west consisted of sloughs and during floods, particularly the record 1965 Mississippi

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa

River flood, the floodwaters rose almost to the west edge of the district. The railroad right-of-way also follows this western terrace edge and the railroad depot long stood opposite the district's southwest corner.



Figure 2: Mid-1930s aerial view of the district, view southwest (courtesy of Mrs. Lewis Carrier)

Figure 2 depicts the overall layout of the district, with the rectory (1899), church (1902), convent (1926) and school (1894/1921/1930) from left to right. The depot and railroad water tower are visible to the southeast of the parish block. The 1962 grade school has not yet been built between the church and convent.

Rev. Joseph H. Brinkman (1859-1925) is the attributed designer of the three older buildings in the district. These buildings as noted share a common arrangement and mix of building materials, and the rectory and school have the same overall massing and orientation. The 1921 school addition was an identical design that matched the original school. Even the convent, built and separately designed by Dubuque architect Casimir I. Krajewski, just after Rev. Brinkman's death, follows the same design lines with its red brick exterior and its symbolic stone foundation. Rev. Brinkman had intended to build the convent and it was placed where he had intended it to be built.

The landmark edifice in the district is the church, executed in the Gothic style. The church is the largest historical building in the city. It is one of more than a dozen Gothic style influenced Catholic rural or small town churches that are

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 3

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa

located in Northeast Iowa (Dubuque boasts a cathedral and four parish churches, as well). The earliest of these churches date back to the early 1870s, the last to 1914. Most have a single centered front spire and square tower, but several like St. Mary's have twin front towers. St. Mary's is regionally unusual inasmuch as the towers straddle a fairly narrow core rectangular nave, the towers projecting well beyond the sidewalls of the nave. The towers are also shorter (146 feet) than the three largest area churches, the highest being the St. Frances Xavier basilica at Dyersville (1887). A lower profile was suitable for St. Mary's given its river terrace location, while most of the other examples occupied prominent hill top locations on a rolling plane and were designed to be strikingly visible from faraway. St. Mary's is one of just a few regional examples that have the cruciform plan with a transept and apse. The seating capacity of St. Mary's is also impressive given its historically small congregation and the capacities of the regional churches. Clearly this church was designed on a massive scale, when compared to area examples (Figure 3) (Loras C. Otting, "Gothic Splendor In Northeast Iowa," *Palimpsest*, Vol. 66(1985) pp. 146-60, 169-73).

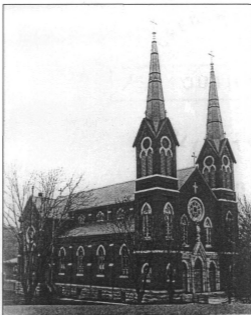


Figure 3: St. Mary's Church, 1937 photograph, view northwest

The high raised limestone foundation is massively overbuilt because the building was originally intended to be fully of stone construction. The high foundation allows for a half-raised basement (the elevated level is likely explained by the exposed river terrace setting of the church). Overall dimensions are the following: front including the flanking towers, 62 feet; length 152 feet nine inches; transept width 74 feet. There is a pronounced finished stone water table that encircles the entire plan perimeter. The nave has a gable roof clerestory with sidewalls and triple window sets, and matching side aisles infill the sides of the plan between the towers and the transept wings. Shallow symbolic buttresses or stepped pilasters divide each front sidewall into four bays. These pilasters are continued through the stone foundation wall. Lancet windows with pointed Gothic window lintels or arches are centered into each of these bays. Stone shoulder inserts mark the points where the pilasters are

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 4

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa

stepped down, these being the midpoints of each window and the top of the window lintels. The transept roof ridges are subordinated to the main roof ridge. Each transept front features a rose window centered above twin elongated Gothic windows. The side aisles are continued behind the transept wings and terminate abruptly at the base of the five-sided apse. There is a single-story wrap-around chapel extension around the base of the apse. Four elongated Gothic windows light the apse along with a centered oculus window. The brickwork on all fronts is paneled, being recessed behind the pilasters, and the upper edge of the pilaster is denticulated. There are four side basement windows on the plan core along with matching side basement windows, that on the north being ramped. There are matching transept end entries on the east front of the sidewalls. Finally there is a north side entrance and two more on the apse chapel sidewalls.

The church façade is defined by the twin side towers and the gable roof front. The towers are square in section and the towers are, like the pilaster/butresses, stepped back at three points, these being the spring stone level of the ground floor windows, the eaves line, and at a higher point. The tower facades within each of these levels, each being defined by angled stone trim, is also deeply paneled with corner pilasters and denticulated upper bands. Short Gothic windows are placed in the tower bases, elongated ones in the middle tower sections. The tower cap has elongated twin Gothic windows that are capped with oculus openings (the same arrangement found in the transept end walls), and the window openings are infilled with louvers. These caps are gable roofed and the gable fronts have denticulated angled brick bands that run just below the eaves lines. The slate roof covered broach spires are octagonal in section and feature five uneven sections. The main entry has a white limestone front and triple entrances, each with a Gothic arched door opening. The openings are of equal size, the center one having a raised stone pediment cap that is in turn topped with a statue of the churches' namesake. Above the entrances there is a large centered rose window, and that window surmounts two gothic windows. Large Jerusalem style crosses top the spires and each transept gable front. Inside the church, the ribbed vaulted ceiling tops the four-bay nave, transept and apse. The chancel is slightly raised above the nave floor.

The most remarkable interior feature of the church is the fact that both of the towers are of stone masonry construction for their full three-story height. Contrary to historical documentation, the stone foundation and towers were completed during the first building season. When it was determined to build a brick church in lieu of an all-stone one, the massive towers were veneered in brick. A second fact, unknown to the parish community, was that the uppermost level of the nave is entirely of frame construction, being covered externally with a faux brick metal sheeting, and painted stone arches. This switch from brick to frame construction likely reduced building costs but it also made possible a very light and varied interior ceiling vaulting scheme.

The church interior is laid out in traditional fashion, with apse, transepts, and a nave with matching side aisles. The proportions are unusual, inasmuch as the chapel is quite shallow, the chancel is enlarged by shifting the transepts well back on the plan, and the transepts themselves are almost vestigial, allowing for no useful seating, their only actual function is the provision of side entrances, each entering on the east side wall of each wing. The chancel floor is considerably elevated, requiring three steps to ascend from the sanctuary to the altar area.

The charm of the interior design is the lightness of its support columns and the detailing of the vaulting. The Gothic arch ceiling is ribbed vaulted, with an impressive array of diagonal vaults, barrel vaults formed by intersecting nave and transept, and a general avoidance of any uninterrupted barrel vaults. The design naturally focuses upon the junction of the transept and nave. The ceiling is lowered above the chancel and the resulting wall surfaces feature painted murals. Figure #3 (page 3) depicts the very shallow transept, the south wing being visible at the far left. The same view depicts the arcade of elevated Gothic arches, with intersecting side vaults, which define the two aisles. The free-standing columns are quatrefoil in section. Double-tiered columns, the upper set consisting of three very thin engaged columns, support the transept vault corners.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 5

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa



Figure 4: Interior view, photo from balcony looking west, c.1920 postcard



Figure 5: Interior views, left 1958, right present appearance

The church interior surfaces have witnessed at least four different fresco designs. The original design, not illustrated, was the most ornate with virtually every ceiling and wall surface being decorated. Figure 4 depicts the second design scheme, a much simpler border design. The two images depicted in Figure 5 contrast the pre- and post Vatican II paint schemes. The 1958 design featured a blue nave ceiling, a light brown chancel ceiling, with vertical blue bands and a geometrical patterning.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 7

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa

rectory core measures 42x34 with a 18x25 rear wing. The school core measures 50x70. Remarkably the 1921 school rear wing copied the forms and materials used in its 1894 predecessor, save for the substitution of brick for a stone foundation.



Figure 7: St. Mary's Rectory, 1937 photograph, view northwest (the church appears much closer to the rectory than it actually is)



Figure 8: St. Mary's Grade School, original appearance, view south, c.1900

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 8

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa



Figure 9: St. Mary's School, 1937 photograph, view northwest

The rectory (Figure 7, page 7) originally had a basement garage in the northwest corner that was accessed from the west. A very large double door, closed off, is found on the west rear wall of the southwest corner of the basement. It was presumably used to bring large object, possibly processional floats or the like, into the basement for storage. The original basement support system consists of four heavy wooden posts, which run across the center. Tile partitions have defined several rooms since the original construction and a kitchen stairway into the basement was added. On the main floor, a broad central hall separates offices on either side of the core, and communicates to the dining room and kitchen which occupy the ground floor of the wing. The stairs lead upstairs from the north side of this hall, but for privacy, they ascend towards the front of the hall as opposed to away from it. A hall bathroom has been added underneath these stairs, a reflection on the lack of a ground floor bathroom originally. An unexpected feature was the use of different pressed metal ceilings in each of the ground floor rooms. Upstairs, an L-plan hall divides bedrooms which reflect the hierarchy of those who served the church. While the priest and his assistant had true bedrooms with closets, lesser novitiates were given very small and austere sleeping rooms. The trim work throughout the house is of stained pine, the only distinction between the floor levels being a plainer side trim upstairs. Bulls eye blocks are blank. The large high-ceiling attic is massively supported by a wood truss system that has been reinforced since original construction.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 9

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa



Figure 10: St. Mary's convent, 1937 photograph, view northwest
(Clayton County Assessor, 2003)

The convent (Figure 10) is the only academic architect designed building, apart from the 1962 school building. The plan measures 58x32 and contains ten bedrooms on the upper level and a basement laundry. The convent is designed in a simplified Tudor Revival style that is embodied in the use of casement windows, a gable roof fronted offset pavilion and the use of jerkinhead gable ends. Random rectangular stone inserts, distributed on the foundation front below the first floor window sill line, symbolize the stone foundation that wasn't used. The basement is raised and well lighted with basement fenestration. All windows have flat brick voussior arches. A south side entrance has a door with a round arch brick surround, and a stairway landing window set between the floors, also featuring a rounded brick arch. An attic light and shed roof dormer caps this vertical assemblage. The main entrance, on the west front, is set just south and adjacent to the projecting front wing. It too has a deeply recessed entrance with a rounded brick arch entry. Metal casement windows and jack arches are employed on every window opening. The plan is rectangular with a narrow L-shaped front section.

The convent's interior plan has a central hall on each floor, with the kitchen and dining room at the back of the plan. The stairway is located at the back of the plan, inside the south side entrance. On the ground floor, as in the rectory, offices and a communal living room fills the front of the plan. Upstairs, identical sleeping rooms are located. The attic is open and the roof support system is a simple rafter and ridgepole construction.

The 1962 school building (Figure 11, page 10) and a small rectangular gable roof frame building located on the south central end of the complex, are both deemed to be non-contributing buildings within the district. The school, placed between the church and convent, is a single-story brick building that fronts east on to South Second Street. The new school, while intrusive, was built without direct impact on the original school building and it is free-standing so there are no attachments to

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 10

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa

the other buildings. It occupies what was an open area within the complex. The new school's red brick exterior is shared by the other buildings, and the low profile minimize its visual presence.

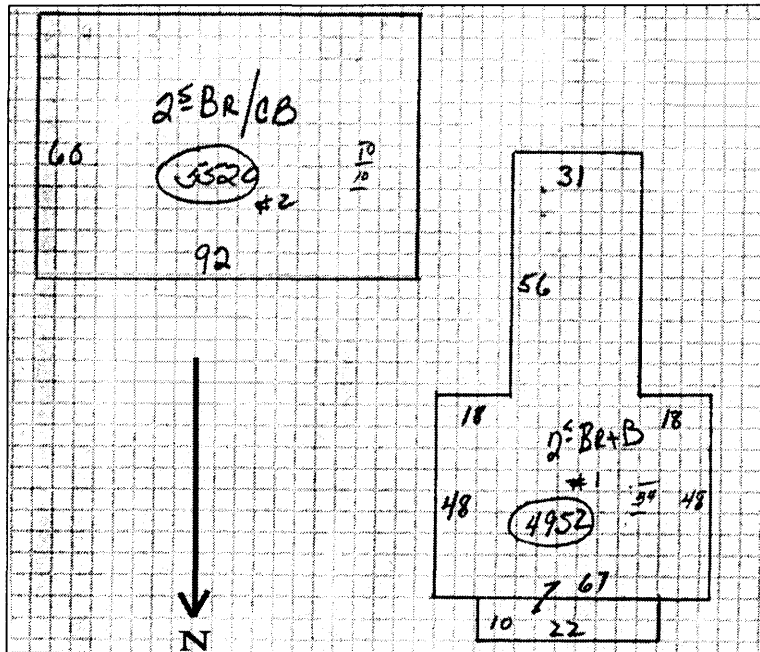


Figure 11: Assessor's footprint sketches and dimensions, 1962 school (left) and 1894 school (right)
The relationship of the two buildings, while correct, is not drawn to scale

Alterations Since Construction:

No substantial alterations were made to the church, the present plan and massing all date to the original design and construction. In the interior, fresco work was done in 1939 (replacing decorative work accomplished in 1907), the first organ purchased in 1942 (the second one 1973), the heating plant was replaced in 1944, the interior cleaned and repainted with new electric lights in 1956, the unfinished portion of the basement was converted for auditorium use (replacing the school auditorium, converted to classrooms) in 1960 and refinished in 1974, the church was insulated in 1960; and the interior was again repainted in 1980. Outside, window repairs were made in 1948, 1979 (new storm windows); masonry repairs were made in 1957, 1966 (tuck pointing), 1974 (cleaned and waterproofed); exterior painting was done in 1948, 1951, 1962; roof repair and replacement in 1948, 1951, 1956, 1962, 1978 (fiberglass roof system); a south side basement entrance was added in 1968, another in 1977, new north and south steps were built in 1970, an entrance ramp in 1981; a new chimney was built and lined in 1986. The church spire crosses were re-gilded in 1956. The art glass windows were restored in 1993. Like many Catholic churches, Vatican II-related interior modifications exceeded the minimal mandate of removing the sacramental railing. In St. Mary's the side altars were removed (these were restored "in Grotto style" in 1980) and some interior detailing was apparently lost. The changes were less wholesale than those that took place in other churches at that time (Otting; *Press*, October 20, 1993)

The school gained its matching south high school wing in 1921. New toilets were added inside the building in 1926. A new steam heating plant followed in 1929, accompanied by interior improvements. A year later the auditorium was remodeled with a new stage and scenery, lighting along with a new north side entrance. A central spiral stairway was replaced by a double

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 11

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa

concrete stair system in 1930. Repairs were made in 1957 and a new roof added in 1964. Four playground lots were purchased opposite and west of the church in 1957. The school auditorium/meeting room were converted to classrooms in 1960 and the auditorium was relocated to the church basement. Front entrance repairs were made in 1970. The west and south fronts of the 1921 foundation front have been stuccoed. Upper level front and rear windows (on the west side of the plan only) were bricked in when the new entrance wing was added.

The rectory gained a garage, apparently the current attached brick one, in 1949 at a cost of \$1,000. Other improvements were made in 1965 and in 1970 considerable exterior work was done on the walls, porch, eaves, windows and window wells. The convent was tuck pointed and generally repaired in 1957-58, received a new furnace in 1969, and underwent additional eaves and internal repairs in 1970. At some point in recent years a gable roof structure was added to its flat roof.

Images and Fire Insurance Maps, 1869 to 1928:

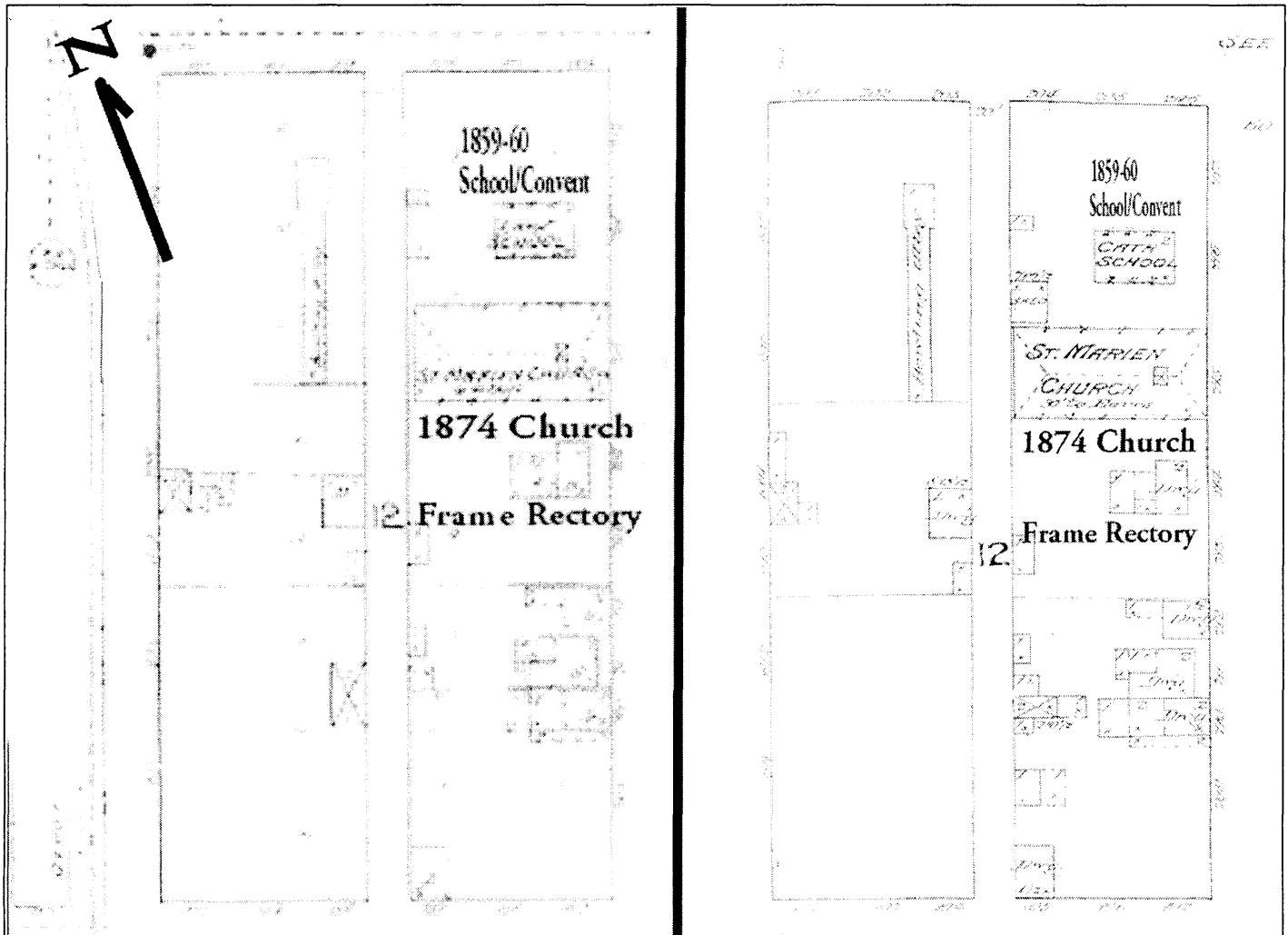


Figure 12: 1886 (right) and 1894 (left) Sanborn Map Excerpts

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 12

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa

The parish had occupied only the northeast two-thirds of Block 12 as of 1886-1894. Two non-extant buildings, the 1874 church and the 1859/60 school occupied the site of the future parish complex. A pre-existing frame house, still standing but removed from this property, was in use as a rectory. The passage of eight years evidences no change relative to the church complex (Figure 12, page 11, left side). The railroad, water tower and depot, relocated, are all depicted to the west of Block 12.



Figure 13: Completed St. Mary's School, view southwest, c.1900
The barn at the far right is visible on the 1902 Sanborn Map and was south of the school



Figure 14: St. Mary's School (1894), view southwest, c. 1914

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 13

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa

This view of the school (Figure 14, page 12) depicts a solid board fence surrounding the school property and the lot to the east. The fence indicates that the alleyway had been vacated on Block 12, evidence that the parish had acquired all of the block. The fence also hints that the church/school property was at least symbolically separated from the rest of the community by a fence. Note the standing seam metal roof on the school, also the cupola with a tall cross.

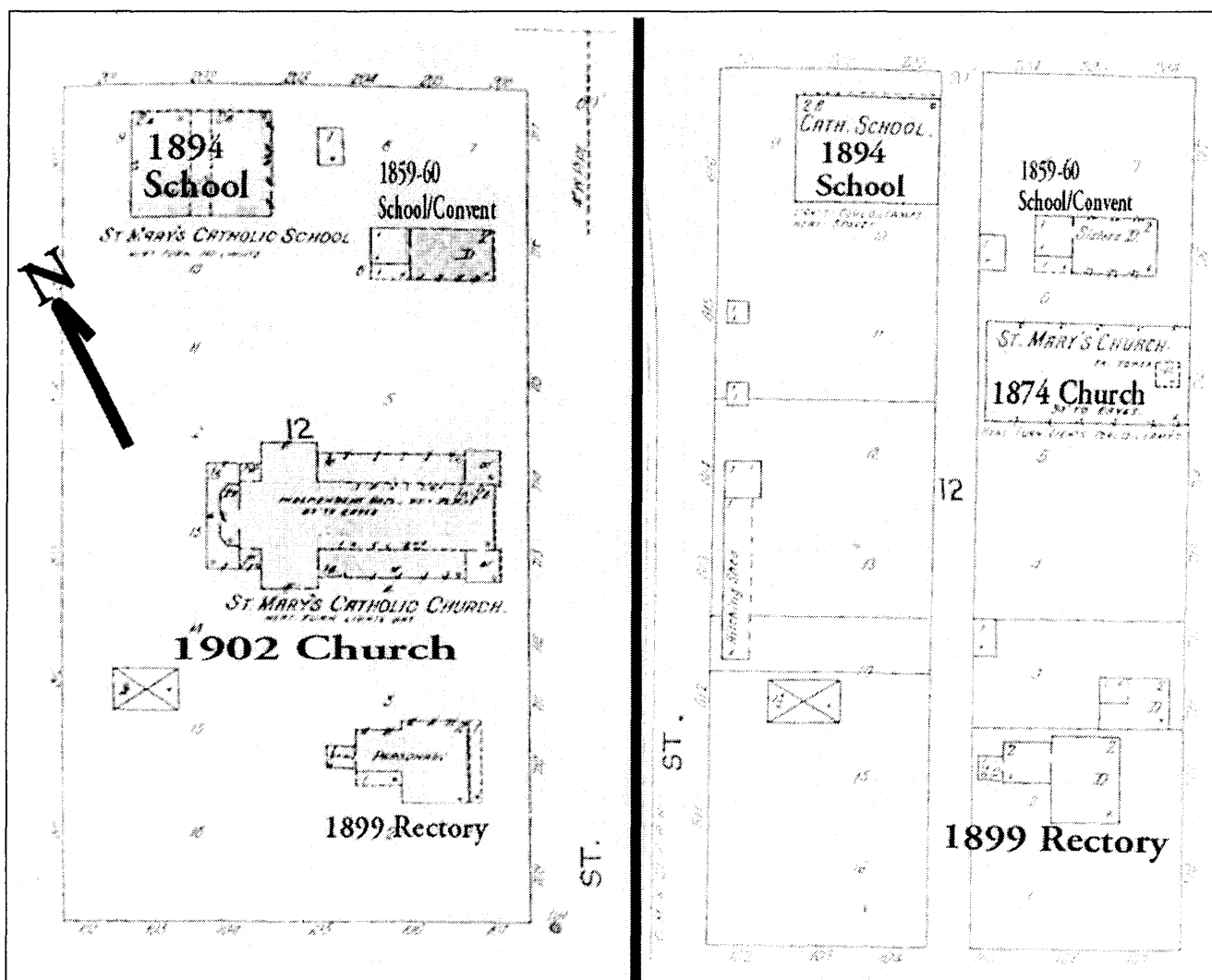


Figure 15: 1902 (right) and 1914 (left) Sanborn Map Excerpts

The planned construction of the present St. Mary's Church is not noted on the 1902 Sanborn Map (Figure 15, right side), a clear indication that those plans unfolded late in 1902 well after the mapper had departed the city. The map does indicate that the building site has been cleared off and is vacant, and the old church remains in place. The relatively new rectory is placed on the far south end of the block to make room for the church, and one pre-existing house has been retained, perhaps for use as a building shop and office. A long hitching shed and barn occupies the west half of the block to the south of

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 14

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa

the school and another barn, a story and a half frame, is immediately southeast of the shed. The map indicates that the parish by this time owned all of Block 12. The former stone school serves as a "Sisters Dwelling."

By 1914 (Figure 15, page 13, left side) the hitching shed was gone, the reserved frame house was gone, and the barn present in 1902 remained standing. The 1874 church has been removed and large open areas separate the new church from the rectory and convent.

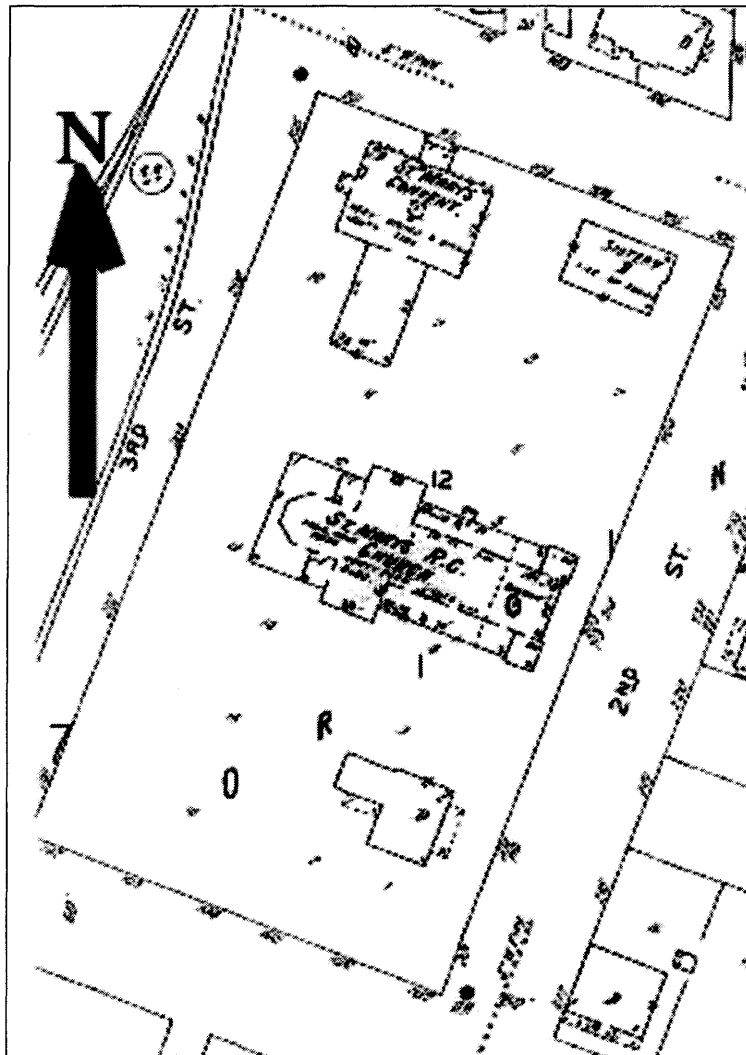


Figure 16: 1928 Sanborn Map

By 1928 (Figure 16) all of the four historic buildings were in place, along with the 1921 addition to the school. There are no outbuildings present on the block and the 1859-60 school/convent has been removed, further opening up the area between the new convent and the church. Note that the school has a centered one-story entry porch as well as a west side covered entrance. The first (north side) covered church basement side entrance is also in place by this time.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 15

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa

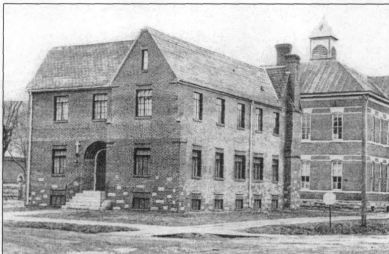


Figure 17: Convent and School, c.1926, view southwest

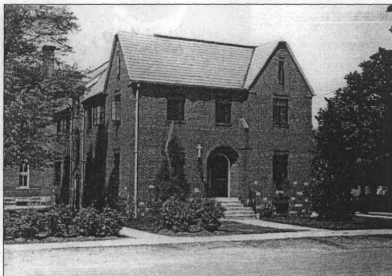


Figure 18: Convent, 1951 photograph, view northwest

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 16

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa

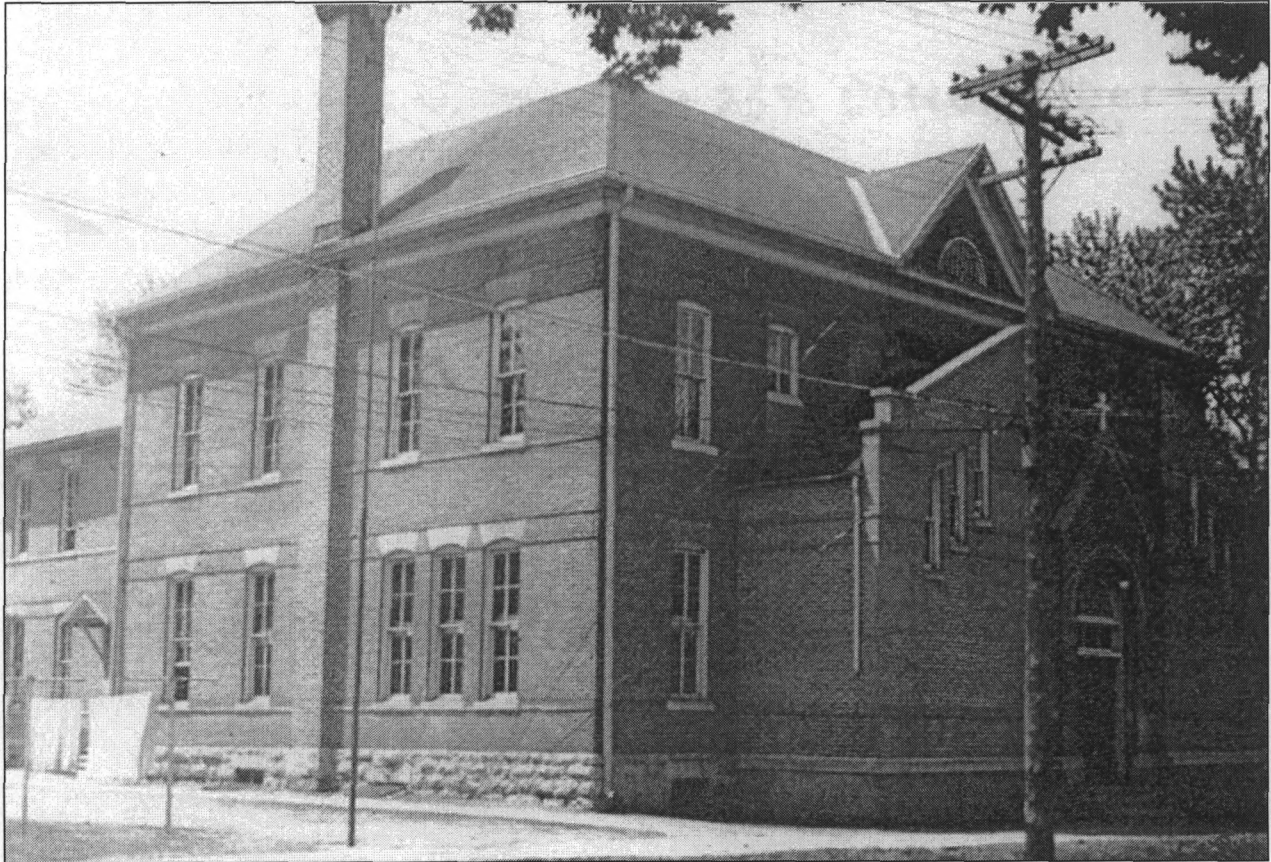


Figure 19: St. Mary's School (1894), view southwest, 1951 photograph

Figure 19 depicts the school as of the early 1950s. The new entrance dated from 1930 and by this time the cupola had been removed.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 17

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa

Significant Dates, Continued:

1921
1926

8. Significance Statement:

The St. Mary's Church Historic District (Roman Catholic) is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places on the basis of its architectural significance (Criterion C) and its historical association (Criterion A, Ethnic Heritage) with the German-American community of Guttenberg, Iowa. Architecturally, the four principal parish buildings represent the best-preserved examples of German-influenced ecclesiastical architecture in Guttenberg. The Gothic style St. Mary's Church (1902-03) is an architectural landmark in the city and the building grouping, occupying an entire city block, comprises a historic district due to its unity of design and materials, and its unified design source. The district is historically significant because it represents the efforts of Guttenberg's German-American Catholic minority to establish both church and parochial school facilities. The district is nominated primarily for its architectural significance as well as its association with German-Americans in Guttenberg, these associations override Criterion Consideration which governs the listing of religious institutions. The district is locally significant.

The church complex is appropriately treated as a historic district, with four contributing properties, and two non-contributing properties (the 1960's-era school building, a small frame building). The four historic principal buildings are recommended as being historically significant on the basis of their architectural merit (Criterion C). The church is significant for its landmark importance, scale and style, it being the largest historical building in the city and the only surviving example of substantial church architecture in Guttenberg. The convent (1926) is significant for its Tudor Revival style, the only brick example with decorative stone inserts, and the best example of its style in Guttenberg. The school (1894), while enlarged (1921), is significant for its resulting unity of design and use of materials over time and it's being the first church building to employ a hybrid Italianate/Colonial Revival style. The rectory (1899), the second oldest building, mirrored the school's style and massing and is one of the best local examples in terms of its style and scale.

St. Mary's Church was first noted and documented as part of the multiple resource document titled *Historical And Architectural Resources of Guttenberg, Iowa, 1850-1955* (James E. Jacobsen, Revised 2004). That document defines a related historical context titled "'Wir Sind Deutschen,' Germans Dominate in Guttenberg, 1850-1955" and defines a range of property types that are significantly associated with that context. This parish is defined as a district under that context and is evaluated as being eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The district meets the registration requirements that are established in that document. The nomination of this district was established as a first priority on the part of the Guttenberg Historic Preservation Commission and this document represents the fulfillment of that goal on the part of the commission.

German-American Ethnic Heritage:

This district nomination is submitted along with the related multiple property document *Historical And Architectural Resources of Guttenberg, Iowa, 1850-1955*." This document defines and documents three historic contexts and a fourth context treats local styles and building types and significant local builders and designers. These contexts are the following:

Context #1, "Wir Sind Deutschen," Germans Dominate in Guttenberg, 1850-1955:
Context #2, German Limestone Architecture in Guttenberg, 1850-1869:

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 18

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa

Context #3, Mining, Industry and Commerce And Commercial Architecture in Guttenberg, 1850-1955:

Context #4, The Architecture and Builders of Guttenberg, 1850-1955:

Context #5, Transportation (1850-1955) and the role of State and Federal Governments in Guttenberg's History, 1939-40:

Context #1 documents the dominant presence of ethnic Germans in the settlement and development of the town. Germans dominated St. Mary's parish just as they dominated in every municipal institution. Context #2 is indirectly related to the St. Mary's district inasmuch as stone construction employed in all but one of the historic buildings reflected the strong local use of stone. Finally Context #4 relates the district to the notable architectural examples that are located in the district.

This nominated district meets the requirements as set forth in that document. The multiple property document defines a range of chronologically defines and describes a range of Guttenberg styles and vernacular types, and establishes registration requirements for nominated resources. The range of property types associated with Context #1 is described in the registration requirements and includes a church, rectory (treated as a residential building), school, and convent. This district is nominated under Criteria A and C. The multiple property document establishes registration requirements under these criteria as follows:

- Criterion A: properties that are directly associated with the German-American dominant presence in the City of Guttenberg, 1850 to 1918. Significant properties under Criterion A are those that were historically associated with the broader historical trends or themes, as they reflect a German-American influence.
- Criterion C: properties that best illustrate significant German design and construction techniques in Guttenberg, 1850-1918. The unusual dominance of one ethnic group produced an architecture that uniformly reflected that population's design influences and districts and individual buildings can be nominated under this criterion.

Early Parish History:

The earliest history of the St. Mary's congregation dates to 1846-47 when eleven German Catholic immigrants joined in the Western Settlement Society's establishment of the new community of Guttenberg. A two-story frame 20x28 church was built in the north end of the new town in 1851, being dedicated in May of that year. A bell was received that August. In 1853 a single-story brick church (30x50) made it possible to use the original church for church schooling. That year also marked the first prolonged period during which the church was without a permanent priest. The 1903 history noted "the pioneer members of St. Mary's Church were destined to feel repeatedly the great loss and bitter sufferings of a fold without a shepherd. Missionary-priests then wandered from place to place." Colder weather tended to encourage these wanderers to "seek the more settled places for shelter against in clemencies of the weather and inconveniences of the primitive roads." One such impromptu mission, in October 1853, concluded with the appearance of a large celestial cross in the sky above the congregation. A 75' tower was added to the church in the spring of 1854, offering a prominent landmark to the town's Mississippi River front ("1903 St. Mary's Church History," pp. 2-5).

The congregation benefited from a series of long-term priests who served from two to six years each between 1858 and 1888. During its first ten years of existence, c.1853-63, the congregation tallied 432 baptisms, 64 marriages and just 18 funerals. Church growth almost became its undoing. A concerted effort to replace the outgrown brick church began in 1865 with the establishment of the St. Joseph's Church Building Association. The association disbanded in January 1869 due to "the want of sufficient interest with some and the selfishness of a few influential parties." At the heart of the failure was the issue of where to place the new church:

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 19**St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District****Clayton County, Iowa**

...two factions had arisen. Each of these factions were struggling for the right to determine the location. Those living in the Northern section wished to see the church on or near the place, where the old was located. But parties living south and west of the town thought a church ought to be more centrally located and near the schoolhouse, which had been a few years before built there. Both parties were pretty evenly divided. The meetings were often very excited and animosity ran to its highest point. Unjust accusations made on both sides and even the good and peaceful Rev. [Stephen] Maasjost [who served 1867-73] was not spared of the false accusation of partiality.

This was the most lamentable period of the history of the congregation. The more peaceful element, being tired of such continued wrangle, went abroad looking for more peaceful homes. Some went west into newly opened parts, others returned east to their former abodes. Some took this time, as an excuse to stay away from church altogether. This event was accompanied by the most dreadful setback, and it has taken years of hard work to blot out the bad effects ("1903 St. Mary's Church History").

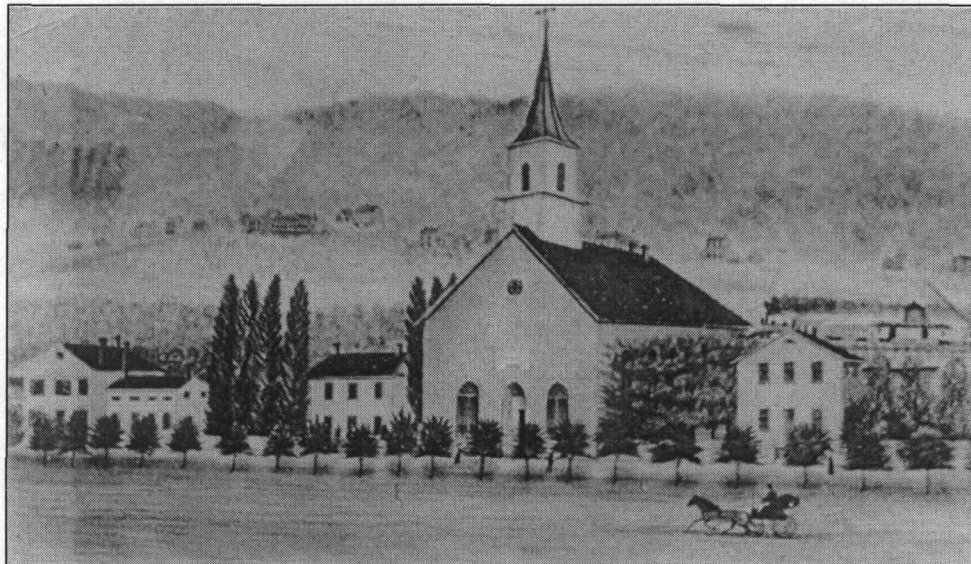


Figure 20: The developing St. Mary's church parish buildings as they appeared c.1886, viewed southwest.

The relocation of the parish to Block 12 of the Guttenberg Original Plat was the goal of at least a substantial portion of the parish. The site of the 1859-60 school house, on the northeast corner of the block, was acquired by 1849, and all but one of the other lots, 13 in number, were purchased and transferred to the Diocese of Dubuque between 1869 and 1871. The last lot, in the center of the west half of the block was secured by tax sale in 1880. A large stone church was built south of the school in 1874 and a frame house was used as a rectory. These buildings, all fronting east onto South Second Street, represented the parish complex at that time. The present array of buildings resembles these precursor buildings and the key buildings still front eastwards. Today the 1962 School is on the site of the 1874 church and the convent stands on the former school site (Mary A. Newbern, "Record of Ownership, St. Mary's Church [Block 12]," 2004).

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 20**St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District****Clayton County, Iowa**

A relatively small congregation of just 65 families survived, having lost many members to the rural St. Michaels Church that was organized in 1858 by the "more wealthy and prosperous farmers." This was no small competitor, the church was a substantial stone building and the congregation added both an eight-grade school and convent in 1875. The parish served a 16-mile wide area and the school survived until 1902, the church until late 1909. One major effort to heal the wounds was the formation in 1869 of a chapter of the St. Vincent Benevolent Society, a support for those who were ill or destitute. It enjoyed but a short life however. In the end it was the fledgling parochial school that would tie the remaining congregants together. The school's survival during this period by the service of several long-term hard working instructors. These were bolstered by the arrival of two sisters of the Perpetual Adoration in January 1870 ("1903 St. Mary's Church History," pp. 5-6; Kann-St. Michael's Cemetery).

Rev. Gerhard H. Luehrsman resolved the location dispute by building a massive 45x96 stone church at the southernmost of the two contending sites, in 1874. The 1903 church history noted "this event had changed the minds of the contending parties [and] once more harmony and union was restored... To the administration of Rev. G. H. Luehrsmann must be accredited the honor of having placed the foundation for the future stability and growth of St. Mary's congregation..." All agreed that they would "never see the day, when this church will be too small." In 1875 the brick church was demolished and some of its materials were used in building a new convent at the new site (the 1903 parish history states that this was the rectory that was replaced in 1899). The J. H. Rattermann property was purchased for a rectory site and the parish was completely consolidated at the new (and present) church site ("1903 St. Mary's Church History," pp. 6-8).

The new church produced a heavy debt at a time when many were strongly inclined to gravitate westward in the search for new and better opportunities. It required four years of sustained effort to reduce the debt. The floods of 1880 nearly inundated the church properties and the post-flood residue ruined the health of Rev. Francis X. Boeding (served 1878-82) and afflicted the congregation as well. Rev. Boeding left the congregation with a new altar, a free parochial school (decreed by the Plenary Council of Baltimore in 1888), and a strong chapter of the Sacred Heart Sick Benevolent Society, a branch of the German Roman Catholic Central Society of America. The latter organization, 50,000 strong, now had an impact on local parishes as a result of its regional conventions, attended by delegates from St. Mary's parish ("1903 St. Mary's Church History," p. 7).

Rev. John B. Albers served the parish for a record seven years (1882-88) and no small displeasure resulted in the parish when the diocese replaced him in the fall of 1889 with Rev. Joseph H. Brinkman. Brinkman's new parish boasted 75 families, 300 communicants and a school with 72 students ("1903 St. Mary's Church History," p. 7).

As late as 1913, 200 St. Mary's parishioners spoke only German. The 1934 annual parish report tallied 100 German speakers and when asked what provisions were made for these, the pastor reported that services were offered in German. It is remarkable that this number literally evaporated within the next few years, dropping to 50 non-English speakers by 1937, to 25 the next year and to zero by 1939 (Dubuque Archdiocese Archives, Annual Parish Reports, 1913, 1934, 1937, 1938, 1939).

Rev. Joseph H. Brinkman (1859-1925):

Rev. Joseph H. Brinkman was the most significant figure in the history of St. Mary's for two reasons. He inherited a strong parish parochial school and made it his constant endeavor to further improve and expand it. As a consequence of his leadership the school was expanded to a full twelve-year curriculum and it was accredited by the state. His second significant accomplishment was the complete rebuilding of the parish complex in the years between 1892 and 1902, including the school,

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 21**St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District****Clayton County, Iowa**

rectory, church, and a school addition. Most of the new buildings were directly or indirectly related to improving the school. The church expansion was driven by the need for adequate room for children in the services and the convent, envisioned by Rev. Brinkman, but completed a year after his death, was necessary to house the growing faculty of Sisters. It is unusual for a priest to serve as the parish's architect and in this case, the same designer (Brinkman) was responsible for the design of three major buildings. The multiple property document identified Rev. Joseph H. Brinkman as an important local designer/builder due to his design and planning role relative to the several St. Mary's Church buildings. Because these contributions on Rev. Brinkman's part were limited to the particular parish level rather than to a broader community role, his historical association does not meet the National Register test for a historically significant individual.



Figure 21: Rev. Joseph H. Brinkman (1859-1925)

Rev. Brinkman joined the St. Mary's congregation on November 4, 1889. He was born in Cincinnati October 20, 1859 and was educated at the St. Frances Seminary in Milwaukee; St. Josephs College in Dubuque, the Grand Seminary in Montreal, Canada, and he was ordained into the priesthood by Bishop Hennessey at St. Raphael's Cathedral in Dubuque in 1886 (his funeral was also held there in 1925, an attestation to his importance to the Archdiocese). His first service as a priest was as an assistant pastor at Dyersville, Iowa, 1886-89. There he gained his first direct experience in church construction when he stepped in for the ill Rev. Kortemkamp, who had started the construction in late 1887 of what is now the St. Frances Xavier Basilica (designated as a basilica in 1956, listed National Register of Historic Places). Rev. Kortemkamp fell dangerously ill (he would die in late 1889) and Rev. Brinkman served as the go-between for Rev. Kortemkamp and the contractors. Rev. Kortenkamp had eight church designs to his credit, and he certainly was the architect at Dyersville. Rev. Arthur Halback, historian of that church, strongly hints that this experience on Rev. Brinkman's part, provided both experience and self confidence to the future designer of the St. Mary's parish buildings:

Father Joseph Brinkmann, a young priest with native aptness for architecture, executed the pastor's will on all parish fronts with fidelity and competency. In the pastor's inability to leave the invalid's chair, Father Brinkmann was the former's second self in supervising and directing building operations. He did this so ably, besides looking after all the other pastoral duties, that when the successor to Father Kortenkamp was appointed,

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 22

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa

the people found it hard to see Father Brinkmann leave. At Guttenberg, Father Brinkmann later built a church whose façade is also flanked with twin steeples, not unlike the one he helped to construct at Dyersville.

St. Mary's Church and the Dyersville Gothic church design featured twin front towers and spires. The design footprint was a simple rectangle without transepts, but it was massive with a seating capacity of 1,200, an overall dimension of 175x70 feet, and spires that towered 212 feet high. The shallow pilaster/buttress arrangement on both churches was the same and the Dyersville church was also of red brick construction on a raised stone foundation (Otting, pp. 146-60; Rev. Arthur A. Halback, *Dyersville: It's History and Its People*. Dubuque: St. Joseph Press, 1939, pp. 174-77, 273).

Rev. Brinkman was confronted on his arrival in Guttenberg with a small Catholic congregation, just 75 families and the parochial grade school had just 72 pupils. He inherited the existing church site, with the 1859-60 stone school, 1874 stone church and a frame rector, a complex that covered a large part of its present full block, but not all of it. His new parish was small but stable and the 1903 church history notes that Brinkman's first four years of service were uneventful. In January 1894 parishoners compelled Rev. Brinkman to hold an assembly to discuss school expansion. By this time there were 120 students in just two classrooms. Joseph Huene is credited with re-directing the ongoing discussions when he arose and moved that a new four-room brick schoolhouse be constructed. The 1903 history credits an unnamed member with voicing the winning argument:

Just 20 years ago, when the congregation was a little more than half as large as now, a church could be built, because the old one was too small, and now I cannot see, why we should not be able with more help, to build a school, for the same reason. It seems to me a church without a good school is like a home without a mother" ("1903 St. Mary's Church History").

There were certainly good reasons to doubt the wisdom of undertaking building work at that time. The nation was in the grip of a recession and fire had destroyed the local mill and a massive warehouse. Despite the hard times, just seven votes opposed the new school building program and subscriptions for \$5,000 were quickly obtained. Final construction costs were about \$8,000. Ground was broken for the new building on June 13, 1894. Henry Buechel & Joseph Vogt of Guttenberg had the contract for the bluff limestone basement. Christ Burdt of Dubuque did the brickwork. Mathias Burr of Guttenberg did the carpentry work. The two-story building measured 50x70 and was built using brick produced by the Heims brickyard of Dubuque. Three ground level classrooms served 120 students immediately and the Franciscan sisters used the abandoned 1859-60 school as their residency. By 1901 the student population was increased to 160 students and a fourth classroom was established. The teaching staff then numbered four sisters ("1903 St. Mary's History," pp. 7-9).

The Dubuque *Daily Telegraph* printed a general article about Guttenberg in November 1899. The article contained four building sketches, two of which featured St. Mary's buildings, the 1874 stone church, and the newly completed schoolhouse.

The frame parsonage had a deteriorating roof and other ills and Rev. Brinkmann assembled a committee to discuss making repairs. The group displayed an animosity to throwing money away on short-term fixes. A vote by the whole congregation concurred and August Huene headed the building committee. Brinkman was again the designer. The rectory architecture and massing matched that of the 1894 school. Anton Wille did the brickwork, Thomas Pauli the carpentry work. The selection of Pauli and Wille indicates that Rev. Brinkman was selecting the most progressive and successful local builders. Tony Pauli was the builder of the new pearl button factory that same year. Tony Willie also built the town's finest bank, the Guttenberg State Bank at the same time. When the bank was finished the *Press* termed it "a most excellent piece of brickwork...Tony is one of the most reliable brick contractors in Eastern Iowa and employs none but first class workmen on

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 23

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa

jobs that he contracts for. Tony will do the brick laying in this city hereafter if good work counts" (*Guttenberg Press*, November 29, December 13, 1899; December 20, 1900).



Figure 22: St. Mary's Catholic School, drawing by "Pullen"
(*Dubuque Daily Telegraph*, November 7, 1899)

When it was determined to build a new rectory \$3,236 was quickly subscribed for it. Actual costs were about \$3,500 but the purchase of two lots added \$2,000 to the final expense. The two-story brick building measured 42x34 with an 18x25 wing. The foundation work was done June 21 and the sleepers were then being laid down. Another improvement, reported May 31, was the demolition of the "old carpentry shop" which was between Mrs. Overbeck's house and the church, the *Press* reported it "at last demolished and a decided improvement." This was likely the story-and-a-half dwelling that stood south of the north boundary line of Lot 3 (1894 Sanborn Map). Tony Willie started his brickwork on July 26, 1899. The *Press* noted that the residence "will be one of the finest structures in our city when completed." Willie was done by August 8. The rectory roof was being shingled by August 16, and carpenters were finishing the interior work. Thom Paule the carpentry contract. Kappen & Pink had the painting contract. The rectory was announced as sufficiently done by November 8 so that Rev. Brinkmann could occupy it. The *Press* observed, "It is one of the most convenient residences in our city and the exterior appearance is a credit to the town" (*Press*, May 31, June 21, August 9, 16, November 8, 1899; *History*, p. 18; 1903 *St. Mary's History*, p. 8).

The new rectory was further south than was the old one and the former rectory was moved to an unidentified site (described as "the Kann lots recently purchased"), placed on a new foundation by contractor Toni Pauli, beginning November 29, in what the *Press* described as "quite an undertaking." The house was on its new lot by December 13. Note that the move followed the occupancy of the new rectory, it wasn't available until Rev. Brinkman vacated it (*Press*, November 29, December 13, 1899).

The same scenario followed when the parish determined to build a new church. Complaints of a lack of church space for the children dated back to 1892. Rev. Brinkman suggested a large side wing addition and that proposal was rejected, the addition "would cost a large sum, and then after all, it would a patch-work." The estimated cost for a new church, \$20,000 was deemed to be achievable and the new church was decided upon. A building committee was formed and Rev. Brinkman was charged with the design work. He started with preliminary sketches and their acceptance by the committee led to his

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 24**St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District****Clayton County, Iowa**

preparation of plans and specifications. The lack of architect's fees was deemed "a great [costs] saving to the congregation" (1903 St. Mary's History, p. 9).

The building of St. Mary's church was the major design and construction accomplishment on the part of Rev. Brinkman and his growing congregation. Of course the credit must be shared and there are many indications that it was the parish pushing the priest as much as the priest fulfilling a grand building plan.¹ The new church was to have been completely of white limestone construction. This initial plan reflected a local preference for vernacular stone and might also have been influenced by Rev. Brinkman's experience with building the Dyersville church. This tradition was so long-enduring that when the local St. John Lutheran church rebuilt in 1948, it chose a stone veneer over a brick one. The 1903 parish history notes "various difficulties and intriguing obstacles caused a reconsideration of this decision..." Red pressed St. Louis brick was finally substituted (with putty mortar joints). The new building site was immediately south of the old church and excavation work started in late August 1902. The original plan was to quickly demolish the old church and to use its salvageable stone in the new building, using the school for church services. Rev. Brinkman estimated that it would take an entire year to finish the new church. Vogt, Buechel & Vogt did the stonework and three massive derricks were set up on site to lay the massive foundation stones for what would be the city's largest building project to date. Henry Buechel, Frank and William Vogt were notable local stone contractors and the first two named had done the foundation work for the parish school in 1894. The massive foundation anticipated the all-stone superstructure. By the end of October all but the west or rear stone foundation wall was completed. In mid-December cold weather banished the stonemasons from finishing their work, stopping them within just a few days of completion. The demolition of the old church finally began in mid-March 1903 and the foundation was roofed to allow for its use for services. At that time the *Press* repeated the intention to reuse stone from the demolition but it also noted "It was at first planned to construct the building of white limestone but later brick was decided upon." It was unclear then where the old stone might be used. By mid-April the brickwork was underway. Frank D. Scharle of Dubuque received the \$11,000 contract for the brickwork. F. D. Schulte did the carpentry work. The LaCrosse Steel Roofing and Corrugating Company put the roof on the new church. Kirmsy Brothers of Dubuque did the lathing and plastering work. The Milwaukee Mirror and Art Glass Works produced the art glass windows. Kappen & Melms and P. H. McQuire (Bloomington, Illinois) did the painting. Wagner and Dargan produced the Bedford stone trim pieces. C. Eggerth of Guttenberg, produced the pews (*1851-1951 St. Mary history; 1903 St. Mary History, p. 9; Press, August 28, October 30, December 18, 1902; March 19, April 23, 1903*).

What is remarkable about St. Mary's is its immense size relative to its congregation and the community. The only seating estimate is an early one of 800 seats, and this failed to count the choir or organ loft. Clearly the scale addressed the issue of having room for the parish children, allowed for considerable expansion in the basement, and allowed for future parish growth as well. It is all the more remarkable that the current building with its rear chapels, was built as one unit between 1902 and 1904. It is of interest that it required a year and a half to complete the new church. Rev. Brinkman had estimated that a year would be required. Dedication took place in late May 1904. Two tents on the church grounds sheltered a field kitchen and a massive outdoor dining room. Throughout the town, storefronts and homes were festively decorated in honor of the occasion and the visit by Archbishop John J. Keane (*Clayton County Journal, May 26, 1904*).

¹ Rev. Brinkman submitted a proxy to replace the old outside toilets, the old "pools being full" and their replacement was prohibited. He explained that he had postponed the work for three years in the face of parishoner complaints and the continuing high costs of materials and labor. Joseph Huene is credited with making the parish council motion to build a new church in 1894 (Archdiocese Archives; Proxy, August 3, 1926, St. Mary Church; McLane).

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 25

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa

Frank D. Scharle received the contract for the brickwork and also was paid to take down the old church, presumably after the new one was ready. C. Eggerth furnished the pews, P. H. McGuire of Bloomington, Illinois, provided the twin furnaces; Wagner & Dugan of Dubuque provided the stone trimming pieces; Kappen, Williams and H. Kappen had the painting contract. F. D. Lohde did the carpentry work. The LaCrosse Steel Roofing and Corrugating Company put the slate roof on the church. The Kirmsey Brothers of Dubuque did the lath work and plastering. The Milwaukee Mirror and Art Glass Works provided the art glass windows. The total cost of construction was \$28,758 (1851-1951 *St. Mary history; Clayton County Journal*, May 26, 1904).

Rev. Brinkman was finished with building for awhile with the completion of the church, although he still envisioned added a convent to the parish complex. In mid-1926, after the priest's unexpected death the previous fall, the *Guttenberg Press* explained:

It had been the intention of the late Rev. Joseph Brinkman, during whose able pastorate, the beautiful St. Mary's church, school and rectory were built, to complete the building program of St. Mary's by erecting a modern convent for the Sisters, but Providence, would have it otherwise and it was left to his successor to carry out this program... (Guttenberg *Press*, July 15, 1926).

Parish annual reports survive beginning in 1913. At that time his parish, without formal boundaries, extended seven miles north and the same to the south, and eight miles west. Church membership was a healthy 600-700 with an additional 300 children. All but 70 of his members were German and 200 spoke no English. The school had five instructors, included ten grades and had 189 students. The parish suffered \$1,551 in storm damage in 1918 but insurance covered the damages. There was no mention in the annual reports of any anti-German pressures related to the First World War. It is also fair to note that the report form made no specific inquiry and the pastor failed to make reference to any local problems in his general remarks. By 1921 the school had 220 students and the congregation numbered 928 persons. This jump in student numbers compelled the construction of a south wing on the school. Its need was reflected both in the growing headcount (the numbers actually dropped considerably after the school was enlarged, falling to 181 students in 1924 and 169 the next year. They bounced back however and by 1929 there were 202 students. The high point came in 1934 with 250 students and nine instructors) and Rev. Brinkman's push to establish a complete high school program. His work was well accomplished by 1921 as noted above, with ten established grades in place. Rev. Brinkman witnessed the fulfillment of his high school vision when it was fully accredited by the State of Iowa on May 26, 1925. He died unexpectedly on October 11, 1925 and he was buried alongside his parents in Petersburg, Iowa (1851-1951 *St. Mary History*; Annual Parish Reports, 1913, 1918, 1921, 1924, 1925, 1929, 1934).

Rev. Brinkman's passing was a major shock to his parish. His funeral was conducted at St. Raphael Cathedral in Dubuque, his place of ordination, and a clear indication of his importance to both parish and diocese. When his casket was delivered to Guttenberg by train to the depot the entire parish was present to receive it. The parish societies, St. Clement, Sacred Heart, St. Ann's, the Young Ladies Society and the school children were lined in double file between the depot and the church, and the body lay in state in the church until burial the next morning. The *Press* noted "[Rev. Brinkman] has accomplished a wonderful amount of good in all those years and while he has now passed to his eternal reward he is leaving his parish in such a well organized condition that any priest will be anxious to take charge of it." The same account lauded the late priest's interest in parish parochial education, noting:

...The education of the children and people seemed to have been his chief object of interest. Every year before school started he made the "Necessity of An Education" the topic for a few Sunday's talk to his people. He

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 26

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa

took special pride in seeing his school advance to what it is today. The school today is an accredited one furnishing a full eight grade course and a complete four-year high school. The attendance of the High School has grown each year since it has been in existence (*Press*, October 15, 1925).

Four previous pastors played key roles in maintaining the St. Mary's parish. Rev. Frederick Hannasch, who served St. Mary's from 1858-1863, relocated the parish to its present site by acquiring the first lots for the stone schoolhouse, built on the site of the 1962 school in 1859-60. Rev. Stephan Maasjost May was pastor from 1867 through 1873. During his tenure the Sisters of St. Francis arrived in January 1870 to take charge of the parochial school. Rev. Gerhard H. Luehrsman succeeded Rev. May and served at St. Mary's from 1873 until 1878. He strengthened the parish, building on the 60-family membership that he inherited, built a massive new stone church (45x96) that was begun in 1874 and a convent (built from salvage from the demolition of the second 1853 brick church. It was still located at the original church site in north Guttenberg). None of these buildings survive today however. Rev. John B. Albers served the parish 1882-1888 and under his tenure the 1874 church interior was finally frescoed and a free parochial school was put into effect in 1888. This last change made the parish financially responsible for the costs of operating the school. Formerly the parents of students had to bear most of the costs.

Brinkmann's formal successor, Rev. Joseph A. Dupont joined the parish January 29, 1926 and almost immediately turned his efforts towards building a sisters' home. The Diocese approved plans to build the convent and to construct a joint heating system for it and the school in mid-April 1926. Theo Berns demolished the old 1859 stone building, first used as a school/teachers' residence, and since 1894 solely as a convent, was demolished by mid-July. Ground was broken on July 12 and occupied December 15, 1926. R. F. Conlin was the successful low bidder out of eight applicants. Curiously all of the awarded contracts went to Dubuque firms. The \$13,545 brick veneered building was designed in the Tudor Revival style and featured ornamental rock imbedded in the brickwork, a singular example of that technique in conservative Guttenberg. Rev. Dupont served the parish until 1948, making his tenure one of 22 years (*ibid.*, pp. 20-22; *Press*, April 15, July 15, 1926).

For the first time, the Parish hired a trained architect, Polish-born Casimer Ignatius Krajewski (1893-1949+). Krajewski was a 1916 graduate of Notre Dame University and had entered into his own design practice in Dubuque in 1922. His only other identified commission is St. Mary's Catholic Church in Ottumwa (1930) (Wesley I. Shank, *Iowa's Historic Architects: A Biographical Dictionary*. Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 1999, p. 102).

As of 1951 total school enrollment was 210 students, 48 of these being in the high school grades. By 1956 these numbers were a total of 200, 60 of these comprising the high school. Ten instructors include two priests, six nuns and two lay teachers. Following many years of continuous growth, the decline of the high school component of the system came fairly abruptly, during the 1960s. It is ironic that the growing school system necessitated the building of a new grade school in 1960 and the older school was remodeled. The high school closed in 1968 and the Sisters of Perpetual Adoration then ended a mission that had endured for 98 years (a 1951 roster of sisters who served the parish up to that time listed 149 names). They were replaced by two sisters each from the Sisters of St. Francis, Dubuque, and the Sisters of Notre Dame, Omaha. The grade school was consolidated with the Immaculate Conception School, North Buena Vista, in 1968. A part-time kindergarten was added in 1986, and became an all week program in 1995. At that time there were 265 students in the unified school. This number declined to 223 pupils by 1981 (*1951 St. Mary History; Press*, May 27, 2001; "Time Line History of St. Mary Parish and School.").

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 27

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 28

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 **Page** 29

St. Mary's Catholic Church Historic District

Clayton County, Iowa

10. Additional Documentation:

Boundary Description:

Block 12 inclusive, Lots 1-16 including vacated alley, Guttenberg Plat.

Boundary Justification:

The block has been completely occupied by St. Mary's Parish since c.1880 and has been directly associated with the history of the parish.

Photographs:

Photographer: James E. Jacobsen

Date: November 21, 2003

Location of Negatives: City of Dubuque

Film Type: Ilford ASA100

<u>Frame:</u>	<u>View:</u>	<u>Description:</u>
1	northwest	rectory, view, south wall of church in right background
2	north	South Second Street, west side, rectory, church, 1962 school, convent
3	northwest	church facade
4	southwest	along South Second Street, convent, 1962 school and church
5	southeast	along Herder Street, south side, 1894-1921 school, and church
6	southeast	church, rear and north wall
7	southeast	church, rear and rectory (at right)
8	northeast	church, south wall and rectory