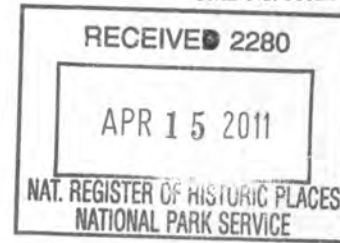


United States Department of Interior  
National Park Service

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 Visitation Convent Complex

other names/site number St. Mary's Home; School Sisters of Notre Dame Convent Complex

2. Location

street & number 13105 Watertown Plank Road

city or town Elm Grove

state Wisconsin code WI county Waukesha

N/A

N/A

code 133

not for publication

vicinity

zip code 53122

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State Historic Preservation Officer - 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

Visitation Convent Complex

Waukesha

Wisconsin

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:)*Edson H. Beall*

5-25-11

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

**5. Classification****Ownership of Property**  
(check as many boxes as  
as apply)☒ private  
☐ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☐ public-Federal**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)☒ building(s)  
☐ district  
☐ structure  
☐ site  
☐ object**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources  
in the count)

contributing	noncontributing
7	5 buildings
1	0 sites
1	1 structures
2	0 objects
11	6 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-related residence

DOMESTIC: institutional housing

HEALTH CARE: hospital

FUNERARY: cemetery

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: church-related residence

HEALTH CARE: hospital

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

FUNERARY: cemetery

**7. Description****Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revivals

Prairie School

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation fieldstone, limestone, concrete

walls brick

roof asphalt

other stone

**Narrative Description**

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

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**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section 7 Page 1

Visitation Convent Complex  
Elm Grove, Waukesha County, WI

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**GENERAL DESCRIPTION**

The Visitation Convent Complex of the School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND) is located on a 30-acre parcel along the south side of Watertown Plank Road in the Village of Elm Grove, Waukesha County. Foliage (both trees and bushes) covers a significant amount of the acreage. The primary driveway to the complex is off Stephen Place and leads to the main parking lot on the grounds. A secondary driveway is located off of Watertown Plank Road and leads to two smaller parking areas. A pair of connected, four-story, high-style buildings dominates the Watertown Plank Road side of the parcel, while the remainder of the property's buildings are largely obscured from view by heavy foliage. The property is comprised of a total of twelve buildings, two structures, two objects, and one site of which seven buildings, two objects, one structure, and one site are considered to be contributing elements to the significance of the property. Although the majority of the buildings were largely constructed as free-standing, individual buildings, they are all now largely interconnected via hyphen-like hallways and passageways. A pair of underground tunnels, not included in the count, which originate from Notre Dame Hall, are located along the east side of the property. Also located on the property (and included in the site map), but not included in the resource count, are a peace pole, metal fencing, modern planters, and convent signage.<sup>1</sup>

**DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY**

**Visitation Convent/Notre Dame Hall<sup>2</sup> (Contributing, 1899<sup>3</sup>):**

The German Renaissance Revival-style, Notre Dame Hall (Photos #1-6, Building "A" on site map) is oriented on a northwest/southeast axis and rises four stories atop a raised basement level that includes mostly narrow, rectangular window openings along its upper edge. The roof is essentially a gambrel form that is obscured by a stepped gable end wall along its primary northwest (Watertown Plank Road-facing) elevation, while its rear end wall is shielded by a shaped parapet gabled end wall with a

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<sup>1</sup> Despite the fact that nearly all of the campus buildings are now interconnected, the majority of them began as free-standing structures. Furthermore, each building is known by an individual name, i.e., Notre Dame Hall, Maria Hall, Andrina Hall, etc. and is considered a separate building. Although the naming conventions for each building are of a more recent period (1950s forward), they are the names that they retain today; therefore, that is what they are named for purposes of this document.

<sup>2</sup> When this building was erected, it was built as an "addition" to the original convent building on the grounds and, therefore, did not have an individual building name, but was considered a part of Visitation Convent. The building's plans are titled "St. Mary's Home," which was the name of the larger grounds. It has, however, come to be named Notre Dame Hall and, for ease of reading in this document, Notre Dame Hall is used as the official name of the building.

<sup>3</sup> As evidenced on the original building plans for the building, something previously stood at this location, for there are references to an "existing foundation" at the location of the northern end of Notre Dame Hall.

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Visitation Convent Complex  
Elm Grove, Waukesha County, WI

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central belltower-like opening. The roof itself is covered with asphalt shingles, except for a portion of the roof of the apse, which is sheathed with standing-seam copper. A series of gabled roof dormers rise from the roofline and are also topped with copper. Although cut stone sheathes the exterior of the foundation, the foundation itself is fieldstone; the walls are of cream city brick. Corbelled brickwork runs along the cornice. The building terminates at its southerly end with a two-story apse, while a five-story water tower is located near the southerly end and adjacent to a three-story porch with arched openings. The building's cornerstone is located along its east elevation, at the north end of the chapel.

The building's original primary entrance (Photo #6 of 23) is located at the approximate center of its west elevation. The actual entrance door is recessed within a round-arched opening that is trimmed with limestone<sup>4</sup>, the center of which is surmounted by a stone cross at the peak. A pair of wooden doors with iron strapwork hinges is located beneath a transom featuring stone tracery and a central quatrefoil filled with leaded stained glass. The tower-like entrance bay with false bartizans rises for three more stories and terminates as a stepped and peaked gabled roof dormer that is more embellished than the remaining four dormers found along the roofline. Those four dormers feature a peaked gable trimmed with brickwork and copper. Each dormer window, including the central example, is a round-arched, six-over-six-light sash. A series of four symmetrically placed windows are located to either side of the central entrance and along the building's first level; each window is topped with a lintel comprised of staggered soldier brick, while a simple stone sill underscores each opening. Windows along the second and third floors are set within a two-story, recessed arch; the second floor windows are segmentally arched like the first, while the third-floor openings are round-arched examples. A second entrance, identical to the building's previously described central entry, is at an angle and located at the intersection of Notre Dame Hall and Maria Hall; however, the entrance provides access only to Notre Dame Hall. This is now the primary entry and it was added following the construction of Maria Hall in 1921. Above the entrance opening, the building rises for four stories, the uppermost level of which historically (and until 1950) housed the building's cistern. This tower-like unit terminates as a castellated parapet with corbelled brickwork trim.

The first floor of the northwest end wall elevation (adjacent to Watertown Plank Road) contains a single, central, and segmentally arched opening fitted with a pair of four-over-four-light, rectangular windows set beneath an arched transom opening. The second and third floors each has five, symmetrically arranged, six-over-six-light windows set within a round-arched recession. Each

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<sup>4</sup> Building specifications indicate that "all steps, platforms, area copings and basement door sill to be best quality Illinois limestone...", while "...all other cut stone throughout to be best quality Buff Bedford limestone from Dark Hollow, Indiana quarry of the Consolidated State Company of Chicago." All interior finish was to be red oak, except for the chapel, which was to be finished in white oak, "St. Mary's Home," Building Specifications, undated, 66 pages total; a second set of specifications are dated 23 April 1898 and are 110 pages long, on file at the School Sisters of Notre Dame Archives (hereafter cited as SSNDA), Milwaukee Province, Elm Grove, WI.



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Visitation Convent Complex  
Elm Grove, Waukesha County, WI

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recession is underscored with a stone sill beneath which is corbelled brick trim. Windows of the second level are segmentally arched, while the remaining upper floors feature round-arched examples. The fourth and fifth levels are slightly set back from the first three levels (and which is demarcated with a line of brickwork corbels) and the windows are smaller in scale; all but the center windows are again set within a round-arched recession. The stepped gabled parapet feature merlon-like ends, in between which are decorative, shaped consoles. An open belfry arch is located at the center, above which rests a carved stone cross.

The building's north half of its northeastern elevation is similar in arrangement to that of the opposite west façade, in that first and second-floor windows are segmentally arched and the second and third-floor windows are set within a slightly recessed, round-arched opening. Copper-trimmed dormers line the roof. A central tower-like entry features a doorway at the first level, which includes a pair of heavy oak doors with iron strapwork hinges (like the opposite elevation) and a multiple-light transom above. A pair of windows with a central brick column occupies the second level, while a tall and narrow window opening spans the third and fourth levels and battlement-like trim tops the entry. Rising above the roofline for two stories is a gabled unit that terminates with another parapet with brick corbels. A pair of identical and miniature belltower-like embellishments rises further beyond that level. A small, stone-sheathed, gabled well house with a copper-trimmed roof and rectangular window openings rises from the ground and in front (east) of the structure proper.

The remainder of the east elevation differs as a result of the location of the two-story chapel. The northeast chapel wall can be divided into five bays, the northernmost and southernmost bays (less the apical end) carry a single, round-arched window along both the first and second floors. The interior three bays feature paired, round-arched windows with a central arch spring in between. All chapel windows are diamond-paned, stained-glass examples. Windows of the third level mimic the patterning of those along the chapel wall in a 1-2-2-2-1 arrangement; however the third floor is delineated from the lower two floors by a cornice-like element with brick corbeling. The roof level carries a series of three gabled dormers, each with a six-over-six-light sash within it.

The structure's south end includes the apse of the interior chapel and is topped with a conical roof covered with asphalt shingles and copper. Brick pilasters divide the apse into three sections, each carrying a single, round-arched window along both the first and second floors. The upper edge of the apse is trimmed with an exaggerated brick corbel table. In line with the windows below, a single oculus window provides light on three sides of the projection. A pair of windows is located above the apse and along the main block of the structure; they are separated by a small quatrefoil window. The very peak of the structure terminates in a belfry-like parapet; however, no bell is located in the space below. An additional, small, round-arched window rests beneath this vertical projection. Extending from the chapel section, but from the basement level, is one of the two tunnels that led to the former

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Visitation Convent Complex  
Elm Grove, Waukesha County, WI

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farm buildings on the grounds. The tunnel roof, which includes a window near its juncture with the building, is visible for only a short length, after which it continues entirely underground, until reemerging at two different locations along the east side of the property. The entrances to the tunnels are accessible from Notre Dame Hall; however, they have both been sealed at the opposite end.

Finally, the rearmost elevation includes a three-story porch wing that fronts the main block; access to the first level is gained via a series of concrete steps. A pair of round-arched openings is located along the first floor, while two segmental-arch openings occupy the second and third floors. Original metal railings are located along each level, while the central stair railing is a replacement. Visible above the porch level is the cistern tower which features a mock, castellated parapet, as well as slit-like window openings with additional corbelled brickwork trim.

According to historic photos (Figures #3 and #4), alterations to the exterior appear to be limited. While the roof dormers and a portion of the roof of the apse is still covered with standing-seam copper, the remainder of the roof has been re-sheathed with asphalt shingles. Original, basement-level, multiple-light windows have all been replaced with two-light openings. Although some of the upper-level windows appear to be replacements; they all maintain their original glazing pattern.

The original plans for the building (drawn by Eugene Liebert) indicate that the first floor of the building included a series of classrooms, the "Chapel of the Dead" (a mortuary), as well as bathrooms and, of course, the first floor of St. Joseph Chapel. Aside from the upper level of the chapel and bathrooms, the second level included rooms identified as "infirmary," "children's study room," "classroom," and "candidates room." Dormitory rooms with built-in closets and storage, as well as bathrooms, were located throughout the remaining two levels of the building. Finally, a cistern was located along the roof level. A large, wooden, "floating" staircase (Photo #9 of 23) comprises a substantial area at the south end of each floor, as it continues to the top floor, while additional, smaller and less ornate, wooden staircases are located throughout the structure. Although the original room spacing of the lower floors had been divided into smaller spaces sometime in the 1920s, much of the original woodwork has been maintained throughout. The fourth and fifth-floor dormitory spaces (Photo #8 of 23) were divided into individual rooms in 1970. Original wooden wainscoting is located in the hallways along each level, as are original transoms over each door. Dropped ceilings have been installed in all areas, other than hallways and the chapel, and carpeting covers the original wooden floors throughout the building, except for the staircases. The offices of the Milwaukee Province are located in this building, as are other offices, as well as the Provincial archives.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Eugene R. Liebert, "St. Mary's Home," original plans, no date, on file at the SSNDA, Milwaukee Province, Elm Grove, WI; a 1970 billing letter from Etzel Commercial Construction reads: "Make Individual rooms out of dormitories on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> floors of Visitation Convent," Etzel Construction Company, Milwaukee to the SSND, 30 June 1970, on file in Elm Grove Renovation (1967) Folder, SSNDA.

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Visitation Convent Complex  
Elm Grove, Waukesha County, WI

Aside from the extravagant red oak staircase, the primary architectural feature of the interior is the original two-story chapel (Photo #7 of 23). Although the pews have been removed and the chapel no longer functions as such, the room's original design features remain intact. Oriented on a north/south axis, a pair of wooden doors opens at the chapel's center and into the vaulted, west side aisle. Delineating the nave and the side aisles along the first level is a series of short round columns with floriated capitals that rest on short piers. A flattened arch springs from each column. The second-floor balcony rings the chapel on three sides and is comprised of a solid wall, upon which rise a second set of short columns; however, capitals on this level featured carved angels with wings. While the entire room is now painted off-white, the chapel's original and intricately designed, wooden ceiling remains intact. Stained-glass windows line the outside wall of the room and are also present in the roof of the actual sanctuary. Original expenditure records indicate the stained glass was produced by Daniel Van Horn and Gavin Art Glass, both of Milwaukee, while the original specifications cite Charles "Carl" Kuehns (of the Milwaukee Ornamental Carving Company, see Section 8, Architects, Artists and Craftsmen for further information regarding Kuehns) as the sculptor of the moldings, arches, beads, etc., which were made according to designs and suggestions of Liebert. In 1936, E. Brielmaier & Son remodeled the chapel.<sup>6</sup>

In 1994, worship in the chapel was discontinued and the pews were removed. It currently functions as a museum and is known as the Heritage Room. In 2008, the space underwent renovations that included patching walls, updating the electricity, and a fresh paint job. In addition, the stained-glass windows along the walls and in the ceiling needed cleaning, while others were cracked. Originally designed by both the Gavin Art Glass Company and David Van Horn of Milwaukee (see Section 8, Architects, Artists and Craftsmen for further information regarding both firms), Conrad Schmitt Studios restored the windows. In 2010, the Sisters contracted with Inspired Artisans, Ltd., a firm specializing in liturgical art, to design and paint murals within four of the niches along the balcony level of the space.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Record of Expenses List, prepared by P.M. Abbelen, 1899, on file at the SSNDA. The Milwaukee Ornamental Carving Company is cited as having done work with Liebert on Mary of the Angels and Adoration chapels (1901) at St. Rose Convent, Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration in La Crosse, WI. (Gayda Hollnagel, "Franciscan Sisters in Search of History," *La Crosse Tribune*, posted 15 April 2005, available online at [http://lacrosetribune.com/news/article\\_da3c4c63-6c78-5b32-bfb5-93340109c71f.html](http://lacrosetribune.com/news/article_da3c4c63-6c78-5b32-bfb5-93340109c71f.html), accessed in December 2010.) Original specifications for the "sanctuary" called for the walls of this room—from the main floor to the top line of the gallery railing—"to be finished in Scagliola, in true imitation of serpentine green marble, richly polished." Historic photos of the chapel's interior that are in possession of the SSND are undated, but none appear to indicate any color. Plans on file at the SSND indicate that the chapel was remodeled in 1936, E. Brielmaier & Son, "Sisters of Notre Dame, Chapel Remodel," 30 November 1936, on file at the SSNDA.

<sup>7</sup>Original names of the designers of the chapel windows (Gavin and Van Horn) are identified in a list of expenses for the hall, Record of Expenses List; "The Historic Castle at Notre Dame of Elm Grove," *SSND Today* (periodical of the SSND, Milwaukee Province) Spring 2010, 3; information sheet (re: Inspired Artisans, Ltd.), included in SSND Visitor's Folder, Heritage Room, Notre Dame Hall, Elm Grove, WI.



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Visitation Convent Complex  
Elm Grove, Waukesha County, WI

**Marianum/Maria Hall<sup>8</sup> (Contributing, 1921<sup>9</sup>):**

Built as a replacement for the previous, original convent building, Maria Hall largely presents itself as a free-standing building (Photo #10 of 23 and "B" on site map). Rising four stories from a raised, cut stone basement, this Classical Revival-style structure extends from the southwesterly end of Notre Dame Hall and is faced with tan brick and trimmed with limestone. The decorative cornice includes a line of dentils, as well as a row of modillions. The top of the building terminates with a stone-constructed, open balustrade that alternates with brick and stone-capped piers. The primary elevation faces north and can be essentially divided into four bay divisions, the westernmost of which is not as wide as the rest of the building.

The formal central bay of the primary (northwest) entrance elevation, which does not serve as an entrance, projects slightly from the face of the building and features a series of four open porches, one on each above-ground level. The first-floor porch consists of a stone surround comprised of a single Doric column to either side, as well as an archway above. Immediately above the porch and integrated into the balustraded railing of the second-floor porch is a stone with raised lettering that reads, "MARIANUM." The upper three porch openings are framed with a single, continuous, fluted Corinthian column to either side, while an open, balustraded railing runs along the front (like that along the first level). Cut stone trim in the form of quoining outlines the porch openings, as well as the outer edges of the central bay and thus framing the single, six-over-six window on each level. The roofline of the central bay projection features a gabled parapet with a stone cross at its center. The remaining bay divisions to the east and west consist of regularly placed, six-over-six-light sashes topped with keystone lintels on levels 1 through 3, while a continuous smooth stone lintel runs along the uppermost level windows.

Like the rest of the northwesterly-facing elevation, the westernmost bay rises from a coursed, limestone foundation and the four floors each carry regular fenestration with a stone sill and header with keystone. The basement level features a wood-and-glass door that is flanked by sidelights. The southwestern elevation of this bay features an additional entrance, this one with an overhanging canopy. Single, multiple-light windows are located to either side of this entry. Paired windows run down the center of this elevation on levels 1 through 4, while smaller, single examples are found to

<sup>8</sup> As is evidenced along the front of the building, the structure's original name was the Marianum and is referenced as such in the 1928 history of the School Sisters of Notre Dame. Sister Dymphna Flynn, *Mother Caroline and The School Sisters of Notre Dame in North America*, 2 vols. (St. Louis: Woodward & Tiernan Company, 1928), 2/215. It has since been named Maria Hall, which is the name it is more commonly referred to as throughout the remainder of the document.

<sup>9</sup> Although no original plans exist for this building, correspondence and billing indicate that the architects were Backes & Pfaller. Billing and correspondence from Backes & Pfaller, dated 1920 and 1921, on file at the SSNDA.



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**Continuation Sheet**

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Visitation Convent Complex  
Elm Grove, Waukesha County, WI

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either side. Like the central bay, the southeastern entrance elevation is topped at the roof level with a brick parapet that features a cartouche at its center, above which rests a stone cross.

This building's south elevation is divided by brick pilasters into what appears to be five bays, the vast majority of which is largely obscured by four stories of concrete-constructed, open porches. Fenestration along this façade is not as regular as that found along the primary elevation, nor is it trimmed with keystone lintels. Furthermore, all of the original, variously sized, multiple-light windows have been replaced with one-over-one-light examples. Exterior alterations to this building are limited to this southerly elevation.

Maria Hall was designed (by the firm of Backes & Pfaller) and built to provide for additional convent housing; a function it continues to provide today. As built, the basement level included a kitchen, bakery and dining rooms, while the upper four floors included resident rooms. Today, the lower level includes the Maria Conference Center, as well as an exercise room/rehabilitation facility.<sup>10</sup> Regarding the upper four floors, much of the original interior room arrangement remains (small rooms arranged to either side of a central hallway) and wooden doors, transoms and hardware are also intact. However, carpeting has been installed throughout (and covers the original terrazzo flooring) and ceilings have been dropped with acoustical tile and fluorescent light fixtures.

**Guardian Angel Home (Orphanage)/Andrina Hall<sup>11</sup> (Contributing, Circa 1903; 1933<sup>12</sup>):**

This formerly free-standing building is attached to the rear of Maria Hall, as well as connecting to the approximate center of the front of Fidelis Hall (1968) via a two-story, brick hyphen/walkway. Rising from a partial fieldstone foundation (seen only along the structure's southeast elevation), this gabled, brick three-story building (Photo #11 of 23 and "C" on site map) is comprised of three "sections," the northernmost of which is oriented on an southwest/northeast axis. Both the easterly and westerly end walls feature a stepped parapet and the majority of the openings along each of the levels feature segmental-arched openings that are largely regularly placed. The windows, however, are rectangular replacements. Except for the two round-arched openings along the southwestern elevation, all windows and doors of this portion, as well as the central section, are topped with a flush header

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<sup>10</sup> Prior to its use as an exercise and rehabilitation facility, the Printing Department utilized the space from 1996 to 7 June 2010. The SSND has operated their own printing department since their time at the downtown Milwaukee Motherhouse and it was, until 2010, responsible for all English-language written materials for the entire Congregation. The department previously displayed memorabilia of early printing methods; it will be re-displayed elsewhere in the complex once an appropriate place has been chosen.

<sup>11</sup> The original name of this building, as well as its function is unknown; however, by 1923 it was known as Guardian Angel Home and, shortly thereafter, as Guardian Angel Orphanage. See Section 8 for more information. It was later named Andrina Hall, to which it is referred to later in the document.

<sup>12</sup> No plans exist for this building.

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Visitation Convent Complex  
Elm Grove, Waukesha County, WI

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comprised of three rows of header brick. The central section is oriented on a northwest/southeast axis and is topped with a gambrel style roofline that carries six gabled roof dormers along each side. Corbelled brick work runs immediately beneath the roof's eave. The original portion of the south end (which was completed in 1932-33) of the building rises three stories; however, shed-roofed dormer additions were made to the uppermost attic level, which results in a full fourth story.

Based on historic images (Figure #6 and #8), alterations include window replacements (original windows were multiple-light examples), the application of modern sheathing to the gabled dormers, as well as the addition of shed-roofed dormers to the uppermost level of the building's south end, and a continuous overhang along the building's first-floor, east elevation. Furthermore, in 1967, a multi-story elevator addition was built to connect Andrina Hall to Maria Hall.<sup>13</sup>

It is written that a portion of this building was extant when Mother Caroline purchased the property. Based on historic views, it appears that the lower stone-constructed level may have been the original portion of the school that can be seen in Figure #7. Historic views of the property—and in particular, of this building—date to the turn of the twentieth century. Those photos verify this building's existence and indicate that the south end of the structure also terminated in a stepped parapet wall. Although the structure's original function is not entirely clear, this building was utilized as an orphanage from at least the early 1920s until 1940. In 1967, the building was remodeled for use as additional living quarters for the Sisters, such as Maria Hall functions. As a result of the remodeling, little of the building's original interior fabric remains. It was after that remodeling that the structure was named for Mother Andrina Aalbers, the Commissary General from 1950 to 1956. She died in August 1966.<sup>14</sup>

**The Bungalow/Mary Basil Hall (Contributing, 1921; chapel expansion, 1959):**

This two-story, brick-faced structure exhibits modest Prairie style characteristics (Photo #12 of 23 and "D" on site map). Oriented to the northwest, this building is topped with a hipped roof with overhanging eaves; a row of soldier brick encircles the entire structure immediately beneath the eave. The central double-door and sidelight entrance is framed with brick pilasters and topped with a hipped-roof overhang. Above the overhang, but below the second floor, is an additional section of very short brick pilasters in between which is a cornice-like element with ornamental brickwork. The center of this "cornice" is a raised, stone cross. Above the doorway and along the second floor is a rectilinear, tripartite window with thick mullions and transoms above. The building's remaining windows are all one-over-one-light sashes with simple stone sills. Behind the building is a two-story chapel wing of which only a small portion is original to 1921. An initial addition was made to the

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<sup>13</sup> Donald Holt, "Elevator Addition," original plans, 16 July 1967. Located in the SSNDA.

<sup>14</sup> Information regarding Andrina Hall is included in "Notre Dame of Elm Grove Tour," page 2. Information sheet included in Visitor's Folder, SSNDA. "Ex-Director of School Sisters Dies," *Milwaukee Journal*, 19 August 1966.

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Visitation Convent Complex  
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chapel wing in 1954, while the bulk of the former chapel was added on to in 1958-59. Until the construction of Fidelis Hall (1968) and of the connecting hallways, the north elevation of Mary Basil Hall was entirely unobscured (Figure #9). The interior of the building retains original terrazzo flooring in the main stairwell and the two original first- and second-floor offices retain their brick fireplaces and wood-and-glass built-ins (Photo #13 of 23). Remaining rooms/offices have been modernized.<sup>15</sup>

Mary Basil Hall is historically referred to as "The Bungalow" and was built to serve as the interprovincial tuberculosis sanatorium. Like Maria Hall, the architectural firm of Backes & Pfaller designed it. The building functioned as a TB facility from its opening in 1922 to 1954, when it "combined" with Caroline Hall (see description to follow) and became the Holy Family Infirmary. Although the interior of the former chapel has been remodeled into a resource center/library, the windows are original to 1959. The building now houses various offices and meeting rooms. The building was named after Sister Mary Basil Roeser, who oversaw the Province finances, property and building projects in Elm Grove, Mount Calvary and Mequon. After serving as an assistant in the North American Commissariat from 1947 to 1959, she became a councilor in the Mequon Provincialate, after which she was appointed the Provincial treasurer. She died in 1992.<sup>16</sup>

**Boiler House/Caretaker's Residence (Contributing, 1920<sup>17</sup>):**

Located west of the south end of Andrina Hall and adjacent to the cemetery, the power house is a combined one-to-two-story building faced with brick (Photo #14 of 23 and "E" on site map). The north half rises one story and is topped with a flat roof; while the south half is two stories in height and is topped with a hipped roof with wide, overhanging eaves. Windows along the one-story wing are tall and narrow six-light openings that start at the ground level. A line of soldier brick runs above these windows and continues to top the first-floor windows of the two-story section. Windows along this wing are largely two-over-two-light fixed examples; while the upper-level openings are one-over-one-light, double-hung sash. The structure's overhanging eaves, the banding of the upper-level windows, as well as the continuous band of soldier brick that runs immediately above the structure's first floor combine to exhibit modest Prairie styling.

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<sup>15</sup> A historic photograph of "The Bungalow" is in Mary Briant Foley and Linda Marie Bos, SSND, *A Journey of Faith* (Milwaukee, WI: By the authors, 2007), 86. Although the photo's caption identifies its date of groundbreaking as 20 September 1921, the convent records indicate it was on that date in 1920. Chronicle, Visitation Convent, 20 September 1920.

<sup>16</sup> "Notre Dame of Elm Grove Tour," 3; Information regarding S. Mary Basil written by Mary Luke Badwin, SSND and is included in the website of "Sturdy Roots, An Educational Resource for Studying the Heritage and Spirit of the School Sisters of Notre Dame," available online at [http://sturdyroots.org/voc\\_roeser.htm](http://sturdyroots.org/voc_roeser.htm), accessed on 15 December 2010.

<sup>17</sup> Backes & Pfaller, "Boiler House for the School Sisters of Notre Dame," original plans, 16 April 1920. On file at the SSNDA.



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Designed by Backes & Pfaller, this structure was erected with a dual purpose: first to supply the power needed to run the convent complex; and second, to provide quarters for the property's caretaker. Indeed, the first-floor and basement-level interior includes large boilers, water treatment tanks and power units and it continues to provide power for the convent complex. The second level is currently vacant, as the property no longer requires a twenty-four-hour, on-site caretaker—the last of which resided here into the 1970s. Despite the vacancy, the arrangement of the upper-level living quarters remains intact and is utilized for storage.<sup>18</sup>

**West Wing/Caroline Hall (Contributing, 1955):**

Constructed of concrete and faced with brick, this two and three-story building (Photo #15 of 23 and "F" on site map) is located southwest of Mary Basil Hall and attached to it via a two-story, brick and glass block hallway. The three-story section of this 1955 building is accessed through a concrete-and-glass enclosed entry with a flat roof. A large metal cross is located at the northernmost end of this section, while a grouping of eight small square windows are immediately above the entry. Also above the entry are two, long and narrow window openings, while the south half carries three such window arrangements (one per floor). A short wing to the north connects to the hallway hyphen, while a long, northeast/southwest wing extends to the southwest. Rectangular, two-light, sliding glass windows are located along both the first and second floors. The southwest end of the building is attached to Holy Family Chapel (1975) via a two-story, brick, glass, and graveled finish hallway on its east elevation.

This building, constructed between 1954 and 1955, was originally the Interprovincial Psychiatric Wing and replaced their former facility, Our Lady of the Elms/St. Mary of the Woods, which was located off campus. Together with the TB hospital (The Bungalow/Mary Basil Hall), this building was known as Holy Family Infirmary. Designed by the firm of Brust & Brust, this psychiatric hospital had accommodations for fifty patients and an occupational therapy department in the basement level. It operated until 1970, after which it became a general nursing unit. Today it provides accommodations for thirty-one patients. The Hall was named after Mother Caroline Friess, the founder of the SSND campus.<sup>19</sup>

**East Wing/Theresa Hall (Contributing, 1959; dining room and kitchen addition, Non-contributing, 1994):**

This two-story building is comprised of a northwest/southeast-oriented wing that intersects with a southwest/northeast-oriented wing and forms the southeasternmost section of the complex (Photo #16

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<sup>18</sup> Ibid., "Notre Dame of Elm Grove Tour," 3.

<sup>19</sup> Brust & Brust, "Holy Family Infirmary," original plans, 1 September 1954, rev. 15 and 28 March 1955. On file at the SSNDA; "Notre Dame of Elm Grove Tour," 4.



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of 23 and "G" on site map). It is connected to the Holy Family Chapel via a two-story, brick, glass, and graveled finish hallway, like the one that connects the chapel to Caroline Hall. Constructed of concrete and faced with brick, this structure consists of large expanses of windows separated by white panels constructed of modern material. A thin, continuous stone sill runs beneath the window openings, while an open, grille-like overhang runs above them. In 1994, a dining room and kitchen addition, faced with brick and including expanses of glass windows, was built along a portion of the northwest-southeast oriented wing. The north end of Theresa Hall connects to the rear of Mary Basil Hall and continues to connect to Fidelis Hall via an entirely glass-enclosed hallway.

Designed by the firm of Herbst, Jacoby & Herbst and built by Thomas H. Bentley & Son, contractors, this structure was built as an addition to Holy Family Infirmary to house patients from the Milwaukee Street Motherhouse when the Motherhouse was moved to Mequon. At the time of the addition, the name of the facility was changed to the Notre Dame Infirmary; it was later changed to Notre Dame Health Care (1970) and then to Notre Dame of Elm Grove (1991), which it remains today. Today the building accommodates fifty-one patients, each with a private bath. Included in the wing is a small chapel, prayer rooms, kitchenettes, launderettes, general bathrooms, and a common room for visitors and activities. The lower level includes laundry facilities, a physical therapy department, and an employee lounge. The building was named after Mother Theresa Gerhardinger, who came in 1850 to the United States with Mother Caroline Friess, to begin the School Sisters of Notre Dame in the United States.<sup>20</sup>

**Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto (Contributing, 1926):**

The grotto is located directly south of Notre Dame Hall and adjacent to the east parking lot (Photo #17 of 23 and "H" on site map). Constructed of coursed fieldstone, this above-ground, arched grotto is a shrine to Mary. The opening faces southwest; the interior of the grotto is cave-like and finished in rubble stone. Two statues, one of Mary and another of Bernadette, are located inside.

The structure was a gift of the Brockmeyer family, as gratitude for Mother Caroline's concern and care for their relatives. All three Bartscher girls (relatives of the Brockmeyers) joined the School Sisters of Notre Dame.<sup>21</sup>

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<sup>20</sup> Herbst, Jacoby & Herbst, "Holy Family Infirmary Addition," plans, 1958-59. On file at the SSNDA; "Notre Dame of Elm Grove Tour," 4.

<sup>21</sup> Chronicle, Visitation Convent, October 1926; "Notre Dame of Elm Grove Tour," 3. See Foley and Bos, SSND, *A Journey of Faith*, 28-29.

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**Cemetery & Entrance Gates (Cemetery - contributing, circa 1853; Gates - contributing, circa 1920s):**

The School Sisters cemetery is located along the westernmost limits of the property, as well as along Watertown Plank Road ("I" on site map). A pair of stuccoed pillars and an iron gate (Photo #18 of 23) along Watertown Plank Road historically provided entry to the cemetery; however, that gate is now always locked. A metal, replacement fence extends from the pillars to the southwest and northeast. This cemetery contains the graves of over 2700 Sisters, the first of whom was interred on 18 February 1853 (which pre-dates the School Sisters 1856 ownership and later physical occupation of the property). The most significant of the graves in the cemetery is that of Mother Caroline Friess (Photo #19 of 23), who established a convent and orphanage on the property as early as 1858-59 (see Section 8 for additional biographical information on Mother Caroline). Father Abbelen, chaplain and confidant of Mother Caroline, as well as the property's original owner, George Betzolt (also spelled Betholz), are buried in the cemetery. A 1928 publication indicates that the cemetery graves were originally marked by simple black crosses that had been (by 1928) replaced with marble markers.<sup>22</sup>

**Fidelis Hall (Non-contributing, 1967, bell tower and canopy addition, 1996):**

Prior to the construction of Fidelis Hall, the Holy Family Infirmary was not connected to the front (northernmost) three buildings of the campus (Notre Dame Hall, Maria Hall and Andrina Hall). Fidelis Hall rises three stories, is faced with brick and topped with a low-pitched, hipped roof with overhanging eaves (Photo #20 of 23 and "J" on site map). Largely framed with non-working shutters, window openings are regular along all three levels and are comprised of a fixed upper sash and a lower awning-style window. The building's east end wall consists of a three-story open porch with ornamental ironwork supports and trim. From the structure's southwest end extends a three-bay garage wing, the westernmost portion of which is higher than the east and its flat roof serves as a porch and is trimmed with a metal railing. A series of five smaller overhead openings extend to the east. Fidelis Hall is attached to Andrina Hall via a two-story, brick hallway, from which a one-story canopy (1996) extends. This entrance is the main entrance to the patient care wing and a bell tower (with bell), is included at the west end of the canopy entrance.

According to billing information, this structure was designed by Design Associates, Inc., of Palmyra, WI and originally included 50 staff bedrooms on the second and third floors. The first floor included the following: switchboard, lobby, all purpose room, guest rooms, and parlors. The cost was cited as

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<sup>22</sup> "Notre Dame of Elm Grove Tour", 3; Sister Flynn, *Mother Caroline and The School Sisters of Notre Dame In North America*, 2/55.

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\$393,312.00. Since renovation in 1994, the two upper floors house twenty-seven patients, while the first floor includes an enlarged lobby and switchboard and still maintains the all-purpose room. Fidelis Hall was named after Mother M. Fidelis Krieter, Commissary General from 1941 to 1949.<sup>23</sup>

**Holy Family Chapel (Non-contributing, 1975<sup>24</sup>):**

This modern church (Photo #21 of 23 and "K" on site map) is attached to Caroline Hall (1955) and Theresa Hall (1958) via two-story, hyphen-like hallways and is the southernmost building of the complex. Topped with an angled roofline, the chapel is comprised largely of solid brick walls that include vertical sections of multiple-light, metal-frame expanses of windows. The etched windows represent "healing and resurrection." Outside of the chapel proper, there are sacristies, reconciliation rooms, reliquaries from the former chapels of the Milwaukee and Mequon Motherhouses, as well as a visiting room for friends during funerals. This structure, which was designed by the firm of Herbst, Jacoby & Jacoby, serves all residents for daily Mass and special services.<sup>25</sup>

**Grape Arbor (Contributing, Circa 1886<sup>26</sup>):**

This grape arbor ("L" on site map) is comprised of two rows of wooden posts connected on top by a slat of wood and with wire running along both the north and south sides of the posts. It is located west of the driveway off of Watertown Plank Road and directly west of the west end of Maria Hall. According to a SSND timeline, the arbor was created in 1886 and the grape vines were brought over from Germany. The Sisters continue to pick the grapes, the bulk of which are used by the Sisters to make jam.

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<sup>23</sup> Correspondence and billing from Etzel Community Construction to the SSND, 29 May 1967, Elm Grove Renovation (1967) folder, SSNDA; "Notre Dame of Elm Grove Tour," 5.

<sup>24</sup> Herbst, Jacoby & Herbst, "Addition and Remodeling at Notre Dame Health Care Center," original plans, 10 December 1974 (with revisions 19 and 26 December 1974, as well as 17 February 1975). On file at the SSNDA.

<sup>25</sup> Ibid.; "Notre Dame of Elm Grove Tour," 5.

<sup>26</sup> The grape vines are said to have been brought from Germany. A timeline of the SSND identifies that in 1886 the grape arbor was created. Timeline, in SSND pamphlet, included in SSND Visitor's Folder. A note in the Chronicle indicates that in 1890, the "grapes this year are better than ever." Chronicle, Visitation Convent, 5 October 1890.

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**Garage #1 (Non-Contributing, Circa 1965<sup>27</sup>):**

This two-car, hipped-roof, brick-faced garage (Photo #22 of 23 and "M" on site map) is located just east of Notre Dame Hall, along Watertown Plank Road. The structure's primary southwest elevation includes a pair of overhead garage doors, as well as a human-scale door. The remaining three elevations are without fenestration.

**Garage #2 (Non-Contributing, 1968<sup>28</sup>):**

This three-car plus storage, hipped-roof, brick garage (Photo #23 of 23 and "N" on site map) is located directly south of the powerhouse. The structure's primary northeast elevation includes three overhead garage doors, as well as a human-scale door. The northwest elevation includes a pair of slider windows.

**Gazebo (Non-Contributing, Modern):**

A small gazebo ("O" on site map) is located southwest of the complex of buildings. A brick pathway leads directly to it from the driveway that encircles the complex.

**Utility Shed (Non-Contributing, Modern):**

A small frame shed ("P" on site map) is located southeast of the gazebo and adjacent to a fenced-in garden.

**Other Buildings on the property that are no longer extant:**

Photographs also indicate that a small red barn on a fieldstone foundation was first located east of Andrina Hall and behind the original two-story convent and orphanage building. A much larger red barn (1889; remodeled in 1914), as well as a chicken coop, smaller barn and two silos were built to the

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<sup>27</sup> Although no exact date of construction is known for this garage, a 1967 map of the SSND grounds identifies this structure as extant; however, it is not depicted on a 1963 Waukesha County aerial map. That information, combined with its appearance, suggests a circa 1965 date of construction. Parcel Map, School Sisters of Notre Dame, 1967, located in the SSNDA; 1963 aerial map, available online at <http://maps.waukeshacounty.gov/imf/sites/waukesha/jsp/launch.js>, accessed on 19 January 2011.

<sup>28</sup> The aforementioned map of the SSND grounds identifies this garage as "proposed" in 1967. Parcel Map, School Sisters of Notre Dame; a 1968 letter from the construction firm identifies a 4-car garage as having been built as of a 1 May 1968. Letter from Etzel Commercial Construction, Milwaukee, to SSND, 1 May 1968. On file in the Elm Grove Renovation (1967) Folder, SSNDA.



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southeast of the complex.<sup>29</sup> The large barn was razed in 1970. No surface trace of the agricultural buildings remains and these sites are not included in the resource count.

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<sup>29</sup> Photograph of farm buildings included in Mary Maduscha (nee Spitzer), *Does Anyone Know My Name: Stories about Life in An Orphanage* (Unknown: By the author, no date). Copy of book in Guardian Angel Orphanage Folder, SSNDA. Mary was a student at the orphanage between 1929 and 1932.

Visitation Convent Complex  
Name of Property

Waukesha  
County and State

Wisconsin

## 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)

Architecture

Social History

Health/Medicine

### Period of Significance

1899-1926 (Architecture)

1899-1940 (Social History)

1899-1961 (Health/Medicine)

### Significant Dates

1899; 1903; 1920; 1921; 1926; 1955; 1958

### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

### Architect/Builder

Liebert, Eugene; Brust and Brust; Backes and Pfaller  
Herbst, Jacoby and Herbst

### Narrative Statement of Significance

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

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**SIGNIFICANCE**

The Visitation Convent Complex is nominated for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, as locally significant in the area of Architecture as three of the primary buildings of the complex stand as distinct examples of the German Renaissance Revival and Classical Revival styles, while a pair of additional buildings features Prairie styling. Indeed, in 2007, a Determination of Eligibility was completed for the property and it was determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The Period of Significance for Criterion C: Architecture is 1899-1926. In addition, efforts of the School Sisters are notable under Criterion A in the areas of Social History and Health/Medicine. Regarding Social History and their efforts to promote the general welfare of society, the Sisters established an orphanage on the grounds as early as 1859, with Notre Dame Hall--the earliest extant building on the grounds--serving area orphan girls beginning in 1899. Children were later moved to Andrina Hall, where they remained until its closing in 1940; therefore, the Period of Significance for Criterion A: Social History is 1899-1940. Finally, the subject property is also considered eligible under Criterion A in regards to Health/Medicine, with a Period of Significance from 1899 to 1961. Indeed, Visitation Convent Complex has long served the sick, disabled and handicapped of the SSND community. Furthermore, it has provided perpetual care for the Sisters since the creation of the associated cemetery. Therefore, the building complex, along with the cemetery, stand as a testament to the need for, and School Sisters' commitment to, continuous care for its own population, whether it be physical ailment, mental infirmity, or simply old age.

**CRITERIA CONSIDERATION A**

The Visitation Convent Complex is owned by the School Sisters of Notre Dame and is, therefore, a religiously owned facility. However, the property's significance is derived from its architectural and historical distinction and, therefore, is considered to meet the criteria consideration.

**CRITERIA CONSIDERATION D**

Cemeteries are typically excluded from consideration for listing in the National Register; however, the cemetery is an integral part of the convent and is a historically related to the development and function of the complex.

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Elm Grove, Waukesha County, WI

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**GENERAL HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

**School Sisters of Notre Dame and Mother Caroline**

The School Sisters of Notre Dame was established in Bavaria (Germany) in 1833 by Caroline Gerhardinger. The Napoleonic Wars (1799-1815) had left Bavaria in a poor state of affairs and Caroline believed that the renewal of society would be achieved through the leadership of mothers of Christian families. As a result, the education of girls became Caroline's mission. After taking the name Mother Theresa of Jesus, Caroline was thereafter known as Mother Theresa Gerhardinger. For fourteen years, Mother Theresa worked on educating young girls in poor rural areas of Bavaria.<sup>30</sup>

In 1847, King Ludwig I of Bavaria (known also as King Louis in the United States), as well as Archbishop Reisach of Munich-Freising, requested that Mother Theresa start a mission school in Pennsylvania, where a group of German immigrants had recently located. King Ludwig I was a staunch nationalist and, in order to preserve the German language and culture of the immigrants, he supplied the necessary funding to do so. Mother Theresa answered the call, explaining that she would accompany the group of five "in case a motherhouse is to be founded."<sup>31</sup>

Among the group of five that made the trip to the United States was Sister Caroline Friess. Friess, who was born in 1824, just outside of Paris, France, entering the Notre Dame Order of nuns in France. After reaching the United States, Mother Theresa's group, which included Sister Caroline, were granted permission to teach in Baltimore. Thereafter, Mother Theresa and Sister Caroline would travel west to the Mississippi and back again, all along the way gaining sisters in, what they termed, their congregation. After approximately one year, Mother Theresa left the young Sister Caroline to manage the American mission of the School Sisters of Notre Dame.<sup>32</sup>

Following a trip back to Germany, where she was appointed to a three-year term as Vicar General of the School Sisters of Notre Dame in America, Sister Caroline returned to the United States to establish a Motherhouse in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where Germans were in greater population. Therefore, the status of the Baltimore "house" would remain simply as a convent. On 15 December 1850, Sister Caroline, four additional sisters and a candidate arrived in Milwaukee. The original Motherhouse, a two-story, brick house with four chimneys, was located at the corner of Knapp and Milwaukee streets

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<sup>30</sup> "Our History," School Sisters of Notre Dame, available at [www.ssnd.org](http://www.ssnd.org), accessed in July 2010.

<sup>31</sup> Ibid.; Foley and Bos, SSND, *A Journey of Faith*, 1.

<sup>32</sup> Foley and Bos, SSND, *A Journey of Faith*, 2; "School Sisters of Notre Dame Complex." Determination of Eligibility form, prepared by Carol Lohry Cartwright, December 2007. Copy on file at the Historic Preservation Division, Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, WI.



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(no longer extant). Within less than a year an addition was made to the Motherhouse, doubling it in size. The earliest additions accommodated a "select" day school, as well as a boarding school, which was called St. Mary's Institute. In 1855, a substantial, 180-foot, three-story addition was completed.<sup>33</sup>

That same year (1855), Mother Caroline made a trip west to see about establishing a mission in Watertown. As the story is told, about nine miles west of Milwaukee and on the Watertown Plank Road, the horse pulling her carriage abruptly stopped, refusing to go no further. Mother Caroline took this as a sign from God that this was the location upon which she was to build a convent, an orphanage and a small rural school. This spot was located in what is now the Village of Elm Grove, at the present-day site of the School Sisters of Notre Dame convent complex.<sup>34</sup>

On 31 March 1856, Mother Caroline purchased from George Betzolt (also spelled Betholz) an initial 40 acres, upon which the first building--a two-story, brick, combination orphanage and convent (no longer extant)--was erected in 1858 at a cost of \$13,331.00. The following year, two rooms in the building were dedicated for teaching purposes and Mother Caroline began the practice of sending sisters in need of a medical rest to the Elm Grove facility.<sup>35</sup>

The histories of the village of Elm Grove in Waukesha County and of the School Sisters of Notre Dame are inextricably tied. Although the area that would become Elm Grove was settled as early as

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<sup>33</sup> Foley and Bos, SSND, *A Journey of Faith*, 5-6, 11, 13-14, 17. It is cited in an 1897 history that the funding for the 1851 additions of the original downtown structure was indeed obtained from King Louis (Ludwig) I of Bavaria. Photos indicate that the Motherhouse also included castellated towers and Romanesque styling (an overall castle-like appearance). In Harry Hooper Heming, *The History of the Catholic Church in Wisconsin* (Milwaukee, WI: Catholic Historical Publishing Company, 1896), 922-24.

<sup>34</sup> Foley and Bos, SSND, *A Journey of Faith*, 27.

<sup>35</sup> *Ibid.*, 27, 82 (also includes a photo of the original 1858 structure); Land purchase record, Elm Grove, 1856-1903, Handwritten record page from Property Purchases file, SSND Archive. The handwritten record does identify the "cost of convent and orphanage" as occurring in 1859-60, as opposed to the date of 1858, which is cited in most other secondary sources. Although the handwritten record page is old, it was clearly done by the same hand between 1856 and 1903, which could suggest this record was done to compile such information as of 1903. All other dates include a month and a day, whereas the cost notation identifies only the years 1859-60. Furthermore, in a June 1859 letter report to the Louis Mission Society, Mother Caroline wrote the following: "The Feast of the Three Holy Kings brought us two more missions—one at Elm Grove (Erlenhain), where King Ludwig's Orphanage, situated nine miles from the Motherhouse, carries the name of "The Visitation. . . . We also send our sickly Sisters there where they can regain their health in the fresh country air. We also have our own cemetery. . . . The Feast of the Three Holy Kings is equal to The Epiphany, which is celebrated on January 6<sup>th</sup>. Although all other references to the establishment of the Elm Grove convent are cited as 1858, this letter would suggest that it was not established until 1859; however, it is possible that the date of The Epiphany may well just represent the date of its official dedication/blessing. "Report to the Central Council of the Louis Mission Society from Mary Caroline Friess, SSND, 31 May 1859, in Barbara Brumleve, SSND, *The Letters of Mother Caroline Friess, SSND* (St. Louis, MO: School Sisters of Notre Dame, 1991), 103.

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the 1830s, it was comprised only of farms owned largely by German Catholics. The log-constructed, local Catholic church (built 1851) was known as St. Ambrose and was located a relatively short distance to the northwest at present-day Gebhardt Road and Highland Drive. In 1859, that church burned down and the parish met in one room of the school that had been established in a former home on the convent grounds. Later that year, the congregation met in the School Sisters convent chapel and the parish church was formed on 15 August 1859 and named Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In 1864, the railroad came through the community and a depot was built. It was about at that same time that a post office was established.<sup>36</sup>

In 1868, the Sisters built a separate, free-standing church (no longer extant) was built by for their own use, as well as for the "temporary use" of the Visitation congregation. The following year, the SSND platted the first twenty lots of the village, which Mother Caroline reportedly named "Elm Grove" because of the abundance of elm trees in the area. The plat was recorded in 1871. As of 1873, three businesses were noted in Elm Grove: the saloons of both John Ramstack and William Hinze, along with the combination saloon and store run by Charles Reusch.<sup>37</sup>

At some point, a free-standing school house with a fieldstone lower level was constructed behind the original convent and orphanage (the partial stone foundation of which is believed to be the partial foundation of Andrina Hall). Although no specific dates are known, the convent parcel saw improvements that resulted in a working farm, including an orchard and vegetable garden. Aside from what was needed at the Elm Grove facility, the produce, as well as poultry and dairy products, were sent to the Motherhouse. Aside from the main convent/orphanage building and the 1868 church, little specific information is known regarding what other major buildings may have been on the grounds at that time. However, the Chronicle identifies a "hired man's building," as well as a new hay barn as of 1889, as well as a shed for hens (1890). In 1891, the steeple of the church was finally constructed.<sup>38</sup>

<sup>36</sup> *This is Your Village of Elm Grove* (Elm Grove, WI: League of Women Voters of Elm Grove, Wisconsin, September 1959), 6-7; "History : St. Mary's Visitation Parish & School 1847-Present," available online at [www.stmaryeg.org/parish/about/mission](http://www.stmaryeg.org/parish/about/mission), accessed on 12 November 2010.

<sup>37</sup> "History : St. Mary's Visitation Parish & School 1874-Present"; *This is Your Village of Elm Grove*, 7; *Atlas of Waukesha County, Wisconsin* (Madison, WI: Harrison & Warner, 1873); the SSND campus is identified as a small square in 1873, along with the word "nunnery." Later depictions of the campus in 1891 and 1914 show the complex as a large, irregular block from which no specific buildings can be discerned, *Plat Book of Waukesha County, Wisconsin* (Minneapolis: C.M. Foote, 1891); *Standard Atlas of Waukesha County, Wisconsin* (Chicago: Geo. A. Ogle, 1914).

<sup>38</sup> *This is Your Village of Elm Grove*, 7; in 1873, the plat map identifies the convent on the map as a single square, *Atlas of Waukesha County, Wisconsin* (1873); Chronicle, Visitation Convent (re: hired man's building), 22 June 1889; (re: hay barn), 9 July 1889; (re: chicken shed), 3 January 1890; (re: building of steeple), 19 April 1891, SSNDA.

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**Mother Caroline Dies**

Mother Caroline became a citizen of the United States in 1856 and, during her lifetime, she oversaw the establishment of 237 institutions, including schools/institutes and orphanages. Sisters in the Order, which numbered a mere forty in 1850, had grown to approximately 2,000 by her death. Furthermore, students in 1850 were estimated at 1,000, whereas forty-two years later, there were 70,000. In the early years, regarding school instruction, Mother Caroline embraced the method of teaching in the students' native tongue, as well as providing instruction in English and, therefore, sisters were required to be well-versed in more than one language—sometimes as many as three. Between 1850 and 1876, Mother Caroline is identified as having “trained nearly all of the Sisters and the proper disposal of them in the Missionary work of the Order.” In 1880, she was elected Commissary General of the entire SSND congregation in America, a position she held until her death. Shortly before her death, Mother Caroline was in the process of establishing a third Motherhouse. Although approval was granted in 1892 (two months before her death), it was not until 1896 that the St. Louis Province was established and opened. On 22 July 1892, Mother Caroline Friess died at the Milwaukee Motherhouse. Between the 22<sup>nd</sup> and the 27<sup>th</sup>, thirteen masses were held for her. On the day of the funeral, three bishops and nearly seventy priests celebrated the Mass. At its conclusion, the funeral procession from the Motherhouse to Elm Grove took over two hours. Three bishops and over thirty priests were in attendance at the graveside services and she was interred in the School Sisters' cemetery (at Elm Grove), the plot of which she had chosen well before her death.<sup>39</sup>

**New Construction on Campus**

The next date significant to the Elm Grove complex is 1897. It was in that year, and specifically on 14 October, that work on the “new” wing (known today as Notre Dame Hall) began; three months later, some of the basement-level rooms were complete. In mid-January 1898, work was suspended due to winter weather conditions. On the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker (May 1<sup>st</sup>), Rev. Father Abbelen laid the cornerstone. Work must have progressed rapidly for, although not yet complete and without piped in water, the sisters held their first retreat in the building in July. On 4 November 1899, the building's

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<sup>39</sup> Foley and Bos, SSND, *A Journey of Faith*, 35, 61-62, 78-79; Rev. P.M. Abbelen, *Venerable Mother M. Caroline Friess: A Sketch of her Life and Character* (St. Louis, MO: B. Herder, 1893), 159. A Catholic directory published in 1886 enumerates the following nationwide numbers: 1,526 Sisters and 45,804 parochial children. The 1886 numbers appear to support the rounded-off numbers identified for 1892, *Hoffmann's Catholic Directory, Almanac and Clergy List* (Milwaukee and Chicago: Hoffmann Bros., 1886), 76. The first interment in the cemetery (1853) pre-dates the establishment of the convent campus. Note that Foley and Bos, SSND (2007) cite that Mother Caroline established 237 institutions nationwide, while a 1963 publication notes a number of 265, “Pioneer Superior in America: Mother Mary Caroline,” *The School Sister*, Spring 1963, 15-16, copy in SSNDA. At any rate, the number is well over 200.



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chapel was consecrated; records indicate that "the painting had been done and the floor and furniture was polished."<sup>40</sup>

The following is a list of contractors and the total fee amounts paid to them: John Schramka, mason (\$26,539.00); Skobis Bros., iron work (\$10,335.00); Burnham Bros., brick material (\$8,427.00); Peter Schmidt, cut stone (5,932.00); Joseph Schunk & Son, carpentry work (\$18,217.00); F. Schmidt & Sons, copper & slate (\$7,825.00); P. Kenney, plumbing (\$6,675.00); J.J. Mueller, painting and glazing (\$1,430.00); and C.B. Kruse, heating (\$3,870.00). Added together, this amounts to an expenditure of \$89,250.00. An addition sheet accounted for "Extras and Additions," which included things such as the architect's fee, an artesian well, windows for the chapel, etc.; this list amounted to an additional \$10,339.50. Thus construction of Notre Dame Hall resulted in a total expenditure of \$99,589.50. According to a written statement by Rev. Abbelen, that amount was above what had been anticipated<sup>41</sup>:

In regard to this building I confess that I have expended too much money on it. The fear of fire and storm, such as I had passed through in Belleville and St. Louis, prompted us to make the building about as fire- and storm-proof as it could be made, and the consideration, how helpless, so far away from the city, the old and sick and invalid sisters would be in case of accident, confirmed me all the more in my purpose. Still, the building might be less strong and massive without being unsafe.<sup>42</sup>

<sup>40</sup> Chronicle, Visitation Convent, (re: construction began), 14 October 1897; (re: work suspended) 19 January 1898; (re: cornerstone laid), 1 May 1898; (re: first retreat), July 1899; (re: chapel consecration), 4 January 1898, SSNDA. Aside from the partial fieldstone foundation that was utilized for the construction of what is known today as Andrina Hall, Notre Dame Hall is the oldest building on the SSND campus.

<sup>41</sup> Record of Expenses List, prepared by P.M. Abbelen, 7 August 1899, page 29-31. On file at the SSNDA. The total amount recorded for the chapel windows, to both the Gavin Art Glass Company and Daniel Van Horn, was \$175.00.

<sup>42</sup> Ibid., 29. The story that has long been perpetuated regarding the financing of the building is that monies were requested by Mother Caroline from the Louis Mission Society of Bavaria and were granted by King Ludwig. Based on an 1897 history of the School Sisters of Notre Dame (as referenced earlier in footnote #31), it does appear that monies were indeed granted by the Ludwigs-Verein (its proper name, which translates in English to the Louis Mission Society or Association) for the construction of the first (1851) addition to the downtown Motherhouse. The story regarding the Elm Grove facility indicates that Mother Caroline again requested funding for the Elm Grove facility and it was granted, under the stipulation that the new building's construction be executed in Bavarian architecture. The story goes on to say that a German architect was sent over to supervise. While this certainly could be true, no documentation to that effect exists. Indeed, the University of Notre Dame (UND) includes archive materials from the Ludwigs-Verein and, while the archive includes two letters written by Mother Caroline to the association, they were not in reference to the Elm Grove facility (it does not appear that the UND holdings are all-inclusive). As well, no such request letter was included in a published book of the letters of Mother Caroline, Brumleve, SSND, *The Letters of Mother Caroline Friess, SSND* (1991); the actual letters (all of which were published in the book) are located in the SSNDA. The Ludwigs-Verein was founded in Munich in 1838 and was created to aid Catholic Missions in both the United States and Asia. While the support of German missions was a chief



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The next "documented" construction project on the SSND grounds was in 1903. Despite knowledge that *something* took place, what exactly it was remains somewhat unclear. As recorded in the *Chronicles* in October 1902, Rev. Abbelen expressed dismay at the lack of quarters available for gatherings and "Then and there he decided that another floor be added to our two-story house for community gatherings." Whether or not a third story was added to an existing building is unknown; however, what is known is that on June 12<sup>th</sup> 1903 a *Chronicle* entry reads: "Work in the new building was continued...The large auditorium had to be prepared for the coming of school conventions." This would seem to suggest new construction and has long likely perpetuated the circa 1903 construction date for what was to eventually serve as the orphanage and what is now known as Andrina Hall. Indeed, this new construction, which included what was consecrated as St. Peter Fourier Hall, was completed and opened for use at the Second Teachers' Institute of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, which was held on 27-31 July 1903.<sup>43</sup>

### The Orphanage

Regarding the orphanage (and as cited earlier), it is said to have been established in the original building on the convent grounds in 1859 and was earliest known as St. Mary's Orphan Asylum. Prior to 1860, the majority of orphans and neglected minors were sent to almshouses/poorhouses. The remainder were cared for in facilities--where available--that were operated by private charities or religious institutions. The need for such institutions was prompted by cholera epidemics, which resulted in a large number of orphaned children. Prior to 1846, the Sisters of Charity of Mount St. Joseph's of Emmetsburg, Maryland, operated the vast majority of such facilities. Indeed, in southeastern Wisconsin in general and in Milwaukee in particular, the first known, religiously run orphanage was St. Rose's Orphan Asylum (for girls), which was established in 1847 by the Sisters (later Daughters) of Charity. Two years later, Bishop John Martin Henni would found St. Aemilian's

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function, it was not exclusive to German populations. Ludwigs-Verein Records, University of Notre Dame, Indiana, accessible online at <http://archives.nd.edu/findaids/ead/xml/lud.xml>, accessed on 2 December 2010. Although references are made to the fact that the construction of Notre Dame Hall was under the supervision of an architect sent from Germany, the architect of the hall was indeed Eugene Liebert, as evidenced by the plans on file at the SSND. If funding did warrant Germanic-style architecture, the choice of Eugene Liebert was, indeed, an appropriate choice, due to his experience in such ethnic architecture. The design of the chapel in Notre Dame Hall is said to have been modeled after the ballroom in Neuenschwanstein Castle of King Ludwig II; however, following comparison of published photos of the ballroom in Germany with Notre Dame Hall chapel, no striking similarities were seen.

<sup>43</sup> *Chronicle*, Visitation Convent (re: addition of a third floor), 16 October 1902; (re: new building), 12 June 1903; *Second Teachers' Institute of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, July 27-31, 1903* (Milwaukee, WI: J.H. Yewdale & Sons Co., 1903). Although many alterations have been made to Andrina Hall since it was built, one of the sisters recalls going to a recital in a small auditorium in Andrina Hall in the 1950s. S. Suzanne Rene Sobczynski, SSND, email correspondence with Traci E. Schnell, 4 December 2010. Although two full plan sets of Notre Dame Hall are held in the SSND archives, there are no early plans for Andrina Hall nor are there original plans on file for Maria Hall, which was completed in 1921.

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Orphanage (for boys), which was run by the Sisters of St. Francis. In 1850, a group of Protestant women created the Milwaukee Orphans' Home. Within a decade, the School Sisters of Notre Dame would establish an orphanage (for girls) at their Elm Grove location.<sup>44</sup>

In 1859, thirty-four Sisters and fifteen female orphans are identified as living on the subject premises. Although no detailed records were kept at the orphanage until it was mandated under state regulations in 1921, a typed list of the number of those in residence--starting in 1861 and based on SSND directories--is on file. Although some directories were missing at the time the list was compiled, numbers ranged from a low of zero (in the early 1890s and again in 1902) to a high of fifty-five in 1928 and 1931.<sup>45</sup> Due to a lack of records, it is unclear if the orphanage remained in the original convent structure until the 1898-99 Notre Dame Hall was completed or if it was located in some other structure. At any rate, what is known is that the orphans did reside in the 1898-99 structure until at least 1903, if not later. Later names of the orphan facility included: Our Lady of the Visitation Orphanage (1922); Guardian Angel Home (1923), and Guardian Angel Orphanage (1931<sup>46</sup>). Of note, the all-female residents of the orphanage were not solely orphans--specifically meaning children without parents. The facility was often a temporary home for daughters of farmers who could not afford them during the winter months. In summer, however, the girls could be used as farmhands. The practice of taking such children in for the winter was discontinued due to the 1921 licensing restrictions. Two years later, the facility affiliated with the Catholic Social Welfare Bureau, which was created in 1920 under the direction of the Milwaukee Archdiocese. In 1932, a postcard was sent to members of the Guardian Angel Orphanage Guild (as well as perhaps to additional area residents) soliciting funds (\$5.00/brick) for an addition to the south end of the orphanage building (which was indeed by then the building known as Andrina Hall). Although the cost of the addition is unknown, board of director's records for the Guardian Angel Orphanage indicate that a loan of \$15,000 was to be taken out "to defray the expenses of the annex to the orphanage which had been constructed to make additional room for the housing of children." In 1934, of the thirty-eight girls in residence,

<sup>44</sup> *Hoffmann's Catholic Directory* (1886), 77; Barbara Wyatt, ed., *Cultural Resource Management (CRM) in Wisconsin*, 3 vols. (Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Historic Preservation Division, 1986), Vol. 3: Social and Political, 7/12; John O'Grady, *Catholic Charities in the United States* (Washington, D.C.: National Conference of Catholic Charities, 1931), 73, 83, 92. Information regarding dates of establishment for Milwaukee area orphanages gleaned from the website of the Milwaukee Genealogical Society, available online at [www.linkstothepast.com/milwaukee/mkebenev.php](http://www.linkstothepast.com/milwaukee/mkebenev.php), accessed on 10 January 2011.

<sup>45</sup> While the typed list of orphanage residents indicates that there were twelve in 1886, a published Catholic directory reports the orphanage (identified by name as St. Mary's Orphan Asylum) as having fifteen orphans. No doubt, the exact number fluctuated throughout the year, *Hoffmann's Catholic Directory* (1886), 77.

<sup>46</sup> Information regarding past names of the orphanage and a modest history are included in an unidentified published inventory of adoption facilities in the State of Wisconsin. Available online at [www.sacredhealing.com/triadoptio/AAOMH/Wisconsin.pdf](http://www.sacredhealing.com/triadoptio/AAOMH/Wisconsin.pdf), accessed on 3 December 2010; Guardian Angel Orphanage, Articles of Organization, 30 September 1931, in Guardian Angel Orphanage File, SSNDA.

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fourteen were motherless, seven fatherless, eleven parentless, and six were from a broken home. The orphanage closed in 1940.<sup>47</sup>

Returning to the greater campus as a whole, in 1913, the Sisters were given an automobile to deliver milk to the Motherhouse and the Hawks Nursery Company (Wauwatosa, Wisconsin) provided a landscaping plan for the SSND grounds. The following year the barn (razed in 1970) was remodeled by the James Manufacturing Company of Ft. Atkinson, WI. By 1920, the property was in need of additional quarters for retired and infirm sisters. At the same time, a study was done regarding the possibility of relocating the church. In a matter of a few short months, the decision was made to tear down the 1858 building. The Visitation congregation built a new church across the street to accommodate the construction of a number of new structures on the convent campus, which included a new rest home (The Marianum/Maria Hall), an interprovincial tuberculosis sanatorium (The Bungalow/Mary Basil Hall), and a power house/heating plant for the entire grounds. On 12 March 1920, razing of the original 1858 structure began and roof removal of the church began just over one month later, on 19 April. The following week saw the beginnings of the foundation to be dug for the power house, which was completed in September. Groundbreaking for The Bungalow occurred on 20 September. In December, on the Feast of St. Nicholas, the Marianum/Maria Hall was completed. It included enlarged kitchen quarters, dining rooms, offices, a large community room, and a number of bedrooms on the upper three floors. The entire rear (south side) of the structure was comprised of outdoor balconies, while balconies on the north side were located only at the center of the structure. The Bungalow (Mary Basil Hall) was completed in 1921.<sup>48</sup>

**The Bungalow: An Interprovincial Tuberculosis Sanatorium**

Although an official tuberculosis facility was not completed at Elm Grove until 1921, Sisters who suffered from the disease are recorded as being sent to Elm Grove by no later than 1905. Tuberculosis

<sup>47</sup> Foley and Bos, SSND, *A Journey of Faith*, 83; Annual Meeting Minutes, Board of Directors, Guardian Angel Orphanage, 13 September 1932, in Guardian Angel Orphanage Folder, SSNDA; "History of Catholic Charities in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee," included in the website of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, Inc., available at [www.ccmke.org/Catholic-charities/NewsInfo/Our\\_History.htm](http://www.ccmke.org/Catholic-charities/NewsInfo/Our_History.htm), accessed on 18 January 2011; postcard included in materials compiled by Dorothy A. Bonin Berns, orphanage student, presented to the SSND, in Guardian Angel Orphanage Folder, SSNDA. Based on the materials sent along with the financial plea for the addition, the first floor was to include a dining room, while the second and third floors were bedroom additions. The fourth floor was simply cited as "attic." It should also be noted that a number of the orphan girls, throughout its history as an orphanage, went on to join the convent and became a School Sister of Notre Dame.

<sup>48</sup> The Hawks Nursery Co., "Working Plan No. 655, Sisters of Notre Dame," 30 April 1913; James Manufacturing Co., "Plans for Remodeled Barn," 10 February 1914; Chronicle, Visitation Convent, 1920 (pages 120-128). All aforementioned items on file at the SSNDA. Note that there is no Chronicle between 17 October 1920 and October 1921.



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(TB), an infectious disease that most commonly affects the lungs, has been around for centuries. However, it was not until 1882 that German Robert Koch identified the organism that caused the disease. Historically, the disease was referred to as “white plague” and, later, as “consumption.” Wisconsin’s battle against tuberculosis began at the turn of the twentieth century with the successful eradication of the disease in cattle (by researchers at UW-Madison). In 1903, an act of legislature appointed a state tuberculosis commission to evaluate the prevalence of the illness in humans and the need for a state facility dedicated to its treatment (thereby removing TB patients from “regular” hospitals). In 1905, the legislature appropriated funds for a state sanatorium<sup>49</sup> and, two years later, “Statesan” was established nine miles west of Waukesha (present-day Ethan Allen School for Boys in Wales).<sup>50</sup>

Elsewhere in the area, and at the same time (1907), a group of private physicians created the Blue Mound Sanatorium in the Town of Wauwatosa (no longer extant) for the care of early stage TB cases. In 1908, the Wisconsin Anti-Tuberculosis Association (WATA) was established in Milwaukee. Between 1909 and 1911, the city established the Greenfield Sanatorium, a TB facility for more advanced cases and, a third institution—known as the Social Workers’ Sanatorium—was started in 1911 on Milwaukee’s northwest side. Following legislature approval to create county-run sanatoriums in 1911, the Milwaukee County Board voted for the appropriation of \$750,000 for the construction of a 275-bed sanatorium (which was completed in November 1914). In 1913, an estimated 12,000 patients in Wisconsin suffered from TB.<sup>51</sup>

Despite their partially cloistered status, the Sisters were clearly not immune to the disease. As cited earlier, the Elm Grove location was receiving Sisters with TB by no later than 1905. Based on the room labeling on the plans for Notre Dame Hall on which numerous rooms were identified as “infirmary,” it is presumed that is the building in which such cases were placed until their own TB facility was completed in 1921. The Elm Grove TB sanatorium provided care to Sisters from several

<sup>49</sup> The word sanatorium is also spelled sanitorium. As well, while sanatorium was also sometimes used interchangeably, that term was most often used when identifying a facility for the mentally ill. In this case, we are talking about a facility for the treatment of tuberculosis and the word sanatorium is spelled as such. Also, while the proper shortening of Tuberculosis is “Tb,” “TB” is utilized as the shortening in this document, “The Right Word Should be Used,” *The Crusader*, Vol. XXX, No. 6 (June 1938), 3.

<sup>50</sup> Chronicle, Visitation Convent (re: tuberculosis) 24 March 1905. S. Adolphus Knopf, M.D., *A History of the National Tuberculosis Association* (New York: National Tuberculosis Association, 1922), 138; Wyatt, ed., *CRM in Wisconsin*, Vol. 3, Social and Political, 6/5-6/6.

<sup>51</sup> Wyatt, ed., *CRM in Wisconsin*, Vol. 3, Social and Political, 6/5-6/6; Dr. Louis Frederick Frank, *The Medical History of Milwaukee, 1834-1914* (Milwaukee, WI: Germania Publishing Co., 1914), 168; Esther Salome White, “The History of Muirdale Sanatorium, 1914-1967, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin,” A report submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science in Social Work, at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (1968), 16-18. Report on file in the Archives of the Walter Schroeder Library of the Milwaukee School of Engineering, Milwaukee, WI.



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provinces. In addition to patient rooms, the structure included its own chapel so that the Sisters could still go about their daily prayers, while still restricted in their contact with others not suffering from consumption.<sup>52</sup>

Following the 1920-21 campus construction and the removal of the Visitation church from the grounds, business--such as it was--continued as usual at the Elm Grove facility.<sup>53</sup> Although it was recognized that new/additional facilities were needed for the retired sisters at Elm Grove (as well as at Mount Calvary), World War II and post-war inflation stunted such plans until the 1950s. Planning for such facilities, however, did not stop.

**Care for the Mentally Infirm**

In 1943, SSND personnel toured a number of Midwestern sanitariums in order to compile the best information to improve their existing psychiatric facilities at Elm Grove (Our Lady of the Elms), which are believed to have been established by no later than 1904. Like orphans, as well as the aged and diseased, almshouses/poorhouses were the primary facility to which the mentally infirm were sent if they could no longer be cared for by their family and before the creation of separate county or state-run institutions for each specific "ailment." Indeed, the Wisconsin Territorial Statute of 1838 directed county commissioners with "entire and exclusive superintendence of the poor." The "poor" in that same law were defined as any person unable to work because of "bodily infirmity, idiocy, lunacy, or other unavoidable cause." Based on that definition, the poor included the mentally infirm (which were also referred to as insane and/or senile), as well as the handicapped. In locations other than urban areas (such as Milwaukee), poorhouses were farms.<sup>54</sup>

A state-run hospital for the mentally ill opened in Wisconsin in 1860 on Lake Mendota in Madison and a second facility opened in Oshkosh in 1873. Five years later, the state legislature approved county-constructed asylums, with the state supplying half the cost. While this action removed the mentally ill from almshouses/poorhouses, it did little to improve their care. By 1885, twelve counties, including Milwaukee and Waukesha, had constructed asylums (in 1889 and 1903, respectively). While the Sisters could well have been sent to either state institution or a closer, county-run institution, they chose to take care of their own, underscoring the concept that the Sisterhood was the family of God.

<sup>52</sup> Liebert, "St. Mary's Home," original plans; Foley & Bos, SSND, *A Journey of Faith*, 86.

<sup>53</sup> A 1923 fire insurance map identifies a cow barn, hog barn, smoke house, chicken house, and tool shed on the SSND grounds, in addition to present-day Notre Dame Hall, Maria Hall, Andrina Hall, and the powerhouse. School Sisters of Notre Dame, Fire Insurance Map, prepared by the Hartford Fire Insurance Co. for the August Rebhan Co., agents, of Milwaukee, WI. On file at the SNNDA.

<sup>54</sup> Foley and Bos, SSND, *A Journey of Faith*, 223; Wyatt, ed., *CRM in Wisconsin*, Vol. 3, Social and Political, 7/2.

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As well, the fact that the Sisters were either fully or semi-cloistered at the turn-of-the-twentieth century, led them to establish their own system of care for their mentally infirm members.<sup>55</sup>

Although a handwritten SSND timeline places Our Lady of the Elms (alternately known as St. Mary's in the Woods and St. Mary of the Elms) as having been established in 1921, mentally infirm Sisters were sent to Elm Grove at a much earlier date. Secondary sources indicate that Sister Montana looked out the window of the Elm Grove facility (presumably from Notre Dame Hall) and saw an unoccupied house to the northwest (and not on the SSND campus). She then asked the province to purchase it specifically for use as a mental health facility. The only early recorded reference to the facility was in 1904, when one of the Sisters from the Motherhouse came to visit and "...then hurriedly visited the Sisters at Saint Mary's in the Woods." In 1925, the off-campus facility was enlarged. Historic photos indicate that the off-campus facility eventually grew to be a complex of three buildings.<sup>56</sup>

In 1944, Brust & Brust prepared plans for a new facility for Our Lady of the Elms (at the off-campus location). Ten years later, the land upon which the existing facility stood was sold and the proceeds from the sale partially funded construction of the new building, which was built on the SSND campus. Because the new structure was planned to be attached to The Bungalow, which still functioned as a TB care facility, TB patients were transferred to the Mankato Province. The new "West Wing" (Caroline Hall) was completed in November 1955 and, within one week, was home to forty-one mentally disabled sisters, with accommodations for fifty. On 1 March 1956, Archbishop Albert G. Meyer officially blessed the facility, along with The Bungalow, as Holy Family Infirmary. Rooms in The Bungalow were converted for staff offices.<sup>57</sup>

At the same time that the West Wing of the Holy Family Infirmary was under construction, both the City of Brookfield and the Village of Elm Grove were vying for the School Sisters' complex to be incorporated into their municipality. Until that time, the SSND grounds were located in the township. Keeping three key factors in mind—location, taxes and sewage connections—the SSND ultimately chose Elm Grove. That same year, the SSND began selling off some of their land so that they could continue with new construction on their campus. The first 8.07 acres were sold in 1955 to Visitation/St. Mary's Parish for a new church, school and convent. In addition to the 28.75 acres that the Sisters donated to the Village for park and parkland purposes, as well as the construction of a

<sup>55</sup> Wyatt, ed., *CRM in Wisconsin*, Vol. 3, Social and Political, 7/5-7/7.

<sup>56</sup> Chronicle, Visitation Convent (re: St. Mary's in the Woods), 8 October 1904; (re: St. Mary's in the Woods enlarged), 4 June 1925; Foley and Bos, *SSND, A Journey of Faith*, 87 (photo of St. Mary's in the Woods complex).

<sup>57</sup> Foley and Bos, *SSND, A Journey of Faith*, 221-24, 226; Brust & Brust, "Our Lady of the Elms," original plans, 15 June 1944. On file at the SSNDA.

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village hall, they also sold 52 acres to the Village to further village parkland development. Also in 1957, the SSND platted Marian Heights Subdivision and began the sale of lots within it.<sup>58</sup>

On 23 September 1957, construction began on the East Wing (Theresa Hall); its first residents moved in on 7 January 1958 and, one year later, sixty patients were moved from the Milwaukee Motherhouse. Accommodations in this wing numbered 100. The lower level of this new wing included occupational and physical therapy, as well as recreational space. This Wing, along with the Holy Family Infirmary, was renamed the Notre Dame Heath Care Center.<sup>59</sup>

In 1959, the cows were sold and, in 1960, the Sisters hired Robert Boerner to do the preliminary drawing and planning for the Caroline Heights Subdivision to the east. Consisting of 31 lots, one of the many deed restrictions read that no property was to house any animals, "except for 2 dogs, 2 cats, and other small household pets such as canaries or parakeets."<sup>60</sup>

Between 1963 and 1975, Fidelis Hall, Holy Family Chapel, as well as two garages were constructed on the campus, while music therapy and dental departments were established and the campus pharmacy was licensed. Furthermore, it was in circa 1968 that Maria Hall was physically connected to Andrina Hall; Andrina Hall was connected to Fidelis Hall; and Fidelis Hall was connected to the former tuberculosis hospital/Mary Basil Hall. As a result of this connectivity, the Sisters do not have to step out of doors in order to make their way from one building to another.<sup>61</sup>

Beginning in the 1950s, the lives of these older sisters, and the fact that they seemed to live longer than women not in religious life, were studied to determine the reason. More recently, *Aging With Grace* was published in 2001 following what was termed the "Nun Study." Started in 1986, the study involved 678 School Sisters of Notre Dame in seven provinces, one of which was the Elm Grove facility in the Milwaukee Province.<sup>62</sup>

<sup>58</sup> Foley and Bos, SSND, *A Journey of Faith*, 224-25. Note that after a failed 1939 attempt, Elm Grove incorporated in 1953 (the convent was not included in its boundaries at the time); however, it was reversed by the State Supreme Court because the local officials failed to publish the incorporation in the local newspaper. The village finally incorporated successfully in January 1955, "This is Your Village of Elm Grove," 7-8; "Hearing on Elm Grove Reopened," *Waukesha Daily Freeman*, 12 November 1954; Marian Heights Subdivision Plat, 29 December 1957, in Marian Heights Subdivision Folder, SSNDA.

<sup>59</sup> Foley & Bos, SSND, *A Journey of Faith*, 228-29.

<sup>60</sup> "Elm Grove Campus Timeline," prepared by an unknown Sister, on file at the SSNDA; Deed Restrictions, Caroline Heights Subdivision, February 1962, in Caroline Heights Subdivision Folder, SSNDA.

<sup>61</sup> "Elm Grove Campus Timeline."

<sup>62</sup> David Snowdon, *Aging with Grace* (New York: Bantam Books, 2001), inside front cover.



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In 1993, a variety of renovations were considered for the Elm Grove campus. The following year, the Province broke ground on a new dining facility addition, which extends east from the East Wing/Theresa Hall. The use of Notre Dame Hall's St. Joseph Chapel by the Sisters was discontinued; the Sisters now celebrate liturgy in Holy Family Chapel (1975). Some of the individual rooms in Andrina Hall were made larger and equipped with private bathroom facilities. Prayer chapels, kitchenettes and community spaces were added to each floor, while carpeting was installed over nearly all of the original terrazzo floors. Each bedroom now also had a phone. In April 1996, the Province made the decision to sell the Marshall Street Motherhouse property and move the Motherhouse offices to Elm Grove. On 13 June 1996, the Mother Caroline Bell Tower (adjacent to Fidelis Hall) was dedicated; the bell within the tower is from the original downtown Milwaukee Motherhouse.<sup>63</sup>

In the summer of 2010, a groundbreaking blessing occurred for the establishment of Our Lady of the Angels, a secure environment for religious women afflicted with dementia. It is the result of collaboration between the SSND, the School Sisters of St. Francis, Community Care-PACE Agency, and Clement Manor. Completion is anticipated for February 2011. On 12 June 2011, four SSND provinces—Milwaukee; St. Louis, Missouri; Dallas, Texas; and Mankato, Minnesota - will combine to become one, which is to be named School Sisters of Notre Dame of the Central Pacific Province. Following the change, the Elm Grove campus will remain a home for retired sisters.<sup>64</sup>

**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: SOCIAL HISTORY (1899-1940) & HEALTH/MEDICINE (1899-1961)**

To summarize, the School Sisters of Notre Dame provided a number of social and health services that were unique to the Elm Grove campus. First, in regards to Criterion A: Social History and the School Sisters' history of promoting the welfare of society, the SSND operated an orphanage for girls beginning as early as 1859; however, their earliest standing structure (Notre Dame Hall) associated with the orphanage facility dates to 1899. Between Notre Dame Hall and Andrina Hall (Ca. 1903;

<sup>63</sup> Beginning in 1953, the downtown Milwaukee Motherhouse was showing significant signs of age and was in need of extensive repairs. Because the Elm Grove location would soon need to discontinue their farming practices (as a result of village ordinances and other restrictions), they found a parcel in the City of Mequon, fifteen miles north of Milwaukee, on which they could start a new farm. The downtown Motherhouse was sold and demolished; Convent Hill Housing, a low-rent housing project for the city's elderly was built upon the land. And although the farming operations were short-lived, ground-breaking for the new SSND campus occurred on 7 June 1957. The Mequon location, known as Notre Dame of the Lake, served the Sisters until 1983, at which time they sold the campus to Concordia College (now University). For the next fourteen years, the SSND Motherhouse was located in the former St. John's Nursing Home on Marshall Street, near their former downtown campus. Foley and Bos, SSND, *A Journey of Faith*, 240-42, 254, 265, 376-77, 393-94.

<sup>64</sup> Letter from K. Kay Amland, Director of Mission Advancement, to Friends of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, in *SSND Today* (Summer 2010), 4.



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1933), the Sisters provided necessary care to no less than 1,000<sup>65</sup> girls over a period of 40 years, from 1899 to 1940.

Although associated with the aforementioned care, but specifically concerning the care of the sick, disabled and handicapped, Visitation Convent Complex is also considered eligible under Criterion A in regards to Health/Medicine, with a Period of Significance from 1899 to 1961, with the 50 year period as the cut-off date. The concept of the Visitation Convent serving as a home for elderly nuns was identified almost immediately following the creation of the Elm Grove campus. Records evidence the fact that sufferers of tuberculosis were sent to Visitation Convent by no later than 1905, which ultimately led to the 1920-21 construction of a tuberculosis hospital (The Bungalow/Mary Basil Hall) which admitted Sisters from other Provinces. The building's usage as such continued until 1955. The year 1955 marks the construction of the "West Wing"/Caroline Hall, which served mentally infirm Sisters, a service provided by the Elm Grove location (albeit at an off-campus site) by no later than 1904. Finally, the "East Wing"/Theresa Hall, which was built to serve general medical ailments and served as a site hospital, was completed in 1958. Therefore, the combination of structures, as well as the cemetery, stands together as a testament to the need for, and School Sisters' commitment to, continuous care for its own, whether it be physical ailment, mental infirmity, or simply old age.

**AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE: ARCHITECTURE**

In 2007, a Determination of Eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places was completed for the Visitation Convent Complex (identified then as the School Sisters of Notre Dame Complex) and was found potentially eligible under Criterion C: Architecture, in a local context. The most architecturally significant building on the campus is Notre Dame Hall, completed in 1899 and built in the German Renaissance Revival style of architecture. The style was popular in Wisconsin and, most specifically, in the Milwaukee area, between 1880 and 1910. The German Renaissance Revival style in Milwaukee is most often attributed to the simple fact that Milwaukee was rife with German immigrants. In this case, however, the style may be directly attributable to the building's funding source, the Ludwig Mission Association (Ludwigs-Verein) of Germany. As cited previously (see footnote #41), the long-standing story regarding the style of Notre Dame Hall is that it was "mandated" as a result of receiving funding from the Ludwigs-Verein. And although the story also indicates that a German architect was brought over to supervise the building's design and/or construction, the original plans for the building known as "The Castle" were indeed drawn by

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<sup>65</sup> Based on a list compiled by the SSND, the number of pupils per year was added up between 1899 and 1939, which amounted to over 1,000 girls. Admittedly, a number of these girls would have been there for more than one year. Number of Pupils at Guardian Angel Orphanage, typed list, included in Guardian Angel Orphanage File, SSNDA.

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Milwaukee architect Eugene Liebert, who was considered one of the top “ethnic architects” in the city.<sup>66</sup>

Eugene Rudolph Liebert was born in 1866 in Berlin, Germany, the son of a builder/contractor. Eugene came to Milwaukee in 1883 and began working as a draftsman in the office of H.C. Koch & Co. In 1887, Koch’s partner Herman P. Schnetzky left the firm and took Liebert along with him. Four years later, they would form the firm of Schnetzky & Liebert, which would last until 1897. It was shortly after this dissolution that Liebert would gain the contract for designing Notre Dame Hall for the School Sisters of Notre Dame. Liebert had experience with the School Sisters in general, for in 1888, while working for Schnetzky, he designed the SSND convent at 423 W. Bruce Street in Milwaukee.<sup>67</sup> The most notable characteristic of the style that is evident on Notre Dame Hall is, of course, the stepped parapet along both the north and south ends of the structure, including the shaped consoles along Watertown Plank Road. Its castle-like appearance is further expressed through its tower-like entrances along both its east and west elevations, as well as the tower that housed the original cistern. In addition to the regular placement of multiple-light, as well as leaded and stained glass windows, notable detailing includes the iron strapwork hinges of the heavy oak doors, as well as the extensive stone, corbelled brickwork and copper trim.

Expense records indicate payment to both Gavin Art Glass and Daniel Van Horn for the chapel windows. Census records and city directories provide only scant information regarding Daniel Van Horn, who was born in the Netherlands in July 1850 and came to the United States in either 1851 or 1852. In 1874, he married his wife Susanna and, by 1880, he is enumerated in the census as residing in Milwaukee and working as a painter. By the mid-1890s, Van Horn has somewhat elaborate advertisements in the Milwaukee city directory that identify his shop at 537 Seventh Street and cites that he does “Artistic Designs of Mosaic Leaded Glass.” In 1900, the census simply reads, “art glass worker, own shop.” Van Horn died in Milwaukee on 12 January 1927.<sup>68</sup>

Although more well-known than Van Horn, very little information is available regarding the Gavin Art Glass Works of Milwaukee. Gavin Art Glass began in 1882 as the Columbia Glass Company by

<sup>66</sup> Wyatt, ed., *CRM in Wisconsin*, Vol. 2, Architecture, 2/13; Eugene Liebert, “St. Mary’s Home,” Original plans.

<sup>67</sup> H. Russell Zimmermann, *The Architecture of Eugene Liebert: Teutonic Style in the American Midwest* (La Crosse, WI: Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration, 2006), 9-10; “Milwaukee Historic Ethnic Architecture Resources Study,” Prepared by the City of Milwaukee—Vollmert, Hatala and Jakubovich (August 1994), Section V-Ethnic Architects in Milwaukee, 71-72; Wisconsin Architecture and History Inventory, maintained by the Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, WI, available online at [www.wisconsinhistory.org/ahi](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/ahi).

<sup>68</sup> Record of Expenses List, prepared by P.M. Abbelen, 1899; United States Federal Census, Population, 1870-1920, available online at [www.Ancestry.com](http://www.Ancestry.com), accessed on 14 November 2010; *Milwaukee City Directory*, 1876-1900; Daniel Van Horn, death notice, *Milwaukee Journal*, 13 January 1928.

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Arnold Gavin, his father, two brothers and a sister. At the firm's high point, as many as forty persons were employed there. Among the employees was Karl Friedelmaier, who had come to Milwaukee following an apprenticeship in Ohio under the Von Gerichten Studio, the home studio of which was in Munich, Germany. Among the known works of the Gavin studio was the stained-glass windows in Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Roman Catholic Church (1923-1931) in Pulaski, Wisconsin, as well as Trinity Lutheran Church in Madison.<sup>69</sup>

Another local craftsman cited in the building specifications for Notre Dame Hall was Charles "Carl" Kuehns, who was responsible for the chapel's ornamental plasterwork. Although his associated firm was not directly cited, in 1898-99 Kuehns was in partnership with Otto Papke and operated the Milwaukee Ornamental Carving Company, which was established in 1886. Kuehns was born on 25 August 1853 in Magdeburg, Germany. After earning a scholarship at the age of sixteen to the city's Art Industrial School, he instead used the money to go to the Worlds' Fair in Vienna. He would then attend the Royal Academy of Arts in Berlin, after which he would work for two years as an architectural sculptor in Russia. He came to the United States in 1879 and spent one year in New York before moving to Milwaukee. Shortly after his arrival, he opened his own studio, where he taught drawing and modeling; he also taught at the German-English Academy. After working as a wood carver at the Matthews Brothers furniture factory, he worked at the Milwaukee Ornamental Carving Company, where he eventually partnered with Papke and worked for the next fifty years. In 1920, the firm name had changed to the Milwaukee Ornamental Plastering Company. Well-known sculptural works of Kuehns (and/or the Milwaukee Ornamental Carving Company) include the statue of Gambrinus at the Pabst Brewing Company; the bronze statue of Germania, that was originally located atop the Brumder Building until its removal in 1918; and circus wagon carving for the Ringling Brothers.<sup>70</sup>

Although the architect of Andrina Hall is unknown, its original 1903 styling is clearly based on the design of Notre Dame Hall and German Renaissance Revival styling. Again, the stepped parapet end walls are the hallmark of the style. Although the building has been altered by an addition to the rear, as well as wholesale window replacement, the regular openings remain intact and it is certainly identifiable as the same building shown in the historic photograph included in this document as Figure 6.

<sup>69</sup> "Stained Glass Firm About to Fade," *Milwaukee Sentinel*, 11 February 1977, 3/1.

<sup>70</sup> John G. Gregory, *History of Milwaukee, Wisconsin*, 4 vols. (Chicago: Clarke Publishing Co., 1930), 74-75; *Sketchbook of Milwaukee* (Milwaukee: Associated Compilers, 1933), 173; "Carl Kuehns, Artist, Dead," Obituary, *Milwaukee Journal*, 7 May 1947, 7/4; "Carl Kuehns," Obituary, *Milwaukee Sentinel*, 19 May 1947, 2/6; Julia Welch, "Artist Who Put Goddesses in Palm Garden, Tells Story," *Milwaukee Journal*, 8 January 1945.



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Responsible for the design of Maria Hall, the tubercular hospital, known as The Bungalow (Mary Basil Hall), as well as the powerhouse, was the Milwaukee firm of Backes & Pfaller which was comprised of partners, Mark Frank Pfaller and Nicholas Backes. Pfaller was born in Jefferson, Wisconsin, in 1892. Pfaller studied mathematics at the University of Wisconsin in Madison before serving as a draftsman between 1909 and circa 1912 for a variety of Milwaukee architects, including Henry C. Hensel, Charles Tharinger, and Alfred Clas. Thereafter, he was employed until circa 1916 with the City of Milwaukee's engineering department. After working briefly as a salesman, Pfaller joined Nicholas Backes in 1918<sup>71</sup> to form the firm of Backes & Pfaller, whose partnership lasted until circa 1924. Biographical information regarding Backes is somewhat scant. He was born in Ozaukee County in 1886 and, by 1904, he appears in the Milwaukee City Directory as a carver; the following year the census identifies him as a draftsman. In 1906, he is specifically identified as working in the architectural office of Buemming and Dick; however, thereafter, he is listed variously as a draftsman or architect, with no specific place of work indicated. Finally, between 1914 and 1916, Backes was working at the firm of Schnetzky & Son (of note, Schnetzky formerly partnered with Eugene Liebert). After Backes and Pfaller parted ways, the former would partner with Bruce Uthus, while Pfaller would experience a rather prolific solo career until merging with Herbst, Jacoby & Jacoby (to form Pfaller Herbst Associates) in 1980. Pfaller died in 1982, while Backes had passed away in 1959.<sup>72</sup>

Regarding the buildings of Backes & Pfaller, Maria Hall (completed in 1921) is a very good and intact example of the Classical Revival style of architecture. Elements of the style exhibited at Maria Hall include regular fenestration placement, consisting of multiple-light windows; keystone lintels; stone quoining; a cornice comprised of modillions and dentils; a stone roof balustrade; as well as the pair of fluted Corinthian columns that frame the central bay. This structure stands as the only example of the style in the Village of Elm Grove.

Although "The Bungalow"/Mary Basil Hall (1921) is now largely surrounded by and connected to other buildings, its primary (northwest) elevation is still largely visible from the north and in the courtyard. The building's overhanging eaves and emphasis on the horizontal, including modest

<sup>71</sup> Biographical information regarding the Backes & Pfaller partnership cites a date of either 1916 or 1918 for its beginning. Although the 1920 census identifies Backes as living in Janesville, Wisconsin, letterhead for the firm cites both Milwaukee and Janesville as their office locations, *American Architects Directory* (New York: R.R. Bowker, 1970); "Prospect Avenue Apartment Buildings," National Register Nomination form, prepared by Carlen Hatala (1990), on file at the Historic Preservation Division, Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, WI. Backes & Pfaller also designed Old St. Mary's Church, the religious facility erected following demolition of Visitation Church on the Visitation Convent complex grounds, "Old St. Mary's Church," Determination of Eligibility (DOE) form, prepared by Carol Lohry Cartwright, November 2007, on file in the Historic Preservation Division, Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, WI.

<sup>72</sup> *Milwaukee City Directory*, 1903-1925; Timeline, Eppstein Uhen website, the successor firm of Herbst, available online at [www.eua.com/overview/history](http://www.eua.com/overview/history), accessed on 1 November 2010.



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brickwork trim, all reflect its Prairie styling. Also featuring an overhanging eave and some degree of horizontality and thus suggesting a Prairie influence is the Boiler House/Caretaker's Residence, also designed by Backes & Pfaller.

The West Wing (1955) of Holy Family Hospital was designed by the firm of Brust & Brust, which traces its roots to Peter Brust. Born in the Town of Milwaukee in 1869, he began his career as a carpenter and became a draftsman in 1886. After an apprenticeship with Milwaukee's Ferry & Clas, he would assist with the designs of the tower for St. John's Cathedral, as well as the Milwaukee Public Library. After working for Henry Koch and then Werner Esser, Brust partnered with Richard Philipp, with whom he would remain until 1926. During this period, the firm of Brust & Philipp produced the master plan for the company town of Kohler, Wisconsin. Following the break up with Phillip, Brust established his own firm and later was joined by sons Paul and John in 1929 and 1936, respectively. The elder Brust died in 1946, but his sons would maintain the firm of Brust & Brust until 1973. Indeed it was during this partnership that Holy Family Hospital was designed; the Brust brothers designed numerous notable ecclesiastic and school structures for the Catholic Church.<sup>73</sup>

Finally, the East Wing (1958) of Holy Family Hospital and the non-contributing chapel (1975) were designed by Herbst, Jacoby & Herbst and its successor firm Herbst, Jacoby & Jacoby, respectively. The originator of this firm was William G. Herbst, who began his architectural training in 1905 with the firm of Ferry & Clas. Although city directory and AIA questionnaire information differs regarding his experience, Herbst did partner with Edwin O. Kuenzli in 1919 to form the firm of Herbst & Kuenzli, which lasted until the latter's retirement in 1942. While with Kuenzli, Herbst designed the original buildings of Mt. Mary College (1929), as well as a later set (1946), the institution of which was owned and run by the School Sisters of Notre Dame. In 1945, Herbst's son Roger had joined the firm and, by no later than 1946, John P. Jacoby was working for the firm known as William G. Herbst & Associates. Jacoby's name was added to the firm name in 1955, resulting in Herbst, Jacoby & Herbst (during which time the East Wing was designed and built) and, in 1960, the name changed again, this time to Herbst, Jacoby & Herbst, in order to account for Paul Jacoby (firm name at the time the SSND chapel was designed and built). As noted above, Herbst, Jacoby & Herbst merged with Mark Pfaller in 1980. The firm continues today as Eppstein Uhen.<sup>74</sup>

<sup>73</sup> "Milwaukee Historic Ethnic Architecture Resources Study," 10-16.

<sup>74</sup> Ibid., 36-39; Milwaukee city directories indicate that Herbst established his own office in 1911, but soon thereafter joined William Hufschmidt as a partner until 1918; however, a questionnaire filled out by Herbst himself identified that he worked as the chief draftsman at Kirchoff & Rose from 1909-1918, *Milwaukee City Directory*, 1910-1918; "Questionnaire For Architects' Roster and/or Register of Architects Qualified for Federal Public Works." Form completed by William G. Herbst, 3 May 1946, available online at [http://communities.aia.org/sites/hdoaa/wiki/AIAscans/Rosters/HerbstWilliamGAssoc\\_roster.pdf](http://communities.aia.org/sites/hdoaa/wiki/AIAscans/Rosters/HerbstWilliamGAssoc_roster.pdf), accessed on 30 October 2010. Further conflicting biographical information on Herbst is supplied on the Eppstein Uhen website, [www.eua.com/overview/history](http://www.eua.com/overview/history).

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The non-contributing Holy Family Chapel, as well as the 1950s-era Caroline and Theresa halls notwithstanding, the Visitation Convent Complex is therefore nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C because the complex's buildings combine to form an attractive and intact grouping of high-style architecture, all of which were designed by notable Milwaukee architects. Although the Renaissance Revival-style Notre Dame and Andrina halls, as well as the Classical Revival Maria Hall are clearly higher in stylistic detailing than the remainder of the buildings, they all feature some degree of notable architectural styling. Located within a residential suburb, the subject complex stands as a very good and intact example of representative styles popular in Wisconsin between the turn of the twentieth century and through the 1920s.

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL:**

As a result of an upcoming road reconstruction project (of Watertown Plank Road), an archaeological survey was completed in May 2007 and the cemetery of the School Sisters of Notre Dame was recorded in August of 2008 (per current standards regarding cemeteries). It was not, however, found eligible for the National Register at that time. Although no archaeological deposits have been reported elsewhere on the grounds, the archaeological potential for the area outside of the immediate road's right of way and the cemetery itself, remains unassessed. However, any archaeological remains in the north half of the property were likely to have been disturbed by the construction of the various buildings on the grounds.

**PRESERVATION ACTIVITIES:**

The School Sisters of Notre Dame have been good stewards of their property since it was purchased in 1856 and first built upon in 1858. Although additions and renovations have been made to the campus throughout its lifetime, the Sisters have taken great care of preserving the historic character of the buildings. In an effort to ensure its future preservation, and based on a Determination of Eligibility that was completed on the complex in 2007, the Sisters chose to pursue nomination of the property for the National Register of Historic Places.

Visitation Convent Complex  
Name of Property

Waukesha  
County and State

Wisconsin

## 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:  
School Sisters of Notre Dame Archives

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 30.5 acres

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

1	<u>16</u>	<u>412292</u>	<u>4766053</u>	3	<u>16</u>	<u>412607</u>	<u>4766198</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>16</u>	<u>412504</u>	<u>4766204</u>	4	<u>16</u>	<u>412686</u>	<u>4766117</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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	Traci E. Schnell/Senior Architectural Historian	date	December 2010
organization	Heritage Research, Ltd.	telephone	262.251.7792
street & number	N 89 W16785 Appleton Avenue	zip code	53051
city or town	Menomonee Falls	state	WI

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
Continuation Sheet

Section 9 Page 4

Visitation Convent Complex  
Elm Grove, Waukesha County, WI

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**National Park Service**

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**Continuation Sheet**

Section 10 Page 1

Visitation Convent Complex  
Elm Grove, Waukesha County, WI

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**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

UTM Coordinates (continued):

5	<u>16</u>	<u>412675</u>	<u>4765911</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
6	<u>16</u>	<u>412534</u>	<u>4765905</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
7	<u>16</u>	<u>412535</u>	<u>4765671</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
8	<u>16</u>	<u>412365</u>	<u>4765750</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal Boundary Description:

The legal boundary description is as follows:

W/12 W 1/2 NE1/4 SEC 25 T7N R20 E 40 AC VOL 18/435 DEEDS E 20 AC OF W 80 AC NE1/4 SEC 25 T7N R20E VOL 78/164 DEEDS W 25 AC OF E 40 AC W1/2 NE1/4 SEC 25 T7N R20E VOL 78/167 DEEDS PT E1/2 NE1/4 SEC 25 T7N R20E COM NE COR S 961.62 FT W318.12 FT 961.62 FT E 330.99 FT TO BGN 7.16 AC ALSO COM 330.99 FT W OF NE COR W 330.99 FT S1 15'E 961.62 FT E318.12 FT S 2664.42 FT E 627.66 FT N 641.52 FT E ALG RR R/W 38.28 FT N1 W 2017.62 FT TO BGN EX RR 38.21 AC ALSO COM S 961.62 FT & 636.24 FT W OF NE COR N1 15'W 961.62 FT W 33 FT S1 15'E 961.62 FT E 33 FT TO BGN VOL 336/574 DEEDS ALSO PT E1/2 NE1/4 SEC 25 T7N R20E 33FT WIDE STRIP OF LAND CTRLI DESCR AS COM 678.32 FT W OF NE COR SLY 961.62 FT S 990.40 FT TO NLY RR R/W LI VOL 351/261 DEEDS EX VOL 10/231 DEEDS EX VOL 32/66 DEEDS EX VOL 42/608 DEEDS EX VOL 42/609 DEEDS EX VOL 63/329 DEEDS EX VOL 166/88 DEEDS EX VOL 327/527 DEEDS EX VOL 538/468 DEEDS EX VOL 632/410 DEEDS EX VOL 810/455 DEEDS EX VOL 880/216 DEEDS EX VOL 882/458 DEEDS EX VOL 889/444 DEEDS EX VOL 962/242 DEEDS EX VOL 1028/31 DEEDS EX VOL 1112/575 DEEDS EX VOL 1119/162 DEEDS EX VOL 1156/284 DEEDS EX R274/1006 EX R1072/546.



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Section 10 Page 2

Visitation Convent Complex  
Elm Grove, Waukesha County, WI

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The legal description can be otherwise described as follows:

Beginning at the westernmost end of the fence line that runs along Watertown Plank Road (which terminates at the entrance to the church cemetery), proceed northeasterly along that fence line and thence continuing northeasterly to follow a line of bushes until the fence line begins again (the length of the boundary along Watertown Plank Road is 832.09 feet). The fence line then turns to go directly east (for a distance of 329.11 feet) and to the corner of Watertown Plank Road and Stephen Place, where the fence line turns southerly and then again easterly to follow the road's 60-foot right of way (for an approximate distance of 521 feet). The fence line continues from Stephen Place and then south along the 60-foot right of way of Red Barn Lane for a distance, after which the fencing terminates; however, a line of trees continues to delineate the parcel along Red Barn Lane (the length along Red Barn Lane measures 725.84 feet). The boundary continues to a point that coincides with the rear lot lines of 12800, 12850 and 12900 Green Meadow Drive and thence south along the west lot lines of 12955, 12925 and 12915 Meadow Drive (a distance of 745.08 feet) to a point coinciding with the railroad's right of way. Thence northwesterly along the railroad's right of way for 518 feet, the boundary proceeds northerly for 187.76 feet, thence northwesterly for 187.44 feet, thence north for 110.21 feet, thence west for 64.91 feet, thence north for 325 feet, thence northwesterly for 73.10 feet, thence southwesterly for 101.66 feet, thence west southwesterly for 98.85 feet, thence north for 190.64 feet to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification:

The boundary was drawn to include all of the buildings of the campus, including the cemetery, but to exclude the cemetery of St. Mary's Catholic Church congregation. Therefore, the boundary was drawn to include the entire acreage (of this parcel) currently owned by the School Sisters of Notre Dame.

Visitation Convent Complex

Waukesha

Wisconsin

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			
organization			date
street & number			telephone
city or town	state		zip code

**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 Photos Page 1

Visitation Convent Complex  
Elm Grove, Waukesha County, WI

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**PHOTOGRAPHS**

<b>Name of Property:</b>	<b>Visitation Convent Complex</b>
<b>City or Vicinity:</b>	<b>Elm Grove</b>
<b>County:</b>	<b>Waukesha County</b>
<b>State:</b>	<b>Wisconsin</b>
<b>Name of Photographer:</b>	<b>Traci E. Schnell</b>
<b>Date of Photographs:</b>	<b>Various, see photo entry</b>
<b>Location of Original Digital Files:</b>	<b>Heritage Research, Ltd., Menomonee Falls, WI</b>
<b>Number of Photographs:</b>	<b>23</b>

Photo #1 of 23

Visitation Convent/Notre Dame Hall & Marianum/Maria Hall, view to east.  
April 2010

Photo #2 of 23

Visitation Convent/Notre Dame Hall, view to northeast.  
July 2010

Photo #3 of 23

Visitation Convent/Notre Dame Hall, view to southeast.  
October 2010

Photo #4 of 23

Visitation Convent/Notre Dame Hall, view to northwest.  
October 2010

Photo #5 of 23

Visitation Convent/Notre Dame Hall: roofline detail, view up and to southwest.  
October 2010

Photo #6 of 23

Visitation Convent/Notre Dame Hall: door detail, view to northeast  
October 2010

**United States Department of the Interior**  
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**Continuation Sheet**

Section Photos Page 2 Visitation Convent Complex  
Elm Grove, Waukesha County, WI

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Photo #7 of 23

Visitation Convent/Notre Dame Hall: chapel interior, view to southeast.  
October 2010

Photo #8 of 23

Visitation Convent/Notre Dame Hall: 4<sup>th</sup> floor, former dormitory room, view to northeast.  
October 2010

Photo #9 of 23

Visitation Convent/Notre Dame Hall: staircase, view from 2<sup>nd</sup> floor to 4<sup>th</sup>  
October 2010

Photo #10 of 23

Marianum/Maria Hall, view to southwest.  
July 2010

Photo #11 of 23

St. Mary's Orphan Asylum/Guardian Angel Orphanage/Andrina Hall, view to southeast.  
October 2010

Photo #12 of 23

Tuberculosis Hospital/"The Bungalow"/Mary Basil Hall, view to east southeast.  
October 2010

Photo #13 of 23

Tuberculosis Hospital/"The Bungalow"/Mary Basil Hall: first-floor interior, view to southwest.  
October 2010

Photo #14 of 23

Boiler House/Caretaker's Quarters, view to south southwest.  
April 2010

Photo #15 of 23

Tuberculosis Hospital/"The Bungalow"/Mary Basil Hall, at left; West Wing, Holy Family  
Infirmary/Caroline Hall, at right, view to east northeast.  
July 2010



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Continuation Sheet

Section Photos Page 3

Visitation Convent Complex  
Elm Grove, Waukesha County, WI

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Photo #16 of 23

East Wing, Holy Family Infirmary/Theresa Hall, view to north northeast.  
July 2010

Photo #17 of 23

Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto, view to northeast.  
July 2010

Photo #18 of 23

Cemetery Gate Entry, view to southwest.  
April 2010

Photo #19 of 23

Mother Caroline's Gravesite and Marker, view to south southeast.  
October 2010

Photo #20 of 23

Fidelis Hall, view to southeast.  
July 2010

Photo #21 of 23

Notre Dame of Elm Grove Chapel, view to north.  
July 2010

Photo #22 of 23

Garage #1, view to southeast.  
October 2010

Photo #23 of 23

Garage #2, view to southwest.  
July 2010

United States Department of the Interior  
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Continuation Sheet

Section Figures Page 1

Visitation Convent Complex  
Elm Grove, Waukesha County, WI

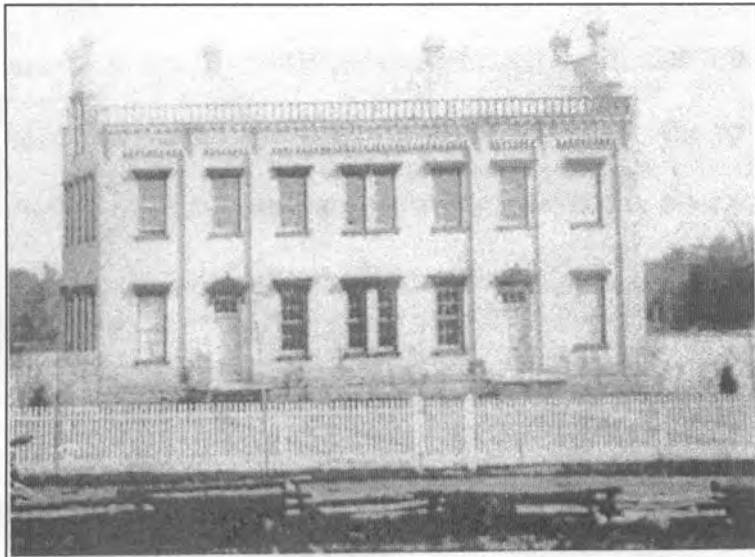


Figure #1: Historic photograph (pre-1868) of original 1858-59 convent, orphanage and school. Photo reprinted in Foley & Bos, SSND, *A Journey of Faith*, 27, and on file at the SSNDA.

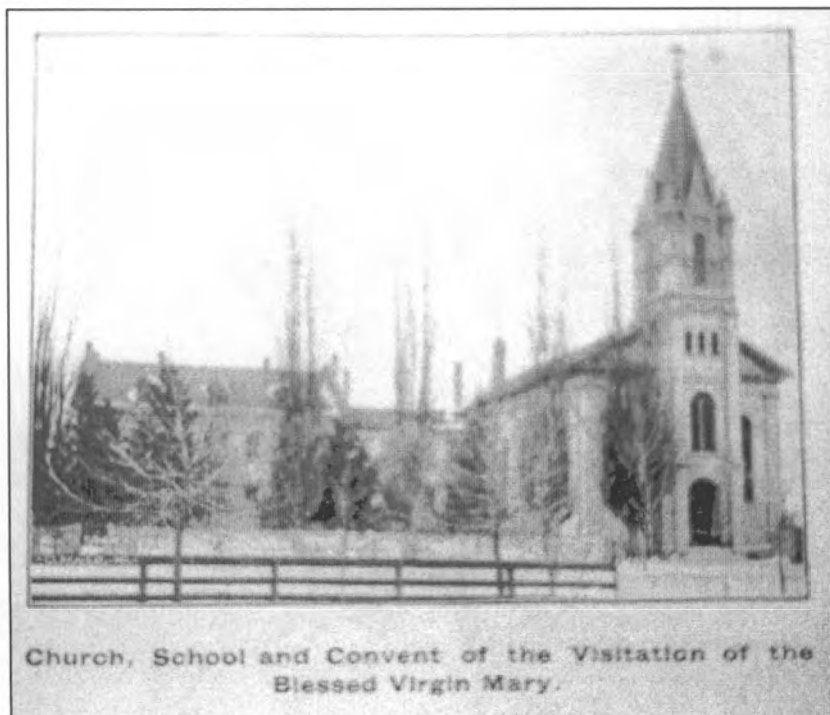


Figure #2: Historic postcard view of the original 1858-59 convent (now with dormers and no roof Balustrade), school (date unknown) at center, and church (1868) at right. Postcard on file at the SSNDA.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

Section Figures Page 2

Visitation Convent Complex  
Elm Grove, Waukesha County, WI



Figure #3: Historic Photograph, ca. 1900. St. Mary's Home/Visitation Convent/Notre Dame Hall (1899) at left, original convent at center, and 1868 church at right. It is unknown what building is located behind the church. Note the wooden fencing. On file at the SSNDA.

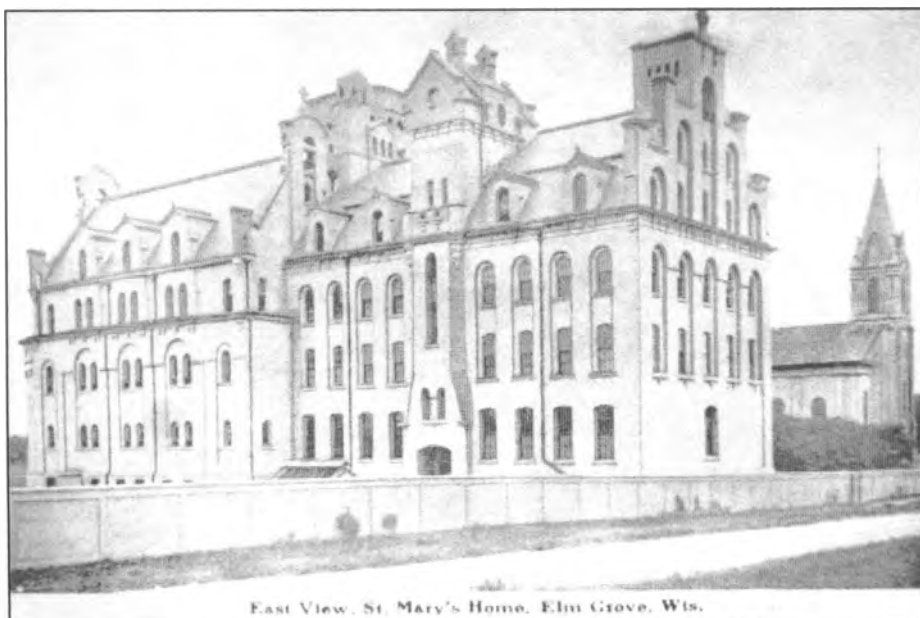


Figure #4: Historic Postcard, no date (pre-1920). Visitation Convent/St. Mary's Home, East elevation. Church to right. Note the brick wall. On file at the SSNDA.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section Figures Page 3

Visitation Convent Complex  
Elm Grove, Waukesha County, WI



Figure #5: Historic photograph (ca. 1920s?), Interior of chapel in Notre Dame Hall with pews intact. Photo on file at the SSNDA.

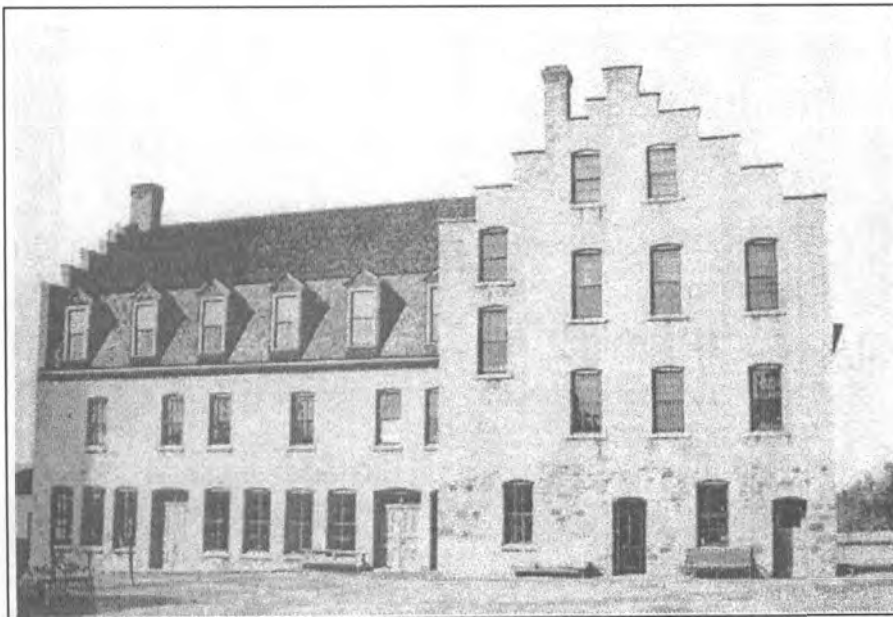


Figure #6: Historic photograph (circa 1903) of former orphanage (present-day Andrina Hall), northeast elevation. Photo reprinted in Foley & Bos, SSND, *A Journey of Faith*, 83, and on file at the SSNDA.



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**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section Figures Page 4

Visitation Convent Complex  
Elm Grove, Waukesha County, WI

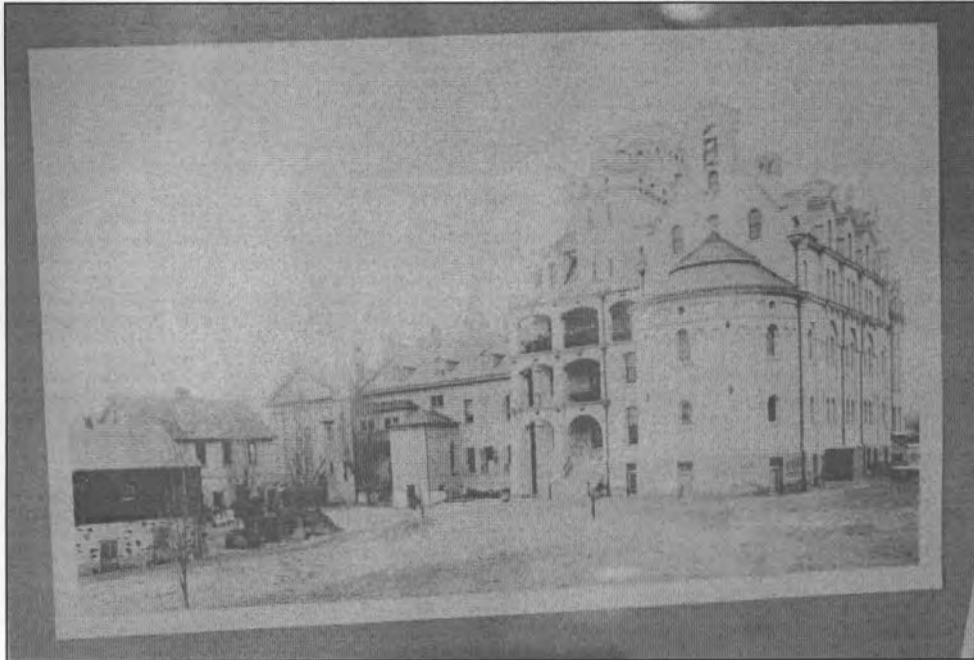


Figure #7: Historic photograph (undated, but likely circa 1900). Rear view of Visitation Convent property. Note the two-story school building in the location of what is now Andrina Hall (and seen below). Photo of original photograph on display in Mary Basil Hall, SSND.

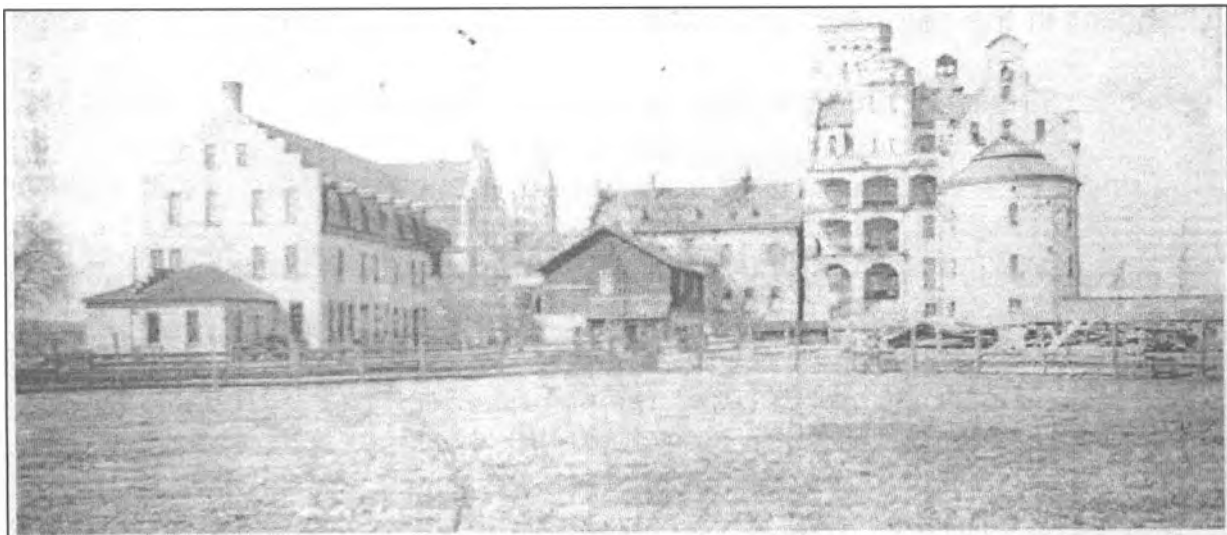


Figure #8: Historic photograph (circa 1903). Rear view of Visitation Convent property. Photo reprinted in Foley & Bos, SSND, *A Journey of Faith*, 83, and on file at the SSNDA.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

Section Figures Page 5

Visitation Convent Complex  
Elm Grove, Waukesha County, WI

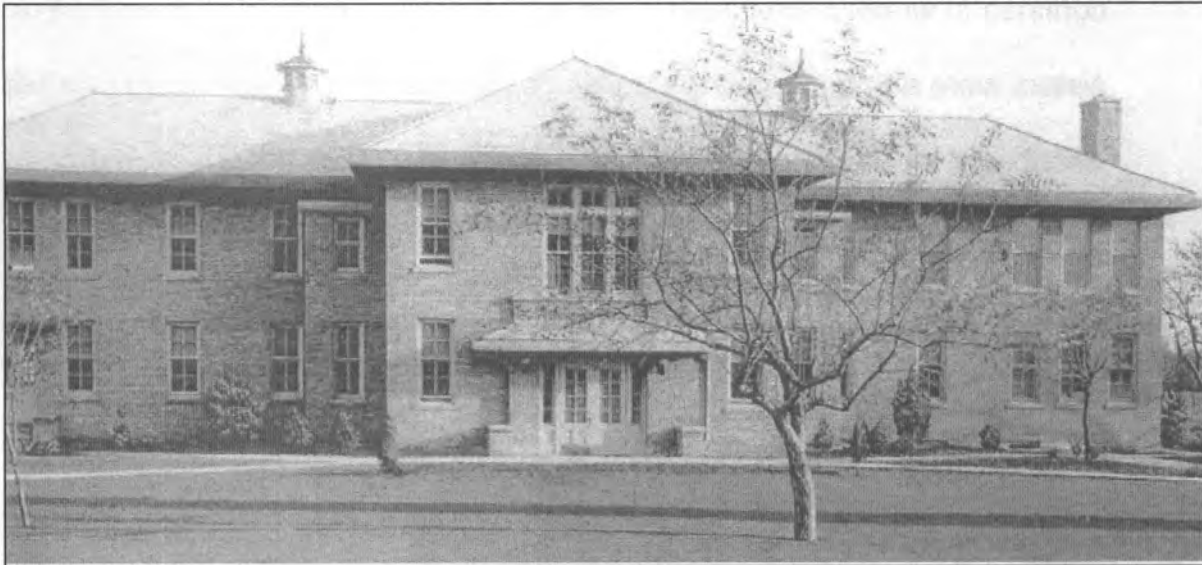


Figure #9: Historic photograph (circa 1921). Northwest elevation of the Tuberculosis Hospital/"The Bungalow". Photo reprinted in Foley & Bos, SSND, *A Journey of Faith*, 86, and on file at the SSNDA.

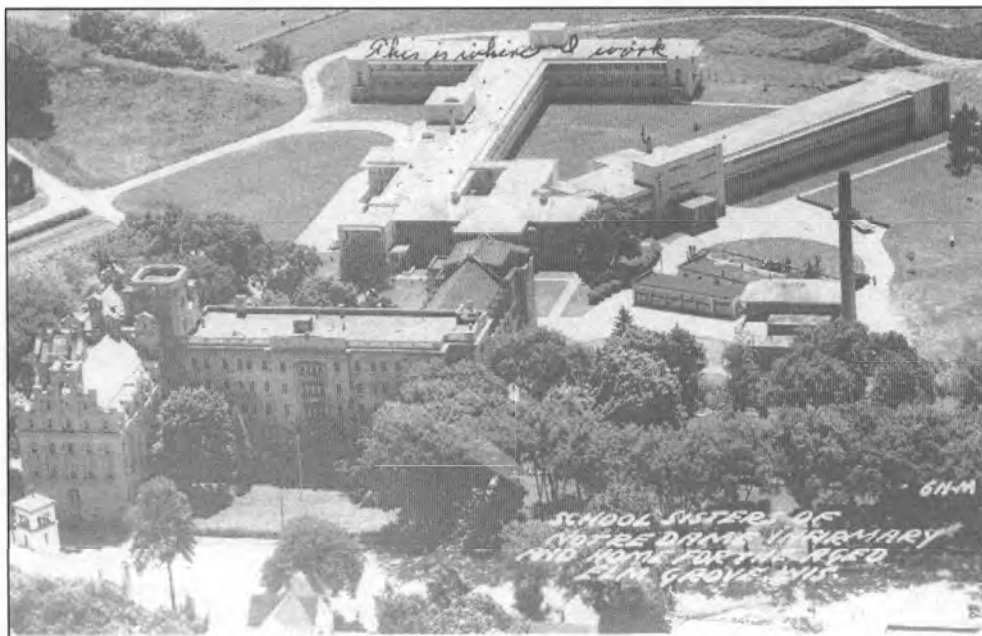


Figure #10: Historic postcard (ca. 1967; however, postmarked 1972). Visitation Convent/School Sister of Notre Dame Infirmary and Home for the Aged. Note that Fidelis Hall (1968) had not yet been built in front of the Tuberculosis Hospital/"The Bungalow," nor had the chapel (1975) been built between the East and West wings of Holy Family Hospital. Postcard in possession of the SSND. Additional garages are located just left of the powerhouse, with its stack still intact.

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**Continuation Sheet**

Section Figures Page 6

Visitation Convent Complex  
Elm Grove, Waukesha County, WI



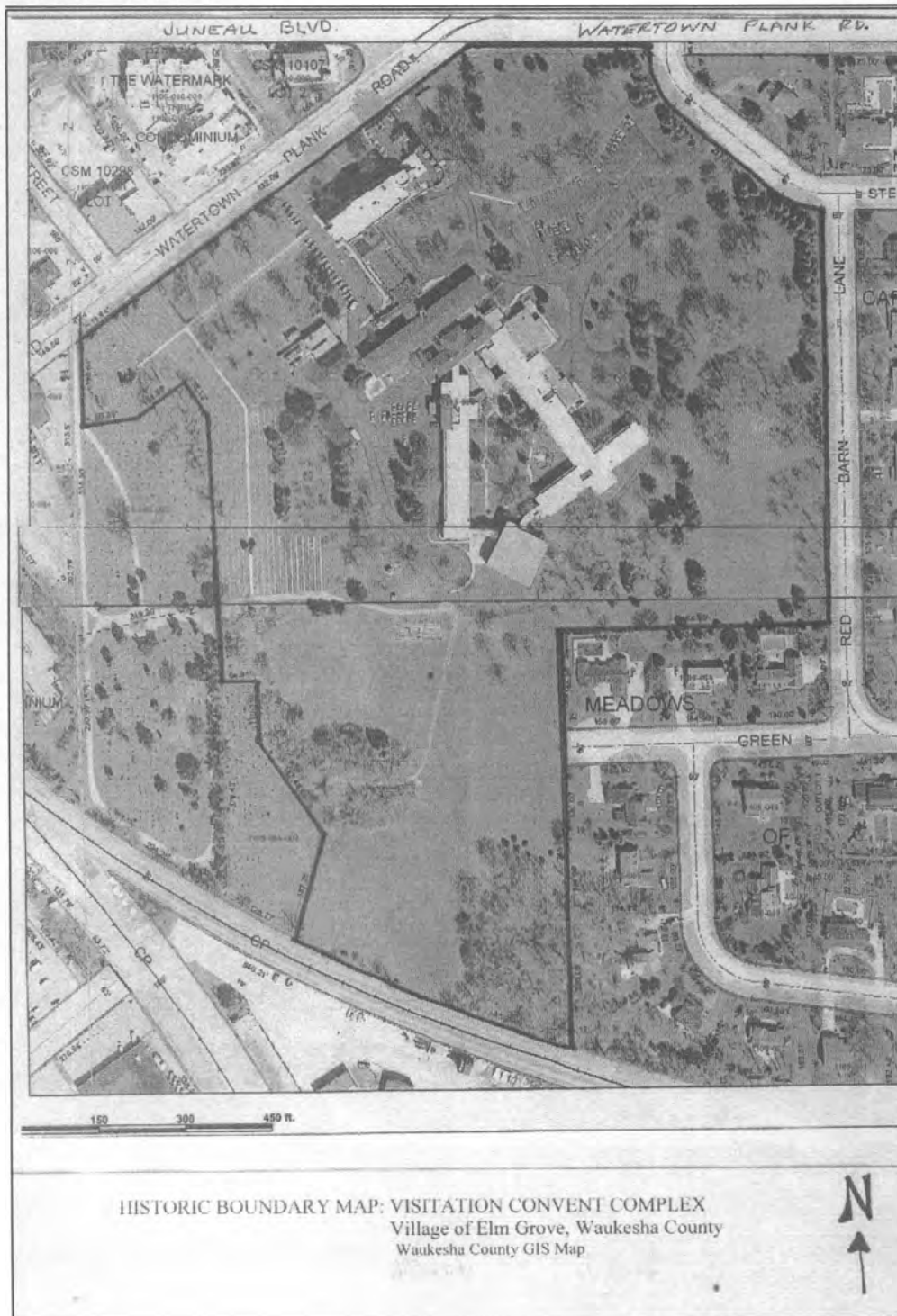
Figure #11: Historic photograph of Our Lady of the Elms (no date); run by the SSND, but located just northwest of the Elm Grove campus. Photo reprinted in Foley & Bos, SSND, *A Journey of Faith*, 87, and on file at the SSNDA.

United States Department of the Interior  
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National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section Figures Page 7

Visitation Convent Complex  
Elm Grove, Waukesha County, WI



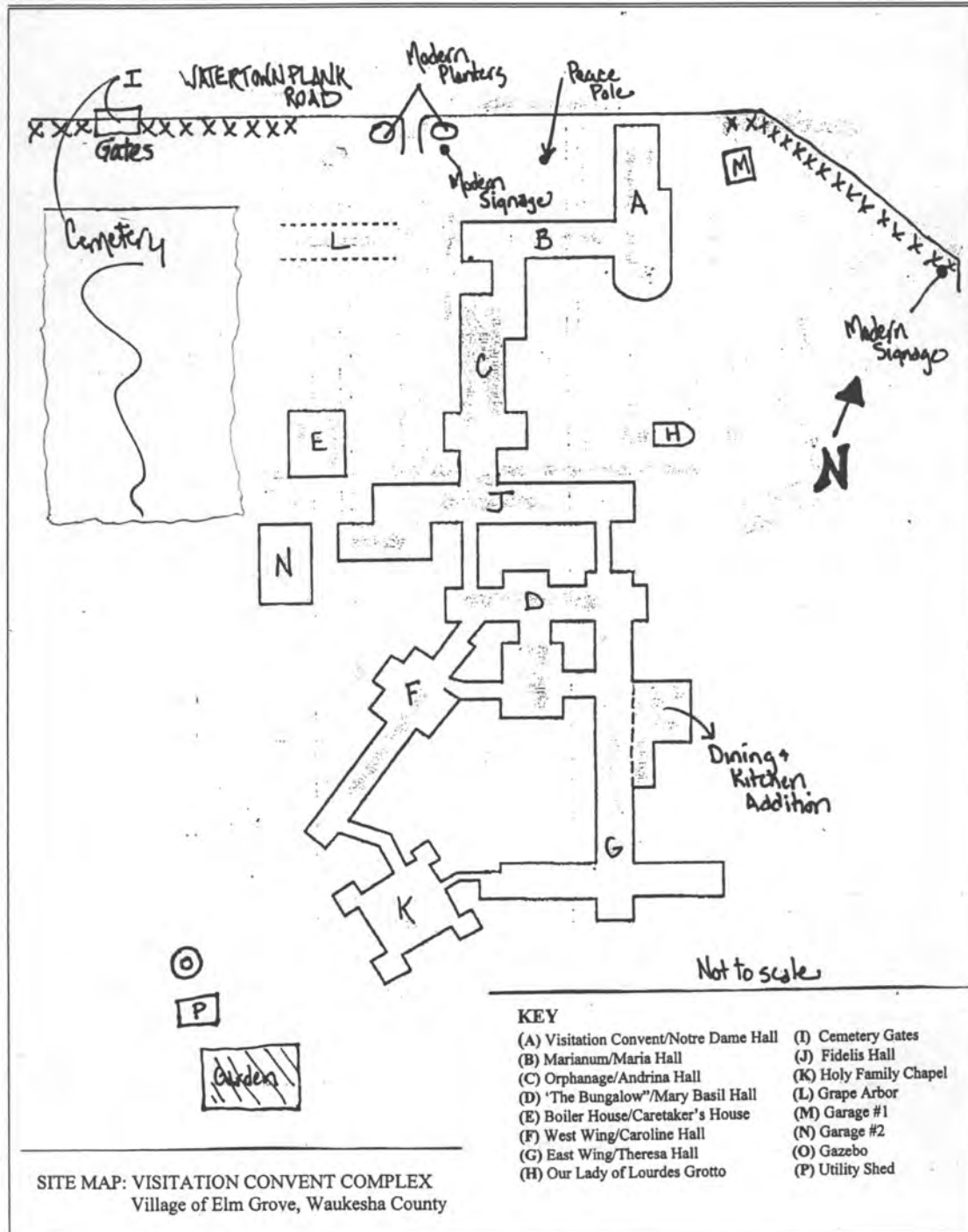


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section Figures Page 8

Visitation Convent Complex  
Elm Grove, Waukesha County, WI



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Visitation Convent Complex  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: WISCONSIN, Waukesha

DATE RECEIVED: 4/15/11 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 4/29/11  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/16/11 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/31/11  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 11000311

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 5-25-11 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



VISITATION CONVENT COMPLEX  
Elm Grove, Waukesha Co., WI  
Photo# 1 of 23

703490005 <2598845\_001.jpg> 10/10

Walgreens 05002 < 12/22/10





VISITATION CONVENT COMPLEX  
Elm Grove, Waukesha Co., WI  
Photo# 2 of 23

658431005 <2593084..001.jpg> 8/36

Walsreens 05002 ( ) 12/21/10



VISITATION CONVENT COMPLEX  
Elm Grove, Waukesha Co., WI  
Photo # 3 of 23

658431005 <2593084, 001.jpg> 30/36  
12/21/10





VISITATION CONVENT COMPLEX  
Elm Grove, Waukesha Co., WI  
Photo # 4 of 23

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VISITATION CONVENT COMPLEX  
Elm Grove, Waukesha Co., WI  
Photo # 5 of 23

WJ187888 05002 > 12/21/18

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VISITATION CONVENT COMPLEX  
Elm Grove, Waukesha Co., WI  
Photo #6 of 23

W1187888 05802 < 12/21/10

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VISITATION CONVENT COMPLEX  
Elm Grove, Waukesha WI  
Photo #7 of 23

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VISITATION CONVENT COMPLEX  
Elm Grove, Waukesha Co, WI  
Photo # 8 of 23

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VISITATION CONVENT COMPLEX  
Elm Grove, Waukesha Co, WI  
Photo # 9 of 23

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VISITATION CONVENT COMPLEX  
Elm Grove, Waukesha Co., WI  
Photo # 10 of 23

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VISITATION CONVENT COMPLEX  
Elm Grove, Waukesha Co., WI  
Photo # 11 of 23

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VISITATION CONVENT COMPLEX  
Elm Grove, Waukesha Co., WI  
Photo # 12 of 23

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VISITATION CONVENT COMPLEX  
Elm Grove, Waukesha Co. WI  
Photo # 13 of 23

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Waukesha 05002 ( ) 12/21/10





VISITATION CONVENT COMPLEX  
Erm Grove, Waukesha Co., WI  
Photo # 14 of 23

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Walsreens 65882 <> 12/21/18



VISITATION CONVENT COMPLEX  
Elm Grove, Waukesha Co, WI  
Photo # 15 of 23

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Walsreens 05002 (>) 12/21/10





VISITATION CONVENT COMPLEX  
Em Grove, Waukesha Co., WI  
Photo # 16 of 23

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Waukesha 05002 < 12/21/10



VISITATION CONVENT COMPLEX  
Elm Grove, Waukesha Co., WI  
Photo # 17 of 23

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Wulgreens 05002 ( ) 12/21/10







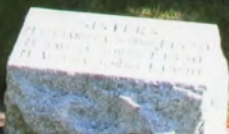
VISITATION CONVENT COMPLEX  
Elm Grove, Waukesha Co, WI  
Photo # 18 of 23

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Wu1=reens 05002 <> 12/21/10



MOTHER CAROLINE  
1850 --- 1892  
FOR FORTY TWO YEARS OUR  
REVERED MOTHER AND GUIDE  
BORN 1824 - DIED 1892  
R.I.P.



VISITATION CONVENT COMPLEX  
Elm Grove, Waukesha Co., WI  
Photo # 19 of 23

Waukesha 05882 < 12/21/18

658431005 <2592084.001.jp#> 31/36



VISITATION CONVENT COMPLEX  
Elm Grove, Waukesha Co., WI  
Photo # 20 of 23

703490005 (2598845.,001.jpg) 5/10

Wulgreens 85892 ( ) 12/22/18





VISITATION CONVENT COMPLEX  
Etn Grove, Waukesha Co. WI  
Photo # 21 of 23

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Watergreens 05002 < 12/22/10



VISITATION CONVENT COMPLEX  
Emm Grove, Waukesha Co., WI  
Photo # 22 of 23

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Waukeens 05002 <> 12/22/10



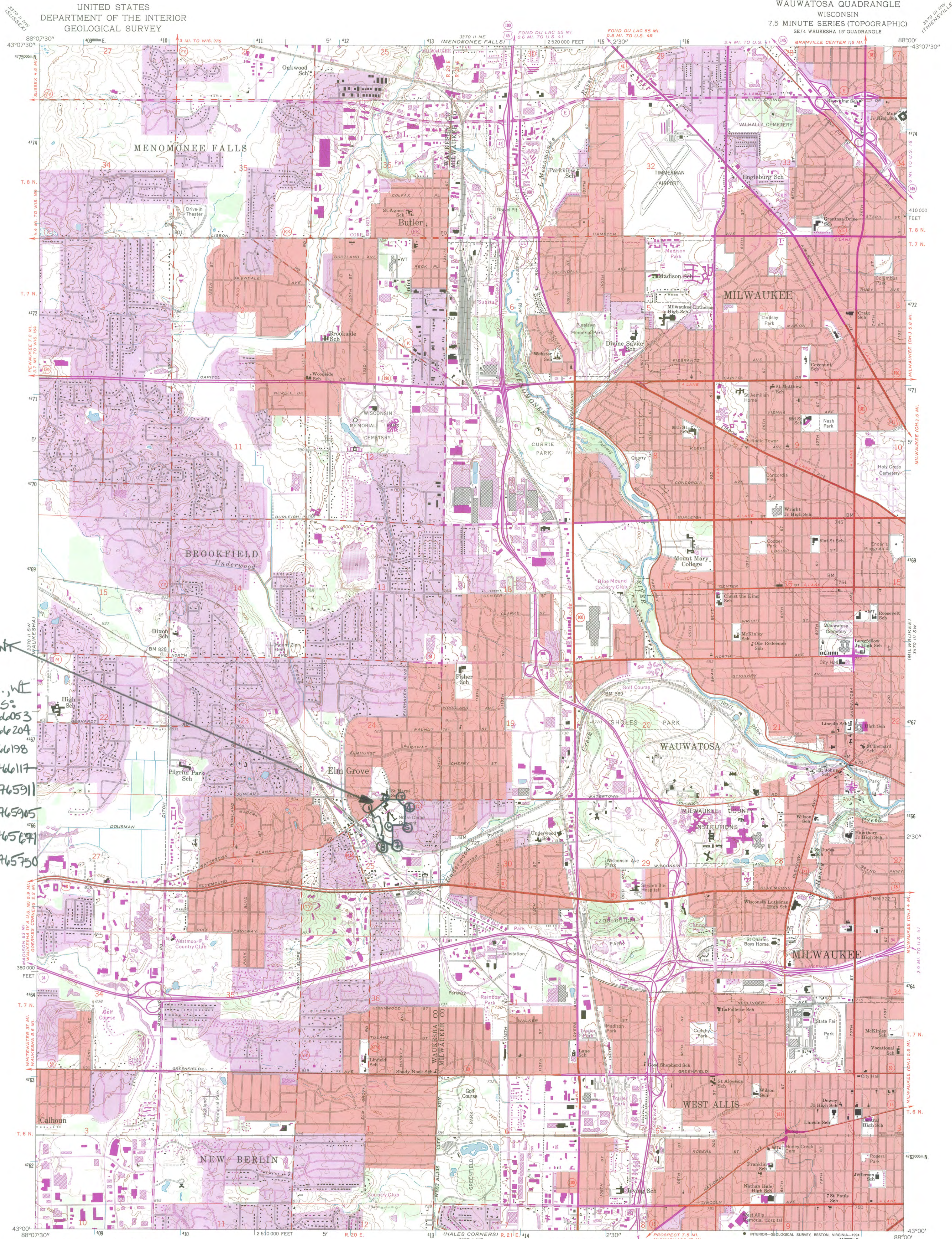


VISITATION CONVENT COMPLEX  
Elm Grove, Waukesha Co. WI  
Photo #23 of 23

703490005 (2598845..001.jpg) 4/10

Ulsreens 05002 ( ) 12/22/10





VISITATION CENTER  
COMPLEX  
Elm Grove,  
Waukesha Co., WI  
UTM References:  
① 16/412292/4766053  
② 16/412504/4766204  
③ 16/412607/4766198  
④ 16/412686/4766117  
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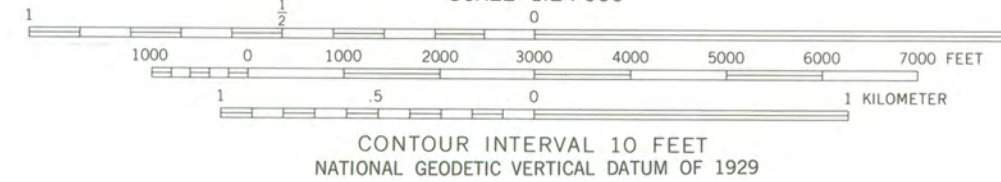
Produced by the United States Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
taken 1954-55 and in part by the City of Brookfield. Field checked 1958

Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Wisconsin coordinate  
system, south zone (Lambert conformal conic)  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 16, shown in blue  
1927 North American Datum (NAD 27)

North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks  
The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute  
intersections are given in USGS Bulletin 1875

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
AND WISCONSIN GEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY, MADISON, WISCONSIN 53706  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road

○ Interstate Route    ○ U.S. Route    ○ State Route

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with  
State of Wisconsin agencies from aerial photographs  
taken 1992 and other sources. This information not  
field checked. Map edited 1994

Information shown in purple may not meet USGS content  
standards and may conflict with previously mapped contours  
Purple tint indicates extension of urban area

WAUWATOSA, WIS.  
SE 1/4 WAUKESHA 15' QUADRANGLE  
43088-A1-TF-024  
1958  
REVISED 1994  
DMA 3370 II SE-SERIES V861





RECEIVED 2280  
APR 15 2011  
NAT. REGIST. - OUTRIG PLACES  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**TO: Keeper**  
**National Register of Historic Places**

**FROM:** Daina Penkiunas

**SUBJECT: National Register Nomination**

The following materials are submitted on this 6th day of April 2011,  
for nomination of the Visitation Convent Complex to the National Register of  
Historic Places:

1 Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form

Multiple Property Nomination form

1 CD with electronic images

23 Photograph(s)

1 Original USGS map(s)

8 pp of ~~Sketch map(s)~~/figure(s)/~~exhibit(s)~~

\_\_\_\_\_ Piece(s) of correspondence

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMENTS:**

**Please insure that this nomination is reviewed**

**This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67**

\_\_\_\_\_ The enclosed owner objection(s) do \_\_\_\_\_ do not \_\_\_\_\_  
constitute a majority of property owners.

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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