

WT07-11 81000318

- 1. NAME: St. Juliana Falconieri Catholic Church
- 2. LOCATION: 425 W. 3rd street, Red Cloud
- 4. OWNER: State of Nebraska—Historical Society
ADDRESS: 1500 R Street, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

7. DESCRIPTION: Built in 1883, this 24 x 30 foot brick building served Red Cloud's Catholic congregation until 1906 when it was sold and converted into a residence. The front and side facades are three bays each and feature tall, two over two double-hung sash, routed floral motifs in each head and stilted segmentally arched hoods with stone keystones. The central bay of the gabled front (south) facade features double doors with halved transom (photo #19).

Other notable architectural features approximate the originals which were removed sometime after 1905 and were replicated in 1968-69 by the Willa Cather Pioneer Memorial Foundation. These include the braced hood over the entrance and simple wood balustrade which closely resemble the original. The braces of the hood lack the detail of the original while the present iron cresting on the truncated portion of the hip are both of differing proportions and detail. The open belfry which surmounts the front end of the gable roof (see photo) replicates in a symbolic way the original configuration of that feature. Numerous details have been altered or deleted including the overall proportions, the console supports for the elliptical arches, the paneled base and wainscoted skirt, the eave flare and the bracketed cornice. Accurate restoration is planned, based on evidence on file.

8. SIGNIFICANCE: St. Juliana's Catholic Church is significant to the major theme of this nomination. It is the church that Annie Pavelka, "Antonia", was married in and the church in which her illegitimate child was baptized. The church also contributes significantly to the character of the Railroad Addition Historic District which shares a boundary adjacent to the east. The Song of the Lark describes the reason for its location,

" . . . When you set out along this street to go to the station, you noticed that the houses became smaller and farther apart, until they ceased altogether, and the board sidewalk continued its uneven course through sunflower patches, until you reached the solitary, new brick Catholic Church. The church stood there because the land was given to the parish by the man who owned the adjoining waste lots, in the hope of making them more salable—"Farrier's Addition," this patch of prairie was called in the clerk's office." (The Song of the Lark, p. 37).

Architecturally the church is a significant vernacular structure, a fine specimen of modest church architecture for the period and, aside possibly from the depot, the most impressive architectural feature of South Red Cloud.

10. GEOGRAPHIC DATA

Acreage: Less than one acre
UTM Coordinate: 14/E540645/N4436600

Verbal Boundary Description: Lots 17-22, block 3, Railroad addition to the City of Red Cloud, Webster County, Nebraska