

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



48

# 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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Passionist Fathers Monastery

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number 5700 North Harlem Avenue

not for publication

city or town Chicago

vicinity

state IL code IL county Cook code 031 zip code 60631

### 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

*Anne H. H. [Signature]*

Signature of certifying official/Title

DSHPO, 1-14-13

Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register  determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register  removed from the National Register

other (explain) \_\_\_\_\_

*For Edson H. Beall*

Signature of the Keeper

3-6-13

Date of Action

Passionist Fathers Monastery  
 Name of Property

Cook Co., IL  
 County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
 (Check as many boxes as apply.)

**Category of Property**  
 (Check only one box.)

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

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	<b>Total</b>

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

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

**Current Functions**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Religion/Religious Facility  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Vacant/Not in Use  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

**Materials**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY  
 REVIVALS/ Classical Revival  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

foundation: Stone  
 walls: Brick and stone  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 roof: Asphalt  
 other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Passionist Fathers Monastery  
Name of Property

Cook Co., IL  
County and State

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### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

#### Summary Paragraph

The Passionist Fathers Monastery is a three-story, U-shaped masonry building situated on a large landscaped lot near the intersection of North Harlem Avenue and West Talcott Avenue in the Norwood Park neighborhood on Chicago's northwest side. The building was designed by Chicago architect Joseph Molitor and completed in 1910. The building is formed by a rectangular main block with two end wings that project north of the main block and is topped with multiple gabled roofs. At the north end of the east wing is a two-story cross-gabled block with a delicate pressed-copper bell tower, which houses the monastery's library and double-height chapel space above. The building features red brick exterior walls laid in common bond and ornamented with Classical Revival stone detailing. The primary entrance to the building, located at the center of the east elevation, is set within an elaborate Classical Revival stone entrance surround, and the projecting entrance bay is topped with a baroque-style curved gable. The building is regularly fenestrated primarily with single window openings on the lower floors and round-arched windows on the third floor. Several one-story brick additions, dating from the 1970s and 1980s, extend from the south and west elevations. These additions read as separate structures and do not affect the integrity of the original structure.

On the interior, a large open staircase directly across from the primary entrance forms the heart of the building. Double-loaded corridors extend along both wings and through the main block, leading to small (primarily one-room) living quarters for the residents. Two secondary staircases, both with decorative metal balustrades, wooden newel posts and railings similar to the main stair, are situated at the north end of the east wing and at the intersection of the main block and west wing. The northern end of the east wing, which projects slightly, houses the library on the first floor and a double-height chapel on the second floor. A dining room, kitchen, and recreation room are located in the west wing.

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### Narrative Description

#### *Setting and Site*

The Passionist Fathers Monastery is located on a 4.3-acre landscaped lot (a small portion of the original fifty-four acre tract that the congregation purchased in 1904) with mature plantings and trees. The building faces North Harlem Avenue. A circular asphalt driveway provides vehicular access to the primary entrance. Directly adjacent to the property on the south and west are single-family residential developments. The current Immaculate Conception parish church building, constructed in 1963 at the northeast corner of West Talcott Avenue and North Harlem Avenue, is located just north of the monastery and is connected to the monastery with a modern narrow enclosed masonry walkway. However, the land that the church was constructed on was owned not by the Passionists but by the Archdiocese of Chicago, and the two buildings have never been under the same ownership. Northwest of the monastery is the Immaculate Conception School. The first portion of the school was completed by the Archdiocese in 1924, and several large additions were completed in the post-war period.

Directly north of the courtyard formed by the building's two wings is a small cemetery that houses the remains of Passionist brothers who lived at the monastery. This cemetery, although historically related to the monastery, is now under separate ownership and is not included within the proposed boundary for National Register listing.

#### *Structure*

The building is a fireproof masonry building with a reinforced concrete frame, clay tile floors and interior walls, and brick exterior walls. The roof structure is timber frame. The building includes three historic wood and metal stairs. Although the building was not constructed with an elevator, an exterior brick elevator shaft was constructed near the southeast corner of the building in 1971. An underground concrete passageway leads from the basement of the building south to the rear yard.

Passionist Fathers Monastery

Name of Property

Cook Co., IL

County and State

### *Exterior*

The Passionist Fathers Monastery is a large, U-shaped building of masonry construction with red brick exterior walls laid in common bond, a mixture of Classical Revival, Baroque, and Romanesque-style detailing, and multiple hipped roofs. The building is formed by a rectangular main block with two end wings that project north of the main block. The main block and end wings are three-stories on a raised basement marked by a rusticated limestone water table; hipped dormer windows mark the attic level. All elevations on the main block and end wings are regularly fenestrated with single window openings. On the first and second stories, the window openings are topped with flat keystone arches rendered in limestone and set on simple limestone sills. A dentiled cornice of limestone and cream brick runs between the second and third stories; the third story windows are topped with round-arched brick transoms. A band of corbelled cream-colored brick connects the third floor windows, merging with the round arched keystone lintels.

The primary entrance to the building is located at the center of the east elevation, set within a center projecting bay that is topped with a large Flemish gable with tripartite round-arched windows. A flight of concrete steps with a bulky stone balustrade with turned balusters and square newel posts leads to the door, which is set in an elaborate Classical Revival stone entrance surround, with a segmental arched pediment—intricately ornamented with egg-and-dart and dentil moldings—set on heavy scrolled brackets.

At the north end of the east wing is a two-story projecting cross-gabled block with a delicate pressed-copper cupola. This structure houses the monastery's library and double-height chapel space above. Like the rest of the building, the chapel block is set on a rusticated limestone base with red brick walls. All four elevations of the chapel block feature similar fenestration and detailing. At the first story, single window openings flank a single set of paired windows, both with flat keystone limestone arch lintels. At the second story, sets of three round arched windows occupy the center bay; on the south and north elevations of the chapel block, this center window configuration is flanked by single arched windows. Cream colored brick frames the tops of the windows and connects the window openings at the second story. Red brick corbelling decorates the gables on all sides.

Non-historic additions to the building include a one-story multi-car garage extending south from the southeast corner of the building (constructed in 1973), a two-story rectangular addition with hipped roof, connected to the south elevation by a hipped roof connector, and a two-story flat-roofed addition that extends from the west wing (both constructed in 1971). An elevator shaft (constructed in 1971 is also attached to the south elevation, near the southeast corner. All of these additions are simply designed brick structures that do not compete with or detract from the historic building.

### *Interior*

The primary (east) entrance leads into a small vestibule with original mosaic tiled floor. A non-historic security window is located on the north side of the vestibule. A wood door with a transom leads from the vestibule to the center of the first floor, with the open main stair situated directly to the west of the entrance. The stair has metal treads covered with carpet, an open metal balustrade with an offset geometric pattern, and a wood hand rail. A large skylight provides natural light down through the stairwell. From this point, double-loaded corridors extend north along the east wing and west along the south end of the building. The majority of the rooms that open off the corridors are small monastic "cells" that served as living quarters for the Passionist brothers and guests in residence at the monastery. The doorways along the corridors retain the simple historic wood trim and transoms, although the wood has been refinished in a lighter color and many of the transoms have been obscured with wood panels. The doors themselves are a mixture of replacement and original wood doors. A simple wood baseboard also runs the length of the corridors. Concrete structural columns with chamfered bases give a distinctive rhythm to the corridors. The monastic cells feature the same wood baseboards; window openings have wood sills and simple rounded plaster returns. Many of the cells have acoustical tile dropped ceilings.

At the north end of the east wing corridor, a doorway leads to the enclosed staircase connecting the chapel wing to the main building. The first floor of the chapel wing is now the monastery library. Historically, this space served a variety of functions over the past 100 years, but no historic finishes remain in this space. On the second floor of the chapel wing is the double-height monastery chapel, which features large round-arched window openings and wood-paneled wainscoting. The vaulted ceiling is decorated with Classical plaster detailing—pilasters with delicate scrolled brackets form the base from which the vaults spring, and egg-and-dart and dentil details line the ribbed vaulting.

The first floor also houses the monastery's main dining room and kitchen, located in the west wing. The volumes of these spaces are intact, although the ceiling in the dining room is obscured by dropped ceilings.

Passionist Fathers Monastery

Name of Property

Cook Co., IL

County and State

The L-shaped double-loaded corridor plan is repeated on the second and third floors of the building, with small single rooms on both sides. On the third floor, a portion of the space was remodeled in 1969 to serve as the offices of the Holy Cross Province headquarters; the main stair was enclosed at the third floor level for fire safety, and the rooms and corridor at the southwest corner of the building were removed. The north and west ends of that floor retain the original configuration and trim. There are dropped ceilings throughout the majority of the upper floors.

The basement of the building is unfinished and houses the building's mechanical systems. The building also contains a large unfinished attic, which is accessed by the west wing stair.

### *Integrity*

Overall, the building retains good interior and exterior integrity, with no major non-reversible alterations. The original double-hung windows in the building have been replaced with non-historic but compatible aluminum double-hung windows within the original openings. Although the original door at the primary entrance has been replaced with a non-historic metal and glass door, the original opening of the entrance is still readily apparent and the decorative surround remains intact.

Expansion programs through the last half of the twentieth century have resulted in several additions to the original building—a one-story multi-car garage extends south from the southeast corner of the building, a one-and-a-half story brick addition with a side gabled roof is attached to the south elevation of the building by a narrow enclosed walkway, and a large one-story rectangular addition extends from the west elevation. However, these additions do not obscure the original massing of the monastery and do not overwhelm the historic building.

On the interior, the monastery retains its original floor plan, with small single rooms opening off double-loaded corridors. The historic wood trim and detailing along these corridors also remains intact. The three prominent stairs with metal balustrades and wood railings are original to the building. Although the two-story chapel space at the northeast corner of the building was renovated in 1986, the space retains its original volume, fenestration pattern, and classical plaster detailing. The library, dining room, and kitchen retain their historic volumes.

Passionist Fathers Monastery  
Name of Property

Cook Co., IL  
County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1909-1910

**Significant Dates**

1910

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

Joseph Molitor

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance is 1909 to 1910, corresponding to the beginning and end years of construction for the building.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

The property meets Criterion Consideration A for religious properties because it derives its primary significance from its architecture, as a fine and well-preserved example of an early twentieth century monastery with Classical, Baroque, and Romanesque-style detailing designed by noted Chicago architect Joseph Molitor.

Passionist Fathers Monastery

Name of Property

Cook Co., IL

County and State

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Passionist Fathers Monastery at 5700 North Harlem Avenue, designed by Chicago architect Joseph Molitor and completed in 1910, is locally significant under National Register Criterion C for Architecture as a fine example of an early twentieth century monastery with Classical, Baroque, and Romanesque-style detailing, and as one of the largest and most prominent religious structures in the Chicago community of Norwood Park. The overall design and craftsmanship of the monastery is reflected in the intricate stone and brick detailing seen throughout the building. The Classical elements at the base of the building, including the monumental stone entrance surround, rusticated water table and substantial stringcourse, are complimented by the Baroque-style gable above the main entrance and the row of round arched windows that give the impression of an arcade along the third story. These stylistic and architectural features are indicative of the work of Chicago architect Joseph Molitor, who was a prolific designer of ecclesiastical buildings throughout the city.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Passionist Fathers Monastery, designed by Chicago architect Joseph Molitor (1875-1917), is significant as a representation of early-twentieth century religious architecture in Norwood Park. Molitor's design for the building incorporates elements of the Classical Revival, Baroque, and Romanesque architectural styles, all historical revival styles that were popular in the late-nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The prominent projecting entrance bay on the east elevation, topped with a Flemish gable, and the offset projecting chapel block give the building a commanding presence from Harlem Avenue.

The Classical Revival style of architecture, based on the architecture of ancient Greece and Rome, was one of the most widespread styles in the United States during the late 1800s and early 1900s. Prominent architecture schools such as the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Massachusetts taught students how to design complex modern buildings while cloaking them in historic architectural styles, especially Classicism. This academic training came at the same time as a popular revival of interest in Classicism that was fed by the World's Columbian Exposition, held in Chicago's Jackson Park in 1893. This grandly-scaled "White City" of Classical Revival-style exposition buildings and monuments on the city's south lakefront was immensely influential in the popularization of the style both among Chicagoans and throughout the United States. Classical Revival's versatility was adaptable to a wide range of building types and budgets. By the early 1900s, the style was increasingly adapted to a wide variety of buildings types, and was often used for buildings that housed important public and private cultural, economic, social, and religious institutions such as the Passionist Fathers Monastery. Common characteristics of the style include symmetrical facades and classically-derived detailing such as columns, pilasters, pediments, balustrades, and molded cornices. The most prominent Classical Revival feature on the Passionist Fathers Monastery is the primary east entrance, which features a stone balustrade and an elaborate stone surround with a segmental arched pediment—intricately ornamented with egg-and-dart and dentil moldings—set on heavy scrolled brackets. The building's symmetrical massing, flattened keystone window lintels, and molded stringcourses are also significant architectural hallmarks of the Classical Revival Style. The Flemish gable at the top of the east entrance bay is an element of the Baroque architectural traditions that were an essential part of the curriculum of the Ecole des beaux-arts in Paris, the pre-eminent school of architecture in the second half of the 19th century, and are integral to the Beaux-Arts architecture it engendered both in France and abroad.

The multiple round-arched window openings along the top stories of the Passionist Fathers Monastery, along with the heavy brick corbeling, the rusticated stone base of the building, and the cross gabled form and detailing of the chapel block, are hallmarks of the Romanesque Revival style, first popularized in America during the 1880s by architect Henry Hobson Richardson (1838-1886). The style, characterized by heavy rough cut stone walls, round arches and squat columns, deeply recessed window openings and projecting bays and turrets, was enthusiastically embraced in Chicago during the late-nineteenth century for a wide variety of buildings types. Examples range from Louis Sullivan's famed Auditorium Theater the hundreds of grand homes that lined the city's boulevards. Molitor's St. Lawrence Roman Catholic Church, constructed in 1911 at 7148 South Dorchester Street in Chicago, features many of the same Romanesque Revival architectural elements.

Passionist Fathers Monastery

Cook Co., IL

Name of Property

County and State

Because of the size and scale of the monastery, the most relevant architectural comparisons in Norwood Park are institutional buildings, primarily schools and residential group homes.

The **Norwegian Old People's Home** at 6011-6019 N. Wolcott is listed as a contributing structure in the Norwood Park National Register Historic District. It is a three-story tan brick building with Classical and Prairie style detailing. The raised basement is clad in a rusticated brownstone, Windows on the first and third stories are topped by Classical-inspired hoods with prominent keystones. The windows of the three main floors are all one-over-two lights in a Prairie style, and the window hoods are stylized and tie into Prairie-style brick detailing. The entrance is on the northeast end of the elevation, and has a shallow hipped roof supported by square pillars with square brackets. The shallow roof over the building is hipped at the south end and gabled at the north end, and contains four dormers. A 1924 addition was designed by Giaver and Dinkelberg. Large additions constructed in 1951, 1960, and 1975 have partially obscured the historic structures and the building was renovated in 1987.

The **Danish Old People's Home** at 6809 W. Hurlbut Street is listed as a contributing structure in the Norwood Park Historic District. The building was designed by Winslow Associates and was completed in 1926. The two-story brick building is an intact example of Classical Revival architecture, with decorative details such as corner quoining and keystones window lintels. The building's main wing facing Hurlbut Street houses a prominent center portico with paired Classical columns supporting a second-floor balcony. The roof is hipped with projecting dormer windows.

**Norwood Park Hall** at 6044 -6048 N. Avondale is a small two-story building that was constructed in the 1890s and is rated "orange" in the Chicago Historic Resources Survey. The building features groupings of round arched windows with heavy corbeled brick detailing at its second floor, and features a prominent, steeply pitched center cross gable on its primary façade.

**Rufus M. Hitch Public School** at 5625 N. McVicker Avenue was designed by local architect John C. Christensen and completed in 1925. The two-story school building features Classical and Georgian detailing, including symmetrical facades, stone quoining, molded cornices and stringcourses, and a center cupola. The building is rated "orange" in the Chicago Historic Resources Survey.

Within the context of the Norwood Park community, the Passionist Fathers Monastery is not only one of the earliest, but also the largest and most prominent of the area's early twentieth century institutional structures. Completed in 1910, when the area was still largely farmland and interspersed with large suburban homes, the monastery was a destination for Catholics from across the Midwest and a visual landmark within the Norwood Park community.

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#### **Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)**

##### **The Development of Norwood Park**

Norwood Park was first settled by European immigrants in the 1830s. These early settlers used the land for farming, though by 1853 a rail line was installed, allowing residents of Norwood Park to commute into Chicago for work. In 1868 the area east of Harlem Avenue was subdivided into a mixture of curving and straight streets, creating a setting that was intended "to imitate patterns found in nature", following the Picturesque models popularized by Andrew Jackson Downing and Frederick Law Olmstead.<sup>1</sup> Norwood Park incorporated as a village in 1874, and it was annexed to Chicago in 1893.<sup>2</sup>

Since its initial plotting in 1868, Norwood Park has been characterized by the Picturesque design of its streets. The winding layout was chosen by the group of businessmen who created the planned development as a speculative venture. In 1868 they bought 860 acres of farmland and divided it into 94 residential lots, with curving streets that were meant to enhance a sense of connection with nature. According to the National Register nomination for the Norwood Park district, the

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<sup>1</sup> National Register of Historic Places nomination form for Norwood Park Historical District, 2002.

<sup>2</sup> Marilyn Elizabeth Perry, "Norwood Park," *Electronic Encyclopedia of Chicago*, 2005.



Passionist Fathers Monastery

Cook Co., IL

Name of Property

County and State

Picturesque layout was "the height of urban planning in the 1860s," and contrasted with the grid system used throughout Chicago and most American urban centers before that time. Soon after Norwood Park incorporated as a village in 1874, the community took steps to ensure that any new land developed in the suburb would follow the Picturesque model, maintaining the character of the community.

In 2002, an area of Norwood Park was designated a historic district on the National Register of Historic Places. The district is bounded roughly by Harlem Avenue to the west, Nagle Avenue to the east, Bryn Mawr Avenue to the south and Avondale Street to the north. Its period of significance is from 1868, the year the community was developed, to 1952, which was the fifty-year cut-off at the time of nomination. The district is designated under Criterion A for its community planning and development and under Criterion C for its architecture. The Passionist Fathers Monastery is located just outside of the district, adjacent to the western boundary.

As a primarily residential district, much of the architecture of Norwood Park consists of single-family homes in a variety of styles, ranging in period from the late nineteenth century through the mid-twentieth century, with some later construction, particularly 1990s condominiums.<sup>3</sup>

The neighborhood is also home to a number of religious and institutional structures, several of which were included as contributing structures in the Norwood Park Historic District. The Norwegian Old People's Home (1909, extensive rehabilitation in 1987) and the Danish Old People's Home (1906, with subsequent additions) both served the community's elderly; today, both buildings are still extant but have been extensively altered to fit the changing needs of its senior occupants.

The religious architecture in Norwood Park primarily developed during the neighborhood's periods of rapid population growth, which took place in the late nineteenth century, in the 1920s, and in the years after World War II. The first church established in the area was Norwood Park American Reformed Church, a wood-frame building that was built in 1871, but like many of the earliest church buildings in the neighborhood, it is no longer extant. The oldest existing church building in Norwood Park is the Gothic Revival wood frame church at 6072 Nickerson Avenue, which was constructed in 1894-95 for the Norwood Park Methodist Episcopal Congregation. The remaining religious buildings in the community—including Norwood Park Lutheran (1923, Tudor Gothic), the Presbyterian Church of Norwood Park (1929-1930, Georgian Revival) and the Norwood Park Baptist Church (1952)—date primarily from the 1920s or the post-World War II period. The neighborhood is also home to a number of Catholic institutions apart from the Passionist Fathers Monastery and the Immaculate Conception parish, including St. Thecla and St. Tarcissus, which split off from the rapidly growing Immaculate Conception parish in the late 1920s and constructed their own churches. The Sisters of the Resurrection also operate a large educational and medical campus along North Talcott Avenue, including Resurrection High School (1913) and Resurrection Hospital (1953).

The Passionist Fathers Monastery was a natural fit for the Norwood Park neighborhood due to the Passionist congregation's dedication to providing a place of retreat, where laymen could remove themselves from the bustle and noise of the city and rejuvenate their spirits through contemplation in a peaceful, natural environment. This was similar to the goals of the Picturesque movement that had guided Norwood Park's 1868 design. As described in the 2002 National Register nomination for the Norwood Park district: "As a moral movement, the picturesque understood nature to be a manifestation of God that could uplift the soul and nurture a family."

### History of the Passionist Fathers Monastery

The Passionist congregation was formed in the early 1700s by St. Paul of the Cross. Passionists took simple vows and their daily practice included austerities, mortifications, and five hours in choir either chanting the Divine Office or in meditation. They were instructed to lead an austere life with minimal creature comforts and to support themselves by working the land. However, according to the *Catholic Encyclopedia*, the principal means by which Passionists were instructed to foster spiritual welfare among others was by "giving missions and retreats, whether to public congregations in

<sup>3</sup> Marilyn Elizabeth Perry, "Norwood Park," *Electronic Encyclopedia of Chicago*, 2005.

Passionist Fathers Monastery

Cook Co., IL

Name of Property

County and State

towns or country places, or to religious communities, to colleges, seminaries... even to non-Catholics... for the purpose of their conversion." An integral part of this segment of the Passionists' work involved giving meditation or instruction on the Passion of Christ. In addition, they were charged with offering assistance whenever needed to local parishes and diocese.<sup>4</sup>

The first Passionist monastery in the United States was established in Pittsburgh. Between 1863 and 1906, the Passionists in America operated under one province, St. Paul of the Cross Province, in the Pittsburgh headquarters. However, by the early twentieth century, the Passionists had grown large enough and were expanding westward at such a rapid pace that a decision was made to divide the congregation into two separate provinces. The new Holy Cross Province, formed in 1906, was initially headquartered in St. Louis at the Mother of Good Counsel Monastery. At that time, there were twenty brothers among the eighty-nine members of the new province.<sup>5</sup>

In 1903, the Very Rev. Stephen Keeley, C.P., the provincial of the St. Paul of the Cross Passionist Province in Pittsburgh, petitioned the Archdiocese of Chicago for permission to establish a monastery there. As an added enticement, the provincial also offered to staff a parish within the confines of the district in which the proposed monastery would be located.<sup>6</sup> Passionist Father Felix Ward traveled from the Passionist monastery in Louisville, Kentucky to Chicago in search of a suitable piece of land on which to locate a new monastery. The plan for a Chicago monastery was a crucial component of the Passionists' expansion westward across the United States. The city's central location, access to railroads, and rapidly increasing population made it a position of great importance. During his visit, Father Felix located an ideal tract of land on the northwest side of the city, stretching from Harlem Avenue to Odell and from Talcott to Higgins, which was known as the Burnhan farm. Solomon Burnhan's 117 acres supported a thriving horse breeding program, a 1,400-tree orchard with cherry, crab-apple, and apple specimens, and a vineyard and included a house, two barns, and several outbuildings. The Passionists purchased fifty-four acres of the property, including the house and orchards, from Burnhan's estate for \$20,000.<sup>7</sup>

In 1904, the existing house on the property was enlarged to serve as a Passionist retreat. As part of the agreement with the Archdiocese, a small frame church was also constructed on the north side of the property, facing onto Talcott Avenue, to serve the newly created Immaculate Conception Parish, which encompassed portions of Norwood Park, Edison Park, Park Ridge, Niles, and part of Jefferson Township (the house and church were demolished in 1937).<sup>8</sup> Going forward, the Passionists would directly assist in the development of many additional parishes throughout Chicago's northwest side.<sup>9</sup>

Although it was the intention of the fathers to build a monastery from the time of the purchase of the property, it was the division of the provinces and Chicago's ideal position for being the base of the western province that made a new monastery in Chicago a necessity. Provincial Father Charles Lang, C.P., began making plans for the construction of a large new monastery in Chicago that would also serve as the headquarters for the Holy Cross Province. The Passionists hired Chicago architect Joseph Molitor to design the new building – a large, handsome brick structure, to serve as the centerpiece of the Passionists' property on Harlem Avenue. Molitor had a brief but very productive career designing churches and other religious buildings primarily for the Chicago Archdiocese during the early decades of the twentieth century. Molitor was born in Austrian Bohemia in 1875 and immigrated to the United States in 1884. Like many, he arrived in Chicago during the height of the World's Columbian Exposition—in 1894, he was listed in the Chicago City Directory as a draftsman, but by 1895 was working as an architect with offices at 97 Washington. During the late 1890s Molitor joined with another architect, Charles W. Kallal (who would later go on to serve as city architect in the 1910s), on a variety of small projects, but during the early 1900s he established an independent practice specializing in ecclesiastical architecture, particularly Roman Catholic churches and monasteries.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Catholic Encyclopedia: Passionists, <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/11521d.htm>, accessed November 22, 2011.

<sup>5</sup> *A History of the Parishes of the Archdiocese of Chicago*, p. 1047.

<sup>6</sup> *A History of the Parishes of the Archdiocese of Chicago*, p. 1045

<sup>7</sup> "History of Catholic Life in Norwood Park," History prepared by Deacon Mike McCloskey of Norwood Park (August 26, 1990) for the Norwood Park Historical Society. Catholic Church, and Harry C. Koenig. *A History of the Parishes of the Archdiocese of Chicago: Published in Observance of Centenary of the Archdiocese, Chicago, Ill: (The Archdiocese, 1980)*, p. 1045.

<sup>8</sup> *A History of the Parishes of the Archdiocese of Chicago*, p. 1046-1047.

<sup>9</sup> Susan J. Kroll, "The Passionist Congregation: Its Influence on Chicago (1904 to the Present)" *Journal of the Norwood Park Historical Society* (Winter and Spring 1991). Typed copy of article on file at the Norwood Park Historical Society.

<sup>10</sup> Index to American Contractor's Chicago Building Permit Column, 1898-1912, <http://www.chsmedia.org/househistory/1898-1912permits/search.asp>, accessed January 27, 2012.

Passionist Fathers Monastery

Name of Property

Cook Co., IL

County and State

The Passionist Fathers Monastery at 5700 North Harlem was Molitor's first known commission for a monastery in the city. Construction began in 1908, and the building was dedicated on June 12, 1910 by Archbishop James Edward Quigley in front of a crowd of over 5,000 people.<sup>11</sup> The Holy Cross Province headquarters transferred to Chicago that same year, and were based out of the new monastery for the next 101 years. Molitor used the same basic elements that had become standard in his churches—red brick walls, limestone and white brick detailing, and classical and baroque ornamentation—in his design for the Passionist monastery. The main entrance bay with Baroque gable and monumental stone entrance surround, together with the offset projecting mass of the chapel block, give the east side of the building a commanding presence from Harlem Avenue. The rusticated stone water table grounds the building on all sides, while the row of round arched windows with corbeled white brick detailing differentiates the third story and draws the eye up the building. When it was originally completed in 1910, the building was one of the largest structures in Norwood Park and served as a distinctive landmark along Harlem Avenue. The design for the Passionists was so well received that Molitor borrowed heavily from it when he constructed the convent for the Lithuanian Sisters of St. Casemel in the Marquette Park neighborhood. The convent is a three-story rectangular brick building with hipped dormers and features a projecting portico and limestone entrance surround, arched windows at the third story and a center copper cupola. However, the building lacks many of the carefully crafted detailing that is evident on the Passionist monastery, and the historic convent is partially obscured by a large four-story addition that takes up most of the once open site.<sup>12</sup>

The building that was built at 5700 North Harlem reflected the Passionists' broad and multi-faceted mission. According to records in the Passionist archives, the building was the first Passionist monastery to be designed with rooms devoted specifically to laymen retreats. A brochure published at the time of the monastery's construction outlined the importance of the new building and the role that the building and its inhabitants would play within the Catholic community of Chicago and in the larger Passionist community, saying:

*The monastery throws open its doors to all who wish to fly from their work or business and spend a few days in the invigorating atmosphere of cloistral seclusion. This has been made a special feature of the new building at Norwood Park. A number of apartments on the first floor have been especially arranged and exclusively set aside for the accommodation of gentlemen who wish to spend their times a few days in this Spiritual Eden. To obtain a singular, but priceless boon, the new building is purposefully located in the northwestern section of Chicago, practically in the country and yet a stone's throw away from the business center of the city, so that priests, lawyers, judges, men of every avocation in life may be able...to take a few days rest and spiritual vacation, soothe their weary nerves by inhaling the pure air in the surrounding gardens and meadows, and then...return light-hearted and encouraged to resume their arduous task and wage anew the battle of life.*<sup>13</sup>

In addition to serving as a retreat for Passionist laymen, the new facility in Norwood Park also served as a seminary for students and theologians who were in the process of becoming Passionist monks. The legal name for the congregation in Norwood Park, the Passionist Academic Institute, reflected the monastery's importance as an educational center. The monastery at 5700 North Harlem Avenue served this role until 1967 when the seminary was relocated to the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago's Hyde Park community.<sup>14</sup>

As promised, the Passionists at the monastery took on a central role in the creation and early development of the Immaculate Conception parish, although their role was diminished as the parish gained in numbers and expanded its physical presence in the community after 1925. In its early years, the parish held services in the monastery's chapel wing so that the small frame church on the property could be converted into a one-room parish school. By 1923, the school alone had enrolled 174 pupils, and the parish began plans for a new school building. To facilitate this expansion, the Passionist Academic Institute sold the small church building, the remodeled Burnhan house (which served as a community space for the parish, known as St. Gabriel's Club House), and the surrounding two acres fronting on Talcott Avenue to the

<sup>11</sup> Ibid.

<sup>12</sup> "Mother House to Be Built by Lithuanian Sisters," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 19 September 1909, A5.

<sup>13</sup> Mayworm, Susan. *A History of the Passionist Community at Immaculate Conception Monastery*, 1985. Passionist archives, Box 574.

<sup>14</sup> Ibid.

"Rising Priest Shortage in Chicago Seen," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 20 April 1969.

Passionist Fathers Monastery

Cook Co., IL

Name of Property

County and State

Archdiocese of Chicago. After this point, the monastery and the Immaculate Conception church and school operated separately, although the Passionists continued to provide priests for the parish. The new brick school building was completed in 1924, and the frame church building resumed its function for parish services.<sup>15</sup>

In addition to Immaculate Conception, the Passionists at the Norwood Park monastery assisted in the creation and development of several other parishes on the northwest side of Chicago and near-north suburbs, including St. Paul of the Cross parish in nearby Park Ridge, St. Juliana in Edison Park, St. Edward, Maternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and Our Lady of Mercy.

By the late 1920s, the forty members of the Passionist congregation in Norwood Park were struggling to maintain the sprawling fifty-four-acre tract of land that they had purchased in 1903. Even with the expansive gardens, orchards, and recreational facilities that had been developed around the monastery itself, over half of the property wasn't utilized. The post-World War I boom that had doubled Chicago's population had also increased residential development throughout the city, and the Passionists decided to sell a thirty-seven-acre portion of their property for subdivision in order to pay off Provincial debts. New homes were erected throughout the 1920s and 1930s to the south and west of the monastery remaining grounds.<sup>16</sup> Additional lots along the south side of the property were condemned in the 1950s as part of the construction of the Eisenhower Expressway.<sup>17</sup>

At its height in the early 1960s, the monastery housed sixty-one Passionists, including twenty-five seminarians. Many of the priests were involved in missionary work across the country, establishing new foundations in California, Texas, Alabama, and other states, as well as in China, Japan, the Philippines, India, and Jamaica.<sup>18</sup> The Immaculate Conception parish also thrived in the post-World War II period "as German, Italian, and Polish families moved into new houses that were being constructed in Norwood Park." The parish added classrooms and teachers quarters to the school during the 1940s and 1950s, and by the late 1950s plans were made for a new church. The Passionists sold the parcel of land at the corner of Talcott and Harlem Avenue, directly adjacent to the monastery, to the Archdiocese in 1961, and the new modern church building was dedicated in 1963.<sup>19</sup>

After the seminary and theologate were moved to other locations, the Passionist monastery shifted to serve members at the end of their life's journey. In 1971, an addition known as Daneo Hall was constructed on the west end of the monastery that was equipped to provide accessible accommodations and medical care to elderly and infirm members. The monastery continued to serve as the Provincial Headquarters for the Holy Cross Province, and the third floor of the monastery was converted into modern office spaces in 1969.

By 1985, the number of monastery residents had dwindled to twenty-eight priests and brothers in the Provincial office and monastery and nine Passionists housed in Daneo Hall. In 1986, the second floor monastic chapel was renovated to reflect the new Rule of Life that was formally approved by Pope John Paul II in 1983. The renovations removed the elaborate altar from the space and simplified the furnishings to make the chapel more conducive to prayer and meditation, but the renovation retained the volume of the space and the Classical plaster detailing and ceiling was left in place.

The building at 5700 North Harlem Avenue served as a Passionist monastery through 2011, but by the early 2000s less than a dozen priests and brothers were in residence. Faced with rising operating costs for a nearly vacant building, the Passionists made the decision in 2007 to put the building up for sale and relocate the remaining missionaries and staff to more appropriate locations in the area. The building is currently vacant.

### **Joseph Molitor (1875-1917) and Chicago's Catholic Architecture**

<sup>15</sup> History from the Dedication of the Immaculate Conception Church May 26, 1963 – Passionist archives, Box 686.

<sup>16</sup> "Passionist Fathers Sell 37-Acre Tract," Chicago Daily Tribune, 14 August 1927. Deeds and other materials from the Passionist archives.

<sup>17</sup> Various land records from the Passionist Archives.

<sup>19</sup> *A History of the Parishes of the Archdiocese of Chicago*, p.427-428.

Passionist Fathers Monastery

Cook Co., IL

Name of Property

County and State

The Passionist Fathers Monastery was designed by Chicago architect Joseph Molitor, who had a brief but very productive career designing churches and other religious buildings primarily for the Chicago Archdiocese during the early decades of the twentieth century. Molitor was born in Austrian Bohemia in 1875 and immigrated to the United States in 1884. Like many, he arrived in Chicago during the height of the World's Columbian Exposition—in 1894, he was listed in the Chicago City Directory as a draftsman, but by 1895 was working as an architect with offices at 97 Washington. During the late 1890s Molitor joined with another architect, Charles W. Kallal (who would later go on to serve as city architect in the 1910s), on a variety of small projects, but during the early 1900s he established an independent practice specializing in ecclesiastical architecture, particularly Roman Catholic churches and monasteries.<sup>20</sup>

Molitor designed over a dozen buildings—primarily parish churches—for the Catholic Bishop of Chicago between 1900 and 1911. In addition, he was commissioned to build churches for individual parishes including St. Vitus Roman Catholic Church, St. Lawrence Roman Catholic Church, St. Bonaventure Catholic Church, and St. Michael's Bohemian Roman Catholic Church, and erected monasteries and convents for Catholic religious orders and congregations including the Servite Fathers, the St. Casimer Sisters, and the Passionist Fathers. Molitor designed primarily in a variety of classically-influenced styles, including Renaissance Revival, Baroque, and Classical Revival. Some of his later buildings also displayed Romanesque revival elements. A majority of Molitor's buildings, particularly his early churches, were constructed specifically to serve Chicago's Bohemian and Slavik communities on south side of the city where Chicago's Czech population congregated in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Molitor himself lived in Pilsen, the city's largest and most vibrant working class Czech neighborhood, during his first years in Chicago; the connections he made in Pilsen served him well in his career as an architect. St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church (1900) at 4821 South Damen Street, Our Lady of God Council (1901) at 916 North Western Avenue, St. Vitus Church at 1818 South Paulina Street (1903), St. Joseph's Church at 730 West 17<sup>th</sup> Place (1906), and St. Cyril and Methodius Church (1911) at 5001 South Hermitage Avenue were all national churches constructed by the Chicago Archdiocese specifically to serve the city's Bohemian congregations.<sup>21</sup>

A good number of Molitor's church buildings survive in neighborhoods across Chicago, although most are closed or no longer serve the parishes or congregations that built them. A trio of church buildings constructed in the Back of the Yards neighborhood on the south side of the city provides a nice overview of Molitor's work. The Renaissance Revival-style St. Cyril and Methodius Roman Catholic Church (1913) at 5001 South Hermitage features a symmetrical façade in blond brick with limestone detailing. Four Corinthian columns set on a monumental limestone base support a simple entablature that is surmounted by prominent pediment. Large arched windows are set between the columns, and the center entrance is framed by a pedimented surround. St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church (1914) at 1729 West 48<sup>th</sup> Street is more typical of Molitor's large church commissions, with twin Baroque towers connected by a monumental center entrance bay with a large rose window above an arcaded entrance. The entire building, rendered in red brick, is elaborately detailed with contrasting white brick and limestone ornamentation; round arched windows with tracery and stained glass line the nave. Rose windows and elaborate limestone detailing also decorate the ends of the transept. The crossing is marked with a delicate copper bell tower that closely mimics the bell tower on the choir wing of the Passionist Fathers Monastery. Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church (1913-15) at 1736 West 46<sup>th</sup> Street, which was constructed for to serve the neighborhood's Lithuanian Catholics, is perhaps Molitor's most ornate church building in the city. The façade is anchored by twin Baroque bell towers with copper cupolas round arched windows with heavy limestone tracery and limestone balconies. The entrance is housed under a classical limestone portico with fluted ionic columns supporting an entablature with a dentiled cornice and recessed pediment. Above the portico, limestone niches hold sculptures of saints George and Isidore, with a statue of the Virgin Mary at the top of the centered Baroque-style gable.<sup>22</sup>

In contrast to his churches, Molitor designed relatively few buildings for Catholic religious orders in Chicago, and these buildings tended to be more restrained in their architectural detailing. The Passionist Fathers Monastery at 5700 North Harlem was the architect's first known commission for a monastery in the city. Molitor used the same basic elements that had become standard in his churches—red brick walls, limestone and white brick detailing, and classical and baroque

<sup>20</sup> Index to American Contractor's Chicago Building Permit Column, 1898-1912, <http://www.chsmedia.org/househistory/1898-1912permits/search.asp>, accessed January 27, 2012.

<sup>21</sup> Alice Sinkevitch, *AIA Guide to Chicago* (Harcourt Press, Orlando) 2004.

<sup>22</sup> *Ibid.*

Passionist Fathers Monastery

Name of Property

Cook Co., IL

County and State

ornamentation—in his design for the Passionist monastery. The main entrance bay with Baroque gable and monumental stone entrance surround, together with the offset projecting mass of the chapel block, give the east side of the building a commanding presence from Harlem Avenue. The rusticated stone water table grounds the building on all sides, while the row of round arched windows with corbeled white brick detailing differentiates the third story and draws the eye up the building. When it was originally completed in 1910, the building was one of the largest structures in Norwood Park and served as a distinctive landmark along Harlem Avenue. The design for the Passionists was so well received that Molitor borrowed heavily from it when he constructed the convent for the Lithuanian Sisters of St. Casemel in the Marquette Park neighborhood. The convent is a three-story rectangular brick building with hipped dormers and features a projecting portico and limestone entrance surround, arched windows at the third story and a center copper cupola. However, the building lacks many of the carefully crafted detailing that is evident on the Passionist monastery, and the historic convent is partially obscured by a large four-story addition that takes up most of the once open site.<sup>23</sup>

The only other monastery in Chicago that Molitor is credited with designing was constructed in 1910 for the Servite Fathers at 3119-3139 West Jackson Boulevard. The monastery was constructed as an addition to the massive Our Lady of Sorrows, which was completed in 1902 and made a basilica by Pope Pius XII in 1956. The three story blond-brick monastery building was an even more simplified version of Molitor's design for the Passionist Fathers Monastery, with a bulky limestone portico forming the building's main ornamentation. A simple dentiled cornice runs the length of the building, and the window openings feature simple limestone keystones.

The building at 5700 North Harlem Avenue served as a Passionist monastery through 2011, but by the early 2000s less than a dozen priests and brothers were in residence. Faced with rising operating costs for a nearly vacant building, the Passionists made the decision in 2007 to put the building up for sale and relocate the remaining missionaries and staff to more appropriate locations in the area. The building is currently vacant.

<sup>23</sup> "Mother House to Be Built by Lithuanian Sisters," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 19 September 1909, A5.

Passionist Fathers Monastery  
Name of Property

Cook Co., IL  
County and State

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Catholic Church, and Harry C. Koenig. *A History of the Parishes of the Archdiocese of Chicago: Published in Observance of Centenary of the Archdiocese, Chicago, Ill: The Archdiocese, 1980.*

Chicago Historic Resources Survey, Survey form for 5700 North Harlem Avenue dated December 13, 1985.

City of Chicago Building Permits.

Cook County Recorder of Deeds, Warranty Deed between the Passionist Academic Institute and The Catholic Bishop of Chicago, dated 13 October 1960.

"History of Catholic Life in Norwood Park," History prepared by Deacon Mike McCloskey of Norwood Park (August 26, 1990) for the Norwood Park Historical Society.

Index to American Contractor's Chicago Building Permit Column, 1898-1912, <http://www.chsmedia.org/househistory/1898-1912permits/search.asp>, accessed January 27, 2012.

Kroll, Susan J. "The Passionist Congregation: Its Influence on Chicago (1904 to the Present)" *Journal of the Norwood Park Historical Society* (Winter and Spring 1991). Typed copy of article on file at the Norwood Park Historical Society.

Mayworm, Susan. *A History of the Passionist Community at Immaculate Conception Monastery*, 1985. Passionist archives, Box 574.

"Mother House to Be Built by Lithuanian Sisters," *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 19 September 1909, A5.

Norwood Park Historical Society archives, various materials.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps.

Sinkevitch, Alice. *AIA Guide to Chicago*. Harcourt Press: Orlando, FL, 2004.

Perry, Marilyn Elizabeth "Norwood Park," *Electronic Encyclopedia of Chicago*, 2005.

### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

### Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository: Norwood Park Historical Society  
Chicago, IL

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property** Appx. 4.3 acres  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

Passionist Fathers Monastery  
Name of Property

Cook Co., IL  
County and State

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

SEE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION FOR LATITUDE/LONGITUDE COORDINATES ON LOCATIONAL MAPS

1	<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>	3	<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>	4	<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary of the property encompasses the entire parcel of land that is currently associated with the Passionist Monastery building.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary encompasses the entire parcel of land that is currently associated with the Passionist Fathers Monastery building and is under single ownership. Adjacent parcels are under separate ownership.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title Emily Ramsey  
organization MacRostie Historic Advisors LLC date August 24, 2012  
street & number 53 West Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1323 telephone 312-786-1700  
city or town Chicago state IL zip code 60604  
e-mail eramsey@mac-ha.com

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**Additional Documentation**

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)



Passionist Fathers Monastery

Name of Property

Cook Co., IL

County and State

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**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Passionist Fathers Monastery

City or Vicinity: Chicago

County: Cook County State: Illinois

Photographer: Emily Ramsey  
MacRostie Historic Advisors  
53 W. Jackson Blvd. Suite 1323  
Chicago, IL 60604

Date Photographed: September 2011, December 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1 of 20: Looking northwest toward the east elevation
- 2 of 20: Looking southeast toward the east elevation
- 3 of 20: Detail of entrance on the east elevation
- 4 of 20: Looking northwest toward the south and east elevations
- 5 of 20: Looking northeast toward the south elevation
- 6 of 20: Looking northeast toward the west elevation
- 7 of 20: Looking southeast toward the west elevation
- 8 of 20: Looking southeast toward the north and west elevations
- 9 of 20: Looking southwest toward the north elevation
- 10 of 20: Looking southeast toward the chapel wing
- 11 of 20: Looking southwest toward the chapel wing
- 12 of 20: Looking north, showing monastery and 1963 church
- 13 of 20: Looking southwest, showing connection between monastery and 1963 church
- 14 of 20: Connector between monastery and church, east side
- 15 of 20: Connector between monastery and church, west side
- 16 of 20: Detail of floor in the entrance vestibule
- 17 of 20: Looking west along the south end corridor on the first floor
- 18 of 20: Looking southeast up the main stair from the first floor
- 19 of 20: Looking north along the east end corridor on the first floor
- 20 of 20: Looking north in the monastery chapel

Passionist Fathers Monastery  
Name of Property

Cook Co., IL  
County and State

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**Property Owner:**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Passionists of Holy Cross Province  
street & number 1420 Renaissance Drive, Suite 312 telephone 773.631.6336  
city or town Park Ridge state IL zip code 60068

**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.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Passionist Fathers Monastery  
Name of Property

Cook Co., IL  
County and State



FIGURE 1: Historic postcard showing Passionist Fathers Monastery, circa 1910

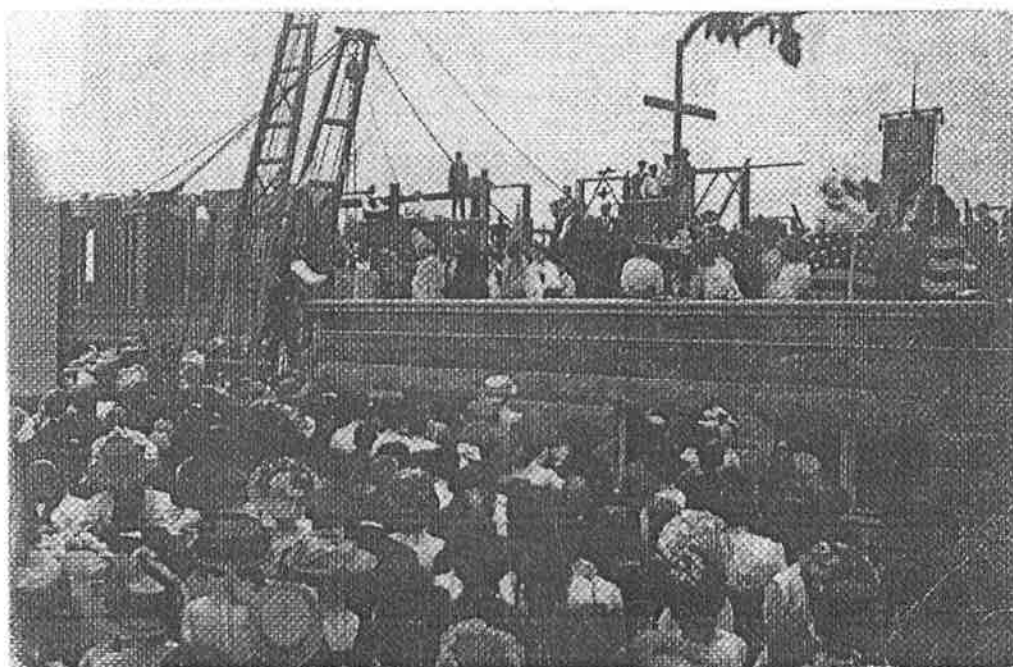


FIGURE 2: Dedication and laying of the cornerstone of the Passionist Fathers Monastery in 1909

Passionist Fathers Monastery  
Name of Property

Cook Co., IL  
County and State

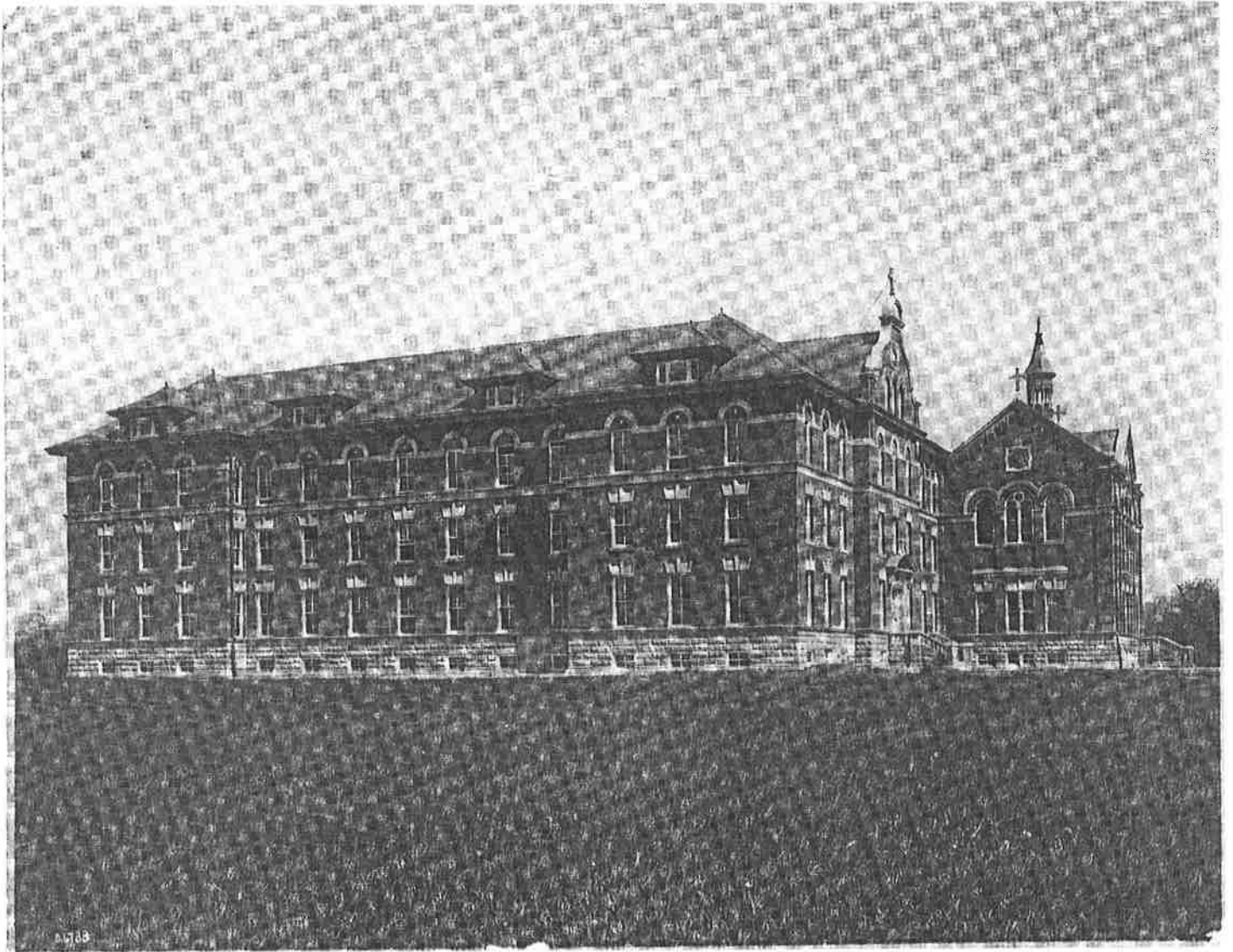


FIGURE 3: Passionist Fathers Monastery at completion in 1910

Passionist Fathers Monastery  
Name of Property

Cook Co., IL  
County and State



FIGURE 4: Photograph of participants in Laymen's Retreat at front entrance to monastery, May 1919

Passionist Fathers Monastery  
Name of Property

Cook Co., IL  
County and State

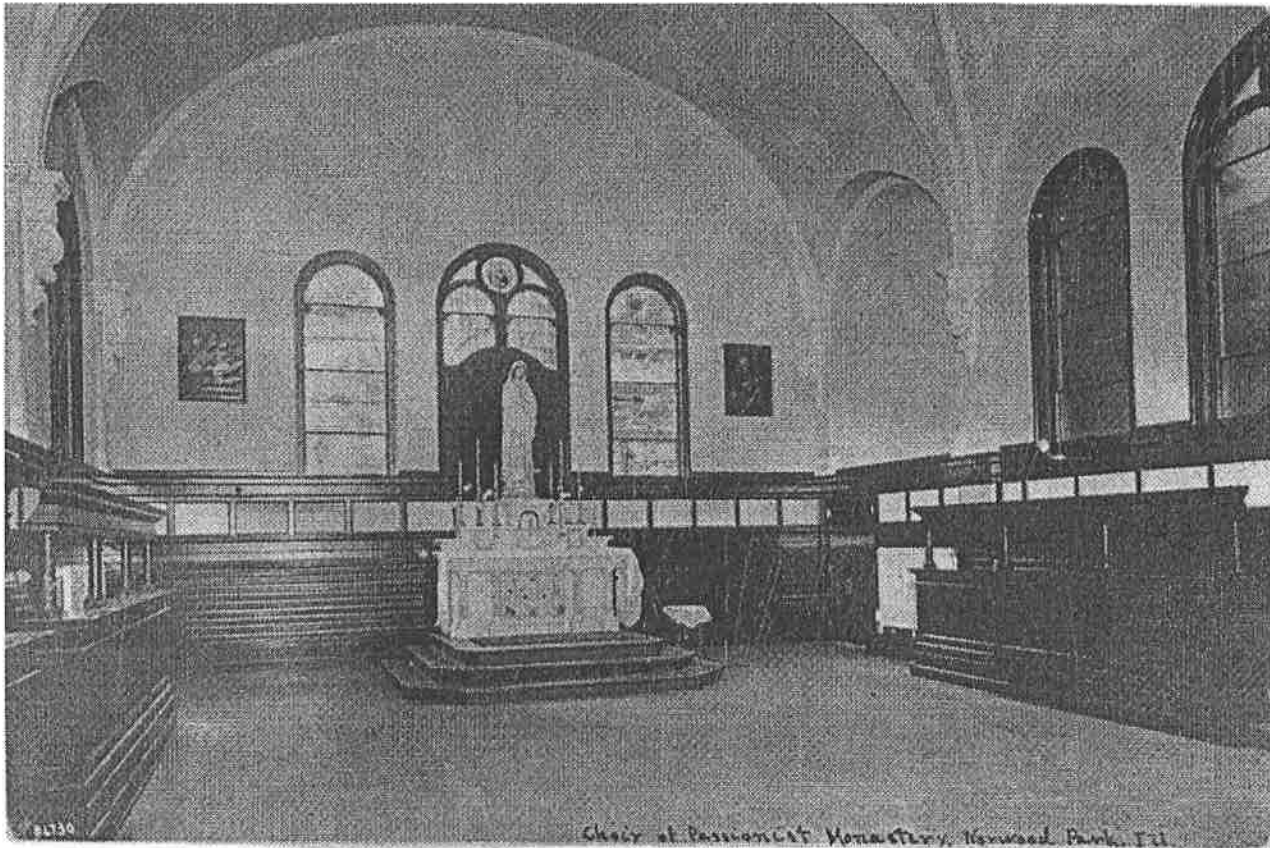


FIGURE 5: Interior view of second floor chapel circa 1920

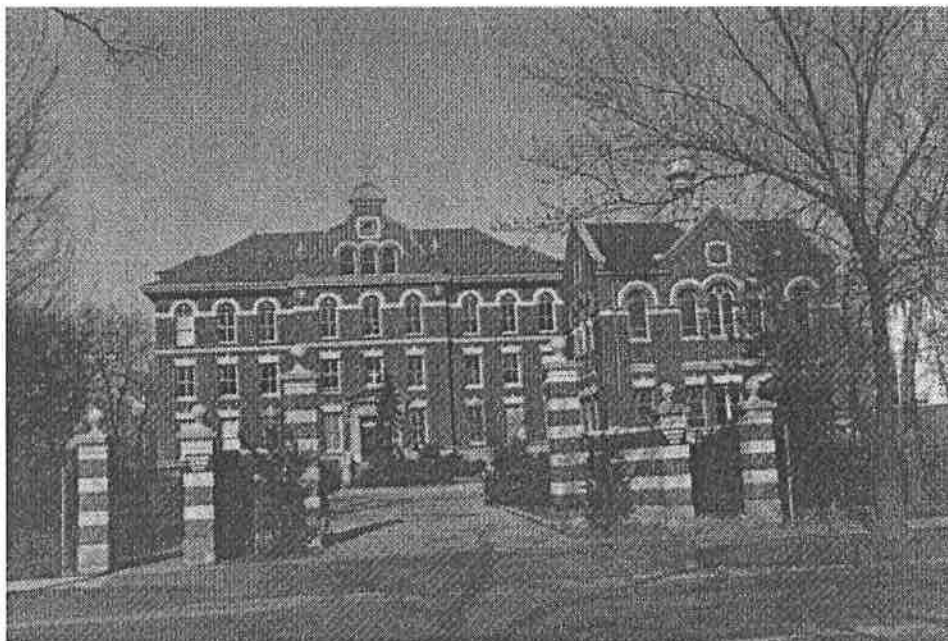


FIGURE 6: View of monastery from Harlem Avenue in 1965

Passionist Fathers Monastery  
Name of Property

Cook Co., IL  
County and State

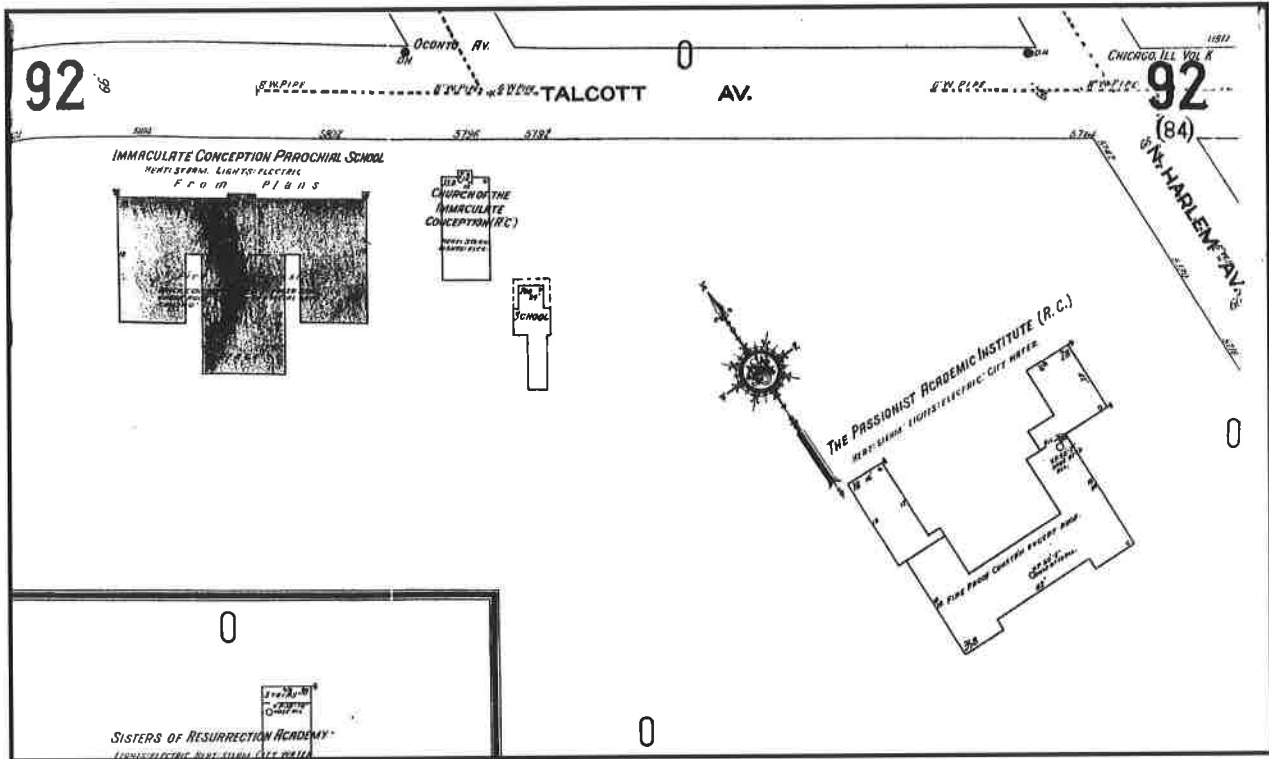
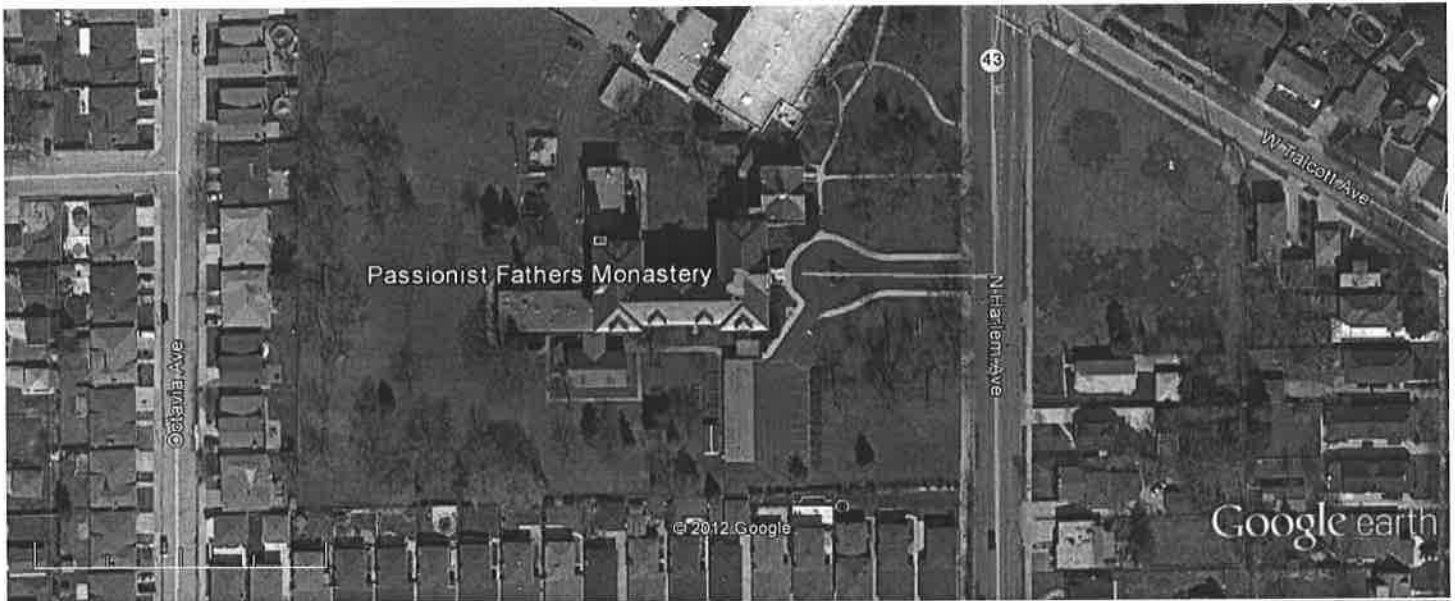


FIGURE 7: 1924 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map showing monastery at right



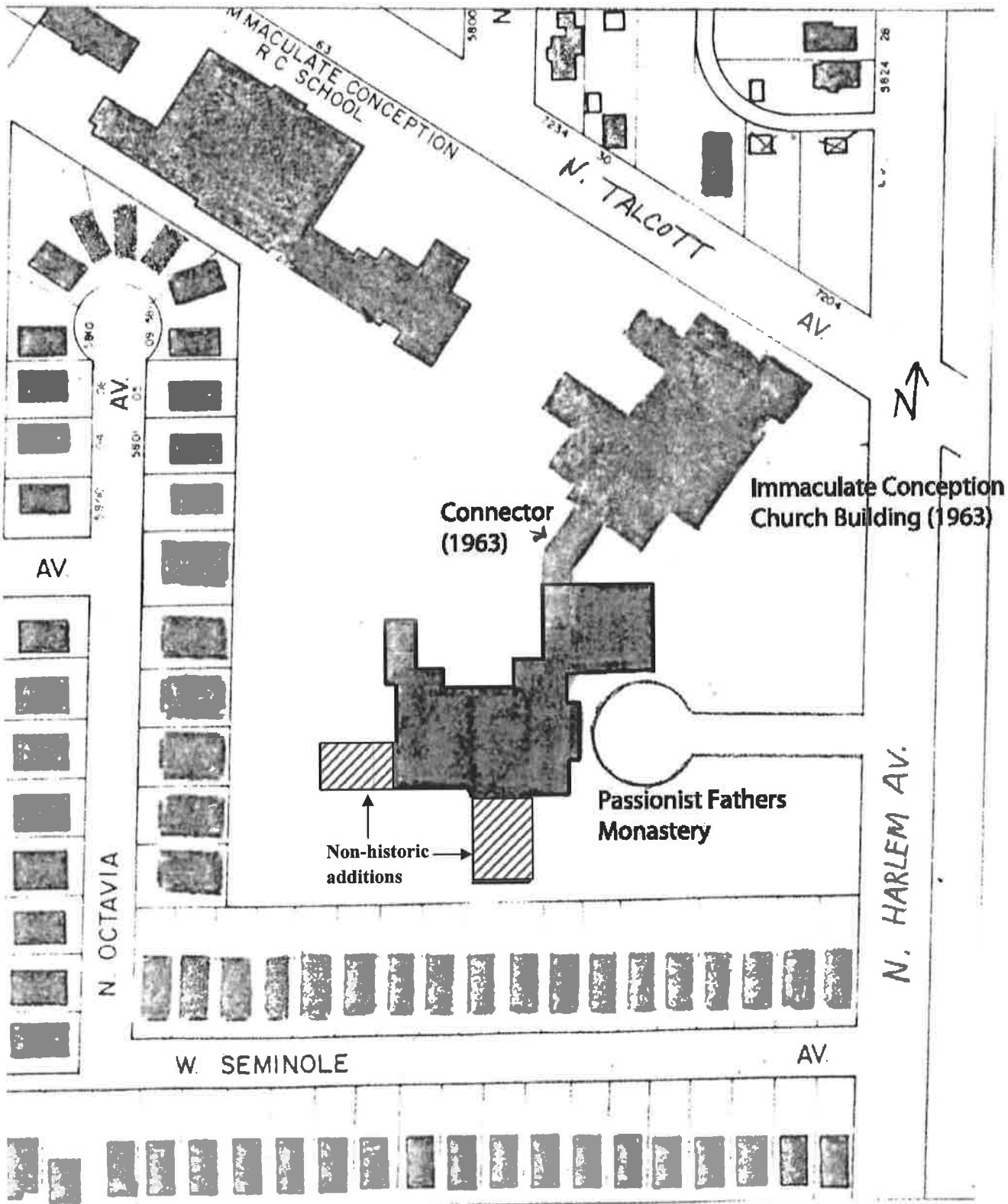
**Passionist Fathers Monastery**  
Passionist Fathers Monastery 5700 North Harlem Avenue, Chicago, Cook Co., IL  
Coordinates 41.985020° -87.807807°





Google earth



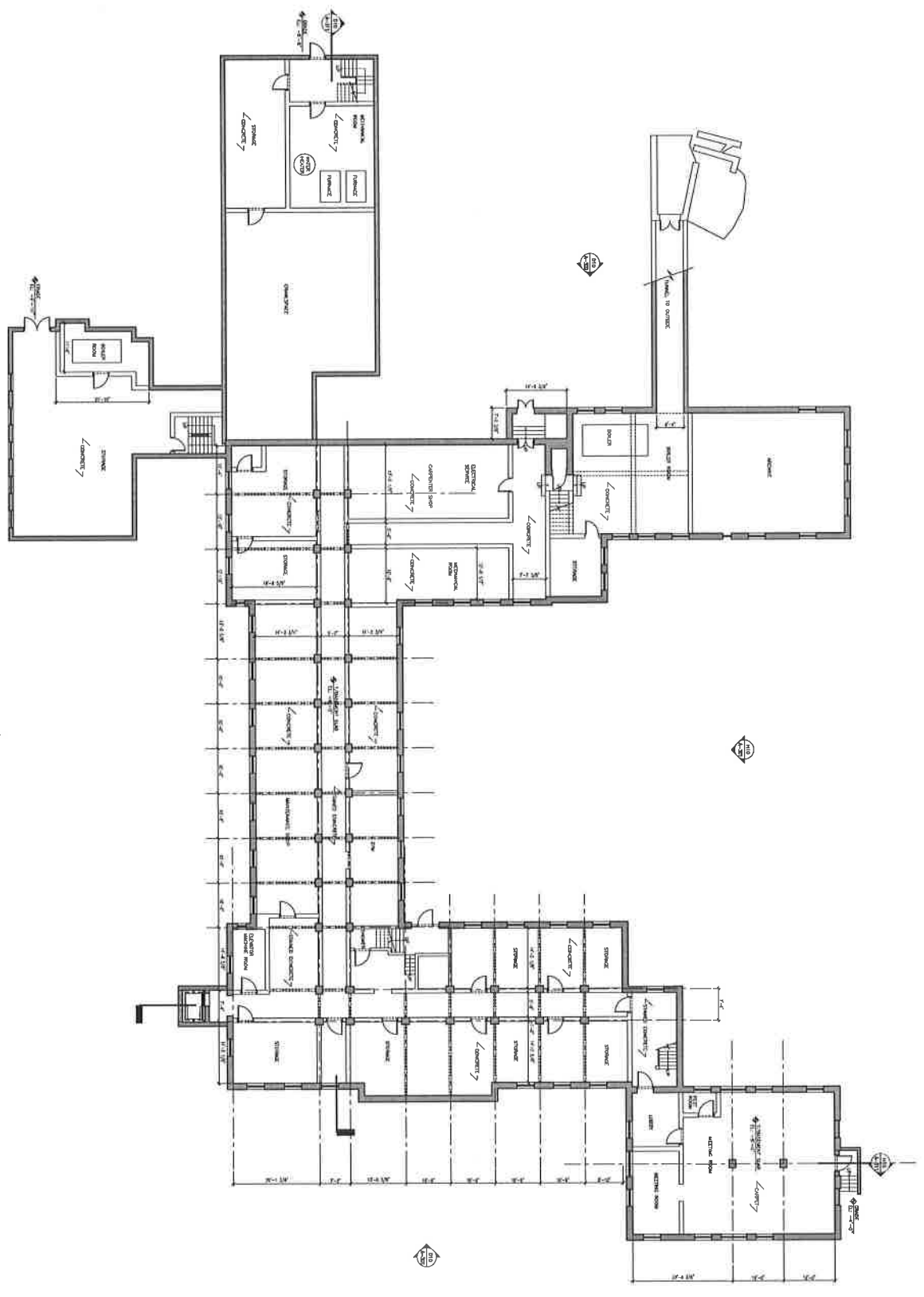


Site Plan for Passionist Fathers Monastery, 5700 N. Harlem Avenue

Chicago Cook Co, IL

*Floor Plan Passionist Fathers Monastery Cook Co, IL*

H10 BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN



<p><b>BUILT FORM</b> ARCHITECTURE</p>		<p>DATE: _____</p>
<p>Passionist Monastery Existing Basement Floor Plan PROJECT NO. 10-117 NOV. 02 15:20:10</p>		<p>SCALE: _____</p>
<p>A-200</p>		<p>DATE: _____</p>

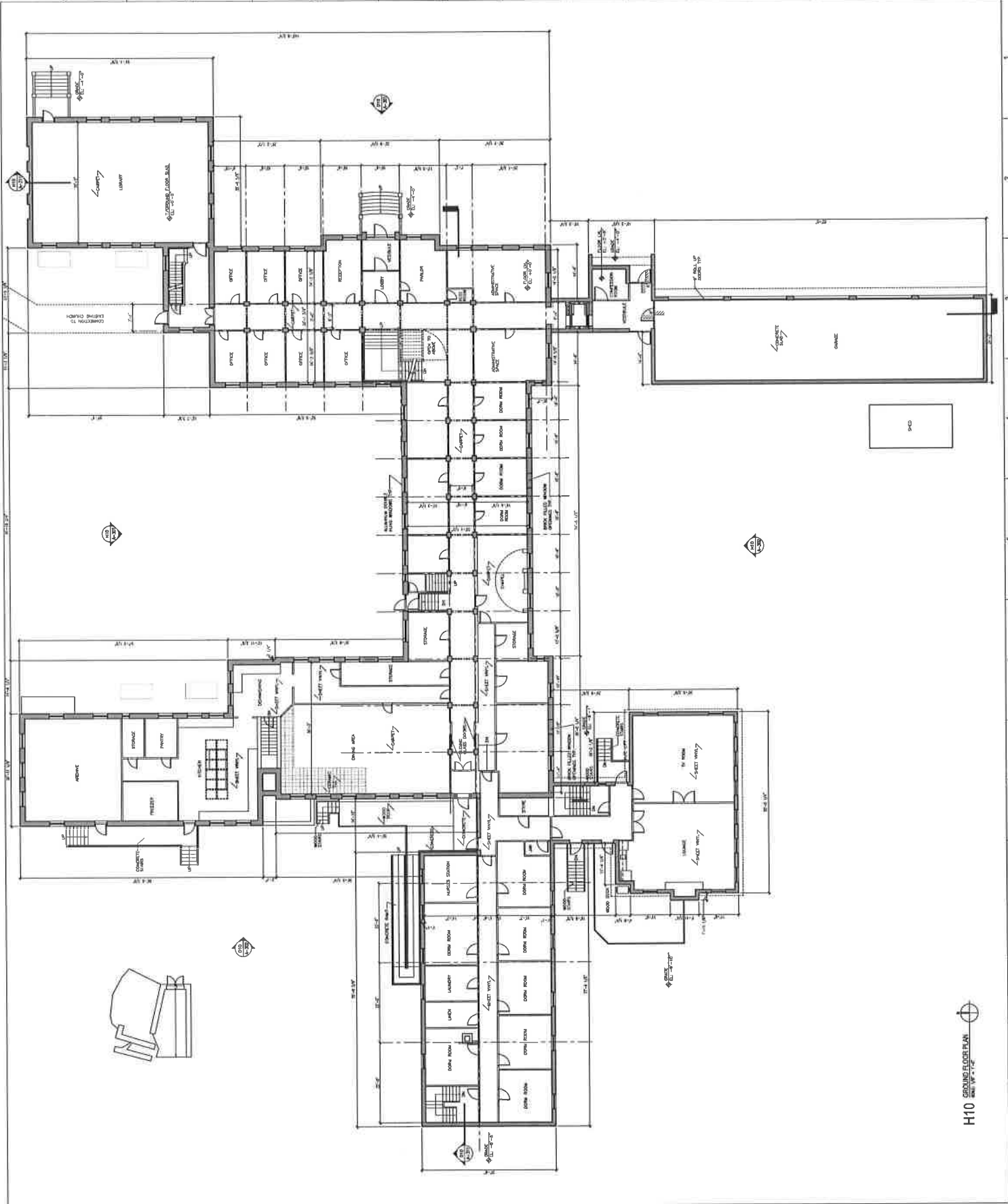
**NOTES:**  
 1. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN FEET AND INCHES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.  
 2. ALL WALLS ARE 12" THICK UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.  
 3. ALL DOORS ARE 36" WIDE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.  
 4. ALL WINDOWS ARE 60" WIDE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.  
 5. ALL FLOORS ARE 4" THICK UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.  
 6. ALL CEILING ARE 8' HIGH UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.  
 7. ALL STAIRS ARE 36" WIDE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.  
 8. ALL ELEVATORS ARE 36" WIDE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.  
 9. ALL RECEPTION AREAS ARE 12' X 12' UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.  
 10. ALL OFFICES ARE 12' X 12' UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.  
 11. ALL CONFERENCE ROOMS ARE 12' X 12' UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.  
 12. ALL STORAGE AREAS ARE 12' X 12' UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.  
 13. ALL RESTROOMS ARE 6' X 8' UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.  
 14. ALL BREAK ROOMS ARE 12' X 12' UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.  
 15. ALL Lobbies ARE 12' X 12' UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.  
 16. ALL LOBBY AREAS ARE 12' X 12' UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.  
 17. ALL LOBBY AREAS ARE 12' X 12' UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.  
 18. ALL LOBBY AREAS ARE 12' X 12' UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.  
 19. ALL LOBBY AREAS ARE 12' X 12' UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.  
 20. ALL LOBBY AREAS ARE 12' X 12' UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

NO.	REVISION	DATE

**BUILT FORM ARCHITECTURE**  
 100 N. LAUREL ST. CHICAGO, IL 60602  
 TEL: (773) 784-1111  
 WWW.BUILTFORM.COM

**Passionist Monastery**  
 Existing  
 Ground Floor Plan  
 PROJECT: 10-117  
 DATE: 02-15-2010

**A-201**



Floor Plan Passionist Fathers Monastery Cook CO, IL

H10 GROUND FLOOR PLAN

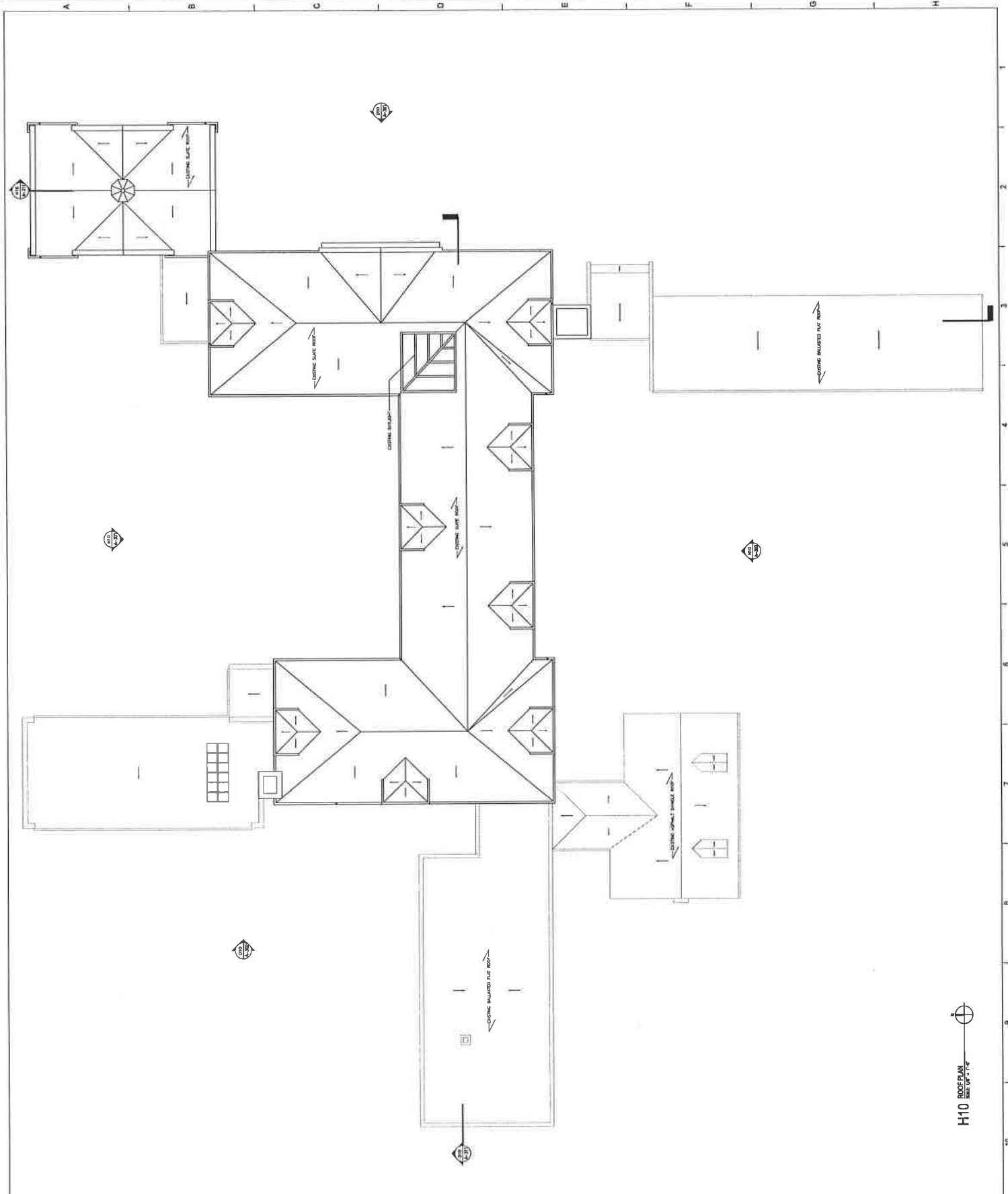
GENERAL NOTES:  
 1. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY PERMITS AND APPROVALS FROM THE LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY PERMITS AND APPROVALS FROM THE LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY PERMITS AND APPROVALS FROM THE LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES.

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION

**BUILT FORM**  
 ARCHITECTURE  
 1000 N. MAIN ST.  
 CHICAGO, ILL. 60642

PROJECT: **Passionist Monastery**  
 ARCHITECT: **Passionist Monastery**  
 DATE: 10/17/10  
 DRAWING TITLE: **Roof Plan**  
 SHEET NO.: **00-117**  
 DATE: 10.15.2010  
**A-205**



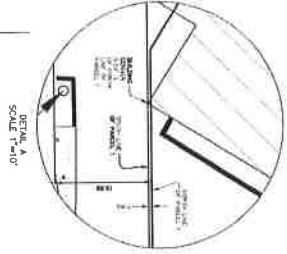
H10 ROOF PLAN  
 SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

Roof Plan, Passionist Fathers Monastery - Cook Co, IL

*Passionist Fathers Ministry  
Cook Co, IL*



ALTA/ACSM LAND TITLE SURVEY



LINE	LENGTH	BEARING	AREA
1	100.00	S 89° 59' 59" W	100.00
2	100.00	S 89° 59' 59" W	100.00
3	100.00	S 89° 59' 59" W	100.00
4	100.00	S 89° 59' 59" W	100.00
5	100.00	S 89° 59' 59" W	100.00
6	100.00	S 89° 59' 59" W	100.00
7	100.00	S 89° 59' 59" W	100.00
8	100.00	S 89° 59' 59" W	100.00
9	100.00	S 89° 59' 59" W	100.00
10	100.00	S 89° 59' 59" W	100.00

**BOUNDARIES**  
 THE SURVEYOR HAS EXAMINED THE RECORDS OF THE CHICAGO RECORDERS OFFICE AND HAS FOUND THAT THE BOUNDARIES SHOWN ON THIS SURVEY ARE CORRECT AND ACCURATE.  
 THE SURVEYOR HAS ALSO EXAMINED THE RECORDS OF THE CHICAGO RECORDERS OFFICE AND HAS FOUND THAT THE BOUNDARIES SHOWN ON THIS SURVEY ARE CORRECT AND ACCURATE.

**REMARKS**  
 THIS SURVEY WAS MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SURVEYING ACT OF 1984 AND THE SURVEYING REGULATIONS OF THE CHICAGO RECORDERS OFFICE.  
 THE SURVEYOR HAS FOUND THAT THE BOUNDARIES SHOWN ON THIS SURVEY ARE CORRECT AND ACCURATE.

**CONTRACTOR'S CERTIFICATE**  
 I, THE CONTRACTOR, HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE SURVEY WAS MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SURVEYING ACT OF 1984 AND THE SURVEYING REGULATIONS OF THE CHICAGO RECORDERS OFFICE.  
 THE SURVEYOR HAS FOUND THAT THE BOUNDARIES SHOWN ON THIS SURVEY ARE CORRECT AND ACCURATE.

LINE	LENGTH	BEARING	AREA
1	100.00	S 89° 59' 59" W	100.00
2	100.00	S 89° 59' 59" W	100.00
3	100.00	S 89° 59' 59" W	100.00
4	100.00	S 89° 59' 59" W	100.00
5	100.00	S 89° 59' 59" W	100.00
6	100.00	S 89° 59' 59" W	100.00
7	100.00	S 89° 59' 59" W	100.00
8	100.00	S 89° 59' 59" W	100.00
9	100.00	S 89° 59' 59" W	100.00
10	100.00	S 89° 59' 59" W	100.00



**CONGREGATION OF THE PASSION**  
 5700 HABEL AVENUE  
 CHICAGO, IL 60631

**WEAVER BOOS CONSULTANTS**

1111 N. LAUREL STREET  
 CHICAGO, IL 60610  
 TEL: 312.467.1111  
 FAX: 312.467.1112  
 WWW.WEAVERBOOS.COM

**NOTICE:**  
 FOR REFERENCE ONLY  
 THE OWNER HAS THE RIGHT TO MAKE ANY CHANGES TO THIS SURVEY AT ANY TIME WITHOUT NOTICE TO THE SURVEYOR.  
 THE SURVEYOR HAS FOUND THAT THE BOUNDARIES SHOWN ON THIS SURVEY ARE CORRECT AND ACCURATE.

DATE: 11/11/2023  
 TIME: 10:00 AM  
 SURVEYOR: [Signature]









IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MONASTERY  
PASSIONIST FATHERS AND BROTHERS

5700





















 Passionist Monastery



















UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Passionist Fathers Monastery

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ILLINOIS, Cook

DATE RECEIVED: 1/18/13 DATE OF PENDING LIST:  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/06/13  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 13000048

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 3.6.13 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places

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

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

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

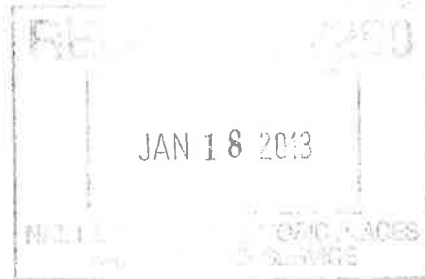
DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

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



**Illinois Historic  
Preservation Agency**

1 Old State Capitol Plaza • Springfield, Illinois 62701-1512 • [www.illinois-history.gov](http://www.illinois-history.gov)



January 14, 2013

Ms. Barbara Wyatt  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
1849 C Street NW Suite NC400  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Wyatt:

Enclosed for your review are the following National Register Nomination Forms that were recommended by the Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Council and signed by the Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer:

**Storkline Furniture Corporation Factory, Chicago, Cook County**  
**Passionists Fathers Monastery, Chicago, Cook County**

Please contact me at the address above, or by telephone at 217-785-4324. You can also email me at [andrew.heckenkamp@illinois.gov](mailto:andrew.heckenkamp@illinois.gov) if you need any additional information or clarification. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Andrew Heckenkamp  
National Register Coordinator

Enclosures