Spokane Register of Historic Places Nomination

Spokane City/County Historic Preservation Office, City Hall, Sixth Floor 808 W. Spokane Falls Boulevard, Spokane, WA 99201

1. Name of Property					
Historic Name		ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH & CONVENT			
Common Name		St. Joseph Catholic Church Parish-Spokane			
2. Location	on				
Street & Number		1507-17 W. Dean Avenue			
City, State, Zip Code Parcel Number		Spokane, WA 99201 25131.4211			
3. Classif	fication				
Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use		
X building site	public X_private	X_occupiedwork in progress	agricultural X_commercial	museum park	
structure	both	work in progress	educational	X_religious	
object	Public Acquisition	Accessible	entertainment	residential	
	in process being considered	X yes, restrictedyes, unrestricted	government industrial	scientific transportation	
		no	military	other	
	of Property				
Name	7' 0 1	<u>=</u>	St. Joseph Catholic Parish-Spokane		
Street, City, S	-	1503 W. Dean Avenue, Spokane, WA 99201			
Telephone Number/E-mail		328-4841 (Sister Irene Knopes), stjoeondean@aol.com			
5. Location	on of Legal Description	on			
Courthouse, Registry of Deeds		Spokane County Courthouse			
Street Number		1116 West Broadway			
City, State, Zip Code		Spokane, WA 99260			
County Spokane					
6. Representation of Existing Surveys					
Title		City of Spokane Historic Landmarks Survey			
Date Location of Survey Boards		Federal State County Local Spekana Historic Preservation Office			
Location of Survey Records		Spokane Historic Preservation Office			

7. Description			
Architectural Classification	Condition	Check One	
(see nomination, section 8)	X_excellent	unaltered	
	good	X_altered	
	fair		
	deteriorated	Check One	
	ruins	X original site	
	unexposed	moved & date	

8. Spokane Register Categories and Statement of Significance

Applicable Spokane Register of Historic Places Categories: Mark "x" on one or more for the categories that qualify the property for the Spokane Register listing:

- <u>X</u> A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of Spokane history.
- __B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- <u>X</u> C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method or 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 history.

Narrative statement of significance is found on one or more continuation sheets.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography is found on one or more continuation sheets.

10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of Property	Less than one acre.
Verbal Boundary Description	Church & convent: Ides Addition, L3 except 101 feet; L4 except 101 feet of West 25 feet; all L5&6,
	Block 2.
Verbal Boundary Justification	Nominated property includes entire parcel and urban legal description.

11. Form Prepared By

Name and Title Linda Yeomans, Principal Consultant
Organization Historic Preservation Planning & Design
Street, City, State, Zip Code 501 West 27th Avenue, Spokane, WA 99203

Telephone Number 509-456-3828

Email Address lindayeomans@comcast.net

Date Final Nomination Heard 19 January 2011

12. Additional Documentation

Map City/County of Spokane current plat map.

13. Signature of Owner(s)	
Forechim The	n
Fresident, of St. Joseph Catholic S.	erish - Suskano
14. For Official Use Only:	
Date nomination application filed:	
Date of Landmarks Commission hearing:	
Landmarks Commission decision:	:
Date of City Council/Board of County Commis	sioners' hearing:
City Council/Board of County Commissioners'	decision: <u>2/7//1</u>
I hereby certify that this property has been of Historic Places based upon the action of Board of County Commissioners as set for	listed in the Spokane Register f either the City Council or the
Krister Frego	1-24-2019
Kristen Griffin City/County Historic Preservation Officer City/County Historic Preservation Office Sixth Floor - City Hall, Spokane, WA 99201	Date
Attest: City Clerk OF SPO	Approved as to form: Assistant City Attorney



A 1951 photograph of St. Joseph's Catholic School, Church, Rectory & Auditorium (auditorium/gymnasium is pictured at far left-hand side of frame).

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Built in 1901 and enlarged in 1909, St. Joseph's Catholic Church & Convent are located at the intersection of Dean Avenue and Walnut Street in the West Central neighborhood in northwest Spokane, Washington. The church is a fine example of ecclesiastical architecture designed in the Late Gothic Revival style and features a cruciform plan with a tall steeple, brick masonry construction, Gothic arches and label moldings, Gothic tracery and quatrefoils, stained-glass windows, a stepped buttresses, a domed apse, and a Gothic-arched pediment at the front entrance. The adjacent convent is a fine depiction of the Collegiate Gothic style. The buildings are well-preserved with few exterior alterations. Together, they retain excellent architectural integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, and association as early 20th-century ecclesiastical and scholastic buildings erected in Spokane, Washington.

Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination Continuation Sheet

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH & CONVENT

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CURRENT 2010 APPEARANCE & CONDITION Site

Forming a parish "campus," St. Joseph's Catholic Church, convent, and original rectory are located on multiple lots in Ide's Addition at the intersection of North Walnut Street and West Dean Avenue in the West Central neighborhood of Spokane. The convent and church are located on the south and east portions of Lots 3 and 4 and all of Lots 5 and 6 on Block 2 in Ide's Addition in northwest Spokane. The parcel forms an irregular "L" shape with 125 feet of frontage along the south side of West Dean Avenue, 125 feet along an alley at the rear boundary of the property, and with a depth of 150 feet. The small foot of the "L" is located at the southwest corner of the property and measures 75 feet wide and 39 feet deep. 1 The church is sited in the center of the parcel, and the convent is located in the center of the foot of the "L" in the southwest corner of the property. Two multi-story buildings built in 1970² are located next west and northwest of the convent on a separate parcel which is not part of the church property. A two-story church rectory is located next east of the church on the parcel which contains the church and convent. Built in 1900, the exterior of the rectory was significantly altered and remodeled in 1943 and in the 1980s-1990s, and no longer qualifies as a contributing St. Joseph's Catholic School Auditorium & historic resource of the property. Gymnasium is located east across the street from the rectory on the east side of Walnut at 1427 W. Dean Avenue. The auditorium/gym was built in 1928 and was used by St. Joseph's Church and convent for 57 years from 1928 to 1985, when it was sold to Hamilton Photography Studio, the current owner. Located in a predominately residential section of the West Central neighborhood, St. Joseph's Catholic Church and convent are surrounded by mostly late 19th and early 20th century domestic architecture. A few circa 1890-1940 apartment blocks, commercial buildings, and churches are sporadically scattered throughout the neighborhood.

St. Joseph's Catholic Church Built in 1901 and enlarged in 1909

Church Exterior

Built in 1901 and enlarged in 1909 at 1507 W. Dean Avenue, St. Joseph's Catholic Church follows a cruciform footprint in the shape of a cross that measures approximately 36 feet wide and 127 feet deep. The widest point of the cruciform church plan spans 60 feet at the transept. The church features brick masonry construction, a basalt stone foundation, a steeply pitched front-gable roof, a steeply pitched cross-gable, a domed apse, a 60-foot-tall steeple, pinnacle and cross, symmetrical fenestration patterns with Gothic-arched windows embellished with prominent label moldings, stepped buttresses,

and a Gothic-arched pediment over the front entrance. Red pressed face bricks clad the

¹ Spokane County Tax Assessor records, 2005. Spokane County Courthouse, Spokane, WA.

² The two buildings were built by Catholic Charities as low-income housing for senior citizens and are called Fahy Gardens (32 apartments) and Fahy West (55 apartments) at 1523 West Dean Avenue.

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brick masonry structure and are laid in a stretcher bond pattern with smooth, narrow mortar joints.

Facing north onto W. Dean Avenue, the north façade of the church is dominated by a symmetrical design with a front-gable roof, a center front entrance, and a tall steeple and belfry capped by a pinnacled spire and cross. The front entrance is reached by four concrete steps that rise to a concrete porch deck. Solid wood paneled entry doors are capped with a stained and leaded-glass transom light that is framed in a wood casing constructed in the shape of a Gothic arch. The stained-glass transom light features a prominent quatrefoil design and a wide spectrum of colored cathedral glass. The front entrance is covered by a projecting pediment in the shape of a Gothic arch. The Gothicarched pediment is made of wood and is covered with galvanized metal. Stepped buttresses flank the center entrance, and Gothic-arched stained-glass windows with Gothic-arched label moldings flank the buttresses (original wood-framed storm windows protect the stained-glass windows). Additional stepped buttresses mark the two front corners of the church (northeast and northwest). The buttresses are made of brick and are capped with coping made of molded concrete. A square steeple rises above the center front entrance. The steeple is stepped, diminishing in size from a large square structure to a smaller, octagonal belfry at the top on which is located a tall, thin cylindrical spire. A metal Christian cross projects upward from its anchored position atop the spire. The belfry has Gothic-arched louvered vents, and the spire is covered with metal shingles. The church roof is covered with metal shingles and features twin returns at the rake on the north façade.

The *east and west sides* of the church are mirror images of each other. They are defined by symmetrical fenestration patterns, symmetrical stepped buttress patterns (five to a side), and a prominent cross-gable (the interior of which is the transept). Fenestration is composed of Gothic-arched windows with stained-glass lights, Gothic-arched wood-framed storm windows, Gothic-arched label moldings, and Gothic-arched double entrance doors in the ell formed by the cross-gable. The cross-gable projects twelve feet from the planar wall surface at the building's east face and twelve feet at the west face. At its gable ends, the cross-gable is articulated with returns, tall narrow Gothic-arched windows crowned with Gothic-arched label moldings, and a large round wheel window in the center of the gable field. A small square, single-story brick bay (eleven feet wide and three feet deep) with a hip roof is located beneath and between each of the two arched windows. All of the windows have stained-glass lights which are protected by wood-framed storm windows.

The *south, rear face* of the church abuts a paved alley. A round cross-gable (apse) with a domed roof projects from the rear of the building. A lower, single-story square bay (sacristy) projects seven feet from the apse's curved wall surface and surrounds the apse. A single Gothic-arched window and a single rectangular door are located on the south elevation of the church on the exterior wall of the sacristy.

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Church Interior

The interior of the church follows the traditional Late Gothic Revival-style cruciform plan with a narthex, nave, transept, chancel, and apse. The ceiling above the nave is gable vaulted and the ceiling in the apse is domed. The front doors at the north facade of the church open south into the narthex (vestibule). The narthex opens into the nave which is the auditorium-like area where the congregation stands or sits. The nave has a center aisle and two flanking side aisles. Between the aisles are wooden pews with kneeling rails made in 1943.³ The pews face the crossing, the place where the nave, chancel and transept intersect.⁴ Additional pews offer seating in the east and west transepts. A center chancel (sanctuary) is located at the south end of the church between the east and west transepts. Set apart from the nave and transept, the chancel is marked by an oak floor platform which is elevated two steps above the level of the floor of the transept and nave. An apse, a rounded domed alcove, is located south of the chancel at the south end of the church. Regarded as a focal point of the apse, an altar and reredos are located at the center of the south wall. The reredos (sometimes called an altar screen⁵) is ornately carved in the Late Gothic Revival style and is made of oak (which was later painted with white enamel paint) and was originally constructed by hand without any nails or screws.⁶ Two smaller altars flank the arched opening to the apse and also feature ornately carved and painted reredos. A sacristy (vestry) is located south and behind the curved wall of the apse. The sacristy has two entrances that flank the apse to the east and west, and contains built-in closets designed to store sacred vestments, liturgical vessels, altar linens and communion supplies; a built-in desk; a wall-mounted porcelain wash basin; and a door that exits to the alley behind the church.

At the north wall of the church above the narthex is a choir loft with a circa 1909 pipe organ. The loft looks down onto the nave and is protected by a convex curved balustrade with plain wood balusters. Custom-designed pendant light fixtures are suspended from the ceiling and diffuse electric light through milk glass globes. Each globe is made of eight Gothic-arched opaque milk glass panels that are held together by a metal filigree frame with quatrefoil cut-outs. Natural light enters through tall, narrow Gothic-arched windows in the nave, and through two prominent wheel windows and four Gothic-arched windows which are located in the east and west transepts. The windows are embellished with custom-made wood tracery and colored cathedral glass. Located throughout the nave and transept, the stained-glass windows feature various vignettes that depict the Holy Family, selected saints and priests, and the Christ Child. Most of the

⁸ Ibid, p. 24.

⁶ Since its construction in c. 1900, the hand-made wooden-pegged alter has been repaired with wood glue and the necessary addition of small nails and screws.

³ According to a church order form/receipt, the pews were supplied by the Northern School Supply Company at a cost of \$2,285.16 in 1943.

⁴ "Inside Your Church." 2005, www.kensmen.com/catholic/churchbuilding.html.

⁵ Ibid. p. 3.

⁷ Coe, Jeanne Polumsky. *St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church of Spokane, Washington Centennial History 1890-1990.* Spokane: Good Business Forms Company, 1990, p. 5.

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stained-glass windows were made in 1901-1902 and were honorary donations made by church parishioners whose names were inscribed in the window designs. Representing the crucifixion of Jesus Christ, the "Stations of the Cross" are depicted in circa 1900 antique Italian relief panels made of gold-leaf and painted plaster which are located between the windows on the east and west walls of the nave. The floor of the church is made of fir planks (covered by carpet), the walls and ceiling are made of lathe-and-plaster construction, the woodwork is made of painted pine and oak, and the gable vaulted ceiling in the nave is 22 feet high at apex. 10

St. Joseph's Catholic Convent Built in 1924

Convent Exterior

Built in 1924 at 1517 W. Dean Avenue, St. Joseph's Catholic Convent is a two-story brick masonry building with an elevated basement, and is located southwest of the church in the southwest corner of the property. It forms an irregular L-shaped footprint that measures approximately 62 feet wide and 30 feet deep and faces north. The small foot of the "L" is built as a two-story front-facing wing which is located at the northwest corner of the building. It projects forward six feet and is 22 feet wide. From its location in the southwest corner of the property, the convent faces a grassed courtyard area which is surrounded by two multi-story apartment buildings to the west and northwest, the church to the east, and a paved sidewalk that parallels Dean Avenue to the north. Small concrete walkways curve through the manicured lawn, linking the convent to the church. The convent has a flat roof of built-up tar and three prominent shaped, stepped parapets with galvanized metal coping. The brick masonry building is completely clad in red pressed face bricks laid in stretcher bond with fine mortar joints. Fenestration patterns are symmetrical with 1/1 double-hung windows arranged as single units and also in trios as tripartite windows. The foundation is made of poured concrete.

The *north façade* of the convent has four prominent focal points: three stepped, shaped parapets, decorative brickwork, a forward projecting wing on the northwest corner of the building, and a recessed Gothic-arched front entrance. A large stepped, shaped parapet marks the center of the north façade of the building and a smaller shaped parapet marks the center of the wing at the northwest corner. Inset decorative lozenges made of molded concrete and red brick are centered in each parapet. A galvanized metal and brick cornice further articulates the roofline below the parapet. Symmetrically arranged first and second-floor windows are 1/1, double-hung, wood-sash units. They are defined with brick flat arches, brick surrounds, and molded concrete lug sills. A single painted wood-paneled door is located at the east end of the façade. The west end of the north façade is dominated by a forward-projecting two-story wing at the northwest corner and a recessed front entrance which is located in the ell of the wing. Tripartite windows are centered in the wing at the first and second floors. Matching the panel designs in the building's

¹⁰ Spokane County Tax Assessor records. Spokane County Courthouse, Spokane, WA.

⁹ Construction dates are also included on some of the stained-glass window designs.

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parapets, molded concrete and brick lozenges are located between the first and secondfloor tripartite windows. The ell formed by the projecting corner wing is composed of a single-story square bay with a recessed entrance. The bay measures five feet deep and eight feet wide. The opening to the recessed entrance in the bay is framed by a Gothic arch above which is located a parapet articulated with battlements. A decorative lozenge marks the center of the parapet over the center of the front entrance. Galvanized metal coping defines the parapet.

With no embellishment, the *east*, *west*, *and north sides* of the building are plain with red pressed face bricks, symmetrical fenestration patterns, and an exposed poured concrete foundation. To meet fire code requirements, a single metal fire-resistant break-away door is located at the south, rear face of the convent.

Convent Interior

Double wood-paneled doors open from the recessed front entrance of the convent into a small vestibule. The doors are embellished with quatrefoil designs in the lower panels while the upper portions of the doors have Gothic-arched multi-paned lights. A transom with Gothic-arched tracery caps the double front entrance doors. The vestibule opens to a large multi-purpose room. The floor is carpeted, the walls are made of a combination of plaster-and-lathe and sheetrock, and the ceiling is dropped with a covering of acoustical tiles and recessed lighting. The multi-purpose room leads east to a kitchen, central hallway, stairwell, and an office which is located in the southeast corner of the building. The office has a built-in bookcase on the west wall and a fireplace on the east wall. The fireplace has a wood mantel, a brick surround, and a glazed ceramic tile hearth. The top portion of the surround is embellished with a Tudor arch made of wood that overlays the brick. A brass fireplace screen with glass doors covers the firebox opening (installed in 1989-1990). From the first floor, a wood stairwell rises to a landing, turns, and ascends to the second floor. The stairwell has a plain balustrade with a closed stringer and is anchored with octagonal wood newel posts. The second floor has a long central hallway that leads east and west. Single-occupancy convent rooms flank the hallway. The rooms have closets and wall-mounted porcelain washbasins (in four rooms, interior partition walls were removed in 1989 to form two large classrooms). woodwork is painted white, the doors are five-paneled wood with original plain brass hardware, and the ceiling is eight feet high. The entire second floor has little to no embellishment and is plain and utilitarian. From the first floor, the stairwell descends to the basement which is partially finished with classrooms, storage and mechanical rooms, and bathrooms. Steam heat is provided through original cast iron radiators which are located throughout the building.

Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination Continuation Sheet

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH & CONVENT

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ORIGINAL APPEARANCE & SUBSEQUENT MODIFICATIONS St. Joseph's Catholic Church

According to a July 1, 1901 Spokesman-Review newspaper article, construction of St. Joseph's Catholic Church was completed in 1901. 11 A sketch of the way the church appeared at that time was made between 1901 and 1909, and pictured the church with a rectangular footprint, a steeply pitched gable-front roof, and a front entrance with a tall steeple and a gabled pediment with applied truss work in the gable peak. 12 The building featured red brick masonry construction and was embellished with stepped buttresses, Gothic-arched windows, and an interior plan that included a simple narthex, nave, and chancel.

In 1909, the church was enlarged and remodeled to include a 60-foot-wide transept and a Featured with a photograph in a December 5, 1909 article in the Spokesman-Review, the exterior design of the church appeared nearly the same as it does today, 86 years later, with only a few modifications:

- In 1909: The 1901 church was enlarged and remodeled from a rectangular plan to a cruciform plan. A large cross-gable with a domed apse and square sacristy was constructed at the south, rear elevation of the building; the addition was brick masonry construction like the 1901 church; red face bricks were used to match the 1901 bricks; mortar joints were matched; large stained-glass wheel windows with Gothic tracery, and flanking Gothic-arched stained-glass windows were installed in the east and west ends of the cross-gable; a Gothic-arched window above the front entrance pediment was covered with painted wood; the remodeled interior included east and west transepts, chancel, domed apse, sacristy, stained-glass windows, Italian plaster Stations of the Cross, oak altars, and wood pews.
- In 1924: The oak altars were painted with white enamel paint. ¹³
- Between 1936-1940: A metal shingle roof was installed which replaced the original wood shingle roof. 14
- In 1943: The 1909 wooden pews were replaced with 1943 wooden pews. The gabled pediment over the front entrance was rebuilt with a Gothic arch that was wrapped in galvanized metal for protection from deleterious elements of weather.

¹¹ "Build New Church." Spokesman-Review, 1 July 1901.

¹² Bishop White, Charles D. "Through the Pathway of Wilderness to the Kingdom of Christ: A Message to Our Catholic People." Inland Register, 1931.

¹³ Ibid, p. 16. ¹⁴ Ibid, p. 17.

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- In 1973: Pendant light fixtures in the nave were replaced with custom-made light fixtures that feature milk-glass shades and decorative filigreed Gothic arch and quatrefoil motifs.
- In 1987: A concrete ramp to accommodate ADA access was built at the east side of concrete steps at the front entrance of the church. The roof was recovered with metal shingles and the exterior trim was repainted.

St. Joseph's Catholic Convent

A sketch of St. Joseph's Catholic Convent was featured in a 1931 edition of the Catholic newsletter, *Inland Register*, which pictured the exterior of the building as it looks today. Some modifications, mostly interior, have been made to the building since it was built in 1924:

- In 1989: The first-floor interior was remodeled with a dropped ceiling of acoustical tiles, recessed lighting, and exposed iron posts which were added as supports when several load-bearing walls were removed on the first floor. The original oak plank floor was covered with wall-to-wall carpet and the walls and woodwork were re-painted. The kitchen and bathrooms were remodeled. Most of the original 1/1, double-hung, wood-sash windows located on the west, east, and south elevations of the building were replaced with 1/1, double-hung, aluminum and vinyl-sash units that mimic the design and dimensions of the original windows. The building's original wood-sash windows remain intact on the north façade.
- In 2005: A metal ramp with metal handrails was installed over the sidewalk and concrete steps at the front entrance of the building in order to accommodate patrons and parishioners who require ADA-supported access (the walkway can be easily removed without damage to the convent).

Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination Continuation Sheet

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH & CONVENT

Section 8 Page 1

Areas of Significance Architecture,

Community Planning & Development

Period of Significance 1901-1961 Significant Dates 1901, 1909 Architect Julius A. Zittel

Builder/Construction Manager A. L. Tillisch (church)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The campus of St. Joseph's Catholic Parish includes an historic church and convent, which are located a few blocks northwest of the Spokane County Courthouse in West Central Spokane, Washington. Built in 1901 and enlarged in 1909, St. Joseph's Catholic Church is a particularly excellent example of the Late Gothic Revival style and was one of the first Catholic churches erected in Spokane. With its prominent Gothic arches, Gothic label moldings, Gothic window tracery, stepped buttresses, quatrefoils, brick masonry construction, tall steeple and pinnacle, and cruciform plan, the church embodies distinctive characteristics of the Late Gothic Revival architectural style and possesses high artistic values. A 1901 Spokesman-Review newspaper article described the structure as "one of the prettiest small churches in the Northwest" and specifically noted the building's "Gothic" style, "beautiful windows set with antique German cathedral glass," and exquisitely crafted main altar which was made of "hand-carved oak" ¹⁵ A two-story building clad with red brick veneer and molded concrete articulation is located next west of the church and was built in 1924 as St. Joseph's Catholic Convent. It is a fine depiction of the Collegiate Gothic style and was constructed to house the nuns who were responsible for the parochial education of children in St. Joseph's parish. The two buildings represent the work of one of Spokane's most accomplished professionals, Julius A. Zittel, a prolific architect who designed numerous ecclesiastical and scholastic churches and schools in the Spokane region and was appointed Washington's "state architect" in 1897. Zittel generously rendered his services "free of charge" for his work at St. Joseph's Catholic Parish in Spokane. 16 Achieving importance from 1901 to 1961, the church and convent demonstrate the urban development and Catholic settlement of Ide's Addition and the surrounding West Central neighborhood in northwest Spokane. St. Joseph's Catholic Church & Convent are historically and architecturally significant in the areas of significance, "community planning & development" and "architecture," and are nominated for listing on the Spokane Register of Historic Places under Categories A and C.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

Before it was officially platted in 1883, ¹⁷ Ides's Addition, a small six-block residential area bounded by West Broadway and Dean Avenues and by North Cedar and Ash Streets in northwest Spokane, was sparsely populated with few homes. By 1890, however, the

¹⁵ "In Honor of God." Spokesman-Review, 9 Oct 1901.

¹⁶ "Build New Church." *Spokesman-Review*, 1 July 1901.

¹⁷ Spokane County Assessor's Records. Spokane County Courthouse, Spokane, WA.

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neighborhood was pictured on a map with an aerial view of Spokane¹⁸ that indicated a substantial increase in domestic development in which nearly every residential lot was improved with a single-family home. The parcels where St. Joseph's Catholic Church and convent are presently located was pictured with only one building—a single-family home on the northeast corner of the parcel at the intersection of Dean Avenue and Walnut Street (where the present church rectory is located¹⁹). The home was owned by the Chester Ide family, the real estate investor/developer who first owned and platted the area, and for whom Ide's Addition was named.

St. Joseph's Catholic Church

In the 1880s, the Right Reverend Bishop Junger of Spokane requested that a Catholic parish be established on the north side of the Spokane River to accommodate the religious needs of a growing community. The new parish boundaries were established to include the vicinity east and north of the Spokane River and west of Howard Street, a geographic quadrant which was part of four Catholic parishes established in the city at that time. Tapped by Bishop Junger for the task of founding a parish church, Leopold Van Gorp, a Jesuit priest, purchased the property on Lot 6, Block 2 in Ide's Addition for \$2,300 in February 1890. This included the Ide House and the lot on which it was built. Originally from Holland, Father Van Gorp immigrated to the United States, worked in Montana at St. Ignatius Mission, and in 1882, was called to Spokane where he helped Father Cataldo establish Gonzaga University. As found in church records, Father Van Gorp was the parish administrator from 1888 to 1890, and was also responsible for "platting the east end of Sinto Addition. He named the streets and designated a park area and the wide Mission Avenue with park islands and locust trees" in the Logan neighborhood in northeast Spokane. ²¹

The following month, Father Van Gorp bought the two vacant lots (Lots 4 & 5) next west of Lot 6 for \$1,800. On August 20, 1890, he sold all three lots (Lots 4, 5, 6) to the Corporation of Roman Catholic Bishops of Nesqually, Washington Territory (Seattle, Washington). After a corporate title change, this transaction legally conveyed ownership of the three 50-foot-wide city lots along the south side of West Dean Avenue to the Catholic Bishop of Spokane, the legal owner of many Catholic properties in Spokane.

The house on the northeast corner of the property, which was previously owned by the Ide family, was used as the parish rectory, and in 1890, a rectangular frame building was

Final nomination reviewed by SHLC on January 19, 2011

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¹⁸ Kock, Augustus. *Aerial View of Spokane in 1890*. Spokane Public Library, Northwest Room, Spokane, WA.

¹⁹ As mentioned in Section 7 page 2, the rectory is a historic non-contributing resource and is not nominated to the Spokane Register at this time.

²⁰ Spokane County warranty deed. Spokane County Courthouse, Spokane, WA.

²¹ Coe, Jeanne Polumsky. *St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church of Spokane, Washington Centennial History 1890-1990.* Spokane: Good business Forms Company, p. 1.

²² Spokane County warranty deeds. Spokane County Courthouse, Spokane, WA.

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built on Lots 4 & 5 next west of the house. The building was specifically erected to accommodate parishioners in St. Joseph's parish, was named in honor of St. Joseph, and was called St. Joseph's Catholic Church. A May 16, 1890 article in the *Spokesman-Review* reported that "the new Catholic church on the North Side was dedicated yesterday with imposing ceremonies" when the "Very Reverend Father Van Gorp...delivered one of the most eloquent and impressive sermons ever listened to in this city." At the time the church was constructed, the only other Catholic church in Spokane was Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, 1115 West Riverside Avenue, which was built nine years earlier in 1881. ²⁵

In 1899, nine years after it was built, the wood frame structure that served as St. Joseph's Catholic Church was overcrowded, outgrown. A new church and rectory were planned to replace the 1890 church and the Ide House, which served as the parish rectory. The frame church building was sold for \$300, the rectory was sold for \$200, and both buildings were moved to unknown locations away from the property.²⁶

An article in the July 1, 1901 edition of the Spokesman-Review gave the following report:

BUILD NEW CHURCH

Will Be a \$7,500 Structure of Gothic Design [with] Stained-Glass Windows

The contracts for the building of the new St. Joseph's Catholic Church have been let and...the structure would be completed and ready for use by October 1st.

The building will cost \$7,500 when completed. The style of the structure will be purely Gothic as will be also the communion railing and altars. The windows, which will be stained-glass with representations of saints, have been donated [by church parishioners]...

The contract for the carpenter work and lumber was let to J. E. Cunninhgam.

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²³ The church was also listed as St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in city directories.

²⁴ "St. Joseph's Church." *Spokesman-Review*, 16 May 1890.

²⁵ The Most Reverend William S. Skylstad, D.D., Bishop of Spokane. *The Official Directory of the Catholic Diocese of Spokane*, 2004-05. Spokane: Diocese of Spokane, WA, p. 59. In 1904, Our Lady of Lourdes Church was replaced with the present existing cathedral.

²⁶ St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church of Spokane, Washington Centennial History 1890-1990, page 3, states that a "house...at West 1630 Dean was rumored to be the old [1890 frame] church building." This statement contradicts a building which is pictured in the 1905 Aerial View of Spokane map (Spokane: John W. Graham Company, publisher) which is hanging on the wall by the front entrance to the Northwest Room in the Spokane Public Library, Spokane, WA. The aerial map clearly pictures a brick masonry church with multiple cross-gables and a tall steeple located at 1630 West Dean Avenue in 1905, NOT the wood frame 1890 church building that was moved from 1503 West Dean Avenue. The name of the brick masonry church at 1630 West Dean was listed in city directories as the Dean Avenue Church of Christ.

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The brickwork was let to W. Culbert, and the plastering to D. Crowley. The plans and detailed specifications were furnished *gratis* by Preusse & Zittel, [architects], and A. L. Tillisch, who will be the superintendent of construction, has donated his services.

Four months later on October 9, 1901, an anticipatory article in the *Spokesman-Review* announced "the new Roman Catholic Church of St. Joseph on Dean Avenue is rapidly nearing completion and will be dedicated on October 27th. The church is of Gothic [style] architecture, built of red brick...[and] there are seven memorial windows...to be filled by glass of exceptional quality."²⁷

The day of the grand opening arrived, and on October 27, 1901, St. Joseph's Catholic Church was dedicated in a ceremony that attracted "upward of 700 Roman Catholics..." Alluding to the parish's burgeoning congregation, and the church's solid brick masonry construction and Gothic style, the new building was noted and praised as a "cause of joy...a church more worthy of the presence of God and better fitted for the increased wants of the congregation." ²⁹

From 1901 to 1908, St. Joseph's Catholic Church continued to be filled to capacity with an ever-increasing congregation of parishioners and visitors. A decision was made to enlarge the existing church instead of constructing a new building. The *Spokane Daily Chronicle* reported the "ladies of St. Joseph's parish have arranged to hold a bazaar... The money raised will be used towards the furnishing of the church which is to be enlarged to double its capacity at a cost of about \$10,000. The plans are being prepared by Preusse & Zittel, architects."³⁰

Six months later, a November 8, 1909 newspaper article made the following announcement:

St. Joseph's Catholic Church...[which has been] remodeled, will be occupied...for the opening sermon...on November 14th. Practically the only [existing] construction of the old church...are the walls, the entire interior and furnishings being new.³¹

The church was enlarged and remodeled with a cross-gable addition constructed at the rear south end of the building. The addition was designed to follow a Gothic Revival-style cruciform plan with a transept, chancel, domed apse, and sacristy which were constructed to help accommodate a larger congregation. Church parishioners raised some

²⁷ "Dedicate New Church Oct. 27th." *Spokesman-Review*, 9 Oct 1901.

²⁸ "In Honor of God." *Spokesman-Review*, 28 Oct 1901.

²⁹ Ibid.

³⁰ "Bazaar for St. Joseph's." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 21 May 1909.

^{31 &}quot;St. Joseph's." Spokesman-Review, 8 Nov 1909.

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of the money needed for materials and laid the oak floor in the chancel (sanctuary). Alexander Leo Tillisch, a church parishioner and an accomplished carpenter, was the construction manager for the project. In addition to his regular duties, he built three oak altars in which he used only wooden pegs to hold the altars together.³² Donated by church parishioners in honor of their families, German-made stained-glass window panels were installed in the Gothic-arched windows along the east and west sides of the nave, and a "splendid pipe organ was installed" in the choir loft above the narthex.³³ The enlargement and remodel efforts afforded St. Joseph's Catholic Church enough room to "seat 800 people" which was more than double the seating capacity offered by the 1901 church.³⁴ On December 5, 1909, a photograph of the enlarged church building was featured in the *Spokesman-Review* with a caption that noted the cost of remodeling totaled \$12,000.³⁵

St. Joseph's Catholic School & Convent

In 1905, just four years before St. Joseph's Catholic Church was enlarged and remodeled, a dual purpose school/convent was built on the property next west of the church. "With the gradual growth of the parish, a distinct necessity arose to provide for the religious education of the children and so…a school was erected in 1905." The building was a "substantial three-story combination school and convent with white stone trimmings. The Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary of Scranton, Pennsylvania, accepted the invitation…to teach in the new school." The school offered classes for children in grades one through twelve and "during that time, the number of pupils attending the school averaged 225." Classrooms were located on the first and second floors, and the nuns lived on the third floor of the school.

In 1923, a fire destroyed the school/convent's third floor, including the belongings of the Sisters in residence. After the fire, plans were made to construct a permanent convent. As he did for the church, Julius Zittel (Preusse & Zittel, architects) drew the plans, and a two-story brick-clad, Collegiate Gothic-style building was erected on the previous site of the auditorium/gym/hall. The building was described as "modern and convenient in every respect" with "sleeping compartments" designed as "small individual rooms" which were "practically equipped" with wall-mounted wash basins, closets, and

³⁸ Ibid, p. 12.

³² Coe, Jeanne Polumsky. *St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church of Spokane, Washington Centennial History 1890-1990.* Spokane: Good Business Forms Company, 1990, p. 5.

³³ White, Bishop Charles D. *Souvenir of St. Joseph's Golden Jubilee 1890-1940*. Spokane: Spokane Catholic Diocese, 1940, p. 12.

³⁴ Coe, Jeanne Polumsky. St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church of Spokane, Washington Centennial History 1890-1990. Spokane: Good business Forms Company, 1990, p. 5.

³⁵ "Catholic Church to be Rededicated Today." *Spokesman-Review*, 5 Dec 1909.

³⁶ White, Bishop Charles D. *Souvenir of St. Joseph's Golden Jubilee 1890-1940*. Spokane: Catholic Diocese of Spokane, 1940, p. 12.

³⁷ Ibid, p. 12.

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necessary furnishings. The construction cost was reported at \$22,000.³⁹ A central heating plant, which delivered steam heat to the convent, school, and church, was installed in the basement of the building.

In 1921, a new order of "teaching nuns" came to the school to live and teach. They were called the School Sisters of Notre Dame and were remembered by St. Joseph parishioners and former students as "semi-cloistered...no-nonsense teachers with good emphasis on [the] three R's, plus religion." They gave instruction to about 160 students in 1921; in 1924, their tutelage included 145 students. Parochial school instruction continued at St. Joseph's until 1969 when the "establishment of an experimental Catholic urban school" was adopted, merging students from Our Lady of Lourdes Cathedral and St. Anthony parishes. The 1905 school building was demolished and part of the property on which it was sited was sold to Catholic Charities of Spokane. On the northwest portion of the lot where the school had been located, Catholic Charities built two retirement homes for low-income senior citizens in 1970. They were called Fahy Gardens and Fahy West and were named in honor of Father John Francis Fahy, St. Joseph's parish priest from 1921 to 1969.

In 1989, a decision was made to convert the 1925 convent to a parish center. The interior of the convent was remodeled to allow for a large multi-purpose room on the first floor and a few classrooms on the second floor. A grassy lawn was planted to the north and east of the building, forming a semi-private courtyard which is surrounded by the church, the convent, and the apartment buildings. In 2007, ownership of St. Joseph's Catholic Church and convent was conveyed and deeded to the St. Joseph's Catholic Parish-Spokane. Administrative responsibilities are directed by Sister Irene Knopes, SNJM, who resides in the church rectory. 43

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Category A

Achieving importance from 1901 to 1961, St. Joseph's Catholic Church & Convent constitute are historically significant in the area of significance, "community planning & development." When the frame building, called St. Joseph's Catholic Church, was built in 1890 on the site where the existing church is presently located, it was the second Catholic church erected in Spokane. The building was replaced in 1901 with the current church, which was enlarged in 1909. From 1901 to 1928, the parish campus was also improved with a rectory (single-family house), a parochial school, a two-story convent

³⁹ Ibid, p. 13.

⁴⁰ Coe, Jeanne Polumsky. *St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church of Spokane, Washington Centennial History 1890-1990.* Spokane: Good business Forms Company, 1990, p. 10.

⁴¹ Ibid, pp. 10-11.

⁴² "Historical Parochial School May Leave Spokane Scene." *Spokesman-Review*, 9 March 1969, p. 6.

⁴³ The rectory was significantly altered with the removal of original porches, balcony, and windows, and

The rectory was significantly aftered with the removal of original porches, balcony, and windows, and the installation of aluminum siding over original wood shingles, and is therefore considered a *historic non-contributing* resource of the property.

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building, and a brick-clad auditorium/gymnasium which was built across the street from the rectory on the east side of Walnut on the corner of Walnut Street and Dean Avenue. Today, the school is gone and the school auditorium/gym is no longer owned by St. Joseph's Catholic Parish but the church and convent retain excellent integrity and represent the establishment of the original St. Joseph's parish in the West Central neighborhood in Spokane. The original parish campus buildings continue to demonstrate their historical significance which is associated with the development and subsequent settlement of the West Central neighborhood, and with the establishment and spread of the Catholic religion and parochial education in the West Central community. Currently housing a commercial photography studio, the historic St. Joseph's Catholic School Auditorium/Gymnasium were used by the parish for more than four decades from 1928 to 1969. St. Joseph's Catholic Church & Convent have served the parish for 95 years and continue to manifest outreach programs designed to integrate with the West Central To accommodate the growing Spanish-speaking populations that neighborhood. currently reside in the West Central community, parish programs include an ethnic approach with Mass said in both English and Spanish, and multi-cultural and ecumenical educational and religious family activities offered at the parish center. St. Joseph's Catholic Church & Convent—now called St. Joseph's Catholic Church Parish-Spokane continues to operate as a vital religious center in the West Central neighborhood with the following mission statement offered by church parishioners:

We live in an area that 100 years ago was a bustling, busy, growing parish—full of young families in a young town. The area has evolved into an older, transient section of Spokane. Values have changed...and people tend to move on when their economic status improves. But St. Joseph's will remain as long as there are Catholics and others in need of the Lord's healing hand... We look forward to continuing the Roman Catholic presence in our area and reaching out to new people, welcoming all...in the age-old tradition of St. Joseph. 44

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Category C

Built in 1901 and enlarged in 1909, St. Joseph's Catholic Church & Convent are significant in the area, "architecture," as fine examples of the Late Gothic Revival and Collegiate Gothic styles as interpreted for ecclesiastical and scholastic building types, and for their embodiment of high artistic values and superior craftsmanship. They are further significant as products of Julius Zittel, one of the region's most celebrated and accomplished architects who maintained a prolific practice in Spokane in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

⁴⁴ Coe, Jeanne Polumsky. *St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church of Spokane, Washington Centennial History 1890-1990.* Spokane: Good Business Forms Company, 1990, p. 31.

Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination Continuation Sheet

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH & CONVENT

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Late Gothic Revival Style (1880-1930)

The term "Gothic" describes an architectural style of the High Middle Ages in Western Europe which emerged from Romanesque and Byzantine forms during the later 12th century. The style's greatest works are found in cathedrals throughout Europe and England. Hundreds of years later, a movement originated in the 18th century, culminated in the 19th century, and was called "Gothic Revival." It revived the elements and spirit of Gothic forms, including brick and ashlar masonry, cruciform plans for churches, and Gothic motifs such as battlements, prominent parapets, decorative brackets and finials, trefoils and quatrefoils, hood and label moldings, pinnacles, pointed arches, symmetrical façades, steeply pitched gables, windows extending into gable fields, and recessed front entrances with Gothic or Tudor arches. Built during the early part of the 20th century, the "Late Gothic Revival" style characterizes churches, buildings, and houses that were built during the last phase of the Gothic Revival period. At this time an attempt was made throughout the United States to emulate Gothic architecture with some degree of accuracy, involving a castle-like appearance, steeply pitched roofs with cross-gables, hood molding over windows, Gothic-arched doors and windows, and uninterrupted gable end walls and gable fields.⁴⁵

Collegiate Gothic Style (1880-1930)

In addition to ecclesiastical building types, the Late Gothic Revival style flourished in two other building types—educational and commercial. The Gothic style applied to these secular building types was called "Collegiate Gothic" and is characteristic of lodge halls, high schools, colleges, universities, and educational facilities built throughout America in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Two excellent examples in Spokane include Mount St. Michael and Lewis & Clark High School.⁴⁶

The architectural designs of St. Joseph's Catholic Church & Convent respectively illustrate the Late Gothic Revival and Collegiate Gothic styles as described in Section 7 of this document. Prominent stylistic elements depicted on the church include brick masonry construction, a cruciform plan, steeply pitched front-gable roof, Gothic-arched front entry pediment and steeple, Gothic-arched stained-glass windows, and stepped buttresses. Prominent Collegiate Gothic-style features on the convent include brick masonry construction, flat roof, stepped/shaped parapets, battlements, decorative brickwork and lozenges, and a recessed entrance with a Gothic arch.

Julius A. Zittel, Architect (1869-1939)

Julius Zittel was born and educated in Germany, immigrated to America in 1887, and settled in Chicago where he worked and studied as an architect's apprentice. When he was 18 years old, he moved to Spokane and worked for Herman Preusse, one of early

⁴⁵ Harris, Cyril M. *Dictionary of Architecture & Construction, Third Edition*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2000.

⁴⁶ Whiffen, Marcus. *American Architecture Since 1780: A Guide to the Styles*. Cambridge: MIT Press, 1992, pp. 53,173-74.

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Spokane's first noted architects. In 1893, Zittel and Preusse formed a prolific business partnership, Preusse & Zittel Architects, which spanned 17 years from 1893 to 1910. An excerpt in *Western Progress*, an early promotional publication about Spokane, noted that Preusse & Zittel enjoyed an excellent professional reputation in Spokane as "the oldest firm here and...do more work than any other two firms in the city... Preusse & Zittel have...acquired the respect and esteem of the entire community." 47

After Preusse retired, Zittel partnered with architect, Archibald Rigg, and renamed the firm Zittel & Rigg Architects. Alone and with his partners, Zittel was responsible for many ecclesiastic and scholastic building designs in Spokane, including the Gonzaga University Administration Building, Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Cathedral, St. Aloysius Catholic Church, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, St. Joseph's Catholic School and Convent, St. Joseph's Auditorium/Gymnasium, downtown Spokane Carnegie Library, Finch Elementary School, Mount St. Michael, the Pacific Hotel (demolished), and the Auditorium, Granite and Jamieson buildings (demolished). In 1897, Zittel was appointed Washington's "state architect" and "designed nearly every state job in Eastern Washington" during his tenure. During his life in Spokane, he served terms as president of the Spokane Society of Architects and as president of the Spokane Hotel, and eventually retired from his architectural practice to become manager of the Spokane Hotel.

Summary

St. Joseph's Catholic Church & Convent retain excellent architectural and historical integrity found in original location, design, materials, workmanship, and association as early 20th century religious buildings built in Spokane, Washington. They are historically and architecturally significant in the context of ecclesiastical and scholastic architecture and Late Gothic Revival and Collegiate Gothic styles rendered by a master architect; and in the context of religious, parochial and community development in St. Joseph's parish which is part of the West Central neighborhood in Spokane. The property is nominated to the Spokane Register of Historic Places under Categories A and C.

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⁴⁷ Western Progress. "Spokane: The Queen of the Inland Empire." Spokane, WA, Sept. 1902.

⁴⁸ EWSHS. Spokane Skyline: A Century of Architecture, 1889-1989. Spokane: EWSHS, 1989, p. 44.

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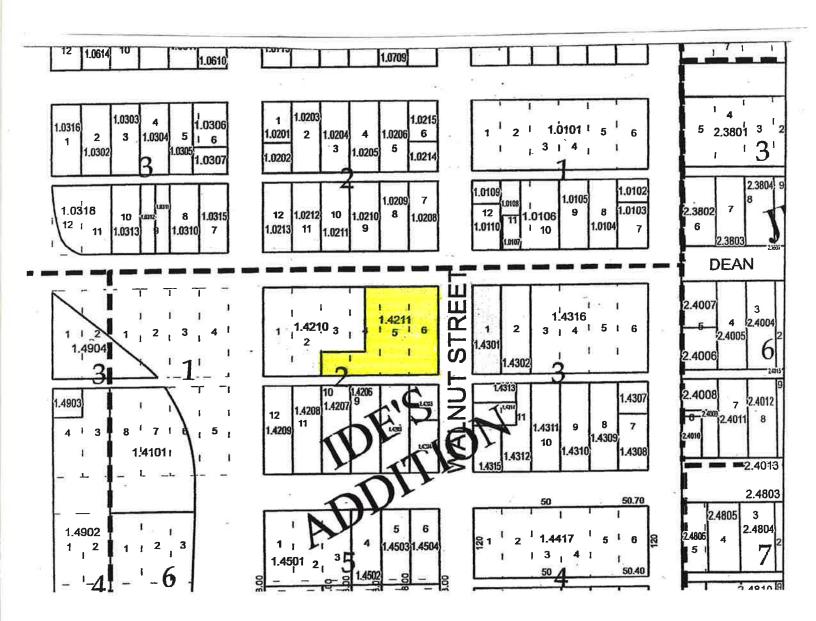
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- "In Honor of God." Spokesman-Review, 28 Oct 1901.
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Map

Spokane Plat Map, 2010



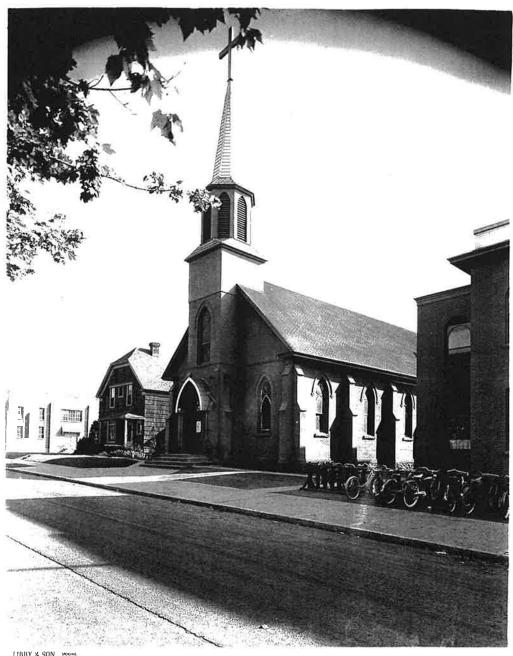
Plat Map

Spokane County plat map, 2005.



Photo 1

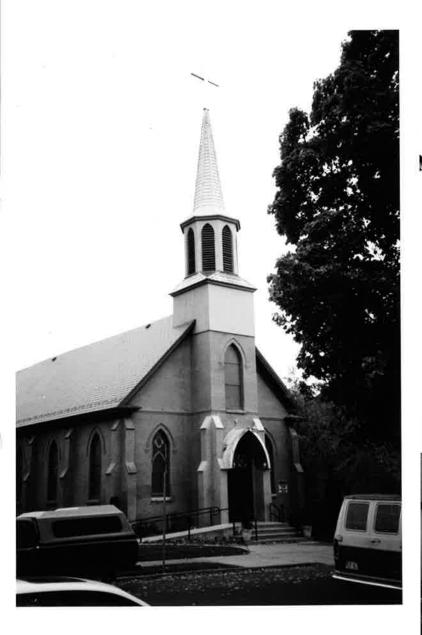
C. 1958 photograph of St. Joseph's Church (church parsonage in background next east of church), EWSHS Libby Photo, L87-1.92215-58.



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Photos 2 and 3

North façade of church in 2005.





Photos 4 and 5

North façade and south elevation of church in 2005.





Photos 6 and 7

Stained-glass window above front door in church, and view of church interior, looking south at alter.





Photo 8

Center alter at south wall of church in 2005.



Photos 9 and 10 Alters in SE and SW corners of first floor of church in 2005.





Photos 11 and 12 Stained-glass windows in church in 2005.





Photos 13

Interior of church, looking north in 2005.



Photo 14

Original file cabinet in 2005.



Photo 15

North façade of convent in 2005.



Photo 16

North façade of convent, front door detail in 2005.



Photos 17 and 18 South elevation of convent in 2005.





Photos 19 and 20 Front doors of convent, and fireplace in library in convent in 2005.





Photos 21 and 22 Interior first-floor of convent, looking SE and SW in 2005.





Photos 23 and 24 Stairwell in convent in 2005.





Photos 25 and 26 Stairs to 2nd floor in convent, and typical doors and hallway in 2005.





Photos 27 and 28 2nd floor hallway in convent, looking west and east in 2005.





Photos 29 and 30 Wall-hung wash basin in convent room on 2nd floor (typical) and corner wash basin in basement in 2005.





Photos 31 and 32 Parsonage in 2005; north façade and east elevation.





Photo 33

Parsonage and church, looking SW from corner of Walnut and Dean in 2005.

