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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

32-80

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Mount Saint Michael

other names/site number Mount Saint Michael Historic District

2. Location

street & number 8500 N Saint Michael Road

☐ not for publication

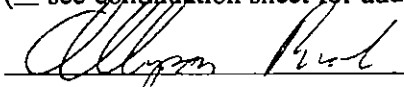
city or town Spokane

☒ vicinity

state Washington code WA county Spokane code . 063 zip code . 99217

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ see continuation sheet for additional comments)



Signature of certifying official

3-22-02

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria (☐ see continuation sheet for additional comments)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is

☐ entered in the National Register

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined eligible for the National Register

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register

☐ removed from the National Register

☐ other, (explain)

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property		
		contributing	noncontributing	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)			
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	10	2	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	-	-	sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	2	2	structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object		-	objects
		12	4	Total

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

**No. of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register:**
0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION religious facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION religious facility
RELIGION school

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)
Late Gothic Revival/Collegiate Gothic

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)
foundation Poured concrete
walls Brick
roof Tar/built-up

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

3

Mount San Michael
Spokane County, Washington

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)

- X 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.
- X 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).

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions).

Period of Significance**Significant Dates**

RELIGION
EDUCATION
ARCHITECTURE

1915-1950

1915, 1929

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person**Architect/Builder**

Julius Zittel

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.

9. Major Bibliographic References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ State Historic Preservation Office
 - ☐ Other State agency
 - ☐ Federal agency
 - ☒ Local government
 - ☐ University
 - ☐ Other
- Specify repository
Spokane City/County Preservation Office

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property: 55

UTM References:

1
zone easting northing
2

3
zone easting northing
4

x See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Eva M Krause and Stephen Emerson
organization Office of Historic Preservation, Spokane
street & number 808 W Spokane Falls Blvd
city or town Spokane state WA

date December, 1999
telephone (509) 625-6983
zip code 99201

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location
- A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property

Additional items (Check with SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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

name
street & number telephone
city or town state zip code

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Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, Washington

7. Narrative Description

Mount Saint Michael Historic District: The district is located on approximately 55 acres of land near the western edge of a range of hills that separates the Spokane Valley, to the south, from Peone Prairie, to the north. The main seminary building occupies a prominent position on one of these bluffs, facing southwest toward the city of Spokane. The district occupies portions of the rolling plateau behind the face of the bluff. Much of the property is cultivated for growing wheat, but the immediate grounds surrounding the main seminary building are landscaped with lawns, trees, shrubs, and flowering plants. There are thirteen contributing features within the district: twelve buildings and one structure. Two non-contributing buildings and two non-contributing structures are also contained within the district boundaries.

Main Building and Addition: Located near Hillyard and Mead, one mile north of the Spokane city limits, Mount Saint Michael was built as a seminary high on a bluff some 300 feet above the valley floor. Exhibiting an imposing architectural presence, the building has been in continuous use as a religious educational facility since 1916. The exterior of the original Late Gothic Revival building has changed very little since it was first built. The main change is the Collegiate Gothic addition on the west end of the building, constructed in 1929.

Mt. Saint Michael is composed of two buildings which were built at different times, but which exhibit similar architectural styles and features. The original seminary building, built in 1915, is a four-story T-shaped structure with a five-story tower at the crux of the T. The attached L-shaped wing, added in 1929, is a three-stories-high structure whose addition, with the rear wing of the original building, creates an interior courtyard at the back of the conjoined structure. Both buildings share common elements, including flat roofs, brick cladding, and poured concrete foundations.

The architectural style of the original building is characterized by the use of classic, ecclesiastical, Late Gothic Revival design elements. Among the indicators of this style which are employed in this structure are the castellated parapet of the flat roof, the square drip-molds of the window crowns, the decorative window tracery employing gothic/pointed arch design motifs, and the use

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7. Narrative Description (Continued)

of crosses as finials. Similar design elements were employed in the 1929 addition, which exhibits Late Gothic features such as castellated parapets, square drip-molds over the windows, exterior wall buttresses, and pointed-arch windows. Institutional buildings, such as the addition, which are built in the Gothic Style, but lack the ecclesiastical elements, are usually referred to as Collegiate Gothic structures. While Gothic Revival elements are often used in church architecture, Collegiate Gothic is less common. Two out-standing examples of the latter style in the Spokane area are Lewis and Clark High School and the original Hazen and Jaeger Funeral Home.

The original Mt. St. Michael seminary building is a T-shaped structure with projecting bays at each end of the cross bar. The building is clad with a red brick facade and has a poured concrete foundation. Windows in the rear foundation provide daylight to the basement rooms. The foundation is separated from the brick cladding by a projecting water course built of modular units of glazed terra cotta. These units, used throughout the building for trim, are coated with a high-fire glaze that is semi-translucent white in color with mottled brown and, to a lesser degree, mottled blue markings. Despite the unconventional color of the glaze when viewed from close by, the appearance from a distance is that of traditional off-white terra cotta. Above the water course are four stories faced with red brick laid in common bond, with decorative buick quoins on the building's corners as well as along the window banks of the central tower and the projecting bays. The flat roof is hidden behind the castellated parapet.

The building is divided horizontally by rows of windows and terra cotta belt courses. The terra cotta sills of the first floor windows are located along the top of the water course. The windows on the first floor are tall, narrow, nine over nine, wood sash, double-hung windows. A second continuous terra cotta belt course visually separates the first and second floors. The sills of the second floor windows sit directly on this belt course. The second, third, and fourth, and fifth floors (on the central tower) all feature wood sash, double-hung, six over six, windows. A

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7. Narrative Description (Continued)

third terra cotta belt course sits above the fourth floor windows, creating a cornice that visually defines the roof line from the parapet. The cornice is decorated with a symmetrically placed series of medallions, one large rosette between each set of windows and two small medallions equally spaced above the windows. The castellated parapet is red brick with terra cotta coping.

The main facade of the original building consists of a central five-story tower projecting from the center and projecting four-story sections on each end. Each floor of the projecting end sections features a set of five wood sash double-hung windows that share a common drip hood and lug sill. The recessed sections of the facade feature six pairs of wood sash, double-hung windows. Each pair of windows has a single lug sill and drip hood. Originally this main portion of the building contained the classrooms, living area, libraries and recreation rooms.

The five-story tower projects 12 feet from the center of the main facade. Within the tower are two double and one triple set of windows on the second through fourth floor level. The central three double-hung windows share one lug sill and a drip hood. On either side of the center windows are two coupled double-hung windows, both with a single lug sill and a drip hood. Between the top the drip cap of the center second floor window, and the lug sill of the third floor windows is a terra cotta panel with ST MICHAEL in raised letters.

The central tower rises one-story above the third belt course and has a fourth belt course that separates the brick wall from the decorative terra cotta pedimented and castellated parapet, which is topped by a central cross. Terra cotta tracery, featuring arcades of pointed arches, fills the front of the parapet, giving the tower a "crowned" look.

A one-story entry vestibule projects from the center of the tower. A wide pointed arch, reminiscent of a Tudor arch, frames the front entry. Marble stairs stretch across the vestibule's full width leading to a landing in front of double doors centered in the arch. Sidelights and overhead lights fill the void between the doors and the arch. The arch and windows are framed

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7. Narrative Description (Continued)

with terra cotta and trimmed with Gothic tracery work made of the same terra cotta. The pedimented parapet that tops the vestibule mimics the shape of the tower's roof line and includes a cross on top of the central crest. A niche below the pediment shelters a statue of the Virgin Mary.

The portion of the building that forms the shaft of the T is three stories high and measures 160 ft x 59 ft. The separate floors of this section originally housed the gymnasium, theater, dining room, and the two-story chapel. One-story canopies, supported by round posts, are situated above the wood sash double-hung windows of the first-story. They shelter walkways along the northwest and southeast exterior sides of this portion of the building. The canopies are made entirely of metal, except for wood soffiting on the underside. The fact that the canopies cover some of the decorative drip molds of the first floor windows indicate that they may have been later additions. Above the canopy, on each side of this wing, there are four two-story stained glass windows of the chapel. These windows, with terra cotta framing and wood tracery, feature wide pointed arches and are composed of rectangular lights on the lower half and concrete Gothic tracery, employing pointed-arch and clover-like foil designs, on the upper half. Other windows of the rear wing are wood sash double-hung. The stained glass panels, as well as the double-banked double-hung windows, are separated from each other by brick wall buttresses capped with terra cotta coping. The parapet of this rear section of the building is castellated all around. At the rear is a one-story extension of the wing, also with a castellated parapet. The rear wing possesses characteristic features similar to the front facade of the building, including a water course, string courses, a medallioned cornice below the parapet, drip-molds above the double-hung windows, and decorative brick quoins at the corners and framing the windows.

A bell tower and elevator works structure is located on the roof of the main building, not far behind the five-story central tower. This cubicle structure houses the pulleys and engine that operate the Otis elevator. It also is at the top of the shaft from which the bell is rung by a rope. The cast iron bell is housed in a pyramidal wood gantry situated at the top of this structure.

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7. Narrative Description (Continued)

In 1929, an addition was attached to the end of the west wing of the building, adding a two-story library and bringing the total number of rooms to 172. This L-shaped wing is 165 feet long and 45 feet wide. The long side extends back, parallel to the rear section of the original building, partially enclosing a courtyard. At the center of this grassy area is a statue of St. Aloysius Gonzaga.

The Collegiate Gothic addition is similar in design to the original building using the same materials and parapet silhouette, but lacks much of the ornate detail. This section of the building was built on a more modern scale, with lower ceilings and shorter double-hung windows installed in single units rather than in pairs. It retains, however, essential design elements of the original building, including the castellated parapet, the terra cotta trim details, the terra cotta drip-molds of the window crowns, the terra cotta water course above the foundation, and the medalioned cornice below the parapet. The terra cotta units used on the addition exactly match the appearance of that used on the original building. The second-story windows of the library, found on both sides of this wing, feature triple-banks of narrow multiple-pane windows with terra cotta frames and pointed arches. Like the rear chapel portion of the original building, these windows, as well as the other wood sash double-hung windows, are separated by brick wall buttresses capped with decorative terra cotta coping. Additional double-hung windows line the high poured concrete foundation. There is a metal fire escape on the northwest side of this building, which accesses wood-framed glass doors with side and transom lights.

Notable original architectural features of the interior of Mt. St. Michael, common to both the original building and the addition, include terrazzo floors, marble steps and kick-boards, wood and glass doors with glass transoms, hardwood-trimmed wainscoting, and wrought-iron balustrades and newels on the staircases. The most distinctive interior feature of the 1929 addition is the library, with its high ceiling and original pendent light fixtures. The hand-made hardwood and glass cabinets found in the library were manufactured in one of the seminary shops. They were recently moved to the library from other locations in the building.

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7. Narrative Description (Continued)

The Chapel, located in the rear wing of the original building, is approximately 59 feet by 27 feet. The ceiling of the chapel is ribbed and vaulted in keeping with the general tone of Gothic architecture. Pendent lights hang from the center of each square. A central arch is supported by a group of columns in the sanctuary and hides a semi-circle of lights that illuminate the altar. The walls and ceiling are made of plaster and painted an off-white color. On each side of the chapel, there are four large triple panel stained glass windows. These are not original windows, having been ordered from New York State and installed in the 1950s. Side altars, which were planned for this area, were never added because they took up too much space. Originally, the carving of the window tracery as well as that of the pews and sanctuary rail were Gothic in finish. Both the pews and sanctuary rails were replaced with modern plain wood elements. A new Gothic designed sanctuary rail was installed in the late 1970s to replace the modern designed rail. A large choir loft is located in the rear of the chapel about 12 feet above the floor and is entered from the third floor. The original Otis elevator provides access to the chapel, as well as to other upper floors, from the main entrance hall.

Heating Plant: Located just east of the main building is the heating plant, which was built at the same time as the original seminary building. This is a one-story brick building with a poured concrete foundation that shares many architectural characteristics with the Mt. St. Michael building. These include a flat roof with castellated parapet, wood sash double-hung windows with terra cotta lintels and drip-molds, a terra cotta water course above the foundation, and a medallioned terra cotta cornice line below the parapet. The most striking difference between this building and that of the seminary is the use of sheet metal for the castellated parapet instead of terra cotta. Attached to the southeast side of the heating plant is a 130-foot-high poured concrete smoke stack. Recently, a cell-phone transmission unit has been placed at the top of this no-longer-functional stack. This heating plant building originally housed equipment which burned sawdust. In 1937, a steam boiler system was installed. The current heating system runs on natural gas. Besides supplying heat for the main building, the plant was also once the location of the bakery. This former use is reflected by the presence of a square brick chimney on the roof of the heating

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7. Narrative Description (Continued)

plant Despite changes to the equipment in this building, the exterior retains its architectural integrity and its visual association with the Collegiate Gothic design of the main seminary building

Other Contributing Resources: When Mt. St. Michael operated as a Jesuit seminary, it was in many ways a self-supporting colony. Numerous shop and utility buildings and structures were necessary to support this community. Such buildings that remain have been included as contributing features within the district, as has one water storage structure. The Jesuits also operated a dairy and agricultural farm, which provided them sustenance as well as income. Most of the agricultural structures have been removed, including the main dairy barn, which burned in the 1960s. Four buildings associated with agricultural activity at Mt. Saint Michael have, however, survived, and are included as contributing features within the district.

X There are four contributing one-story, gabled, buildings located just east of the heating plant. They are situated in a line running to the southeast, the westernmost three of them being physically connected. These buildings are situated on a gentle hill side and descend the slope in steps. The year of construction of these buildings is unknown, but their appearance indicates an early date. The westernmost of these buildings has been identified as once being a carpentry shop, but the former purpose of the other buildings is uncertain. They are all presently used for storage. Going from west to east, the first of these buildings is a front-gabled structure with a metal roof and vehicle entry doors. It is clad with horizontal wood siding and corner boards. There is a corbeled brick chimney on the roof crest. Most windows and a pedestrian entry on the southwest side have been altered. The sliding vehicle entry doors on the northwest end are made of wood and glass. The foundation of this building is basalt rubble. The second building in the line is the smallest and occupies the central position of the three connected structures. It has a poured concrete foundation and a poured concrete chimney. The roof is clad with metal and the walls with horizontal wood siding. A wood pedestrian entry door appears altered, as do the windows. The third connected

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7. Narrative Description (Continued)

building also has a metal roof and horizontal wood siding. The foundation is poured concrete. There are several window openings that have been covered with boards. At the southeast end there is a basalt rock retaining wall with an entry passage to the lower level of this building. This entry consists of a poured concrete vestibule with a wood frame gabled roof covered with wood shingles. The fourth building of this group is situated at the southeast end of the line and is separated from the other three. The original wood shingle roof of this structure has not been covered with metal like the others. It has horizontal wood siding, with corner boards, and a poured concrete foundation. Most of the square window openings are covered with boards. At the southeast end is a poured concrete entry vestibule that accesses the lower level. This is similar to that of the building behind it, with a wood frame gabled roof covered with wood shingles.

Adjacent to the northeast side of the heating plant is a small wood frame gabled structure that originally served as a cobbler shop. It actually consists of three progressively smaller connected buildings, all with corrugated metal roofs. The largest is constructed of ceramic tile blocks. It has exposed rafter ends and soffit under the eaves. There is a corbeled brick chimney on the crest of the roof. On the northwest side is a wood frame, shed-roofed entry vestibule with horizontal wood siding and a wood shingle roof. Windows include several wood frame double-hung windows with brick sills. The smaller additions are clad with horizontal wood siding with corner boards. They have exposed rafter ends along the eaves. The central structure has a poured concrete foundation, while the smaller structure is built on the ground and open to the southwest side. These connected structures are currently used for storage.

North of the gymnasium is an old poured concrete water reservoir that is still functioning as a water supply for the complex. It is a round structure, about fifteen feet high and twenty feet in diameter, with a castellated rim. Extending from the rim is a pipe, supported by a wood knee brace, which permits overflow to drop to the ground.

There are five structures located to the east of the main seminary complex which are associated with the agricultural function of Mt. St. Michael during the time it was a Jesuit seminary. This

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7. Narrative Description (Continued)

group of agriculturally associated structures includes an equipment barn, a grist mill, a farmhouse, a large garage, and a shop. The barn lacks diagnostic features common to dairy or livestock barns and appears to have been used as storage. It is a long, rectangular, wood frame structure consisting of three sections: two front-gabled sections at each end, and a central side-gabled section. The roof appears to have originally been clad with wood shake or shingle. It is presently covered with corrugated metal. The widely overhanging eaves feature exposed rafter ends. The walls of the barn are clad with horizontal wood siding. The foundation appears to be post and pier. The central side-gabled section of the barn is open to the southeast. The northwest wall contains a line of small square window openings. Overall, most fenestration of this structure has been replaced or altered. At present, this building is used for storage.

Just west of the equipment barn is a small (30 feet by 12 feet), one-story, poured concrete structure. This building, which likely housed a grist mill for grinding wheat into flour, is divided into two rooms. The room to the southeast appears to have been a machinery room. Whatever engine was used to power the equipment has been removed. Large pulleys and belts, which remain, were used to turn a metal shaft which extends through a hole into the other room of the structure. This other room is where the mill stone must have been turned, grinding the wheat. There is a collapsing brick chimney in the wall dividing the two rooms. The hole for a flue indicates that the room where the wheat was ground was heated, while the machinery room was not. This building is currently used for storage.

Just west of the grist mill is a farm house with an adjacent garage and shop. The house is a two-story wood frame structure with an extra wide front porch at the upper level. The current composition shingles of the roof have been laid over the original wood shingles. The roof is an odd combination of gabled and hipped forms, with exposed rafter ends along the eaves. The walls of the house are clad with horizontal wood siding with corner boards. The wood and glass front entry door looks original, but other fenestration is mostly altered. Most of the windows have been

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7. Narrative Description (Continued)

replaced by newer steel frame units. There is a newer wood entry door on the southeast side beneath a gabled canopy supported by square wood posts. The porch foundation appears to be post and pier, while the house rests on a poured concrete foundation.

A large, side-gabled, wood frame garage is located behind the house. The roof is covered with corrugated metal sheets and features exposed rafter ends. There is a corbeled brick chimney on the roof. The walls are clad with horizontal wood siding. On the side facing the house are several vehicle entries with wood swinging doors. Two of these are covered with sheet metal. The garage rests on a poured concrete platform. The rectangular shop structure northwest of the house is a one-story wood frame building with a hipped roof and exposed rafter ends. The roof is covered with composition shingles and the walls are clad with wood shingles and corner boards. This shop has a small shed-roofed addition on the northwest side. The foundation is poured concrete. Windows consist of multiple-pane openings covered with plexiglass or plywood. Many of the muntins are broken. There is a wood and sheet metal sliding vehicle entry door on the northeast side. Also on this side are two wood swinging storage access doors. On the southeast side there is a wood pedestrian entry door beneath a gabled metal-covered canopy supported by square wood posts.

One of the defining elements of the Mt. St. Michael property is the landscape, ranging from formal gardens, green lawns, tree-lined avenues, natural features, and agricultural fields. The slopes of the bluff upon which Mt. St. Michael is situated are covered with a hay field which transitions to bushes and trees on the steeper hillside above. Marking the edge of the bluff are a number of basalt pillar-like formations which command a view of the Spokane vicinity below. The immediate grounds of Mt. St. Michael are characterized by neatly-trimmed lawns punctuated by shrubbery and flower beds. Religious statuary is found in various spots. The site, which once stood on a starkly bare windswept bluff, is now distinguished by many old trees, including pine, fir, maple, locust, and willow. The roadway approaching the main building is lined by maple trees, some planted in the days of the Jesuit seminary and others planted about 25 years ago by the present owners. Near the eastern edge of the property, at the top of a ravine, is a semi-circular

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7. Narrative Description (Continued)

pond lying in a grove of large willow and locust trees. Part of the border of the pond is defined by basalt rock retaining walls. The landscape to the north of the main building is dominated by a tree-lined athletic field and a large wheat field. The concrete water reservoir, located at the southern edge of the wheat field, is approached, from the south, by a tree-lined lane.

Some of the most striking features of the Mt. St. Michael landscape are the formally planted gardens and shrines of the Grotto, located in trees just below the western rim of the bluff. This shadowy glade is characterized by concrete walkways and steps, stone-lined paths, benches, and colorful flower beds. The focal points of the grotto are the two man-made basalt rock structures featuring arch-roofed niches. Religious statuary, including a likeness of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and other shrines provide inspiration to those who stroll through the Grotto.

Non-contributing Resources: Within the boundaries of the nominated property are two modern structures. One is a concrete block garage facility. The other is a brick-clad gymnasium. Two structures associated with the early water supply system remain, but are in a thoroughly compromised state. One of these, a round, castellated, poured concrete above-ground, water storage reservoir, is located south of the main building, just over the rim of the bluff. Its appearance is nearly identical to the other round reservoir found north of the building. It has suffered from deterioration, however, and is no longer functional. Directly east of this structure is a rectangular poured concrete and timber feature containing pipe. This was apparently a pump house for the original water system. It was used to pump water from a source below the bluff. Reportedly, water could be temporarily stored in the nearby concrete reservoir, from which it could be further transported to the other concrete reservoir on the high ground north of the seminary, from where it could be distributed as needed. Like the nearby reservoir tank, the pump house is badly deteriorated and no longer functional.

Just north of the boundary of the Mt. St. Michael property are two cemeteries. One, the Mt. St. Michael Cemetery, is of recent origin and belongs to the congregation. The other cemetery is the

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Mount Saint Michael Historic District Spokane County, Washington

7. Narrative Description (Continued)

Jesuit Cemetery, which dates back to the early years of the Mt St Michael seminary. It contains the graves of many Jesuits, including Father Cataldo. When the Mt St Michael property was sold, the Jesuits retained ownership of the cemetery.

8. Statement of Significance

Mount Saint Michael is architecturally significant as an outstanding, physically intact, example of the Late Gothic Revival style as well as the related Collegiate Gothic style. Both the original seminary building and the 1929 addition were designed by prominent Eastern Washington architect Julius Zittel. Additionally, properties within the Mt St Michael Historic District are historically significant for their association with the profound influence that the Catholic Church, and the Jesuit Order, had on the development of the Inland Pacific Northwest, both in the field of missions and education. In particular, Mt St Michael is significant as one of the crowning achievements of Father Joseph Cataldo, who was arguably the most influential Jesuit priest in the history of the region. For these reasons, Mt St Michael is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A, B, and C. Ordinarily, religious properties such as Mt. St Michael are not considered to be eligible for NRHP listing. This property does, however, meet the requirements of National Register Criteria Consideration A, which states that religious properties such as this are eligible for inclusion in the NRHP if they derive "primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance." Mt St Michael certainly satisfies these stipulations.

Catholic missionaries first arrived in the Inland Pacific Northwest in the early 1800s as part of the early exploration of the region by fur traders. In 1833 the Second Provincial Council of Baltimore entrusted the development of Indian missions of the American West to the spiritual care of the Society of Jesus, or the Jesuits. Father Joseph M. Cataldo, S.J. (Society of Jesus), was one of the most prolific of these missionaries to work in the Columbia Basin region, founding missions for the Nez Perce and the Coeur d'Alene tribes as well as being instrumental in the establishment of a mission among the Spokane Tribe which was the origin of Mt St Michael.

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**Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, Washington**

8. Statement of Significance (Continued)

Joseph Maria Cataldo was one of a number of Italian-born Jesuit missionaries who were sent to the American West during the mid-1800s. In 1865, Rev. Joseph Giorda, superior of the Rocky Mountain Mission, ordered Cataldo to the Inland Pacific Northwest to establish missions among the Native American inhabitants. He first traveled through the vicinity of Spokane in 1866, and for a number of years shared his time and efforts with both the Couer d'Alene and Spokane tribes. During this period he built the Sacred Heart Mission, near Cataldo, Idaho. Father Cataldo also spent much time with the Nez Perce Tribe, in central Idaho. He built a church in Lewiston, St. Stanislaus Catholic Church, and established a mission at Slickpoo, Idaho, where he built St. Joseph's Church. Over the years, Cataldo was involved in starting missions in Washington, Idaho, Oregon, and Montana. Perhaps his most noteworthy and influential accomplishments were the founding of Gonzaga University and the establishment of the Mt. St. Michael seminary. Although Father Cataldo was the driving force behind the foundation of these two institutions, he did not spend a lot of time at either of them or in their day-to-day operation. He was very much the traveler and divided his presence among a number of institutions and locations. Joseph Cataldo died at Pendleton, Oregon, in 1928, after collapsing during a church service for the Umatilla people at the St. Andrew's Mission. He was buried at the Jesuit cemetery just north of the Mt. St. Michael seminary.

The first Catholic mission in the vicinity of Spokane was a log shack built in 1865 by Father Joseph Caruana, S.J. It was located on Peone Prairie, northeast of the present Mt. St. Michael. The next year, Father Cataldo arrived in the area and occasionally lived among the Spokane Indians, on the property of Chief Baptiste Peone. Despite the opposition of another Spokane Chief, Garry, who favored Protestant missionaries, a mission was reestablished on Peone's land and was called Saint Michael. In ca. 1880, a new mission was built by Brother Achilles Carfagno. This small front-gabled wood-frame building was located in Bigelow Gulch, about one-half mile east of the current site of Mt. St. Michael. There, Carfagno and Cataldo maintained a school for both whites and Indians.

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Section Number _____ Page 14

**Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, Washington**

8. Statement of Significance (Continued)

At about the same time, Father Cataldo purchased land for the seminary that would assume the name Mt St Michael. The property was purchased by Father Cataldo in 1882 from the Northern Pacific Railroad. Most of the land for what is now Gonzaga University was purchased at the same time. Gonzaga University was founded in 1887 and was the first Jesuit seminary west of the Mississippi. For a number of years the Jesuits farmed the land at St Michael to supply fresh produce and dairy products to the Jesuit College at Gonzaga. By about 1915 overcrowding had become a problem at Gonzaga. Some thought it advisable to move the seminary and run it as a institution separate from the educational role of Gonzaga.

In August 1911, a meeting was held in California to determine the site of the new seminary. The Jesuits from California and Oregon objected to the Mount Saint Michael site, alleging that the weather was too severe. A majority present at the meeting favored Spokane, however. The decision was appealed to Rome, but Father Louis Tealman, then president of Gonzaga, made a strong argument for Mount Saint Michael. Citing the ideal weather conditions, the yields of the existing farm, and the fact that the Jesuits already owned the land, the final decision was made in favor of building the new seminary at the current location. In February 1912 the site was approved and Julius Zittel was commissioned to design a building to accommodate 80 Jesuits. The corner stone of the original seminary was laid in 1915. Zittel also designed the new addition which was attached in 1929.

Julius Zittel was born in Germany in 1869, and came to America thirteen years later. He only briefly studied architecture in Chicago before moving to Spokane in 1887. There, at the age of eighteen, Mr Zittel initiated a meteoric rise to prominence. Only six weeks after entering the architectural firm of Herman Preusse, he was admitted as a partner. Preusse and Zittel operated until 1910, during which time both men established enduring reputations. Among their creations are St Aloysius' Church, and most of the older buildings of the Gonzaga University campus, including the Administration Building. From the beginning of Governor John R. Rogers' administration in 1897, Julius Zittel served off and on as a designer of state structures, and in 1912, Governor Ernest Lister officially appointed him State Architect. Twelve years later, when

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**Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, Washington**

8. Statement of Significance (Continued)

Roland Hartley replaced Lister as Governor, Democrat Zittel became a Republican, and remained as State Architect throughout the next administration. He remained active until his retirement from architecture in 1934. Among the many Spokane buildings he designed during both his public and private career are the Carnegie Library, Old City Hall, Finch School, the Auditorium building, and the Jamieson building. Additionally, Zittel designed buildings at Eastern Washington University and Eastern Washington Hospital.

The preliminary survey of the proposed Mt. St. Michael location showed that it sat 320 feet above the plateau, which presented a serious problem in getting building materials to the site. The existing road had a 10% grade, and the cost for hauling wagon loads of material up the hill were prohibitive. The solution was to build a railroad directly up the bluff and put a cable tram on it to pull the loads up. A steam donkey engine was located at the top of the 1,100-foot-long line. This way, two tram cars could carry up three tons of materials at a time.

Although Father Cataldo was the force behind the establishment of Mt. St. Michael as a Jesuit seminary, it was Father Arthuis who supervised the planning and construction of the original buildings. It was he who put together estimates of expenses and inventories of material. Fire protection was foremost in the minds of the designers, and the building was built of fire resistant materials like brick and concrete. One of the early material inventories specified that the decorative trim of the main building be done with what was described as "cement stone." This consisted of pre-cast concrete modules made much the same way as terra cotta. Cost considerations were probably behind the initial decision to use concrete. While terra cotta trim would have cost \$18,000, concrete would have reduced the cost to only \$12,000. For whatever reason, it was decided to use the more expensive medium, resulting in the present appearance of the building. Aesthetics may have also been a factor in this decision because concrete cannot take a high-fire glaze such as the one chosen to coat the terra cotta of Mt. St. Michael. The faculty and

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**Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, Washington**

8. Statement of Significance (Continued)

the students of the seminary moved from Gonzaga University's campus to Mt. St. Michael on January 6, 1916. In 1929 the new wing was added, employing similar materials, including the distinctive terra cotta trim of the original building.

Following the establishment of Mt. St. Michael seminary, the Jesuits continued to minister to the Spokane Indians, but that was no longer the primary purpose. For many years, local Indians continued to hold services in the old building at the Bigelow Gulch site. The new seminary was primarily a place for advanced education for religious avocation. But relations between the Jesuits and local tribal members remained close for some time. The old mission house in Bigelow Gulch eventually fell into disrepair. It was restored in the 1970s and moved to Fort Wright College, which at the time was a Catholic school. It is now the site of Mukogawa Institute. A small cemetery at the Bigelow Gulch location is still visible.

From 1916 to 1968, Mt. St. Michael was a self-contained community. The Jesuit brothers who were farmers, tailors, bakers, cobblers, bee keepers, and horticulturists provided for most of the seminary's needs. A number of shops were built, in the vicinity of the main building, where such self-supporting activities could be pursued. One of the primary missions of the seminary was agricultural, much of the surrounding land was farmed. Wheat was the main product of these efforts, with many acres devoted to growing grain. The grain was ground into flour at the seminary and cooked into bread in the bakery of the Heating Plant. Besides grain growing, the Jesuits grew fresh vegetables, raised chickens, and cared for a herd of dairy cows. The large dairy barn burned in the 1960s, when most farming activity by the Jesuits ceased. Besides the practical aspects of life at Mt. St. Michael, the seminary also served as a haven for weary Jesuits and students and a center for both spiritual and secular education. In this fashion, many Jesuits became learned men, schooled in self-reliance and imbued with a desire to share their knowledge. Their influence, both within and without Mt. St. Michael, had a profound effect on the spiritual and educational development of the Inland Pacific Northwest.

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**Mount Saint Michael Historic District
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8. Statement of Significance (Continued)

In 1968, following a precipitous drop in the demand to fill religious vocations, it was decided to close Mt St Michael and sell the building. The seminary was moved out and the building was subsequently used as a retirement home for the Jesuits until it was sold. On January 26, 1978 the announcement was made that the Society of Jesus had confirmed the sale of Mt Saint Michael to Pillar Investment Company, who in turn leased it to the Traditional Latin Rite Catholic Church of Coeur d'Alene. Today Mt Saint Michael is owned by the Congregation of Mary Immaculate Queen and serves as a center for the Traditional Latin Mass, and kindergarten through 12th grade private Catholic school. One wing of the building serves as a cloistered convent.

One of the interesting features of this property is the landscaped area called the Grotto. This was largely the creation of Brother Joseph Giraudi, a Jesuit who had suffered a leg injury in Oregon. His condition worsened after moving to Mt St Michael and he was diagnosed with cancer. He vowed to build a shrine to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary if he was cured and, apparently, he was. In 1919, he arose from his bed and began to build the Grotto. Although he was in his 50s by then, he built the niches of the Grotto from a pile of basalt. The statue of the Virgin Mary was placed in one of the niches during the 1920s. Brother Joseph was indeed cured, for he lived until 1953, dying at the age of 88. He is buried in the nearby Jesuit cemetery. When the site was purchased by the Congregation of Mary Immaculate Queen, the current owner, the Grotto had suffered from years of neglect. It was restored to its original beauty and today is adorned by hundreds of flowers, shrubs, and other plants.

Mt. St Michael has been in continuous use as a Catholic institution since its construction in 1915. Its significance lies not just in this, however. Because of its role in the development of the region, from early white settlement and into the Twentieth Century, and for its association with Father Joseph Cataldo, as well as its architectural integrity and distinction, Mt St Michael Historic District is eligible for placement in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A, B, and C. For the same reasons, Mt St Michael also satisfies the requirements of Register Consideration A.

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Section Number _____ Page 18

Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, Washington

9. Major Bibliographic References

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Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, Washington

9. Major Bibliographic References (Continued)

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10. Geographical Data

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- 1 11-747600-5286760
- 2 11-747520-5286520
- 3 11-747890-5286180
- 4 11-747815-5286090
- 5 11-747660-5286195
- 6 11-747360-5286085
- 7 11-747500-5286775

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Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, Washington

10. Geographical Data (Continued)

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the Mt St Michael Historic District can be traced beginning at the last hair-pin curve of St Michael Road (UTM 6). The boundary follows the eastern edge of the road for about 1,200 feet, creating the western edge of the property, to the northernmost point of the district (UTM 7), where the entry to the grounds is located. The boundary skirts the southern edge of the Mt St Michael Cemetery for about 200 feet (UTM 1) before turning south along the eastern edge of the wheat field and traveling about 400 feet to a point just east of the water reservoir (UTM 2). From here, the boundary travels in a southeasterly direction for about 700 feet to a point just east of the barn (UTM 3). From here, the boundary turns southwest for about 250 feet to a point (UTM 4) where it turns northwest and travels about 300 feet to a point just south of the spring (UTM 5). The boundary then turns to the southwest and travels about 250 feet along a faint road on the far side of the ravine that defines the southeast edge of the property. From the end of this road, the boundary follows a fence line for about 250 feet to the point of beginning at the hair-pin curve on the St Michael Road.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries described encompass the Mt St Michael primary structure, as well as the heating plant and other associated structures. They also include the immediate manicured grounds and parts of the agricultural landscape that have been associated with the seminary. Additionally, the boundary definition includes several agriculture-associated structures which were once part of a farm complex operated by the Jesuits.

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Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, Washington

11. Photographs

- 1 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 October, 1998
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 1915 building, front (southwest) facade, to the west

- 2 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 October, 1998
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 1915 building, southeast wing, to the east

- 3 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 October, 1998
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 1915 building, northwest wing, to the north

- 4 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 October, 1998
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 1915 building, central tower, to the east

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Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, Washington

11. Photographs (Continued)

- 5 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 October, 1998
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 1915 building, front entry, to the northeast

- 6 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 October, 1998
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 1915 building, front entry detail, to the northeast

- 7 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 October, 1998
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 1915 building, central tower detail, to the northeast

- 8 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 October, 1998
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 1915 building, end of southeast wing, to the northwest

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**Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, Washington**

11. Photographs (Continued)

- 9 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 October, 1998
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 1915 building, southeast wing, rear, to the west

- 10 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 October, 1998
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 1915 building, rear wing, southeast side, to the northwest

- 11 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 October, 1998
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 1915 building, end of rear wing, to the west

- 12 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 October, 1998
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 1915 building, rear wing, northwest side, to the south

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Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, Washington

11. Photographs (Continued)

- 13 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 October, 1998
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 1915 building, northeast wing, rear, courtyard, 1929 addition, to the south

- 14 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 October, 1998
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 1929 addition, southeast side, to the northwest

- 15 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 October, 1998
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 1929 addition, northwest side, to the north

- 16 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 October, 1998
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 1929 addition, southwest side, to the east

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, Washington

11. Photographs (Continued)

- 17 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
October, 1998
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
Heating plant, to the north
- 18 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
October, 1998
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
1915 building, chapel interior, to the northeast
- 19 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
October, 1998
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
1915 building, chapel interior, stained glass window, to the southeast
- 20 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
October, 1998
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
1915 building, chapel interior, stained glass windows, to the west

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Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, Washington

11. Photographs (Continued)

- 21 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
October, 1998
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
1915 building, interior, entry foyer to chapel, to the north
- 22 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
October, 1998
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
1915 building, interior, Otis elevator, to the east
- 23 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
October, 1998
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
1915 building, interior, front entry foyer, to the north
- 24 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
October, 1998
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
1915 building, interior, stairwell, to the east

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**Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, Washington**

11. Photographs (Continued)

- 25 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 April, 1999
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 Heating plant, eastern corner, to the west

- 26 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 April, 1999
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 Mt St Michael complex, to the west

- 27 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 April, 1999
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 Line of four shops, to the south

- 28 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 April, 1999
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 Three connected shops, to the west

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Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, Washington

11. Photographs (Continued)

- 29 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 April, 1999
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 Separate shop, to the west

- 30 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 April, 1999
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 Cobbler shop, to the west

- 31 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 April, 1999
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 Agricultural buildings, to the east

- 32 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
 Spokane County, WA
 Stephen Emerson
 April, 1999
 Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
 Equipment barn, to the north

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**Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, Washington**

11. Photographs (Continued)

- 33. Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
April, 1999
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
Equipment barn, to the south
- 34. Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
April, 1999
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
Grist mill, to the west
- 35. Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
April, 1999
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
Farm house and garage, to the west
- 36. Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
April, 1999
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
Grist mill, farm house, and shop, to the southwest

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**Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, Washington**

11. Photographs (Continued)

- 37 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
April, 1999
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
Water reservoir, to the north
- 38 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
April, 1999
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
Water reservoir, to the northeast
- 39 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
April, 1999
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
Tree-lined lane leading to water reservoir, to the northeast
- 40 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
April, 1999
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
Pond and retaining wall, to the south

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Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, Washington

11. Photographs (Continued)

- 41 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
April, 1999
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
Lawn and trees southwest of main building, to the west
- 42 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
April, 1999
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
Tree-lined road west of main building, to the south
- 43 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
April, 1999
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
Tree-lined athletic field, to the southwest
- 44 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
April, 1999
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
Grotto path, to the northwest

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Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, Washington

11. Photographs (Continued)

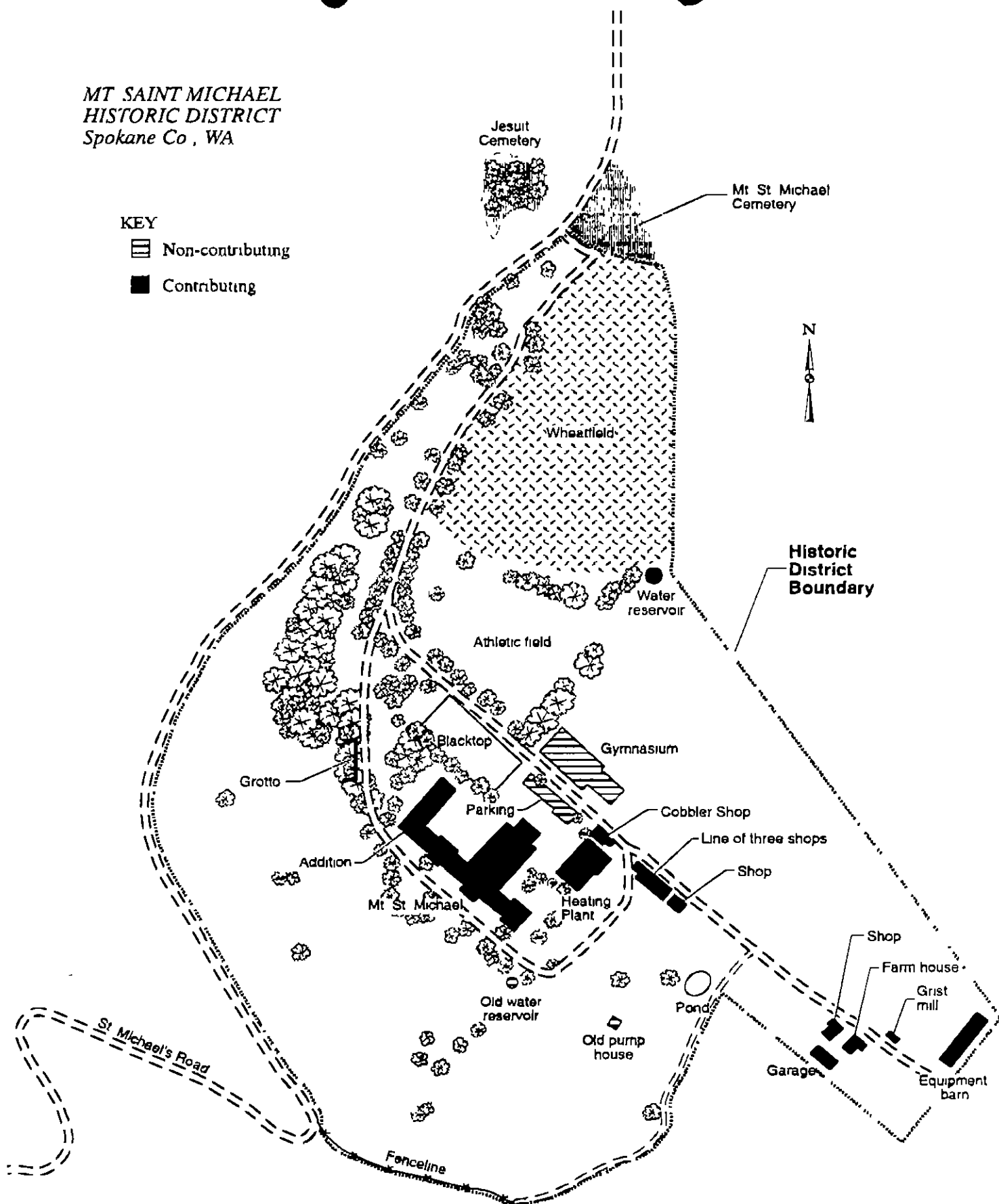
- 45 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
April, 1999
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
Grotto niches, to the northeast
- 46 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
April, 1999
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
Old water reservoir, to the south
- 47 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
April, 1999
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
Old pump house, to the south
- 48 Mount Saint Michael Historic District
Spokane County, WA
Stephen Emerson
April, 1999
Archaeological and Historical Services, Cheney, WA
Mt St Michael from below, to the northeast

*MT SAINT MICHAEL
HISTORIC DISTRICT
Spokane Co , WA*

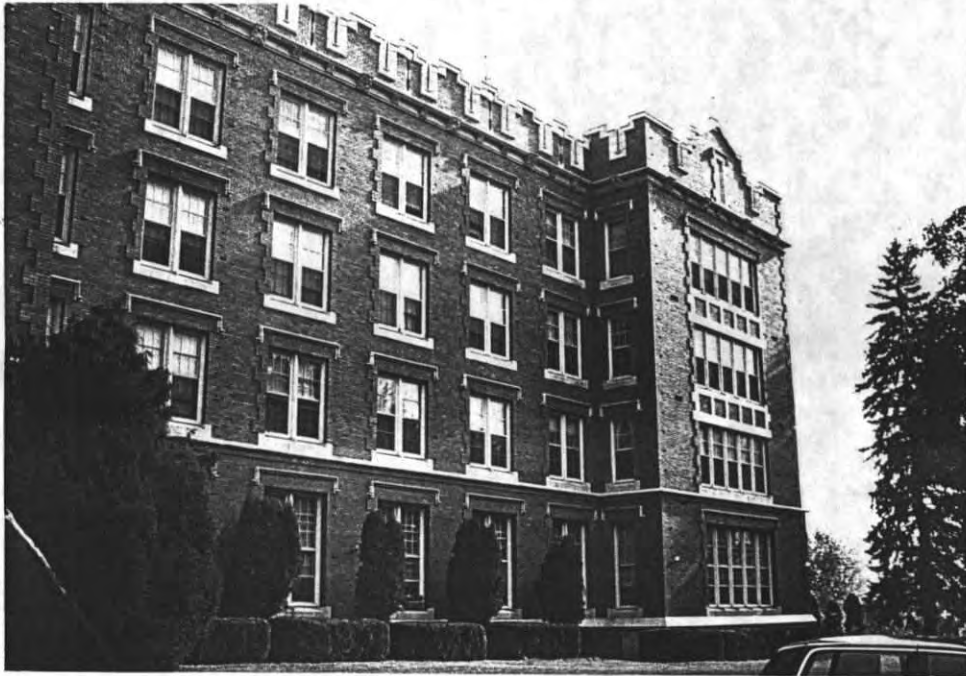
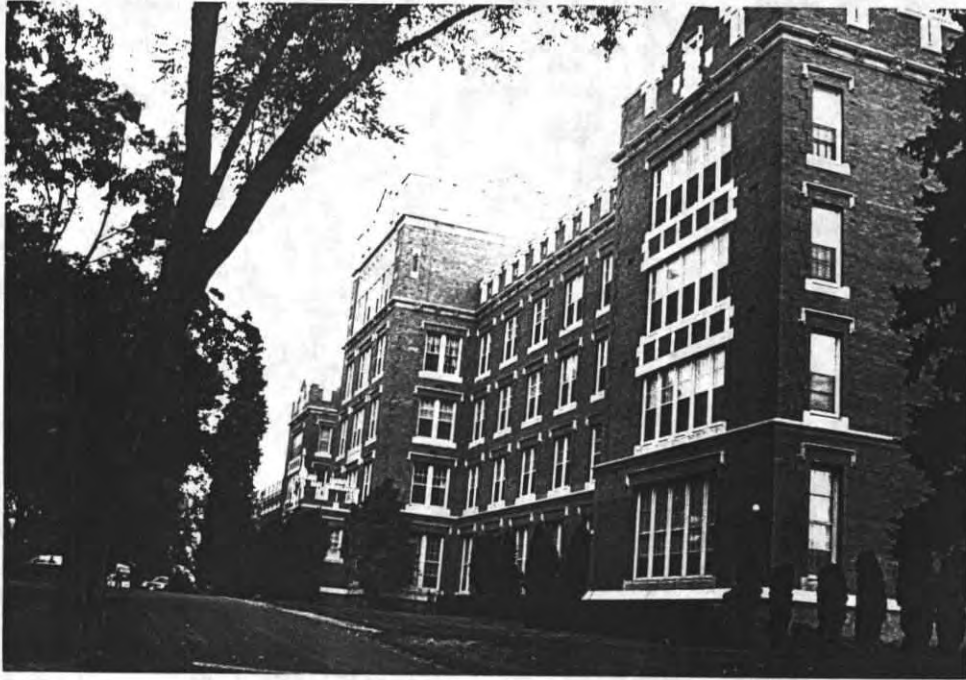
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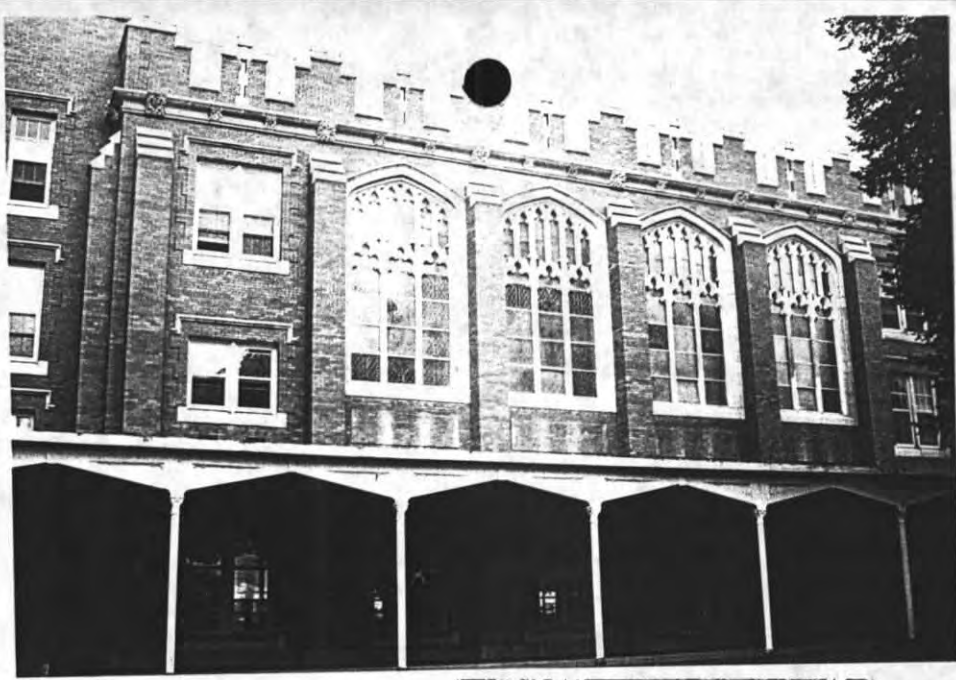


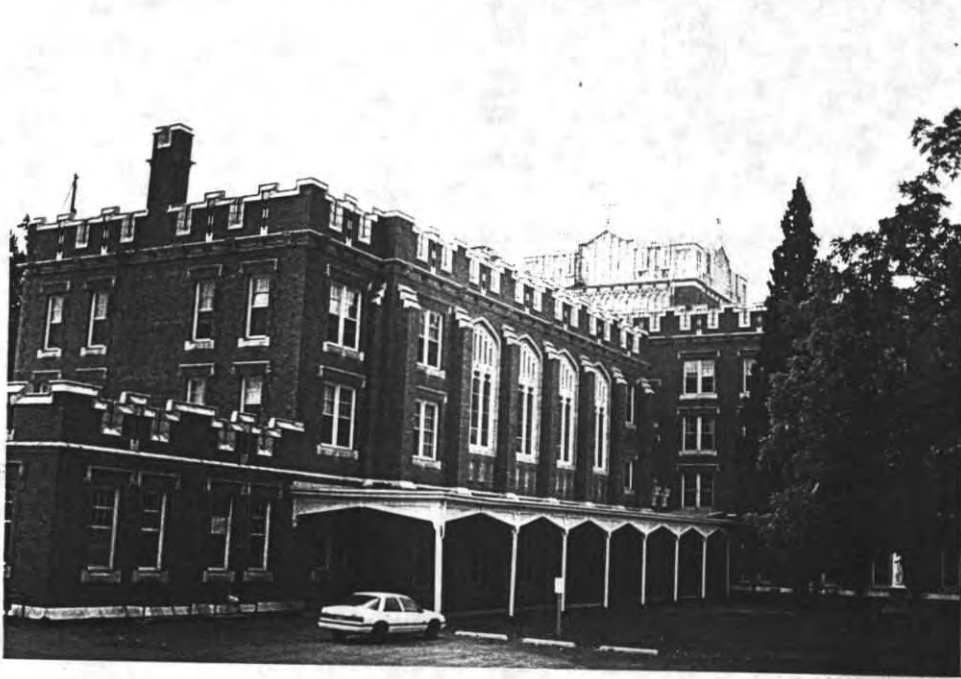
Sketch map of Mt St Michael

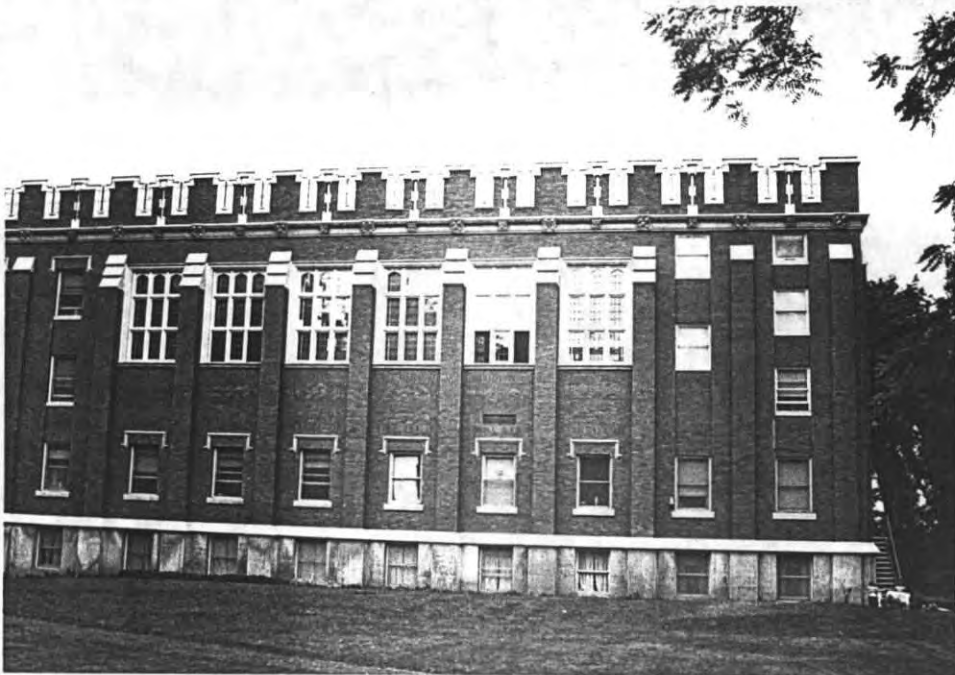


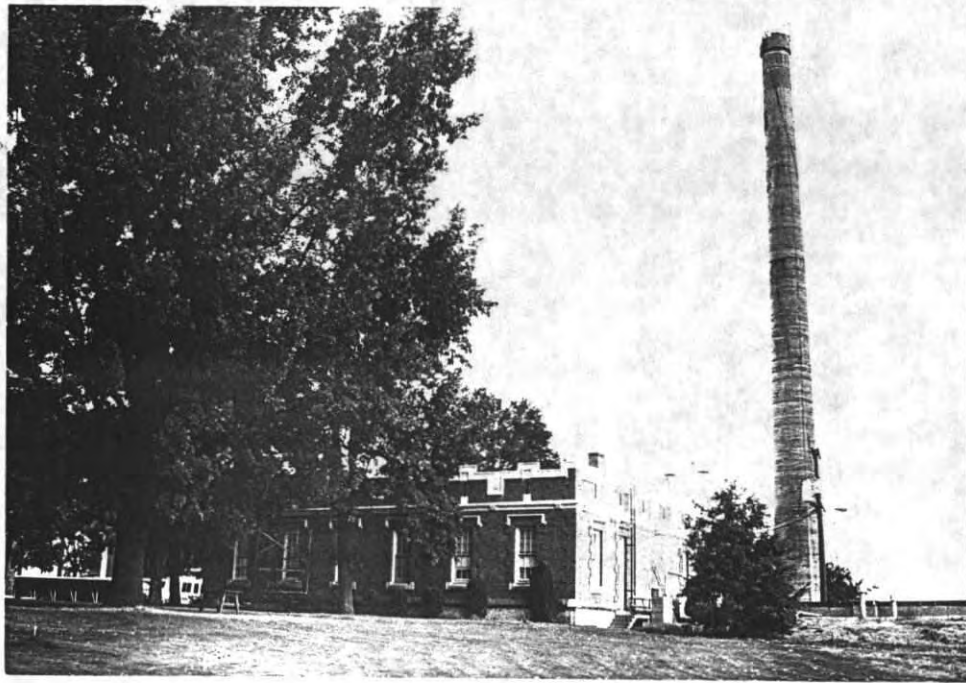




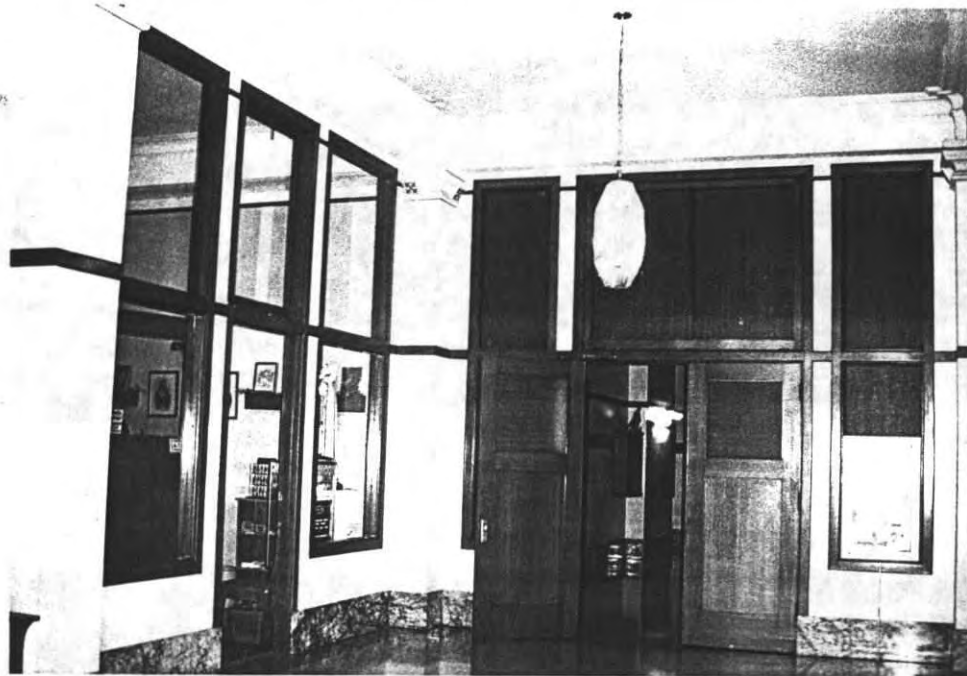
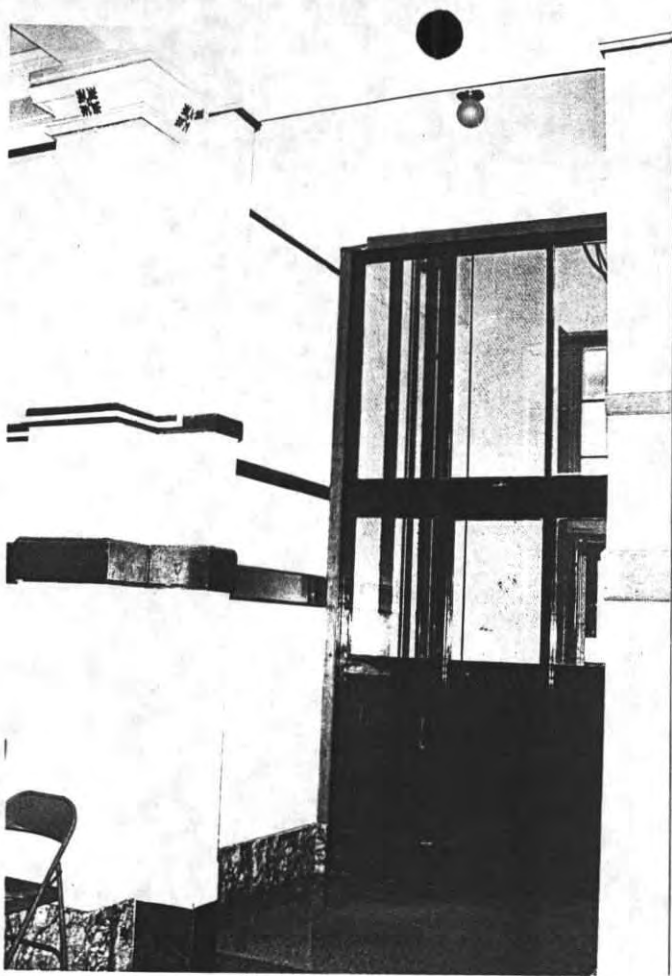


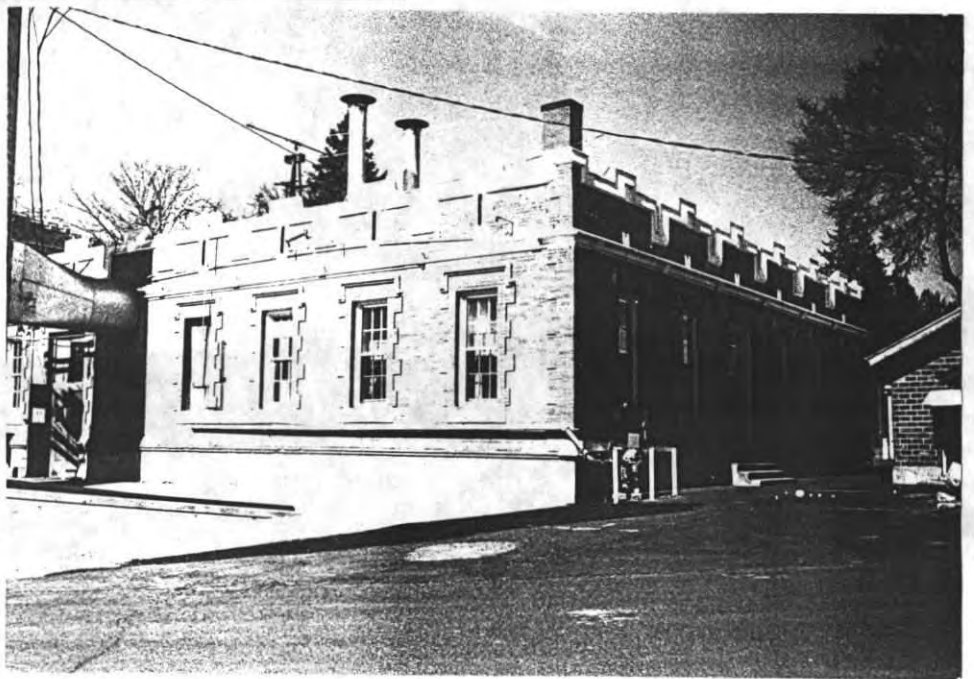
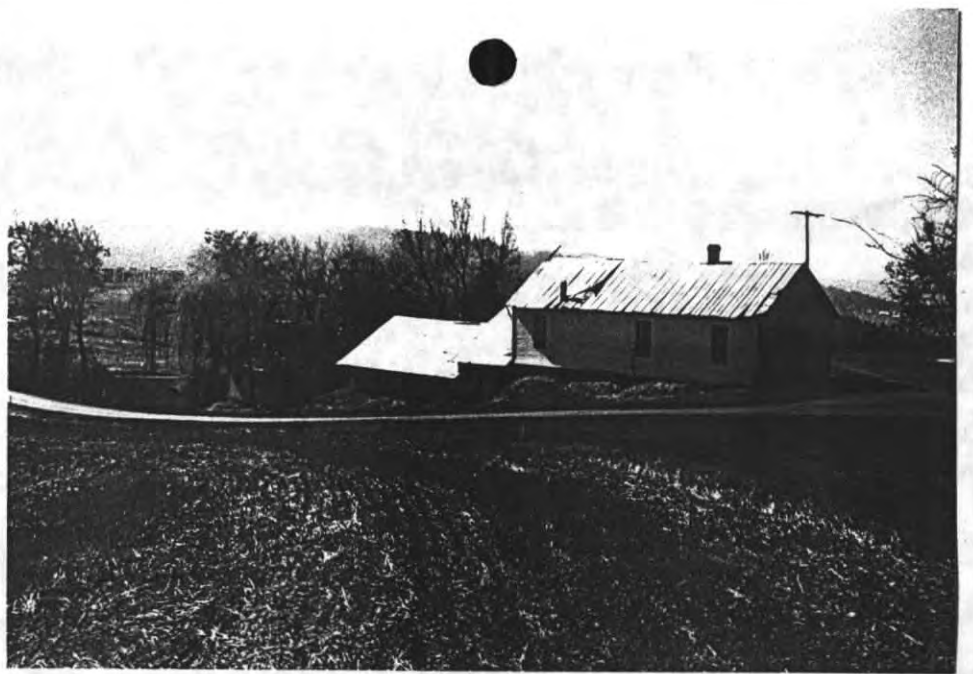


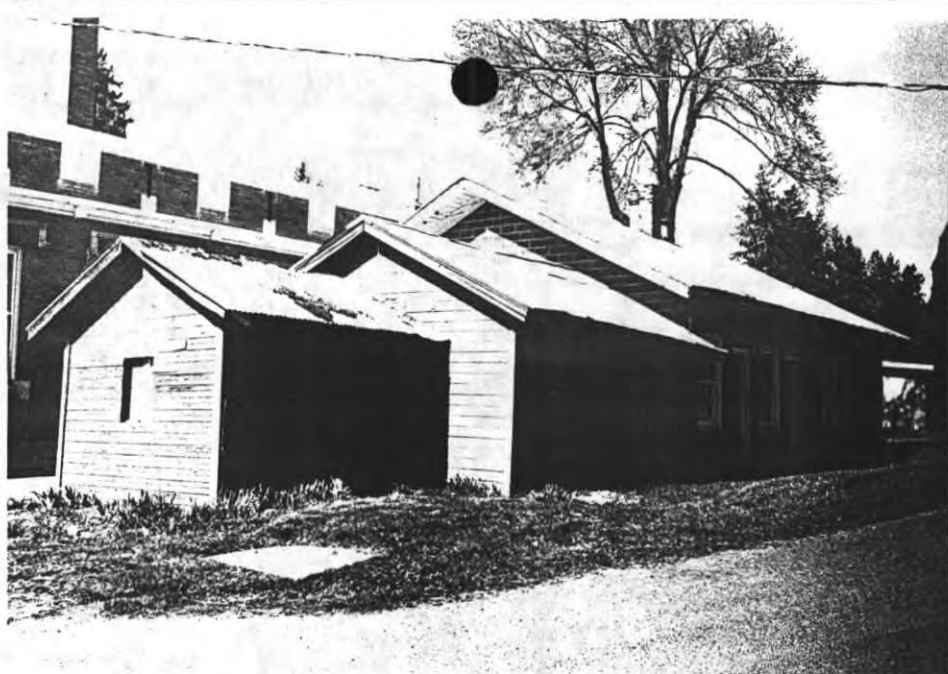


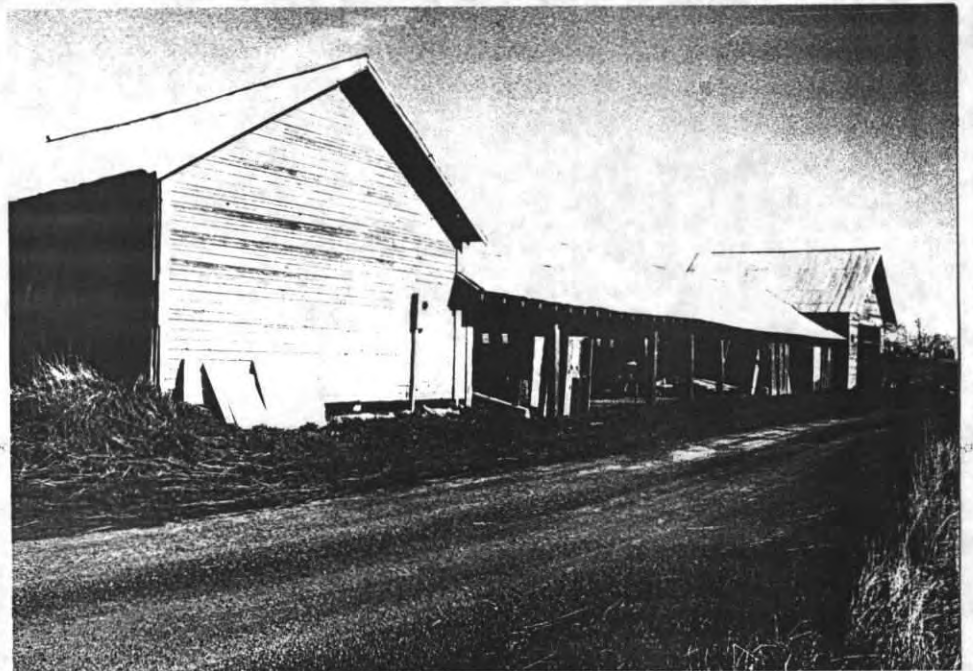
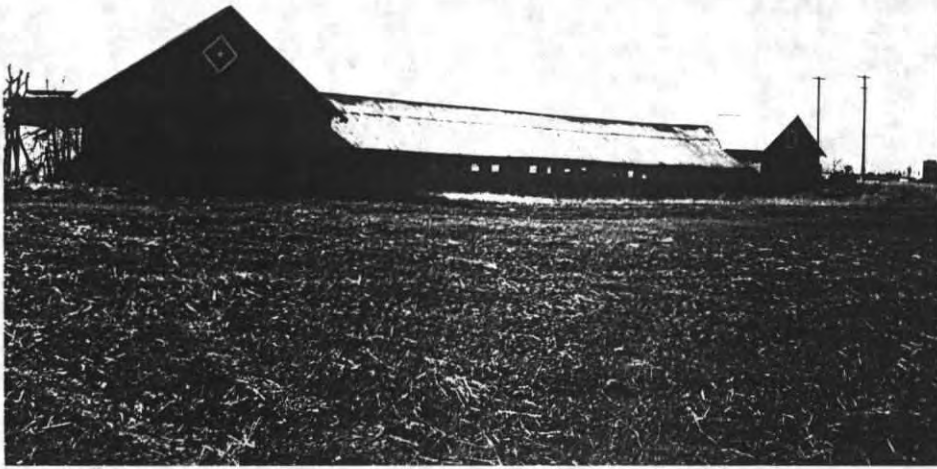


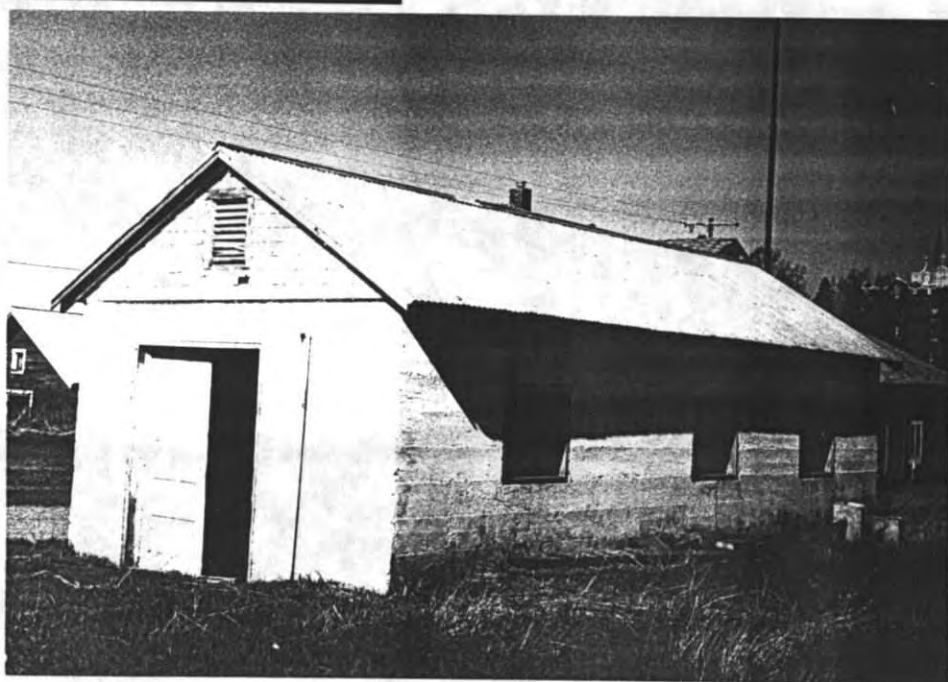


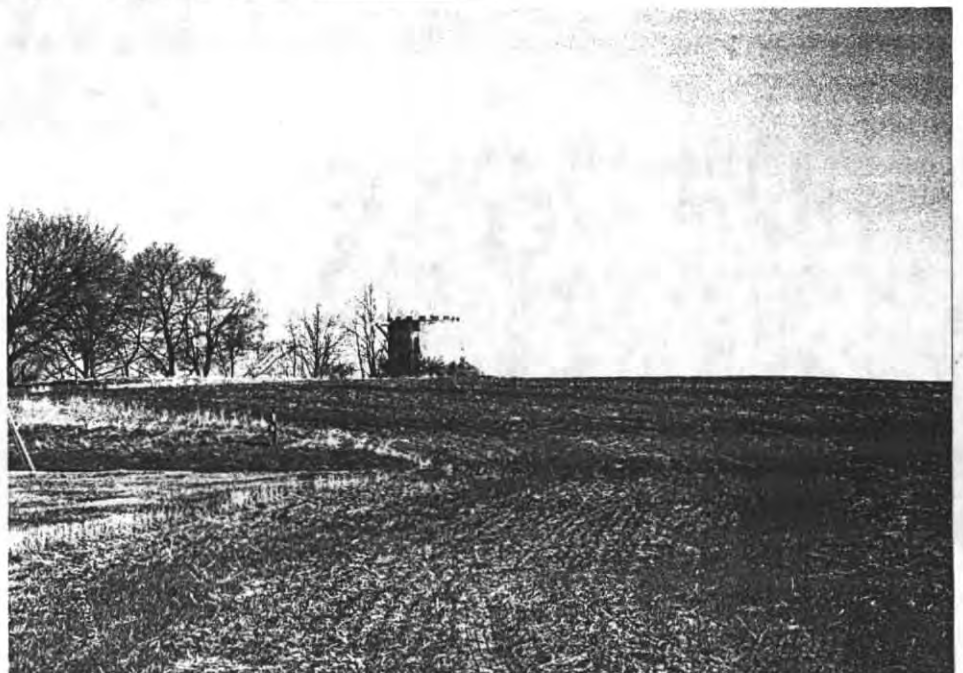
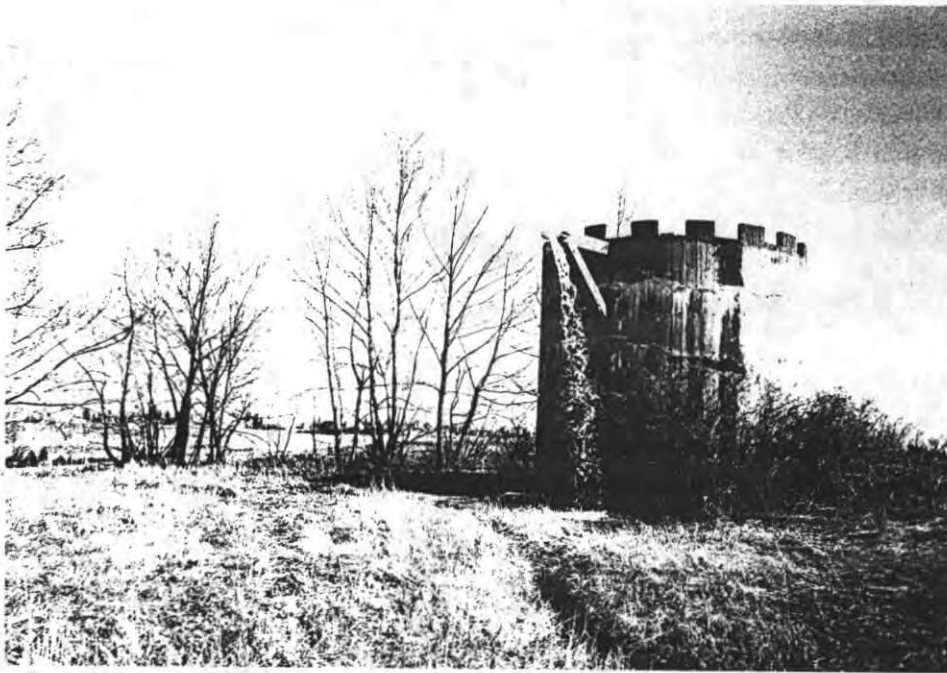










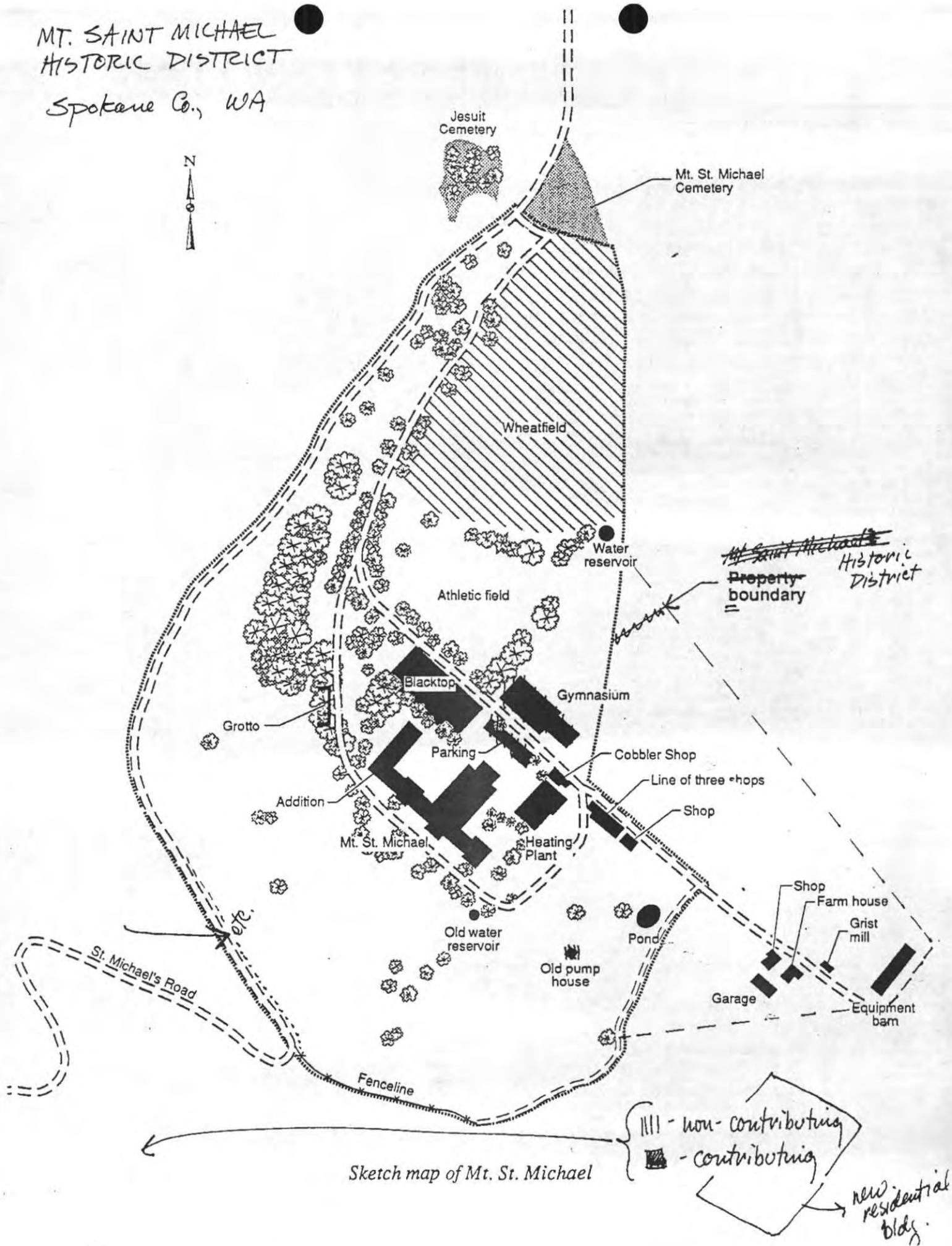








MT. SAINT MICHAEL HISTORIC DISTRICT Spokane Co., WA



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page one

A) Identification

Property Name Mount Saint Michael
Address 8500 N. Saint Michaels Road
City Spokane Zip 99217 County Spokane

B) Site Access (describe site access, restrictions, etc.)

Go east on Francis Ave. to Freya. Turn left, go north on Freya
to Lincoln. Turn right on Lincoln. This takes you to Saint
Michaels road. Mount Saint Michael is at the top of the bluff.

C) Property Owner

Congregation of Mary Immaculate Queen
8500 N. Saint Michaels Road, Spokane, WA 99217

D) Legal boundary description/justification

Parcel of land in Sec. 23, T26, R43, EW Meridian described as follows:

The west 480 feet of the east 870 feet of the SE, SW of Sec. 23.
(9.59 acres in Sec. 23)

Tax No./Parcel Tax No. 91-1144162 Parcel 36235.9085

FOR OAHP USE ONLY

Site No _____ Field No _____
Property Category _____ Context/Theme _____ Style/Form _____ Materials _____
Significant Date(s) _____ Construction Date _____
Quadrangle/ Map Reference _____
Township _____ Range _____ Section _____ Q _____ QQ _____ QQQ _____
City Plat Lot(s) _____ Block(s) _____ Acreage _____
UTM Reference Zone _____ Easting _____ Northing _____

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page two

E) Category of property

- ☒ building ☐ structure (irrigation system, bridge, etc) ☐ distinct
object (statue, grave marker, vessel, etc) ☐ cemetery/burial site
☒ historic site (site of an important event) ☐ archaeological site
☐ traditional cultural property (spiritual or creation site, etc)
☐ cultural landscape (habitation, agricultural, industrial, recreational, etc)

See page 2 continuation sheets
for Sec. F, Items 7 and 8.

F) Area of Significance - check as many as apply following this page.

- 1) 3 The property belongs to the early settlement, commercial development, or original native occupation of a community or region.
- 2) 4 The property is directly connected to a movement, organization, institution, religion, or club which served as a focal point for a community or group
- 3) 5 The property is directly connected to specific activities or events which had a lasting impact on the community or region
- 4) The property is associated with legends, spiritual or religious practices, or lifeways which are uniquely related to a piece of land or to a natural feature.
- 5) 7 The property displays strong patterns of land use or alterations of the environment which occurred during the historic period (cultivation, landscaping, industry, mining, irrigation, recreation)
- 6) 6 The property is directly associated with an individual who made an important contribution to a community or to a group of people
- 7) 1 The property has strong artistic, architectural or engineering qualities, or displays unusual materials or craftwork belonging to a historic era
- 8) 2 The property was designed or built by an influential architect, or reflects the work of an important artisan
- 9) Archaeological investigation of the property has or will increase our understanding of past cultures or lifeways

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continuation page 2

F) AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Significance of Architectural Style: #7) Most important.

Built in 1915, Mount Saint Michael is architecturally significant both as an excellent example of the Collegiate Gothic Revival style and as a representative of one of the most significant works of prominent Spokane architect Julius Zittel

The Late Gothic Revival style flourished in the ecclesiastical, educational and commercial fields. Gothic revival was introduced at Bryn Mawr college as Collegiate Gothic in the early 1890's and then to Princeton University in 1896 by the firm Cope and Stewardson. James Gamble Rogers followed Princeton's example when designing Yale's Harness Quadrangle in 1917, and the style quickly became the standard for early 20th century college campuses.

Lewis & Clark High School is Spokane County's only other significant example of the Collegiate Gothic style. Designed in 1912 by Loren Leighton Rand, near downtown Spokane, Lewis & Clark features glazed terra cotta ornamentation and dark red pressed brick facade. Similar in size and massing both Lewis & Clark High School and Mount Saint Michael exhibit many of the elements of Collegiate Gothic design. Both are large four story buildings whose horizontal massing is interrupted by a vertical entrance tower which projects from the center of the front facade. Other Collegiate Gothic features on both buildings includes vertical elements that add visual height to the structure, large window areas and design elements whose over-all character has been skillfully determined by function. Arguably more intact than Lewis & Clark, Mount Saint Michael has only one addition, while Lewis & Clark has several. Lewis & Clark's central tower displays the school's initials, Mount Saint Michael's religious function is made clear with a prominent cross ornamenting both the entrance and the projecting tower.

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continuation page 2

F) AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Significance of Architect.

#8) Less significant.

Julius Zittel was born in Germany, in 1869. Orphaned at an early age, he came to America and apprenticed to a Chicago architect. He moved to Spokane at the age of 18 and went to work for Herman Preusse. In 1893 he was admitted as a partner. The partnership lasted until 1910, when Preusse retired and it became the firm of Zittel and Rigg.

Zittel designed many prominent structures in Spokane. Prior to designing Mount Saint Michael, Zittel had designed the Administration building at Gonzaga University. The administration building was constructed in 1898 in the Romanesque Revival style. Among his many other designs were the Carnegie Library, "Old" City Hall, Finch School, St. Aloysius Church, Pacific Hotel, the Auditorium, Granite and Jamieson buildings. Many of these buildings still remain and are important features in Spokane today. The Eastern Washington University Historic District features the largest collection of Zittel buildings in the State of Washington.

Zittel became the unofficial State Architect in 1897 when John R. Rogers was elected governor. He was officially appointed to the position in 1912. He designed nearly every state job in Eastern Washington after his appointment. He was president of the Spokane Hotel, and eventually retired from his architectural practice in order to manage that hotel. Julius Zittel died May 7, 1939, at Sacred Heart Hospital in Spokane.

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page three

G) *Property Description*



See continuation page 3, G.

H) *Significance*



See continuation page 3, H.

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continuation page 3, G.

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

Located near Hillyard and Mead, six miles north of Spokane, Mount Saint Michael was built as a seminary high on a bluff some 500 feet above the valley floor. An imposing architectural presence, the building has been in continuous use as a religious educational facility since 1916. The exterior of the original Tudor-Gothic building has changed very little since it was first built. The main change is the Collegiate Gothic addition on the west end of the building, constructed in 1929. In addition to the original seminary, the property includes several newer structures which are not historically associated with the building.

Identifying features of the Tudor-Gothic Revival

Based on English Medieval models, the building has a flat roof with scalloped (castellated) parapet. Decorative polychrome patterns produced by bands of contrasting color occur principally around windows as horizontal bands on wall surfaces.

Tall narrow windows in multiple groupings have multi-pane glazing. Drip molds found above the windows are characteristic of the gothic style. Originally designed to protect windows from water running down the face of the building, this molding covers the top of the windows and continues downward before turning outward so that water will be deflected away from the window frame.

The main entrance features Renaissance detailing. A Tudor arch (flattened point) is used in the door surround and the arcade along the sides of the rear wing. Cusped arch tracery fills the frieze above the fifth floor windows in the tower. Cusped arch molded glazed concrete tracery mullions are used for the side lights and top light around the main entrance.

Identifying features of the Collegiate Gothic Revival

The architect uses Gothic composition and details to express the ideals and function of the building as a residential educational campus. Mount Saint Michael is a place where students lived in an academic setting in college buildings, rather than scattered around in private lodgings throughout the area. The 1929 addition uses similar materials, massing and pattern to achieve a sense of belonging. This addition lacks some of the details of the original structure, such as the quoined brickwork around the windows, one-over-one double-hung windows used in place of six over six, and single windows rather than pairs or triple sets. The addition does help create an enclosed courtyard in the rear of the building, which functions like a campus ground for small gatherings or individual study.

Description of existing building

When it was built it was the most up-to-date Jesuit building in the country and perhaps the world. Originally built in the form of a T, it rose one hundred feet from ground level to the point of the cross which surmounted the central tower. The red brick walls with coping cornices and battlements of mottled-white [molded concrete with glaze finish] produced a splendid example of Tudor-Gothic architecture. The main building, the horizontal bar of the T, with a length of 293 feet and a width of 40 feet, was four stories in height. [NW Jesuit, Mt. St. Michael's in the Beginning . Winter 1978, Number 3]

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continuation page 3, G.

The four story scholastic building is a T shaped structure with projecting bays. The building is constructed of concrete with a red brick facade and a poured concrete foundation. The foundation is approximately 65% above grade at the rear of the building. Windows in the rear foundation provide daylight to the basement rooms. Between the foundation and the brick cladding is a projecting water course of molded glazed concrete. Above the water course is four stones faced with red brick laid in common bond with quoin brickwork on the building's corners and down both sides of the window openings. The building is ornamented with mottled-white glazed concrete trim and details. The flat roof is hidden behind a castelled parapet.

The building is divided horizontally by rows of windows and molded glazed concrete belt courses. The sills of the first floor windows are located along the top of the water course. The windows on the first floor are tall, narrow, nine over nine, wood sash, double-hung windows. A second continuous molded glazed concrete belt course visually separates the first and second floor. The sills of the second floor windows also sit directly on this belt course. The second, third, and fourth, and fifth floors (on central tower) all feature wood sash, double-hung, six over six, windows. A third molded concrete belt course sits above the fourth floor windows, creating a cornice that visually defines the roof line from the parapet. The cornice is decorated with a symmetrically placed series of medallions, one large rosette between each set of windows and two small medallions equally spaced above the windows. The castelled parapet is red brick with molded glazed concrete coping.

The main facade consists of a central five story tower projecting from the center and projecting four story sections on each end. Each floor of the projecting end sections features a set of five wood sash double-hung windows that share a common drip hood and lug sill. The recessed sections of the facade feature six pairs of wood sash, double-hung windows. Each pair of windows has a single lug sill and drip hood. Originally this main portion of the building contained the classrooms, living area, libraries and recreation rooms.

The five story tower projects 12 feet from the center of the main facade. Within the tower are two double and one triple set of windows on the second through fourth floor level. The central three double-hung windows share one lug sill and a drip hood. On either side of the center windows are two coupled double-hung windows, both with a single lug sill and a drip hood. Between the top of the drip cap of the center second floor window, and the lug sill of the third floor windows is a molded concrete frieze panel with ST MICHAEL in raised letters.

The central tower rises one story above the third belt course and has a fourth belt course that separates the brick wall from the decorative molded glazed concrete parapet. The pediment is castelled and features an open pediment, topped with a cross, in the center. Gothic pattern molded glazed concrete tracery fills the front of the parapet giving the tower a "crowned" look.

A one story entrance vestibule projects from the center of the tower. A Tudor arch frames the front entry. Marble stairs stretch across the vestibule's full width leading to a landing in front of double doors centered in the arch. Sidelights and overhead lights fill the void between the doors and the arch. The arch and windows are framed with molded glazed concrete and trimmed with gothic tracery work made of the same molded glazed concrete. The parapet that tops the vestibule mimics the shape of the tower's roof line and includes a cross on top of the central crest. A niche below the pediment shelters a statue of the Virgin Mary.

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continuation page 3, G.

The portion of the building that forms the shaft of the T is three stories and measures 160' x 59'. The separate floors housed the gymnasium and theater, the dining room and the chapel which is two stories high. A one story arcade covers the walkways along the east and west sides of this portion of the building. The gymnasium and a new pool have been moved to a newer building behind the main building.

In addition to the main building, there is a one story annex constructed of brick and finished with molded glazed concrete castellated trim on the rear of the three story section. This building originally housed the furnace, laundry facilities, bakery and chemistry laboratories.

In 1929, an addition was attached to the end of the west wing of the building, adding a two story tall library and bringing the total number of rooms to 172. This new L shaped wing is 165' long and 45' wide. The long side extends back in line with the center leg of the T enclosing the rear yard on three sides to create a courtyard. This Collegiate Gothic addition is similar in design to the original building using the same materials and parapet silhouette, but lacks much of the ornate detail. This section of the building was built on a modern scale with lower ceilings and wider shorter double-hung windows installed in single units rather than in pairs. Most rooms in the original building had very high ceilings, while those in the addition are approximately 8' feet in height. The lower ceiling affects the exterior elevation, so floor levels and window courses do not line up with the older portion of the building. To avoid obvious visual misalignment, this section of the building does not have the molded concrete belt course, and the windows are separated vertically by pilasters capped in molded glazed concrete instead of quoined brick trim.

The Chapel is approximately 59' x 27'. The ceiling of the chapel is ribbed and vaulted in keeping with the general tone of Gothic architecture. It is paneled in squares and decorated with simple molded glazed concrete arches. Pendent lights hang from the center of each square. A central arch is supported by a group of columns in the sanctuary and hides a semi circle of lights that illuminate the altar. The walls and ceiling are made of plaster and painted an off-white color. On each side of the chapel, there are four German made large triple panel stained glass windows that were added in the 1960's. The side altars, which were planned for this area, were never added because they took up too much space. Originally, the carving of the window tracery as well as that of the pews and sanctuary rail were gothic in finish. Both the pews and sanctuary rails were replaced with modern plain wood elements. A new gothic designed sanctuary rail was installed in the late 70's to replace the modern designed rail. A large choir loft is located in the rear of the chapel about 12 feet above the floor and is entered from the third floor. The original Otis elevator provides access to the chapel from the main entrance.

The current appearance of the building has changed very little over time. Except for modernized lighting, and the additions mentioned, little has been done to alter the building architecturally. The farm buildings are no longer used for agriculture, but some are still standing. The dairy building is gone.

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SIGNIFICANCE

In 1833 the Second Provincial Council of Baltimore placed the development of Indian mission of the Far West under the spiritual care of the Jesuits. But the Catholic faith had been brought to the Pacific Northwest many years before. Father De Smet's first trip to Spokane country occurred in the spring of 1855. Soon the Yakimas, Okanogans and the Spokanes were visited by black robed missionaries traveling through the area.

The Mount Saint Michael Seminary has its origins in the pre settlement days of Spokane Falls. Mount Saint Michael Mission was first established in 1864 when the Father Joseph Caruana, SJ, made a visit to the Spokane tribe. The mission was re-established two years later by Father Joseph Cataldo, SJ, founder of Gonzaga University. Father Joseph Cataldo, SJ, chose to live among the Spokane Indians on the property of Chief Baptiste Peone. Despite opposition of Chief Garry, a mission was built on Peone's land and was called Saint Michael.

In 1878 the mission was moved from Peone Prairie to Bigelow Gulch. This property was purchased by Father Cataldo in 1882 from the Northern Pacific Railroad. Most of the land for what is now Gonzaga University was purchased at the same time. Gonzaga was founded in 1887 and became the first Jesuit seminary west of the Mississippi. The Jesuits farmed the land at St. Michael's to supply fresh produce and dairy products to the Jesuit College at Gonzaga. Because of overcrowding at Gonzaga, it was decided to move the seminary.

In August 1911, a meeting was held in California to decide the site of the new seminary. The Jesuits from California and Oregon objected to the Mount Saint Michael site, alleging that the weather was too severe. A majority present at the meeting favored Spokane. The decision was appealed to Rome, but Father Louis Tealman, then president of Gonzaga, made a strong argument for Mount Saint Michael. Citing the ideal weather conditions, the yields of the existing farm and the fact that the Jesuits already owned the land, the final decision was made to build the new seminary at the current location. In February 1912 the site was approved and Mr. Zittel was commissioned to design a building to accommodate 80 Jesuits. The corner stone was laid in 1914.

The preliminary survey of the site showed that it sat 320 feet above the plateau, which created a serious problem of how to get building materials to the site. The existing road had a 10% grade, and the cost for hauling wagon loads of material up the hill were prohibitive. The solution was to build a railroad directly up the bluff and put a cable tram on it to pull the loads up. A steam donkey engine was located at the top of the 1100 foot long line. This way, two tram cars could carry up three tons of materials at a time. It was estimated that two and one half million tons of brick were hauled up to the Mount. The faculty and the students of the philosophy moved from Gonzaga University's campus to the Mount on January 6, 1916. In 1929 a new wing was added.

From 1916 to 1968 the Mount was a self contained city. The Jesuit brothers who were farmers, tailors, backers, cobblers, bee keeper and horticulturists provided for all the seminary's needs. The mission also served as a villa for weary Jesuits and students. In 1968, because of a drastic drop in religious vocations, it was decided to close Mount Saint Michael and sell the building. The seminary was moved out and the building was used as a retirement home for the Jesuits until it was sold.

On January 26, 1978 the announcement was made that the Society of Jesus had confirmed the sale of Mount Saint Michael to Pillar Investment Company, who in turn leased it to the Traditional Latin Rite Catholic Church of Coeur d'Alene. Today Mount Saint Michael is owned by the Congregation of Mary Immaculate and serves as a center for the Traditional Latin Mass, and kindergarten through 12th grade private Catholic school. One wing of the building still serves as a cloistered convent.

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continuation page 3 H.

Designed by prominent Spokane architect Julius Zittel in 1914 Mount Saint Michael is both architecturally and historically significant as a representative of the influence of the Catholic church on the development of early Spokane. Historically significant for its association with the very early development of the Inland Northwest, Mount Saint Michael is one of Spokane County's best representatives of the early and significant role of the Catholic mission. Architecturally, the building is an excellent example of the Collegiate Gothic style.

It is interesting to note that the greatest civilizing agent of the Indians in eastern Washington was not the United States Government, it was the Catholic Church through the missionary activities of Jesuit Fathers. [Sister Maria Ilma Raufer, OP *Black Robes and Indians on the Last Frontier* Bruce Pub. Co., Milwaukee, WI, 1966.]

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page four

I) Documentation

Xerox and attached any information or evidence that illustrates and supports the property's history and significance.

Written sources (books, articles, newspapers):

Please see continuation sheet.

Oral history/interviews:

Please see continuation sheet

Historic maps and photographs:

Attachments.

II) Map and Photographs

Attach a detailed printed map, with the location of the property and its boundaries clearly marked

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continuation page 4, I.

Written sources

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- Fahey, John, Inland Empire, Unfolding Years, 1879-1929, University of Washington Press, Seattle, WA
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- Woodbridge, Sally B , and Montgomery, Roger, A Guide to Architecture in Washington State, University of Washington Press Seattle WA, 1980

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continuation page four

Oral History/interviews:

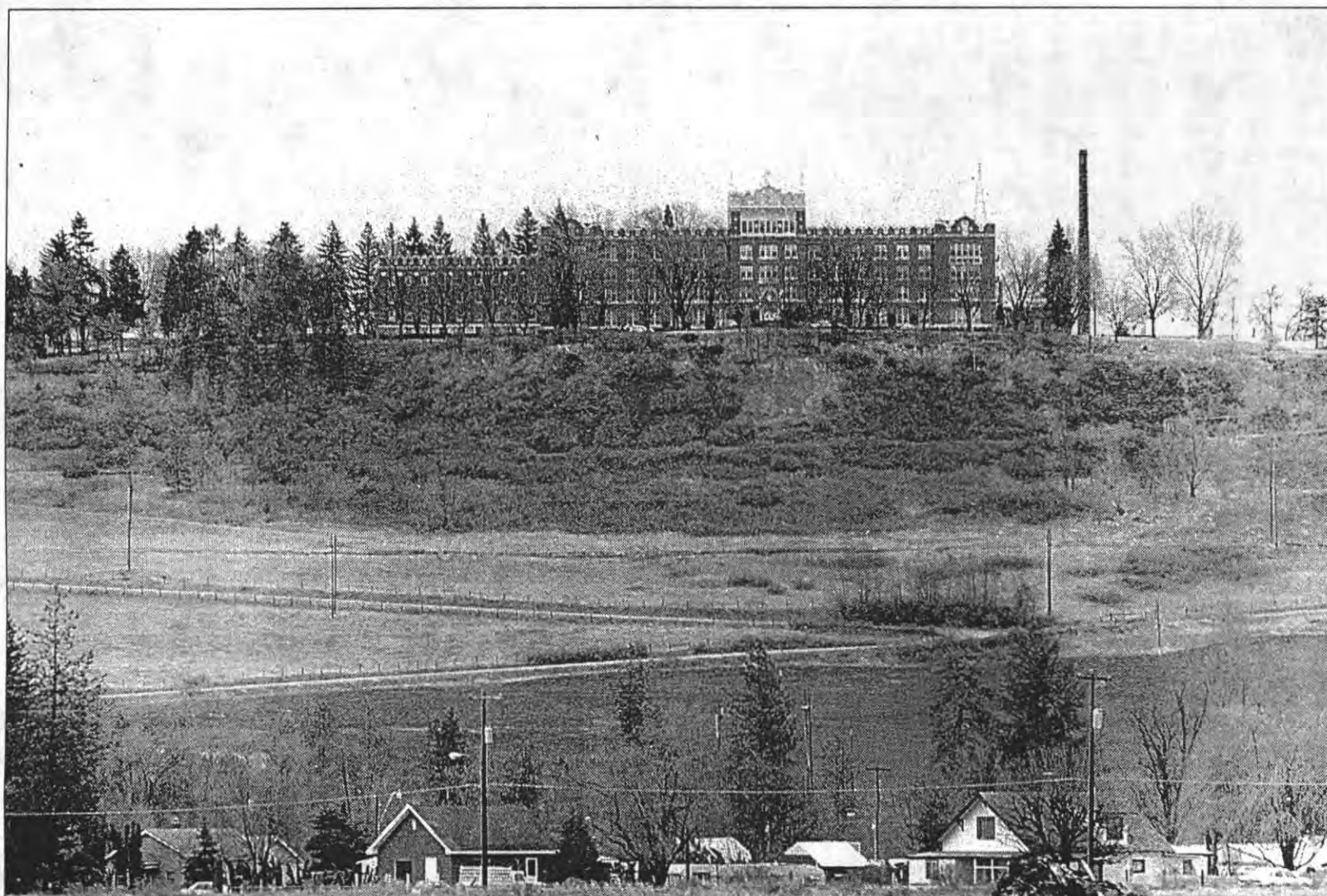
I have lived at Mount Saint Michaels for almost 20 years. I am excited that we are continuing Mount St. Michaels traditional use as an educational facility. I have always been impressed by the spirit of this building. Mount St. Michaels possesses a unique character. As you walk the halls you seem to reach out and touch history. It is as though the building maintains a living touch with the past. Local residents have often commented that this building is a local landmark, almost a beacon reaching out over Spokane. It reminds us of Spokane's history while it educates children for the 21st century. Mount St. Michaels reaches across generations touching lives into the next century.

The Reverend Louis Kerfoot, CMRI, Pastor - Dec. 24, 1997

I moved to Mount Saint Michael in the summer of 1978 and immediately fell in love with the building. The grandeur of this massive brick structure is a testament to the skill of early Spokane builders, as much as to the dedication of the Jesuit Fathers who are responsible for its construction. Over the years I have guided quite a few tours of interested visitors through the building and have observed their appreciation for the beauty of the Mount's architectural design, the lovely harmony of the chapel's stained glass windows, and the peaceful serenity of the extensive grounds and outdoor grotto. This experience has contributed to my own appreciation for Mount Saint Michael, as a part of our cultural heritage. These are some of the reasons why the Congregation of Mary Immaculate Queen, the current owners, are dedicated to preserving this jewel of the Inland Empire.

*Father Benedict Hughes, CMRI
Assistant Pastor and Treasurer*

December 31, 1997



Photos by Colin Mulvany/The Spokesman-Review

The Mount St. Michael seminary has kept watch over Spokane for about 83 years. Today it's a school for kindergartners through high school.

Ex-seminary named to historic places list

Mount St. Michael, perched on a bluff overlooking Hillyard, has hardly changed since it was built in 1915

By Kathy Mulady
Staff writer

Standing watch from a bluff high above Hillyard, Mount St. Michael has represented unwavering Catholic faith for nearly 83 years.

The impressive Tudor-Gothic building was recently named to the Spokane Register of Historic Places.

The building has hardly changed since it was built as a seminary in 1915.

"It is very original inside and out. That really makes it a nice place," said Eva Krause, a planning assistant in the Spokane Historic Preservation office.

"The chapel is beautiful. There are beautiful stained glass windows," Krause said. "It has a very formal, orderly feeling to it, nothing is arbitrary."

Krause researched the history of Mount St. Michael for the historic nomination.

The seminary was designed by Julius Zittel, a prominent Spokane architect. Born in Germany, Zittel came to America and apprenticed with a Chicago architect. He was 18 when he moved to Spokane and went to

work for Herman Preusse.

Zittel also designed the administration building at Gonzaga University, the Carnegie Library, Finch Elementary School and St. Aloysius church, among many others.

One of the biggest construction challenges was figuring out how to haul building materials up the steep bluff.

"The chapel is beautiful. . . . It has a very formal, orderly feeling to it, nothing is arbitrary."

Eva Krause, Spokane Historic Preservation office

The answer was to build a railroad with a cable tram directly up the bluff to pull up the loads. Two tram cars could carry three tons of materials at a time, according to Krause's research.

In 1916, the first students moved from Gonzaga University campus to Mount St. Michael.

For 52 years, the mount was a self-contained city. The Jesuit brothers, who were farmers, tailors, cobblers, beekeepers and gardeners, provided for all the seminary's needs.

In 1968, because of the drastic drop in religious vocations, Mount St. Michael seminary was closed and put up for sale. In the meantime, it was used as a retirement home for Jesuits.

In 1978 the campus was sold to Pillar Investment Co., which leased Mount St. Michael to the Traditional Latin Rite Catholic Church of Coeur d'Alene.

Mount St. Michael is now owned by the Congregation of Mary Immaculate, and is the center for traditional Latin mass and a kindergarten through 12th grade Catholic school. One wing of the building serves as a cloistered convent.

Mount St. Michael and Lewis and Clark High School are the only two significant examples of Collegiate Gothic architecture styles in Spokane.

The building has been preserved, nearly as it was built.

"It is very original, even the addition is sensitive to the original building," Krause said.



Traditional Latin Mass is celebrated at Mount St. Michael.

