

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections



1. Name

historic Sacred Heart Catholic Church and Parsonage

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Missouri State Route U not for publication

city, town Rich Fountain vicinity of congressional district #8-Hon. Richard H. Ichord

state Missouri code 029 county Osage code 151

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Diocese of Jefferson City, Missouri

street & number 605 Clark Street

city, town Jefferson City vicinity of state Missouri 65102

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder of Deeds, Osage County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Linn state Missouri 65051

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title 1. Arts and Architecture of German Settlements in Missouri has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1977 (published work) federal state county local

depository for survey records University of Missouri Press

city, town Columbia state Missouri 65201

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, in its hilltop location, faces east and dominates the small rural town of Rich Fountain, Missouri (photo #1). Within its precinct are located the parsonage to the south, and the newly constructed convent and grade school buildings to the south and east (see site plan). The church, which is constructed of cut and squared buff limestone rubble blocks, measures approximately 140' along its north and south sides and 45 along the east and west and is capped by a gabled, red tile roof installed in 1925. The original roof was of California cedar shakes, but the roof surface has been changed several times since construction. The church is designed in the Missouri German vernacular idiom, combining characteristics of the Gothic Revival style, such as corner and bay buttresses, gables with label stops and a central Vendramini window with quatrefoil, with features of Romanesque Revival inspiration, such as round arched window openings, a trinity of round arched entryways on the primary facade and small decorative round windows on the primary and rear (west) facades. Above each of the main entryways is a semi-circular stained glass window of French manufacture depicting, from south to north, Jesus Friend of Children, the Sacred Heart, and the Good Shepherd. The dominant feature of the building is the bell and clock tower with its slate-shingled cone steeple, gabled vent dormers and Vendramini windows at cardinal points. This tower is the location of six cast iron bells manufactured and purchased in 1855, 1865 and 1891. The wooden frame which supports the bells is being entirely replaced as part of the current renovation. Westminster chimes were added to the clock in 1926. To the west, a small addition housing the sacristy was built at the rear of the church in 1936 in materials identical to those of the original building (photo #4).

The church is entered through three doorways in the primary facade. Each entry opens to the vestibule which has been separated from the church proper by three swinging doors added in 1943 to stand against cold winter winds. The vestibule opens to the vaulted sanctuary which, at present, has been cleared for renovation and re-decorating to comply with the rulings of Vatican II. The old pews have been removed and sold, and the confessionals have been removed. These will be dismantled and their parts reused to decorate the new confessionals and the cry room which will be constructed beneath the balcony to the east. This balcony is reached by a dramatic curved double stairway and is the location of the organ which was purchased in 1942 (photo #5). The Stations of the Cross, which originally hung on the side walls, and the sculpture which belongs in the niches and on the altars, have been removed to Kansas City for cleaning and refurbishing. The ceiling of the sanctuary is plastered and decorated with colorful painted scenes depicting episodes from the life of Christ within stencilled borders. This embellishment is the product of the redecoration of 1944 by the artist, Max Autenrieb of Evansville, Indiana. Much of the stencilling here will be overpainted in the renovation. The stained glass windows along the east and west walls, which depict male and female saints, were imported from Germany and installed in 1926. Each features a dedication by the congregation to one of the original settlers who founded the church. Around and in between these windows the plaster walls feature extensive stencil decoration which will be overpainted in the current renovation.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1879-1880 **Builder/Architect** Mr. Gosse of St. Louis - builder; Rabenstein and Schimmel - masons

Statement of Significance (In one paragraph)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Rich Fountain, Missouri is significant as the finest architectural example of any type in this small, rural town and as one of the most notable vernacular stone churches constructed in Osage County by the influx of German immigrants in the middle to late 19th century. In addition, the direct connection of Rich Fountain Parish with Father Ferdinand Benoit Marie Guislain Helias d'Huddeghem, S.J. (1796-1874), who was known simply as Father Helias, the noted Catholic missionary who founded this parish and many others in central Missouri, adds to the significance of the parish and the church.

Settlement was begun in the area around Rich Fountain in 1819 by pioneers of Bavarian origin. The town was originally named Reichbronn, but it was renamed in 1838 by the founder of the parish, Father Helias. This priest was born in Ghent, Flanders and studied in Flanders and France before teaching in Switzerland and the United States. In 1838, after holding a teaching position in Maryland, Father Helias moved west and began his work in central Missouri where he remained until 1874 becoming famous throughout the region for his exemplary humanitarian life.¹ In that same year (1838) he united local Catholic families of Bavarian origin and founded Rich Fountain Parish. By 1879 this parish had grown from 4 families to 130. In that year, during the ministry of Father Aloisius Averbeck, S.J., the construction of the present church began on land donated to the congregation by John Streumpf, one of the original settlers of the town.² The new building, which was completed in 1880, replaced an earlier log structure built in 1841.³ Sacred Heart's vernacular Gothic-Romanesque church has been noted by Charles Van Ravenswaay as one of the finest in the county.⁴ Sacred Heart Parish has grown to 200 families today, and as the largest and most imposing construction in the small grouping of 19th and early 20th century buildings which constitutes the surrounding town, the church dominates Rich Fountain today as it did when it was new.

Footnotes

1. Gilbert J. Garraghan, S.J., "The Missouri of Central Missouri," St. Louis Catholic Historical Review 2:4 (1920), p. 160; Rev. J.B. Schmidt, "Recollections of the First Catholic Mission Work in Central Missouri," Missouri Historical Review, V (1911), pp. 83-86; and Osage County Memory Book, 1776-1976 (Linn Missouri: Linn High School, 1976), pp. 64-65.
2. This name is spelled variously Streumpf, Strumph, Struempf, and Struemph in the sources.

9. Major Bibliographical References

1. Eisterhold, Marie. Personal correspondence with James Denny, January 16, 1979.
2. Fick, Rev. Leonard. Sacred Heart Parish, 1838-1938. Jefferson City, MO: Midland Printing Co., 1938.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property about 2.7 acres

Quadrangle name "Linn, Mo."

Quadrangle scale 1:62,500

UMT References

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Verbal boundary description and justification A plot of land bounded on the North and East by a stone enclosure wall, on the South by a line 470' in length running west from eastern wall to a point 10' beyond the west wall of the Parish House and through a point 10' south of the south wall of the Parish House, and on the West by a line 252' in length running north from this point to the northern rock wall boundary.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Noelle Soren
Historic Architecture Specialist

organization Department of Natural Resources
Historic Preservation Office date August 3, 1981

street & number P.O. Box 176 telephone 314/751-4096

city or town Jefferson City state Missouri 65101

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Director, Department of Natural Resources and
State Historic Preservation Officer date

For HCRS use only
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register
date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH & PARSONAGE

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 6 PAGE 1

-
2. Osage County Memory Book
1976 county
Linn High School Bicentennial Class
Linn Missouri 65051

 3. Missouri State Historical Survey
1980 state
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Parks and Historic Preservation
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City Missouri 65101
-

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH & PARSONAGE

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

To the west of the sanctuary is the large central apse which is flanked by two smaller apses. The main apse is embellished with stencilling in shades of beige accented with subdued pastels. In its semi-dome is painted a representation of Christ in Majesty on a gold ground. The side apses are decorated with extensive intricate stencilling which will be entirely obliterated by the current renovation and replaced with trompe l'oeil shading in blue to give the illusion of greater depth. The altars, which are of walnut, were given their marbled surface in the 1960's. This will be removed and their natural surface restored.

Behind the apses are located storage areas, the sacristy addition and stairs leading to the unfinished basement and attic areas and the undecorated second floor. The condition of the church is good and renovation will improve it, though much of its fine decoration will be lost.

The Parsonage, located south of the church, is composed of two stories with a basement, which is exposed on the south side due to the grade (photos #10 and 11). This building was constructed in 1881 of limestone rubble blocks squared as those used in the construction of the church. Those employed in the foundation and basement were left quarry-faced while those above have been smoothed. The house is of Missouri German Vernacular design and features a gabled roof with label stops covered with asphalt shingles, segmentally arched doors and windows, a two story gallery porch to the south and east, a portico porch to the north supported by modern cast iron elements, and a modern addition to the south. The Parsonage is in constant use and has been continuously renovated over the years. Consequently, its interior, which features rooms grouped symmetrically around a central hall, appears modern and it is in excellent condition.

(Information for Item #7 has been taken from Marie Eisterhold, personal correspondence with James Denny, January 16, 1979; Sacred Heart Church, xeroxed history, 1979; Sacred Heart Catholic Church, xeroxed history, 1980; and Father Wallace, Jefferson City Diocese, personal interview with Noelle Soren, November 20, 1980)

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH & PARSONAGE

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

Footnotes (cont.)

3. History of Cole, Moniteau, Morgan, Benton, Miller, Maries and Osage Counties, Missouri (Chicago: Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1889), pp. 688-689; and Rev. Leonard Fick, Sacred Heart Parish 1838-1938 (Jefferson City, Missouri: Midland Printing Co., 1938), p. 35.
4. Charles Van Ravenswaay, Arts and Architecture of German Settlements in Missouri (Columbia, Missouri: University of Missouri Press, 1979), pp. 208-209.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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DATE ENTERED

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH & PARSONAGE

CONTINUATION SHEET

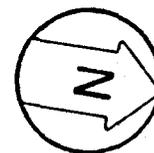
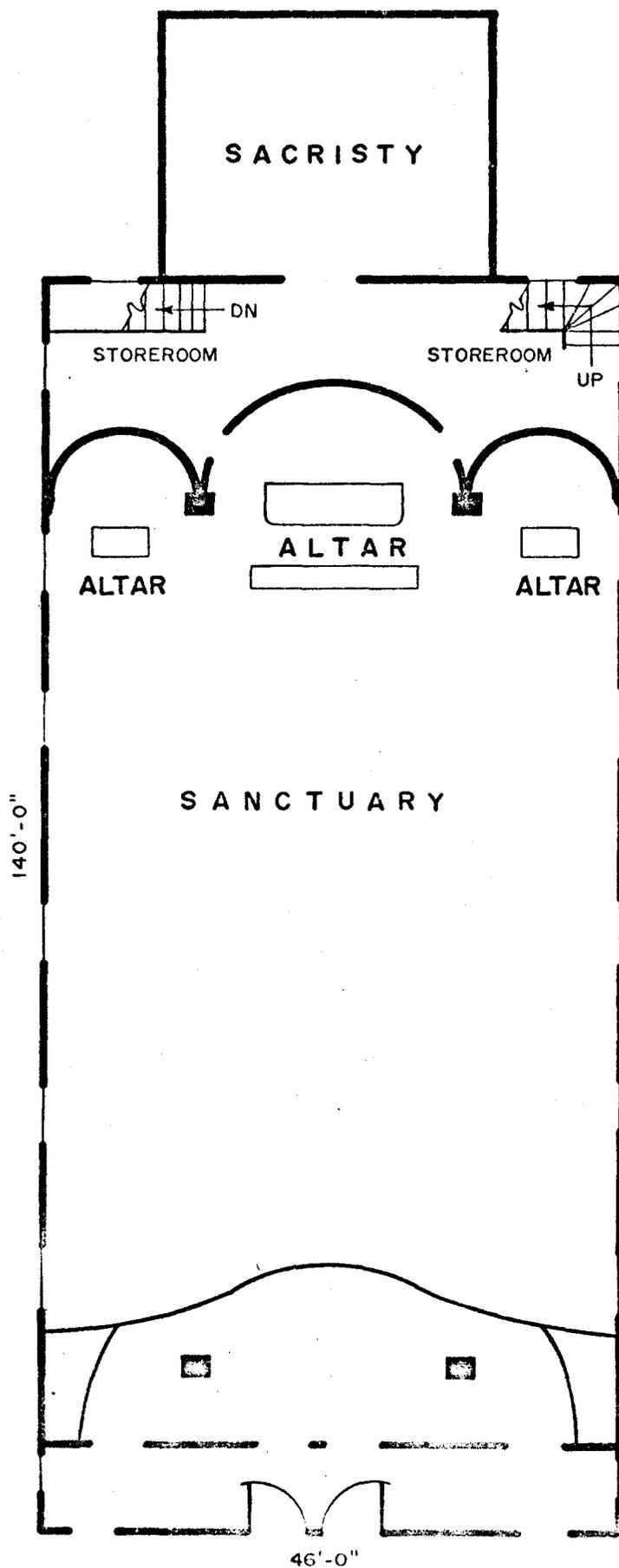
ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

3. Garraghan, Gilbert J., S.J., "The Mission of Central Missouri," St. Louis Catholic Historical Review 2:4 (1920), 160-170.
4. History of Cole, Moniteau, Morgan, Benton, Miller, Maries and Osage Counties, Missouri. Chicago: Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1889.
5. Osage County Memory Book 1776-1976. Linn, Missouri: Linn High School Bicentennial Class, 1976.
6. Sacred Heart Church. Xeroxed history, 1979.
7. Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Xeroxed history, 1980.
8. Schmidt, Rev. J.B., "Recollections of the First Catholic Mission Work in Central Missouri," Missouri Historical Review, V (1911), 83-86.
9. Van Ravenswaay, Charles. Arts and Architecture of German Settlements in Missouri. Columbia, Missouri: University of Missouri Press, 1977.

GROUND FLOOR PLAN

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

RICH FOUNTAIN, OSAGE COUNTY, MISSOURI



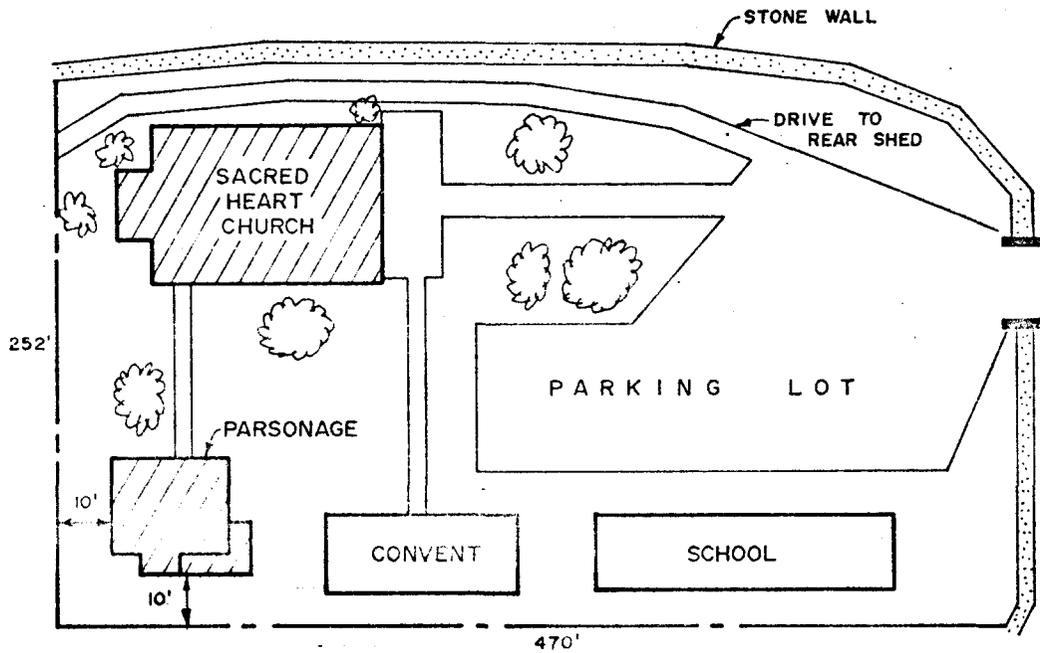
NOT TO SCALE

SITE PLAN MAP

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH AND PARSONAGE
RICH FOUNTAIN, OSAGE COUNTY, MISSOURI



NOT TO SCALE

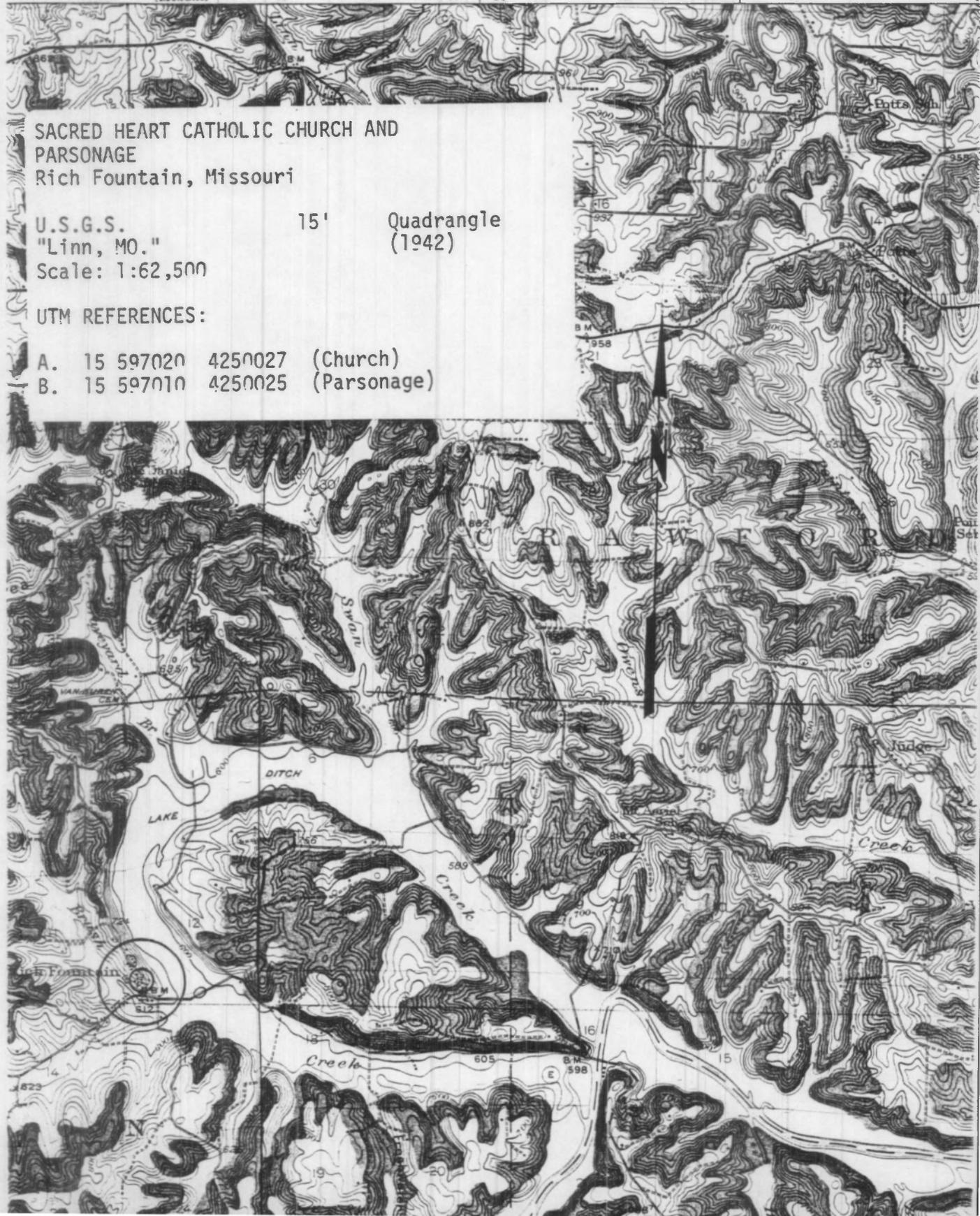


STATE OF MISSOURI
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY AND WATER RESOURCES

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SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH AND
PARSONAGE
Rich Fountain, Missouri

U.S.G.S. 15' Quadrangle
"Linn, MO." (1942)
Scale: 1:62,500

UTM REFERENCES:

- A. 15 597020 4250027 (Church)
- B. 15 597010 4250025 (Parsonage)

COUNTY: Osage

LOCATION: Rich Fountain

OWNER: Diocese of Jefferson City, Missouri
ADDRESS: 605 Clark Street, Jefferson City, MO 65101

DATE APPROVED BY A.C.: June 25-26, 1982

DATE SENT TO D.C.: July 17, 1982

DATE OF REC. IN D.C.: July 28, 1982

DATE PLACED ON NATIONAL REGISTER: September 9, 1982

DATE CERTIFICATE AWARDED
(AND PRESENTOR):

DATE FILE REVIEWED:

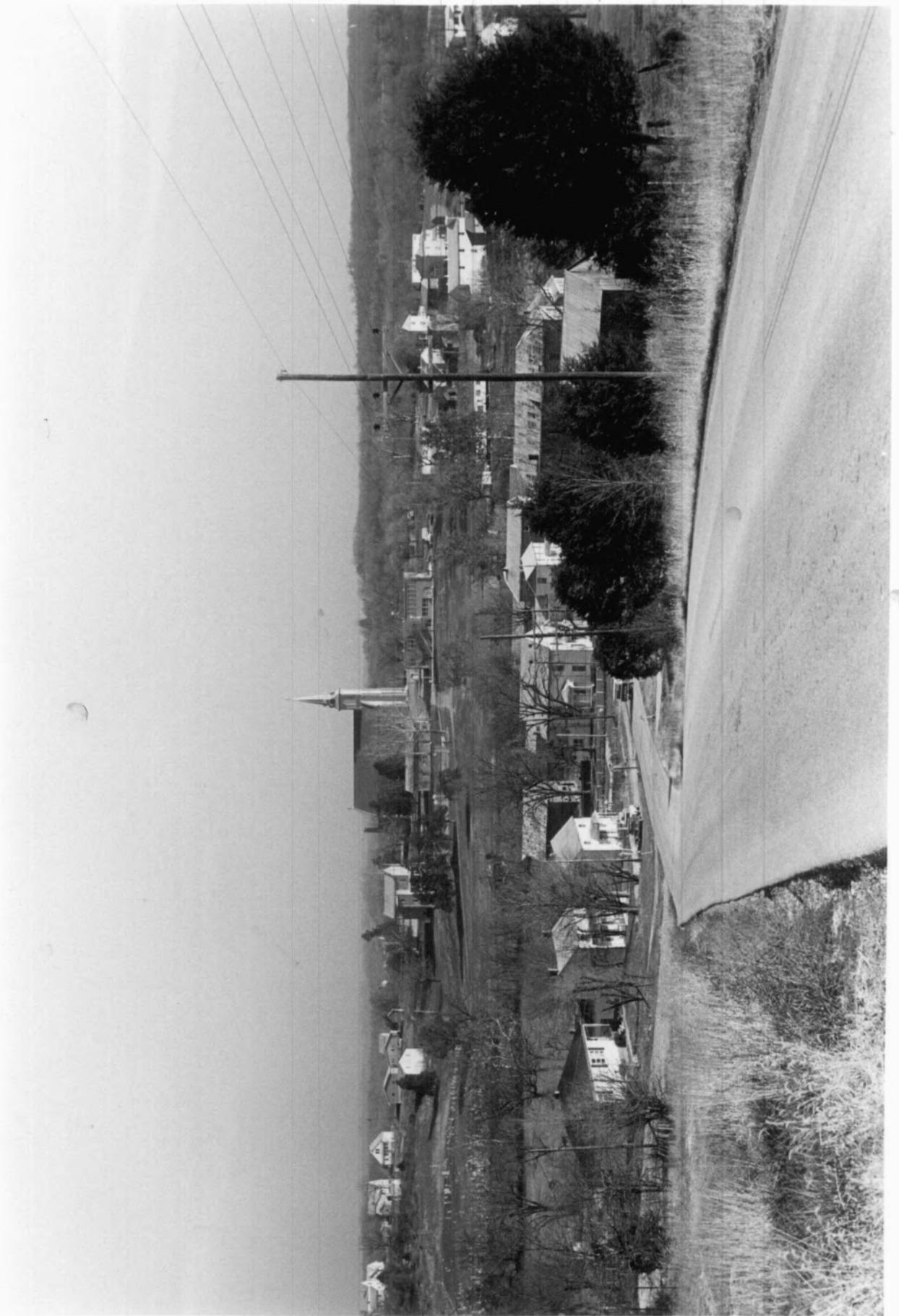
Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Rich Fountain, Missouri is significant as the finest architectural example of any type in this small, rural town and as one of the most notable vernacular stone churches constructed in Osage County by the influx of German immigrants in the middle to late 19th century.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH AND #1 of 11
PARSONAGE

Rich Fountain, Osage County, Missouri
Photographer: Noelle Soren

November, 1980

Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176,
Jefferson City, MO. 65102
View to north of Rich Fountain with the
church and parsonage in the background.



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH AND #2 of 11
PARSONAGE

Rich Fountain, Osage County, Missouri

Photographer: Noelle Soren

November, 1980

Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176,
Jefferson City, MO. 65201

View to northwest of primary facade. Renova-
tion is being carried to the building's
guttering.



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH AND #3 of 11
PARSONAGE

Rich Fountain, Osage County, Missouri
Photographer: Noelle Soren

November, 1980

Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO. 65102
View to southwest of north side.



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH AND #4 of 11
PARSONAGE

Rich Fountain, Osage County, Missouri

Photographer: Noelle Soren

November, 1980

Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176,
Jefferson City, MO. 65102

View to east of west side showing sacristy
addition.



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH AND #5 of 11
PARSONAGE

Rich Fountain, Osage County, Missouri

Photographer: Noelle Soren

November, 1980

Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176,
Jefferson City, MO. 65102

Interior, view to east of balcony and entry vestibule after the church had been partially stripped before renovation began. Pews are gone and the confessionals which flank nave near the balcony are being dismantled to be reused in new confessionals to be constructed along with a cry room and a rest room under the balcony.



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH AND #6 of 11
PARSONAGE

Rich Fountain, Osage County, Missouri

Photographer: Noelle Soren
November, 1980

Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176,
Jefferson City, MO. 65102

One of the ceiling paintings, painted in 1944
by Max Autenreib of Evansville, Indiana, which
decorate the church. They will be retained
in the current renovation though their borders
have been obliterated.



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH AND #7 of 11
PARSONAGE

Rich Fountain, Osage County, Missouri

Photographer: Noelle Soren

November, 1980

Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176,
Jefferson City, MO. 65102

One of the stained glass windows, imported from
Germany and installed in 1926, on the south
wall.



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH AND #8 of 11
PARSONAGE

Rich Fountain, Osage County, Missouri
Photographer: Noelle Soren

November, 1980

Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176,
Jefferson City, MO. 65102

Interior, view to west of altars and apses.

This photo is included even though out of focus because it is now an historical view. Nearly all of the stencilling, except for that in the main apse, has been obliterated or changed and the altars are being altered as described.



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH AND #9 of 11
PARSONAGE

Rich Fountain, Osage County, Missouri

Photographer: Noelle Soren
November, 1980

Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176,
Jefferson City, MO. 65102
Interior, apse on west side, detail of Christ
in Majesty on gold ground.



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH AND #10 of 11
PARSONAGE

Rich Fountain, Osage County, Missouri

Photographer: Noelle Soren
November, 1980

Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176,
Jefferson City, MO. 65102
Parsonage, primary facade, view to south.



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH AND #11 of 11
PARSONAGE

Rich Fountain, Osage County, Missouri
Photographer: Noelle Soren

November, 1980

Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO. 65102

Parsonage, view to northwest of south side.



EXTRA
PHOTOS











