

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUN 25 1979

DATE ENTERED AUG 3 1979

**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

St. Stanislaus Church Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Warsaw

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

— VICINITY OF

STATE

North Dakota

CODE

38

COUNTY

Walsh

CODE

099

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

St. Stanislaus Catholic Church of Warsaw

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Minto

VICINITY OF

STATE

North Dakota

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Walsh County Register of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Walsh County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Grafton

STATE

North Dakota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

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

The St. Stanislaus Church Historic District is comprised of three buildings and a cemetery, located on two adjacent properties of about eleven acres total. The site has been the hub of religious, social, and educational activity of the Polish ethnic community of Pulaski or New Warsaw since 1884, when the first Roman Catholic church was built on the site. The present buildings reflect the preponderant position of the Church as an institution in the transplanted ethnic society.

The focal point of the district is the St. Stanislaus Church, a Gothic Revival structure designed by Architect John W. Ross of Grand Forks and built in 1900-01. The building combines aspects of different Gothic Revival periods, including cruciform plan, subtle polychromy in exterior material, rood steeple, and vergeboard steeple ornamentation (not now present). With a seating capacity of about 1100 persons, the church is easily the most prominent building in the village of fewer than 100 persons. The walls of the structure are of red brick and are reinforced with three-step brick buttresses with light-colored stone shoulder capping. Diagonal buttresses on angles of gable ends are surmounted with pyramidal pinnacles and a cross. Lateral wall buttresses rise above eave lines and are surmounted with pyramidal pinnacles and pommels. A pair of buttresses on each gable end terminate in stone shoulders at the eave level. Denticular and band corbeling support a stone dripline below the eaves. Pitched roofs covered with wood shingles meet corbiestep gables, which protrude upward in a pair of stone-coped chimneys on the east, north, and south elevations.

The main or entry steeple rises at the center of the west gable end as a square brick tower surmounted with a wooden tower and octagonal wooden spire covered with sheet metal. A pair of louvered Gothic arch windows and a gablet appear on each tower face, and the steeple terminates in a pommel and metal-sheathed wooden cross. The rood steeple is a square wooden tower with pyramidal spire, a pair of louvered Gothic windows on each face, and a cross. Building fenestration is Gothic arch with yellow brick surrounds. Transept and west gable ends have three bays with surrounds treated in quoined fashion. Lateral walls each have six tall window bays with surrounds not treated in quoined fashion; the western-most bay on each side is blind.

Interior arches are mounted on eight pairs of Composite Order piers in the nave area and on one pair of piers in each transept wing. Walls, ceilings, and arches are richly stencil painted, and there are large rectangular and round mural paintings on canvas on the ceilings and walls of the transepts and the sanctuary. Nineteen stained glass windows allow diffused light into the interior, and a round stained window lights the area above and behind the altar. The deep and distant effect of the arched ceiling is enhanced with low electrical lighting. The interior is further ornamented with profuse statuary, canopied pulpit, and twin carved confessionals; inscriptions are in Polish and Latin.

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" 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 1892, 1900, 1921

BUILDER/ARCHITECT John W. Ross (Architect)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The buildings and grounds of the St. Stanislaus Church Historic District have since 1884 been the center of organized activity of one of North Dakota's most cohesive and persistent ethnic settlements. Immigrants from Poland began arriving in the area in 1873, taking up free land and gradually replacing settlers of other ethnic backgrounds. In 1884 the first Roman Catholic church was built on the site of the present church, and in 1892 the village of Pulaski was platted just to the west of the church. The unincorporated village, renamed New Warsaw when a post office was established in 1894, did not grow beyond a half dozen business establishments and could not compete with larger trade centers of the area.¹ It did, however, remain the cultural center of the settlement because of the location there of the church and later of St. Anthony Academy.

St. Stanislaus Church is a fine example of Gothic Revival construction in brick, and is one of the premier turn of the century churches of the region. The tall proportions of the building, the light piers and arches, and the stencil decorative treatment result in an interior effect that is strong and yet almost delicate. Because of the building's size and towering spire it is a local landmark visible for several miles in any direction. The Polish-born and educated priest who had the plans for the church drawn "decided to build a church that his people would be proud of," indicating that basic features of the structure may have been inspired by churches in Poland.² Architect John W. Ross of Grand Forks was a prominent pioneer architect of the region and designed many of the fine early commercial and government buildings of eastern North Dakota, including the Foster County Court-house.³

The importance of the Church in the immigrant community was such that when the \$50,000 building was dedicated in 1901 it was free of debt, in part due to the mortgaging of their lands by some settlers. The same zeal and a wish to preserve native language and customs led to the establishment of the St. Anthony Academy, which served the particular educational needs of the ethnic community for half a century. The St. Stanislaus Church, with attendant rectory and cemetery, and the St. Anthony Academy are therefore integral parts of a district of historical importance to the local community, but also of significance in the architectural religious, and folk history of North Dakota.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

¹Walsh County Historical Society, Walsh County Heritage Vol. 1 (Grafton, N.D.: Associated Printers, 1976) 314-316.

²Book Committee, A History of St. Stanislaus Catholic Church, 1900-1975 (Grafton, N.D.: Associated Printers, 1975) unpaginated.

³Lounsberry, Cletet, North Dakota History and People Vol. 3 (Chicago: S.J. Clark Publishing Company, 1917) 834-835.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 11.19 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Minto

QUADRANGLE SCALE 7.5

UTM REFERENCES

A | 1, 4 | 6 | 2, 9 | 4 | 8, 1 | 5, 3 | 5, 0 | 4, 9, 5

B | 1, 4 | 6 | 2, 9 | 6, 5, 5 | 5, 3 | 5, 0 | 5, 0, 0

ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C | 1, 4 | 6 | 2, 9 | 6, 7, 5 | 5, 3 | 5, 0 | 1, 6, 2

ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D | 1, 4 | 6 | 2, 9 | 4, 9, 5 | 5, 3 | 5, 0 | 1, 5, 8

E | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

F | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

G | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Commencing at a point 14 rods east of the southwest corner of Section 30, T.156N, R.51W; thence north 23 rods; thence east 21 rods; thence south 23 rods; thence west 21 rods to the point of beginning; containing 3.0 acres. (continued)

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

Kurt Schweigert, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

State Historical Society of North Dakota

DATE

April 11, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

Liberty Memorial Building

TELEPHONE

(701)224-2672

CITY OR TOWN

Bismarck

STATE

North Dakota 58505

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

James E. Sherry

DATE

6/18/1979

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer (North Dakota)

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

William H. Braham
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

8-3-79

ATTEST: *William H. Braham*
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

7-31-79

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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The interior of the church was not finished until some years after shell erection, but it remained unaltered until renovated in original patterns and colors in 1974. A fire in October, 1978, caused extensive smoke and heat damage to the interior, and it is again being restored by means of plastering and painting over previous treatments and replication of canvas paintings. The original standing-seam metal roof and main steeple treatments were altered to present features between 1910 and 1925. The latter alteration included removal of four pedestalled crosses and vergeboards and the addition of a curb below the gables. The original banistered wooden landing was replaced with the present concrete landing in the late 1930's.

St. Anthony Academy

The St. Anthony Academy building lies to the north of the church, across a paved county road. The building was constructed in 1920-21 for the Order of the Sisters of the Resurrection as a convent and school offering instruction in general subjects, Catholic dogma, and Polish language and customs. The building was in service as both boarding and day school from 1921 until 1971, and has been occasionally used for catechism instruction since then.

Designed by Architect Anthony Tocha of Chicago, the school is a three-story wood frame structure in red brick veneer that combines an Italianate bracketed hipped-deck roof with a conical-roofed round corner tower. The facade or south roof slope is pierced at center by a gabled dormer, and by a smaller hipped window dormer on each side of the gabled dormer. Hipped window dormers also appear on the west and north roof slopes; the east slope is broken by a hip-roofed wood frame addition that rises to the height of the building. Roofing is slate tile, except for the use of standing-seam metal on the tower. A raised brick landing gives rise to a closed portico or porch with square brick columns and hipped roof. Fenestration in the building is rectangular one-over-one and two-over-two, except in the tower ground level where windows are round-arched. The arched treatment is continued throughout the ground floor with blind double arches over the rectangular windows. Decorative corbeling courses around the building above the second story windows. Coping on the porch stair bannister, window sills and arch bases, and a string line at the level of the ground floor are of white stone.

The addition to the east side of the building was constructed in 1959, and two interior walls were then also altered to accommodate more students. The interior is finished in lath-and-plaster with oak trim and staircases, and has not been otherwise extensively altered. A stone and concrete grotto has been erected to the immediate west of the school building.

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Parish House or Rectory

The parish house or rectory is a two-story wood frame building erected in 1892 with curved mansard roof and paired eave brackets in Italianate fashion. The building is three bays long (north to south) and two bays wide, with rectangular fenestration. A rectangular door at the center bay of each long side is sheltered by a flared hipped-deck hood, supported on the west by closed rectangular brackets and on the east by ornate metal posts. Window and door surrounds are simple and unadorned, except one window with a denticulated head.

Several alterations were made to the rectory between 1959 and 1971, including removal of roof dormers and a cupola and the addition of a full concrete-block basement. The cupola originally straddled the roof curb at the center of the west elevation, and had a Gothic arched window and bellcast roof. A shed-roofed window dormer, also with Gothic window, sat on each side of the cupola. The interior of the building has been extensively altered, and some exterior lap siding has also been replaced. A two-stall wood frame outhouse with gabled roof lies to the south-east of the rectory. To the east of the rectory is a large parish cemetery with burials dating from the early 1880's. The headstones display demographic and geneological information about the Polish settlement from its beginning to the present. To the north of the rectory is a granite obelisk erected in 1976, commemorating in English and Polish the pioneer settlers of the Warsaw area.

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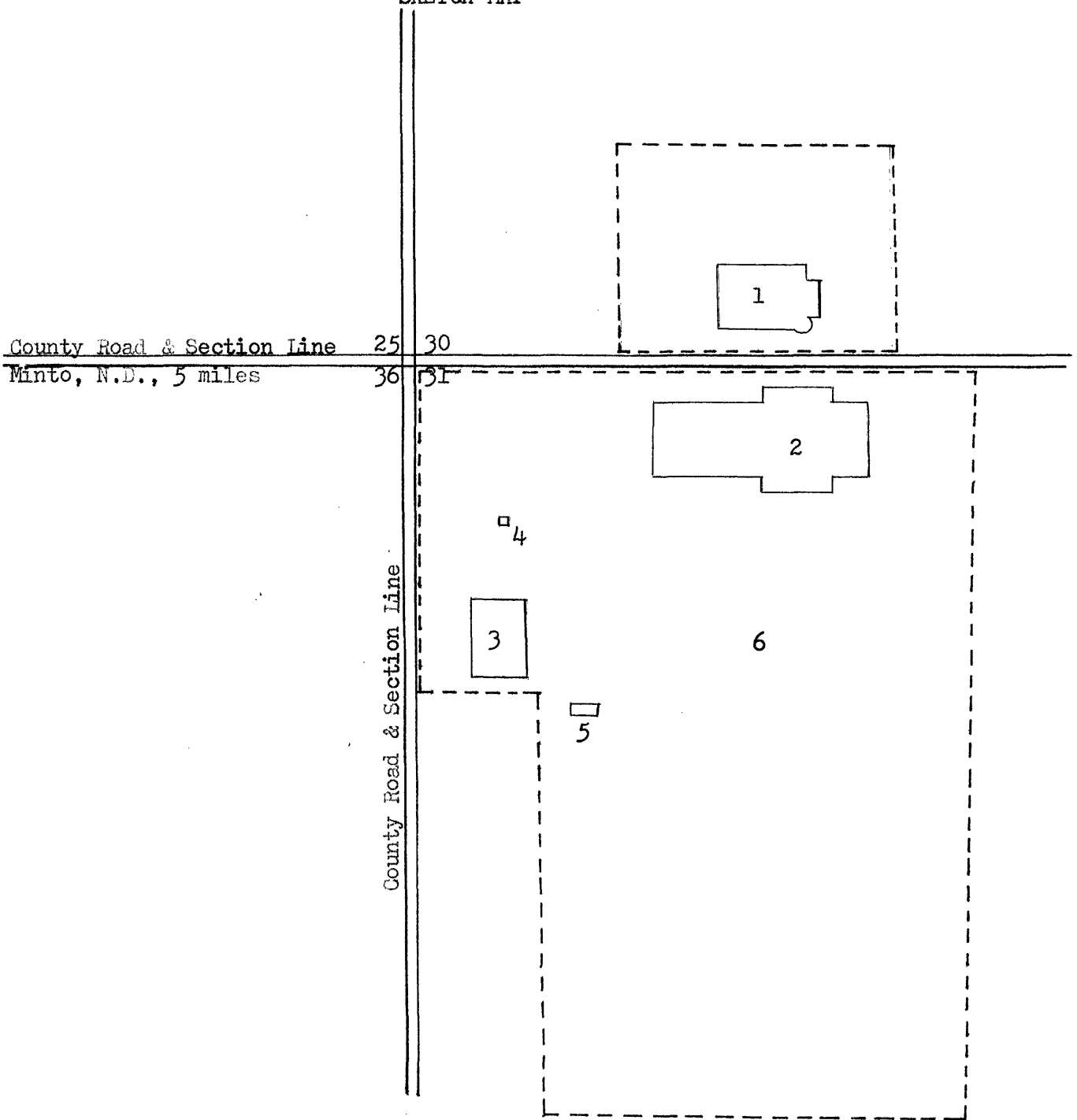
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10

PAGE 3

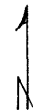
Commencing at a point 33 feet east of the northwest corner of Section 31, T156N, R. 51W.; thence east 561 feet; thence south 726 feet; thence west 436 feet; thence north 375 feet; thence west 125 feet; thence north 351 feet to the point of beginning; containing 8.19 acres.

ST. STANISLAUS CHURCH HISTORIC DISTRICT
SKETCH MAP



District boundaries indicated by broken line

- (1) St. Anthony Academy
- (2) St. Stanislaus Church
- (3) Rectory or Parish House
- (4) Commemorative Obelisk
- (5) Outhouse
- (6) Cemetery



Not drawn to
scale

St. Stanislaus Church Historic District

Warsaw, North Dakota

Sketch Map, not drawn to scale, March, 1979.

Drawn by Kurt Schweigert, State Historical
Society of North Dakota

JUN 25 1979