

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

1. Name of Property

historic name Ursuline Academy-Arcadia College Historic District

other names/site number Arcadia College

2. Location

street & number Main and Maple Streets [N/A] not for publication

city or town Arcadia [N/A] vicinity

state Missouri code MO county Iron code 093 zip code 63621

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

28 May 1958

Signature of certifying official/Title Claire F. Blackwell/Deputy SHPO Date

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
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 certifying official/Title _____ Date

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper _____ Date

[] 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):
See continuation sheet [].

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)	9	1	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district			
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	0	0	sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	4	0	structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	1	0	objects
		14	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing.

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

-0-

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

- EDUCATION/college
- EDUCATION/education related housing
- RELIGION/religious facility
- RELIGION/church related residence
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Current Functions

- DOMESTIC/single dwelling
- VACANT/NOT IN USE
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

7. Description

Architectural Classification

- LATE VICTORIAN/Romanesque
- TUDOR REVIVAL
- _____
- _____

Materials

- foundation Concrete
- walls Brick
- Tin
- roof Slate
- other Limestone

See continuation sheet [x].

Narrative Description

See continuation sheet [x].

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history

B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

Property is:

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

ARCHITECTURE

EDUCATION

Period of Significance

1889-1948

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person(s)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Imbs, Thomas F./

Buckey, George A.

Narrative Statement of Significance

See continuation sheet .

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

See continuation sheet .

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested

previously listed in the National Register

previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State Agency

Federal Agency

Local Government

University

Other:

Name of repository:

Ursuline Archives, Crystal City, MO

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 25 acres

UTM References

1. Zone	Easting	Northing	2. Zone	Easting	Northing
15	709325	4162200	15	709435	4162145
3. Zone	Easting	Northing	4. Zone	Easting	Northing
15	709420	4162100	15	709495	4162070

[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 Debbie Sheals
 organization Preservation Consultant date March 16, 1998
 street & number 406 West Broadway telephone 573-874-3779
 city or town Columbia state Missouri zip code 65203

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 the SHPO or FOP for any additional items)

Property Owners

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

name Lawrence Gwaltney (All except Laundry and Carriage Shed.)
 street & number P. O. Box 458 telephone 573-431-6800
 city or town Bonne Terre state MO zip code 63628

name Thomas and Margo Crowell (Laundry and Carriage Shed.)
 street & number Rt. 1 Box 59B telephone 573-546-6511
 city or town Arcadia state MO zip code 63621

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7. Materials, continued.

foundation Limestone
Brick
Granite

roof Metal
Asphalt
Tar

Narrative Description.

Summary: The Ursuline Academy of Arcadia occupies a level area near the intersection of Main and Maple Streets in Arcadia, Iron County, Missouri. The grounds feature mature trees, stone retaining walls, and a number of small ornamental structures and fences, also of stone. There are approximately 25 acres of land within the district boundaries, as well as 9 contributing buildings, 4 contributing structures, and one contributing object. Construction dates range from 1888 to 1930.

Five of the buildings are linked to create a large U-shaped complex. The "U" is anchored on one end by a large brick chapel, which was built in 1909. There is a three story, T-shaped administration building next to it which dates to 1918. The four story classroom and dining hall south of the administration building was built in 1914. A three story building west of the dining hall was constructed in 1922 for the use of the nuns who operated the Academy. A large two story residence west of the sisters' building served as the priests' house for most of its history; it was built ca. 1902.

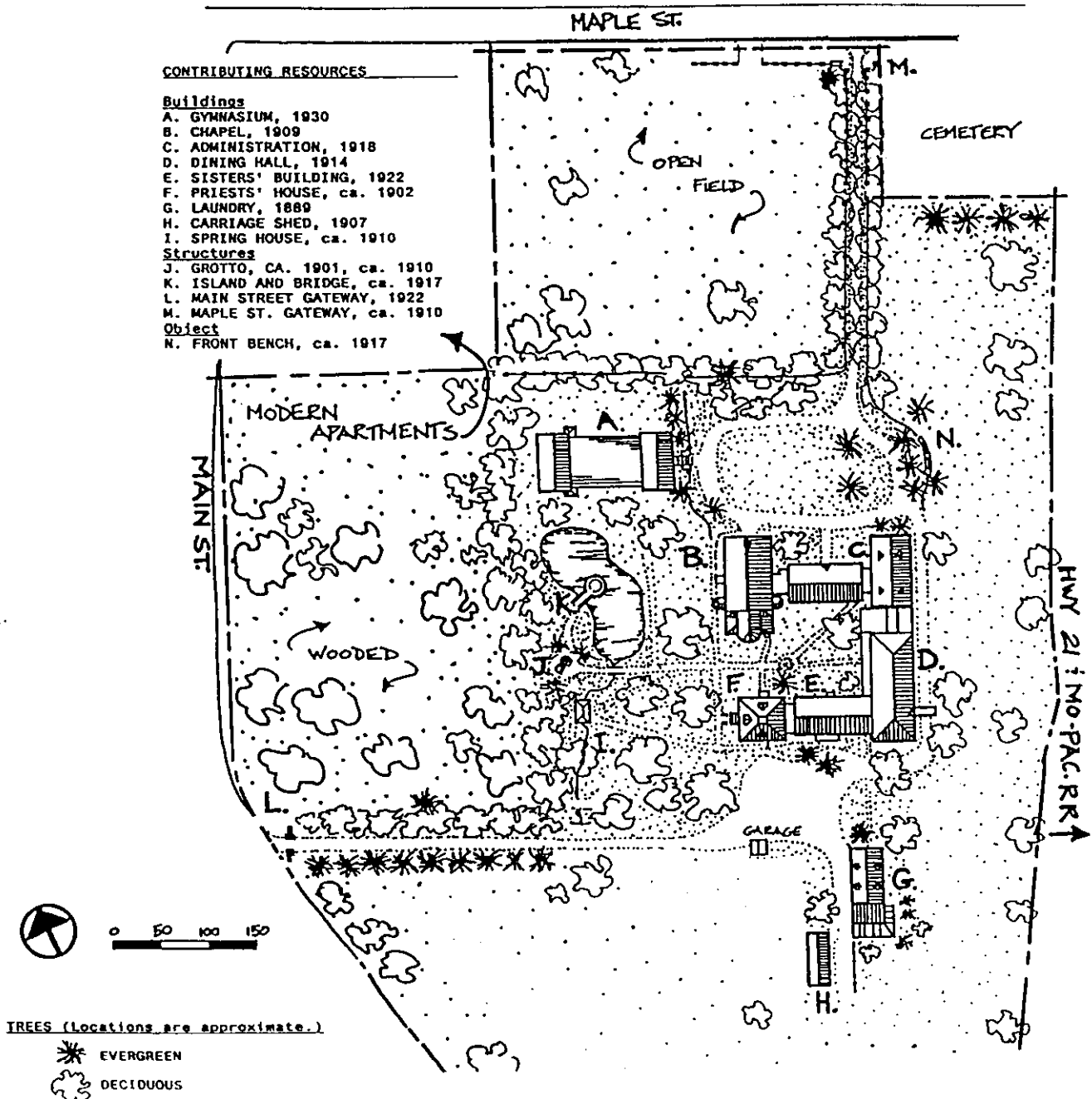
Freestanding buildings include a three story brick laundry building south of the "U" and a one story frame carriage shed west of the laundry. The laundry was erected in 1889, and the carriage shed dates to 1907. The newest contributing building in the district is the gymnasium, which sits just northwest of the chapel; it was built in 1930. The smallest building is a granite springhouse, which was built west of the "U" in 1910. (See Figure One, Site Plan.) Contributing structures include a stone grotto, a stone bridge and island in a man-made lake near the spring house, and stone gateposts at both entrances. A large stone bench and planter near the administration building is a contributing object. A small brick poultry building in the south end of the property which dates to 1951 is the only non-contributing resource of any kind. None of the resources in the district have seen any significant alterations in the last 50 years, and the campus in general exhibits a very high level of integrity of design, materials, setting, association and craftsmanship.

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Figure One. Site Plan Detail. Based on a 1998 survey map of the property.
(See Figure Four, Section 10, p. 41, for complete boundaries.)



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Elaboration: The buildings of the Ursuline Academy of Arcadia are nestled among large trees, winding walkways, and open lawns. The nearly ten acres of land within the district boundaries includes the core of a campus that has been in use since the land was Methodist property in the mid-1800s. The campus is flanked by Main Street and the present Highway 21. Main Street follows the original route of Highway 21, which was the primary roadway through the area during the period of significance. Highway 21 has been rerouted to run along the east side of the property, next to the tracks of the Missouri Pacific railroad (originally the Iron Mountain line.) The railroad right-of-way functioned as an early eastern border to the campus; the new highway serves that function today. There are open fields south of the campus, and a modern housing development to the northeast, at the southern corner of Main and Maple Streets. A small cemetery just east of the Maple Street entrance is no longer part of the school grounds, and neither it nor the housing development property are included within the district boundaries. The district today includes all of the land and buildings currently associated with the campus.

There are two formal entrances to the Academy, both of which are marked by stone gateposts which lead to tree-lined lanes. The entrance off of Main Street has tall gateposts of squared red granite blocks, set in an ashlar pattern. They were built in 1922.¹ The large openings atop the main posts have inset electrical fixtures that appear to be original. Polished granite panels set into the posts carry the two historical names of the school: "URSULINE ACADEMY" on the northern post, and "ARCADIA COLLEGE" on the other. The Main Street gateposts are counted as a single contributing structure.

The most elaborate entranceway is on the north side of the grounds, off of Maple Street. Although the narrow entrance lane there has been in use since the mid-1800s, the gateposts now in place were not installed until the early 1900s. They are built of native red granite rubble, and are very similar in construction to the springhouse on the grounds, which was built ca. 1910. They have thus been assigned a construction date of ca. 1910, and are counted as a single contributing structure.

The gatepost structures include curved flanking walls, into which are set two small swinging pedestrian gates. The gateway on the east passes beneath a stone archway; the one on the west features a small gatehouse which is topped with a red tile gable roof with exposed ornamental rafters. The roof of the gatehouse was largely rebuilt ca. 1992 due to severe deterioration of the original members. There are inset concrete signs in the posts next to the pedestrian gates which carry the same names found on the other entrance gateposts. The main entranceway also sports matching granite rubble curbs and two sets of fences which consist of granite rubble bases with broad square posts and pipe rails. One set of fences runs along

¹ "Local Brevities," Iron County Register, 5-25-1922, p. 5.

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Maple Street, the other flanks the entrance lane halfway to the main block of buildings. (The fence along Maple that is east of the gates is out of the district boundaries.) A simpler pipe fence on a stone base continues to the end of the lane.

The lane leads to the front, or most northern, part of the school grounds, and opens to a grassy common area that was landscaped as part of a building project in 1917.² The north elevation of the main block of buildings faces the lane and front lawn; the gymnasium is on the western edge of the lawn, and a large stone bench and planter is set beneath large trees to the east. The bench, which is approximately 40 feet long, is constructed of granite rubble and poured concrete, and has large concrete and granite urns on each end. A low stone wall in the center of the bench has an inset sign which reads "SOW TODAY THE SEED THAT WILL RIPEN TO A GOLDEN HARVEST." It has been assumed that the bench was installed when the area was landscaped ca. 1917; it is counted as a contributing object.

The Gymnasium, which was built in 1930, is the newest building in the district. It sits lower than the main lawn; a granite rubble retaining wall runs along the front of the building to mark the change in elevation. The Gymnasium is a long narrow building with Romanesque Revival ornamentation. The front and rear portions of the building are three stories tall, with side facing gable roofs. The gable ends have low parapet walls which are stepped at the corners. The central portion of the building contains the actual gymnasium; it is a tall single story with brick walls and a curved roof. The gable roofs are covered with asbestos shingles, and the gym roof is topped with sanding seam metal roofing. The front and rear parts of the building have small, narrow, double hung windows which are grouped in sets of two and four. The gymnasium portion has large industrial metal windows.

The facade is symmetrically arranged. Wide concrete steps lead up to the central entranceway, which consists of a set of double doors topped by a round brickwork arch. An inset limestone panel above the doorway reads "GYMNASIUM." The entrance is flanked by pairs of windows which are topped by brick and limestone arches similar in proportion to the one above the doorway. The door arch is accented with limestone voussoirs; those above the windows are outlined with curved limestone trim. Limestone is also used for window sills, ornamental panels, and a belt course at the first floor level. The overhanging cornice of the facade is ornamented with heavy wooden brackets beneath a square beam which runs the width of the building.

The main entrance leads to a small balcony seating area on the second floor, and a classroom on the third floor. The gymnasium itself is reached

² "Golden Jubilee of the Ursuline Sisters," (Arcadia, Missouri, 1927. Souvenir Booklet, Iron County Historical Society.) p. 23. Hereinafter referred to as "Golden Jubilee."

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through a set of doors located beneath the main staircase, at the ground floor level. (The sidewalk in front of those doors has "1930" inscribed in its border.) The gymnasium is a single open space with a shallow barrel-vaulted ceiling and parquet wood floors. The room is lighted by massive metal wall sconces which shine up to highlight the diamond pattern of the lamella roof truss system.³ The interior walls are of glazed ceramic blocks. The blocks around a large open stage at the rear of the gym have floral and other ornamental reliefs, and are glazed in muted colors.

The stage occupies the second floor of the back part of the building; there is a classroom on the third floor. Small hipped-roof ells on the back part of the building contain small entranceways for the stage area and classroom above. The ground floor of the rear part of the building also holds a classroom; it has a separate entrance and is not accessible from the rest of the building. The interior finishes of the classrooms, like those in the rest of the complex, feature simple dark rectilinear woodwork and plain plaster walls. They are for the most part intact and in good condition.

The Romanesque Revival style chapel of the main block of buildings dominates the front part of the campus. It is the most ornate building in the district. The chapel measures approximately 50 feet by 100 feet and is taller than the three story Administration building next to it. It has red brick walls with cut limestone ornamentation, and sits on a raised foundation of rock-faced limestone blocks. A polished red granite cornerstone on the northern corner of the foundation reads "SACELLUM IN HON. S. JOSEPH. A.D. 1908." (Construction on the building started in 1907, and it was dedicated in 1909.)

The church has a slate roof, with red tiles along the ridgeline and ornamental copper finials in several locations. The bell tower is also of copper, with slate tiles. It is topped with an orb and cross which are covered with gold leaf. The church has a symmetrical facade, with a central entrance flanked by high round-arched stained glass windows. A massive rose window is set high in the wall above the doorway. All windows and doors of the chapel are topped with round arches, and a matching arched corbel table runs along the cornices of the main roof.

The chapel has a traditional cruciform floorplan. The apse and transepts have polygonal exterior walls and roofs, which sit lower than the roof over the main aisle. Simple rectangular rooms off the apse are also lower than the main part of the building, and topped by hipped roofs. The far end of the apse roof is topped with a stone cross, and there are large brass finials atop the transept roofs.

Although the interior of the chapel was modernized in the early 1960s, the basic interior spaces are intact. The side aisles and transepts are lower than the nave and apse, and all feature delicate groin vaulting.

³ See item 8 for a discussion of the Lamella truss system.

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Delicate columns support the arcade that separates the nave and transept from the side aisles. (The balcony that originally topped the side aisles was removed during the remodeling project.) The choir loft over the front entrance remains in place and is little changed. The original stained glass windows are also intact and in good condition.

The Administration Building is a Jacobethan Revival style building which sits just east of the Chapel. It completes the front elevation of the main building complex, and forms one corner of the U. It is roughly T-shaped, three stories tall, with red brick walls and slate covered gable roofs. The front wing of the building is attached to the east wall of the chapel and faces north-northeast to the open lawn. The east wing is parallel to the front lane, and extends into the lawn to line up with the front of the chapel. The building has a low foundation of poured concrete; a red granite datestone set into its east corner reads "ANNO DOMINI MCMXVIII."

The windows of both wings are grouped in broad sets of three. Those on the third floors are topped with shallow segmental arches; the lower window groups have flat tops. Cut limestone is used for such things as roof and window accents, belt courses, and the door surround for the formal entranceway. The entranceway, which is centered in the front wing of the building, is topped with an open triangular pediment supported by unfluted limestone columns. Large dentils ornament the pediment, and the front doors are topped with an elliptical arched window. A small bay above the entrance extends up above the roof line; it is topped with a curved parapet wall and a limestone cross.

The north wall of the side wing, which faces the front lawn, has a protruding bay with three art glass windows at the second floor. The bay is supported by limestone brackets and ornamented with patterned brickwork and an inset limestone cross. A limestone finial tops the parapet wall of the front-facing gable roof. The window and ornamental details of the east elevation mirror those of the facade; there are no doorways on that part of the building.

The interior of the building has seen few alterations. Most interior woodwork and plaster remain in place and little changed, and all or most original wall partitions are intact. (Some built-in bookcases were removed for an early 1990s auction.) Ground floor rooms include a large study hall, the school library, and various classrooms. The upper floors were used for student quarters, with a mixture of dormitory and private rooms. The administration building also contains one of the most impressive of the historic interior spaces, the auditorium. The auditorium is located in the upper two floors of the east wing. It has a gently sloping barrel vaulted ceiling that is tucked beneath the roof rafters and a small rear balcony. The wide formal stage is flanked by heavy Doric columns. The room is lighted by heavy metal chandeliers and two-story tall banks of windows.

The largest building of the complex is the Dining Hall, which is attached to the southern end of the Administration Building. The Dining

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Hall was built in 1914, and was originally linked to an 1870s building which occupied the current location of the Administration Building. The main part of the building measures 111 feet by 39 feet. It is four stories tall, with red brick walls and a hipped roof. A two story rear ell that was originally part of the building was incorporated into the Sisters' Building next door in 1922.⁴ There is also an open brick porch along the back wall that was added ca. 1922.

The formal entrance of the Dining Hall is set to one side of the facade, which faces roughly west. The entrance is accented by a narrow bay which extends up beyond the roofline. The bay is topped with a curved front parapet and limestone cross, similar to that over the entrance to the Administration Building. A heavy brick canopy over the entrance is not original; it was probably added during a 1922 construction project. The original wood windows have limestone sills, and there is a limestone belt course at the line of the ground floor window sills. The ground floor windows of the facade are set into wide groups of three; paired double-hungs are most commonly used elsewhere. As with most of the classroom buildings, all windows have single light sash.

The basement and ground floor rooms of the Dining Hall contain food preparation and serving areas, including a large dining hall for students and a slightly smaller "Sisters' Dining Area."⁵ The upper floors are filled mostly with small rooms (8 feet by 14 feet) which were used as nuns' cells, private rooms for students, and music rooms. Other, larger, rooms include a community room, and dormitory rooms. The building also contains the only elevator in the complex; it is original and still operational. The interior finishes and room layouts have seen minimal changes and are generally in good condition.

The Sisters' Building, which is directly west of the Dining Hall, is three stories tall. It has red brick walls, a side facing gable roof, and a poured concrete foundation. It was built in 1922, and it incorporates the original two story rear ell of the Dining Hall. It is approximately 70 feet wide and 40 feet deep. The double hung wood windows all have straight tops and stone sills; all appear to be original. The main entrance faces roughly south, to the rear lawn of the campus. It is sheltered by an open brick porch ornamented with a small pointed arch and inset crosses. The door is topped by a round arch with a limestone keystone. The roof of the porch serves as a balcony for second floor rooms.

The intended uses for the interior spaces of the building progress

⁴ Some of the original construction drawings for the Administration Building, the Dining Hall and the Sister's Building have survived, and provide information about original conditions of the buildings.

⁵ "Addition to Arcadia College." Construction drawings by Comes and Imbs Architects, St. Louis, Missouri, March 1913.

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from semi-public at the ground floor to private on the third floor. The ground floor includes the main kitchen (formerly of the Dining Hall), a sewing room, a guest room, and a "men's dining room," presumably for hired hands.⁶ The second floor was designed with a small private chapel, an infirmary and sick rooms, and the Superior Bedroom, which opens to the porch balcony. Third floor rooms are all small private rooms. The private rooms are all 15'-9" deep and between 7'-4" and 8'-5" wide. All interior rooms and finishes are little changed and in good condition.

The southwesternmost building in the main "U" is the Priests' House, which was built ca. 1902.⁷ The rectory is two and one half stories tall, with a nearly square plan and truncated hip roof. It measures roughly 50 feet on each side. A two story brick gallery spans the entire front wall of the house, which faces west, toward the Main Street entrance lane. The gallery was added as part of a 1922 building project that also included the addition of brick veneer to the house, which has a frame structural system. The house has double-hung wood windows which are topped with brick soldier arches and limestone keystones. A small side entrance on the south elevation and a double door on the north wall are both sheltered by shallow gabled hoods supported by triangular brackets. The double door on the north, which is almost directly opposite the rear entrance to the chapel, provided the priests with the most direct access to that building. The interior finishes of the house are in good condition, and little changed.

The gallery of the Priests' House overlooks an area known to early Academy students as "the grove." The grove is a wooded area south of the gymnasium and west of the Chapel and rectory. It features a small man-made lake and island, an elaborate stone grotto, and a granite rubble springhouse. Access to the island is provided by a poured concrete and granite rubble bridge. The island itself is surrounded by a high matching stone retaining wall, into which is built a circular bench. The lake and island have been on the property for over a century; the bridge and bench date to the early 1900s.⁸ The construction methods used for the bridge and bench are similar to that of the bench on the front lawn, and it has been assumed that the bridge was also part of the 1917 landscaping project.

⁶ "Drawings of Addition to Arcadia College," Thomas F. Imbs, Architect, St. Louis, MO, n.d.

⁷ The house appears on the 1908 Sanborn map of the property, but not the 1900 one. Historical accounts mention a Father Tintrup living there in 1903; hence the assigned construction date of ca. 1902.

⁸ Photos taken before 1908 show a simple frame bridge and less built-up island. "Arcadia College and Ursuline Academy for Young Ladies," Arcadia, Missouri. (Undated college catalogue, State Historical Society of Missouri, Columbia, MO.)

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The bridge and island bench have therefore been assigned a construction date of ca. 1917; they are counted as a single contributing structure.

There is a stone grotto just southwest of the bridge. The grotto was built in two parts. The oldest part consists of a low semi-spherical structure that has an arched niche containing a statue of St. Bernadette. That part of the grotto was built sometime before 1902. The grotto was expanded around 1910, with the addition of a statue of the Virgin Mary.⁹ The second statue sits upon a high rounded rock base, and is sheltered by an open stonework arch.

The springhouse is just southeast of the grotto. It is a small, one story rectangular building with a bellcast hipped roof. Half of the area beneath the roof is an open porch, supported by a stone arcade and squared posts. A set of steps on the east side of the porch leads down to the spring outlet. The interior walls around the spring outlet retain traces of a small mural or fresco, which is painted in blues and greens and portrays aquatic subjects. The other half of the building has shallow concrete troughs through which the spring water runs. (The troughs were used to keep dairy products and other perishables cold.) The spring water continues out the north side of the springhouse and flows beneath a small walk into the lake. The springhouse, which was built ca. 1910, is a contributing building.¹⁰

Walkways in the grove lead up a slight rise to the interior courtyard of the building complex. The courtyard is a simple open lawn with little formal landscaping. A statue of Jesus and the Sacred Heart on a small pedestal provides the only formal ornamentation. The base of the statue, which is circled by concrete walks, reads "In Memory of Mother Victoria 1922."

The south end of the campus contains support buildings, one of which is the oldest building on the grounds. The large brick laundry building, which measures roughly 40 feet by 100 feet, was erected in 1888.¹¹ The main part of the building is two and a half stories tall, with a large standing-seam gambrel roof. It was built with a flat roof;

⁹ The oldest part of the grotto is shown in early school catalogues, including one for the school's Silver Jubilee of 1902. The construction of the later section is mentioned in the "Golden Jubilee" edition of 1927.

¹⁰ Construction date is from "Golden Jubilee of the Ursuline Sisters," p. 21.

¹¹ "Local Brevities," Iron County Register, 8-22-1889, p. 5.

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the gambrel and top floor were added ca. 1907.¹² The one story ell on the south end of the building is original, and retains its early flat roof. The rear ell has an ornamental cornice with small brick dentils and a dog-tooth course. All door and window openings in the building are topped with segmental soldier brick arches. The double-hung windows have some of the only multi-light sash found on the campus. The four panel exterior doors are all early or original and in fair to good condition. The north wall of the building bears marks of an early frame porch, now missing.

The interior of the laundry building has seen few changes. The north part of the main block has small residential and storage rooms which retain all original plaster and woodwork. The southern part of the building consists of open, unfinished work areas which still sport some of the early laundry equipment. The rear ell contains the boiler room and a large coal room.

There is a low greenhouse on the southeast corner of the building. The sloping west wall of the greenhouse is of ashlar granite blocks. A low fence of the same type of stonework continues south from the building for approximately 60 feet. The greenhouse has raised troughs of poured concrete and a glass roof, the frame of which is partially fabricated from railroad rails. Steam pipes from the main building provided heat for the greenhouse when the laundry was in operation. Early Sanborn maps for the school show that a greenhouse has been in that location since before 1900; the greenhouse probably took its present form in the 1930s or 1940s.

The last contributing building in the complex is a frame carriage shed, which was built in 1907.¹³ It is a long narrow building with a low gable roof and metal sheathing which is embossed to mimic large bricks. The front (northern) part of the building contains a workshop; the rear has large sliding doors to accommodate carriages and automobiles. The building was originally two stories tall; the staircase to the missing second floor is still in the carriage shed portion of the building. Sanborn maps show that the second floor was used as a trunk house and paint shop. The top floor was lost some time after 1927, but appears to have been gone for more than fifty years.

The carriage shed has an unusual feature that appears to be original. An exterior door on the back wall of the building opens to a built-in "two-hole" outhouse, which is not accessible from inside the building. The outhouse was probably installed for the use of field hands and others who worked in the agricultural buildings which were on the south end of the

¹² A photograph of the building in "Arcadia College and Ursuline Academy for Young Ladies," a school catalogue printed between 1899-1908, shows a flat roof on the building, as does the 1900 Sanborn map of the property. The 1908 Sanborn indicates a pitched roof.

¹³ "Local Brevities," Iron County Register, 8-1-1907, p. 5.

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grounds, beyond the southern boundaries of the historic district. None of the pre-1950s agricultural buildings have survived.

The only other buildings on any portion of the school grounds are two small post-WWII outbuildings - a frame garage and a brick chicken house. The chicken house, which was built in 1951, is southwest of the carriage shed. It is counted as a non contributing building. The garage is just west of the laundry building. It also dates to the mid-1900s or later; it is scheduled for demolition in the near future and is not included in the resource count. Sanborn maps from the early part of the century show a frame dwelling close to the site of the current garage, and a pair of small storage buildings near the laundry house; none of those buildings remain on the property today.

Overall, the campus now looks much as it did during the period of significance. The area within the district boundaries has seen remarkably few changes in the last 65 years; the growth of the trees found there may well constitute the most notable change on the campus. The school exhibits a very high level of integrity of design, materials, setting, association and craftsmanship, and it has changed very little since the time it was home to more than a hundred schoolgirls and their teachers.

* * * * *

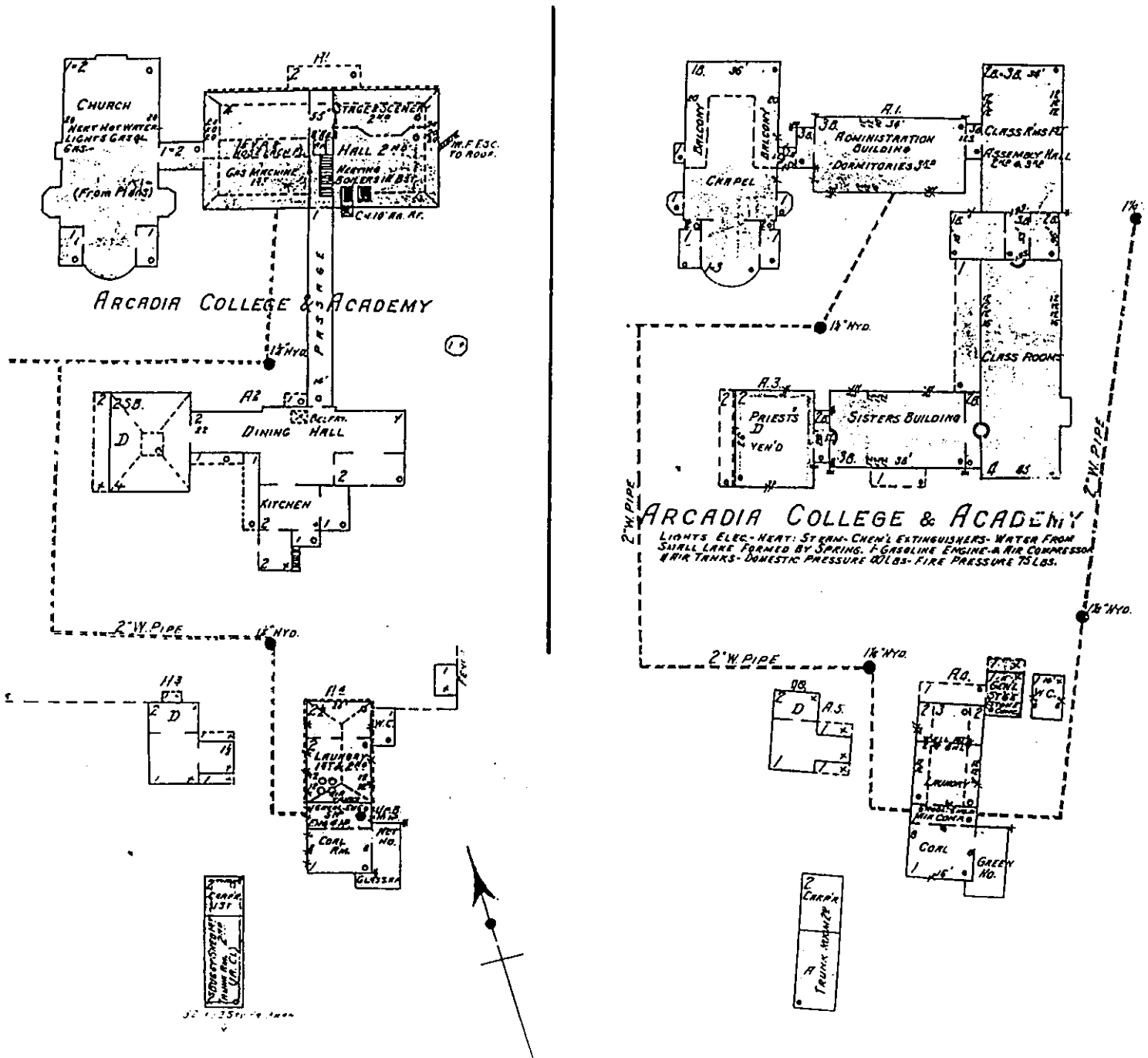
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Figure Two. Sanborn Maps. Left--1908, Right--1927.



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Summary: The Ursuline Academy-Arcadia College Historic District, in Arcadia, Iron County, Missouri, is significant under Criteria A and C. The Academy is significant under Criterion A in the area of EDUCATION, for its long role as an educational institution. The property has been the site of a school since before the founding of Iron County, and was the Ursuline Academy-Arcadia College for more than a century. The school was operated throughout the period of significance by nuns of the Ursuline order of the Catholic Church. The Academy offered elementary through high school level classes in both day school and boarding school formats. The boarding school was exclusively for female students. All of the contributing resources in the district today were used for education or related purposes from the time they were built, beginning in 1889, until 1971, the last year the school was in operation. The period of significance therefore runs from 1898 to 1948, the arbitrary fifty year cut-off point.

The district is also significant under Criterion C, in the area of ARCHITECTURE. The buildings of the district have changed very little since the time of their construction, and have benefited from a long history of regular maintenance and minimal alterations. The buildings were constructed during an organized building campaign which lasted from 1898 to 1930. Construction for the majority of the buildings has been credited to a single team of building professionals: local contractor George A. Buckey, and St. Louis architect Thomas F. Imbs. With the exception of the high style Romanesque Revival chapel, the buildings exhibit restrained architectural detailing. The academic buildings on the front part of the campus are done in a simple interpretation of the Jacobethan Revival style of architecture, while those at the rear of the grounds are relatively unstyled. The buildings and grounds represent a remarkably intact group of resources, and all appear today very much as they did while the school was in operation.

Elaboration: The land which now contains the Ursuline Academy of Arcadia has been used for educational purposes longer than Iron County has been in existence. The first school on the property, Arcadia High School, was founded in 1847, ten years before the county was organized. The school was established by Rev. Jerome C. Berryman, under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. It was chartered a few years later by the Missouri legislature as "Arcadia College," a name still associated with the school today.¹⁴ Classes were conducted in a two story, sixteen room, frame building which was built ca. 1847. That frame building, which sat in approximately the same place as the current Sisters' building, remained on

¹⁴ "The Laying of the Corner Stone," Iron County Register, 6-21-1917, p. 5.

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the grounds until 1913, when construction of the Dining Hall began.¹⁵

The school closed during the Civil War, during which time the grounds were occupied by both Confederate and Union forces, and the building was used as a hospital. Classes resumed after the war, and in 1870 the Methodists began construction on a large new brick building, located where the Administration building sits today. They managed to complete only the shell of the building, and in 1877 the property was sold at a trustee's sale.¹⁶ The school sold again three months later, to the Ursulines of St. Louis, in whose hands it was to stay for more than a century.

The Ursuline Order of the Catholic Church has been described as "the oldest religious order of women founded for the education of youth--the pioneer of the teaching orders."¹⁷ The order was founded in Italy in 1535 by St. Angela Merici, for the sole purpose of educating girls.¹⁸ Angela Merici named her order for St. Ursula, "virgin and martyr, and titular saint of the great medieval seats of learning."¹⁹ The Ursulines are responsible for establishing some of the first girls' schools in all of North America, including a school in Quebec which was founded in 1639, and one in New Orleans which was the first school for young ladies to be established within the present boundaries of the United States.²⁰

The Ursuline presence in St. Louis dates to the fall of 1847, when a small group of European Ursulines immigrated to the city after being recruited by leaders of the local Catholic Church. The nuns wasted no time; they moved into a small home in the city on October 4th, and opened a school there on November 2nd, 1847. The Ursulines prospered in the St. Louis area, and by the 1870s they had started new convents in New York State and Alton, Illinois, and built a new convent and a academy building

¹⁵ Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps.

¹⁶ Iron County Register, 6-14-1877, cited in Arcadia College complex survey file. (Cultural Resource Inventory of the Missouri State Historic Preservation Office, 1979-80.)

¹⁷ E. J. Blankmeier, The Ursulines in St. Louis: 1848-1928. (St. Louis, MO: A. B. Dewes Printing and Stationary Co, 1928) p. i.

¹⁸ Ibid, and Ursulines of St. Louis, "Souvenir of the Golden Jubilee Celebration at the Ursuline Convent and Academy," (St. Louis, MO: A. J. Albrecht, Printer, 1899.) Angela was beatified in 1768, and canonized in 1807.

¹⁹ Blankmeier, p. iv.

²⁰ Blankmeier, pp. i-ii.

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in St. Louis.²¹ They also expanded their teaching activities outside of the academy, taking responsibility for more than a dozen area day schools.

The acquisition of Arcadia College was seen as an important component of that expansion; one Ursuline history described it as the "most important affair recorded by the annalist during this period...a momentous undertaking."²² The purchase may not have seemed momentous to the nuns who were sent from St. Louis to Arcadia to get things started in September of 1877. They were faced with the unfinished shell of the brick building and the poorly maintained original frame school building, of which only three rooms were said to be habitable. As one account put it "the old College was dilapidated...the roof was leaking in several places, broken windows, locks and knobs neither useful nor ornamental were in evidence at every turn. The grounds were innocent of fences and infested with snakes...[The Sisters] began to wonder whether their lot had not been cast in the most forsaken spot in Missouri."²³

In spite of that intimidating beginning, work proceeded quickly, due in large part to the toil of the nuns, who worked through the "day and as much of the night as their strength would permit them."²⁴ Within a month the old building had been cleaned out and partially repaired, and enough of the new building had been completed to house a chapel, two classrooms and a general purpose room. By December, school had begun; enrollment included seventeen boarders and several day students, all of whom were taught in one classroom.

That spring, workmen from St. Louis were brought in to finish the new building, and by June enough had been done to allow the school's first commencement exercises to be conducted in the hall there. Well over 250 people attended the commencement, which included formal speeches, piano performances, and dramatic numbers, all performed by the students.²⁵ The ceremony afforded many people in the community their first exposure to the nuns, of whom they had been leery. One account noted that people were "amazed to see the cheerful, happy-looking girls under the direction of no

²¹ "Golden Jubilee," p. 36.

²² "Golden Jubilee," p. 40.

²³ Blankmeier, p. 58.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ "Arcadia College Commencement," June, 1878. Newspaper clipping from the Iron County Historical Society Collections, probably from the Iron County Register.

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less cheerful and happy-looking teachers."²⁶ The positive response resulted in the enrollment of more local girls the next year, and marked the beginning of a long and pleasant relationship between the Ursulines and the community.

The Sisters continued to improve the property, landscaping the school grounds and, in 1888, enlarging the lake that sat in the grove.²⁷ The first building construction to be done under their ownership took place in 1889, when the brick laundry building was erected. Increasing enrollment in the boarding school had naturally resulted in a large amount of wash, and the new building and commercial laundry equipment was much needed. The local paper noted at the time that the new facility allowed them to "do the work in two hours that used to take 3 days."²⁸

A rather surprising feature of the laundry building is the heated greenhouse located on the rear wall. The greenhouse was original or very early; it was in place by 1900, when the property was mapped by the Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Company. (It was enlarged sometime after 1927, the date of the last known Sanborn map.) The greenhouse is close to the engine room, and was heated by steam pipes which looped out of the building into the greenhouse area.

The presence of the greenhouse may be due to the influence of Sister Monica, one of the "pioneer Sisters" who helped open the Academy and remained in service there until her death in 1916. One historical account of the school notes that she "is most pleasantly remembered for the gifts of flowers it was her custom to extend to visitors."²⁹ The greenhouse would also have been a valuable aid for the Academy's various agricultural pursuits, which included producing food for school use as well as offering classes in agriculture to the students.

The success of that agriculture program there was recognized in 1913, when the College was chosen as the site of a "demonstration farm" by the Iron Mountain Railroad company. That farm plot was located southeast of the buildings, along the tracks of the railroad, in the area now occupied by Highway 21. The demonstration farm was run by Father John Adrian, who was described in 1913 as having "been a student of scientific farming for

²⁶ Sister Mary Magdelene Fearon, "Ursuline Academy," in Readin' 'Ritin' and 'Rithmetic. (Ironton, MO: Iron County Historical Society, 1981.) p. 11.

²⁷ "Arcadia Notes," Iron County Register, 4-26-1888, p. 5.

²⁸ "Local Brevities," Iron County Register, 12-15-1889, p. 5.

²⁹ "Golden Jubilee of the Ursuline Sisters." (Arcadia, Missouri) p. 17.

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some time."³⁰ Early Sanborn maps show that there were a number of frame agricultural buildings on the property in the early twentieth century, all located south of the main campus. All of those buildings are now gone.

The turn of the century found the Academy flourishing. The 1900 census record for the school reveals that it was home to 82 people at that time. Of those, 49 were boarding students and ten were teachers. Even if one assumes that the day school population equaled that of the boarders, the teacher-to-student ratio was extremely low. There was also a healthy support staff in residence, including 18 "domestics," 2 seamstresses and a "infirmarie" worker. There was, however, no mention of field hands or laborers; the farming operations apparently did not really take off for a few more years. The agricultural program was definitely in place by the time of the 1910 census, which includes an entry for a "farm manager," a 49 year old nun. (Her name was illegible.)

The school celebrated its "Silver Jubilee," or 25th anniversary, in May of 1902. The occasion was marked by a large public celebration, as was the custom of the Ursuline order. Special excursion trains brought friends and former students from St. Louis and elsewhere, and local townspeople joined the festivities, which included luncheon on the grounds, and musical and dramatic entertainment by the students. The crowds were so large that the celebration went on for two days; the "excursionists" came one day and the townspeople the next.

Accounts of the celebration show that the grounds were nicely groomed and that the grove west of the buildings had already become a favorite gathering place: "soon the beautiful grove was filled with life and moving beauty. Tables of ample dimension were there, filled with edibles in tempting profusion....the lake, the buildings, the umbrageous trees, and the living green of the well-kept lawn made a picture pleasing to every eye."³¹ One of the structures to enhance the grove at that time was the oldest portion of the stone grotto, which sits near the west edge of the lake. A photo taken for a souvenir booklet on the occasion shows the students ranged in front of the grotto, all wearing their dress white school uniforms.³²

Right around the time of the silver jubilee, the school facilities were expanded in the form of a large new frame dwelling to serve as a residence for the priests who served and visited the school. Although school administration was left largely to the Ursuline Mother Superior, there were also one or more priests in residence for much of the school's

³⁰ Notes of Sister Mary Fearon, in the Iron County Historical Society Collections, folder #120-2.

³¹ Untitled article, Iron County Register, 5-29-1902, p. 5.

³² Clipping from the Iron County Historical Society Collections, file #120-2

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history. Father Lawrence C. Wernert was the first and perhaps best known pastor, serving in Arcadia for more than fifty years. He was appointed chaplain for the school as soon as it was purchased in 1877, and was there to participate in the "Golden Jubilee" (50 year) celebration in 1927.³³

The house was often home to more than one priest; it was for example, home to at least three men in 1910. In addition to Fathers Wernert and Adrian, there was Father Conrad Tintrup, who lived in Arcadia part of the time he was serving as pastor for the parish in St. Paul, MO. Father Tintrup retired in 1903 after losing his eyesight, after which he lived full time at the Academy. He was still living there in 1911.³⁴

Distinguished visitors over the years included Bishop John Hennessy of Wichita, who, as a priest at Iron Mountain, had helped bring about the purchase of the Academy grounds in the 1870s. Bishop Hennessy was described in a school publication as taking "a great interest in the success of the college...and very generous in his donations to it."³⁵ A local paper referred to him in 1909 as the "Father of Arcadia College."³⁶

The priests' house was built onto the west end of the old frame school building, which at that time was being used as a dining hall. That proximity apparently precluded the need for a kitchen; standard kitchen facilities were not introduced to the building until the 1990s. A bell by the back door is said to have been used by the priests to ring for their dinners.

Further improvements to the campus took place in 1906, when another support building and a water fire fighting system were added. The "Bethalto" brand water system included 2-inch water pipes which ran from a water tower by the lake to each main building, as well as a pair of outdoor hydrants. Pressure for the system was provided by air compressors in the attic of the laundry house.³⁷ The new outbuilding was a two story frame trunk house and carriage shed, located just west of the laundry building. Unfortunately, the new water system was needed sooner than expected. The new carriage shed burned down in May of 1907.

The fire proved to be a good test for the school's new fire fighting system, which helped limit the damage to just that building. The local

³³ "Golden Jubilee," pp. 11-12.

³⁴ "Ursuline Academy Celebrates 100th Anniversary." Mountain Echo, Ironton, MO, Sept. 1977.

³⁵ "Golden Jubilee," p. 15.

³⁶ "The Dedication of St. Joseph's Chapel," Iron County Register, 4-22-1909, p. 5.

³⁷ 1908 Sanborn map.

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paper reported that the "Sisters' Fire Brigade, under the direction of Rev. J. Adrian," worked along with "neighbors and friends" from the community to squelch the fire. The Sisters were said to "feel almost repaid for their loss by the good will shown by all, and tender their heartfelt gratitude to those who helped."³⁸

The carriage shed was rebuilt that August, by a local carpenter, Herman Dinger.³⁹ The ground floor of the new building was divided into a large carriage shed and a smaller carpenter shop. The space above the carriage shed was used for trunks, and the smaller second floor room served as a paint shop. Only the ground floor of the carriage shed has survived. The second floor was lost sometime after 1927, but appears to have been missing for more than fifty years.

The next building project was one of the largest and most important in the school's history. In the fall of 1907, workmen began laying the foundation for St. Joseph's Chapel, which was added to the west side of the early brick school building. (Before that time, a makeshift chapel in the 1870s building had been used both for school and community worship.) The red granite cornerstone was laid in April of 1908, and the building was dedicated in April of 1909.⁴⁰

The construction project received a good deal of attention, both locally and in St. Louis. The architect for the project was Brother Anselm, O. F. M., a Franciscan Friar described in the local paper as "the able and efficient architect, whose fame reaches from the Mississippi to the 'Golden Gate'."⁴¹ Brother Anselm was responsible for the design, construction supervision and furnishing of the building, which is said to have been modeled after St. Anthony's Church in St. Louis.⁴² An article on the dedication which ran in a St. Louis paper included a description of the building:

"It is Romanesque in style and is built of the finest quality of red pressed brick. The main auditorium and gallery have a seating capacity of 600.....The edifice represents, not only the largest in Southeast Missouri but also one of the most beautiful in the West. It is a temple of which the chaplain, the

³⁸ "Local Brevities," Iron County Register, 5-9-1907, p. 5.

³⁹ "Local Brevities," Iron County Register, 8-1-1907, p. 5.

⁴⁰ "Golden Jubilee," p. 19.

⁴¹ "The Dedication of St. Joseph's Chapel," p. 5. Anselm was not found in any other related biographical or architectural sources.

⁴² Reprint of a St. Louis Times article, Iron County Register, 4-15-1909, p. 5.

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Religious, the students and friends may justly be proud."⁴³

It was a good thing that the chapel held such a large crowd; the dedication was a grand affair. The ceremony was officiated by Archbishop (later Cardinal) Glennon of St. Louis, who was assisted by no less than 42 priests. The Pontifical High Mass was sung by Bishop Hennessy, and music was provided by a choir of the nuns, led by Sister M. Isabella. The music was highly praised in news accounts: "It was a rare treat to hear such splendid church music rendered in so masterful a way."⁴⁴

The students were also included in the festivities. They performed in a literary program the night before, and were part of the opening procession for the dedication, wearing "somber black uniforms and white veils."⁴⁵ The Jefferson Barracks military band was also on hand. Band members had come from St. Louis by train the night before to entertain the students and visiting dignitaries. The band was also part of the opening procession, and one member later described the dedication as "the most interesting and awe inspiring spectacle I have ever witnessed."⁴⁶

The building project was very much a group affair, and the Sisters received help from many former students of the school as well as the Catholic Church in St. Louis. The cornerstone was donated by friends of the parish, as were the organ and other interior furnishings, as well as many of the stained glass windows, which were made by the Emil Frei Art Glass Company of St. Louis.⁴⁷ The windows are of especially fine quality, and have changed little in the near-century the building has been in place. The bell tower contains three bells, two of which were donated by Father Tintrup, in memory of himself and his sister, Rev. Mother Seraphine, the Superior for the St. Louis Ursulines. The third bell, which was donated by Father Lawrence Wernert, was named "Lawrence."⁴⁸

The chapel was, and continues to be, the most richly ornamented and highly styled building on the school grounds. The choice of Romanesque

⁴³ Ibid.

⁴⁴ "Dedication of St. Joseph's Chapel."

⁴⁵ Ibid.

⁴⁶ "Ursuline Academy Celebrates 100th Anniversary."

⁴⁷ "Local Brevities," Iron County Register, 5-25-1922, p. 5. Frei was in business in St. Louis for many decades, and directory ads indicate the company had grown quite large by 1940. (Gould's St. Louis Directory. St. Louis: David B. Gould Publisher, 1909, 1929, 1940.)

⁴⁸ "Golden Jubilee," p. 19.

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styling may have been due in part to St. Louis tradition. The Sisters of Arcadia retained very close ties to the St. Louis Ursulines, and the mother church would naturally have had some say in the construction of a new church in Arcadia. Romanesque architecture was a part of St. Louis Ursuline tradition; the ca. 1888 Ursuline Convent building in that city was built with round arched windows and corbel tables at the rooflines that were very similar to those used on St. Joseph's.⁴⁹ Also, as noted, the building was modeled after an existing church in that city, which may also have been Romanesque in style.

Religious architecture has always tended to follow traditional models, and it would appear that this building was no exception. Although the chapel was built after the rise of the widely utilized architectural style known as Richardsonian Romanesque, its styling harks back to earlier Romanesque applications. The early Romanesque style, which first appeared in America in the mid-1800s, differed from Richardsonian Romanesque in a much lighter treatment of surface textures and a similarity of form to the Gothic Revival buildings that were in vogue at that time. As one account put it-- "in texture and outline, those early Romanesque buildings resembled their Gothic Revival contemporaries."⁵⁰ One of the best examples of the early Romanesque style, the 1849 Smithsonian Building in Washington, D. C., was designed by renowned Gothic Revival architect James Renwick.

Another historian, Alan Gowans, noted that the Romanesque style also had "special associations with German history," and that many American buildings, including the Smithsonian, were modeled after German Romanesque architecture.⁵¹ Such connotations would have been especially attractive to the St. Louis and Arcadia Ursulines, many of whom were German immigrants. German was a standard item on the curriculum of the St. Louis and Arcadia schools, and a history of the St. Louis order which was published in 1879 was written in both German and English.

Construction of the chapel marked the beginning of a building campaign which saw the addition of a new building or structure every few years for much of the next two decades. The construction of the chapel added greatly to the appearance of the campus, and seemed to spur further improvements, many of which were made possible by donations to the school.

⁴⁹ Ursulines of St. Louis. "Prospectus of the Ursuline Day School for Young Ladies." (St. Louis, MO: Undated pamphlet in the collections of the State Historical Society of Missouri.) Back photo plate.

⁵⁰ Poppeliers, John C. et. al. What Style Is It?, (Washington, D.C.: Preservation Press, 1984) p. 62.

⁵¹ Alan Gowans, Styles and Types of North American Architecture, (New York: 1922) pp. 147, 150-151.

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Improvements to the grounds included additions to the grove, where visitors were entertained and students often gathered. It was just after the completion of the chapel that Reverend Wernert paid to have the second part of the grotto added to the existing portion. Just south of the grotto stands the spring house, which is credited to Father Adrian. According to a school history, "much could be said about the kindness of the Rev. John Adrian, who enlarged the spring fountain and built a new beautiful spring house."⁵² It is not clear if Rev. Adrian did the actual construction, or simply paid for the work. As he was the agriculture teacher for the school, he may well have had the manual skills needed to lay up the stone walls of the building.

It was also about this time that the gates and stone fences on Maple Street were built. The spring house and gateway were the first structures to be built with native field stones, most of which are granite. Although no specific mention of the gate construction has been found, the similarity of their building materials and methods to those of the spring house leads to speculation that they were constructed around the same time, ca. 1910. Also, it would be logical to assume that the Sisters would want a new entranceway for the lane which led to the new chapel, as the church was used for community worship as well as school functions.

The next building project involved construction of the Dining Hall, which was built behind and south of the 1870s brick classroom building. The building was completed in 1914, at a total cost of \$40,000.⁵³ It connected to the classroom building by way of a narrow three story passageway which allowed access to each level of the older building. The dining hall replaced the original frame college building of the mid-1800s, which had remained in use since the Ursulines purchased the property. Sanborn maps show that the old frame structure, which was connected to the classroom building by a narrow frame walkway, had been used as the dining hall since 1900 or before.

Much of the space in the building was also used for lodging and classroom space. The rooms of the upper floors were designed to serve a variety of uses, and were broadly labeled on the plans as "Sisters' Cells, Music Rooms and Private Rooms." It is interesting to note the terminology difference; if a student was given an alternative to dormitory life, (for an extra fee) she was offered a "private room." If the same room was used by one of the nuns, it became a "cell." The latter term may be the more accurate; those rooms measure an average of 8' by 14'.

⁵² "Golden Jubilee," p. 21.

⁵³ "The Laying of the Corner Stone," Iron County Register, 6-21-1917, p. 5. Historical text from a document placed in the cornerstone was reproduced in the article.

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The Dining Hall project brought together a construction team that was to endure for nearly two decades. The plans for the building were drawn by the St. Louis architectural firm of Comes and Imbs, and the construction was handled by local contractor George A. Buckey.⁵⁴ The design work was done by the "Imbs" of the architectural firm, Thomas F. Imbs, who at that time had been practicing only a few years. (Imbs was listed in the 1907 St. Louis Directory as a "draftsman," indicating that he was still in training at that time.)⁵⁵ He went on to do the architectural design work for the Administration Building, the Sisters' Building, and the addition of brick veneer to the Priests' House. The original blueprints for all of those buildings have survived, and all show that Imbs was working on his own by 1917. He practiced as an architect in St. Louis at least as late as 1940, and it is therefore likely that he did the design work for the Gymnasium as well. (No plans for that building have been found.) Although no biographical information on Imbs was found in St. Louis or Missouri biographical or architectural sources, his portrait was included in a 1916 book of portraits of prominent St. Louisans.⁵⁶

The other half of that construction team, George A. Buckey, served as the contractor for all of the major construction that occurred on the campus from that point on. Buckey was a prominent local builder, with a career in the Ironton area that spanned many decades. He was responsible for the construction of many large public buildings in the area, as well as a number of residences. Large projects credited to him include many religious and educational facilities. He was the contractor for the local Presbyterian Church and Manse, the Ironton Baptist Church, the Ironton Hospital, and the Ironton Baptist Home. He also built many schools, including the Poplar Bluff Catholic School and the Ironton Elementary School.⁵⁷ Residential works include his own home early in the century, and a number of small dwellings for his family that led to the creation of Buckey Court in Ironton.⁵⁸ Buckey was well known in the area, and was

⁵⁴ Notes of Sister Mary Fearon, and the original plans for the building.

⁵⁵ Gould's St. Louis Directory 1907, (St. Louis: Gould Directory Co, 1907,) p. 878.

⁵⁶ Portraits of Prominent St. Louisans in 1916, (St. Louis: Henry Brown and Co., 1916) p. 97.

⁵⁷ Francis Buckey Sutton, "George Alexander Buckey: Contractor and Builder," Newsletter, Iron County Historical Society. Undated, rec'd State Historical Society, 10-15-1993, pp. 7-18.

⁵⁸ Lynn Morrow, "Estate Building in the Missouri Ozarks," Gateway Heritage, Winter 1981/82 Vol. 2, No. 3, p.47.

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often referred to in the local paper as "contractor Buckey."

It was fortunate for the Sisters that such a team was available. On February 9, 1917, the early brick classroom building burned to the ground. Once again, members of the community rushed to the service of the Sisters, and all worked together to fight the fire. That quick action saved both the Chapel and the new Dining Hall, even though the older building was sandwiched between the two. An account of the fire was written by the Sisters soon after: "thanks be to God, no lives were lost and not one person was even injured. The chapel and the wing building [Dining Hall] were saved by the heroic, generous and efficient help of the people of Arcadia and Ironton."⁵⁹ Not a single student chose to leave the school after the fire, and the nuns worked quickly to resume normal operations.

Within just a few months, Imbs and Buckey were ready to start construction on a replacement building, and by June of the same year, it was time to lay the cornerstone. The Ursulines placed a large notice in the local paper to invite members of the community and "especially the people of Arcadia and Ironton" to the cornerstone laying, as it was "due to their generous and efficient help at the fire that it is possible to rebuild the College."⁶⁰ It was good that the laying of the cornerstone was made into a public event, as an influenza epidemic prevented the Sisters from hosting a celebration of the dedication, which took place in October of 1918.⁶¹

Although the fire was described in a school publication as "one of the most disastrous events of our history," it actually proved to be but a short-lived inconvenience, and possibly even a blessing in disguise.⁶² There was no financial burden associated with the loss, as insurance money from the old building, combined with new donations, more than covered the cost of the replacement structure. Also, the loss of the old building cleared the slate, so to speak, and allowed Imbs to develop a symmetrical forecourt and comprehensive building layout that he could add to in an orderly way as the need arose.

The design of the Administration Building plays on many of the features of the Chapel, and creates a nicely balanced facade for the main building complex. The gable roofs of the new building are of the same pitch and material as that of the chapel, and the walls are of nearly

⁵⁹ "The Laying of the Corner Stone," p. 5.

⁶⁰ Iron County Register, 6-14-1917, box ad, p. 5.

⁶¹ "Local Brevities," Iron County Register, 9-19-1918 and 10-29-1918. The paper reported in September that George Buckey had donated and installed the 65' tall flag pole that still sits on the front lawn of the school.

⁶² "Golden Jubilee," p. 23.

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identical pressed red brick, set in the same bond pattern. The front gable-end of the east wing echoes the soaring front of the chapel, yet is low enough to remain visually subservient to it.

The floor plan and general massing also relate well to the older buildings. The east wing is the same width as the Dining Hall, and is aligned with it to take advantage of the openings there which originally led to the 1870s classroom building. (That connecting area was later widened to make space for a boiler room and extra offices.) That wing also extends out beyond the front wall of the west wing to line up with the front of the chapel. The west wing connects to the chapel with the same small passageway that was there before the fire, and is set back enough to allow the chapel to dominate the front of the campus.

The stylistic detailing of the Administration Building is similar to that of the Dining Hall, especially in the treatment of the entrances. The main entrances to both buildings are set off by narrow gabled bays which have curved parapet walls at the roofline. The front gable of the administration building's east wing also has parapeted walls of a similar form. The buildings Imbs designed for the campus can be seen as restrained examples of Jacobethan Revival architecture, a sub-type of the Tudor Revival which was popular in America in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.⁶³ The entranceways in particular fit a standard description of the style: "Gables, which rise above the roof, either are of a steep sided triangular form [such as the front gable end of the east wing] or have a silhouette composed of segmental curves and straight lines in combination, [like those of the entrance bays]....Doorways, usually round-arched, may be enclosed with tabernacle frames; the use of classical forms elsewhere is minimal as a rule."⁶⁴ The elaborate entablature that distinguishes the front door of the administration building represents the only substantial use of classical detailing on the campus. The patterned brickwork and small paned art glass windows of the front gable end of the building are also typical of Tudor Revival architecture.

The Jacobethan Revival was often used for educational buildings in the early part of the 20th century. This was especially true in St. Louis, due to the influence of William B. Ittner, who has been described as "a nationally noted figure in the field of school architecture."⁶⁵ Ittner, who served as the Commissioner of School Buildings from 1897-1910, and the

⁶³ Marcus Whiffen, American Architecture Since 1780: A Guide to the Styles, (Cambridge and London: The MIT Press, 1969) pp. 178-179.

⁶⁴ Whiffen, pp. 178-179.

⁶⁵ Henry and Elise Rathburn Withey, Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased), (Los Angeles, California: New Age Publishing Company, 1956,) p. 316.

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Architect of the Board of Education from 1910-1916, was responsible for the design of numerous St. Louis schools. His credits in the St. Louis area include five high schools and 75 elementary schools in St. Louis, as well as thirteen elementary schools in nearby Kirkwood. In all he is credited with over 500 buildings in 29 communities. Ittner's school building career was in full swing about the time Imbs was beginning his, and it is not unreasonable to assume that Imbs, and therefore the design of the Arcadia buildings, was influenced by his work.

The relative absence of architectural detailing on all of the buildings on the campus can be seen as appropriate for a Catholic girls school: restrained, but formal enough to express their educational function. The amount of detailing also relates to their location and use. The elevations of the buildings which face the forecourt are by far the most highly styled of the group, while those to the rear of the complex are more simply adorned.

As with the Chapel construction, the erection of the Administration building spurred additional improvements to the grounds. One school history noted that the same year the Administration Building was built, "the front grounds were beautifully laid out into a park."⁶⁶ It is likely that that landscaping project included the construction of the large bench and planter on the east edge of the front lawn. The lake in the grove also received attention, in the form of a new bridge and bench on the island.

The addition of the Administration Building brought the school's educational facilities more or less to the form they were to take for the remainder of the period of significance. The Academy offered a wide range of educational opportunities, ranging from elementary day school to technical training. It should be noted that in spite of the continuing use of the name Arcadia College, college classes were part of the curriculum for just a short period; grades 1 through 12 only were offered for much of the school's history.⁶⁷ The Academy offered both day school and boarding programs. Boarding school students were exclusively female throughout the history of the school. The day school, which was open to both boys and girls, did not include high school instruction until 1930.⁶⁸

The Academy's status as an all-girl Catholic school put it in the majority of private schools in the country during the first half of this century. Females have generally outnumbered males in the private school student population, and the Catholic Church has historically led the nation

⁶⁶ "Golden Jubilee," p. 23.

⁶⁷ Sister Mary Magdalen Fearon noted in Readin' 'Ritin and 'Rithmatic that the 1902 school catalogue included mention of "post-graduate" courses, an option which had been dropped by the late teens. (pp. 12-13.)

⁶⁸ "Local Brevities," Iron County Register, 8-21-1930, p. 3.

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in private secondary education. A review of national statistics for private school enrollment between 1890-1930 showed that females enrolled in private schools outnumbered males 6 out of 9 of the periods reported.⁶⁹ During that same period, the percentage of private schools in America run by the Catholic Church increased from 39% in 1890 to a full 75% in 1930.⁷⁰ That proportion continues to be high in Missouri today; one modern source estimated that 1 in 4 school-age children in St. Louis attended a Catholic school in 1992.⁷¹

Exclusively female schools have also consistently represented a high percentage of American Catholic schools. A report made to the Catholic Church in 1915 revealed that of the 1,276 Catholic secondary schools in nation, 473 were co-educational, 125 were male only, and 577 were exclusively for girls. The same report noted that unlike the schools with male students, the vast majority (over 70%) of the girls schools were run by independent teaching orders such as the Ursulines rather than being associated with elementary level parochial schools.⁷²

Pupils of the Academy were routinely grouped into three different divisions, based on age and/or grade level. Around the turn of the century, age was the deciding factor, and the divisions were as follows: the Minum Department for pupils under 12, the Junior Department for those between 12 and 15; and the Senior Department for all over 16 years old. The 1900 census entry for the school, which included boarding students, shows that the emphasis at that time was on upper grade level work, as it was through most of the Academy's history. Of the 49 students in attendance, only 10 were under 15 years of age, and 5 or 6 were 20 or over. (One 75 year old widow in the entry was listed as a "student;" it is not clear if that represents a late second start or a clerical error on the part of the census taker.)

Each division was administered separately; the 1902 school catalogue explained that "each department is totally independent of the other, having its own dormitories, recreation areas and classes."⁷³ The dormitory system prevailed throughout the early part of the school's history, and it

⁶⁹ United States Bureau of Education, Biennial Survey of Education: 1928-30, (Vol. I. Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1921) p. 784.

⁷⁰ Biennial Survey of Education: 1928-30, p. 786.

⁷¹ "Reading, wRiting, and Religion," St. Louis Magazine, (Nov. 1992, Vol. 24, #12) p. 26.

⁷² "Roman Catholic Schools," in Biennial Survey of Education: 1916-18, (Vol. I. Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1921) p. 598.

⁷³ Quoted in Fearon, p. 12.

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was not until the Dining Hall was built that private rooms were available for any of the boarding students.⁷⁴ The day school was also kept separate from the boarding school for much of the time. An ad for the Academy which ran in the local paper in 1909 noted that "totally separated from the boarding school, is a SELECT DAY SCHOOL, in which the usual branches of sound and practical education are carefully imparted.

By the late teens or early twenties, classes and students were being grouped into the types of grade systems still in use today. The Primary Department included grades 1 through 4, the Preparatory Department covered 5th through 8th, and the Academic Department offered standard high school level classes. The high quality of the education available at the school is attested to by its full accreditation by the University of Missouri in 1916.⁷⁵ The school was still accredited in 1927, at which time it was one of only 36 rural private high schools in the state to claim such a distinction.⁷⁶

Students who were not interested in higher education had the option of specialized non-academic courses within the Academy. The Ursulines offered both a Commercial Department and a Domestic Art Department. The Commercial Department was available to students over 15 who had completed the eighth grade. A catalogue printed in the late teens or early twenties noted that the goal of the department was "not to turn out bookkeepers and stenographers as rapidly as possible, but to equip them as thoroughly as possible for their future work." The Domestic Art department aimed "at a systematic training in the fundamentals of household economics, on the principal that special preparation is as necessary for home-life as for the professions."⁷⁷ Classes within those departments were also included in the electives offered to all high school students.

The dramatic and performing arts played an important role in school life. Classes in vocals, several different musical instruments, and "expression" were offered. Many of the classes were part of the of the standard offerings, others were available for an extra charge, as were

⁷⁴ Note of Sister Mary Fearon, in the Iron County Historical Society Collections, folder #120-2.

⁷⁵ "Golden Jubilee," p. 23.

⁷⁶ Charles Lee, School Directory of Missouri 1926-1927, (Jefferson City: Hugh Stevens Press, 1927) p. 5-6. The directory lists a total of 64 accredited private high schools in Missouri, 28 of which were in either St. Louis or Kansas City.

⁷⁷ "Arcadia College and Ursuline Academy," (Arcadia, Missouri. Undated college catalogue [between 1917-1922]. Iron County Historical Society Collections) p. 38.

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additional private lessons for various musical instruments and academic subjects. The students were given ample opportunity to show off their performing skills, and the large auditorium in the Administration Building was well utilized. Recitals and other programs were performed before students and faculty throughout the year, and commencement exercises always included extensive entertainment, all furnished by the students.

The boarding students followed a strict regimen and a busy schedule. A daily schedule which was published in an early school catalogue reveals that the girls rose at 5:45, attended ten different instructional sessions and two study periods over the course of the day, and retired by 8:15. Although the daily schedule included morning Mass, and the girls all received some religious instruction, advertisements for the school claimed that "pupils of all denominations are equally received--all interference with their convictions being carefully avoided."⁷⁸

The students were held to strict rules of conduct. An early school catalogue explained that "it would be impossible to preserve order without well-established rules; each young lady should consider it her duty not only to observe them strictly, but to aid her companions in doing the same..." and that "discipline is mild but firm."⁷⁹ There was a "Sister Disciplinarian," to whom the girls were required to answer for any missed classes, and a long list of rules pertaining to conduct in the dormitories and private rooms.

Clothing was also regulated, and all students wore standard uniforms. The school policy was that, in dress and other matters, "extravagances of all kinds are discountenanced as unbecoming to school girls."⁸⁰ A ca. 1920s uniform advertisement for Arcadia College Uniforms from Famous Barr included the reminder: "positively no silk or satin blouses or underskirts allowed." (See Figure Three.) A list of required wardrobe items included in a school catalogue even specified what color hair ribbons could be worn--colored ribbons on weekdays and black only on Sundays.

The strict regulations were balanced by much more personal attention than could be offered in public schools. Class sizes at the school were consistently modest, allowing for ample individual attention. Boarding school enrollment topped 100 students only three times in the school's history, and there was at one time 75 Religious in residence.⁸¹ Census figures and other historical sources indicate that the Academy averaged

⁷⁸ Advertisement, Iron County Register, 5-9-1907.

⁷⁹ "Arcadia College and Ursuline Academy," p. 15.

⁸⁰ "Arcadia College and Ursuline Academy," p. 18.

⁸¹ Fearon, p. 13.

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Figure Three. Advertisement for School Uniforms. From the Collections of the Iron County Historical Society.

Arcadia College Uniforms
Arcadia, Mo.
Furnished by
FAMOUS-BARR CO.

No. 1.
Misses' School Uniform, sizes 14 to 20 years. Navy blue, all-wool serge skirt, side-plaited model, navy blue drill middie blouse, black silk three-cornered tie.
Sunday Uniform, same as above, in black, middie blouse of black batiste or soisette.

No. 2.
Minims' School Uniform, sizes 6 to 12 years. Navy blue, all-wool serge skirt, side-plaited model on body waist, navy blue drill middie blouse, black silk three-cornered tie, black sateen bloomers. Sunday Uniform, same as above in black—Middie Blouse of black batiste or soisette.

No. 3.
Minims' Commencement Uniform, sizes 6 to 12 years. One-piece regulation model, made of white galatea, plaited style on yoke with self belt and pockets, collar and cuffs braided in white, embroidered stars on collar and the letters A. C. on sleeve in white, white poplin tie.

No. 4.
Misses' Commencement Uniform, sizes 14 to 20 years. One-piece regulation model, made of white galatea, plaited style on yoke with self belt and pockets, collar and cuffs braided in white, embroidered stars on collar and the letters A. C. on sleeve in white, white poplin tie.

Positively no silk or satin blouses or undershirts allowed.

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around one teacher to ten or fewer pupils throughout the period of significance. That figure is better than the national average for private schools, which works out to 11.8 pupils per teacher between 1890 and 1920.⁸² Both ratios compare favorably to public school figures for the same period, in which the average was 22.5 students per teacher.⁸³

And, even though classes were small, costs remained modest. From an early school catalogue: "After visitors have seen the beautiful buildings, grounds and up-to-date equipment the query often is "How can all this be maintained at the rates given?" Low tuition rates were possible due to the large number of Religious on the staff, for as the catalogue explained, they "receive no salary other than the 'Hundredfold in this life.'"⁸⁴ In 1907, boarding students paid just \$90 per 5 month session, a fee which included "Board, Washing of Clothes, Tuition in English, and all kinds of Useful and Ornamental Needle Work."⁸⁵

The continued emphasis on education is illustrated by the fact that the Sisters had to wait nearly 45 years before they received a building of their own on the academy grounds. In 1922, Buckey and Imbs again paired up, this time for the construction of a "Sisters' Building." The new building was built onto rear of the Dining Hall, enveloping part of the rear ell of that building. Although the Sisters were provided with private rooms in the new building, their individual space allotments did not increase; the new cells were no larger than those of the dining hall.

An ancillary element of the 1922 building project included adding fire doors between all buildings in the main complex, putting a rear porch on the Dining Hall, and adding matching brick veneer and a large two level gallery to the Priests' House. The construction of the Sisters' Building had linked the Priests' House to the Dining Hall, and completed the large "U" of the main complex of buildings. The addition of the brick to the house brought about a more unified appearance, and tied the older building visually to the rest of the complex.

The addition of the large gallery to the side of the house which overlooks the grove also served to create a more formal elevation for the house. This change may have been spurred by an increase in use of the Main Street entrance, which is almost directly west of the Priests' House. The road that is now Main Street became State Highway 21 about the same time the improvements were being made, a change which would have meant that the

⁸² United States Bureau of Education, Biennial Survey of Education: 1918-20, (Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1923) p. 537.

⁸³ Ibid, p. 497.

⁸⁴ "Arcadia College and Ursuline Academy," p. 12.

⁸⁵ Advertisement, Iron County Register, 5-9-1907, p. 3.

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former side gateway was increasingly used as the main entrance. The lane from that entrance leads directly past the house, which is therefore the first building one encounters upon entering from Main Street. The growing importance of the Main Street entrance is also indicated by the construction of the granite cobblestone gateposts, which were installed in the spring of 1922.⁸⁶

The last major building project came in 1930, with the erection of the gymnasium. Again, the construction contract was awarded to George Buckey. The first mention of the building project in the local paper appeared in March of 1930; "Contractor Buckey, we understand, will soon start work on a \$35,000 auditorium and gymnasium to be built at Arcadia College."⁸⁷ The paper ran several progress reports on the project, including one in August claiming that "it [the gym] will be far and away the finest thing in the way of a gymnasium in this section of the state."⁸⁸ Work progressed quickly; a front page article in the local paper announced the opening of the building in November of the same year.

The large barrel vault of the gym, which provided a clear span and large open space for athletics and assemblies, is supported by what was at that time a high-tech roof framing system. The gymnasium has a lamella roof, which consists of numerous short framing members, called lamellae, which are bolted together in a criss-cross pattern to form a vault.⁸⁹ The system, which was developed in Germany, had been in use in the United States for only five years when it was installed in the gymnasium.⁹⁰ The lamella, or diagrid, system is said to be easy to install, as the individual members are all relatively small, and assembly consists primarily of bolting them together.

Lamella roof systems later become very popular, and by mid-century were being used throughout the country. St. Louis was one of the first cities in which the system was marketed. It was used for the St. Louis Arena in 1929, in what has been described as "possibly the largest extant

⁸⁶ "Local Brevities," Iron County Register, 5-25-1922, p. 3.

⁸⁷ "Local Brevities," Iron County Register, 3-27-1930, p. 5.

⁸⁸ "Local Brevities," Iron County Register, 8-21-1930, p. 3.

⁸⁹ Cyril Harris, Dictionary of Architecture and Construction, (New York: McGraw Hill, 1975) p. 284.

⁹⁰ Carl Condit, American Building Art: The Twentieth Century, (New York: Oxford University Press, 1962) pp. 39-40.

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lamella system in Missouri."⁹¹ That St. Louis connection, paired with a rather exacting engineering requirement for such systems, further supports the supposition that Thomas Imbs was involved with this project as well.

The architectural styling of the building echoes the Romanesque Revival features of the chapel, although it is applied in a much lighter manner. The use of round arches and limestone accents on red brick walls ties the gymnasium visually to the other buildings on the front of the campus, and the relative lightness of scale reflects the influence of less ornate modern architecture. Also, the heavy front cornice brackets and detailing reveal the influence of Craftsman architecture, as do the triangular brackets on the side porches of the Priests' house.

The campus saw few physical changes after the gymnasium was completed. The school continued to prosper, and all of the campus facilities were well utilized. The classrooms in the new building allowed for the expansion of the day school program to include high school courses, and enrollment in the boarding school remained high for another twenty years or more.

Changing times caught up to the school in the 1960s, when enrollment in both elementary and high school programs began to decline. The elementary program was discontinued in 1964, and high school enrollment continued to drop. One history of the school attributed this to the increasing availability of regional high schools, which allowed students to stay closer to home, and to the fact that "the discipline of boarding school life was becoming less attractive to young girls."⁹² The problem was compounded by the diminishing numbers of girls who were interested in becoming nuns, which was creating a shortage of teachers. Finally, in 1971, the Academy was closed.⁹³

The Convent remained in operation, and the Sisters continued to teach. A Learning Center was developed to provide specialized academic assistance for school-age girls, and a nursery school for area children was opened. The Learning Center ran for only three years, but the nursery school remained in operation until 1988. The nuns stayed on until the early 1990s, when the property was sold to area resident and real estate developer Lawrence Gwaltney.

Mr. Gwaltney spent several months catching up on deferred maintenance, and doing a small amount of restoration work. The lake in the grove, which had been filled in in the 1950s, was uncovered, and the grounds were cleared of undesirable vegetation. Many years of accumulated debris were

⁹¹ "Columbia National Guard Armory," (National Register Nomination, Cultural Resource Library, Historic Preservation Program, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Jefferson City, MO.) p. 8.10.

⁹² Fearon, p. 13.

⁹³ Ibid.

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removed from the interior of the springhouse, which also received a new roof. The roof of the gatehouse at the Maple Street entrance had collapsed; it was carefully replicated. The main buildings were in relatively good shape, and required only minor roof repairs and spot re-pointing of the brick walls.

The laundry building and trunk house, which were in fair condition, have recently been sold, and are undergoing rehabilitation. Redevelopment plans for the remainder of the school buildings call for dividing the property into useable parcels and adding preservation covenants before reselling the buildings. Preservation of the campus remains the overriding concern.

The school today appears very much as it did during the period of significance. There have been few changes over the years, to either the buildings or the grounds, and all of the resources within the district are very much intact. A description of the Academy which was written in 1928 still rings true: "Now the imposing group of stately buildings, the artistically laid out courts, the fine campus, the picturesque scenery of Arcadia, challenge the admiration of all who see them."⁹⁴



⁹⁴ Blankmeier, pp. 59-60.

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Master List of Contributing Resources

Laundry Building and Greenhouse

Building 1889, Greenhouse ca. 1899.
Gambrel Roof added ca. 1907

Priests' House

ca. 1902
Brick Veneer 1922
Veneer contractor: George A. Buckey

Grotto [structure]

First (lower) part, ca. 1901
Second part ca. 1910, gift of Rev.
Werner

Carriage Shed

August 1907
Builder: Herman Dinger
Estimated Cost: \$1,000

St. Joseph's Chapel

Foundation begun 1907, cornerstone
laid 1908, dedication 1909.
Architect and construction
supervision: Brother Anselm.
Stained Glass windows: Emil Frei Art
Glass Company of St. Louis
Estimated Cost: \$60,000

Spring House

ca. 1910
Said to have been done by Father
John Adrian, not clear if he did the
work or supervised the project.

Maple St. Gateway [structure]

ca. 1910

Dining Hall

1913 ground breaking
1914 completion
Architect: Thomas F. Imbs of Comes
and Imbs, St. Louis
Contractor: George A. Buckey,
Ironton
Estimated Cost: \$40,000

Administration Building

1917 cornerstone
1918 dedication
Architect: Thos. F. Imbs, St. Louis
Contractor: George A. Buckey,
Ironton

Front bench [object]

ca. 1917

Island and Bridge for Lake
[structure]

ca. 1917

Main Street Gateway [structure]

1922

Sister's Building

1922
Architect: Thos. F. Imbs, St. Louis
Contractor: George Buckey, Ironton

Gymnasium

1930
Contractor: George A. Buckey,
Ironton
Estimated Cost: \$35,000

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Chronology

- 1847 Arcadia College founded by Methodist Reverend Jerome C. Berryman.
- 1849 Town of Arcadia laid out, named after school.
- 1861-1863 College closed and buildings used as military hospital.
- 1870 Large brick building begun, work stopped shortly after.
- 1877, September or October. Ursulines buy the property from the Methodist Church, and move into original sixteen room frame building and partially finished brick building. (Only three rooms in each were habitable.)
- 1877 December. Enrollment up to 17 boarders and several day students.
- 1878 Water was pumped to the top of the old buildings via a "hydraulic ram."
- 1881 First graduation exercise, one graduate, Lelia Bugg.
- 1888 Lake enlarged by Sisters.
- 1889 Laundry House erected.
- ca. 1901 First part of Grotto built. Buildings heated with hot water, gas light.
- ca. 1902 Priests' House erected.
- 1907 May; new trunk house, carpenter shop, paint store, and garage burn. August; Trunk house replaced with current structure, which had two stories.
- 1908 Foundation for electric powerhouse was begun, power installed in 1909.
- 1907-09. Chapel is built. Cornerstone says 1908, foundation begun 1907, dedication in 1909.
- 1910 Organ and additional windows installed in chapel.
- 1910 New grotto with statue of Our Lady of Lourdes donated by Reverend L. C. Wernert.
- 1910 and 1911. Governor Hadley visits the school, the first time with Reverend Wernert.

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- 1910 ca. Rev. John Adrian enlarges fountain and builds fountain house.
- 1913 Iron Mountain railroad chooses the Academy as the site for the sixth demonstration farm.
- 1913 Ground breaking for the Dining Hall.
- 1916 Ursuline Academy, Arcadia was fully accredited with the University of Missouri.
- 1917, Feb. 9. Old brick college burns to ground.
- 1917 Spring, Administration building begun to replace old college.
- 1917 Front grounds "laid out into a park," front bench probably done then as well.
- 1919-1921 First peak enrollment of over 100 students.
- 1922 Sisters' building was erected and rear porch was added to the dining hall. Porch and brick veneer were added to Priests' house. Iron fire doors added throughout.
- 1930 Auditorium built.
- 1937-38 enrollment over 100.
- 1946-48 enrollment over 100.
- 1956 Lake filled in.
- 1965 Chapel renovated for Vatican II
- 1970 last graduating class.
- 1971-74 Learning center operated on grounds.
- 1971-1988 Nursery school operated.
- 1992 Ursulines sell the property to Lawrence Gwaltney.

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Iron County, Missouri

Photographs

The following information is the same for all photographs:

Ursuline Academy of Arcadia
Main and Maple Streets, Arcadia
Iron County, Missouri
Debbie Sheals
March, 1998
Debbie Sheals 406 West Broadway
Columbia, MO 65203

List of Photographs

See photo key map for indication of camera angles.

1. Maple St. Entrance gates.
2. Gymnasium facade.
3. Gymnasium and island bridge.
4. Gymnasium detail.
5. Gymnasium roof and stage detail.
6. Front lawn and buildings, from outside the boundaries.
7. St. Joseph's Chapel, facade.
8. Chapel, from grove.
9. Chapel interior.
10. Chapel, stained glass window detail.
11. Administration Building facade.
12. Administration building, east wing.
13. Administration Building, stage.
14. Dormitory Room, Administration Building.
15. Dining Hall.

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Iron County, Missouri

List of Photographs, continued.

See photo key map for indication of camera angles.

16. Sisters' building (south elevation.)
17. Nun's cell, Sisters' building.
18. Priests' House, from Main Street entrance lane.
19. Laundry Building.
20. Laundry, Carriage Shed, Priests' House, from outside the boundaries.
21. Grove, with (left to right) Spring House, Grotto, Island and Bridge. Modern housing north of boundaries is visible in the background.
22. Grotto.
23. Main Street gateway.
24. Front Bench.

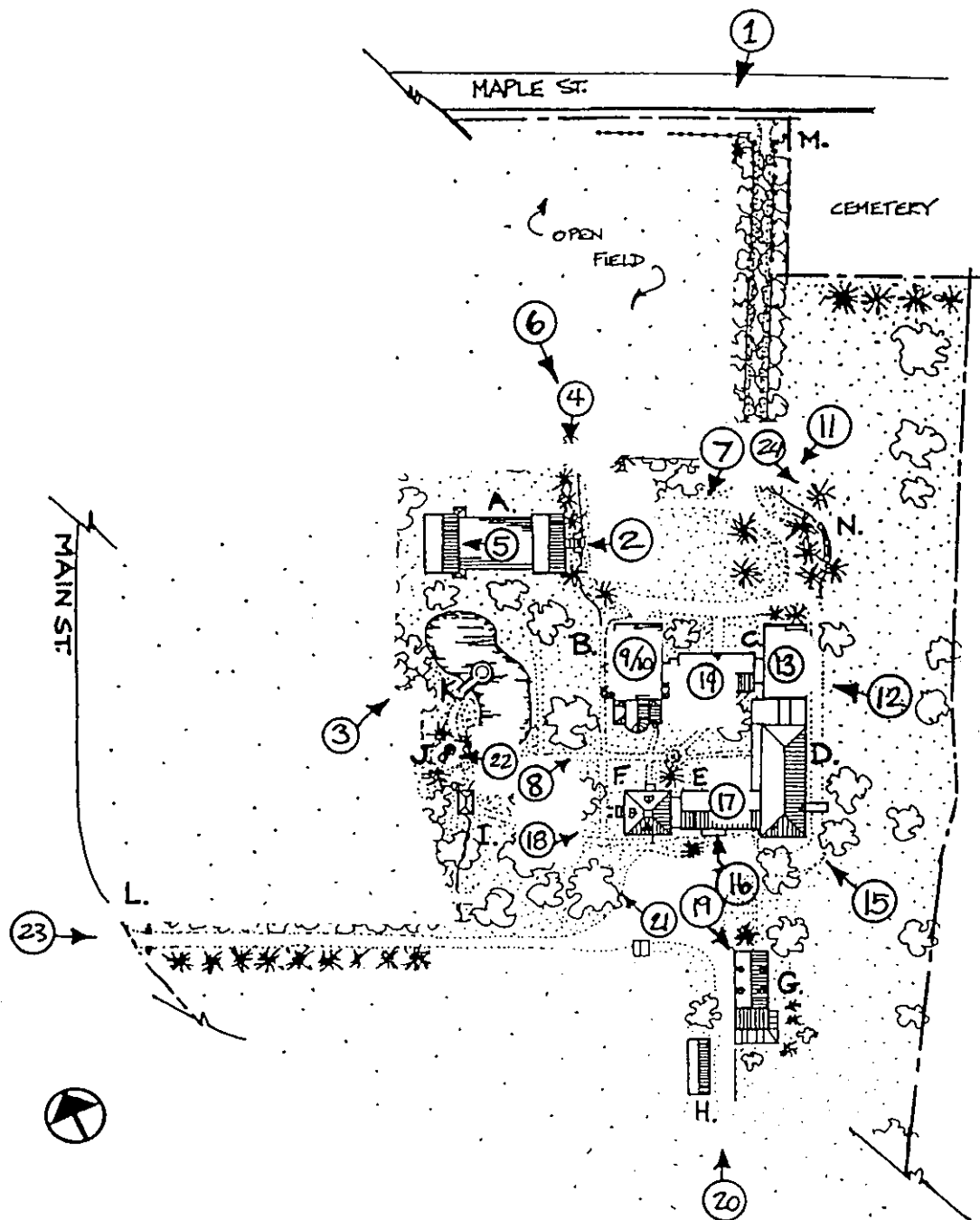
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PHOTO KEY MAP.



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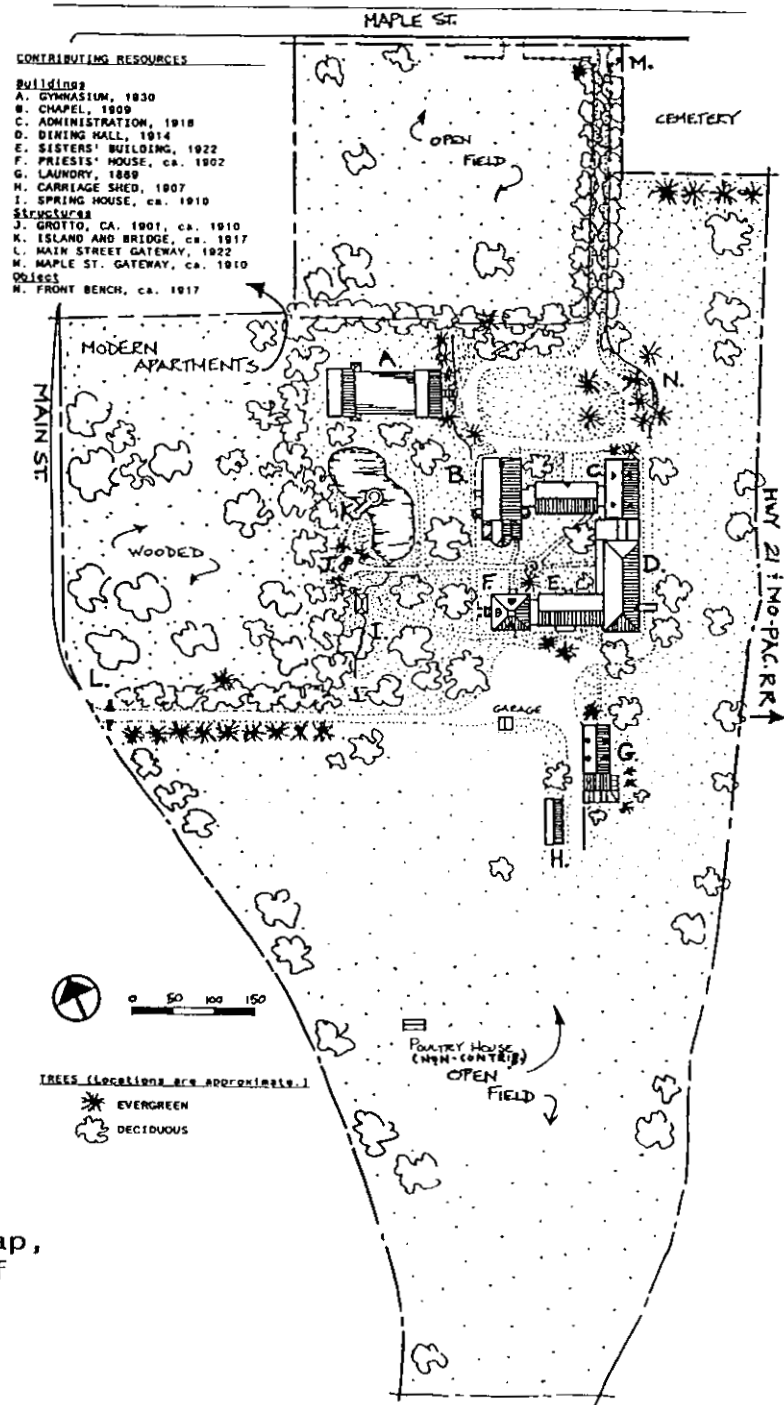


Figure Three. Boundary Map, based on a 1998 survey of the property. District boundary is indicated by the dark broken line.

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Iron County, Missouri

UTM references, continued.

5. Zone	Easting	Northing	6. Zone	Easting	Northing
15	709280	4161660	15	70911	
7. Zone	Easting	Northing	8. Zone	Easting	Northing
15	709130	4162000	15	709200	4162140
9. Zone	Easting	Northing			
15	709280	4162085			

Verbal Boundary Description

See accompanying base map, Figure Four, page 41. Boundary is indicated by dark broken line.

Boundary Justification

The current boundaries encompass all of the primary buildings and structures to be associated with the Academy during the period of significance.

