

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



791

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

## 1. Name of Property

historic name LaSalette Academy  
other names/site number LaSalette Garden Apartments/ KE-CR-14

## 2. Location

street & number 702 Greenup Street  
city or town Covington  
state Kentucky code KY county Kenton code 117 zip code 41011

NA	not for publication
NA	vicinity

## 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

    national     statewide X local

*Lindy Casebier*

9/26/2011

Signature of certifying official/Title Lindy Casebier/Acting SHPO

Date

**Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office**  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property     meets     does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title \_\_\_\_\_ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register

other (explain) \_\_\_\_\_

*James H. ...*

Signature of the Keeper

11/14/2011

Date of Action

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**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box.)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
1	0	<b>Total</b>

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

NA

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

1

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Religion: church-related residence

Religion: church school

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic: multiple dwelling

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revivals: Georgian Revival

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Limestone

walls: Brick

roof: Rubber

other: Sandstone

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## Narrative Description

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### Summary Paragraph

The LaSalette Academy (KE-CR-14) was begun in 1856 in a two-story building. As the school population grew and curriculum expanded, the physical plant also expanded. Today, the building is composed of two main buildings, each having an L-shape, which form a U-shaped complex around a deep central courtyard that opens onto Greenup Street in Covington, Kentucky. The entire complex consumes nearly an entire city block of Kentucky's northernmost city, sitting across the Ohio River from Cincinnati. The entry doors to both buildings are on Greenup Street, on their west face. Both buildings are on the National Register within the Licking Riverside Historic District (NR #75000787), listed in 1975. At that time, one of the two buildings within the complex was deemed non-contributing, due to it not being 50 years of age at the time of listing. This individual nomination form justifies the eligibility of both buildings.

### Development of the Site

The LaSalette Academy began service in 1856, sitting on the block southeast of the intersection of Seventh and Greenup Streets, near the northwest corner of that block (see quad map and site plan). In 1886, that original building was demolished and a new and larger building was constructed on the site. In 1903 this original building was greatly expanded to the rear (eastern) portion of the lot, and a third story was added, to provide additional living space for the instructors, the Sisters of Charity.

In 1931, plans were drawn to add an additional building to the site, south of the original building. The Great Depression delayed construction by almost a decade, but the new space was finally finished in 1939, nearly doubling the total size of the school and creating the large central courtyard. The school continued to operate for a number of decades, but eventually dwindling support and attendance caused the school to close; administrators handed out LaSalette Academy's last diploma in 1977. After the school closed, the site was purchased by a developer and converted to apartments.

The two buildings have recently been connected by a poured concrete wall. That wall blocks access into the courtyard from the alley behind (east of) the complex. That wall creates an exterior storage space between the two buildings. In every respect, architecturally and mechanically, the buildings are separate entities.

### The Exterior Main Building

The 1886 LaSalette Academy building was originally two stories in height and had a square footprint. That building housed both the school and a convent. That original building consisted of six rooms in two stories and three additional rooms in the basement.

In its expanded form, the building now is three stories tall, has a five-bay brick front façade, and Georgian Revival styling, with an elevated limestone block basement. Horizontal stone bands wrap the building at the lintel and sill levels of the first two stories. Windows on the building's front (west) side are six-over-six double hung, except the center windows, which are in a projecting bay window at the second floor and a flush three-banked window at the third level. The entryway is in the center of the building, entered from a porch, which is three bays wide and is covered by a flat roof supported by eight columns. The building's cornice is a simple dentil pattern beneath basic block corbels. The roof of the original building is pyramidal and now has protruding dormers, which break up the original roofline and were likely added with a 1903 addition. The rest

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of the roof is a long gable that offsets at various points to remain centered on the building, with occasional dormers.

The building was initially a simple square footprint, but now continues to the east into a large irregular C-shape, created by an addition in 1903. In the addition, the 1886 building's horizontal banding was discontinued, but the windows maintain stone sills and lintels, which have varying degrees of ornamentation and detailing. An additional entryway is present on this rear portion of the building, having a large stone arch containing a set of heavy double-doors and a glass tympanum with the name of the school etched into the glass. The stone archway is constructed of two stone pilasters supporting a stone cornice with an ornate floral frieze. A higher cornice is set upon this first cornice and is far simpler and supports a stone cross at its center, extending vertically between the two windows above the entrance. The building has an exterior three-story porch looking out onto the courtyard, running along an interior corridor.

That rear addition is compatible in design to the original building, complementing its styling and respecting the scale of the original building and the surrounding neighborhood. All of the windows on the original building have been replaced in the last 50 years. The only remaining original windows are located above the main front entry doors, which are covered by the front portico. These original windows are essentially transoms and are currently inoperable. In 1903 the building and its addition were expanded to three stories, explaining the color change in the brick above the second floor, as well as what appears to be out-of-plumb lintels above that level.

### **The Interior Main Building**

The interior of the building appears to be largely non-historic, with walls furred out into corridors and ceilings dropped to varying heights. Little of the interior is historic or in any way original. Most floor, wall, and ceiling coverings have been modified extensively, removed, or concealed. While the surface coverings carry little historic value, the layout is still readily apparent as that of an old school, with a wide main corridor that runs through the center of the building. This central corridor, maintained on each level of the building, appears to be original and exists on each floor, providing one the distinct impression of an institutional space that has remained since its original construction. It does not appear that this corridor has been blocked off on either end and it still accesses what appear to be all of the original staircases, as well as an elevator that was added more recently.

The one space which has not been severely altered for a new purpose is the chapel. A new acoustic ceiling has been installed, as well as new exterior doors to the courtyard, but the space retains its original configuration, stained glass windows, and arched supports. The chapel, aside from the layout and exterior of the building, is one of the areas that has most strongly retained its historic integrity.

### **The Exterior Classroom Building**

The classroom building was added to the site in 1939 and was intended to provide additional space for classrooms and a cafeteria. This addition was done with a footprint that somewhat mirrors the original building, helping to create a deep courtyard between the two buildings. The classroom building was designed in a Georgian style, but done in a more simplistic manner, with a very simply-articulated stone cornice, basic stone window sills, no lintels, and only a single stone belt course around the building just above the first floor. The main entryway is located on Greenup Street, just south of the main entry to the original building. The entryway is contained within a two-story three-bay extension, which extends about ten feet out from the face of the building. The central double doors are framed by a large stone arch, which encompasses windows on the second floor and has a simple stone decoration separating the upper windows from the doors beneath. The

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building behind the entryway extends three bays to the north and south on either side of the entrance, helping to emphasize the entryway's prominence. The entrance is located at ground level, unlike the original building, which was elevated. While the classroom building is three stories tall, the site runs up hill from south to north and elevates to the rear of the site as well, creating an impression of a half-sunken first floor, which is further emphasized by the original building's elevated foundation. The roof is entirely flat with a built up synthetic covering.

The rear portion of the classroom building has large arched windows looking out onto the courtyard and onto the alley behind the site, but most of these windows have been bricked in. They originally would have provided natural light to the large and open cafeteria portion of the addition. Just off this addition, and extending into the courtyard, is a low single-story roof, which would have sheltered students and faculty as they moved between the two buildings to the cafeteria. This roof is supported by three brick columns, with simple stone caps and bases.

The windows in the classroom building have all been replaced with modern vinyl or aluminum windows in the last 50 years, most of which do not fill the spatial opening of the original windows. Despite this, the historic window openings are readily apparent, and the appearance from the exterior still clearly reveals the original window spacing and sizing.

#### The Interior Classroom Building

The interior of the classroom building is in a condition similar to the main school building. The surface coverings are all non-original and non-historic and many walls have been furred-out to provide space for mechanical systems and to present a uniform appearance. This building maintains its original corridor plan and stair arrangement, which indicates quite clearly an institutional educational building, which would have been appropriate to the era in which it was constructed, that just prior to the Second World War.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- 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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Religion

Period of Significance

1886-1961

Significant Dates

1886, 1931, 1939

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Period of Significance (justification)

The property is significant from the construction of the first extant building, 1886, until the close of the historic period, 1961. The beginning date of 1856 was considered, as the site began its significant use in 1856. However, National Register conventions guide nomination authors to focus upon extant built resources when beginning the Period of Significance.

Criteria Consideration A is selected, as this property fits the definition. Its significance is explained within a historic context and within one of the standard Areas of Significance, Religion.

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## Statement of Significance

### Summary Paragraph

The LaSalette Academy (KE-CR-14) meets National Register Criterion A. It is significant for its association with the growth of the Roman Catholic Church in Kentucky. The significance of the Academy is evaluated within the context "Growth and Organization of the Roman Catholic Church in Kentucky, 1808-1961." The Academy is important for demonstrating the value ascribed by Catholics to the role of parochial education in fostering individual spirituality and in supporting the church's growth throughout the state. The Academy was established in 1856 by the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth at the request of Bishop Carrell, of Cincinnati. The Academy's major expansions of its physical plant, in 1886, 1903, and 1939, indicate continuous expansion of the Catholic church locally and throughout Kentucky during the latter-half of the 19<sup>th</sup> and first-half of the 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The closure of the Academy in 1977 signals two important shifts: an end to the continuous growth in the number of Kentucky Catholics, as well as a shift in values among the church's general population as to the necessity of an exclusively Catholic education. Both buildings are on the National Register within the Licking Riverside Historic District (NR #75000787), listed in 1975. At that time, one of the two buildings within the complex was deemed non-contributing, due to it not being 50 years of age at the time of listing. The current nomination form examines both buildings within a historic context more relevant to their identity and previous use.

Historic Context: Growth and Organization of the Roman Catholic Church and the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth in Kentucky, 1808-1961

In its initial organization, in 1808, the Roman Catholic Church organized Kentucky and Tennessee into a single diocese, split off from the primal American See of Baltimore. This new diocese was overseen by the Rev. Benedict Joseph Flaget and was based in Bardstown, Kentucky. In addition to overseeing these two new states, Flaget was also given the responsibility of overseeing the northwest territories, which at the time consisted of area covered by current states Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, and Wisconsin. While not formally states, or a part of the diocese, the administration of such a massive land area with such a sparse population would quickly prove difficult.

With a diocese so spread out across Kentucky and additional responsibilities in the northwest, Bishop Flaget sent for help. He was sent a coadjutant, the Rt. Rev. John Baptist David, who joined him in Bardstown and helped to administer the large new diocese. In 1812, when Rev. David arrived in Bardstown, he immediately saw a profound need for pious women capable of instructing the young and caring for the sick, the aged, and the poor. While setting up a new seminary, St. Thomas, outside of Bardstown, Bishop David began to form the foundations of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, Kentucky.

To begin, Rev. David sought volunteers of eligible women from the local pioneer community. Six women agreed to join, among them Catherine Spalding, who helped to form numerous educational institutions around Kentucky, and for whom Spalding University in Louisville is named. Joining the group at St. Thomas Seminary, the women named their first log building "Nazareth." That name for their mother house has remained, identifying their group as from Nelson County, Kentucky and from St. Thomas Seminary.

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The Sisters of Charity took their vows in 1816 and began instructing local children immediately. Their success was quickly rewarded with additional students and responsibilities. In 1829 the Kentucky Legislature accredited Nazareth Academy, and the Sisters of Charity began to expand out of Nelson County to form schools across the state.

Still overmatched by the scale of the necessary operations, Flaget requested that a new diocese be formed in Detroit and another in Cincinnati. Two additional administrative bodies would go a long way toward relieving the significant burden on the bishops based in Bardstown, Kentucky. It was determined that Detroit was not yet ready, but that Cincinnati could effectively be formed into its own diocese and, in 1821, the diocese of Cincinnati was formed and given responsibility for Ohio as well as duties overseeing Michigan and the rest of the eastern portion of the northwest territories. In time, the immense new diocese formed in 1808 would be separated into forty different dioceses, including major centers in Indianapolis, Chicago, Detroit, and Cincinnati. In 1841, with the city of Louisville swelling in size from a massive influx of German and Irish immigrants, Flaget moved the seat of the diocese out of Bardstown to Louisville. At this time the diocese of Louisville administered all of Kentucky.

#### Diocese of Covington Established

In 1853, with a growing Catholic population, fueled in large part by Catholic German immigrants to both the northern Kentucky and Louisville areas, the Diocese of Covington was established and given responsibility for the eastern portion of the state, including Frankfort and Lexington. The president of Xavier College in Cincinnati, Father George A. Carrell, was named the new bishop.

When the diocese was created there were 8,000 Catholics in the entire diocese. Bishop Carrell quickly sought to grow the church from this small base and began expanding existing parishes and establishing new ones. By the time Bishop Carrell died in 1868, the diocese had tripled in membership, to 25,000 Catholics.

In addition to strengthening the spiritual institutions of the diocese, Carrell quickly attempted to grow the educational institutions. The educational mission of the Catholic Church was well established and was reformed and reinforced at each of three Plenary Councils held in Baltimore. The first Plenary Council, held in 1852, just before the creation of the diocese, decreed that bishops needed to have a school in every parish for the education of the youth. The second Plenary Council, in 1866, had a more expansionist vision, decreeing that dioceses in urban areas should construct industrial and reformatory schools in addition to the ordinary parish schools. The third Plenary Council, held in 1884, was the most forceful in its decree regarding education. Title VI of the Final Decree instructed that parish schools were an absolute necessity and that all parents were to send their children to these parochial schools unless the bishop personally granted an exemption. Even with that dispensation, parents were instructed to resist sending their children to public schools. This expanding view of the role of education in the Catholic Church created a huge need for teachers and additional facilities.

It is little surprise that in 1856, when the Sisters of Charity arrived in Covington, that Bishop Carrell was seeking to expand the educational system of the diocese. The new academy fit well into the model established by the first Plenary Council. In addition to LaSalette Academy, the diocese opened schools wherever it was feasible or necessary. In Covington the diocese opened St. Joseph in 1859, under the guidance of the Benedictine Sisters, in 1865 the St. Francis Sisters opened Mother of God School, and then in 1869 St. Aloysius

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and St. Ann parish schools were opened. Given that there were nearly no Catholic schools in the diocese at its inception, the progress under Bishop Carrell was remarkable.

Hindering the growth of the diocese during this time was the Civil War. Though Covington was never attacked, the war slowed business in many places and hurt giving to the church, which was desperately needed to pay for the additional schools. It did not help that most of the new Catholics were coming from Europe, where they were fleeing war and famine, and brought little wealth with them. Because of this, the diocese remained largely European in complexion, had little income, and often had significant debt. Despite this, in 1868 the Covington Diocese had 42 parishes, up from the initial six in 1853.

In 1870 Bishop Toebbe was named to take over the diocese and he continued the work begun by Bishop Carrell. By the end of Bishop Toebbe's tenure in 1884 there were 52 parishes in the diocese and over 6,200 children in the schools. This growth was significant, given the sparse population of the diocese and its range over eastern Kentucky.

As happens so often with organizations which expand successfully, they require new facilities to accommodate their growth. In the same way that the Sisters of Charity required larger living facilities with the success of their academy, the church needed a new cathedral that could accommodate the growing flock. Beginning in 1894, under the third bishop of the diocese, Bishop Maes, a new St. Mary's Cathedral was begun. Construction ended in 1915, though the building was not yet complete. This new construction shifted the center of the diocese away from its original site near LaSalette Academy. This period of expansion would last for decades, feeding the need for more schools, until the explosive growth of the suburbs and the rising affluence of the American middle class would begin to undermine at least the educational institutions.

### History of the LaSalette Academy

When the Diocese of Covington was established in 1853, with Bishop Carrell taking the lead, the diocese sought to construct a cathedral to serve as the center of the religious community. In June of 1854 St. Mary's Cathedral was finished and consecrated. The Cathedral helped establish the block between Greenup and Scott Streets and Seventh and Eight Streets as the nexus of the Roman Catholic community in Covington. In addition to the cathedral, which faced Eight Street, there was St. Mary's Parochial and Select School, which faced the opposite direction onto Seventh Street. Between the two buildings, in the center of the block, was the building that acted as the home for the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth.

While the Sisters of Charity had taken over St. Mary's parish school they also had been charged with forming LaSalette Academy. This task had been initially accomplished out of their own home, but the construction of a new building soon became necessary, as the Sisters' home was shared with those teaching across the river in Cincinnati, as well as those who taught at other schools in the area, including St. Mary's Parish School, which backed up to the cathedral. Building on the critical mass established in the area, the Sisters purchased land across Greenup Street and began construction of a new school building there. The new LaSalette Academy helped to reinforce the centrality of the area to the Catholic community. The expansion of LaSalette was closely tied to the expansion of the community and its scale soon rivaled the scale of the original parish school across the street and the Cathedral. With St. Mary's Cathedral, St. Mary's Parish School, the convent for the Sisters of Charity, and LaSalette, now rapidly expanding, it would have been impossible to miss the imposing physical presence the Catholic Church had on the area.

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The sisters arrived in 1856 and immediately began making arrangements for the new school. The first class consisted of sixteen pupils and was taught in a small building on "the commons" at the corner of Seventh and Greenup Streets. In addition to administration and instruction, this first building also served as a residence for the Sisters of Charity who taught both in Covington and in Cincinnati. In Covington the new academy was named "La Salette," after the recent apparition in La Salette, France, which was drawing many new followers.

By 1886 the school was so successful that additional room was necessary. The Sisters of LaSalette, having secured title to the surrounding property, were given permission by Motherhouse in Bardstown to construct a new school building. This building, completed in 1886, replaced the original academy building and had more classrooms and living quarters than the previous building. This additional space allowed the school to grow more rapidly, necessitating more teachers, and thus more space. To continue the school's mission and build upon its recent successes, in 1903 the Sisters had constructed a third story on the original two stories to provide living space for the additional teachers, and had built a large addition to the rear of the original building, significantly expanding the size of the school and creating the building that is present today on the north side of the site.

The school continued to expand, being accredited by the Kentucky State Department of Education in 1923 and by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools in 1930. Additionally, LaSalette Academy secured an affiliation with the Catholic University of America, which further heightened the school's prestige. All of this recognition served to attract more students, and in 1931, plans were drawn up for a new building to create more classroom space for additional programs, as well as for a cafeteria. Because of the Depression, the building was not completed until 1939, which at last completed the complex as it currently stands.

#### Decline of LaSalette Academy and Catholic Education in General

As Europe settled down politically, immigration to the United States slowed. Second- and third-generation European Catholics began to find wider acceptance, particularly after World War I and World War II. The community's growing affluence allowed them to move to the suburbs, with much of the entire American middle class. Additionally, public schooling had greatly improved and the tinge of bigotry that Catholics had initially felt was now largely gone. This change in attitudes can be particularly marked by the election of a Catholic president in 1960.

As anti-Catholic sentiment within American society began to subside, enabling to integrate more easily within the secular world, the church began to reflect upon ways to interact with that world. The church undertook a monumental reshaping of its tradition, within the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965). For many Catholics, the changes called for by the Council disrupted their way of life; for others, the Council seemed to welcome a greater interaction with the secular world. One trend that may not be a consequence of, but certainly occurred shortly after the Council, was a sharp decline in women becoming nuns. Nuns had been an indispensable labor force for Catholic schools. Even though in the late-1960s and 1970s, the number of suburban parishes in urban areas increases, the dwindling number of nuns caused many schools to turn to paid teachers and tuition. This put a Catholic education out of reach for many potential pupils. Suburban Catholics began to send their children to local public schools, further dropping enrollment at Catholic schools in those new parishes. In an attempt to continue a strong educational system, the Catholic Church began to consolidate schools, shuttering some, sell

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them as excess property. The result of these consolidations has been the repurposing of many former school buildings, which is precisely where LaSalette Academy now stands, as a multi-family residential facility.

Evaluation of the *local* historic significance of LaSalette Academy within the context of Growth and Organization of the Roman Catholic Church in Kentucky, 1853-1961

The LaSalette Academy is one school in Covington that tells a strong story of the social relations between one religious group and the world in which they stood. The immigration surges in the middle of the nineteenth century had been driven by Europeans who came from countries with significant Catholic populations, like Ireland, Germany, and Italy. These new Catholic immigrants were met with suspicion and quickly encountered American “Know-nothingism,” the result of a new nativist political party. Seeking acceptance and education in their native language, without the Protestant paradigms which underlay most public schools, Catholic immigrants attended local parish schools in droves. This was further encouraged by the three Plenary Councils of Baltimore, which eventually ordered that Catholic parents should only send their children to Catholic schools unless special permission was granted by the bishop under extraordinary circumstances.

This system of schools was important, and continue to be an important element of the Catholic religious experience. The church attempted to provide a network of social activities that supported the faithful’s many needs—hospitals, orphanages, schools, fraternal organizations, etc. This Christian denomination is more hierarchical than others, so the system of schools was an important piece of the Catholic system, where youth could be indoctrinated into the knowledge of their faith life as well as the content of normal education. Lessons in authority and discipline are recalled by graduates of both Catholic and non-Catholic schooling; however, those lessons have a different flavor when they are administered with the ruler of personal salvation.

LaSalette Academy stands alone today, though once was part of a larger group of properties that gave great witness to the part of Covington that served as the center of local Catholic religious life. As it stands, the school complex is the last physical reminder of the roots of the Catholic Church in Covington, which took up residence on Greenup, Seventh, and Eighth Streets.

Two good examples of established urban parish schools, which could be compared to LaSalette Academy, are St. Augustine School (Listed in 2005), on Jefferson Avenue in Covington, and Covington Latin School, on East Eleventh Street in Covington. Both of these schools approach LaSalette Academy in scale, but they serve in a more parochial setting, being able to draw strongly on their church, or in the case of Covington Latin, the basilica, that shares a building lot with them. In these examples, the church is the prime building of the complex and the existence of the school is secondary. Additionally, the shared space with a church helps to make maintenance and continuing operations a prime concern for all church members, whether their children are attending or not, thus enabling the school to draw on the financial resources of the local congregation. LaSalette Academy is impressive to have continued to provide education without a parent church for as long as it did. This indicates some of the importance that its local supporters ascribed to it.

Evaluation of the integrity: the ability of LaSalette Academy’s physical plant to tell its significant story

The significance of LaSalette Academy is best understood through the terms of Criterion A, which reckons significance here according to the important theme of Catholic Church history and development in

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Covington, particularly, the Diocese's educational system. The factors which best help display that significance are location, setting, design, materials, and feeling.

LaSalette Academy possesses integrity of location because the building has not been moved. Beginning in 1886, when the initial portion of the first building was constructed the school buildings have occupied the site continuously. The additions to the first building and the construction of the second building on the site are important to understanding the expansion of the school over the last century and to recognizing the importance the building played in the local Catholic community. This location was important, as nearby stood buildings, such as the St. Mary's Cathedral and the Cathedral school, which told the local population a strong story of the Catholic presence in the area.

LaSalette Academy still possesses some integrity of setting, because despite the loss of St. Mary's Cathedral and parish school across the street, these buildings were never visible from the school and in fact a new cathedral was constructed in a different location with a few decades of the construction of LaSalette Academy. When the academy was first constructed, it was surrounded by other urban buildings, both commercial and residential. The school buildings create a deep interior courtyard, which tends to block distractions from the street and to limit views of surrounding buildings when in the courtyard. The result of this is that when occupying the buildings or being in the courtyard, the setting of a religious academy in an urban environment is still very strongly conveyed.

LaSalette Academy was never attached to a church from which it could draw its support, as even St. Mary's Cathedral, when it was across the street, had its own parish school to maintain. Its lack of a larger setting is an important part of its identity and significance. LaSalette Academy alone exhibited a strong presence on Greenup Street, standing as an intact reminder of the Catholic school system and the previous site of the Catholic Bishop in Covington.

LaSalette Academy possesses strong integrity of design. The imposing size of the complex establishes its presence and boundaries within an urban setting, which few other Catholic schools do alone. Most are more suburban and are designed more in accord with lower density populations, significant car traffic, and built on cheaper land. Those that are not suburban are of a significantly smaller scale and are almost invariably attached to a church, which anchors the complex, or the building simply recedes into the urban fabric, often overwhelmed by the surrounding architecture. None of the remaining historic Catholic schools match the scale of the LaSalette Academy complex or establish the same urban presence.

The building has been converted to senior housing, but the interior layout is still retained in its entirety, with long halls unbroken and all of the original staircases and traffic patterns well preserved. Additionally the significant interior spaces, like the cafeteria and the chapel, are still completely intact, which help to transfer a clear understanding of the building as a religious institution and an educational institution.

LaSalette Academy possesses fairly strong integrity of materials, as nearly every exterior material is still present, except for the interiors of the windows, which have been replaced with aluminum or vinyl windows. Despite this, the openings are still present, the doorways are intact, and each portion of the building clearly presents itself as a product of the year in which it was built, with no false reconstructions or inappropriate mimicry.

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LaSalette Academy possesses strong integrity of feeling. When walking through the halls, climbing the stairs, or walking through the courtyard, the complex still conveys the sense that it is a religious school.

In comparison to other school buildings in the diocese, LaSalette compares quite well. The building has retained its original form on the exterior, including all of the additions that were constructed as the school expanded. Few other schools, and even some churches, retain the level of exterior integrity that LaSalette Academy possesses.

Because the Academy possesses the requisite integrity factors, it is eligible for listing.

### 9. Major Bibliographical References

Ryan, Paul E., History of the Diocese of Covington, Kentucky: On the occasion of the centenary of the diocese, 1853-1953. Covington: The Diocese, 1954.

Bevins, Ann Bolton. That troublesome Parish : St. Francis/St. Pius Church of White Sulphur, Kentucky, mother church of Diocese of Covington. 1985

Freiberg, Walter A. A Guide to the Cathedral. Covington: Messenger Publishing Co., 1947.

Various Sanborn Fire Insurance maps from 1884, 1896, and 1909.

O'Gorman, Thomas. A History of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States. New York: The Christian Literature Co., 1895.

McGill, Anna Blanche. The Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Kentucky. New York: The Encyclopedia Press, 1917.

#### 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 # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

#### Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_ KE-CR-14 \_\_\_\_\_

### 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 1.1077

LaSalette Academy  
Name of Property

Kenton County, Kentucky  
County and State

**UTM References**

**Covington Quad**

**UTM Coordinates below expressed according to NAD 27**

**Coordinates according to NAD 83 = 16/715688/4329022**

1	<u>16</u>	<u>715 689</u>	<u>4328 807</u>	3	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	4	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Beginning at the corner of Greenup and Seventh Streets and proceeding 277.35 feet south, then 252 feet northwest, then 190 feet northeast, then 255 feet south along Sanford Alley to a point that is the beginning point of the description.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

Parcels including the school buildings and the parking lot to the south.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Joseph C. Pierson  
organization Pinion Advisors date 5/23/2011  
street & number 1501 Morton Ave. telephone (517) 862-7333  
city or town Louisville state KY zip code 40204  
email address JPierson@PinionAdvisors.com

**Photographs:**

LaSalette Academy National Register Nomination Photo Log

**Same information for each photograph**

Name of Property: LaSalette Academy  
City or Vicinity: Covington  
County: Kenton  
State: Kentucky  
Name of Photographer: Joseph C. Pierson  
Date of Photographs: June 26, 2011  
Location of Original Digital Files: 1501 Morton Ave., Louisville, KY 40204  
Number of Photographs: 8

Photo #1

South facade (right) and partial east elevation (left). Camera facing northeast.

LaSalette Academy  
Name of Property

Kenton County, Kentucky  
County and State

Photo #2

East elevation showing newer classroom building of the 1930s (right) and partially obscured east facade of original building (left). Camera facing northeast.

Photo #3

North elevation of classroom building facing the interior of the complex. Camera facing southeast.

Photo #4

South elevation of the original building facing the courtyard. Camera facing northeast.

Photo #5

South elevation of the original building facing the courtyard. Camera facing northeast.

Photo #6

Original LaSalette Academy building on the corner of Greenup and Seventh Street with additions to the rear. Camera facing southeast.

Photo #7

Addition to original LaSalette Academy building in the rear. Camera facing southwest.

Photo #8

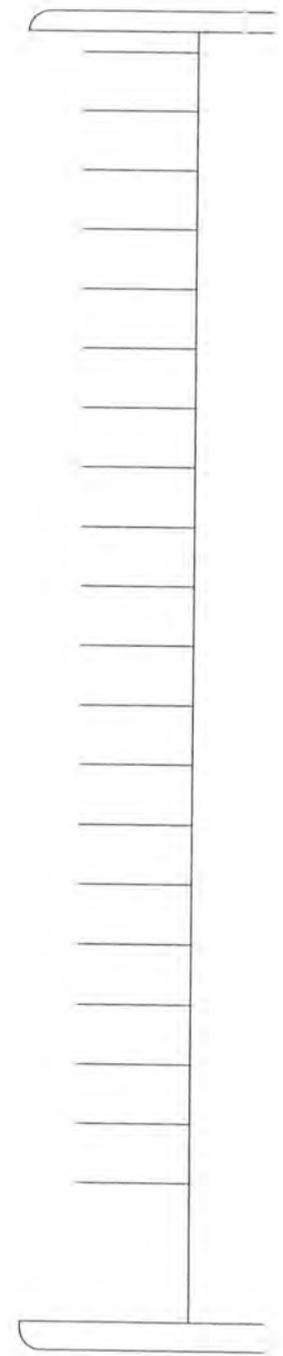
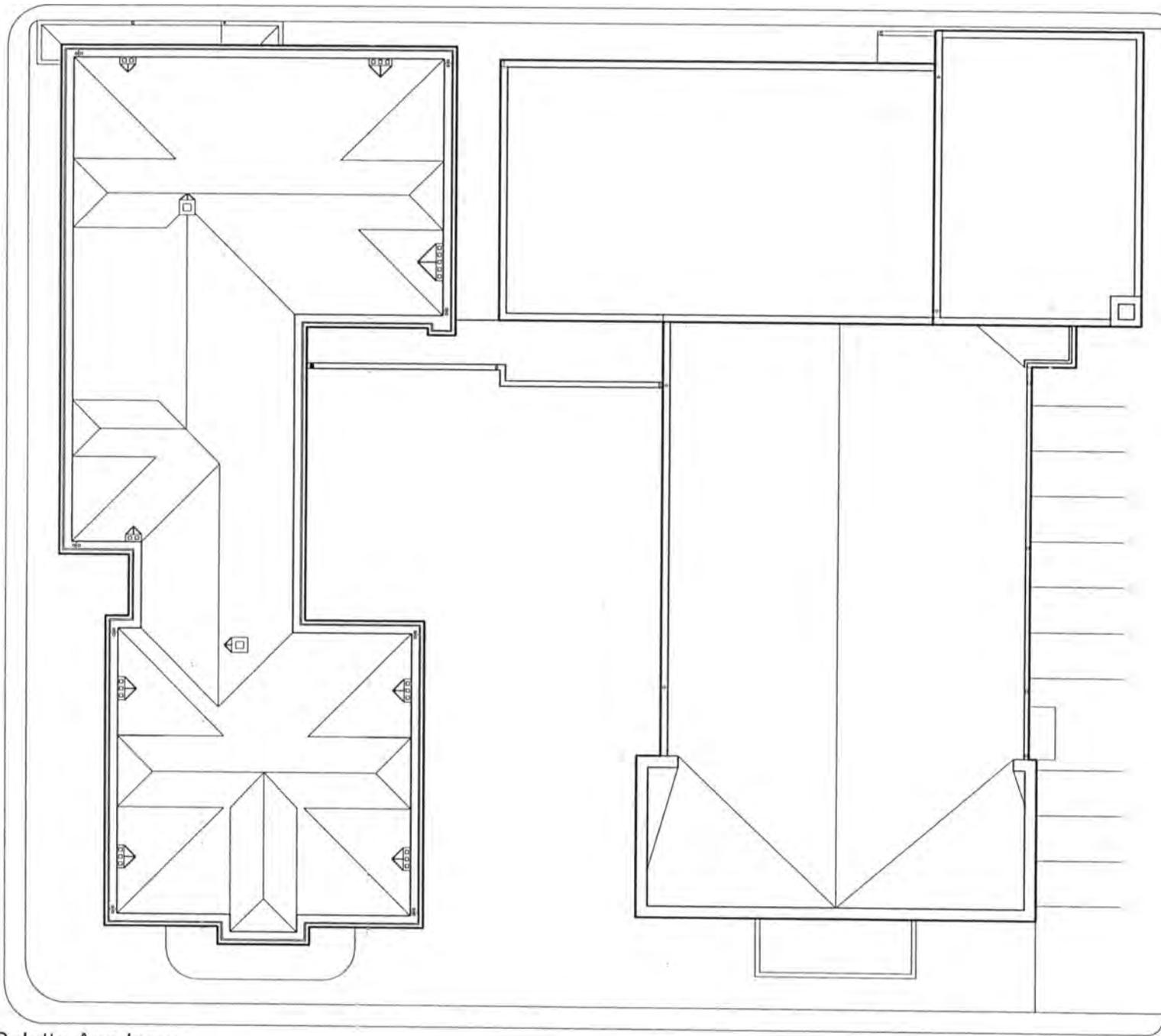
East (left) and north (right) elevation of addition to original building. Camera facing southwe

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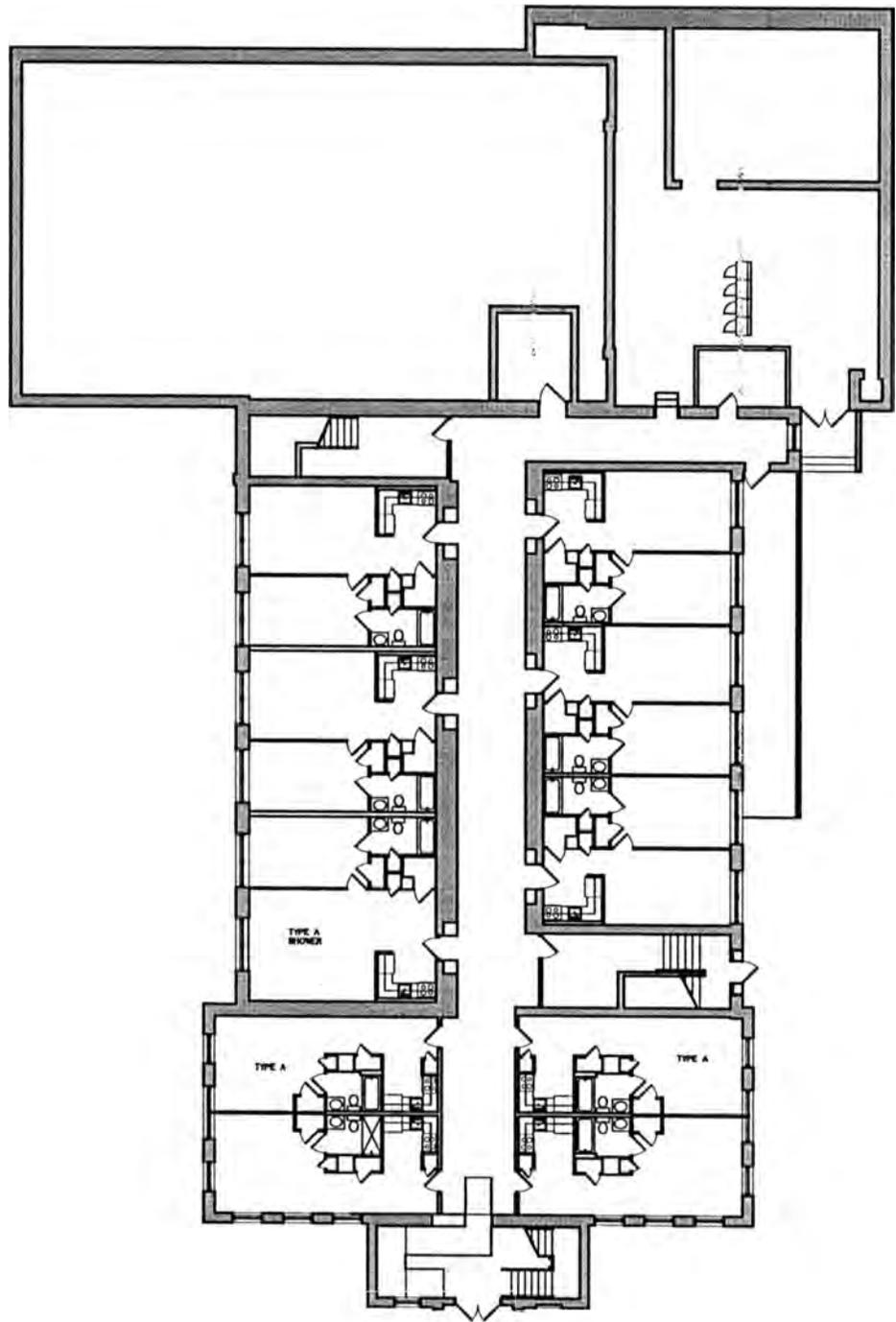
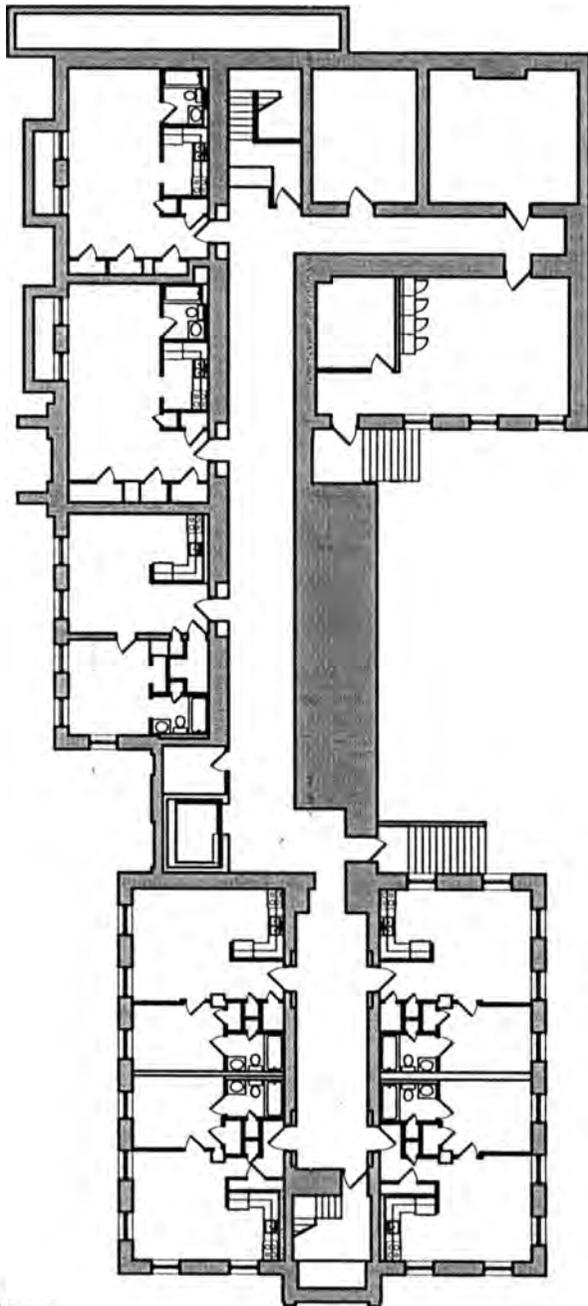
**Property Owner:**

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

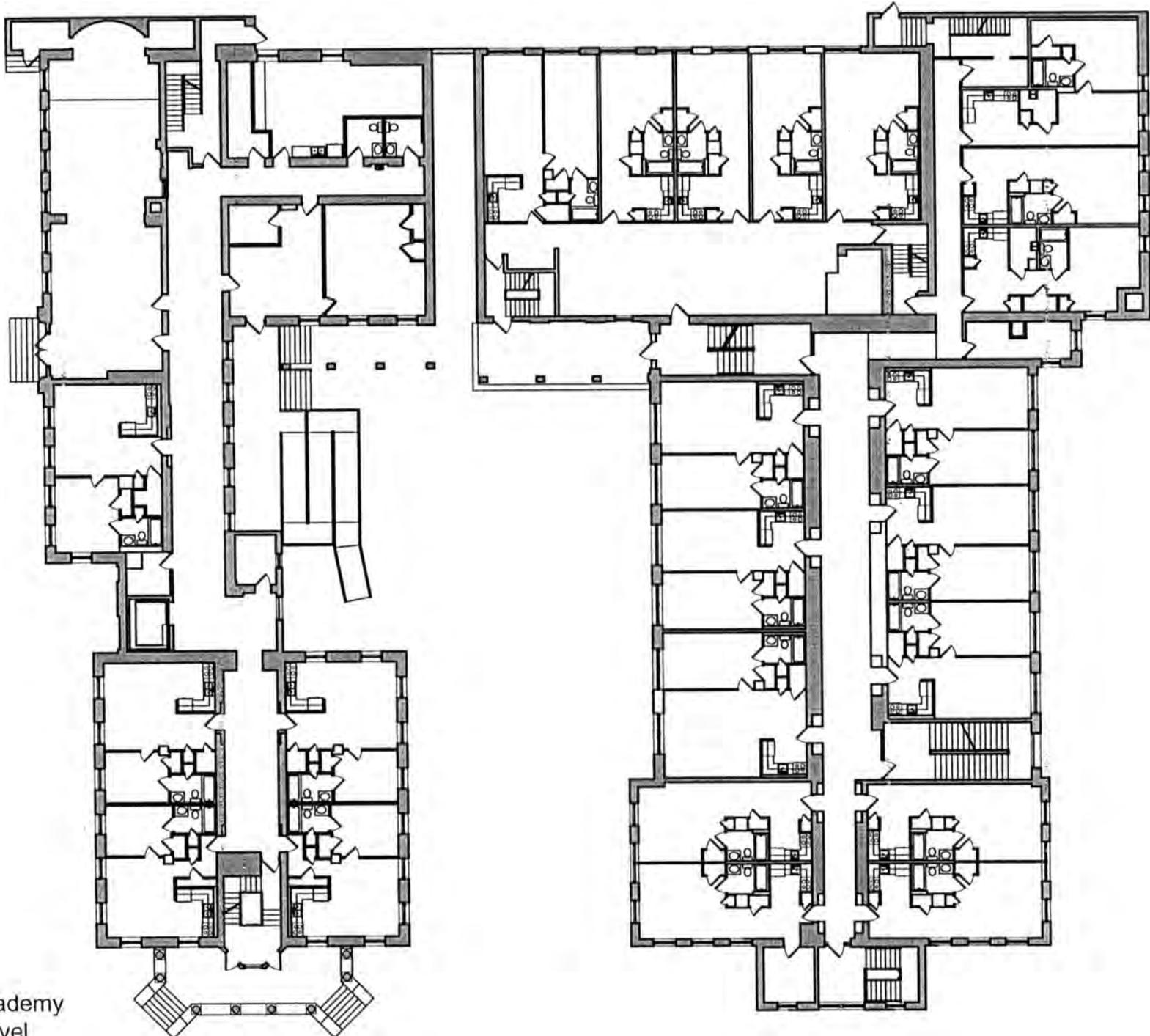
name \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_



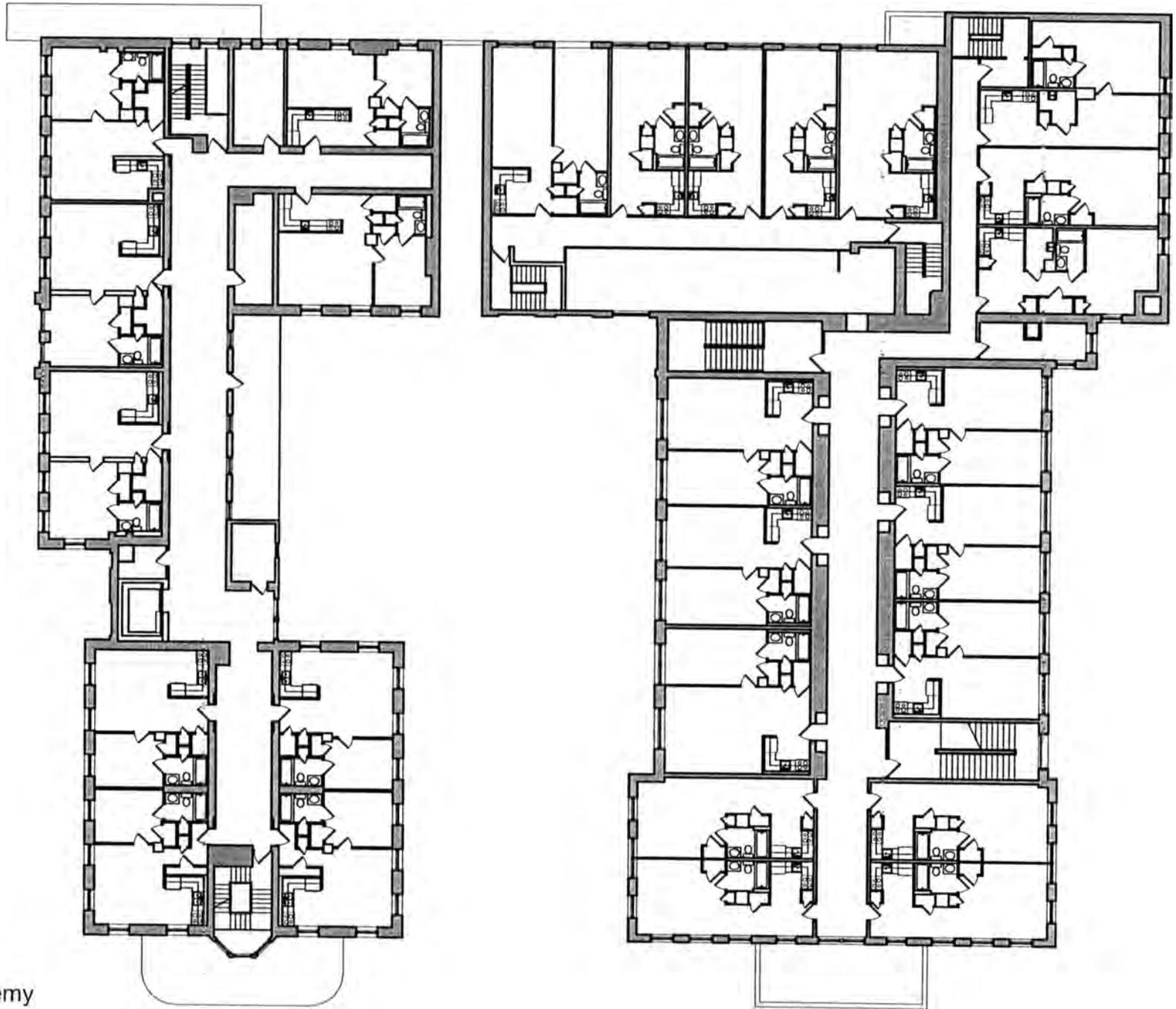
LaSalette Academy  
Site Plan



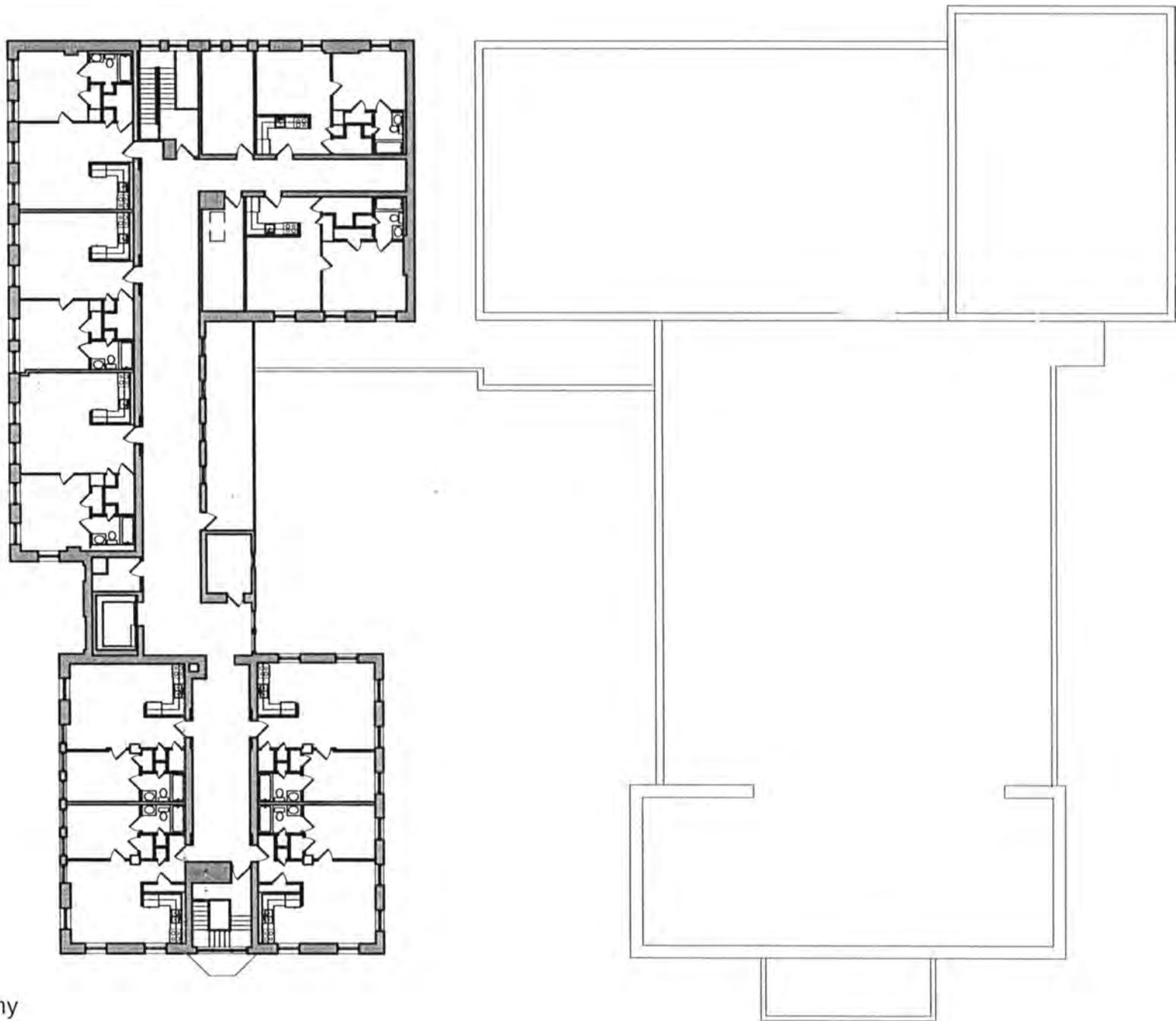
LaSalette Academy  
Basement Level



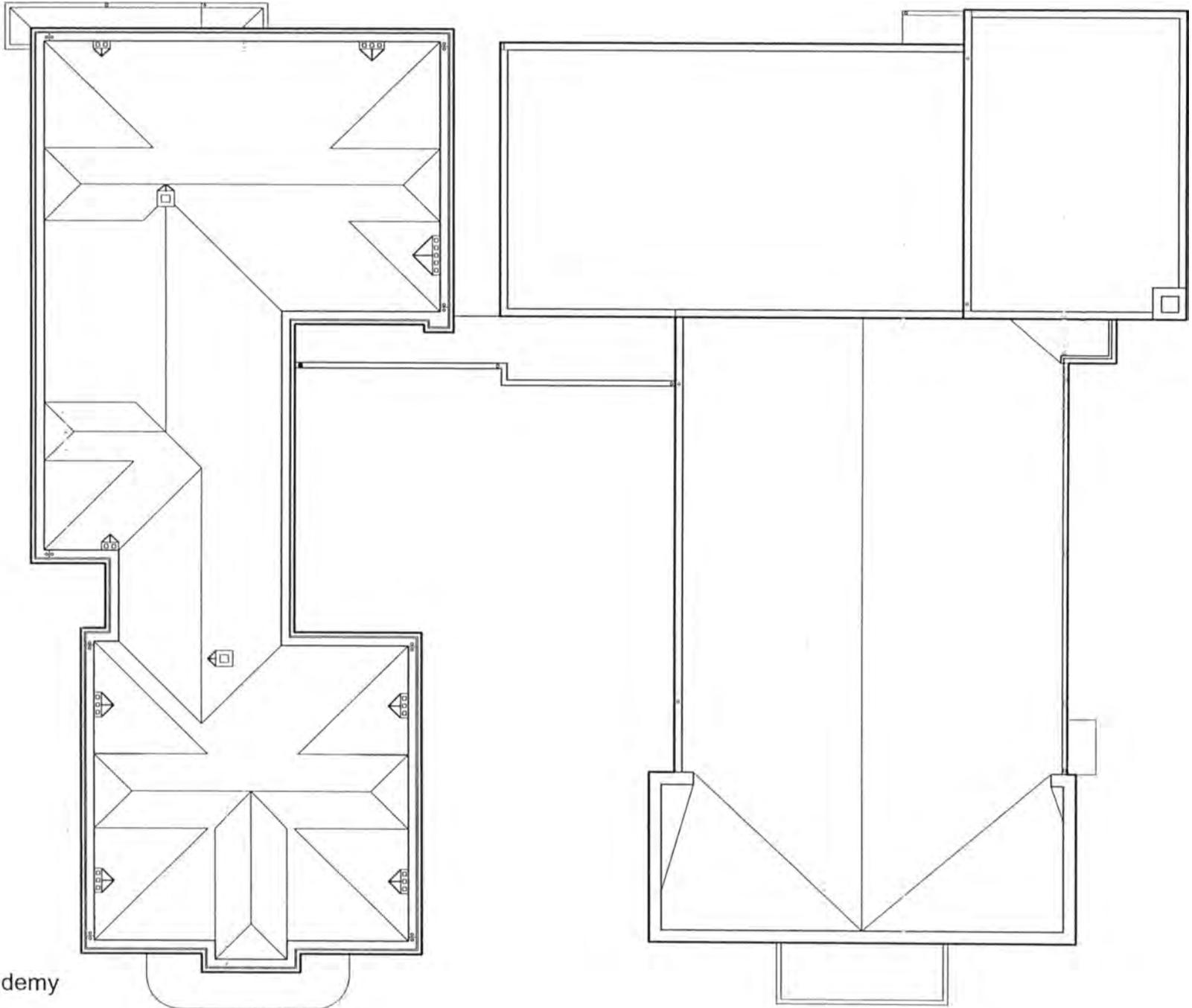
LaSalette Academy  
First Floor Level



LaSalette Academy  
Second Floor Level



LaSalette Academy  
Third Floor Level



LaSalette Academy  
Roof Plan

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: LaSalette Academy

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: KENTUCKY, Kenton

DATE RECEIVED: 9/30/11 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/26/11  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/10/11 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/15/11  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 11000791

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER:  PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 11/14/2011 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*These bldgs are located within the listed Licking Riverside H.D., one as C + one NC.  
Nomination established individual significance for both.*

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept - A

REVIEWER J. Gilbert DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N  see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



AVAILABLE  
FOR LEASE

AVAILABLE  
FOR LEASE

AVAILABLE  
FOR LEASE

AVAILABLE  
FOR LEASE











NG  
Y  
O  
MS

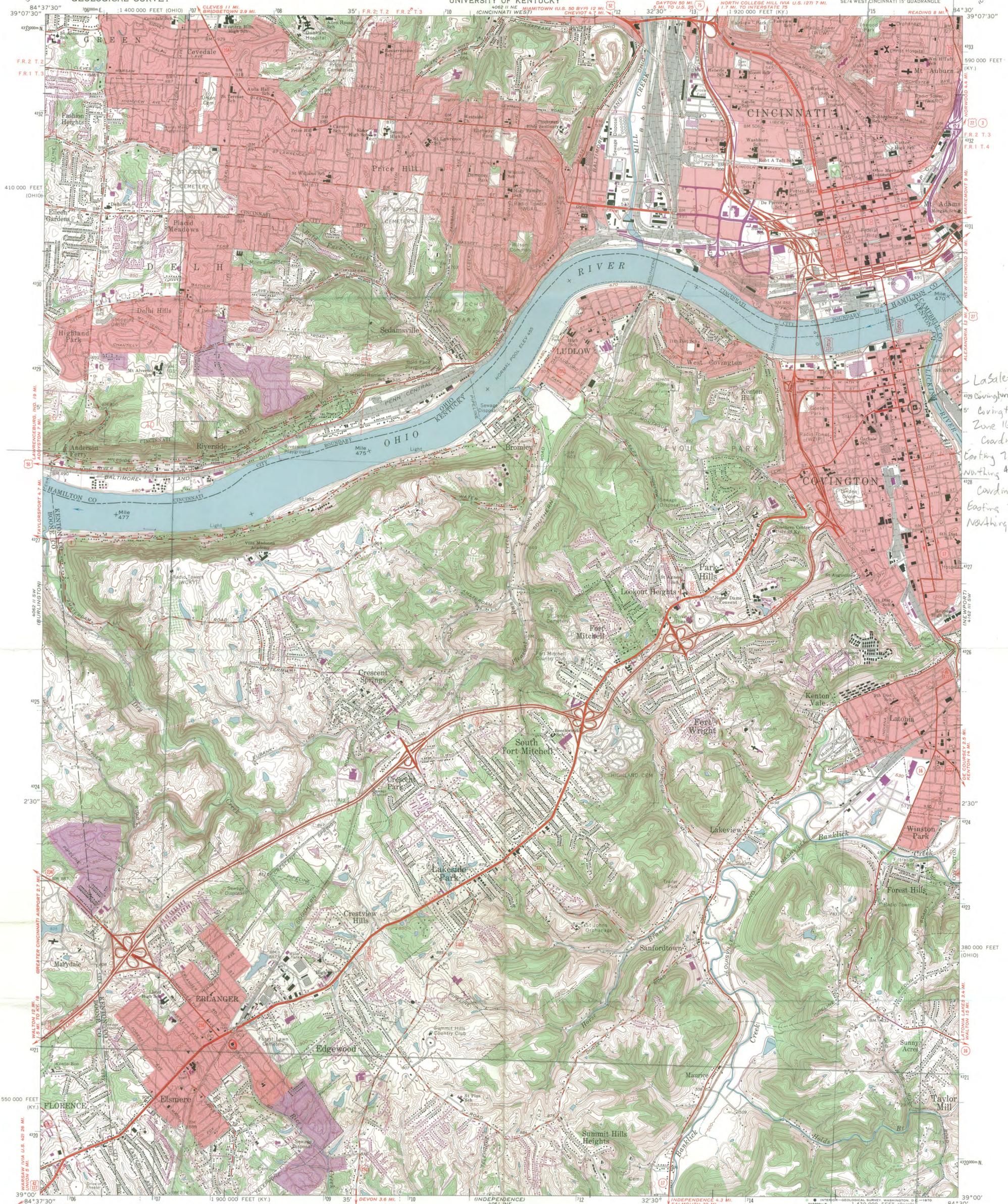


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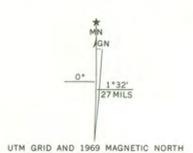






LaSalette Academy  
5' Covington, Kenton Co, KY  
Zone 16  
Coordinates = NAD27  
Easting 715 689  
Northing 4328 807  
Coordinates NAD 83  
Easting 715 688  
Northing 4329 022

Maped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, USCGS, USCE, and the City of Cincinnati  
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
taken 1949, and in part by the City of Cincinnati  
Field checked 1950 and 1953. Revised 1961  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grids based on Kentucky coordinate system,  
north zone, and Ohio coordinate system, south zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 16, shown in blue  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked  
The state boundary as shown represents the approximate position of the  
low water line as determined from U.S. Corps of Engineers  
Ohio River charts, surveyed 1913 and 1914, and supplementary information  
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown  
Ohio area lies within the Between the Miamis. Land lines based on the  
Great Miami River Base. Dotted land lines established by private  
subdivision of the Symmes Purchase



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242,  
KENTUCKY GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40506,  
AND KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601.  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

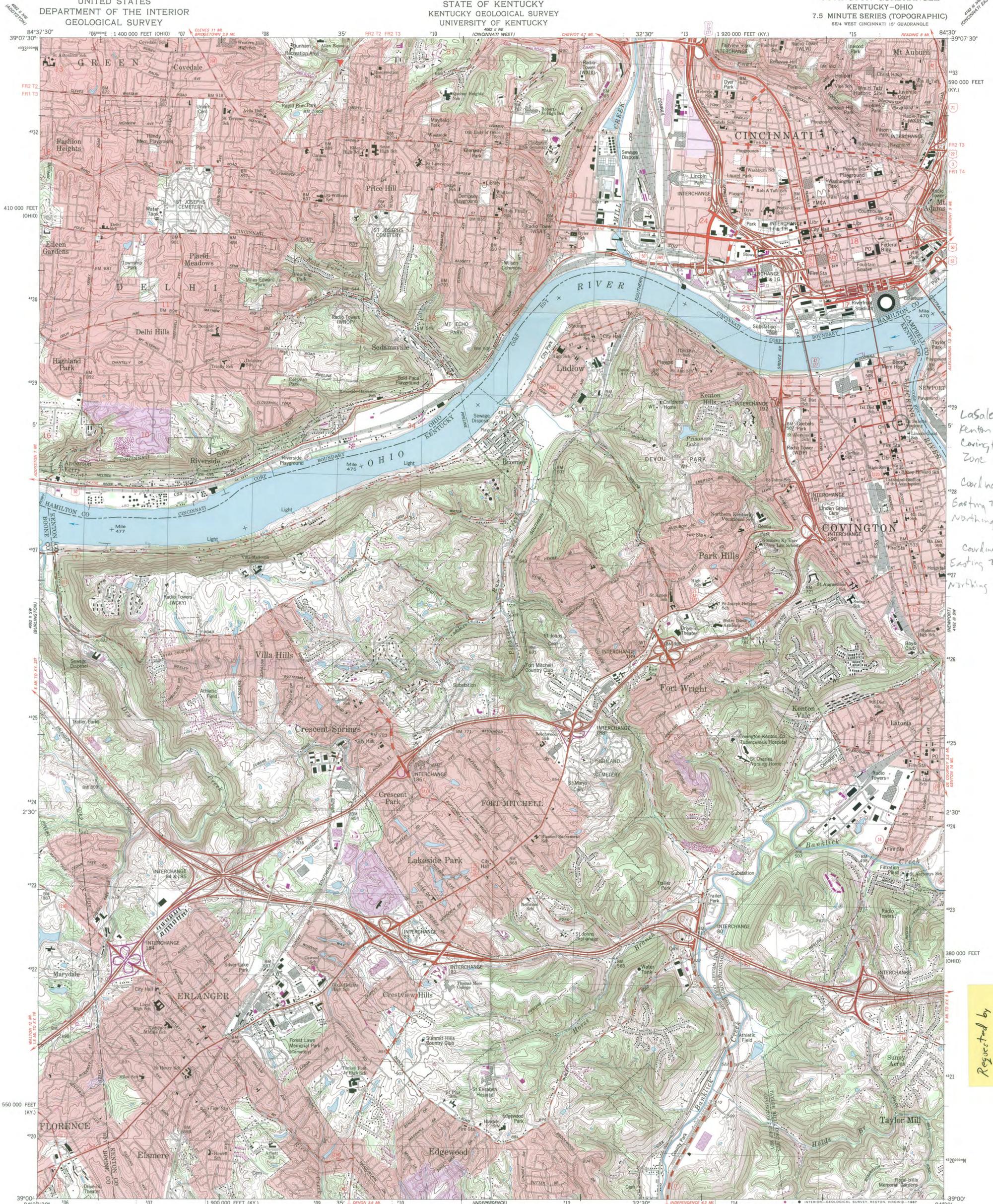


ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route	U.S. Route
	State Route

COVINGTON, KY.—OHIO  
SE/4 WEST CINCINNATI 15' QUADRANGLE  
N3900—W8430/7.5

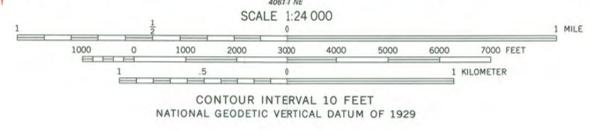
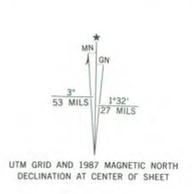
1961  
PHOTOREVISED 1969  
AMS 4062 II SE—SERIES 9853



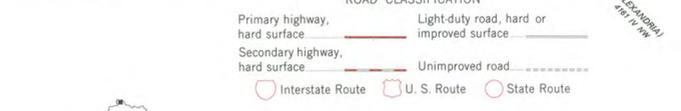
LaSalette Academy  
Kenton Co, KY  
Covington quad  
Zone 16  
Coordinates = NAD 27  
Easting 715 689  
Northing 4328 807  
Coordinates = NAD 83  
Easting 715 688  
Northing 4329 022

Requested by  
Joseph Pierson

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, NGS/NOAA, USCE, and the city of Cincinnati  
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1949, and in part by the city of Cincinnati. Field checked 1950 and 1953. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1977. Field checked 1978. Map edited 1981  
Polyconic projection. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on Kentucky coordinate system, north zone, and Ohio coordinate system, south zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 16  
1927 North American Datum  
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983  
move the projection lines 3 meters south and  
5 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked  
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown  
Ohio area lies within the Between the Miamis Land lines based on the  
Great Miami River Base. Dotted land lines established by private  
subdivision of the Symmes Purchase



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
DENVER, COLORADO 80225 OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
KENTUCKY GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, LEVINGTON, KENTUCKY 40506  
AND KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled in cooperation with State of Kentucky agencies from aerial photographs taken 1984 and other sources. Contours not revised. This information not field checked  
Map edited 1987  
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas  
COVINGTON, KY.-OHIO  
QUADRANGLE LOCATION  
8E4 WEST CINCINNATI 15' QUADRANGLE  
39084-A5-TF-024  
1981  
PHOTOREVISED 1987  
DMA 4062 11 SE-SERIES V853

**NOTICE OF DECISION/RECOMMENDATION  
URBAN DESIGN REVIEW BOARD  
CITY OF COVINGTON**



**National Register Individual Listing Nomination**

Property Address: 702 Greenup Street

Local Historic District: Licking Riverside Historic Preservation Overlay Zone

Applicant: Joe Pierson on behalf of LaSalette Academy

Address: Pinion Advisors  
1501 Morton Ave.  
Louisville, KY 40204

Decision by: UDRB

Date: July 22, 2011

**RECOMMENDATION:**

At the July 18, 2011 meeting, the City of Covington's Urban Design Review Board reviewed the nomination form and related documents and presentations related to the proposed individual listing of LaSalette Academy at 702 Greenup Street. The UDRB voted unanimously to recommend that the above mentioned property be listed individually on the National Register of Historic Places.

Please see the enclosed meeting minutes and the presented staff report.

Preservation and Planning Specialist

City of Covington  
638 Madison Avenue, Covington, KY 41011  
859/292-2171

Date: 7/25/2011

URBAN DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

July 18, 2011

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Vic Canfield  
Charles King  
Jack Gore  
Doug Spies  
Emily Wolff  
Joan Lee  
Rebecca Weber

MEMBERS ABSENT

Sue Sampson  
Brandy Bresser

STAFF PRESENT

Beth Johnson  
Leah Dodson

The Monday, July 18, 2011 meeting of the Urban Design Review Board was called to order by Vic Canfield, Chair. The meeting was held in the City Commission Chambers at 4:00 pm. There being a quorum, the Urban Design Review Board reviews applications for exterior changes and development plan areas and Historic Preservation Overlay Zones. Our items today are all preservation overlay zone so our structure of the meeting will be that staff will make a presentation whether the building is significant or not. We will vote on that part, and then we will actually review the application submitted where anyone in attendance can speak on the issue.

**1. 307 Pershing**

**Applicants: Marek Stvol  
342 Lockwood Street  
Covington, KY 41011**

Deleted text.....

**2. 702 Greenup Street**

**Applicants: Joe Pierson, Representing  
1501 Morton Ave  
Louisville KY 40204**

The LaSalette Academy was begun in 1856 with a two-story masonry building and the complex was completed in 1939 with the addition of the second "L" shape to create a U shaped complex. The entry doors to both buildings are on Greenup Street, on their west face. Both buildings are on the National Register within the Licking Riverside Historic District which was listed in 1975. At that time, one of the two buildings within the complex was deemed non-contributing, due to it not being 50 years of age at the time of listing. As this second building is still not within the period of significance listed on the District Nomination the second building is not eligible for listing within the district. However, as the building is now more than 50 years old, it can be listed individually. This individual nomination form justifies the eligibility of both buildings be listed together as an individual listing in the National Register of History Places.

As part of the partnership between state and local governments, federal regulations require that nomination proposals be reviewed by Certified Local Government (CLG) historic preservation boards before they can be presented to the Kentucky National Register Review Board.

**Criteria for Evaluation:**

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

The LaSalette Academy (KE-CR-14) meets National Register Criterion A. It is significant for its association with the growth of the Roman Catholic Church in Kentucky. The significance of the Academy is evaluated within the context "Growth and Organization of the Roman Catholic Church in Kentucky, 1808-1961." The Academy is important for demonstrating the value ascribed by Catholics to the role of parochial education in fostering individual spirituality and in supporting the church's growth throughout the state. The Academy was established in 1856 by the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth at the request of Bishop Carrell, of Cincinnati. The Academy's major expansions of its physical plant, in 1886, 1903, and 1939, indicate continuous expansion of the Catholic church locally and throughout Kentucky during the latter-half of the 19<sup>th</sup> and first-half of the 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The closure of the Academy in 1977 signals two important shifts: an end to the continuous growth in the number of Kentucky Catholics, as well as a shift in values among the church's general population as to the necessity of an exclusively Catholic education. Both buildings are on the National Register within the Licking Riverside Historic District (NR #75000787), listed in 1975. At that time, one of the two buildings within the complex was deemed non-contributing, due to it not being 50 years of age at the time of listing. The current nomination form examines both buildings within a historic context more relevant to their identity and previous use.

### **Criteria Considerations**

Ordinarily cemeteries, birthplaces, graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes, structures that have been moved from their original locations, reconstructed historic buildings, properties primarily commemorative in nature, and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years shall not be considered eligible for the National Register. However, such properties *will qualify* if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria or if they fall within the following categories:

A religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance.

### **Staff Recommendation:**

Staff recommends that the UDRB should recommend to the Kentucky National Register Review Board that 702 Greenup Street should be listed individually on the National Register of Historic Places based on its association with the growth and organization of the Roman Catholic Church in Covington and Kentucky. The building retains a high level of integrity as it is in its original location, has a similar setting, retains the original design and materials and still has the feeling of being a religious school is highly intact. While this building is a religious building, it derives its importance from the Roman Catholic Church as a social and educational organization not a necessarily a religious affiliation.

Present – Joe Pierson, Representing

There was a presentation presented by Joe Pierson.

Mr. Gore made a motion to approve the application. I have studied and reviewed the National Register Nomination form, all relevant documents, and presentations related to the case considering **702 Greenup Street, also known as LaSalette Academy**, and am familiar with the property in question. I move to recommend to the Kentucky National Register Review Board that this property **be** included on the National Register of Historic Places as an individual listing.

Mr. King seconded.  
Motion carried 7/0.

3. Mr. King made a motion to approve the June 20, 2011 minutes as submitted.  
Ms. Wolff seconded.  
Motion carried 7/0.

Respectfully submitted \_\_\_\_\_  
Vic Canfield, Chairman



STEVEN L. BESHEAR  
GOVERNOR

**TOURISM, ARTS AND HERITAGE CABINET**  
**KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL**

MARCHETA SPARROW  
SECRETARY



THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE  
300 WASHINGTON STREET  
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601  
PHONE (502) 564-7005  
FAX (502) 564-5820  
www.heritage.ky.gov

MARK DENNEN  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

September 23, 2011

Ms. Carol Shull, Keeper  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service 2280  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, NW 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington DC 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed are nominations approved at the September 6, 2011 Review Board meeting. We are submitting them for listing in the National Register:

- Murray Woman's Club Clubhouse**, Calloway County, Kentucky
- LaSalette Academy**, Kenton County, Kentucky
- London Downtown Historic District**, Laurel County, Kentucky
- Livingston County Courthouse**, Livingston County, Kentucky
- North Main Street Historic District**, Mercer County, Kentucky
- Lexington and Cane Run Historic District**, Mercer County, Kentucky
- Baldwin's Tourist Court**, Nelson County, Kentucky
- Kurtz Restaurant/Bardstown-Parkview Motel-Office**, Nelson County, Kentucky
- Old Kentucky Home Motel**, Nelson County, Kentucky
- Wilson Motel**, Nelson County, Kentucky
- Guthrie Historic District**, Todd County, Kentucky
- Hardcastle Store**, Warren County, Kentucky
- Springfield Main Street District**, Washington County, Kentucky

We appreciate your consideration of these nominations.

Sincerely,

Lindy Casebier, SHPO and  
Executive Director  
Kentucky Heritage Council