

United States Department of the Interior
 National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Marygrove College

Other names/site number: _____

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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

2. Location

Street & number: 8425 West McNichols Road

City or town: Detroit State: Michigan County: Wayne

Not For Publication: Vicinity: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

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A B X C D

 _____ Signature of certifying official/Title: Michigan State Historic Preservation Office State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	Deputy SHPO Date June 6, 2022
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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 Gabbert
Signature of the Keeper

7/11/2022
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

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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	
<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	objects
<u>8</u>	<u>3</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION/college

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION/school

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Late Gothic Revival: Collegiate Gothic

MODERN MOVEMENT: Art Deco

MODERN MOVEMENT: Moderne

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: STONE: Limestone; BRICK; STONE: Slate;
ASPHALT; METAL: Copper

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

Marygrove College is located at 8425 West McNichols Road, Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan. The campus is situated at the southeast corner of West McNichols Road and Wyoming Avenue. The Marygrove College campus was primarily built in 1926 and 1927 with several buildings built in the mid-century including the Student Center (1949), the Florent Gillet dormitory addition onto the original dormitory building, Madame Cadillac (1958; 1965), and the library addition on the Liberal Arts building (1963). The Marygrove College campus is located within a larger parcel of land with buildings unrelated to collegiate education found at the peripheries, on separate parcels. The land on the peripheries was parceled off and the land around the campus was developed. These unrelated buildings include two senior housing apartment buildings at the west end of the district, a disalced Carmelite monastery at the southwest corner of the parcel, and the Immaculata High School and former Immaculata High School convent at the east side of the district. A newly built early childhood center was completed in 2021 and it sits just east of the Liberal Arts building. Within the Marygrove College Campus Historic District the contributing buildings, objects, and site are remarkably intact with the only major modifications being a 1958 and 1965 dormitory addition onto the Madame Cadillac Hall and a 1963 library

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addition onto the Liberal Arts building on the Marygrove College campus. Some other, smaller alterations have been made to some buildings (the Student Center was retrofitted from a convent into a Student Center) and the fieldhouse was added later than the major buildings on campus, but most buildings are in excellent condition with few alterations.

Narrative Description

Marygrove College is located at 8425 West McNichols Road, Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan in northwest Detroit, approximately five miles from downtown. Marygrove College is set within a larger urban neighborhood. The area to the east and south of the campus are areas of relatively dense single-family homes. To the north and west of the campus are commercial businesses that line McNichols and Wyoming Streets but beyond both commercial strips are more single-family homes, the vast majority of which were built in the first four decades of the twentieth century. The Marygrove College campus is roughly bounded by West McNichols Road to the north, Wyoming Avenue to the west, the edge of the property line of the Theresa Maxis and McGivney Bethune apartments to the west, Mary Grove Drive and the edge of the YWCA property line to the south, and the Immaculata High School property line and Greenlawn Avenue to the east. The property is generally flat with old growth trees that create a generous canopy cover near the south and west ends of the property. The front lawn near McNichols is less heavily treed while the east lawn is largely open to accommodate sports fields although a perimeter border of trees line the sports field along McNichols and Greenlawn Avenue.

The Marygrove College campus is comprised of seven buildings, three objects, and one site and sits upon approximately forty-four acres. There are five contributing buildings (Liberal Arts building, Madame Cadillac Hall, Student Center, Hartman Hall, and the Powerhouse) and two non-contributing buildings (the fieldhouse and the workshop). There are two contributing objects (the Marygrove Gate and historic fencing, and the Our Lady of Mary Statute and Plaza) and one non-contributing object (the Charles McGee Community Commons) and one contributing site (the front lawn north of the Liberal Arts Building). Overall, the campus is comprised of highly intact Collegiate Gothic, Art Deco, and Modern Movement style buildings that are interconnected with paved walking paths, lawns, and trees that all combine to create a cohesive college campus feel. The college was built and staffed by the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM), a Catholic congregation of *women religious* who focused their active missionary work on education.

The Liberal Arts Building, Madame Cadillac Hall, Hartman Hall, and the Powerhouse were all completed in 1927. These are the four original Marygrove College buildings. The Powerhouse received an addition in 1934 which added men's dormitories to the building. The Student Center was built in 1949 as a dormitory for the Marygrove College teaching Sisters and was later converted to use as center for the students of Marygrove College. Madame Cadillac received an addition, called the Florent Gillet dormitory which was built in two stages, the first section in 1958 and the second section in 1965. The workshop was built in 1955 and the fieldhouse was added to the eastern side of the grounds in approximately 2010. Overall, the buildings within the

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campus are in remarkably good condition with some deterioration seen on the non-utilized and under-utilized buildings including the Powerhouse. Of the seven buildings on the campus, five are contributing and two are non-contributing.

There are several prominent objects and sites on the campus including the Marygrove Gate on McNichols, the limestone gate posts and wrought iron fencing along McNichols, and the Our Lady of Mary Statute and Plaza in front of the Liberal Arts building, and the lawn in front of the Liberal Arts Building. A long driveway extends from McNichols to the Liberal Arts building and loops back to McNichols creating a long horseshoe shaped drive. One of the primary buildings on the campus, the Liberal Arts building, is located at the bottom of the “U” shaped drive while the Madame Cadillac building is located on the west side of the drive. The two contributing objects within the proposed district are the Marygrove Gate and the fence and gate posts that surround the campus (only portions of which are historic) and the Our Lady of Mary Statute and plaza located in front of the Liberal Arts building. The contributing landscape is the lawn in front of the Liberal Arts building that contains the Our Lady of Mary Statute and Plaza.

Only one known building is no longer extant on the campus: The chief engineer’s house, which was built around 1927, was located just southwest of the Powerhouse. The engineer’s house was demolished sometime around 2015.¹ Over the years the campus buildings have received many additions and alterations, and these will be covered in the inventory section, below, in detail.

INVENTORY

The entire site was first evaluated to understand each resource, it’s relationship (or lack thereof) to Marygrove College, and to evaluate the integrity of resource. Once each resource’s relationship to the College was understood, each resource was then assessed as to whether it was contributing to the district or non-contributing to the district. Those resources found to be inextricably linked to Marygrove College via history, use, and intended purpose were all tentatively marked as contributing. Then, the tentatively contributing buildings were evaluated for integrity to ensure only those resources with integrity were included on the finalized contributing list. Thus, the inventory list provided here is based upon both physical evaluation and archival evaluation.

Liberal Arts Building; c. 1927; 1963; D.A. Bohlen & Son; Contributing Building

The Liberal Arts building sits just east of the center of the property with a primary façade that faces West McNichols Road. As originally constructed, the building comprised 176,000 square feet and had an “E” shaped footprint with a 372-foot-long primary façade running east and west with three wings stretching south and perpendicular to the long primary block. As originally built, each of the three southern wings were approximately the same length, however, in 1963 an addition was added to the easternmost wing in order to house the expanded library facilities. This extended the eastern wing further south making this leg of the “E” footprint much longer. The eastern wing is now approximately 365 feet long with the center and west wings are approximately 192 feet long.

¹ Martin McNeeley, Maintenance Manager, Marygrove Conservancy, 12/22/21.

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The building is clad in Bedford limestone and executed in the Collegiate Gothic Revival style with details that include leaded glass windows, engaged gothic arches and columns, stone tracery in the chapel windows, copper flashing and downspouts, and small crenelated parapets over shallow projecting window bays. At four stories tall, the primary façade is separated into nine bays and is anchored by a large central tower that rises above the core block of the building to a total height of 137 feet tall and is crowned by four octagonal spired towers, one at each corner. The spire towers have copper roofs. The two end bays feature front-facing parapeted gable walls where the fourth-floor windows are located while additional, smaller front-facing parapeted gable walls—also housing the fourth-floor windows—are interspersed across the primary façade in between the central tower and the two end bays.

A slightly projecting bay is located in the central tower just above the main entrance and runs from the second to the fourth floor. A clock is located in between the two towers on the primary façade, just above the fourth-floor windows. Inside the tower, just to the left of the clockworks, are four chimes. These bells, weighing in at 2,425 pounds are reproductions of the chimes at Westminster Abbey and they mark the time with a chime at every quarter hour.² The Sacred Heart Chapel has six gothic arched windows with stone tracery on both the east and west facades with engaged column buttresses located between each window bay. Two copper rain scuppers are located in the second and fifth window bay on each elevation (east and west). The chancel features a rear facing parapeted gable and the chancel has two side exits located on both the east and west facades, accessed by stone steps.

The 1963 library wing, also designed by Indianapolis architectural firm D.A. Bohlen & Son, is larger in massing than the original library, but it is clad in nearly identical limestone on the east, south, and west facades with a small portion of the west facade clad in pale beige brick. Brick was used on the west façade as another addition was planned for this area to house a science laboratory—the science laboratory addition was never built. The basic footprint of the 1963 library addition is in the shape of an “L” with the short leg housing the stacks and the longer leg housing the reading room. The windows in the new library are aluminum, primarily six-over-six units, with some four-over-four units with smaller transoms separated by stone mullions.

In the 1970s the University of Detroit’s fine and performing arts department was consolidated with Marygrove’s and the auditorium received updates at that time, including an extended stage. Later, in a 2002 renovation, the auditorium again received a large renovation which included new mechanical, plumbing, lighting, new seating, and a larger stage with a sprung floor. Architects for the 2002 renovation were Kessler Francis Cardoza, a Detroit firm, while the

² “Chimes Peal Over Marygrove Campus,” *The Watch Tower*, Marygrove College, March 2, 1927; “A Brief History and Architectural Guide,” Marygrove College, IHM Archives, Monroe, MI, circa 2002-2006.

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general contractor work was carried out by the Christman Company of Lansing.³ In 1975 three stairwells in the Liberal Arts building were enclosed for fire safety purposes.⁴

The windows in the building vary based upon the interior use of each space. The windows in the central tower are leaded glass with both leaded glass casement windows (some with gothic arched transoms above) while others are rectangular casement with small diamond shaped leaded lights. There are also eight-over-eight window units, nine-over-nine window units, and twelve-over-twelve units. Screens have been installed over the lower sashes of many of the window units. The windows in the chapel were designed, in part, by Oscar D. Bohlen and were made by the Deprato Statuary Company. The windows are stained, leaded glass with limestone tracery—these highly significant windows have had aluminum and glass exterior storms placed over the stained-glass units for protection. Just beyond the chapel is the chancel and the windows in this area are steel framed, leaded glass units with foil arches at the top. The windows in the new library wing are aluminum.

The core block of the building along with the roof of the chapel, original library, and auditorium are Vermont slate; other areas are covered in flat membrane and built-up roofing. Flashing, ridge caps, gutters, and downspouts are copper. Some of these copper items are heavily patinaed with a beautifully blue/green color while some of the downspouts on the primary façade are newer and are still copper in color.

The interior of the building was built with high quality materials and craftsmanship. The main lobby is finished in Tavernelle Rose marble on the walls while other extant historic features include historic paneling, beams, and flooring in the original library, historic doors, trim, interior hallway transoms, and some original composition cork flooring. The main staircases in the building are clad in white Alabama marble on the risers and treads. There are numerous other original finishes still in place including wood flooring, historic Gothic styled entrance doors, terrazzo in the old science labs, and original ornate metal gates on the fourth floor. The Sacred Heart Chapel is the aptly named as the miniature gothic cathedral is the heart of the campus. Stained glass windows depict the annunciation, visitation, presentation at the temple, and the wedding at Cana.⁵

A large organ, built by Casavant Freres of St. Hyacinthe, Province of Quebec, Canada is housed in the choir loft. Built between 1927 and 1928 at a cost of \$26,840 the organ was designed by Claver Casavant, one of two brothers who were started in the organ-making business by their father Joseph Casavant, who was also an organ builder.⁶ No organs made by Joseph Casavant

³ "A Brief History and Architectural Guide," Marygrove College, IHM Archives, Monroe, MI, circa 2002-2006.

⁴ Building Permit Index, Building Safety Engineering and Environmental Department, City of Detroit.

⁵ Sacred Heart Chapel, Detroit Church Blog, accessed 3/17/2021, http://detroitchurchblog.blogspot.com/2018/01/sacred-heart-chapel-at-marygrove-college_24.html.

⁶ "A Brief History and Architectural Guide," Marygrove College, IHM Archives, Monroe, MI, circa 2002-2006.

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still exist.⁷ Claver and his brother Samuel founded Casavant Freres in 1879 after studying with a local organ builder and touring Europe to visit major organ instruments and builders.⁸

Installation of the organ at Marygrove College, which took six weeks, was supervised by J.A. Herbert who was the official Casavant Brothers representative in Detroit. The organ itself is an “oak-encased, three manual (Swell, Great, and Choir), full pedal, thirty-nine-stop organ” which builds upon the established sound of French organs rather than “revolutionizing the instrument” as German organ makers were doing at the time.⁹ The organ at Marygrove College was dedicated during a concert on May 24, 1928.¹⁰

The Liberal Arts building was the hub of academic life at Marygrove College as it contained the primary learning spaces on campus. The core block of the building—running east and west—included classroom space, science labs, professor’s and administrative offices, and a large art gallery and art studios on the fourth floor. The western wing contained the auditorium, music rooms, and dance spaces; the central wing contained the Sacred Heart Chapel and organ loft; while the eastern wing contained the library, stacks and reading room. The science labs were equipped with terrazzo floors and large laboratory desks while the classrooms featured chalkboards with wooden desks.

As originally designed the first floor contained administrative offices and classroom space for secretarial science and journalism classes. The second floor was all classroom space although the west wing housed music practice rooms and a small recital hall. The third floor was primarily used to house the science department including the physical, biological, and chemical labs along with a miniature five room houses used by the Home Economics Department. A small part of east wing of the third floor was devoted to living quarters for the Sisters.

The fourth floor contained art gallery spaces and studios. The elevator lobby and the two end stair lobbies were separated from the art spaces by Gothic grille gates made of solid bronze. Commissioned at a cost of \$25,000 these gates were designed and executed by L. Schreiber & Sons Co. are still extant today.

Madame Cadillac Hall and Florent Gillet Dormitory; c. 1927, 1958, and 1965; D.A. Bohlen & Son and Roger Allen & Associates; Contributing Building

Madame Cadillac Hall was designed by D.A. Bohlen & Son is one of the four original buildings on the Marygrove College campus. Located just west of the Liberal Arts Building, the primary facade faces the central lawn in front of the Liberal Arts building. It was designed in a Collegiate Gothic style similar to the Liberal Arts building although the architect noted that, “a very definite

⁷ “Joseph Casavant,” Dictionary of Canadian Biography, accessed 2/17/22, <http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio.php?BioId=39008>.

⁸ “About Us,” Casavant Freres, accessed 2/17/22, <https://www.casavant.ca/history/>.

⁹ “A Brief History and Architectural Guide,” Marygrove College, IHM Archives, Monroe, MI, circa 2002-2006.

¹⁰ “A Brief History and Architectural Guide,” Marygrove College, IHM Archives, Monroe, MI, circa 2002-2006.

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note of the English Manor has been introduced.”¹¹ Madame Cadillac Hall as originally built was 300 feet in width and 278 feet in depth and contained approximately 130,300 square feet. The building is set on concrete pilings and is faced in Bedford limestone and has a Vermont slate roof with copper flashing, gutters, and downspouts. The building’s core block is an “I” shape while the back wing is connected to the core block via a hyphen. The back wing is composed of two splayed wings that form a “Y” shape and there is an additional flat roofed wing in between the legs of the Y.

Madame Cadillac Hall is four stories tall with the fourth-floor windows being half-hipped roof dormers set into the slate covered roof. The core block of the building is primarily side gabled while the two ends of the “I” have front facing gables with limestone parapet end walls. The main entrance is inset into the central bay with the central bay being slightly taller than the core block of the building. This central bay, while primarily side gabled with parapet end walls (elevated slightly above the main roof of the core block) also features a front facing gable over the main entry. The entrance features a carved limestone portal that leads into a recessed vestibule within which are the double set of wooden doors which are surrounded by sidelights and a transom.

On the primary façade, above the main entrance is a limestone clad oriel window on the second and third floors. The windows in Madame Cadillac Hall are leaded glass casements and the first-floor windows feature limestone window hoods. The front facing gable at the southern end of the core block features a bay window at the first floor with carved limestone spandrels above and below the leaded glass casement windows of the bay. There are six art glass windows in Madame Cadillac Hall which are located in the chapel and feature pictorial, non-narrative images including the episcopal crests of Detroit Bishops John S. Foley and Michael J. Gallagher both of whom were ardent proponents of the Sisters of IHM and Marygrove College.¹²

There is a substantial outdoor patio in the northern courtyard of Madame Cadillac Hall. In 2006 the courtyard was renovated, and modern patio pavers were installed. A large bronze sculpture and patio furniture were also placed in the courtyard. The southern courtyard is used for parking and loading/unloading.

In 1958 a three-story addition designed by Roger Allen & Associates, a Grand Rapids, Michigan, architectural firm, was added onto Madame Cadillac at the northwest corner of the building. Faced in brick and stone and connected from the northern-most leg of the “Y” via a small, one-story passageway, the Florent Gillet dormitory is Modern in style with a flat roof, aluminum windows, aluminum and glass storefront-style entrance doors, and flat expanses of brick on the facades punctuated by punched openings for the windows. Metal spandrel panels are found in between the first and second story windows. As constructed in 1958 the Florent Gillet dorm had a U-shaped footprint with the east, south and north wings comprising the original 1958 portion. In 1965 the west wing was added (also designed by Roger Allen & Associates) which created a

¹¹ “Dedication of Marygrove College Souvenir Volume,” 1927, IHM Archives, Monroe, MI.

¹² “Madame Cadillac Hall,” Council of Independent Colleges Historic Campus Architecture Project, 2007.

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more O-shaped footprint with an inner courtyard. The main entrance is located in the northern wing, which is only one story, and it partially closes off the top of the O shape.

The interior of the building is highly intact. Madame Cadillac Hall originally functioned as a dormitory for the students and the teaching sisters, and it also contained social spaces for the women. As such, the building features dormitories, dining halls, and gathering spaces. Significant interior spaces include the Denk Chapman Hall, the Alumnae Hall in the southern wing, a chapel on the second floor, a gymnasium with a mezzanine running track in the northern wing, the main dining room, and a rotunda.

The main entrance lobby in the building has green faience tile flooring and oak beams, columns, and wainscot. The Alumnae Hall occupies the entirety of the southern wing on the first floor and features beam drops on the ceiling with corbel brackets of plaster below each beam on the sides of the room. There are leaded glass windows in the Alumnae Hall along with a large stone fireplace on the west side of the room. Denk Chapman Hall is a smaller reception room on the first floor, located just north of the Alumnae Hall. Denk Chapman features an oak beamed ceiling, oak paneled wainscot, carved double doors of oak with Gothic arched transoms above with oak tracery, and a large stone fireplace. Other significant interior features in the building include the double height gymnasium with mezzanine running track, heavy carved beamed ceiling with historic lights in the dining hall, wood paneling, large terra cotta fireplaces, faience tile flooring, and a carved, beamed ceiling in the main dining room. The interior of the Florent Gillet dormitory addition is utilitarian with concrete masonry unit (CMU) walls, carpeted floors and acoustical tile ceilings. The one-story entrance wing contains a student lounge which has curtain walls that face the inner courtyard and a fireplace with a stone face and mantel on the western wall.

President's House/Hartman Hall; c. 1927; D.A. Bohlen & Son; Contributing Building

At 8,600 square feet the President's House/Hartman Hall is a substantial personal residence that is now currently used by the IHM sisters as a residence. Measuring forty-seven feet by seventy-four feet, the building is faced in limestone and is two and a half stories tall. The windows are steel casement units although the main entrance has two diamond pane leaded glass windows, one on each side of the door. An attached garage—integrated into the core block of the building—is found on the western facade while a stone patio is found just off the north facade. The roof is hipped and gabled, sheathed in Vermont slate, and features several prominent gables within which are found the attic-story windows. There are copper gutters and a copper ridge cap on the roof.

With an “L” footprint the short leg of the L faces south and features a cross gabled roof. The primary entrance is found on the south façade, in the short leg of the L, and it features a Gothic-arched wooden entrance door. The west façade features a two-car wooden garage door, painted blue, and a wood entrance door directly next to the garage door. The roof on the long leg of the “L” is half-hipped with a lower cross gable, springing from the plane of the main, half-hipped roof, over the garage. The north façade is largely unadorned, but an arch-headed window is located on this façade to bring light into the staircase on the interior of the building. The east façade features decorative stonework in the peak of the gable.

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Powerhouse; c. 1927, 1934; D.A. Bohlen & Son; Contributing Building

The Powerhouse is one of the four original buildings on campus, and it is a utilitarian Art Deco styled yellow brick building with a large, centrally placed, brick smokestack springing from the roof. The smokestack brick is slightly more orange in color than the brick on the Powerhouse itself. The footprint is square with an "L" shape portion, composed of the northern and eastern end of the building, that is slightly taller than the other section of the building. A tower at the northwest corner of the building rises above the rest of the roof, and contains columns of stacked industrial metal windows in vertical ribbons. Copper rain scuppers are located below the parapet on the eastern façade although the downspouts are modern aluminum units.

Engaged brick pilasters are found on the north, east, and west facades of the buildings located in between the building's windows. On the northern façade there is a double height metal coiling door with large factory style windows above and beside it. At the southern facade a garage bay, containing six metal overhead coiling doors provide access into the garage space. There is also a set of metal double doors on the south façade with a concrete ramp that runs along part of the south façade for access into the double doors. On the west façade there is the main pedestrian entrance with a glazed wood door which is surrounded by an arched transom with divided lights and side lights on either side of the door. The windows on the building are large industrial style metal units, and many windows have louvered panels for venting the various equipment found inside the building. Historically this building contained the boilers, engines, generators along with a laundry and the garages.

In the early 1970s the college switched from generating its own power via the coal fired facilities at the Powerhouse to city supplied electricity. In 1980 separate boilers were installed in each building to increase efficiency on campus.¹³

Student Center (Convent); c. 1949; Contributing Building

Faced in beige brick, the Student Center is largely unadorned on the exterior and is located just west of the Liberal Arts Building. At four stories tall the building is set upon a basement that is raised slightly above grade providing daylight windows into the basement space. The core block of the building is rectangular in footprint with a small appendage on the west side of the building which houses the chapel. The chapel has a belt course of stone above the first-floor windows.

The windows in the core block of the building are four-over-four and six-over-six wood units many of which have exterior wood storms. The roof is a flat membrane roof and there is a small penthouse located in the center of the roof of the core block. The chapel is shorter than the core block and it features leaded and stained-glass windows. On the interior, the building originally contained dorm rooms for the teaching sisters, but it was later converted into dorm rooms for students. There are still dorms rooms on the interior along with a dining area and kitchen. The chapel is the most significant space, and it features stained glass windows, wooden pews, a simple plaster proscenium arch above the altar and a plaster ceiling with simple, decorative beam

¹³ "Salute Her Towers," *Marygrove Alumni Newsletter*, January 1, 1981, Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Archives, Monroe, Michigan

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drops. There is a green and pink marble altar and simple iron lanterns lights hung on chains between the beam drops

Workshop; c. 1955; Non-Contributing Building

Located directly south of the Powerhouse is the Workshop which is a rectangular building with a small addition on the southern façade. The building is clad in pale yellow brick on the north, east, and west facades while the southern façade is clad in green painted concrete masonry unit (CMU) block. The addition on the south façade is also made of CMU block. There is stone coping at the parapet and the windows are industrial, factory style metal units, painted green. There are three large loading doors on the north façade along with several punched openings with industrial windows. There is a steel pedestrian door on the east façade and there is also a pedestrian door at the center of the north façade.

Fieldhouse; c. 2010; Non-Contributing Building

The field house was built in approximately 2010¹⁴ and is composed of two flat roofed rectangular buildings that are connected by a steel trellis that spans the gap between the two buildings. The northern building is larger (approximately thirty feet by thirty-six feet) while the southern building is small, approximately thirty feet by fifteen feet. Both buildings are built with a medium-colored brown brick and CMU blocks, painted green. The windows on this building appear to be newer replacement aluminum, single hung units, green in color. Directly adjacent to the fieldhouse is a metal fence and gate entrance with the words “MARYGROVE COLLEGE” on the arched-headed gate. This fence and gate presumably provided a delineation between the sports fields, the college campus, and the high school grounds.

The southern building of the fieldhouse features a steel pedestrian door on the east façade and a corner post window that wraps from the east façade onto the north façade. The south façade is green painted CMU with green painted metal screens installed in front of the CMU. The west façade is also green painted CMU with a green painted metal screen. The north façade is brick.

On the northern building there are two steel doors recessed into the CMU portion of the east façade. Metal screens, also green in color, are installed in front of the CMU blocks on the east façade of the northern building and on a small part of the north façade. The northern building also features a metal bar on the north façade that terminates at the metal screen. This metal bar is located just below three single hung windows, set together, on the north façade. Another corner post window is found wrapping from the north façade onto the west façade. There are two steel doors recessed into the CMU portion of the west façade which also feature green painted metal screens installed in front of the CMU blocks.

Marygrove Gate, Gate Posts, and Fencing; c. 1927; D.A. Bohlen & Son; Contributing Object

There is a mix of historic and non-historic fencing around the Marygrove Campus. On the north boundary is the historic fence with regularly spaced limestone gate posts. The fence is composed of historic black wrought iron fence panels span the voids between each stone gate post with the

¹⁴ Martin McNeeley, Maintenance Manager, Marygrove Conservancy, 12/22/2020.

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panels being set upon concrete curbs. The wrought iron panels on the McNichols boundary are historic with a repeating trefoil gothic arch found between each iron picket.

The historic wrought iron fence and limestone gate posts terminate at the corner Wyoming Avenue and McNichols. The fence along Wyoming is a modern black metal fence supported with simple black metal posts. This modern fence continues along Wyoming until the entrance into the service drive just north of the Monastery of St. Therese of the Child Jesus. At the service drive entrance there are two historic limestone gate posts. The fence that cuts along the property boundary just north of the Monastery is simple chain link. The Monastery property is surrounded by a wavy or serpentine brick wall on the north, east, and south property lines. The chain link fence picks up at the edge of the Monastery property on Mary Grove Drive and continues along that street until it hits two more historic limestone gate posts at the service entrance on Mary Grove Drive. There is a utilitarian gate at the service entrance drive and the chain link fence continues along Mary Grove Drive until hitting the boundary of 8200 Mary Grove Drive (the former Immaculata High School Convent/Y.W.C.A. property) and cuts around this property which is not owned by the current owners of the Marygrove Campus. The non-historic black metal fence picks up again at the edge of the Immaculata High School property and continues along Mary Grove Drive until turning north onto Greenlawn Street and runs along the sidewalk on Greenlawn Street terminating at a service drive entrance just north of Immaculata High School. The non-historic black metal fence picks up again just north of the service drive entrance and continues until it hits the corner where Greenlawn hits McNichols. At this corner the historic limestone gate posts and historic black wrought iron panels begins and continues all along McNichols.

The Marygrove Gate is a monumental arch located due north of the Our Lady of Mary Statute. The sidewalk leads into campus under the Marygrove Gate, continues to the Our Lady of Mary Statue and terminates at the doors of the Liberal Arts Building forming a perfect line directly into the heart of campus. The Marygrove Gate is constructed of limestone and features two carved stone spires, a stepped buttress on either side of the arch, and a crenellated parapet over the arch with the words MARYGROVE COLLEGE inscribed in a recessed stone plaque. The arch itself is a shallow pointed Gothic arch with stone carvings in the spandrels above the voussoirs. Within the arch is a heavy wrought iron gate which features four three leaf clovers individually encircled and set within a larger circle. The three leaf clovers symbolize the Holy Trinity.

In addition to the main Mary Grove gate there are four more substantial gate posts—more substantial than the typical gate post found along McNichols—at the driveway entrance just east of the Marygrove Gate and another set of four located just west of the Marygrove Gate. These four posts are comprised of two taller posts that are set in line with the main fence along McNichols while the two smaller stone posts are set just inside of the outer posts. The outer posts are topped with carved stone lanterns that mimic the lanterns on the spires of the Liberal Arts building while the inner posts feature carved stone urns.

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Our Lady of Mary Statue and Plaza; c. 1927; Contributing Object

In the middle of the horseshoe drive, set in a circular plaza on a raised dais of concrete, a plinth elevates an elaborately carved, gothic styled column topped with a statute of Mary. Mary's hands are clasped in prayer, and she looks outward from the college, facing McNichols. Four short columns topped with limestone urns are found around the base of the raised dais. The raised dais is encircled with a sidewalk. From this circular sidewalk four additional sidewalks radiate out at the cardinal points with the northern walkway leading to a limestone entrance arch at McNichols and the southern walkway leading directly to the main entrance of the Liberal Arts building. The east and west arms of the walkway meet the circular drive and terminate.

Charles McGee Community Commons; c. 2016; Non-Contributing Site

At the southeast corner of West McNichols Road and Wyoming Avenue (northwest corner of the campus) is the Charles McGee Community Commons, a plaza named for prominent Detroit artist Charles McGee (1924-2021). The plaza is paved in concrete and bounded by concrete brick planters with shrubs planted in them. Limestone boulders are placed just in front of the brick planters. There are two half-moon benches in the plaza, made of concrete brick. A sign that reads "MARYGROVE COLLEGE" is located in a planter that faces toward McNichols Road. Incorporated into the overall plaza and located just behind the plaza at a fence that bounds not just the plaza but the entire college campus, is a large art sculpture entitled "Playscape II" by McGee, which was dedicated in 2016. Despite containing a work by an important local artist, the plaza and the sculpture are not yet fifty years of age. They are classified as non-contributing resources at this time.

Front Lawn; c. 1927; Contributing Site

The lawn in front of the Liberal Arts building contains the contributing object, the Our Lady of Mary Statue and Plaza with the Marygrove Gate located at the end of the lawn, along W. McNichols Street. The lawn is bounded by the U-shaped drive that pulls traffic from W. McNichols onto the campus. The lawn is planted with mature specimen trees and contributes to the character of the college campus.

Historic Integrity

Overall, the campus is highly intact. Although many buildings have had additions and alterations many of these additions have gained significance in their own right and the alterations have been minimal and have not affected the eligibility of the district. Original features and materials are still intact in all buildings. The landscape and sites on the campus are also still intact and retain their ability to convey their significance as a historic college campus.

The district as a whole retains integrity in all seven aspects identified by the National Park Service including location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. In terms of location and setting, the Marygrove College campus is still extant in its historic location and the setting, with its mature lawns, trees, and landscape, is still readily identifiable as a college campus. The design, materials, and workmanship of the resources are also still intact and convey the significance via the fine materials, excellent design, and high-quality workmanship

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all of which are readily evident upon inspection of the historic buildings. The buildings are made high quality materials including limestone and brick cladding, slate roofing, copper flashing and gutters, and wood, leaded glass, steel, and aluminum windows. Nearly all of the contributing buildings in the district are the work of established and respected architects and those buildings designed by unknown architects still display integrity of design as they are professionally executed. Finally, the campus as a whole conveys integrity of feeling and association as the district clearly expresses the era in which the resources were built. The original building on campus display Collegiate Gothic and Art Deco style while the resources built later display simpler styling with the Student Center a good example of a stripped-down Art Deco style and the Florent Gillet dormitory addition is a good example of a simple Modern style. Taken together this district retains integrity of association too as the district creates a direct visual link between importance events of the past and the buildings which currently stand today.

Buildings Surrounding the Campus

The Marygrove College Campus is located next to adjacent parcels with buildings that are not related to the college. A parcel of land at the corner of Wyoming and Mary Grove Drive has a former discalced Carmelite monastery called St. Therese of the Child Jesus Monastery. The Discalced Carmelites occupied this monastery from 1952 to 1993 when the nuns relocated to Clinton Township, Michigan. Note, the former Monastery property was purpose-built as a monastery for the cloistered Carmelites and was never associated with Marygrove College. The St. Therese of the Child Jesus Monastery is a on a separate parcel.

Directly north of the monastery, situated along Wyoming Street, are two senior housing apartments, the Theresa Maxis Apartments and the McGivney Bethune Apartments, built in 1991 and 1995, respectively. These apartments are located on separate parcels and were purpose-built as senior housing. To the east of the Marygrove College Campus are two buildings that, at one time, served Catholic high school students in the area. The Immaculata High School was built in 1941 and was purpose-built as a high school for Catholic women in Detroit. Directly west of the Immaculata High School is the Immaculata Convent (YWCA) building which was built in 1949 to house the Immaculata High School teaching Sisters and was later used by the YWCA of Metropolitan Detroit.

Directly east of the Liberal Arts building is the recently completed Early Education Center (EEC). The EEC is a one-story Contemporary style building with multicolored metal panels on the façade. Completed in 2021 the ECC was designed by Marlon Blackwell Architects and is located on a separate parcel.

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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.

Criteria Considerations

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

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or 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

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE
EDUCATION

Period of Significance

1927-1971

Significant Dates

1927

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

D.A. Bohlen & Son
W.E. Wood Co.

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Marygrove College is significant under Criterion A and Criterion C at the local level of significance. The college is significant under Criterion C at the local level, as the Liberal Arts building and the Madame Cadillac Hall are exemplary manifestations of the Collegiate Gothic style, displaying high styling, top quality materials, and fine craftsmanship. The Florent Gillet dormitory addition and the 1963 library addition are both restrained examples of the Modern style while the Powerhouse is a good example of the industrial Art Deco style. The Liberal Arts building, and the Madame Cadillac Hall are among the finest examples of the Collegiate Gothic style in the city, if not the state. Marygrove College is also significant under Criterion A for its association with women's higher education and as an example of the proliferation of Catholic religious colleges in the city of Detroit. The Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM) founded Marygrove College and were early advocates for educating women at a time when it was uncommon for women to pursue education beyond high school. Indeed, Marygrove College was the first women's college in Detroit.¹⁵ The Sisters of IHM were ardent advocates for higher education, teaching not just their undergraduate students but also educating their teaching Sisters. The Sisters of IHM founded and staffed many other schools in Michigan. The period of significance for the district begins in 1927, when the college opened, and ends in 1971, when the school began accepting male students. The period of significance ending in 1971 also coincides with the decline in the Catholic population in Detroit which began occurring in the mid- to late-1960s. The property meets Criteria Consideration A as a property constructed and owned by a religious institution but that derives its significance from its historical and architectural importance.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Introduction

Before European settlers arrived, southeast Michigan was settled by Paleo-Indian people at least eleven thousand years ago. Mound building tribes also lived in the area with evidence of mounds being found at Fort Wayne and in what is now the Delray neighborhood in Detroit.¹⁶ In the seventeenth century the Anishinaabe or "Three Fires" people (including the Ojibwa, Odawa, and Potawatomi) occupied the area that would later become Detroit and fished on the banks of the

¹⁵ Barbara Stanbridge, "A Brief History of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM)," (Monroe, MI: Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, 2006), 8.

¹⁶ Paul Sewick, "The Mound Builders," Detroit Urbanism, December 21, 2015, accessed April 25, 2020, <http://detroiturbanism.blogspot.com/2015/12/the-mound-builders.html>.

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river.¹⁷ The Anishinaabe people in the area likely first encountered white settlers in the late 1600s when French fur traders began moving through Michigan enroute to present day St. Joseph and Port Huron where they would establish early trading posts in 1680.¹⁸

The city that would become known as Detroit was founded in 1701 by a French trader by the name of Antoine Laumet de la Mothe, Sieur de Cadillac, who built a fort on the banks of the river.¹⁹ Cadillac asked local Native Americans to settle in the area and people of the Huron, Miami, Ottawa, and Chippewa nations built villages around the fort. Fort Detroit was built by Cadillac to help control the lucrative French fur trade but as the settlement grew, the French settlers began farming the land near the banks of the Detroit River. The earliest French settlers were Catholic with the founding of St. Anne de Detroit occurring the same year as the City, with the dedication of the tiny log church performed on July 26, 1701.²⁰

During the French and Indian War (1756-1763) Fort Detroit was expanded and reinforced due to repeated attacks on the fort by the British. Ultimately, the French surrendered Fort Detroit to the British in 1763. The Treaty of Paris executed between the French and the British formally transferred both Fort Detroit and all French lands east of the Mississippi to the British.

Throughout the eighteenth century the population of Detroit fluctuated with 2,000 people and 300 buildings counted in 1760; 1,367 people counted in 1773; and 2,191 inhabitants by 1782.²¹ Eventually, in 1783, the territory of Michigan became a part of the United States on September 3rd of that year. The population of Michigan continued to grow in the late 1700s and was further spurred by the completion of the Erie canal in 1825. In fact, Michigan grew “faster than any other state or territory in the Union during the 1830s—from 31,639 in 1830 to 212,167 by 1840.”²² Michigan gained statehood in 1837 which may have contributed to the growth during these years.

Fur trading fueled the early settlement of Michigan, and it was one of the earliest commodities traded in Detroit. But, as beaver and fox became scarce due to overhunting, heavy manufacturing began to proliferate as these industries took advantage of Detroit’s strategic location on the

¹⁷ Guillaume Teasdale, “Old Friends and New Foes: French Settlers and Indians in the Detroit River Border Region,” *Michigan Historical Review* 38, No. 2 (Fall 2012): 39; Laura Herberg, “Who were the Natives in Detroit?” Wdet, 5/1/2017, accessed 12/20/21, <https://wdet.org/posts/2017/04/30/85115-curiousid-who-were-the-natives-in-detroit/>.

¹⁸ Detroit Historical Society, “The People of the Three Fires (1600-1699),” accessed 12/20/21, <https://detroithistorical.org/learn/timeline-detroit/people-three-fires-1600-1699>.

¹⁹ Teasdale, 39.

²⁰ Basilica of Ste. Anne de Detroit, “The History of the Basilica of Ste. Anne de Detroit,” accessed 12/20/21, <https://ste-anne.org/about-us/parish-history/>.

²¹ Clarence Monroe Burton, *City of Detroit, Michigan, 1701-1922* (Detroit, MI: S.J. Clarke Pub. Co., 1922) 1:203.

²² JoEllen McNergney Vinyard, *For Faith and Fortune: The Education of Catholic Immigrants in Detroit, 1805-1925* (Chicago, IL: University of Illinois Press, 1998), 11.

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Detroit River. Early manufacturing industries included railroad car manufacturing, tobacco and cigar production, stove manufacturing, and foundries. These early successful industries also contributed to the increase in migration to the area as new settlers began pursuing the jobs afforded by the industries. As more immigrants arrived in Detroit, the religious makeup of the city grew and diversified but Detroit's early identity as a city founded by Catholics drew other adherents of the faith, including sizable Irish Catholic, Polish Catholic, and German Catholic populations. By 1833 there were an estimated 15,000 Catholics in Michigan, a figure that would grow to approximately 24,000 by 1841.²³

The Early History of Catholicism in Detroit and the History of the Archdiocese of Detroit

Being that Detroit was founded by French Catholic settlers, the history of Detroit is intertwined with the history of Catholicism in the area. From its founding in 1701 the city of Detroit was under the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the archdiocese in Quebec until well into the 1790s. French settlers in the area also proselytized to the local Native Americans and there was a "sizable minority" of Native American Catholics in the Michigan territory, living mostly in northern Michigan and in Wisconsin.²⁴

The Ste. Anne's parish was founded the same year as the city and is "generally recognized as the oldest Catholic congregation in Michigan."²⁵ In fact, Ste. Anne's was the first permanent structure built in the nascent city and the parish "remained the only religious congregation in the community for 115 years, until the First Protestant Society was organized. The town had developed on a foundation as unmistakably Catholic as New England towns were Protestant."²⁶ The first iteration of Ste. Anne's built in 1701 was a small log cabin—the church that stands today is the eighth structure to house the Ste. Anne congregation. The first formalized Catholic school is likely the one founded in 1760 at Ste. Anne's when a French born schoolmaster was recruited to begin instruction at the church.²⁷

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Detroit was formed on March 8, 1833, with Frederick Rese as the first bishop.²⁸ This first diocese encompassed not only Michigan but Wisconsin, Minnesota, and the Dakotas.²⁹ In the early years of Bishop Rese's tenure there were eleven priests who

²³ Leslie Woodcock Tentler, *Seasons of Grace: A History of the Catholic Archdiocese of Detroit* (Detroit, MI: Wayne State University Press, 1990), 13; Kristine M. Kidorf, Todd Walsh, "Church of the Transfiguration Roman Catholic Church Complex," National Register of Historic Places nomination, National Park Service, 2019.

²⁴ Tentler, 13.

²⁵ Kristine M. Kidorf, Todd Walsh, "Church of the Transfiguration."

²⁶ Vinyard, 4.

²⁷ Vinyard, 4.

²⁸ Tentler, 13.

²⁹ "History of the Archdiocese," Archdiocese of Detroit, accessed 12/21/21, <https://www.aod.org/history-of-the-archdiocese>.

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served the diocese.³⁰ When Michigan was granted statehood in 1837 the boundaries of the diocese were “redrawn to coincide with the state’s borders.”³¹

There was a large influx of Irish immigrants to Michigan beginning in the 1830s while Polish immigrants began arriving in large numbers in the 1850s.³² Irish immigrants may have been attracted to Detroit as it was founded by Catholics and had a long history of Catholicism.³³ Catholic Germans first arrived in the 1820s and they attended a special monthly German language mass held at St. Anne.³⁴ Italian immigrants began arriving in Detroit in 1855, settling on the east side of the city.³⁵ Both the Irish immigrants and many of the southern European immigrants were Catholic and they brought their faith and religious customs to Detroit when they settled in the city. In 1870 the population of Detroit was just over 79,000 and nearly half of the population had been born in another country.³⁶ As of 1900 nearly twelve percent of the population of Detroit did not speak English.³⁷ Between 1900 and 1920 Detroit had the country’s third highest rate of inbound immigration with only New York and Chicago seeing more.³⁸

Frederick Rese resigned in 1837 and his successor, Peter Paul Lefevere was appointed Coadjutor Bishop in 1841. Scholar Leslie Woodcock Tentler notes that, although Lefevere inherited a missionary see with a heavy debt burden incurred by Rese, “Heavy Catholic immigration into Michigan after the mid-1840s gave Lefevere a base of support for institution building that his predecessor never had.”³⁹ Lefevere oversaw tremendous growth in the diocese—there were eighteen priests upon his arrival and eighty-eight in the diocese by the time died.⁴⁰ Lefevere died in 1869 and was succeeded by Bishop Caspar Borgess. Borgess would, similarly, see the number of priests grow as there were 132 priests in the diocese upon his retirement in 1887.⁴¹ It was Bishop Borgess who would oversee the opening of the first Catholic college in Detroit.

³⁰ Archdiocese of Detroit, “History of the Archdiocese,” accessed 12/21/21, <https://www.aod.org/history-of-the-archdiocese>.

³¹ Archdiocese of Detroit, “History of the Archdiocese.”

³² “Boomtown Detroit 1820-1860,” Detroit Historical Society, accessed 12/22/21, <https://detroithistorical.org/learn/timeline-detroit/boomtown-detroit-1820-1860>.

³³ Bill Loomis, “Irish Helped form Detroit for centuries,” *Detroit News*, March 14, 2015.

³⁴ “History - Arrival of the Germans,” Old St. Mary’s Church, accessed 12/22/21, <http://oldstmarysdetroit.com/history-of-old-st-marys/history-table-of-content/history-arrival-of-the-germans/>.

³⁵ Detroit Historical Society, “Boomtown Detroit 1820-1860.”

³⁶ Detroit Historical Society, “Industrial Detroit,” accessed 12/22/21, <https://detroithistorical.org/learn/timeline-detroit/industrial-detroit-1860-1900>.

³⁷ Detroit Historical Society, “Industrial Detroit.”

³⁸ Kristine M. Kidorf and Todd Walsh, “Church of the Transfiguration.”

³⁹ Tentler, 17.

⁴⁰ Fr. Francis X. Canfield, *Development of the Catholic Church in the Great Lakes Region*, Burton Historical Collection, Detroit Public Library, 17.

⁴¹ Tentler, 34.

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Catholic Education in Detroit and the Continued Growth of the Diocese

Against this backdrop the early history of Catholic education in the city is a history of primary and secondary schools as collegiate Catholic education wasn't established in Detroit until 1877. Although there are no records of Catholic schools in Detroit between 1791 and 1804, by the early nineteenth century there were many efforts to open Catholic schools in the city. As early as 1808 Father Gabriel Richard began petitioning the Territorial Legislature for an academy for boys—and he had already helped to establish an academy specifically for girls. The girls academy consisted of thirty pupils all taught by Elizabeth Williams, a laywoman who had worked with Richard previously in other educational endeavors.⁴² Further, the first school established during Bishop Rese's episcopate was an academy for girls, called the Female Academy of St. Clare's Seminary, opened by the Colletine Poor Clares.⁴³ This academy operated from 1833 to 1839 when the Poor Clares sisters left the diocese.⁴⁴ Bishop Lefevere brought five teaching orders or congregations into the Diocese between 1844 and 1852 including the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM) in 1845.⁴⁵ The Sisters of IHM settled in Monroe, Michigan.⁴⁶ As the Sisters of IHM were busy in Monroe and in the very early stages of their missionary work, there was a dire lack of educated teaching staff in the Diocese of Detroit at this time. Despite having approximately forty parochial schools in the Diocese in 1869, half of the schools were taught by lay teachers.⁴⁷

While the process of setting up Catholic-centered primary and secondary schools was ongoing, in the mid-to-late 1800s there were still very few collegiate-level educational opportunities in the city. Although a local Catholic priest, Father Gabriel Richard, helped to found the Catholepistemiad (later renamed the University of Michigan) in 1817, the school was, upon its founding, a primary school and academy and did not offer collegiate-level instruction until 1841 when the school had already relocated to Ann Arbor. Thus, until the organization of the University of Detroit—called the Detroit College initially—in 1877 there was no organized collegiate-level Catholic education in Detroit. Other early, non-Catholic colleges in Detroit were generally focused on one specific subject including the Detroit Medical College, established in 1868, the Detroit Normal Training School, established in 1881, and the Detroit Institute of Technology, established in 1891. The Detroit Medical College and the Detroit Normal Training School would later be combined with several other collegiate institutions to form Wayne University in the 1930s.⁴⁸

⁴² Tentler, 84-85.

⁴³ Tentler, 85; Vinyard, 12.

⁴⁴ Vinyard, 13.

⁴⁵ Tentler, 86.

⁴⁶ Sister is the correct term for a professed woman religious who leads an active missionary life while nun is the term used for a professed woman religious who leads a contemplative, cloistered life.

⁴⁷ Tentler, 86.

⁴⁸ "History," Wayne State University, accessed 12/21/21, <https://wayne.edu/about/history>.

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By 1870 it was estimated that there were 150,000 Catholics in the Detroit diocese and educational opportunities beyond high school remained limited.⁴⁹ Bishop Borgess was eager to expand educational opportunities in Detroit for Catholic boys and he invited the Society of Jesus (commonly known as the Jesuits) to come to Detroit from St. Louis to establish a school.⁵⁰ Detroit College was the result of that invitation. In 1877 when the Detroit College was founded, it was the first Catholic-centered college in the Detroit and in the state. Detroit College was located on Jefferson Avenue and offered high school and college classes in a blended “seven-year program that would lead to a bachelor’s degree.”⁵¹ Colleges at this time were not yet standardized and the Detroit College’s instruction program was divided into a three-year high school program and a four-year college program with collegiate classes first offered in 1881.⁵² Enrollment was limited to boys only. The collegiate school was renamed the University of Detroit in 1911 when it received its charter from the state while the high school program became known as the University of Detroit High School that same year. In 1927 the University of Detroit moved to their new, large campus at Livernois and Six Mile Road (McNichols) while the University of Detroit High School moved to their current Seven Mile Road location in 1931.

Bishop John Samuel Foley took over the Diocese after Borgess resigned in 1888. Foley would oversee a huge expansion in the Diocese as Detroit’s immigrant population swelled with newly arriving residents seeking the well-paid manufacturing jobs in Detroit. The Diocese under Foley would grow from 120,000 to 386,000 parishioners during his episcopate.⁵³ Although Foley’s successor Bishop Gallagher would be the instrumental force in Marygrove College’s establishment in Detroit, it was Bishop Foley who oversaw the formation of Marygrove College’s predecessor, St. Mary College. St. Mary College in Monroe granted its first college degrees in 1914 near the end of Foley’s episcopate. The growth of St. Mary College in the 1910s and early 1920s was fueled in part by the growth in the Catholic middle class.⁵⁴ When Bishop Michael J. Gallagher was appointed Bishop of the Diocese of Detroit in 1918 that nascent middle class continued to grow, and Gallagher immediately began recruiting new priests to staff the bursting parishes. He grew the number of priests in the Diocese from 318 in 1918 to 496 by 1925.⁵⁵

The other Catholic collegiate institution in Detroit that predates Marygrove College was the Sacred Heart Seminary located on Detroit’s near northwest side. The Sacred Heart Seminary was founded in Detroit in 1919 as a training college for men who were candidates for Catholic priesthood. Classes were initially conducted in two houses on Martin Place.⁵⁶ Bishop Gallagher was the driving force behind the construction of the campus on Chicago Boulevard as he

⁴⁹ Canfield, 17.

⁵⁰ Tentler, 95.

⁵¹ Vinyard, 195.

⁵² Vinyard, 196.

⁵³ Canfield, 22.

⁵⁴ Tentler, 253.

⁵⁵ Tentler, 305.

⁵⁶ “History,” Sacred Heart Major Seminary, accessed 12/21/21, <https://www.shms.edu/content/history>.

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launched the seminary funding drive in 1920 which resulted in contributions of \$9 million.⁵⁷ Opening in 1924 the seminary offered high school classes as well as two years of college instruction. Two years later, the third and fourth years of collegiate classes were offered.⁵⁸ In later years, graduate courses were offered, and the institution became known as the Sacred Heart Major Seminary in 1988.⁵⁹

Bishop Gallagher also was noted for the aggressive building campaign he carried out having been at helm of the Diocese when 222 parish buildings were completed during the years 1919 to 1929.⁶⁰ Responding to the significant increase in population in Detroit in the 1920s, Bishop Gallagher had “encouraged pastors to build on a generous scale in order to accommodate future population growth.”⁶¹ The Diocese built two Catholic high schools in the 1920s including Girls Catholic Central High School in 1927 and Catholic Central High School for boys in 1928.⁶² With these new high schools pressure increased to provide educational opportunities beyond high school and, thus, “the growth of Catholic college enrollments in the 1920s was a consequence in part of the expansion of Catholic secondary schools in that same decade....”⁶³

The educational landscape in the 1920s in Detroit included no collegiate options for women who sought a Catholic-centered education. Although there were Catholic women’s college options outside of Detroit within the wider Diocese (St. Joseph’s College in Adrian was founded in 1919 and Nazareth College in Kalamazoo was founded in 1924)⁶⁴ these options were far removed from the city and likely could not have absorbed all the interested students from Detroit. Meanwhile, in Monroe, the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary prepared for an expansion of St. Mary College, which they initially planned to build on their large campus in Monroe, opposite the River Raisin. It was Bishop Gallagher who persuaded the Sisters of IHM to consider Detroit as the location of their expanded college.

History of Marygrove College and the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

The origins of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary begin with Father Louis Florent Gillet, a missionary priest, and Theresa Maxis Duchemin, a professed Sister from Baltimore. Born in modern-day Belgium, Louis Florent Gillet trained at a Redemptorist novitiate and was ordained in 1838 in Liege before leaving for New York in 1843.⁶⁵ Redemptorists have a long tradition, dating to the foundation of the Redemptorist congregation in 1732 by St.

⁵⁷ Deborah Goldstein, Margaret Slater, Sacred Heart Major Seminary, National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 1982.

⁵⁸ Deborah Goldstein, Margaret Slater, Sacred Heart Major Seminary, National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 1982.

⁵⁹ “History,” Sacred Heart Major Seminary, accessed 12/21/21, <https://www.shms.edu/content/history>.

⁶⁰ Tentler, 306.

⁶¹ Tentler, 316.

⁶² Tentler, 312.

⁶³ Tentler, 311.

⁶⁴ Tentler, 461.

⁶⁵ Sr. M. Rosalita Kelly, *No Greater Service: The History of the Congregation of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Monroe, Michigan, 1845-1945* (Franciscan Institute Publications, 1949), 23.

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Alphonsus Liguori, of serving the poorest and most vulnerable.⁶⁶ It was likely this zeal for service and missionary work that propelled Gillet to the United States. Upon arriving in New York, Gillet and his fellow Redemptorist missionaries initially traveled to Baltimore, where the 5th Provincial Council of American Bishops was in session.⁶⁷ At the Provincial Council, Bishop Peter Paul Lefevre, Coadjutor-Administrator of the Diocese of Detroit, had successfully petitioned the Redemptorist Provincial Council for additional missionary support in Detroit.⁶⁸ The Redemptorists left Baltimore and returned to New York City, where they remained for a short time, before moving to Albany, New York.⁶⁹

While in Baltimore, Father Gillet met Sister Theresa Maxis. Theresa Maxis Duchemin—born Marie Almaide Maxis Duchemin⁷⁰—was a biracial woman of Haitian descent who was raised by a prominent family in Baltimore.⁷¹ Highly educated, with fluency in French and English, Theresa became a founding member of the Oblates Sisters of Providence, “the first congregation of women religious of color in the world,”⁷² at the age of nineteen.

The Oblates were based in Baltimore, and when Father Gillet met Theresa Maxis, he spoke to her of his desire to set up a religious community in Monroe, Michigan, to educate the children of the local French-Canadian settlers. After he arrived in Michigan in 1843 and preached his first mission in Grosse Pointe,⁷³ Father Gillet had moved south to Monroe where he traveled extensively across lower Michigan to serve the needs of the growing Catholic community.⁷⁴ Stretched thin with work, Father Gillet invited Sister Theresa Maxis to Michigan to help him establish a new a school that would become the foundation for a new community of teaching sisters. Sister Theresa Maxis left the Oblate Sisters of Providence in 1845 and settled in Monroe, Michigan. On November 10, 1845, Father Gillet and Theresa Maxis founded a new community of women religious which they called the Sisters of Providence—the name was changed to the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary two years later.⁷⁵ The community in Monroe was unrelated to the Oblate Sisters of Providence in Baltimore as it was a separate and distinct community of women religious.

⁶⁶ “Who are the Redemptorists,” *The Redemptorists*, accessed 12/22/21, <https://redemptorists.net/redemptorists/who-are-the-redemptorists/>.

⁶⁷ Sisters of IHM. “Gift of Fire,” accessed 12/22/21, <http://www.sistersofihm.org/what-we-do/publications-library/book-excerpts/detail-gift.html?id=40fc94e1-8076-4d73-8dec-42c8139859ce&pageTitle=IHM%20Book%20Excerpts:%20Redemptorist>.

⁶⁸ Sisters of IHM. “Gift of Fire.”

⁶⁹ Sisters of IHM. “Gift of Fire.”

⁷⁰ Theresa Maxis had/used several names, see page 40 of *No Greater Service*.

⁷¹ Patricia Montemurri, *Images of America: Immaculate Heart of Mary Sisters of Michigan* (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2020), 11.

⁷² “Mother Theresa Maxis Duchemin,” Sisters of IHM, accessed 12/22/21, <http://www.sistersofihm.org/who-we-are/ihm-history/theresa-maxis.html>.

⁷³ At this time Grosse Pointe was one large area, however, it is now comprised of five separate municipalities: Grosse Pointe Park, Grosse Pointe Farms, Grosse Pointe City, Grosse Pointe Woods, and Grosse Pointe Shores. Today, these five cities are often colloquially referred to as “the Grosse Pointes.”

⁷⁴ Kelly, *No Greater Service*, 25, 29, 32.

⁷⁵ Montemurri, 11.

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Sister Theresa Maxis asked her Oblate Sister from Baltimore, Sister Ann Shaaff, to join her and she did so, arriving in Monroe on October 14, 1845.⁷⁶ Theresa Renauld, known to Father Gillet from his missionary work in Grosse Pointe, joined a month later. These three women constituted the foundational members of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The women immediately set upon the preparations needed to open their first school.

Although Theresa Maxis and Ann Shaaff both passed for white in Michigan, the fact that two of the three founding Sisters were women of color was long hidden by the Diocese of Detroit and by the IHMs themselves.⁷⁷ In fact, Mother Superior Domitilla Donohue (who led the IHMs from 1918 to 1930) denied that Theresa Maxis, the woman of color from the Oblates, was the same Theresa Maxis that founded IHM. Mother Domitilla feared her efforts to create an exemplary college would suffer if this information was released.⁷⁸

Theresa Maxis was forced out of the IHM congregation after a dispute with Bishop Lefevere in 1859 and this was likely predicated, in part, on her race.⁷⁹ Due to these disputes Theresa Maxis was deposed as General Superior of the IHM congregation and was sent to Pennsylvania to set up a new community of women religious. This community became known as the Pennsylvania branch of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, but it would be separate and distinct from the Monroe branch. The Pennsylvania branch founded Villa Maria College in 1914 in Immaculata, Pennsylvania. It was later renamed Immaculate College in 1929 and is now known as Immaculata University. Much like Marygrove College, Immaculata College was the first Catholic college for women in the Philadelphia area. Immaculata University is still in operation today.

History of the Marygrove College

The Sisters called their school the St. Mary Academy and an advertisement for a “Young Ladies Academy” was placed in the December 25, 1845, issue of the *Monroe Advocate* newspaper.⁸⁰ The school started with forty students just a few weeks later on January 15, 1846.⁸¹ Classes were conducted in a log cabin and the school offered lessons in grammar, arithmetic, mythology, needlework, beadwork, and music, among other courses.⁸² These early course offerings were

⁷⁶ Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, *Building Sisterhood: A Feminist History of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary* (Monroe, MI: Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, 1997), 43.

⁷⁷ Stanbridge, 6-9.

⁷⁸ Stanbridge, 9.

⁷⁹ Eugene J. Halus, Jr., Brad Franco, “The Challenge of Transitioning the Mission: The Graying of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Propagation of Mission,” Conference Presentation at The Impact of Catholic Education in America, University of Portland, 2013.

⁸⁰ Kelly, *No Greater Service*, 64.

⁸¹ “Sisterhood is Powerful,” *Detroit Free Press Magazine*, April 18, 1993.; Stanbridge, 5.

⁸² “History of Marygrove,” Marygrove College, accessed 3/15/21, <https://www.marygrove.edu/history-of-marygrove.html>.

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intended to emphasize the “genteel” nature of the curriculum and the cost, seventy dollars per year in 1847, was not insignificant.⁸³ Other early classes reinforced this ideal as “students might chose from among such classes as ‘Grecian and Oriental Pearl Painting’ and ‘Wax Flowers and Fruit’ according to an 1877 brochure.”⁸⁴ However, as the St. Mary Academy matured, the course offerings became more academic so that by the turn of the century, “the school had largely shed its genteel image, boasting now of its strict academic standards and through instruction in the sciences.”⁸⁵

This new focus on a rigorous academic scheme was reflected in the fact that St. Mary Academy introduced college coursework in 1905 when the Sisters established a junior college. By 1910, St. Mary College was given the authority to grant degrees.⁸⁶ The first college degree was granted by St. Mary College on June 16, 1914, conferred on Teresa Lorraine Cahn.

The foundation of St. Mary College was predicated on the education of women, and the Sisters mirrored this dedication in the preparation of the college’s faculty. Sisters were educated for their teaching careers with many holding college degrees long before the State of Michigan required it. In fact, in the early years of the collegiate course offerings at St. Mary College the class sizes were very small, prompting scholar JoEllen McNergney Vinyard to observe that, “The greatest initial significance of the college was its importance to the sisters’ professionalization. The existence of the college strengthened educational opportunities within the motherhouse, and the need for professors provided a good reason for the brightest sisters to advance beyond the bachelor’s degree.”⁸⁷ Likely as a direct consequence of the opening of the junior college, in 1906, the IHMs began sending one postulant—a probationary candidate for membership in the IHM—per year to the University of Michigan for an undergraduate degree and later sent five Sisters to Catholic University once it began admitting women in 1911.⁸⁸ They went to great lengths to achieve this education because:

In Michigan, IHMs risked the censure of the bishop by sending sisters to the University of Michigan when it was forbidden for women religious to be educated in secular institutions. The IHM Superior, with the support of a couple of understanding priests, creatively escaped censure by sending women who were beginning their preparation for religious life (postulants) and thus not yet officially members of the congregation.⁸⁹

Enrollment in the nation’s public and private colleges grew steadily in the 1920s and this was especially true of Catholic colleges as Catholic immigrants made their way into the middle class.⁹⁰ By the early 1920s, St. Mary College had outgrown its building in Monroe and the Sisters

⁸³ Tentler, 96.

⁸⁴ Tentler, 96.

⁸⁵ Tentler, 96.

⁸⁶ Kelly, *No Greater Service*, 573.

⁸⁷ Vinyard, 205-206.

⁸⁸ Vinyard, 206; Tentler, 231.

⁸⁹ Stanbridge, 8.

⁹⁰ Tentler, 253.

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of IHM initiated plans to build a new school. Although the sisters intended to build their new college in Monroe, Bishop Gallagher encouraged the sisters to build in Detroit where a college for young Catholic women was needed and where, he pointed out, the Sisters would have a greater sphere of influence. In 1922, “Mother Domitilla viewed a snow-mantled eighty-acre plot in Greenfield township lying south of a mud road called Palmer Boulevard. All around it were little farms with small stray buildings.”⁹¹ Some deliberations between the Sisters and their advisor William Maybury (the brother of a Sister) were necessary as the plot of land in question was situated far from downtown Detroit and there were worries about whether water, light, and fire protection would be supplied to the campus. Maybury advised the Sisters that the City of Detroit was expanding so fast, the land would soon be encompassed by the rapidly swelling city. Mother Domitilla bought the land on which Marygrove College was later built for \$241,000.⁹² Maybury was proven correct in his assumption, as Detroit annexed the area later that same year.⁹³

The purchase of the land had exhausted the Sister’s supply of capital. In order to raise funds to construct the school buildings they began a Building Campaign Fund in 1923. Over the next year or so, the Sisters raised \$101,000 via the campaign fund but the Sisters still had to borrow \$4 million to build and equip the school. In March 1925 the Sisters commissioned the Indianapolis architectural firm of D.A. Bohlen & Son to design the buildings and landscape for the college. The construction contract was given to W.E. Wood Company, a prominent Detroit construction firm.⁹⁴

An early site plan in the IHM archives in Monroe, Michigan shows that D.A. Bohlen & Son designed the landscape and the Marygrove gate. The site plan shows an elaborate horseshoe shaped drive along with a more formal garden design on the main lawn—what is extant on the campus today is less elaborate than that which is shown in the site plan, but the horseshoe shaped drive still exists. Sister Vincent de Paul McGivney was responsible for selecting the specimen trees, many of which are still extant on the campus. There is a large redwood just east of the library and “the lawns also claim at least one pink dogwood, white dogwood, saucer magnolia, purple flowering plum, ginkgo biloba, tulip tree, sweet gum, white paper birch, purple beech, Russian olive, honey locust,” among many more ordinary oak and maple trees.⁹⁵

As planning for the new college in Detroit progressed, at a November 29, 1924, Board of Trustees meeting it was decided that school in Monroe would continue to be known as St. Mary College and Academy while the new college in Detroit would be known as Marygrove College.⁹⁶ The college newsletter, *Watch Tower*, “carried the name [Marygrove College] on its masthead in the issue of October 21, 1925.” Thus, from October of 1925 to the spring of 1927, while the

⁹¹ Kelly, *No Greater Service*, 576.

⁹² “History of Marygrove,” IHM Sisters, accessed 3/15/21, <https://ihmsisters.org/who-we-are/our-ministries/marygrove-college-1927-2019/>.

⁹³ Kelly, *No Greater Service*, 576.

⁹⁴ Kelly, *No Greater Service*, 585.

⁹⁵ “A Brief History and Architectural Guide,” Marygrove College, IHM archives, Monroe, MI, circa 2002-2006.

⁹⁶ “Marygrove College: 1910-1960,” IHM Archives, Monroe, MI, 5-6.

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College was still based in Monroe, the *Watch Tower* continued to bear the Marygrove College name.

Construction on the Detroit campus began in 1925 when the cornerstone of the Liberal Arts building was laid. Of the four original buildings on campus, the Liberal Arts building, Madame Cadillac Hall, the President's House, and Powerhouse, the Liberal Arts building was constructed first. Madame Cadillac Hall following shortly afterwards. The 1926 Sanborn map shows that the Liberal Arts building, the powerhouse, and Madame Cadillac Hall were all completed but the faculty house is not shown on the map indicating it was likely completed in 1927. The original cost of the Liberal Arts building was \$1,715,889; the Madame Cadillac Building was \$1,099,803; Hartman Hall was \$48,000; and the Powerhouse was \$165,535.⁹⁷

The Sisters welcomed the first students to Marygrove College on September 19, 1927.⁹⁸ Although, in the history of the school written by Sister M. Rosalita Kelly, it was reported that the school chapel was still without pews, organ, or altars at the opening.⁹⁹ Nevertheless, by November 10, 1927, the school was dedicated with a large ceremony headed by Bishop Gallagher.¹⁰⁰ There were 287 students in attendance when the school opened. With the collegiate studies now ensconced in Detroit at Marygrove College, the Sister's schools in Monroe (St. Mary Academy for girls and Hall of the Divine Child for boys) were now solely dedicated to primary and secondary studies.

The first president of Marygrove College was George Hermann Derry who had previously chaired the political science department at Bryn Mawr College and the philosophy department at Marquette University. Derry and his family lived in the president's house, now called Hartman Hall. Derry devised, and the Sisters perpetuated, a curricular focus that revolved around seven key liberal arts goals: the art of behavior before God, the art of behavior within society among persons, the art of expression, the art of reasoning, the art of historical realization, the art of leisure, and the art of making a living. These seven core liberal arts later became known as the "Marygrove Idea" and would drive the curriculum for years to come.

Sister M. Rosalita Kelly's history of the IHMs notes that Marygrove College grew "steadily and securely, rather than with breath-taking speed"¹⁰¹ in the 1930s but this may gloss over struggles experienced by the school in the Great Depression. While ninety-seven graduates participated in the spring commencement in 1932 just sixty-six did so in 1934 with the number of spring graduates falling further to sixty-three in 1935.¹⁰² The Great Depression had a significant impact

⁹⁷ "Salute Her Towers," *Contact*, Marygrove Alumni Newsletter (Jan. 1, 1981), IHM Archives, Monroe, MI.

⁹⁸ "Vision, Hope Built College," IHM Archives, Monroe, MI; "Marygrove - The Monroe Beginnings," IHM Archives, Monroe, MI.

⁹⁹ Sr. M. Rosalita Kelly, *Achievement of a Century: The Motherhouse and Missions* (Monroe, MI: Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, 1948), 23.

¹⁰⁰ Kelly, *No Greater Service*, 601.

¹⁰¹ Kelly, *No Greater Service*, 603.

¹⁰² "Institution's Largest Class Receives Honors Amid Colorful Ceremonies," *Detroit Free Press*, June 9, 1934; "Honors Given at Marygrove," *Detroit Free*

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on Catholic parishes and their associated elementary and secondary schools. Many working-class parishioners were “badly hurt” with the loss of jobs and reduction in employment—many parishes reported destitute families, some reduced to begging for food.¹⁰³

Despite these troubles, one modest building addition was completed at Marygrove College in 1934. The Sisters contracted with the W.E. Wood Company to add a second floor above the south-facing garage bays of the Powerhouse. The small rooms had a private closet, steel casement windows, and a shared bathroom.¹⁰⁴ This small addition contained nine dormitory rooms presumably for the men who were working at the Powerhouse and on the campus.

Even with slow the slow and steady growth, the course and extracurricular offerings of the school were expanded at Marygrove. By as early as 1932 the college began offering health education courses. In 1938, the students of Marygrove College hosted an exhibition entitled “A Catholic College in Action” which was advertised in the *Detroit News* as including “lectures, symposiums, demonstrations, exhibits, plays, musical features, and games” about the college and the student’s studies.¹⁰⁵ And, that same year in 1938, the college not only hosted students for the fall and spring semesters but also offered summer session courses in a full range of subjects including biology, chemistry, education, English, history, Latin, mathematics, music, philosophy, and social sciences. Those students who enrolled in summer session courses were able to board at the Madame Cadillac residence hall.¹⁰⁶

The Boom Years

Despite the effects of the Great Depression, the Roman Catholic population had grown to the point that the Diocese of Detroit was elevated to an Archdiocese on May 31, 1937. This change also created the Catholic Province of Detroit and brought all dioceses of Michigan under the leadership of the Archdiocese of Detroit.¹⁰⁷ At the same time the elevation of the Diocese of Detroit was announced, Edward A. Mooney was named as the first Archbishop. Bishop Gallagher had passed away in January 1937.¹⁰⁸

Once World War II began and the economy began to recover, Marygrove’s student population began to grow. During the war, the school sought to address their student’s needs by initiating innovative services and course offerings. One such program was an onsite nursery which was

Press, June 7, 1934; “63 to Graduate at Marygrove,” *Detroit Free Press*, June 5, 1935.

¹⁰³ Tentler, 315.

¹⁰⁴ Drawings, undated, IHM Archives, Monroe, MI; Letter from W.E. Wood Co. to Sister Miriam, 1934, IHM Archives, Monroe, MI.

¹⁰⁵ “Preparing for Exposition of the Marygrove College System of Education,” *Detroit News*, May 7, 1938.

¹⁰⁶ “The Summer Session of Marygrove Collect,” Pamphlet, Burton Collection, Detroit Public Library.

¹⁰⁷ The various dioceses of Michigan had been under the leadership of the Archdioceses in Cincinnati and Milwaukee, previously.

¹⁰⁸ “History of the Archdiocese of Detroit,” Archdiocese of Detroit, accessed 12/21/21, <https://www.aod.org/history-of-the-archdiocese>.

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opened during the war—this program had a dual aim to both provide training for Marygrove College students who were studying to become preschool directors and to provide childcare services for mothers engaged in war work.¹⁰⁹ Other war related courses included physical education coursework, a class in cooking with food rations, and Latin American history courses.¹¹⁰ Marygrove College also offered an expedited three-year track to graduation during the war years for students desiring to graduate sooner in order to contribute to war work efforts after graduation.¹¹¹ The robust offerings of extracurriculars as well as the academically rigorous curriculum at Marygrove College combined with continued growing enrollment prompted more construction on the campus.

At the end of the war, in 1945, enrollment had reached 806 students which prompted expansion and renovation at Marygrove College.¹¹² The *Detroit Free Press* reported in November 1945 that the college would spend a million dollars to expand the science laboratories and the library.¹¹³ That same year it was reported that Marygrove College was the fourth largest Catholic college for women in the United States.¹¹⁴ In 1949 a convent was constructed for the Sisters who taught at Marygrove College. Built of brick and concrete the convent cost \$580,000 and was constructed just west of the Liberal Arts building.¹¹⁵ The building was later converted to a Student Center.

The 1950s were a time of great growth for the college. In 1954 the *Detroit Free Press* reported that numerous updates had been completed at the school including the purchase of new school equipment for \$125,000. An additional \$10,000 was spent to convert the original president's house into a Home Management House and another \$593,000 was spent to build a five-story community house for the teaching sisters.¹¹⁶

In 1958 a dormitory addition, named Florent Gillet Hall, was added onto the north side of the cafeteria wing of Madame Cadillac Hall. When the groundbreaking of the dormitory addition was announced, Sister Jack stated that the expansion program was formulated based on an expected enrollment increase of forty to fifty percent.¹¹⁷ When Florent Gillet hall was completed in October 1958, 142 students moved in reducing the overcrowded residence hall within Madame Cadillac to a two hundred girls.¹¹⁸ The Florent Gillet Hall addition completed in 1958 comprised only the southern, eastern, and northern wing—the western wing would come later. That same year in 1958 Marygrove College reported a record enrollment of 926 students, an

¹⁰⁹ "Marygrove to Open a Nursery School," *Detroit News*, August 9, 1942.

¹¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹¹ "Marygrove Cuts Courses," *Detroit Free Press*, January 21, 1942.

¹¹² Brian Wilson, "The Spirit of the Motor City: Three Hundred Years of Religious History in Detroit," *Michigan Historical Review* 27 (Spring, 2001), 26.

¹¹³ "Expand: Marygrove Sets Eyes on Future," *Detroit Free Press*, Nov. 25, 1945.

¹¹⁴ "Expand: Marygrove Sets Eyes on Future," *Detroit Free Press*, Nov. 25, 1945.

¹¹⁵ Building Permit Card Index, (BSEED) Building Safety Engineering and Environmental Department, City of Detroit, MI.

¹¹⁶ "Marygrove, Mercy Add to City's Beauty," *Detroit Free Press*, Aug 15, 1954.

¹¹⁷ "Marygrove Turns Sod for New Dorm," *Detroit Free Press*, March 1958.

¹¹⁸ "New Hall Dedication, Nov. 9," *The Campus Reporter*, October 9, 1958.

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increase of twelve percent from the school year prior. To respond to this increased enrollment, the college made some administrative changes. The duties of the dean were divided into two new roles, the Dean of Students and the Director of Residents.¹¹⁹

Meanwhile, space in the library was a continuing issue in the late 1950s.¹²⁰ In June of 1959 the College prepared a presentation, complete with pictures, building a case for a library expansion. The presentation shows how cramped and crowded the library had become. A library expansion that was to be a part of a \$3 million-dollar, ten-year expansion plan was announced by Sister Jack in March 1959. Sister Jack, in her announcement of the \$3 million-dollar expansion, stated that "the woman's college plays a unique role in American education and American life, but, admittedly, it has not shared the place in the sun enjoyed by men's and co-educational schools."¹²¹ To support the expansion, in 1960, College President Sister Honora Jack launched a development drive to raise funds for a new library wing. Much of the impetus for the expansion project was to improve the campus so that its facilities and amenities were comparable to those of the men's colleges at the time. Although the curriculum of the college was rigorous, especially under the presidency of Sister Jack, who served from 1937 to 1961, the administration recognized that there was continued work to do to create a campus equal to men's colleges and this likely spurred some of the growth during the 1960s.

Construction on the new library began in 1961.¹²² The Brennan Construction Company of Detroit was awarded the contract.¹²³ The library wing was built on the back of the eastern-most wing of the Liberal Arts building. This addition provided additional space for a four-hundred-seat lecture hall and space to accommodate 200,000 volumes.¹²⁴ In 1963 the much-anticipated library expansion was finally dedicated. The west wall of the library addition was clad in brick rather than limestone as it was anticipated that a new science laboratory wing would eventually be attached at this juncture. The laboratory addition, however, was never built.

The tremendous growth of Marygrove College in these mid-century decades reflected the number of Catholics who had settled in the city of Detroit and the growth of Catholic institutions, generally. In 1962 it was estimated that the Archdiocese of Detroit had 1,400,000 members, which made it the sixth largest diocese in the country and suggests that one out of every three residents in Detroit were Catholic.¹²⁵ When the 1964-1965 school year began the

¹¹⁹ "Registrar Reports Record Enrollment," *The Campus Reporter*, October 9, 1958; "Students Welcome New Faculty to MG Campus," *The Campus Reporter*, October 9, 1958.

¹²⁰ "Marygrove, Mercy Add to City's Beauty," *Detroit Free Press*, Aug. 15, 1954.

¹²¹ "\$3 Million Expansion Planned by Marygrove," *Detroit News*, March 20, 1959.

¹²² "Marygrove Gets New President," *Detroit Free Press*, July 25, 1961.

¹²³ "Library Addition at Marygrove College," *Grand River Record*, May 11, 1961.

¹²⁴ "Marygrove to start Library Wing," *Detroit Free Press*, May 1, 1961.

¹²⁵ Archdiocese of Detroit, *Development of the Catholic Church in the Great Lakes Region*, represented in the Burton Historical Collection, Detroit Public Library (Detroit, 1962) 8.

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Archdiocese controlled 360 schools with 110 grade schools alone in Detroit, Hamtramck, and Highland Park.¹²⁶

Marygrove College was again out of space by 1962-1963. In 1962 twenty-four faculty offices were housed in cubicles in the basement of the Liberal Arts building and, in the summer of 1963, Hartmann Hall was remodeled to house eleven students.¹²⁷ Additionally, Marygrove College owned two houses on Mary Grove Drive which were renovated in 1964 to house even more students.¹²⁸ A handwritten note in the IHM archives in Monroe indicates this was a temporary measure done to alleviate overcrowding in the dormitories. Because of these housing shortages, an addition to Florent Gillet was carried out in 1965 which added the western-most section of the current "U" shaped plan.

Although the college was growing through the 1960s, the city of Detroit and Marygrove College experienced significant change in the late 1960s and 1970s. These changes would prompt the College to reposition itself to both shore up their financial standing and to re-envision their College to better reflect the city as a whole.

Challenges and Closure

After the 1967 Rebellion in Detroit, the staff and faculty of Marygrove College committed to bringing more African American students to campus for the next school year, known in its campaign as "68 by 68."¹²⁹ There was an increased awareness that Marygrove College was too insular and did not reflect the changing demographics of the city. Because of this, President Sister Mary Jane Howard increased scholarship offerings to every public high school in Detroit. By 1969, twenty-five percent of incoming freshman were African American.¹³⁰

Economic difficulties continued for both Marygrove College and the city of Detroit.¹³¹ Attendance at Catholic churches nationwide had declined continuously from 1955 through the 1980s¹³² and this trend was likely mirrored in Detroit. In addition to waning membership in the Catholic Church, the City of Detroit itself also experienced large population losses that began in 1950, when the city reached its peak population of 1.8 million, and has continued through the present.¹³³

¹²⁶ Niraj Warikoo, "New book on history of Gesu Catholic Church and School in Detroit," *Detroit Free Press*, October 11, 2017.

¹²⁷ Handwritten notes, Buildings File, IHM Archives, Monroe, MI.

¹²⁸ Handwritten notes, Buildings File, IHM Archives, Monroe, MI.

¹²⁹ Marygrove College, "History of Marygrove," accessed 12/21/21, <https://www.marygrove.edu/history-of-marygrove.html>.

¹³⁰ Marygrove College, "History of Marygrove."

¹³¹ Marygrove College Graduate School Catalogue, 2018-2020.

¹³² Lydia Saad, "Catholics' Church Attendance Resumes Downward Slide," *Gallup*, accessed 12/15/21, <https://news.gallup.com/poll/232226/church-attendance-among-catholics-resumes-downward-slide.aspx>.

¹³³ 1950 Federal Census, U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, accessed 3/15/21,

<https://www2.census.gov/library/publications/decennial/1950/pc-02/pc-2-36.pdf>; 1990 Federal Census, U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the

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In an effort to boost enrollment, Marygrove College began admitting men in 1971. Additionally, during the 1970s Marygrove College and the University of Detroit consolidated their fine and performing arts departments together—housed at Marygrove—but the financial difficulties continued.¹³⁴ In addition to the financial issues, there was also pressure to relocate to the suburbs, following a trend typified by several Catholic secondary schools (including Catholic Central High School which left Detroit in 1978 and De La Salle High School in 1982). But Marygrove College President Raymond Fleck, who led the school from 1972 to 1980, rebuffed those overtures and Marygrove College remained committed to Detroit.¹³⁵

Despite these continued challenges, the presidency of Dr. John E. Shay, Jr. was marked by aggressive budgetary and financial management practices that resulted in an upswing in enrollment in the 1980s.¹³⁶ By 1989 the three Catholic colleges in Detroit—Marygrove College, University of Detroit, and Mercy College—were in talks to combine into one institution. This plan eventually went forward without Marygrove, resulting in the University of Detroit Mercy, consolidated at the University of Detroit campus located approximately one mile to the east of Marygrove.

In 2006 and 2007 Marygrove College received a large bequest from alumnae Elizabeth Clinton Keenan. The money was used to build a courtyard adjacent to the Madame Cadillac Hall and the soccer field north of Immaculata High School.¹³⁷ It was during the difficult years after the 2008 economic recession that Marygrove College “co-founded a national coalition of independent colleges and universities dedicated to serving low-income and first-generation college students.”¹³⁸ Aggressive improvement campaigns were carried out under Presidents Dr. Glenda Price (1998-2006) and Dr. David J. Fike (2006-2015), which resulted in much-needed improvements into the campus and included modernization of computer and research laboratories, renovations to the theater, and additional athletics programs.

Although enrollment had grown by thirty percent from 2005 to 2015, in 2014 “a software glitch” resulted in some two hundred students being given financial aid, only to be told later they actually owed the school money...The effect on enrollment was devastating, with it plummeting from around 1,850 in 2013 to about 960 in 2016.”¹³⁹ With Michigan still feeling the effects of the Great Recession, debt incurred by the aggressive campus improvement campaigns and the

Census, accessed 3/15/21,

<https://www2.census.gov/library/publications/decennial/1990/cp-1/cp-1-24.pdf>.

¹³⁴ “A Brief History and Architectural Guide,” Marygrove College, IHM archives, Monroe, MI, circa 2002-2006.

¹³⁵ Marygrove College, “History of Marygrove.”

¹³⁶ Marygrove College, “History of Marygrove.”

¹³⁷ David J. Fike, “A Message from Marygrove President David J. Fike,” *Tower Times*, Marygrove College Office of Alumni Relations 11, Number 2 (Winter 2012); Marygrove College, “History of Marygrove.”

¹³⁸ “History of Marygrove,” Marygrove College, accessed 12/21/21, <https://www.marygrove.edu/history-of-marygrove.html>.

¹³⁹ Lee DeVito, “Teachers, students reeling as Marygrove abruptly closes undergrad program,” *Detroit MetroTimes*, August 23, 2017.

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financial aid issue proved too damaging to the college. In an effort to save the college, the Sisters had used their own pension dollars to try to keep the school solvent.¹⁴⁰

By the time President Dr. Elizabeth Burns was named ninth President of Marygrove College in 2016 the college was in dire financial condition. Dr. Burns immediately began discussing the situation with the Kresge Foundation in hopes of finding financial solvency for the school.¹⁴¹ The Kresge Foundation also provided auditors to assess the financial state of the college. The auditors found no way to make the college solvent.¹⁴² Still, losing Marygrove College, which was an anchor in the Fitzgerald community was a dismal prospect, so the Kresge Foundation provided \$16 million to stabilize the college's finances and to prepare a transition plan.

In response to these challenges, the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Marygrove College, and the Kresge Foundation formed the Marygrove Conservancy in the fall of 2017.¹⁴³ The conservancy was established as a nonprofit organization dedicated to stewarding the historic campus through the dissolution of the college, preserving the campus, and helping situate it for a new purpose. In August 2017, it was announced that the undergraduate school would be closed as of December 2017 due to the dire financial situation.¹⁴⁴ On February 14, 2018, the transfer of the property deed from Marygrove College to the Marygrove Conservancy was executed.¹⁴⁵

It was hoped that by concentrating solely on graduate programs, the collegiate studies on the campus could continue. Unfortunately, this did not fully solve the broader financial problem of the college. In the fall of 2019, it was announced that the college would close permanently in December 2019.¹⁴⁶ After ninety-two years in the city, all collegiate activity on the campus ceased. Nevertheless, the IHM Sister's dedication to their original educational mission is reflected in the new purpose and partnership the Sister of IHM have forged with the Marygrove Conservancy. Additional partnerships with Starfish Family Services, the Detroit Public Schools Community District, and the University of Michigan ensure the campus will continue to be hub of educational activity in the community. In partnership with the Marygrove Conservancy, the campus is now poised to become a new cradle-to-career educational facility that will provide high quality education from daycare through high school.

Architecture Significance of the Marygrove College Campus

The four original buildings on the Marygrove College campus were all designed Indianapolis-based D.A. Bohlen & Son, as was the 1963 library addition on the Liberal Arts building. The

¹⁴⁰ Connie Matthiessen, "A Historic Detroit School Was Near the End: Here's How Kresge Rallied to Give it a New Life," *Inside Philanthropy*, October 12, 2021.

¹⁴¹ Matthiessen, "A Historic Detroit School."

¹⁴² Ibid.

¹⁴³ "History of Marygrove," Marygrove College, accessed 12/20/21, <https://www.marygrove.edu/history-of-marygrove.html>.

¹⁴⁴ DeVito, "Teachers, students reeling."

¹⁴⁵ Christopher J. Dine, Bodman PLC, email, September 15, 2021.

¹⁴⁶ *Detroit Free Press*, "Detroit's 92-year-old Marygrove College to Close in December," June 12, 2019.

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buildings are styled in the Collegiate Gothic style and were constructed by W.E. Wood Company of Detroit.¹⁴⁷ Other notable contractors who worked on the four original buildings include the Daprato Statuary Company (statuary and stained glass), Freyn Brothers (power plant and HVAC installation), Thomas M. Robinson (stonework), Weigel-Brown Iron Works (supplied and installed the fencing), Seth Thomas Clock Company (manufactured the clockworks), McShane Bell Foundry and the B&O Railroad (chimes), and the McClymont Marble Company (furnished and installed the marble).¹⁴⁸

The library addition drawings, dated April 3, 1961, are on sheets with a D.A. Bohlen & Son title block. The name of the firm may have been changed later that same year as one source indicates that, in 1961, August Bohlen “entered a partnership with David Burns and the firm became known as Bohlen & Burns, and then in 1967 the firm was incorporated as Bohlen, Burns, and Associates.”¹⁴⁹ D.A. Bohlen & Son is used throughout this nomination for consistency and clarity and because it encompasses all the architectural work the firm performed on the Marygrove College campus.

A native of Hanover, Germany Diedrich A. Bohlen founded his architecture firm in 1853 in Indianapolis as “D.A. Bohlen, Architect.” Bohlen designed a large number of prominent civic buildings in Indiana including Saint John the Evangelist Catholic Church, the Morris Butler House, and Roberts Park Methodist Church, all located in Indianapolis. When Diedrich Bohlen’s son Oscar joined the firm in 1884 the firm name was changed to D.A. Bohlen & Son. After Diedrich died in 1890, Oscar took the helm of the firm. Oscar Bohlen served as the principal architect of the original buildings at Marygrove College, and he also designed several buildings on the campus of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College near Terra Haute, Indiana. In 1909 Oscar’s son August Bohlen joined the firm and was likely also involved in designing the Marygrove College campus buildings—Oscar was active in the firm’s management into the 1930s. August’s son Robert Bohlen would later join the firm in 1946.

The Sisters of IHM had a long history of utilizing the Bohlen firm long before Marygrove College was conceived and designed. The Sister of IHM had hired the firm to design the St. Mary Academy in Monroe between 1834-1839 and, later, they would again tap the firm to design the Immaculata High School located east of the Marygrove College campus with that design attributed to August Bohlen. As mentioned above, the firm would go through several name changes including a change to Bohlen and Burns sometime after April of 1961 and, later, Bohlen, Burns and Associates in 1967. A final, subsequent name change occurred in 1971 when the name Bohlen, Meyer, Gibson and Associates, Inc. was adopted.

The four original buildings on campus exhibit an impressive collection of Collegiate Gothic and Art Deco influenced designs. The Liberal Arts building, President’s House, and Madame Cadillac Hall are all fine examples of the Collegiate Gothic style and both the interior and

¹⁴⁷ Kelly, 585.

¹⁴⁸ “A Brief History and Architectural Guide,” Marygrove College, IHM archives, Monroe, MI, circa 2002-2006.

¹⁴⁹ Kurt West Garner, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods Historic District, National Register of Historic Places nomination (2019) 52.

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exterior finishes are marked by top quality materials (slate, stone, copper, marble, terrazzo, carved oak) and expert craftsmanship. The Powerhouse is a fine example of industrial Art Deco styling with large expanses of pale-yellow brick, vertical piers that emphasize the verticality of the design, and large industrial style steel windows.

Later additions on campus, including the Florent Gillet dormitory addition (both the 1958 portion and the 1965 portion) to the Madame Cadillac Hall and the 1963 library addition on the Liberal Arts building display hallmarks of Modern Movement design including aluminum windows on both buildings and blue spandrel panels on the Florent Gillet dorm. The Florent Gillet dormitory addition (both the 1958 and the 1965 portions) were designed by Roger Allen & Associates. Roger Allen & Associates was based out of Grand Rapids, Michigan. Born in 1892 Roger Allen practiced with his father, F.P. Allen for many years before starting Roger Allen & Associates. Allen was the Central Michigan University Architect, and he designed the Public Museum in Grand Rapids which was completed in 1939.¹⁵⁰

The 1963 library addition on the Liberal Arts building was designed by D.A. Bohlen & Son and was designed in the Modern style with Gothic influences and exhibits a much more simplified, streamlined style when compared to the original Collegiate Gothic style of the Liberal Arts building. That being said, the 1963 library addition has elements of the Gothic style with stone capped, crenelated parapet and the same pale Indiana limestone that was used on the original Liberal Arts façade.

The Student Center, built in 1949, is a Modern style brick dormitory that shows Gothic stylistic influences, likely meant to blend the building into the campus's older buildings. Like the 1963 library addition on the Liberal Arts building, the Student Center has streamlined design of flat expanses of brick with relatively little decoration, however, there is a very subdued, crenelated stone parapet, leaded glass windows in the chapel, and stone accents over the windows. The firm responsible for the design of the Student Center has not yet been established but it seems likely it was designed by D.A. Bohlen & Son given the long relationship the Sisters of IHM had with that firm.

Designers for the fieldhouse and the workshop have not been discovered and these may have been designed by the firm hired to construct them. The workshop was built in 1955 and it is unknown when the fieldhouse was built.

Conclusion

Marygrove College's significance to the city's educational history is of primary importance as it provided for a rigorous, Catholic-centered collegiate education at a time when post-secondary education options for women were almost non-existent. Marygrove College was a pioneering institution for its development of an intense academic curriculum for women and thus it comes

¹⁵⁰ Pam Vanderploeg, "Roger Allen, F.A.I.A. and The Public Musuem," Architecture Grand Rapids, accessed 12/21/21, <http://architecturegrandrapids.org/architects-3/vlqi5y5mjc3qbboaozp8knk0v5ha3b>.

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as no surprise that it graduated thousands of women who went on to hold leadership positions in business, arts, and civic organizations in Michigan and further afield.¹⁵¹ The architecture on campus embodies important currents in architectural history through the distinctive characteristics of the Collegiate Gothic and Art Deco styles and illustrates significant trends in the design of educational buildings, both in Detroit and the state of Michigan. The buildings also stand as a physical manifestation of the commitment to higher education of Catholic women (and later both men and women) embraced by the Sisters of IHM, the Archdiocese of Detroit, and the students who attended the school over the course of its ninety-two-year history. The growth and development of the college coincided with the growth of Catholicism in Detroit as an important religious and social institution.

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¹⁵¹ Tentler, 463.

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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): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 44.951

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 42.416927 | Longitude: -83.160315 |
| 2. Latitude: 42.417082 | Longitude: -83.151195 |
| 3. Latitude: 42.415155 | Longitude: -83.151183 |

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- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 4. Latitude: 42.413948 | Longitude: -83.153812 |
| 5. Latitude: 42.413861 | Longitude: -83.158940 |
| 6. Latitude: 42.414475 | Longitude: -83.160198 |

Or
UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

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

From the southeast corner of the intersection at West McNichols Road and Wyoming Avenue, the district boundary runs east along West McNichols Road until turning south at Greenlawn Drive. The boundary runs south along Greenlawn Drive until turning west at the fence line of 16661 Greenlawn and then runs west approximately 339 feet west along the fence line until turning south. The boundary then runs south for 40 feet and then turns west and runs west for approximately 377 feet. The boundary then turns south and runs south until it hits Mary Grove Drive and then the boundary turns west again. The boundary runs west along Mary Grove Drive until turning north at the property line with the COTS building. The boundary runs north along the edge of the COTS building property until turning west at the termination of the COTS building property. The boundary runs west until hitting Wyoming Avenue where the boundary turns north for 36 feet and then turns east and runs along the property line with the Theresa Maxis apartment complex (approximately 567 feet). The boundary then turns north and follows the property line of the Theresa Maxis and McGivney Bethune property lines and then turns west following the northern edge of the property line of the McGivney Bethune property. At Wyoming Avenue the boundary turns north and runs until it terminates at the starting point, the corner of Wyoming Avenue and West McNichols Road.

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Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary encompasses the portion of a large parcel bounded by West McNichols Road (north), Greenlawn Street (east), Marygrove Drive (south), and Wyoming Street (west) historically owned by Marygrove College and directly associated with the historic significance of the college. The boundary excludes those areas of the aforementioned parcel historically owned by Marygrove College that were historically undeveloped but now hold modern buildings unassociated with the functions or significance of college, those areas that contain buildings unassociated with the historical functions or significance of the college, those areas that have lost historic integrity and cannot convey the significance of the college, and those areas that do not embody the significance of the property.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Cassandra Talley & Lillian Candela
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e-mail: cassandra.talley@thekraemeredge.com
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date: December 22, 2021

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Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Marygrove College Campus Historic District

City or Vicinity: Detroit

County: Wayne County State: MI

Photographer: Various, as noted below

Date Photographed: Various, as noted below

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

001 of 042. Liberal Arts Building, looking south from main driveway; Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 1/8/2021

002 of 042. Liberal Arts Building central tower, looking south from main driveway. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 1/8/2021

003 of 042. Liberal Arts Building, auditorium wing, looking northeast; Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 1/8/2021

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- 004 of 042. Liberal Arts Building, Sacred Heart Chapel, looking northwest;
Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 1/8/2021
- 005 of 042. Liberal Arts Building, looking north; Photographer: Cassandra Talley;
Date Photographed: 1/8/2021
- 006 of 042. Liberal Arts Building, looking north; Photographer: Cassandra Talley;
Date Photographed: 1/8/2021
- 007 of 042. Liberal Arts Building, looking north; Photographer: Cassandra Talley;
Date Photographed: 1/8/2021
- 008 of 042. Liberal Arts Building, 1963 library addition wing, looking north.
Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 1/8/2021
- 009 of 042. Interior, Liberal Arts Building, historic library, looking southwest.
Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 1/8/2021
- 010 of 042. Interior, Liberal Arts Building, Sacred Heart Chapel, looking north.
Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 1/8/2021
- 011 of 042. Madame Cadillac Hall, looking west. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date
Photographed: 2/24/2021
- 012 of 042. Madame Cadillac Hall, Looking northwest. Photographer: Cassandra Talley;
Date Photographed: 2/24/2021
- 013 of 042. Madame Cadillac Hall, looking east. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date
Photographed: 2/24/2021
- 014 of 042. Madame Cadillac Hall, looking north. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date
Photographed: 2/24/2021
- 015 of 042. Madame Cadillac Hall, looking northeast. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date
Photographed: 3/25/2021
- 016 of 042. Madame Cadillac Hall, courtyard, looking south. Photographer: Cassandra
Talley; Date Photographed: 3/25/2021
- 017 of 042. Madame Cadillac Hall, looking south. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date
Photographed: 1/8/2021

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018 of 042. Madame Cadillac Hall, looking southwest Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 1/8/2021

019 of 042. Florent Gillet addition to Madame Cadillac Hall, looking northeast. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 1/8/2021

020 of 042. Florent Gillet addition to Madame Cadillac Hall, looking southeast. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 1/8/2021

021 of 042. Florent Gillet addition to Madame Cadillac Hall, looking south. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 1/8/2021

022 of 042. Florent Gillet addition to Madame Cadillac Hall, main entrance, looking west. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 3/25/2021

023 of 042. Interior, Madame Cadillac Hall, Dining Room. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 12/22/2021

024 of 042. Interior, Madame Cadillac Hall, Chapel. Photographer: Brian Rebain; Date Photographed: 12/22/2021

025 of 042. Interior, Madame Cadillac Hall, Lobby. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 12/22/2021

026 of 042. Interior, Florent Gillet lounge, looking southwest. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 9/13/2021

027 of 042. Powerhouse, looking northwest. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 12/22/2021

028 of 042. Powerhouse, looking northeast. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 12/22/2021

029 of 042. Student Center, looking south. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 2/18/2021

30 of 42. Student Center, looking southeast. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 2/18/21

031 of 042. Student Center, entrance, looking south. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 2/18/2021

032 of 042. Student Center, looking southwest. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 2/18/21

Marygrove College
Name of Property

Wayne County, MI
County and State

033 of 042. Student Center, looking north. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 2/18/21

034 of 042. Hartman Hall, looking north. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 1/8/21

035 of 042. Hartman Hall, looking east. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 2/24/2021

036 of 042. Workshop, looking southwest. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 2/24/21

037 of 042. Fieldhouse, looking west. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 2/24/2021

038 of 042. Fieldhouse, looking southwest. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 2/24/21

039 of 042. Our Lady of Mary Statute and Front Lawn, looking north. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 1/8/2021

040 of 042. Our Lady of Mary dias and urns, looking north. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 1/8/21

041 of 042. Marygrove Gate and fencing, looking north. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 1/8/2021

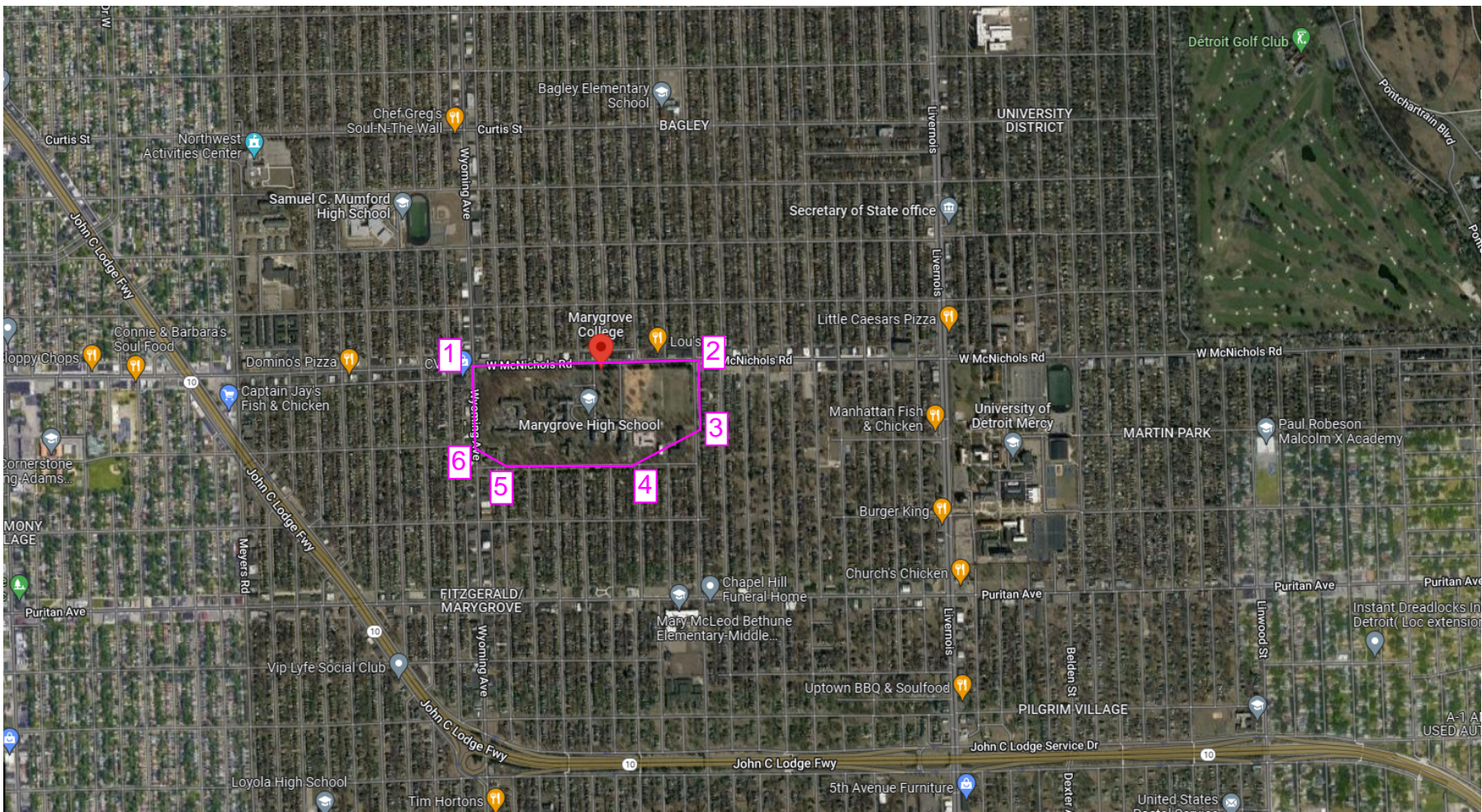
042 of 042. Entrance Gate and fencing, looking north. Photographer: Cassandra Talley; Date Photographed: 1/8/2021

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours
- Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.



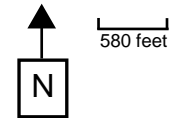
Marygrove College Historic District

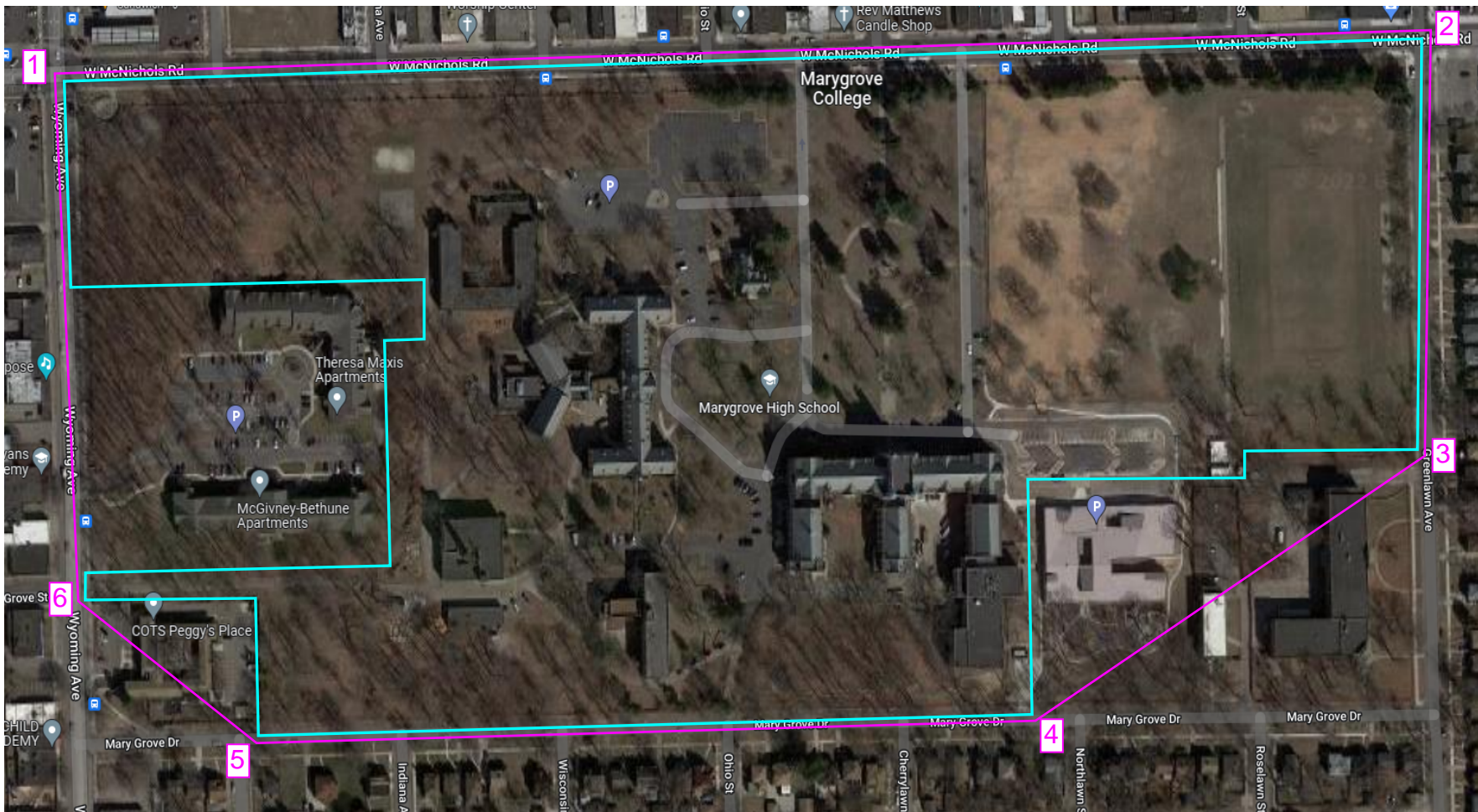
The Marygrove College Historic District generally spans from W. McNichols to the north, Greenlawn to the east, Mary Grove Drive to the south, and Wyoming to the west.

 Polygon Boundary

Polygon Coordinates:

- 1. Latitude: 42.416927 Longitude: -83.160315
- 2. Latitude: 42.417082 Longitude: -83.151195
- 3. Latitude: 42.415155 Longitude: -83.151183
- 4. Latitude: 42.413948 Longitude: -83.153812
- 5. Latitude: 42.413861 Longitude: -83.158940
- 6. Latitude: 42.414475 Longitude: -83.160198





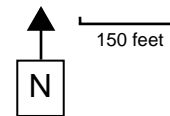
Marygrove College Historic District

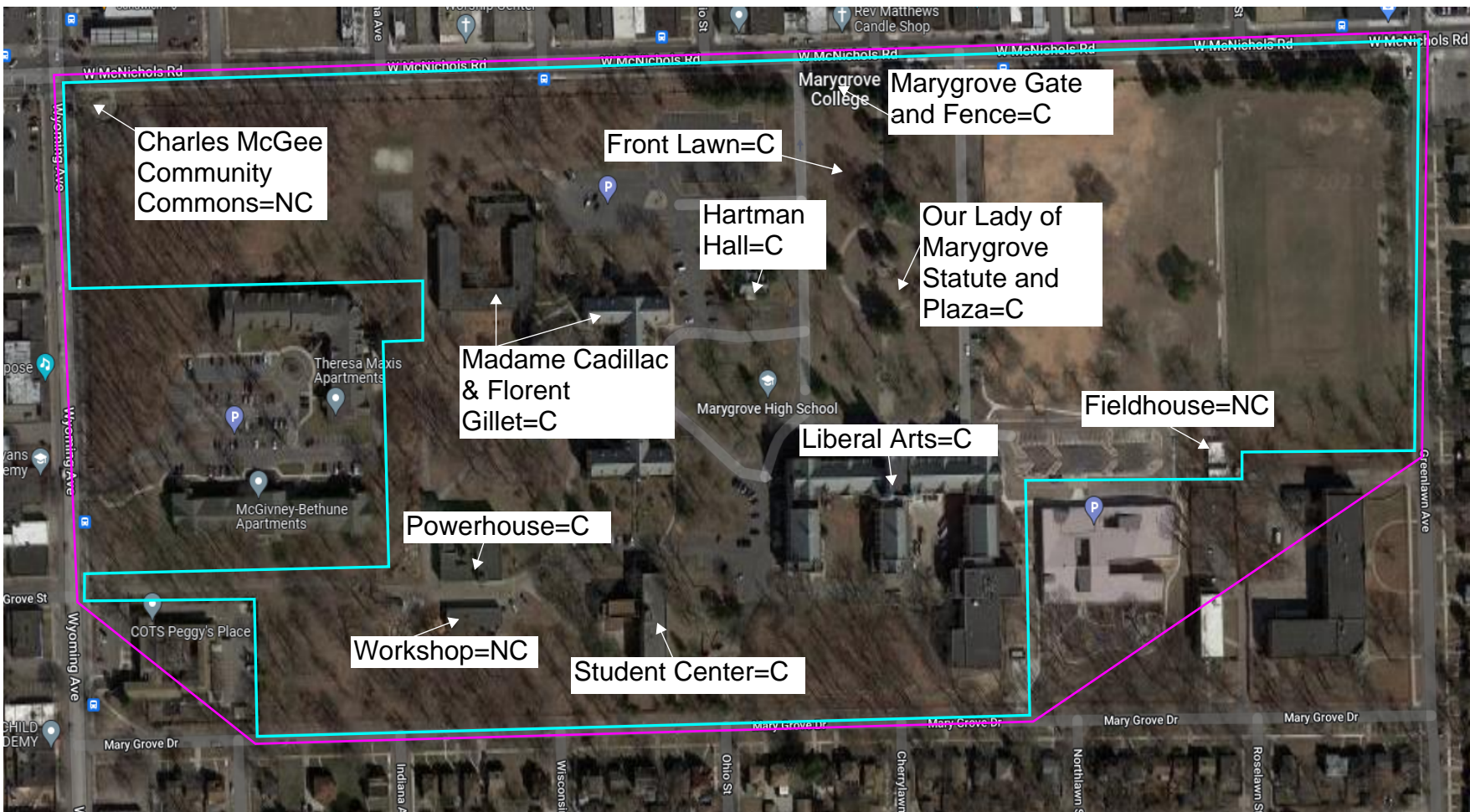
The Marygrove College Historic District generally spans from W. McNichols to the north, Greenlawn to the east, Mary Grove Drive to the south, and Wyoming to the west.

- Polygon Boundary
- National Register Boundary

Polygon Coordinates:

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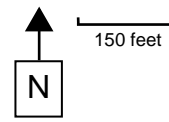


Marygrove College Historic District

The Marygrove College Historic District generally spans from W. McNichols to the north, Greenlawn to the east, Mary Grove Drive to the south, and Wyoming to the west.

Contributing and Non-Contributing:

C= Contributing
 NC= Non-contributing





MI_Wayne County_Marygrove College_0002



MI_Wayne County_Marygrove College_0004



MI_Wayne County_Marygrove College_0005





MI_Wayne County_Marygrove College_0012



MI_Wayne County_Marygrove College_0017



WE PRACTICE
WHAT WE PREACH



FACULTY STAFF
PARKING
MON - FRI
8:00 - 5:00
←



MI_Wayne County_Marygrove College_0034



MI_Wayne County_Marygrove College_0041

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 6/8/2022 Date of Pending List: 6/22/2022 Date of 16th Day: 7/7/2022 Date of 45th Day: 7/25/2022 Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept Return Reject 7/11/2022 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria:

Reviewer Jim Gabbert Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2275 Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

QUENTIN L. MESSER, JR.
PRESIDENT

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

Ms. Joy Beasley, Keeper
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 7228
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Beasley:

The enclosed file contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for **Marygrove College, Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan**. This property is being submitted for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. This nomination is a X New Submission Resubmission Additional Documentation Removal.

- 1 Signed National Register of Historic Places Registration Form
- 2 Locational maps (incl. with nomination file)
- 1 Sketch map(s) / figures(s) / exhibits(s) (incl. with nomination file)
- 1 Pieces of correspondence (incl. with nomination file)
- 10 Digital photographs (incl. with nomination file)
- Other (incl. with nomination file): _____

COMMENTS:

- Please ensure that this nomination is reviewed.
- This property has been approved under 36 CFR 67.
- The enclosed owner objections constitute a majority of property owners.
- This nomination has been funded by the following NPS grant: _____
- Other: _____

Questions concerning this nomination should be addressed to Todd A. Walsh, National Register Coordinator, at (517) 331-8917 or walsht@michigan.gov.

Sincerely yours,

Martha MacFarlane-Faes
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

