

**APPLICATION FOR LOCAL LANDMARK
QUINCY PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

**706 Maine Street, City Hall Annex, Third Floor
Quincy, Illinois 62301 Telephone (217) 228-4514**

Original name (if known) and address of proposed Landmark:

St. Rose of Lima Roman Catholic Church
1009 North 8th Street

Name, Address, and Telephone Number of Property Owner:

Local Contact:

St. Rose of Lima of All Saints Parish Church and Parsonage
1009 North 8th Street
Quincy, IL 62301
(217) 222-2511

Style: Venetian Gothic Revival

Date of Construction: 1911-1912

Architect or Builder: George P. Behrensmeyer

Provide a statement of the historical and architectural significance of the proposed Landmark. Note if building is included in any historic district or survey, or listed on the National Register of Historic Places:

St. Rose of Lima Roman Catholic Church is significant for its architectural design. In addition, it has stood as a prominent landmark on the north side of town for the majority of the 20th century.

Architectural Significance

St. Rose of Lima Roman Catholic Church is a mixture of architectural styles and features, best described as Venetian Gothic Revival. It was designed in 1911 by George Behrensmeyer, a prominent Quincy architect. St. Rose of Lima is aligned East to West with the main entry opening on the East. The interior layout is a cruciform. The pale yellow brick of the church is unusual for Quincy, but it can be found in other Behrensmeyer designs. The foundation is rough cut limestone with a smooth course on top. A smooth cut stone water table wraps the structure below the sills of the first floor windows. Two Bedford stone belt courses run above the first floor elements, one straight course and the other emphasizing the openings. The iron cornices, gutters, and downspouts are decorative and a pale yellow to blend in with the brick.

The east side is the main facade and entry to the church. The central gable is flanked by a tower and baptistry on each side. The top of the gable is marked by a stone cross. The arched stained glass window dominates the upper stories. The five smaller windows on this main section of the facade all have slightly pointed arches, reminiscent of the Gothic style. The castle-like crown over the entry and

corner turret are also references to this period. The entry consists of a double door with a stained glass semicircular window above it. The brick arch indentation and detailing further emphasize the grandeur of the entry. Two small columns on stone bases stand on each side of the entry. The stone foundation is extended out to the steps and provides a base for the lights. In addition to the stone belt courses, stone detail is used around the tops of the brick pointed arches on the first floor windows. On the northeast corner is the Baptistry. It is an octagonal shape with a copper clad dome and finial, another Gothic element. The connection between each side is emphasized by an engaged square column with a decorative brick top and finial. The windows are in the same pointed arch style with stone detailing as the other first story windows.

On the southeast corner, the copper clad dome of the bell tower stands 110 feet above the ground. A gold leaf Celtic cross tops the dome, a reminder of the Irish heritage within the parish. The top is the most decorative portion of the tower with brick detailing and pointed arch vent windows on each side. The finials were removed at some point. The tower is square with small turrets emphasizing the corners. There are only two small pointed arch windows on each side, another Gothic reference. The bottom of the southeast corner of the tower is marked by the cornerstone time capsule, which is inscribed with "St. Rose of Lima Church, Erected 1911" and crosses on the sides. The south side of the tower ends in a single door entry with a semicircular stained glass window. The design of this secondary entry is a smaller version of the main entrance. The entry is crowned by the castle like detailing and emphasized by the large indented brick arch. Single columns on stone pillars stand at each side of the entry.

The south side is a varied facade as it includes the tower, the side of the interior cruciform layout, the end of the side branch of the cross and the side of the rear "top" cross form. The projected gable facade is at the end of the side branch of the cruciform layout. It is dominated by a large arched stained glass window. Stone belt courses add the only detailing, and a basement window cuts into the foundation. The east side of this projected section has an arched stained glass window. "Buttress arch columns" mark each side of the gable. These consist of an engaged square brick column, stone buttress detailing, a decorative top column connected to the building by a brick arch, and a finial on top. The area between the gable and the bell tower is the side of the cruciform layout. It is divided into three sections with a stained glass arch window in each area. The center section is emphasized by a small gable top and rose window extended the top of the arch. Buttress arch columns create actual dividers between the areas. The east section has a lower enclosed area with three small decorative windows. On the west side of the large gable is a small entry into the "front" of the interior church, a small version of the side entry into the bell tower. A stone cross tops the center of the entry area. The side of one of the one story extensions from the top of the cruciform layout is visible on this facade also. It also has an arched stained glass window and a basement window.

The west side (rear of the exterior, front of the interior) consists of the top of the interior cruciform layout with a one story wing on each side. The cruciform ends in a round bay divided into 12 segments on the second story. Each of these sections has a pointed arch window with brick detailing above the arch. The divisions are marked by engaged brick columns. The first story under the turret is a three sided bay with zipper corners and the same style of windows. A basement window exists on each of the three sides and in the north wing. The north wing has one arch window, and the south wing has two arch windows with the same detailing as exists on the other windows on this side. The south wing also has steps down to a basement entry.

The north side of the church is the mirror image of the south side with a few different elements. The large gable and arched stained glass window mark the end of this side branch of interior cruciform layout. The Baptistry stands at the east end of the facade (instead of the bell tower). The area between

the gable and Baptistry is divided into the three same divisions as the area on the south side. The style and arrangement of the windows is also the same, and buttress arch columns divide the spaces. There is an additional buttress arch column just before the Baptistry at the edge of the last of the three sections. To the west of the gable is the area that differs the most. There is another single door entry in a buttress like facade with a stone cross above the door. The end of this facade is marked by an engaged column with a finial. The north side of the one story rear wing has a pointed arch window with the same detailing as the windows on the west side. There are basement windows in the large gable section and the rear wing.

Prominent Landmark – History of the Church

For over a century, the St. Rose of Lima of All Saints Parish has served the Catholics of Quincy's north side. The current structure is the second building to serve this parish, which was founded by Father John Brennan. In 1892, the first church was built at the northwest corner of 8th and Cherry. The first floor of this building served the church as a school, and the second floor (auditorium) was the worship area. This was the sixth parish to be established in Quincy. It specifically was intended to serve the north end English speaking Irish Catholics. The parish at 10th and Cedar conducted all sermons in German, so many parishioners traveled to the English parish at Eighth and Maine. Thus, there was and still remains a large sense of Irish heritage within the congregation. St. Rose of Lima was canonized in 1621 as the first American native to achieve sainthood. A rectory was built north of the church in 1896.

As the parish grew larger year by year, the parish determined they needed a larger building. On May 7, 1911, they held the cornerstone laying ceremony, complete with Catholic parade and three to five thousand spectators. A time capsule with mementos of the day was sealed within the cornerstone. On June 2, 1912, the church celebrated the High Mass of Dedication. Several important community and Catholic leaders were present, including the architect, George Behrensmeyer, a close friend of Father Brennan, who received many compliments on his design. The organ, installed at this time, is now the only one of its kind left in Quincy. It is a 1912 Wicks Number 56, a 16 rank tubular-pneumatic with 914 pipes.

In 1939 a new rectory was built next to this new building, and the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood moved into the old rectory. The school, conveniently located next to the rectory in the original church/school building, continued to operate until 1969. At this time, the Sisters left the parish and the school closed. Though the rectory continues to stand, the original church building was demolished the year after the school closed.

For 89 years, the current building for St. Rose of Lima of All Saints Parish has stood as a prominent landmark at the corner of Chestnut and 8th Street. It has served an increasingly diversified congregation, drawing from the changing demographics of the surrounding neighborhood as well as other areas of town where members of the congregation have moved. A prominent structure built on a high elevation, it is well known in the neighborhood and throughout Quincy.

List the significant exterior architectural features of the building. Include photographs of building facade for proposed Landmark:

- * pale yellow brick construction
- * rough cut stone foundation with smooth top course
- * smooth stone water table
- * stone belt courses
- * pointed arch windows

- * arch windows
- * metal gutters and decorative drainspouts
- * buttress arch columns
- * three large arch stained glass windows
- * sets of three arch stained glass windows on the sides, center with rose window top
- * main east entry - double doors, brick arch, castle detailing, columns, stone base, stained glass
- * side entries - single door, brick arches, castle detailing, columns, stone crosses, stained glass
- * basement windows
- * bell tower - southeast corner
- * Celtic gold cross
- * Baptistry - northeast corner
- * stone detailing around first story windows on east side
- * brick detailing around windows on west side
- * engaged brick columns
- * finials

Why do you think this property merits designation? Check appropriate item(s):

Architecture Persons Event(s) Prominent Landmark
 Historical Unusual Use Other _____

Is owner aware of this application? Yes No

Does owner consent to this designation? Yes No Don't know

Legal Description:

Tillson Survey
Block 5
Lots 5, 6, 7, 8

Bibliography:

- Landrum, Carl. "The founding of St. Rose parish." Quincy Herald-Whig.
- Recorder of Deeds. Adams County Courthouse.
- "St. Rose parish celebrating 100 years," Quincy Herald-Whig, March 14, 1992.
- "St. Rose parish to celebrate 100th year," Quincy Herald-Whig, December 27, 1990.
- "St. Rose of Lima," Quincy Whig, August 21, 1892.
- "St. Rose of Lima Roman Catholic Church," Church Files. Gardner Museum of Architecture and Design.

Welcome to St. Rose of Lima Church. Interior tour and historic information.

Signature of Applicant **Date**

Applicant's Name: Becky Lawin
Preservation Intern, City of Quincy
Mailing Address: Quincy Preservation Commission
706 Maine Street
City Hall Annex, 3rd Floor
Telephone Number: (217) 221-3663

OFFICE USE ONLY: _____

Filed at Quincy Preservation Commission Office **Date** 7-21-99

Preservation Commission Preliminary Review **Approved** **Disapproved** **Date** 8-3-99

Meeting with Property Owner **Date**

Public Hearing **Date** 8/31/99

Preservation Commission Decision on Recommendation to Designate **Approved** **Disapproved** **Date** 10/5/99

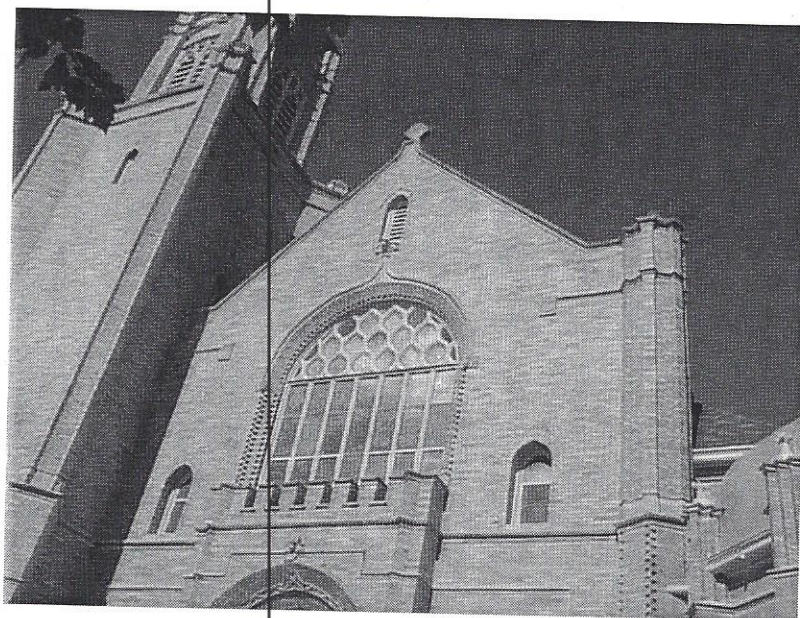
City Council Decision on Designation by Ordinance **Approved** **Disapproved** **Date**

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St. Rose of Lima Roman Catholic Church - 1009 North 8th Street

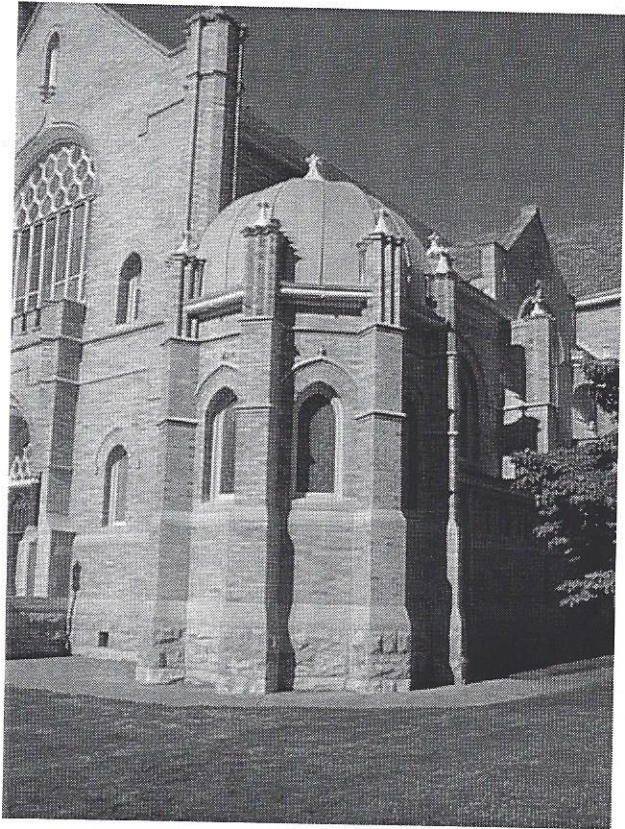


East facade - main gable in center, southeast bell tower, northeast Baptistry, pale yellow brick, rough cut stone foundation with smooth top course, stone belt course



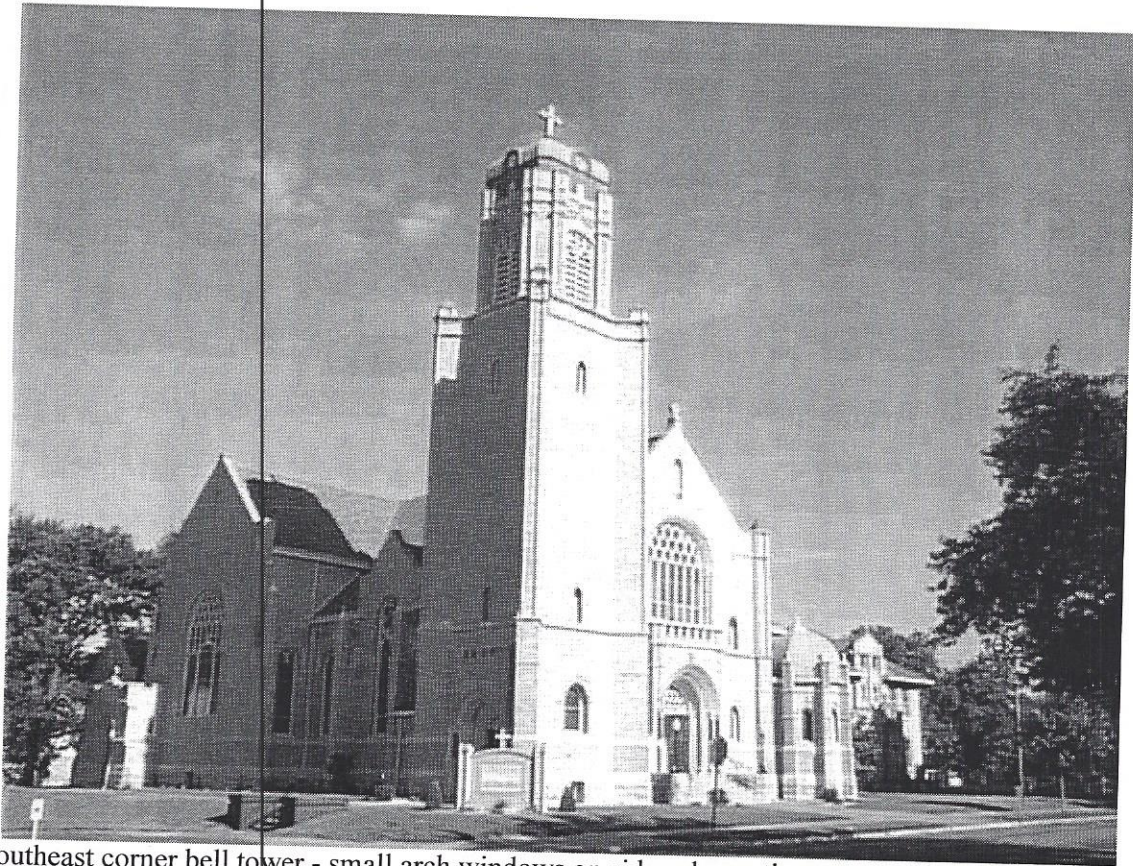
large east gable - stained glass arch window with stone details, small pointed arch windows, corner turret, stone cross

Northeast corner Bapistry -
copper dome with finial,
engaged brick columns with
decorative tops and finials



Main east entry - double doors, brick arch
indentation detail, stone detailing, stone
base, columns, foundation light supports





Southeast corner bell tower - small arch windows on sides, decorative top, south entry, gold cross

top of bell tower - brick detailing, side vent windows, corner turrets

inscribed cornerstone time capsule

