

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

1503

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 How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name West Vernor/Junction Historic District

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number W. Vernor Hwy. between Lansing & Cavalry not for publication N/A
city or town Detroit vicinity N/A
state Michigan code MI county Wayne code 163
zip code 48209

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

P. J. [Signature] Signature of certifying official 10/22/02 Date

MI SHPO State or Federal agency and bureau

Property: West Vernor/Junction Historic District, Wayne Co., MI

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. ___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

=====
4. National Park Service Certification
=====

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- ___ entered in the National Register _____
___ See continuation sheet.
- ___ determined eligible for the National Register _____
___ See continuation sheet.
- ___ determined not eligible for the National Register _____
- ___ removed from the National Register _____
- ___ other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper Date of Action

=====
5. Classification
=====

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- ___ public-local
- ___ public-State
- ___ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u> 44 </u>	<u> 12 </u> buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
<u> 44 </u>	<u> 12 </u> Total

Property: West Vernor/Junction Historic District, Wayne Co., MI

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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

West Vernor Highway Survey Area

=====
6. Function or Use
=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Commerce/Trade Sub: specialty store
business
financial institution
restaurant
Religion religious facility
church school
church-related residence
Recreation/Culture theater

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Commerce/Trade Sub: specialty store
business
restaurant
financial institution
Religion religious facility
church school
church-related residence

=====
7. Description
=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Commercial Style
Art Deco
Other: Neo-Romanesque

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete
roof Asphalt
walls Brick
Stone
other Terra Cotta

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST VERNOR-JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT, Wayne County, Michigan

Section 7 Page 1

7. Narrative Description

The West Vernor/Junction Historic District is a four block commercial area that lies along West Vernor Highway surrounding its intersection with Junction Avenue in southwest Detroit. West Vernor Highway at Junction Avenue is comprised of a long stretch of late nineteenth and early twentieth-century two-story commercial buildings that form a visually diverse streetscape. The southwest corner of the intersection contains the massive parish complex of Holy Redeemer Catholic Church. This Neo-Romanesque church, rectory, schools and other buildings are the district's visual focal point. The commercial blocks of the district contain a mixture of two-story wood frame and brick commercial buildings that have storefront space on the first floor and residential/office space on the second floor. The buildings are uniformly set back from the street and these facades form an almost unbroken wall of storefronts. The blocks east of Junction Avenue are older in appearance with many of the commercial buildings built in the 1890's. The blocks west of Junction Avenue have many buildings constructed in the 1900's and 1910's. Many of the buildings have been modernized with new siding added to the facades. Some of the key buildings which provide visual interest include the two limestone-clad former bank buildings diagonally opposite one another at the West Vernor/Junction intersection; the six-bay Marantette Furniture building; the three Late Victorian stone-trimmed brick buildings at 4313-27 W. Vernor and the Late Victorian brick building at 5426-28 W. Vernor.

West Vernor Highway is a busy two-lane thoroughfare that runs from Michigan Avenue and the Michigan Central Railroad Station on the east to the Detroit city limits and the city of Dearborn on the west. The district is located at the intersection of West Vernor Highway and Junction Avenue in the heart of a predominantly Hispanic neighborhood. This intersection has a high concentration of commercial buildings with substantial pedestrian and vehicular traffic. The district begins on the south side of West Vernor in the middle of the 4700 block between Lansing and Ferdinand. It ends on the south side of West Vernor in the middle of the 5800 block between Cavalry and Campbell.

This district contains several wood two-story commercial buildings that date from the 1880's and 1890's. Few early wood commercial buildings survive in the city. These buildings and other examples along West Vernor Highway constitute unusual survivors in Detroit, whose explosive early twentieth-century growth, and late twentieth-century economic problems, resulted in the destruction of most other examples.

The eastern section of the district contains two buildings that are visually and architecturally distinct. The former Stratford Theatre with its pink panel façade and Brown's Bun Bakery with its white enameled metal panel façade are excellent examples of the Art Deco style popular in the early 1930's.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST VERNOR-JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT, Wayne County, Michigan

Section 7 Page 2

Narrative Description (continued)

Scattered older commercial buildings exist beyond the boundaries of the historic district but many of the original buildings have been demolished to make way for the construction of new buildings like supermarkets and fast food restaurants.

The district is located in southwest Detroit which was, and still is, one of the state's most important industrial regions. This area contains a wide range of companies that take advantage of access to the riverfront and the major railway lines that crisscross the region. The West Vernor/Junction Historic District lies just to the southeast of the Michigan Central Railroad yards. It is also located just one-half mile west of Fort Street and one mile west of the Detroit River near many terminals, industries and warehouses.

The neighborhood surrounding the West Vernor Highway/Junction district is comprised of a variety of single-family and two-family residences built by the working class immigrants who settled in the area. The earliest subdivisions of wood frame houses of the 1880's and 1890's are located in the blocks that lie closest to West Vernor Highway just east of Junction Avenue. These homes are comprised of one-story workers' cottages and two-story gable-front houses. As the subdivisions later developed further north and south of West Vernor Highway and to the west of Junction Avenue, the architectural style of the houses changes to bungalows and the traditional square two-story, two-family house of the early 1900's. Brick houses, built as the area developed and prospered, are scattered throughout the neighborhood. A few rowhouses and small two-story apartment buildings can be found on many side streets, a result of the explosive population growth in the area during the 1910's and 1920's. These residential neighborhoods have not been surveyed. It is likely that some of these areas also meet the national register criteria.

List of Buildings - All properties are contributing unless otherwise stated.

1663-65 Morrell. 1926.

Two-story brick, two-family flat, one unit upstairs and one-unit downstairs.

1918-1920 Junction. 1925. Home Construction Company, builder

One-story brick and tile commercial building.

4737-39 West Vernor. 1914

Two-story brick: storefront below, residential upstairs; bay window in front under a simple denticulated cornice; stone nameplate.

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST VERNOR-JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT, Wayne County, Michigan
Section 7 Page 2

Narrative Description (continued)

4743-47 West Vernor. 1905. Fred Weldecher, builder
Two-story wood frame/Commercial Brick; façade added c. 1920's, storefront below, residential upstairs.

4751-55 West Vernor. STRATFORD THEATER. 1915.
(Now a church - Metropolitan World Outreach)
Joseph P. Jogerst, architect for the 1915 building
One-story brick and steel with enameled metal panels/Art Moderne.

4801-05 West Vernor. 1906
Two-story wood frame; storefront below, residential above.

4811-13 West Vernor (Non-contributing)
One-story brick; addition to adjacent building at 4817-21.

4817-21 West Vernor. BROWN'S BUN BAKERY. 1936
One-story brick Moderne commercial building with enameled metal panels.

4827-37 West Vernor (Non-contributing)
One and two-story brick; modern addition to adjacent building at 4817-21.

4857 West Vernor. THE SCHNEIDER BUILDING. 1922
Two-story/Commercial Brick; storefront below, residential above; stone belt cornice and nameplate.

5403-05 West Vernor. 1894
Two-story wood frame; storefront below, residential above.

5407-11 West Vernor. 1929
Two-story brick; storefront below, residential above; second floor steel casement windows.

5408-10 West Vernor
Two-story brick; storefront below, residential above; bay window in front.

5413-27 West Vernor. 1891. C. Hamel, builder
Two-story brick/Late Victorian; four storefronts below, residential above; corbelled brick cornice.

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST VERNOR-JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT, Wayne County, Michigan
Section 7 Page 3

Narrative Description (continued)

5414-16 West Vernor. (Non-contributing)

One story commercial building. Façade has been altered with no trace of original design.

5418-20 West Vernor. 1902. B. Graham, builder

Two-story wood frame; storefront below, residential above; second floor casement windows.

5426-28 West Vernor. 1891

Two-story brick/Late Victorian; storefront lower, residential above; prominent corbelled cornice, terra cotta square plaques, egg and dart trim around sunken panels in brickwork, horizontal rock-face stone bands.

5436-38 West Vernor. 1891. Henderson & Miller, builder

Two-story wood frame; storefront below, residential above.

5442-44 West Vernor. 1891/ D. L. Barr, carpenter

Two-story wood frame; storefront below, residential above.

5445-47 West Vernor

Two-story wood frame; storefront below, residential above.

5446-48 West Vernor

Two-story wood frame; storefront below, residential upstairs; hexagonal wood shingle clad second story.

5449-51 West Vernor. 1904. F. H. Falkenburg, architect. (Non-contributing)

Two-story wood frame/recent brick front; storefront below, residential upstairs.

5452-54 West Vernor. 1901. Goodenow & Gimm, builders

Two-story brick commercial building with bay window. Matches brickwork of next building to the south.

5455-59 West Vernor. DETROIT SAVINGS BANK BUILDING. 1905.

George D. Mason, architect

Two-story limestone-clad temple-front commercial bank building; banking office below, office space upstairs.

5456-58 West Vernor. DULY'S RESTAURANT.

Two-story corner brick; storefront below, residential upstairs; bay window in front, arched

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST VERNOR-JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT, Wayne County, Michigan
Section 7 Page 4

Narrative Description (continued)

windows on side elevation. The restaurant, operating since 1921, appeared in the movie "The Rosary Murders," filmed in Detroit.

5602 West Vernor. PENINSULAR STATE BANK BUILDING. 1916.
C. F. Barnes, architect
Two-story Classical Revival brick commercial bank building.

5608-14 West Vernor. 1911. D. Morrison, builder.
Two-story brick; storefront below, residential above; gabled peaks across parapet.

5614-16 West Vernor. 1915.
Two-story brick with ashlar stone façade covered in board and metal siding; storefront below, residential above; cross gables on façade.

5620-22 West Vernor. 1906. Charles H. Woehl, builder
Two-story brick; storefront below, residential above; cornice with running arches

5626-28 West Vernor. 1909. Finlay & Morehouse, builders
Two story Commercial Brick; storefront below, residential upstairs; bracketed hood over bay window under cornice with block modillions.

5630-32 West Vernor. 1912. H. Angell, architect
Two-story brick; storefront below, residential upstairs.

5636-40 West Vernor. 1910. D. Morrison, builder
Two-story Commercial Brick; storefront below, residential upstairs; bracketed metal hood cornice with dentils.

5656-58 West Vernor. 1912. D. Morrison, builder
MARENTETTE BROTHERS FURNITURE
Two-story Commercial Brick; storefront below, residential above; sets of triple windows under bracketed metal cornice.

HOLY REDEEMER ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH COMPLEX

5663 West Vernor. 1923. Donaldson & Meier, architect
Large cross gable Romanesque style brick, limestone church building; tiled copper clad domes, inset Pewabic tile work.

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST VERNOR-JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT, Wayne County, Michigan

Section 7 Page 5

Narrative Description (continued)

5669 West Vernor.

Two-story gabled brick monastery building; carved limestone door surround.

5671 West Vernor. Donaldson & Meier.

Three-story Collegiate Gothic brick school building; carved limestone sopraporta.

5675 West Vernor. 1928. Donaldson & Meier

Two and one-half story hip roof brick school building; limestone door surround with egg and dart composite columns.

1721 Junction

One-story brick powerhouse for church complex; side gable roof with stepped parapets.

5693 West Vernor. 1939

Three-story Italian Romanesque brick convent; carved limestone window surrounds.

5677-79 West Vernor. 1928. Donaldson & Meier

One-story Romanesque style brick school gymnasium building; carved limestone door surrounds.

5662 West Vernor. 1939. Fred J. Sattler, builder (Non-contributing)

One-story concrete block commercial building. Façade has been altered with no trace of original design.

5676-78 West Vernor. 1905. Hugh Finlay, builder

Two-story brick; storefront below, residential above.

5680-82 West Vernor. 1905. Charles J. Wallich, builder (Non-contributing)

Two-story brick commercial building; storefront below, residential upstairs. Façade has been altered with addition of brick and aluminum siding.

5686-88 West Vernor. 1904 (Non-contributing)

Two-story brick commercial building; storefront below, residential upstairs. Façade has been altered with addition of brick and aluminum siding.

5695 West Vernor. 1917.

Two-story hip roof brick dwelling; arched dormer, full-width one-story front porch.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST VERNOR-JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT, Wayne County, Michigan

Section 7 Page 7

Narrative Description (continued)

5696-98 West Vernor. 1902. A. C. Varney & Company, architect

Two-story brick; multiple storefronts below, residential upstairs; two bay windows on front; denticulated brick cornice.

5700-08 West Vernor. 1930

One-story brick commercial building; Spanish Colonial revival influenced with imitation tile pent roof, carved plaster relief. The first tenant was the Kroger Grocery and Baking Company.

5701-05 West Vernor. 1915. D. Morrison, builder

Two-story corner brick; storefront below, residential upstairs; bay windows on front and side elevation.

5801-05 West Vernor. 1894

Two-story wood frame; storefront below, residential upstairs; carved wood pediment at roofline above recessed space between bay windows.

5809-11 West Vernor. 1949 (Non-contributing)

One-story masonry commercial building, modern facade.

5815-17 West Vernor. 1906 (Non-contributing)

Two-story wood frame commercial building; storefront below, residential upstairs. Façade has been altered with addition of fake stone siding.

5821-23 West Vernor. 1906. Henry V. Grand, carpenter (Non-contributing)

Two-story wood frame commercial building; storefront below, residential upstairs. Façade has been altered with addition of fake stone siding.

5827-29 West Vernor. 1905. Hamberdt & Cole, builders (Non-contributing)

Two-story wood frame/brick veneer commercial building; storefront below, residential upstairs. Façade has been altered with addition of new brick veneer siding.

5831-35 West Vernor. 1906. Hugh Finlay, contractor (Non-contributing)

Two-story brick commercial building. Façade has been modernized and front windows filled in with wood paneling.

5837-39 West Vernor. 1925

Two-story brick; storefront below, residential upstairs; glazed brick façade.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST VERNOR-JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT, Wayne County, Michigan
Section 7, 8 Page 8

Narrative Description (continued)

5841-43 West Vernor. 1906. McEnhill Brothers, builder
Two-story brick; storefront below, residential upstairs.

Section 8. Statement of Significance

The West Vernor/Junction Historic District has served as the commercial hub for a large area of southwest Detroit since the 1870s and 1880s when this part of Detroit began to develop and retains commercial buildings dating back at least to the 1890s. The district's late nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial architecture reflects a broad range of architectural styles and building forms characteristic of neighborhood commercial areas in Detroit and Michigan. Because of the location at the intersection of West Vernor and Junction Avenue, an important cross street that provides a direct connection with other major Detroit arteries and with industries located along the nearby railroads, the district became the site of some of the neighborhood's leading commercial businesses, banks, and theaters. It is also the home of one of Detroit's and Michigan's largest Catholic parishes, Holy Redeemer. The Holy Redeemer complex is one of the largest historic parish complexes in Michigan with architecturally distinguished early twentieth century buildings designed by the prominent Detroit architectural firm, Donaldson and Meier.

During the 1860's and 1870's this area was a quiet farming community in Springwells Township. At this time West Vernor Highway was known as Dix Road. The farmland was eventually divided into three large and many smaller subdivisions. Among the main subdivisions were the Walter Grant Farm Sub, the Daniel Scotten Sub and the H.M. Duffield Sub. The area was annexed by the City of Detroit in 1885.

In 1880, Father Aegidius Smulders of the Redemptorist Order arrived in Detroit and was assigned the task of organizing the scattered Irish and German Catholics living in the area by Bishop Caspar Borgess. After temporarily renting space at Paddy McMahon's Saloon, Father Smulders purchased four acres on the southwest corner of Dix and Lovers' Lane (now Junction) from Eli Barkume. By 1881, the 75 by 40 foot wood frame church, with a two story rectory, was built. The church would later be one of the catalysts for the development of the district.

The area became an early commercial center for Detroit's southwest side due to many factors: 1) Its location at the intersection of Dix and Junction with its link to the Baker streetcar line, 2) its setting near the "junction" of two key railroad lines, the Michigan Central and Grand Trunk, which led to large-scale industrial development including the Michigan Car Company which employed over 6000 workers by the 1890's, 3) the influx of German and Irish immigrants to the

Property: West Vernor/Junction Historic District, Wayne Co., MI

=====
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 a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

- Architecture _____
- Commerce _____
- Ethnic Heritage _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Period of Significance 1880-1953

Property: West Vernor/Junction Historic District, Wayne Co., MI

Significant Dates _____

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
___N/A_____

Cultural Affiliation ___N/A_____

Architect/Builder ___Joseph P. Jogerst; Donaldson & Meier
___Harry S. Angell; Almon C. Varney_

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

=====

9. Major Bibliographical References

=====

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

- Previous documentation on file (NPS) None
- ___ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- ___ previously listed in the National Register
- ___ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ___ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ___ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

- Primary Location of Additional Data
- State Historic Preservation Office
 - ___ Other State agency
 - ___ Federal agency
 - ___ Local government
 - ___ University
 - ___ Other

Name of repository: _____

=====

10. Geographical Data

=====

Acreage of Property ___16_____

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	17	326800	4687100	3	17	326750 4686750
2	17	327050	4687070	4	17	326530 4686860
___	See continuation sheet.					

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST VERNOR-JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT, Wayne County, Michigan

Section 8 Page 9

Significance Statement (continued)

area and 4) the construction of Holy Redeemer.

The district is significant in German and Irish ethnic history as this area became the center of large residential communities populated by immigrants drawn by the nearby industrial sites. Many of the commercial buildings established along West Vernor were owned by businessmen of German and Irish heritage. Research conducted during the survey uncovered the names of many shop owners and proprietors such as Henry Diegel (grocer) at 5456-58 W. Vernor, John Peters (Peters Sausage Company) at 5452-54 W. Vernor, Gustavus T. Kast (druggist) at 5620-22 W. Vernor, William F. Hackett (funeral director) at 5614-16 W. Vernor and August Bauer (baker) at 5696-5698 W. Vernor.

The history of Holy Redeemer Parish also reflects the significance of the Irish and German heritage in the area. With the incredible influx of immigrants to the surrounding neighborhood, the church grew rapidly, adding new school and parish structures and rebuilding the main church building. The existing massive parish complex consisting of the church and monastery (1923), the auditorium (date unknown), the school (1928), the gymnasium (1928), the convent (1939) and the powerhouse (date unknown) dominates the intersection of West Vernor and Junction.

The West Vernor/Junction district is an important collection of buildings representing the development of commercial architecture in the city of Detroit. A number of wood frame commercial buildings dating from the 1890's survive along this section of Vernor that represent the end of the district's early period of development. These two-story buildings reflect the early commercial architectural styles with the business located in a storefront on the first floor and the owner living in residential space on the second floor. Groceries, meat markets, confectioneries and dry goods were among the many stores built on Dix Road in the 1880's and 1890's. Although many of these buildings have been altered and no longer retain high integrity, they are important to the district because of their age among the area's and city's neighborhood commercial building stock and it is hoped that their inclusion may encourage future rehabilitation more sensitive to historic values. The buildings are also important to Detroit since there are few, if any, other areas in the city that have such a concentration of wood commercial structures from this period. The district also contains a few brick commercial buildings constructed during the early 1890s including the former saloon at 5426-5428 W. Vernor and the multiple storefront building at 5413-5417 W. Vernor. These early brick commercial buildings have maintained their visual integrity and together with the wood commercial structures are important examples of the commercial architectural styles of the era.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST VERNOR-JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT, Wayne County, Michigan

Section 8 Page 10

Significance Statement (continued)

The district is also important because it contains a fine concentration of early twentieth century commercial buildings that reflect the growth and intensive land uses of this period when the community's development was proceeding at its most rapid pace due to the construction of the Ford Rouge Plant and other industries. The commercial buildings of this period are typically two-story brick structures with multiple storefronts on the first level and residential space on the second level. Many of these buildings are good examples of the "Commercial Brick" style popular during this period. Although the majority of the storefronts have been altered to reflect current retail trends, the buildings retain much of their original commercial appearance with most of the upper façades being unaltered. Good examples include the building at 5636-40 W. Vernor and the former Marentette Brothers Furniture Building at 5656-58 W. Vernor. The district also contains many buildings which represent various styles of commercial architecture from the 1920's and 1930's. The two bank buildings located at the intersection of West Vernor and Junction (5455-5459 W. Vernor and 5602 W. Vernor) are good examples of the Neo-Classical style popular for financial institutions after the turn of the century. The one-story Spanish Colonial Revival style building at 5700-5708 W. Vernor occupied by the Kroger Grocery and Baking Company is an excellent example of the commercial design transition from storefront grocery store to early supermarket during the 1930's. Brown's Bun Bakery at 4817-4821 W. Vernor and the former Stratford Theatre at 4751-55 W. Vernor reflect the trend toward the Art Moderne style of the 1930's.

The commercial buildings in the West Vernor/Junction district are typical of neighborhood commercial buildings in Detroit, but the area is one of the few districts that has survived the economic problems that have fallen upon Detroit's other neighborhood commercial districts. The only commercial districts existing from this time period within the city that can compare in visual integrity and commercial stability are the commercial district located at West Vernor and Springwells (included in the study area), and the commercial area on Joseph Campau between Holbrook and Caniff in the city of Hamtramck (located within the city limits of Detroit).

The huge Holy Redeemer complex at the intersection of Junction and West Vernor dominates the district and is visually significant from the standpoint of a prominent religious edifice and its established identity in the area. The complex has many buildings of various architectural styles including the massive Neo-Romanesque basilica-looking church, monastery, school, gymnasium and convent and the Late Gothic Revival auditorium. Most of the buildings were designed by Donaldson and Meier, Michigan's leading architects of Catholic churches in the early twentieth century.

Today West Vernor Highway remains a major local transportation route through the neighborhoods of southwest Detroit. The West Vernor/Junction district is still a popular, viable

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST VERNOR-JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT, Wayne County, Michigan
Section 8, 9 Page 11

Significance Statement (continued)

commercial thoroughfare which is establishing a new chapter in its history of ethnic heritage. The district has become the center of a growing Hispanic population with Holy Redeemer Parish as the focal point of the Hispanic community. West Vernor Highway is now the location of many Hispanic restaurants, bakeries, supermarkets and retail stores, with a growing identity throughout the city.

Section 9. Major Bibliographical References

Baist, G. Baist's Real Estate Atlas, Philadelphia: Baist Publishing, 1896, 1906, 1915, 1918, 1923, 1929.

Belden, H., Atlas of Wayne County, 1876.

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church, 100th Anniversary, 1887-1987.

City of Detroit Buildings and Safety Engineering Department, Building Permits Card Index, 1908-present.

Farmer, Silas, The History of Detroit, Wayne County, and Michigan, reprinted, Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1969.

Feinstein, Otto, Conference on Ethnic Communities of Greater Detroit, Detroit, Monteith College, Wayne State University, 1970.

Godzak, Roman, Make Straight The Path, A 300 Year Pilgrimage, Archdiocese of Detroit, Editions du Signe, 2000.

Klug, Thomas, Railway Cars, Bricks, and Salt: The Industrial History of Southwest Detroit Before Auto, paper presented at a conference on Southwest Detroit's Social History, 1999.

Longstreth, Richard, The Buildings of Main Street, A Guide to American Commercial Architecture, AltaMira Press, 1987.

LoPorto, Christine, Transportation Systems in Southwest Detroit, paper presented at a conference on Southwest Detroit's Social History, 1999.

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST VERNOR-JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT, Wayne County, Michigan
Section 9 Page 12

Bibliography (continued)

Morrison, Andrew Craig, Opera House, Nickel Show and Palace, An Illustrated Inventory of Theater Buildings in the Detroit Area, Greenfield Village & Henry Ford Museum, 1974.

Pare, George, The Catholic Church In Detroit, 1701-1888, Detroit, The Gabriel Richard Press, 1951.

Polk, R.L., Detroit City Directory, Detroit: R.L. Polk Publishing, 1883-1974.

Robinson, E., Atlas of City of Detroit, New York: E. Robinson, 1885.

Schramm, Jack E., and Henning, William H., Detroit Street Railways: Volume 1, 1863-1922, and Volume 2, 1922-1956, Chicago: Central Electric Railfans' Association, Bulletin 177 and 120, 1978.

Skendzel, Eduard Adam, Detroit's Pioneer Mexicans, A Historical Study of the Mexican Colony in Detroit, Grand Rapids, Littlefield Press, 1980.

Smith, Mike, The Automobile Industry in Southwest Detroit, paper presented at a conference on Southwest Detroit's Social History, 1999.

The Lutheran Churches of Southwest Detroit, booklet presented during historic tour, 1999.

Wayne County Register of Deeds, Tract Index.

Weeks, J.W., Detroit City Directory, Detroit, J.W. Weeks Publishing, 1873-82.

Zunz, Olivier, The Changing Face of Inequality, Urbanization, Industrial Development and Immigrants in Detroit, 1880-1920, The University of Chicago Press, 1982.

Property: West Vernor/Junction Historic District, Wayne Co., MI

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

=====
11. Form Prepared By
=====

name/title_Marilyn Florek_____

organization_Cornerstone Building Company_____ date_September 2002_____

street & number_1761 West Forest Avenue_____ telephone_313/832-4200_____

city or town_Detroit_____ state_MI_ zip code_48208_____

=====
Additional Documentation
=====

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage

or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

=====
Property Owner
=====

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

name _____

street & number_____ telephone_____

city or town_____ state_____ zip code _____

=====

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST VERNOR-JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT, Wayne County, Michigan
Section 10 Page 13

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at a point on the centerline of West Vernor in line with the East line of 4737-39 West Vernor, thence South along the East line of 4737-39 West Vernor; thence West along the South line of lots fronting on the South side of West Vernor to the centerline of Junction; thence South along the centerline of Junction to Eldred Street; thence West along the centerline of Eldred Street to the Southwest corner of Holy Redeemer Church property; thence North along the West line of said church property to the South line of lots fronting on West Vernor's South side; thence West along said line to 5841-43 West Vernor; thence North along the West line of 5841-43 West Vernor to the centerline of West Vernor; thence East along the centerline of West Vernor to the centerline of Campbell; thence North along the centerline of Campbell to the North line of lots fronting on the North side of West Vernor; thence East along the said line to the centerline of Junction; thence North along Junction to the Northwest corner of 1918-20 Junction; thence East along the North lot line of 1918-20 Junction and the North line of lots fronting on the North side of West Vernor to the alley along the East line of said lots; thence South along the said alley to the junction of said alley with the north line of lots fronting on the North side of West Vernor; thence East along said alley to the centerline of Morrell; thence South along the centerline of Morrell to the centerline of West Vernor; thence East along the centerline of West Vernor back to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries have been determined by the concentration of commercial buildings along both sides of West Vernor Highway on either end of the intersection of West Vernor Highway and Junction Avenue.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Photographs

West Vernor/Junction
Historic District

Page

Wayne County, MI

Photographer: Marilyn Florek

Date: February 2002

Negs: Southwest Housing Corp., 1700 Waterman St., Detroit, MI 48209-2095

1. Holy Redeemer Church, E and N facades.
2. Holy Redeemer Complex, N and W facades.
3. NE corner of Vernor and Junction Ave., facing NE.
4. Looking E on Vernor from Junction Ave.
5. N side Vernor facing WSW towards Junction Ave.
6. Vernor/Junction intersection facing W on Vernor.
7. N side Vernor at Junction facing WNW.
8. 5620-6540 W. Vernor facing WSW.
9. 5656-58 W. Vernor, N façade.
10. 5700-5708 W. Vernor, S and E facades.
11. 4751-4755 W. Vernor, N facade.
12. 4817-4821 W. Vernor, N facade.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: West Vernor--Junction Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME: West Vernor Highway Survey Area, Detroit, Michigan MPS

STATE & COUNTY: MICHIGAN, Wayne

DATE RECEIVED: 11/01/02 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/22/02
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 12/08/02 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/16/02
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 02001503

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 12/12/02 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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



#1 HOLY REDEEMER CHURCH
W. VERMOR / JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT
DETROIT, WAYNE COUNTY, MI.



#2 HOLY REDEEMER CHURCH
W. VERBOR / JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT
DETROIT, WAYNE COUNTY, MI.



WE CASH
WELFARE INSURANCE DRAFTS
PAYROLL SOCIAL SECURITY
INCOME TAX REFUNDS ADD



WESTERN UNION
The American Way

MORE

DUNN'S Place
CONY ISLAND
LUNCH

WEST

WEST

'02 2 25

3 NE CORNER - W. VERNOR + JUNCTION

W. VERNOR | JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT

DETROIT, WAYNE COUNTY, MI.



PALENOUE
RESTAURANT

RHR'S
BAR

COLOMBO'S
RESTAURANT
CONEY ISLAND

BEER-WINE

SPEED
LIMIT
25

'02 2 25

#4 View Looking EAST ON W. VERBOR
FROM JUNCTION AVE,
W. VERBOR / JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT
DETROIT, WAYNE COUNTY, MI.

THE TOWN CLOTHING
5409 *Hambro, Moore, Tennyson*

\$ DOLLAR & CENT \$

BUY PRODUCTS PAPER PRODUCTS FINE FOOD BUTCHER PRODUCTS

INCO TAX

'02 2 25

5 VIEW LOOKING WEST ON W. VERNOR
TOWARD JUNCTION AVE.

W. VERNOR | JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT
DETROIT, WAYNE COUNTY, MI.



'02 2 25

6 INTERSECTION OF W. VERBOR + JUNCTION

VIEW FACING WEST

W. VERBOR / JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT

DETROIT, WAYNE COUNTY, MI.



'02 2 25

#7 NW CORNER - W. VERBOR + JUNCTION
W. VERBOR | JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT
DETROIT, WAYNE COUNTY, MI



ARRY

LITHO - LITHING -
SAFETY - GATE - TOP

LAW
OFFICE

B.B.W.
SHIRTMAKING

L. H. J.
LINEN WEAR
& SHIRT MAKING

Plymouth
Shoe
Emporium

#8

5620 - 5640 W. VERNOR

W. VERNOR / JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT

DETROIT, WAYNE COUNTY, MI.

NO PARKING
IN FRONT OF
THIS BUILDING
DURING
EMERGENCY

PH 843-0483
5656

NICE PRICE

CO. CASH & CARRY

5656

AM - DOPPLERS
- X RAYS
DCARDIOGRAMA



#9

5656-58 W. VENDOR

W. VENDOR / JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT

DETROIT, WAYNE COUNTY, MI.



DISCOUNT AUTO PARTS

BUMPER - TO - BUMPER

BUMPER
TO
BUMPER

Bi-Rite
Auto

DISCOUNT
AUTO

Bi-Rite
Auto

BUMPER - TO - BUMPER

BI-RITE
AUTO
SUPPLY

53

'02 2 26

#10 5700-08 W. VERNOR

W. VERNOR / JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT

DETROIT, WAYNE COUNTY, MI.



YEMM'S
COUNTRY WESTERN
BAR

COUNTRY WESTERN

Life
Budweiser

THE WESTERN
MUSIC CENTER

SUNDAY CELEBRATION
SERVICE
10-11AM
AT 2-10 VINEWOOD

NEXTEL Sprint

VINEWOOD

02 2 25

11 4751-55 W. VERDOR

W. VERDOR | JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT
DETROIT, WAYNE COUNTY, MI.

B

BROWN'S BUN BAKERY

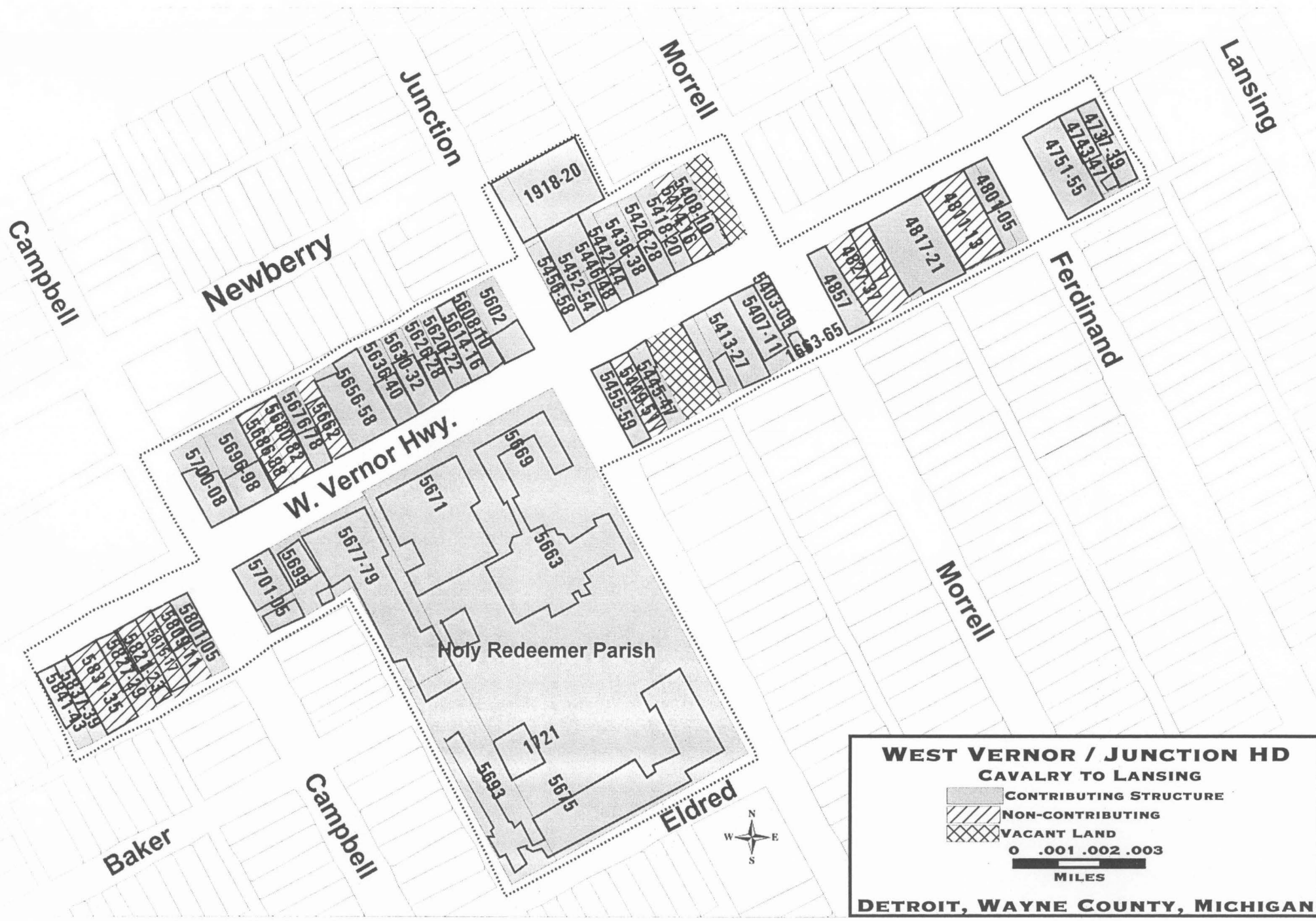
467

'02 2 25




#12 4817-4821 W. VERNOR


W. VERNOR | JUNCTION HISTORIC DISTRICT

DETROIT, WAYNE COUNTY, MI.



WEST VERNOR / JUNCTION HD
CAVALRY TO LANSING

-  CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURE
-  NON-CONTRIBUTING
-  VACANT LAND

0 .001 .002 .003

 MILES

DETROIT, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

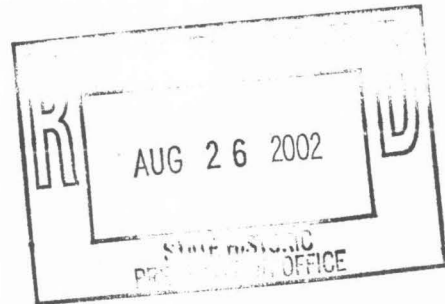
Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500820

**MOST HOLY REDEEMER PARISH
PARROQUIA DEL SANTISIMO REDENTOR
1721 JUNCTION AVENUE DETROIT, MI 4829-2109
(313) 842-3450**

Monday, August 19, 2002

Mr. Robert Christensen
National Register Coordinator
State Historic Preservation office
Michigan Historical Center
717 West Allegan Street
P. O. Box 30740
Lansing, MI 48909-8420



Dear Mr. Christensen:

On behalf of Most Holy Redeemer Parish, I am pleased to endorse the consideration of Holy Redeemer's church properties and schools as part of the West Vernor/Junction Historic District, for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Until now, only the City of Detroit, as part of the "Detroit 300" celebration last year, has recognized Holy Redeemer's influence and impact since its founding on March 17, 1880.

Always a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural community, Holy Redeemer has been since its beginnings a parish at the service of Detroit's recent immigrants. Apart from the historical and architectural importance of its buildings, we are proud of our record of service to the surrounding community and its people. We are always pleased when southwest Detroit's civic, arts and culture groups and public service organizations turn to us for assistance as to a collaborator and friend.

Listing on the National Register will only help us to continue to preserve and improve the facilities which enable us to serve our neighbors, and we are grateful for the opportunities it would provide. While I am unable to attend the September 13 meeting at which this matter will be discussed, I want to state on behalf of the church membership our consent and honor at being nominated.

Sincerely yours,

Father Donald F. Hanchon,
Pastor



State of Michigan
John Engler, Governor

Department of History, Arts and Libraries
Dr. William M. Anderson, Director

State Historic Preservation Office

Michigan Historical Center
717 W. Allegan Street
P.O. Box 30740
Lansing, MI 48909-8240
517/373-1630



October 22, 2002

Ms. Carol D. Shull, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, N. W., 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms Shull:

Enclosed are national register nomination materials for the West Vernor Highway Survey Area in Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan. This submission includes a Multiple Property Documentation Form for the West Vernor Highway Survey area plus three district nominations – as listed below – from within the survey area. The districts are the following:

- West Vernor/Junction Historic District
- West Vernor/Springwells Historic District
- West Vernor/Lawndale Historic District

The city of Detroit is a Certified Local Government. We enclose with each nomination form a copy of the National Register Nomination Review Report form for the nomination providing the city's comments.

The West Vernor Survey Area districts are being submitted for listing in the national register. Written comments concerning any of the nominations submitted to us prior to the submission of these nominations to you are enclosed with the nomination to which they refer.

Questions concerning these nominations may be addressed to Robert O. Christensen, National Register Coordinator, by phone at 517/335-2719 or by e-mail at ChristensenRO@mi.gov.

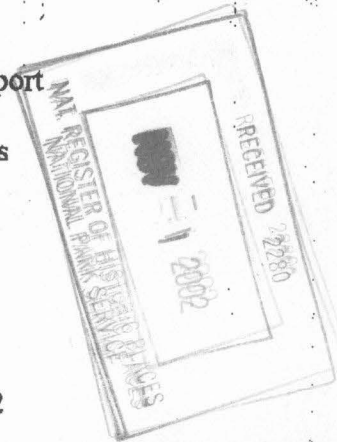
Sincerely yours,


Brian D. Conway
State Historic Preservation Officer

BDC:roc

Certified Local Government
National Register Nomination Review Report

Department of History, Arts & Libraries
Michigan Historical Center
State Historic Preservation Office



Name of Property: West Vernor/Junction Historic District
Address: West Vernor Highway
Owner: Multiple
Date completed nomination approved by the SHPO: August 2, 2002

The CLG agrees with the SHPO to expedite the review period for this nomination.

YES (date of agreement) August 7, 2002 NO

Signature of CLG Commission Chairperson Date 9/12/2002

 Signature of Elected Chief Official Date 10/8/02

Date(s) of commission meeting(s) when nomination was reviewed:
September 12, 2002
Date of written notice to property owner of commission meeting:
August 30, 2002

The CLG provided the following opportunities for public participation in the review of this nomination: The opportunity for public comment was provided at the regular Meeting of the HDAB on September 12, 2002. NR nominations were made available in HDAB offices for review by interested parties.

Were any written comments received by the CLG? YES _____ NO
(Please submit copies with this report.)

Was the nomination form distributed to CLG Commission members? YES NO _____

Was a site visit made to the property by CLG Commission members? YES _____ NO
If yes, when? _____

Did the CLG seek assistance of the Michigan Historical Center in evaluating the eligibility of this property for the National Register? YES _____ NO

VERIFICATION of Professional Qualifications of Commission in accordance with 36 CFR 61, Appendix I, of Michigan's Certified Local Government Program.

List those commission members who meet the 36 CFR 61 qualifications required to review this type of resource.

Commission Member	Professional Qualifications
1. Russell Baltimore	Architecture
2. Melanie Bazil	Architectural Historian
3. James Conway	Architectural Historian
4. Prof. DeWitt Dykes	History
5.	
6.	
7.	

Was an outside consultant used? YES _____ NO X

If yes, provide the name and list the 36 CFR 61 qualifications the person meets:

The CLG Commission finds that the property meets the following national register criteria of significance: A & C

The CLG Commission finds that the property meets the national register standards of integrity. YES X NO _____

Recommendation of CLG Commission:

APPROVAL X

DENIAL _____ (specify reasons on a separate sheet of paper)

[Signature]
Signature of Chief Executive Official

10/8/02
Date

Date of transmittal of this report to MHC/SHPO _____

Date of receipt of this report by MHC/SHPO _____