

A Word from the Architect (Don McKee):

We have been fortunate in having a site which initially was a fine site, but which during the early design stages was supplemented further by the acquisition of a sizable uphill strip to the east, a portion of the old Deutsch property. This addition to the original site made it easier to locate and apportion areas for the various functions of this religious-educational development - the school, the Church, the Rectory, the Convent.

The School, as you now see it has been built to relate to all of the other functions and the mechanical and electrical requirements for these future units have been provided for in our service to the first element of this development - the School. We have placed the school on the east slope where it enjoys a prominent spot as one approaches the site. The building is up high enough so that it has a nice outlook over the town. Adequate space has been left around the building for the addition of two four-room classroom units should the future ever require this. There is ample space for smaller play areas at each end of the structure. The orientation of the building is such that together with the generous overhang of the roof there are no sun control problems.

The structure itself has been designed with the requirements that it be sturdy and functional. This we were to do within a fairly limited budget. The 8 inch brick block that was used throughout has provided us with the strong, long lasting walls and surfaces that a school required together with being surfaces that take much wear and are easy to maintain. The heart of the building, the multi-purpose room, the office, the kitchen, the mechanical and electrical work have been designed to be flexible enough to accommodate up to eight more classrooms should they ever be needed. The classrooms have been provided with adequate space for future storage cabinets, counters, etc. and shelves, screening and blackboards which are installed are capable of being adjusted or completely removed as the situation requires.

Along with these practical requirements we have tried to provide a school that is well organized and good looking. We used the shake roofs to break up what might have otherwise been a long, low profile and to lend interest and beauty to the whole exterior. We have used wood trim when we could and stained with warm colors to contrast with the masonry. We tried to provide the Catholic Community with a building they can use and be proud of and which will provide the theme for the continued development of this property through the years.

Don L. McKee