

St. Thomas the Apostle School

Grand Rapids, Michigan

data

- new and renovated classroom, multi-purpose and liturgical space; retrofit of elevator into existing church
- construction completed: 1998
- building area (addition & renovation): 13,500 s.f.
- general contractor: Dykhouse Construction, Inc.
- method of construction: competitive bid
- cost: \$850,000 / \$63 per s.f.



before



after: addition between existing school and existing convent

summary

The addition between the existing St. Thomas school building and the former convent serves both the parish and the school. The completely renovated convent includes preschool, classroom, office, and multi-purpose spaces while the addition accommodates a new chapel, restrooms, and conference rooms. The elevator in the addition and renovations in the existing building provide barrier free accessibility to existing spaces. The addition, which remains sensitive to the character of the existing buildings, presents itself as a new entry element to the whole. The project also included retrofitting an elevator into the existing church with priority given to preserving the church's architectural character.

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upper lobby at the Ministry Center



chapel at the Ministry Center



classroom space at the school