



## CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS APPLICATION FORM

Incomplete applications will not be processed for Commission review.

Please print legibly.

1. **HISTORIC NAME OF PROPERTY OR HISTORIC DISTRICT:** (if known)  
St. Hedwig Catholic Church  
**ADDRESS OF PROPERTY:**  
1726 N. Humboldt Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53202
2. **NAME AND ADDRESS OF OWNER:**  
Name(s): Three Holy Women Parish  
Address: 1726 N. Humboldt Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53202  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: (Owner's Rep) Tom Halat tom@tomhalat.com  
Telephone number (area code & number) Daytime: 414-940-1800 Evening: \_\_\_\_\_
3. **APPLICANT, AGENT OR CONTRACTOR:** (if different from owner)  
Name(s): Conrad Schmitt Studios, Inc. - Kevin Grabowski, National Projects Director  
Address: 2405 S. 162nd Street  
City: New Berlin State: WI ZIP Code: 53151  
Email: Kevin@conradschmitt.com  
Telephone number (area code & number) Daytime: 414-322-5842 Evening: \_\_\_\_\_
4. **ATTACHMENTS:** (Because projects can vary in size and scope, please call the HPC Office at 414-286-5712 for submittal requirements)
  - A. **REQUIRED FOR MAJOR PROJECTS:**  
Photographs of affected areas & all sides of the building (annotated photos recommended)  
Sketches and Elevation Drawings (1 full size and 1 reduced to 11" x 17" or 8 1/2" x 11")  
A digital copy of the photos and drawings is also requested.  
Material and Design Specifications (see next page)
  - B. **NEW CONSTRUCTION ALSO REQUIRES:**  
Floor Plans (1 full size and 1 reduced to a maximum of 11" x 17")  
Site Plan showing location of project and adjoining structures and fences

**PLEASE NOTE: YOUR APPLICATION CANNOT BE PROCESSED UNLESS  
BOTH PAGES OF THIS FORM ARE PROPERLY COMPLETED  
AND SIGNED.**

**Introduction:** As the stained glass, storm glass and frames at St. Hedwig's Catholic Church advance in age, they have begun to show signs of structural deterioration and damage. In the stained glass, the obvious signs include limited glass breakage and panels that are slumping or bowing. Close inspection reveals cracked or fractured leads and loose, brittle putty within the lead came. The storm glass and frames reflect an even more deteriorated condition including the frames which are easily moved out of plane with light wind-loads.

**Recommendations for Stained Glass Restoration:** Repairs address the symptoms, not the root problems, ensuring that deterioration will re-appear and continue, leaving more money to be spent again. A better long-term solution would be a restoration that ensures complete re-leading of all panels and would include new reinforcing bars that are fully supported by the frame. A proper restoration will stop the continued deterioration that is taking place and provide the greatest longevity.

**Current Storm Glass and Frame Conditions:** The stained glass windows at St. Hedwig's Catholic Church are set into wood frames that were intended for both stained glass and storm glass installation. The frames at locations 1-14 are not stable due to their large overall size and the joinery techniques used in their construction.

Additionally, it is important that any storm glass setting provide a means for venting the air space created between stained and storm glass such that heat and condensation cannot build up and accelerate deterioration of the stained glass window and frame. The current storm glass setting at St. Hedwig's Catholic Church does not provide this needed venting.

**Recommendations for Storm Glass and Frames:** Conrad Schmitt Studios recommends replacing all existing wood frames and storm glass in windows 1-16 including venting, priming and painting the new exterior wood frames.

It is obvious that the ability of these large frames to handle wind-loads has resulted in some concerns. Bowing or telescoping could be temporarily remedied by the addition of horizontal bracing from the interior. Bracing is certainly visually obtrusive, however, it may be sufficient to stabilize the frames for a period of time.

Any frame replacement would obviously require the removal of the stained glass panels. Because their condition is vulnerable, it would be necessary to commit to restoring these panels before reinstallation into a new frame.

New frames matching the original in appearance and profile can be constructed to be much stronger using modern CNC routing capabilities and an inner core of marine grade plywood. This inner core allows the joinery to be staggered resulting in a much stiffer

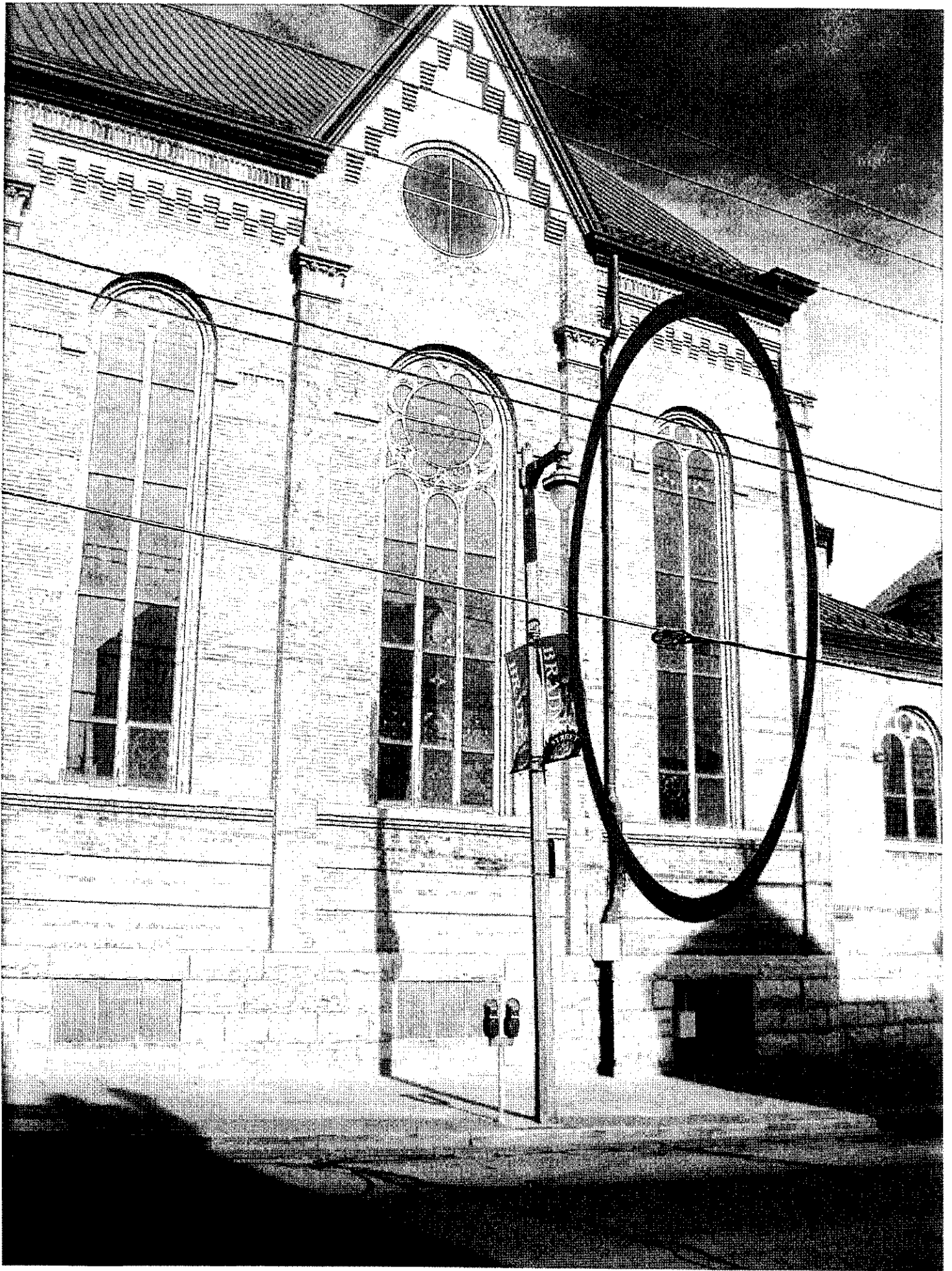
frame that stands up to higher wind loads. The technique has been used with great success on many Conrad Schmitt Studios window restoration projects.

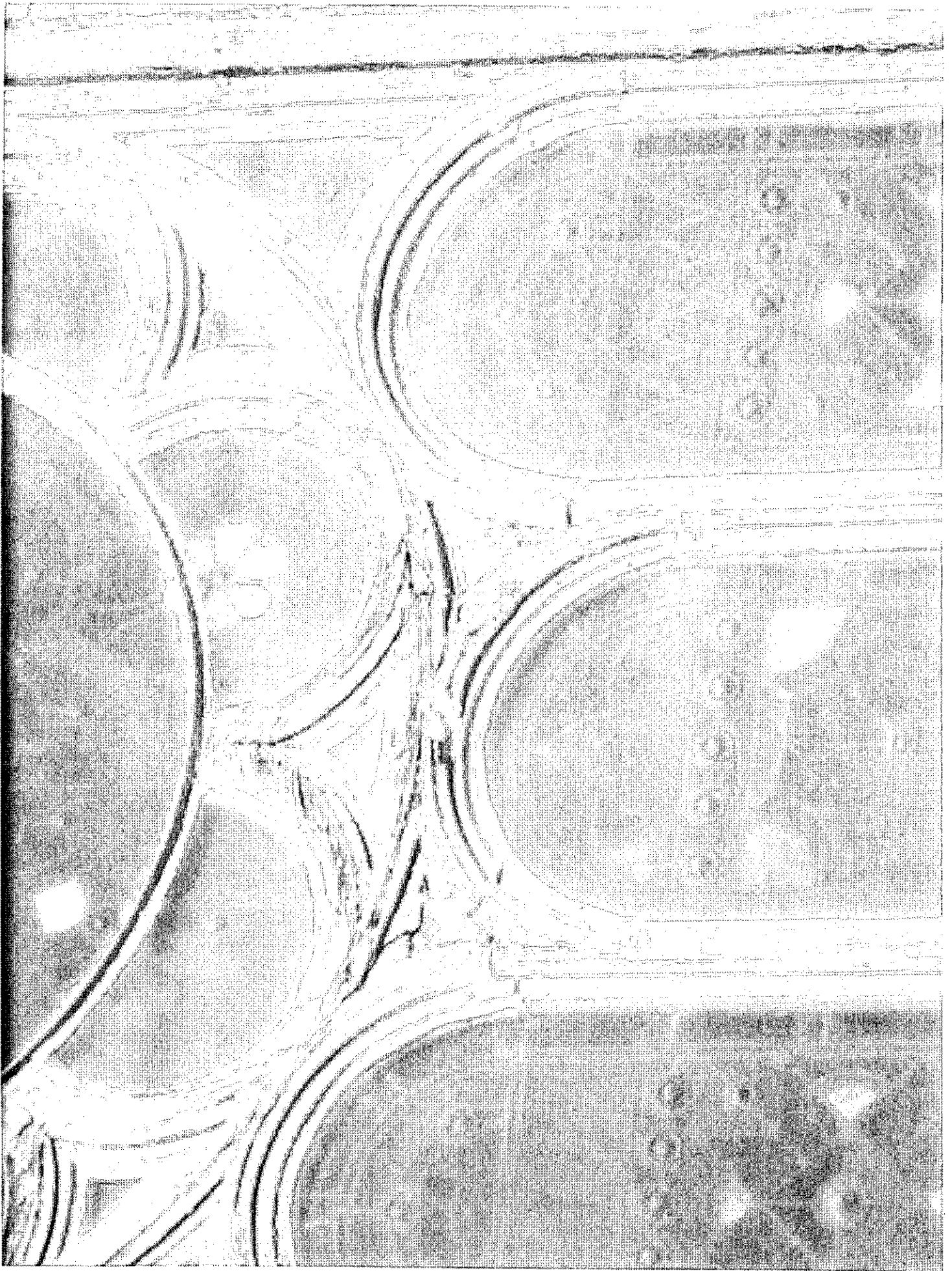
Conrad Schmitt Studios suggests replacing the existing clear 1/8 double strength exterior glass with clear 1/4" safety-laminated glass. The recommended glass consists of two layers of 1/8" glass fused together with a vinyl layer in-between. Safety-laminate glass acts like a car windshield; it will crack if impacted hard enough, however, it will remain intact due to the vinyl layer. Most importantly it will not yellow, providing a clear view of the stained glass.

Venting the airspace would be effectively achieved by drilling a series of 3/8" holes through the parting stop and into the frame. Matching holes are then drilled perpendicularly from the face of the frame on the interior to meet the holes drilled through the parting stop. Screened brass inserts are placed into the holes to prevent insects and debris from blocking this airway in the future. The holes should be located in such a way that they are visually minimized and yet take advantage of natural convection. Holes located at the bottom of the frame draw dry, cool air while holes near the top of the framework exhaust the expanding heated, moist air.

This current window restoration campaign will begin with one sample window on the building's south façade. Photos are attached for this project and of a recent Conrad Schmitt Studios project at Grace Lutheran Church in downtown Milwaukee where the identical scope of work and contractors were employed.

Following these recommendations will help to minimize the visual impact of the storm glass and highlight the stained glass, the decorative wood frames, and the original church architecture St. Hedwig's Catholic Church.





Example of Before and After  
Frame Replacement at  
Grace Lutheran - Downtown Milwaukee

