

**KENOSHA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
HISTORICAL ARTIFACT DETERMINATION**

ARTIFACT NAME/DESCRIPTION	<i>Faulkner Mosaic</i>
ADDRESS	<i>6501 Third Avenue, Kemper Center</i>
CONSTRUCTION DATE	<i>1962 - 1964</i>
ARCHITECT/SCULPTOR/BUILDER	<i>Kady B. Faulkner</i>

STANDARDS FOR DESIGNATION - MUST CHOOSE 1 OR MORE		
	1	Item is a local historical artifact that is at least 50 years old.
X	2	Item is associated with a property that meets the criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

STANDARDS FOR DESIGNATION - MUST CHOOSE 1 OR MORE		
X	3	Item exemplifies or reflects the cultural, archaeological, political, economic, social, or religious history.
X	4	Item is identified with personages, events, or periods of history which personages, events, or periods are significant to the community.
	5	Item embodies distinguishing characteristics of architecture, an architect, architectural materials, craftsmanship, or works of nature.
X	6	Item is in its inherent historical nature provides the citizenry with educational or aesthetic enrichment.
X	7	Check here if the historical artifact is located in a designated local, State, or National Register property or district.

<i>Level of Action</i>	<i>For Listing</i>	<i>No Listing</i>	<i>Removal from Listing</i>
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & INSPECTIONS	X		
<i>PUBLIC HEARING DATE: 06/27/13,08/29/13,09/26/13</i>	<i>RECOMMENDATION DATE: 09/26/2013</i>		
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION		X	
COMMON COUNCIL			
DATE OF COUNCIL ACTION:			



Faulkner Mosaic

DESCRIPTION

The monumental Faulkner mosaic is located on an outside wall of the Faulkner Building, located on the Kemper Center grounds. The mosaic measures 12 feet-high by 30 feet-long and is almost hidden between two buildings, on a west-facing exterior wall of the Faulkner building. The Faulkner Building, a former bakery building, was operated by resident nuns.

The mosaic was designed by 60-year-old Kady B. Faulkner in 1962, a longtime art teacher at the then-girl's boarding school, and completed by her over the next two years, in 1964. Hundreds of thousands of pieces of stones, clay tiles, glass, nails, tacks, pebbles and marbles were gathered to create the mosaic. Many of the items were from the Lake Michigan beach.

The mosaic features three sections; the wine, the wheat or bread, and the ingredients of the Host and Chalice. The story of altar bread is prominently displayed in the mosaic, of which the nuns made in the bakery to support themselves. The blue that runs across the bottom is the "River of Life"; the workers for saving of Christ's Kingdom; wheat fields in various stages, before planting, early growth, completed growth and the harvested fields. On the North end; the wine industry and much of the same symbolism carries through this portion. Along top and on the pilasters are the signs and symbols of the church.

Sections of the drawing were laid on the floor in the music room of the Nash House, the home located farthest north before Eichelman Park, which belonged to the school at that time. The pieces were all arranged on the drawing. Faulkner gathered numerous cans of varying sizes; labeled them, and put all of the pieces in the right cans. This took many nights, Sundays and any other free time, during the first winter. As soon as the school year ended in June, the actual work of putting the wall together began. In the afternoons the base was mixed and sifted together, which consisted of eight parts of Portland cement, one part marble dust and one part lime. This was put into ten pound bags to be convenient for work in the morning, which began at 6 am and continued to 11 am when the sun made the work impossible. The work had to go from the bottom up. In order to reach higher sections of the mosaic, Faulkner installed a plank between two ladders.

The wheat side was completed in the first summer. By the third summer, all of the pilasters around the building were completed, then all of the walls scrubbed down with sulphuric acid, and then washed with soap and water.

SIGNIFICANCE

Built in 1957, the Faulkner Building is a one story structure that was constructed to make altar breads. After Kemper Hall closed, the building was renamed The Kady B. Faulkner Building for the longtime art teacher.

The Sisters of St. Mary, the Episcopalian order that operated Kemper Hall, produced communion wafers to raise funds for the order. Christian churches from many different denominations purchased the wafers, and business was so good that the sisters paid out as much as \$200 on any given day in postal fees to ship their product. Soon orders were coming in from all over the world, and the nuns got help from the students at the school to keep up with the orders.

Katherine (Kady) Burnap Faulkner was an exceedingly talented artist. She was born in Syracuse, New York in 1901. She graduated with a Master of Fine Arts from Syracuse University and attended the Art Students League & Grand Central School of Art in New York. From 1930 to 1950, she taught painting & drawing at the University at Lincoln, Nebraska. She

was selected by the Treasury Department's Section of Painting and Sculpture in Washington (WPA) to paint a mural for the newly built post office in Valentine, Nebraska. Her art exists in collections in different Universities and Art Galleries. Her dream was to develop an art center for the community of Kenosha. Upon her death she was named honorary member of the Kenosha Art Association. A scholarship was established by the Greater Kenosha Arts Council, and later the Kemper Art Center was established. She died at the age of 75 in 1977.

“While this took a lot of time, it was a lot of fun to do. Before this time I had done a number of murals in churches, schools and a post office, but this is the first time I did an outdoor one using different types of material. It was really exciting.” Signed Kady Faulkner