

24 April 2026  
Site Plan Application, Heritage Preservation  
Written response to comments

PROJECT TITLE: Holy Trinity Newman Center  
520 Riordan Ranch Road, Flagstaff AZ 86001  
Project #: PZ-19-00207-01

**Heritage Preservation:**

*Second Review, **Approved with Conditions**, 4/19/21*

*Mark Reavis, Heritage Preservation Officer/Neighborhood Planner*

*Conditions of Approval*

- 1. Please provide research into the architect of record for this project. Flagstaff has a limited amount of Mid-Centurn modern properties and additional photo documentation is required to complete the letter report. Photos should be adequate in nature to document all public spaces such as the great room and the chapel. Photos of detail such as the fireplace should be included. Exterior photos of all elevations of the building should be taken. Please propose some relevant form of mitigation such as saving the unique signs of the cross or other mitigation measure that document and celebrates the mid-century design aspects.*

Response: Please see the attached Cultural Resource Study.

The Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Newman Center has been a presence on the campus of Northern Arizona University since 1966. Originally under the Diocese of Gallup, the Newman Center became part of the Diocese of Phoenix in 1969. The center has served the community well for 60 years, but the needs and growing participation have increased beyond what the existing building can support.

There are no historical records regarding the building's original design, architecture, or construction contained within the Newman Center's archives. A thorough search of Diocesan archives in Phoenix has also not provided any information on the building's architect of record, nor any original plan sets.

Regarding the question of current building elements to be incorporated into the new building, the Newman Center has several iconic signs which will be restored and included within the building as displays of art. Additional, liturgical items will be repurposed within the new Chapel and other assigned sacred spaces. Finally, while not suitable for structural use due to their age/condition, there are several natural logs and hand-hewn timbers which are

prominent and well-regarded design elements within the current facility. A portion will be restored and utilized as decorative features within common areas of the new building. Finally, while other current building materials would not be feasible for repurposing (due to obsolescence, asbestos-impacted, condition issues, etc.) Father Matt Lowry has specifically indicated to the design team his preference to maintain the reasonable use of natural building materials, finishes, and/or textures (such as masonry, wood, and stone) within interior spaces where appropriate and feasible. Father Lowry feels the visual and tactile characteristics of natural materials within the current facility have provided a visually appealing and comforting environment for students over the 60-year history of the Newman Center at NAU.

Kevin Clark, AIA