



Front - Title/Description

Bishop's Residence

This Tudor Revival residence was constructed in the mid-1920s. The Boston architectural firm of Maginnis and Walsh designed the house for the Catholic bishop of Detroit during the tenure of Michael J. Gallagher. Its ecclesiastical origins are visible in the decorative features. The exterior medallions, stained glass windows, the rooftop copper statue of St. Michael the Archangel battling Satan, and the carved Franciscan monks kneeling in prayer at the base of the main staircase demonstrate the house's original purpose. The interior woodwork and plastering are believed to have been crafted by European artisans. The decorative tile was manufactured by Pewabic Pottery of Detroit. The Bishop's Residence is part of the Palmer Woods National Register Historic District.

Significant Date:

Two World Wars and the Depression (1915-1945)

Registry Year: 1990 **Erected Date:** 1995

Marker Location

Address: 1880 Wellesley Drive

City: Detroit

State: MI **ZipCode:**

County: Wayne

Township: Detroit

Lat: 42.43424900 / **Long:** -83.12815600

Web URL:

Back - Title/Description

Bishop's Residence

In 1924-26 this house was built as the official residence of Michael J. Gallagher (1866-1937), the Catholic bishop of Detroit. In 1937 Detroit became an archdiocese and Edward Cardinal Mooney resided here as archbishop until he died unexpectedly in Rome in 1958. The following year John Francis Dearden, the bishop of Pittsburgh, was appointed to the See of Detroit. He retired in 1980 and lived here until his death in 1988. No longer needed as an episcopal residence, the house was sold by the archdiocese in 1989. In order to convert the house for use as a private residence, the archdiocese removed all religious objects from the house—the papal throne, relics, the altar, and the stations of the cross—and declared the ground “profane” (no longer hallowed).