

Historical Marker - L1603A - Villa Maria (Marker ID#:L1603A)



Front - Title/Description

Villa Maria

Villa Maria was founded by the Sisters of the Good Shepherd in 1904 as a haven for destitute young women. Many girls came here seeking shelter from negligent or abusive families; in later years some were referred by social service agencies. Villa Maria's mission was not only to educate, but to teach self-discipline and offer the women a new start. Residents learned a variety of skills so that they could become independent. The home was first located on Bridge Street and moved to the present site in 1904. In 1985 it became a retirement center.

Significant Date:

Industry and Invention (1875-1915)

Registry Year: 1988 **Erected Date:** 1989

Marker Location

Address: 1315 Walker NW

City: Grand Rapids

State: MI **ZipCode:**

County: Kent

Township: Walker

Lat: 42.98301600 / **Long:** -85.70098900

Web URL:

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