

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 7 (and 8)

Page 36

NAME: Saints Cyril and Methodius Church

LOCATION: 100 St. Ludmilla's St.
Shiner, Lavaca County, Texas

OWNER: Most Rev. Charles V. Grahmann, D.D.
Catholic Archdiocese of Victoria, Texas
P. O. Box 4708
Victoria, Texas 77903

ARCHITECT: F. Wahrenberger BUILDER: V. Falbo & M. Deodati

INTERIOR CRAFTSMAN: Edmond Fatjo

SPECIFIC DATES: 1920

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA: Acreage of nominated property: less than one acre
UTM reference: 14/677960/3256090

Verbal boundary description: Beginning at the southwest edge of the parking lot, proceed south along St. Ludmilla St. to the line of planted trees (approx. 66'), then west along the tree line, continuing beyond the trees to the line's intersection with a line parallel to, and 9' beyond, the westernmost point of the apse wall, then north along this line to the parking lot curb, then east, returning to starting point.

DESCRIPTION:

Saints Cyril and Methodius Church is a Romanesque Revival structure of grand proportions that dominates the surrounding countryside. As is typical of Romanesque Revival buildings, it features a profusion of forms and contrasting materials and colors. Basically rectangular in plan, the church is constructed of red brick and accented with pinnacles and buttresses, by the use of cut stone, and by various geometric patterns done in buff and gray brick. An arcaded portico runs across the front of the building,

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National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
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date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 7 (and 8)

Page 37

forming a support for the soaring, square tower with octagonal spire which rises above the entrance. A semicircular apse protrudes from the back of the structure. Arched openings of various proportions are used on all sides of the building, some of which are connected with string courses and hood molds in a checkerboard pattern of gray and buff brick. Stained glass fills the arched windows. A dentil course of contrasting brick runs along the sides of the building, with a diamond motif of buff brick occurring above that; a stone corbel table crowns the front facade. The recent sandblasting of the exterior brick was unfortunate, since it has now begun to erode.

The interior plan is basilical, with a barrel-shaped vaulted ceiling surfaced over the nave in pressed metal with Greek crosses. Lower groin vaults occur over the two side aisles. Painted Greek crosses, gold fleur-de-lis, and other stenciled church motifs adorn the segmental arches which span the columns, as well as the wall in front of the apse. At the intersection of the vault and wall over the entrance of the apse, there is a freehand painting upon a blue background of whimsical angels resting on clouds surrounding a ciborium, which is also floating upon a cloud. Beneath the painting, the arched entrance bears the Latin inscription Ecce Panis Angelorum, "behold the bread of angels." A major focal point is the depiction of Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane painted in blues, purples, and grays. Another realistically painted mural is located on the rear wall of the church in the choir loft. There, robed angels are depicted singing and playing musical instruments. An interesting detail is the texturing and painting of the walls around the side windows to simulate grey stone arches.

SIGNIFICANCE:

Saints Cyril and Methodius Church is a carefully crafted example of the Romanesque Revival style with its rich array of colors, forms, patterns, and materials. It is the most outstanding structure in the community of Shiner and plays an important role in the lives of the descendants of the town's Czech and German Catholic settlers. The interior displays a variety of painted decoration skillfully applied.

Shiner was established in 1887 upon the arrival of the San Antonio and Aransas Pass Railroad. The original Czech and German settlers attended Mass at churches in nearby communities until 1890. At that time two acres of land in Shiner were purchased for construction of a place of worship. The first structure was a much simpler wooden precursor of the present church, and was completed in 1891. It suffered damage from a tornado in 1892 but was repaired. The parish had grown too large for the original structure by 1921, so a new and more elaborate church--the present structure--was commissioned. It was designed by F. Wahrenburger and constructed by B. Falbo and M.

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date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 7 (and 8)

Page 38

Deodati near the older building. In 1954, repair and renovation were carried out. It is believed that the interior was painted soon after, by artist Edmond Fatjo. Fatjo was trained at the Royal Art Academy in Berlin, Germany, and was a painter of church interiors during the period from 1925 and 1964. The painting in Ss. Cyril and Methodius consists of both freehand works and stencilling, on the walls, in values of blue and tan.

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Item number

Page 1 of 2

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Churches with Decorative Interior Painting Thematic Resources
State Texas

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

1. Ascension of Our Lord Catholic Church

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper
Attest

Melona Byers 6/21/83

2. Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Queen of Peace

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper
Attest

Melona Byers 6/21/83

3. Church of the Guardian Angel

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper
Attest

Melona Byers 6/21/83

4. Church of the Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper
Attest

Melona Byers 6/21/83

5. First Baptist Church

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper
Attest

Melona Byers 6/21/83

6. First United Methodist Church

Substantive Review

Keeper
Attest

Beth Grosvenor 6/21/83

7. Nativity of Mary, Blessed Virgin Catholic Church

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper
Attest

Melona Byers 6/21/83

8. Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper
Attest

Melona Byers 6/21/83

9. St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper
Attest

Melona Byers 6/21/83

10. St. Joseph's Catholic Church

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper
Attest

Melona Byers 6/21/83

7/14/83
Reviewed
District 12/12/76

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church (Churches with
Decorative Interior Painting TR)
Lavaca County
TEXAS

Working No. MAY 9 1983
Fed. Reg. Date: 2-7-84
Date Due: 6/9/83 - 6/23/83
Action: ACCEPT 6/21/83
 RETURN
 REJECT
Entered in the National Register
Federal Agency:

- resubmission
 - nomination by person or local government
 - owner objection
 - appeal
- Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: technical corrections cited below
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

8. Significance

Period _____ Area of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- _____ summary paragraph
- _____ completeness
- _____ clarity
- _____ applicable criteria
- _____ justification of areas checked
- _____ relating significance to the resource -
- _____ context
- _____ relationship of integrity to significance
- _____ justification of exception
- _____ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UMT References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

_____ national _____ state _____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- _____ Maps
- _____ Photographs
- _____ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



Saints Cyril and Methodius Catholic
Church

Churches in Texas with Decorative
Interior Painting

Shiner, Lavaca County, Texas

Carol Kennedy

October, 1980

Texas Historical Commission,
Austin, Texas

Exterior, Northwest oblique,
camera facing Southeast

Photo #72 of 98



Saints Cyril and Methodius Catholic
Church

Churches in Texas with Decorative
Interior Painting

Shiner, Lavaca County, Texas

Carol Kennedy

October, 1980

Texas Historical Commission,

Austin, Texas

Exterior, East elevation (camera facing We

Photo #73 of 98



Saints Cyril and Methodius Catholic
Church

Churches in Texas with Decorative
Interior Painting

Shiner, Lavaca County, Texas

Carol Kennedy

October, 1980

Texas Historical Commission,

Austin, Texas

Interior, view toward apse

Photo #74 of 98



Saints Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church
Churches in Texas with Decorative Interior
Painting

Shiner, Lavaca County, Texas

Carol Kennedy

October, 1980

Texas Historical Commission, Austin, Texas

Interior, oblique view toward apse

Photo #75 of 98



Saints Cyril and Methodius Catholic
Church
Churches in Texas with Decorative
Interior Painting
Shiner, Lavaca County, Texas
Carol Kennedy
October, 1980
Texas Historical Commission,
Austin, Texas
Interior, apse mural

Photo #76 of 98



Saints Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church
Churches in Texas with Decorative Interior
Painting

Shiner, Lavaca County, Texas

Carol Kennedy

October, 1980

Texas Historical Commission, Austin, Texas

Interior, detail of apse spandrel

Photo #77 of 98



Saints Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church
Churches in Texas with Decorative Interior
Painting

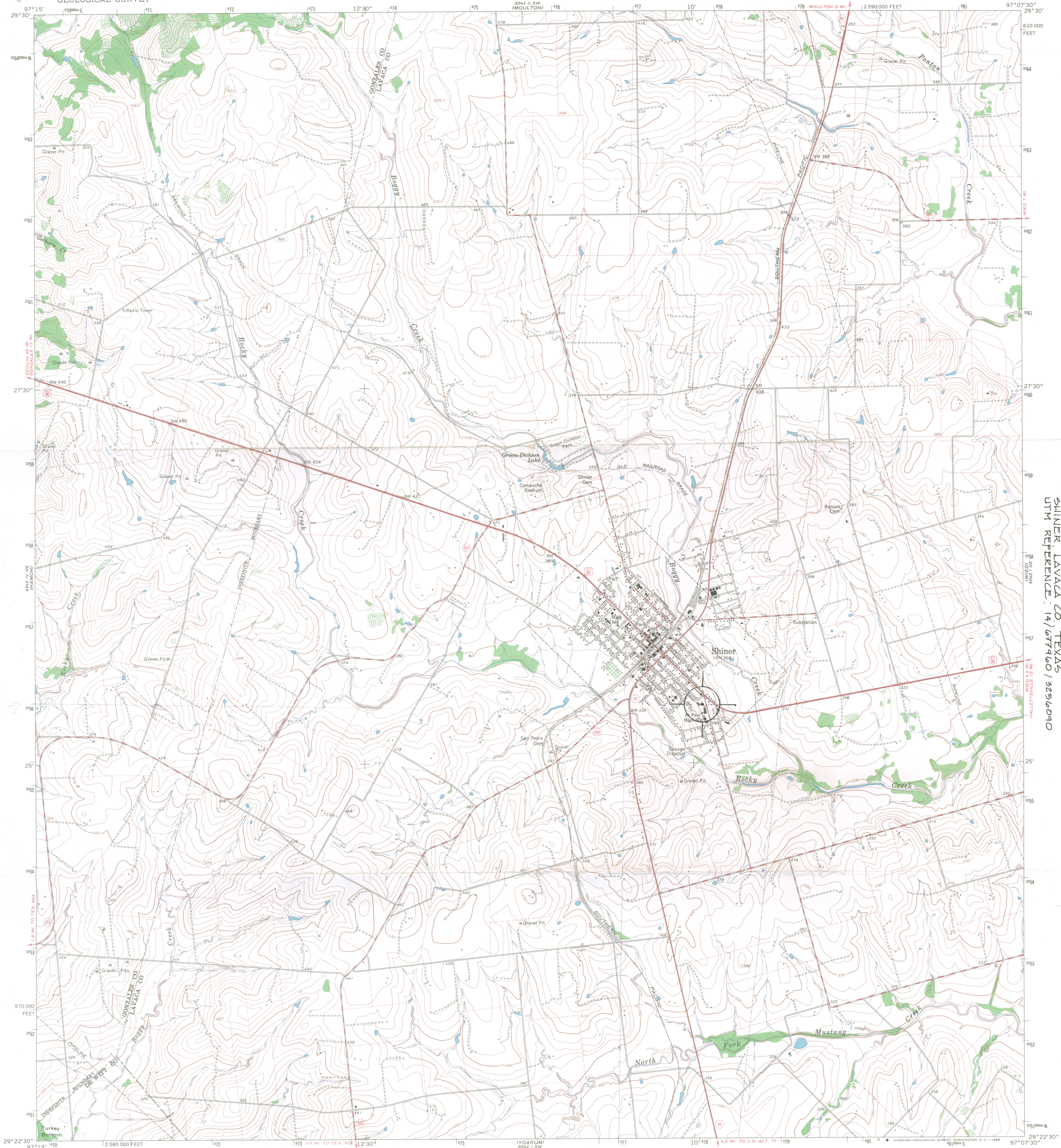
Shiner, Lavaca County, Texas

Carol Kennedy

October, 1980

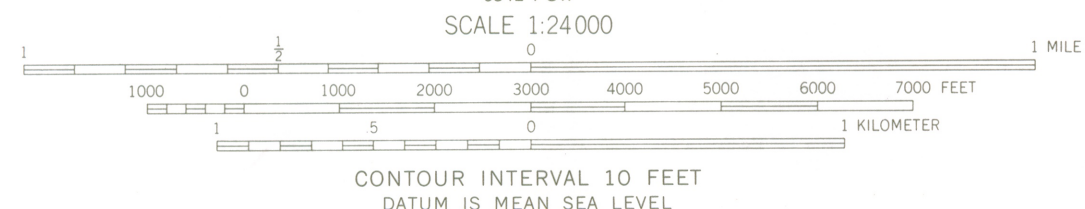
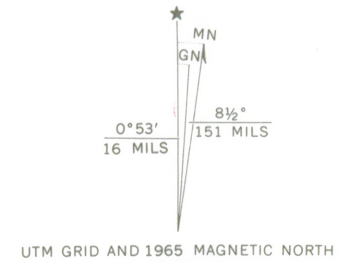
Texas Historical Commission, Austin, Texas
Interior, detail of mural on rear wall of
choir loft

Photo #78 of 98



5. CYRIL AND METHUEN'S CHURCH
100 ST. LUDMILA'S STREET
SHINER LAVACA CO TEXAS
UTM REFERENCE: 14/67960 / 3256090

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1964. Field checked 1965
Polyconic projection, 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system,
south central zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 14, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence lines



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
U.S. Route	State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

SHINER, TEX.
N2922.5—W9707.5/7.5

2997-143

AMS 6542 1 NW—SERIES V882