Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY – NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries – complete applicable sections)

STATE: TEXAS	
COUNTY: Travis	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
70.8.42.0015	8/25

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Gethsemane Lutheran Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 1510 Congress

CITY OR TOWN: Austin

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Texas	042	Travis	453

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☒ Building	XX Public	Public Acquisition:	☐ Occupied	Yes:
☐ Site ☐ Structure	☐ Private	☐ In Process	☒ Unoccupied	☐ Restricted
☐ Object	☐ Both	☐ Being Considered	☒ Preservation work in progress	☒ Unrestricted
				☐ No

PRESENT USE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

☐ Agricultural	☐ Government	☐ Park	☐ Transportation	☐ Comments
☐ Commercial	☐ Industrial	☐ Private Residence	☐ Other *(Specify)*	
☐ Educational	☐ Military	☐ Religious		
☐ Entertainment	☒ Museum	☐ Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: State of Texas

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE
Austin	Texas	042

RECEIVED MAY 6 1970 NATIONAL REGISTER

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Travis County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE
Austin	Texas	042

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Texas State Historical Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1962 ☐ Federal ☒ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Texas State Historical Survey Committee

STREET AND NUMBER: 108 W. 15th Street

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE
Austin	Texas	042

STATE: | COUNTY: | FOR NPS USE ONLY — ENTRY NUMBER: 70.8.42.0015 — DATE: 8/25

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	☐ Excellent	☒ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Deteriorated	☐ Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	(Check One)		(Check One)			
	☐ Altered	☒ Unaltered	☐ Moved	☒ Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL *(if known)* PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

A simple brick Gothic revival church with graceful proportions now on the extended Capitol grounds. The church is raised on a limestone basement and is built of tan used handmade Austin brick from the 1852 Capitol building. The church is rectangular in plan and has a tall front central bell tower. The paneled double doors are from the old Main building at the University of Texas and are set in a lancet arched opening with a stained glass fan light. The second stage of the bell tower has a tall lancet stained glass window with brick hood mold and the tower is capped by a wide cornice and delicate Carpenter Gothic cupola and cross. The brick string courses are handsome. The sides are buttressed with five stained glass windows each and there is a small apse rather like a large bay window with three lancet arched stained glass windows and is finished in the interior as an arched nitch. There is a patterned pressed tin roof.

The interior is plastered. The sanctuary is raised and there is a choir loft at the entrance end.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- ☐ Pre-Columbian
- ☐ 15th Century
- ☐ 16th Century
- ☐ 17th Century
- ☐ 18th Century
- ☒ 19th Century
- ☐ 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) *(If Applicable and Known)* 1883

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- ☐ Aboriginal
- ☐ Prehistoric
- ☐ Historic
- ☐ Agriculture
- ☒ Architecture
- ☐ Art
- ☐ Commerce
- ☐ Communications
- ☐ Conservation
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Engineering
- ☐ Industry
- ☐ Invention
- ☐ Landscape Architecture
- ☐ Literature
- ☐ Military
- ☐ Music
- ☐ Political
- ☒ Religion/Philosophy
- ☐ Science
- ☐ Sculpture
- ☐ Social/Humanitarian
- ☐ Theater
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Urban Planning
- ☐ Other *(Specify)* _____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

On December 12, 1868, the first Swedish Lutheran Church services were held by Swedish immigrants in Austin. The church, built at ninth and Guadalupe Streets, was organized by the Swedish Consul, Swante Palm, and represented not only the first Lutheran church in Travis County, but also the first Swedish Lutheran church in Texas.

Late in 1882, the congregation decided to move their church and build a new structure on a piece of high land directly behind the state Capitol. They bought the new property for $1,600 and sold their first church to the African Methodist Church for $900. They hired Fredric Reichow as master-builder and foreman of the construction; S.A. Carlson, contractor; and August Swenson, architect.

In the interests of economizing on building and material fees, the congregation did much of the construction work themselves. In addition, they salvaged bricks and stones from the old state Capitol which had burned down in 1881. They retrieved the doors of the old Main Building at the University of Texas when it was dismantled in 1934, and used them as the front doors for the church.

Gethsemane was completed in 1883. The architecture is typical of early rural churches in Sweden. In addition, it is such an outstanding example of early Texas architecture, that it was featured on the cover of Texas Architect, April, 1963. Measurements for Gethsemane Church are preserved in the Library of Congress.

In 1962, the church was recorded as a Texas Historical Landmark, and three years later the Texas Legislature voted to acquire Gethsemane. They have decided to use the church as a museum and a place of "rest and meditation."

HABS

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Texas State Historical Marker Files.
Austin. Public Library. Austin and Travis County Collection.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM
14/621250
3350020
TL

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY						OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES					
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE				LATITUDE			LONGITUDE	
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"		30°	16'	38"	97°	44'	19"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"							
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"							
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"							

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: .17 acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

RECEIVED MAY 6 1970 NATIONAL REGISTER

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Wayne Bell, Project Director (SB)
Roxanne Williamson, Architectural Historian (MD)

ORGANIZATION: Texas State Historical Survey Committee

DATE: 4-27-70

STREET AND NUMBER: 108 W. 15th Street

CITY OR TOWN: Austin

STATE: Texas

CODE: 042

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☒

Name Truett Latimer

Title State Liaison Officer

Date 5-1-70

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest Allen Connally
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

AUG 25 1970

Date

ATTEST:

William J. Murtagh
Keeper of The National Register

JUN 23 1970

Date

9/8/70

Travis. TEX

RECEIPT

Gethsemane Lutheran Church

70.8.42.0015 8/25

REG. NUMBER Ref #70000766

	YES	NO	NUMBER
DATE OF RECEIPT 5/6/70			
DATA PAGE	✓		4
PHOTO (S)	✓		2
PHOTO DESCRIPTION (S)	✓		
MAP (S)	✓		1
MAP DESCRIPTIONS (S)	✓		
LOGGED 9/1/70 carol	✓		
ACKNOWLEDGE 5/6/70	✓		

MH 5/6/70

REVIEW

HISTORIAN COMMENTS Stained glass buttresses? OK — Bamble 5/7/70

HISTORIAN ok COMMENTS — B.L 5/22/70

ARCHITECT COMMENTS

OK - in spite of the stained-glass buttresses — Chambers 5/7/70

~~Chief Architect~~ Chief Archeologist Chief Historian

OK, Bradford, 6/17/70

Keeper COMMENTS — 6/23/70

ENTRY

CHIEF, OAHP COMMENTS

ok — 8-25-70

EDITORIAL PROCESSING COMMENTS

ok CD 5/12

EDITOR Date

Federal Register Entry 10/6/70

Annual Edition Entry

FILE FILE FILE WORKING NUMBER 5-6-70-1



NPS Number 70-8-48-0015

Title: Methsemane Lutheran Church

Loc. Travis Co., Texas (1)

North side

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	
TEXAS	
COUNTY	
Travis	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
70.8.48.0015	8/25

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Gethsemane Lutheran Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 1510 Congress

CITY OR TOWN: Austin

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Texas	042	Travis	453

RECEIVED MAY 6 1970 NATIONAL REGISTER

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Texas State Historical Survey Committee

DATE OF PHOTO: June 12, 1969

NEGATIVE FILED AT: Texas State Historical Survey Committee
108 W. 15th Street, Austin, Texas 78711

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

North side


NO PARKING

E

NPS Number 70-8-48-0015

Title: Gethsemane Lutheran Church

(2)

Loc. Grimes Co., Texas

Front elevation, east side

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	
TEXAS	
COUNTY	
Travis	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
70.8.42.00 15	8/25

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

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AND/OR HISTORIC:

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RECEIVED MAY 6 1970 NATIONAL REGISTER

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Texas State Historical Survey Committee

DATE OF PHOTO: June 12, 1969

NEGATIVE FILED AT: Texas State Historical Survey Committee
108 W.15th Street, Austin, Texas 78711

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Front elevation, east side

Form 10-301
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	
TEXAS	
COUNTY	
Travis	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
708.42.0015	8/25

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Gethsemane Lutheran Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 1510 Congress

CITY OR TOWN: Austin

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Texas	042	Travis	453

RECEIVED
MAY 6 1970
NATIONAL REGISTER

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE: United States Department of Interior Geological Survey

SCALE: 1:24000

DATE: 1952-54 (revised 1966)

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property broundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.

Texas Map Reference #3097-242

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

CITY OF AUSTIN

AUSTIN EAST QUADRANGLE
TEXAS—TRAVIS CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
SW/4 AUSTIN 15' QUADRANGLE

6444 IV NE (JOLLYVILLE)
6444 I NE (PFLUGERVILLE EAST)
6444 I NW (PFLUGERVILLE WEST)
6444 IV SE (AUSTIN WEST)
6444 I SE (MANOR)
6444 III NE (OAK HILL)
6444 II NW (MONTOPOLIS)
6444 II NE (WEBBERVILLE)

97°45′ — 97°42′30″ — 40′ — 97°37′30″
30°22′30″ — 20′ — 17′30″ — 30°15′

621 000m E. — 622 — 623 — 624 — 625 — 626 — 627 — 628 — 629 — 630 — 631 — 632 000m E.
2 850 000 FEET

3360 000m N. — 3359 — 3358 — 3357 — 3356 — 3355 — 3353 — 3352 — 3351 — 3350 — 3349 — 3348 000m N.
260 000 FEET — 250 000 FEET — 240 000 FEET — 230 000 FEET

LEANDER 15 MI. — GEORGETOWN 22 MI. — TEMPLE 60 MI. GEORGETOWN 19 MI. — TAYLOR 24 MI. — BURNET 54 MI. — DESSAU 4.7 MI. — HICKMUNTON 10 MI. — ELGIN 16 MI. BRENHAM 85 MI. — JOHNSON CITY 43 MI. OAK HILL 9 MI. — ELGIN 19 MI. — SAN MARCOS 29 MI. — SAN MARCOS 27 MI. SAN ANTONIO 76 MI. — LOCKHART 26 MI. LULING 40 MI. — BASTROP 29 MI.

AUSTIN — ROBERT MUELLER MUNICIPAL AIRPORT — GRAVEL PITS — Abercrombie — Iglehart — Pershing — Govalle — Smoot — Webberville

Missouri Pacific — Southern Pacific — Missouri Kansas Texas — Great Northern — Texas State Capitol — University of Texas — Austin Memorial Park (Cem) — Oakwood Cemetery — Mount Calvary Cem — Evergreen Cem — Rogers Hill Cem — Givens Park — Town Lake — Colorado River — Walnut Creek — Little Walnut Creek — Boggy Creek — Waller Creek — Shoal Creek — Harnock Creek — Tannehill Branch — Decker Creek — Elm Creek

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1952. Field checked 1954. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1966

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system, central zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 14, shown in blue

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence lines

UTM GRID AND 1966 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

SCALE 1:24 000

1 0 1 MILE
1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET
1 0 1 KILOMETER

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty — Light-duty
Medium-duty — Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route — U. S. Route — State Route

TEXAS
QUADRANGLE LOCATION

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

AUSTIN EAST, TEX.
SW/4 AUSTIN 15' QUADRANGLE
N3015—W9737.5/7.5
1966
AMS 6444 II SW—SERIES V882

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C.—1969

3097-242

GETHSEMANE LUTHERANE CHURCH
1510 CONGRESS
AUSTIN, TEXAS
30° 16′ 38″
14/621250
3350020

MAR 20 1970

H30-HR

AUG 2 5 1970

Mr. Truett Latimer
Executive Director
Texas State Historical Survey Committee
Post Office Box 12276
Capitol Station
108 West 15th Street
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Mr. Latimer:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Senators Ralph W. Yarborough and John G. Tower and the appropriate Representatives have also been notified. Please withhold any publicity on this until you have received a carbon copy of the Congressional correspondence.

Sincerely yours,

/S/ Ernest Allen Connally

Ernest Allen Connally
Chief, Office of Archeology
and Historic Preservation

Enclosure

AUG 2 5 1970

Entered in the National Register

cc:
HR

RGamble:mm 8/13/70 BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR

Properties added to the National Register of Historic Places

TEXAS

Bishop's Palace	Galveston, Texas
Old Land Office Building	Austin, Texas
Barker History Center	Austin, Texas
Neill-Cochran House	Austin, Texas
Old Post Office and Federal Building	Austin, Texas
Woodlawn	Austin, Texas
The Governor's Mansion	Austin, Texas
Gethsemane Lutheran Church	Austin, Texas
Hollamon House (Erskine House #1	Seguin, Texas
Carrington-Covert House	Austin, Texas
Klein (Stephen) House	New Braunfels, Texas
Schubert House	Giddings, Texas
Tinnen House	Georgetown, Texas
Sedberry House	Jefferson, Texas
Sebastopol (Zorn House)	Seguin, Texas
Littlefield House	Austin, Texas
Old Galveston Custom House	Galveston, Texas
Captain Singleton House	Jefferson, Texas
Lindheimer Home	New Braunfels, Texas
Captain William Perry House	Jefferson, Texas
Beard House	Jefferson, Texas

logged 10

H30-HR

SEP 16 1970

Hon. J. J. (Jake) Pickle
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pickle:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been nominated by the State Liaison Officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the National Historic Preservation Program in Texas and have been entered into the National Register of Historic Places. Senators Ralph W. Yarborough and John G. Tower have also been provided with this information. By copy of this letter, the State Liaison Officer, Mr. Truett Latimer, Executive Director, Texas State Historical Survey Committee, Post Office Box 12276, Capitol Station, 105 West 15th Street, Austin, Texas 78701, has likewise been notified. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed.

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR

8/13/70

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) GEORGE B. HARTZOG, JR.

Director

Enclosures

Entered in the National Register AUG 25 1970

cc:
LL-Mr. Melvin
T
HR
RGamble:mm

cc:
Mr. Truett Latimer, Executive Director, Texas State Historical Survey Committee,
P. O. Box 12276, Capitol Station, 105 W. 15th St., Austin, Texas 78701

Director, Southwest Region

Properties added to the National Register of Historic Places

TEXAS

Schubert House	Giddings, Texas
Zimmen House	Georgetown, Texas
Littlefield House	Austin, Texas
Old Land Office Building	Austin, Texas
Barker History Center	Austin, Texas
Neill-Cochran House	Austin, Texas
Old Post Office and Federal Building	Austin, Texas
Woodlawn	Austin, Texas
The Governor's Mansion	Austin, Texas
Gethsemane Lutheran Church	Austin, Texas
Covington-Covert House	Austin, Texas

logged 20

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR

8/13/70

RGamble:mm

R30-HR

SEP 16 1970

Hon. Ralph W. Yarborough
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Yarborough:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been nominated by the State Liaison Officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the National Historic Preservation Program in Texas and have been entered into the National Register of Historic Places. Senator John G. Tower and the appropriate Representatives have also been provided with this information. By copy of this letter, the State Liaison Officer, Mr. Truett Latimer, Executive Director, Texas State Historical Survey Committee, Post Office Box 12276, Capitol Station, 108 West 15th Street, Austin, Texas 78701, has likewise been notified. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) GEORGE B. HARTZOG, JR.

Director

Enclosures

Entered in the National Register AUG 25 1970

cc:
Director, Southwest Region
LL-Mr. Melvin
T
HR

cc:
Mr. Truett Latimer, Executive Director, Texas State Historical Survey Committee,
P.O. Box 12276, Capitol Station, 108 W. 15th St., Austin, Texas 78701

Duplicate letter sent to: Hon. John G. Tower
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Properties added to the National Register of Historic Places

TEXAS

Bishop's Palace	Galveston, Texas
Old Land Office Building	Austin, Texas
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Littlefield House	Austin, Texas
Old Galveston Custom House	Galveston, Texas
Captain Singleton House	Jefferson, Texas
Lindheimer House	New Braunfels, Texas
Captain William Perry House	Jefferson, Texas
Beard House	Jefferson, Texas

GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH (48-71-00007-00). *Austin, Travis Co.* State ownership. A brick building with Gothic Revival decorative features dating from 1883. Development of gardens and lawns linking the church and the Carrington House (see above) on the State Capitol grounds. $15,402.31.