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	401 N. Wall							
CIT	Y OR TOWN:				CONGRESS	SIONAL DISTRICT:		
	Belton				W. R.	Poage11		
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3-7-79

DESCRIPTION	(Check One)
CONDITION	Excellent Good X Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed
construct	(Check One) (Check One)
	Altered Woved Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PI	RESENT AND ORIGINAL (II KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE
structu	e architectural style of this hand cut quarry rock re is strongly Gothic in detail. For example, the of the windows are superb examples of vernacular
	indigenous to the immediate geographical area at
	e of construction in 1874.
CHIC CIII	
	ons: width - 27' 7", length - 49', height - 13' 6" line. Front of church faces east.
Foundat	ion: rock spread footing.
	Hand cut quarry rock from Bell County - the structure load bearing stone wall.
	after roof with composition type shingles - the 1 was probably wood shingles.
	(7): Double hung leaded glass windows wood framed. e the pointed arch type.
Doors:	Double hand carved stained doors.
Interio	r
Ceiling	
coating	The walls have four-foot-two-inch beaded wood wains- with wall paper covering the rest of the wall. I structure is one inch wood sheathing on 2 x 6 wood
Floor:	The floors are pine 1 x 4 on wood joists.
-	A small raised stage on the west part of the building wood railing.
Furnitu church.	are: The original hand carved pews are also in the
built c	wer: height 30', width 14', depth 3'. The tower, of matching stone, was attached to the church in 1949 charm and symmetry to the building.

At present, the building is in fair condition, although it has been vacant since 1969.

ERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)			
Pre-Columbian	16th Century		18th Century	20th Century
15th Century	17th Century		🕅 19th Century	
PECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicab	le and Known) 1874			
REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	eck One or More as Appropri	ate)		
Abor iginal	Education		Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	Engineering	X	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
Historic	Industry		losophy	
Agriculture	Invention		Science	
Architecture	Landscape		Sculpture	
Art	Architecture	X	Social/Human-	
	Literature		itarian	
Communications	Military		Theater	
Conservation	Music		Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1860 Bishop Alexander Gregg, first Bishop of Texas, organized the Episcopal families in and around Belton, Texas into a Missionary District. It was not until 1874, after the intervening "War Between the States", that St. Luke's Episcopal Church was built. The building lot, located in Belton on the Southwest corner of Fifth Avenue and Wall Streets, was purchased from a church family for the sum of sixty dollars.

The walls of the building were constructed of hand cut quarry rock from Bell County. Midway in the construction of the building, the congregation ran out of funds. Appeals for help were made, and contributions came in from Episcopal churches in Galveston, Houston, Waco, Navasota, and Bryan. The building was completed and has survived a hundred years, making it the oldest church building standing in Belton.

Inside the church are beautiful stained glass windows. These windows were supplied by New York Churches, who through the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society also provided salaries for the early clergy. The native stone bell tower was added many years later in 1949. The stone for the tower was donated by a farmer from a fence on his nearby farm. The bell had been purchased in 1882. The tower project was instituted in an effort to unify the congregation, who had been without a resident minister for seven years.

The church is a Belton landmark loved by generations of citizens. Until the congregation was forced to move in 1969, the church was in continuous use. The door was always open, and an outside sign beside the front door invited the community to: "Enter - Rest - Think and Pray". Close to several schools, it is known that both teachers and students did drop by, especially during the period of World War II.

(See Continuation Sheet # 1.)

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FORM PREPARED BY					
AME AND TITLE: Gary L					
Duncan	Muckelroy, H	listorian		DATE	
Texas Histori	cal Commissio	on		Dec. 6,	1973
TREET AND NUMBER:					
P.O. Box 1227	6	107175			CODE
		STATE			CODE
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Austin	on Officer for the Na-	N/	ATIONAL REGIS	TER VERIFICATIO	048
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* U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1973-729-147/1442 3-1

Form 10-300a	UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR	STATE	1	
(July 1969)	NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	Texas	Ster IN	
	NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES	COUNTY		
	INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM	Bell		
	INVENTORT - NOMINATION FORM	FOR NPS USE ONLY		
	(Continuation Sheet) $\# 1$	ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
-)	(Continuation Sheet) # 1	AAN 17	1974	
(Number all entri	ies)			

At present the building is vacant, however, interested citizens of Bell County are active in securing support for converting the structure into a non-denominational community meeting center. Necessary funds for restoration also are being procured. This structure is eligible as a National Register of Historic Places property because of its tremendous influence on the historical development of the people in Bell County. This structure is a lasting tribute of the civilizing and guiding force of institutional religion.



WRITE-UP COMMENT SHEET (leave attached to nomination)

E Church Building Jepas scopa PROPERTY: (If there are comments (negative or positive) which will affect the write up, please indicate them below. NAME: LOCATION: DESCRIPTION: #

. .

STYLE OR CULTURE:

DATE AND INSTIGATOR (builder, architect, group, engineer, etc.):

1874

PRESENT CONDITION (altered, covered, ruins, deteriorated--archeological):

SIGNIFICANCE (specify paragraph or line):

48 P2

SURVEY RECORDS (is form correct?):

COMMENTS:

PROPERTY Old St. Lukis Church Building	STATE Jetas	Bell
WORKING NUMBER 12, 11, 73, 4068		BEN
TECH REVIEW PHOTOS 2		
MAPS /		Ral # 74002056
CONTROL REVIEW		C.M.
		OK 12.12. 73
HISTORIAN		Accept
		1-14-74
ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN		
ARCHEOLOGIST		
REVIEW UNIT CHIEF		Accept
		KAICO12 1/8/74
BRANCH CHIEF Change Mame Jo: Old ST. Lubic	SpiscopalC	hunch aport
KEEPER		Ren her fight
National Register Write-up	Send-back	
Federal Register entry <u>3-5-74</u>	Re-submit	
	Entered	JAN 1 7 1974
		INT: 1538-73



orm No. 10-301a /72)	UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TH NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	EINTERIO	R	STATE Texas		
6	NATIONAL DECISTED OF WILL			COUNTY		
	NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTO	RICPLA	CES	Bell		
	PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM			FOR NPS USE ONLY		
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	ype all entries - attach to or enclose	with phot	ograph)	JAN 1		
1. NAME						
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AND/OR HIS	STORIC: St. Luke's Episcopa	al Chu	rch			
2. LOCATION						
STREET AN	D NUMBER:					
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PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

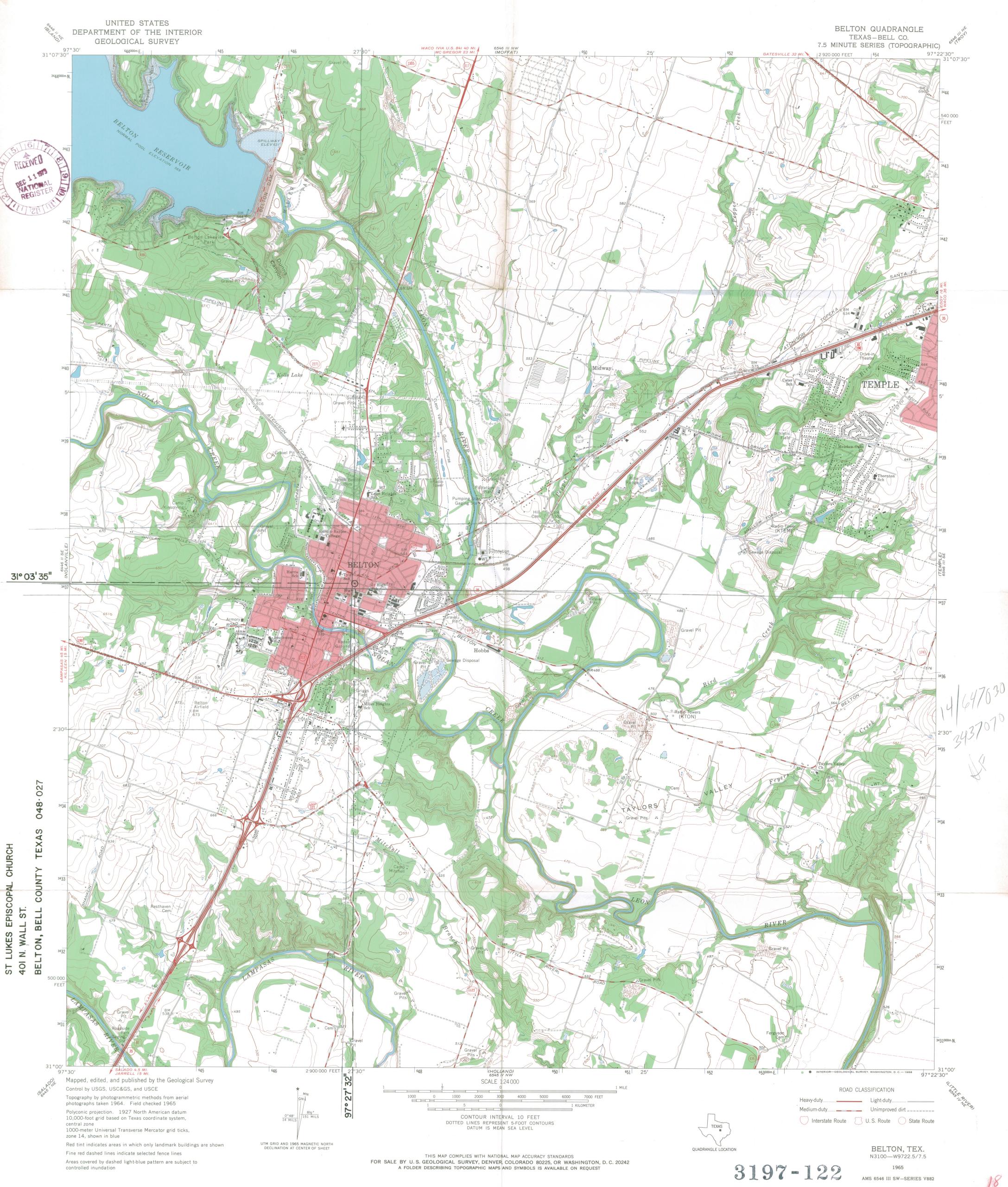


Form No. (7/72)	10-301a UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM (Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)	STATE Texas COUNTY Bell FOR NPS USE ONLY ENTRY NUMBER D/	ATE
0	NAME common: Old Episcopal Church Building AND/OR HISTORIC: St. Luke's Episcopal Church . LOCATION STREET AND NUMBER: 401 N. Wall CITY OR TOWN: Belton STATE: 0048		<u>соре</u> 027
<u> </u>	Texas 048 Bel PHOTO REFERENCE PHOTO CREDIT: Texas Historical Commission DATE OF PHOTO: June 24, 1970 NEGATIVE FILED AT: Texas Historical Commission 4 IDENTIFICATION Describe view, Direction, etc. Interior, West elevation.	BEREIVEI	

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PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Form No. 10-301 Rev. 7-72	UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL PARK SER		OR	Texas	21/2
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Texas State Historical Survey Committee Box 12276, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 Treat Latimer

Executive Director

December 11, 1973

1 4 8 53 All 57

Honorable John R. Bigham P. O. Box 154 Belton, Texas 76513

Dear Mr. Bigham:

Last week the Texas Historical Commission submitted the nomination of the Episcopal church at Belton to the National Register of Historic Places. Hopefully the nomination will be accepted by the National Register of Historic Places within a period of one to three months from the date of the submission.

Our office will keep you informed as to the progress of this nomination.

Please contact us when we can be of additional service.

Sincerely,

Dunin mucheling

Duncan G. Muckelroy Historic Preservation Coordinator

DGM/pbs

cc: Mrs. Francis Pittman 1921 North Beal Belton, Texas 76513 December 30, 1973

nac

Senator John Tower United States Senate Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Tower,

Enclosed is a copy of a letter to Rep. John R. Bigham concerning Mr. Muckleroy's efforts to get the former St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Belton placed on the National Register of Historic Places. In attempting to restore this building, Bell Fine Arts Association hopes to be accepted by the National Register of Historic Places thereby making our project eligible for funds. Any help you can give us in this matter will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Francis Rittman'

Mrs. Jack L. Pittman 1921 North Beal Belton, Texas 76513 11974

EUFFICE OF 10YD BENTS NGTOND C.

December 30, 1973

Senator Lloyd Benson United States Senate Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Benson,

Enclosed is a copy of a letter to Rep. John R. Bigham concerning Mr. Muckleroy's efforts to get the former St. Luke's Fpiscopal Church in Belton placed on the National Register of Historic Places. In attempting to restore this building, Bell Fine Arts Association hopes to be accepted by the National Register of Historic Places thereby making our project eligible for funds. Any help you can give us in this matter will be appreciated.

Sincerely. Franceis Pettman

Mrs. Jack L. Pittman 1921 North Beal Belton, Texas 76513



United States Senate

January 4, 1973

Respectfully request that every careful consideration be given to the nomination of the St. Luke's Episcopal Church as a historical site.

Please return to: Mary Ann Coursey Respectfully referred to:

Congressional Liaison Department of the Interior

Because of the desire of this office to be responsive to all inquiries and communications, your consideration of the attached is requested. Your findings and views, in duplicate form, along with return of the enclosure, will be appreciated by

then A.

Form #2 /0373



Texas State Historical Survey Committee Box 12276, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 Treet Latimer Executive Director

December 11, 1973

Honorable John R. Bigham P. O. Box 154 Belton, Texas 76513

Dear Mr. Bigham:

Last week the Texas Historical Commission submitted the nomination of the Episcopal church at Belton to the National Register of Historic Places. Hopefully the nomination will be accepted by the National Register of Historic Places within a period of one to three months from the date of the submission.

Our office will keep you informed as to the progress of this nomination.

Please contact us when we can be of additional service.

Sincerely,

Dunia mucheling

Duncan G. Muckelroy Historic Preservation Coordinator

DGM/pbs

United States Senate

912 Federal Office Building Austin, Texas 78701

January 15, 1974

Respectfully referred to:

Honorable Ronald H. Walker, Director National Park Service Department of Interior Interior Building Washington, D. C. 20240

Because of the desire of this office to be responsive to all inquiries and communications, your consideration of the attached is requested. Your findings and views, in duplicate form, along with return of the enclosure, will be appreciated by

Lloyd Bentsen U.S.S. Attn: Roland Jones

Form #2



Texas State Historical Survey Committee Box 12276, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 Treeff Latimer Executive Director

December 11, 1973

Honorable John R. Bigham P. O. Box 154 Belton, Texas 76513

Dear Mr. Bigham:

Last week the Texas Historical Commission submitted the nomination of the Episcopal church at Belton to the National Register of Historic Places. Hopefully the nomination will be accepted by the National Register of Historic Flaces within a period of one to three months from the date of the submission.

Our office will keep you informed as to the progress of this nomination.

Please contact us when we can be of additional service.

Sincerely,

Dania mucheling

Duncan G. Muckelroy Historic Preservation Coordinator

DGM/pbs

/ cc: Mrs. Francis Pittman
1921 North Beal
Belton, Texas 76513

January 16, 1974

Honorable John G. Tower United States Senate Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator Tower:

The Office of Congressional Liaison has asked me to acknowledge your inquiry in behalf of Mrs. Jack L. Pittman concerning nomination of the former St. Luke's Episcopal Church to the Mational Register of Historic Places.

We appreciate your interest in this matter and will provide you a reply at our earliest opportunity.

Sincerely yours,

Ronald H. Walker Director

LS (2)) w/incoming FNP:CRBraxton:crb:1-16-74

(10373)

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER STATE Date Entered JAN 1 7 1974

Name

Location

Old St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Belton Bell County

Also Notified Hon. John G. Tower Hon. Lloyd M. Bentsen Hon. W.R. Poage Director, Southwest Region

PR MMott/row 1/22/74

State Historic Preservation Officer Mr. Truett Latimer, Executive Director Texas State Historical Survey Committee Post Office Box 12276 Capitol Station Austin, Texas 78711

January 21, 1974

Honorable Lloyd Bentsen United States Senator 912 Federal Office Building Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Senator Bentsen:

I am pleased to acknowledge your inquiry in behalf of Mrs. Jack L. Pittman concerning nomination of the former St. Imke's Episcopal Church to the National Register of Historic Places.

We appreciate your interest in this matter and will provide you a reply at our earliest opportunity.

Sincerely yours,

Ronald H. Walker Director

cc:

Your Washington Office

LS (2)) w/incoming FNP:CRBraxton:crb:1-21-74

(See Tower/10373)

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JAN 28 1974

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Honorable John G. Tower United States Senate Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator Tower:

H34-PR

The Office of Congressional Liaison has asked us to thank you for your inquiry on behalf of Mrs. Jack L. Pittman concerning the nomination of the former St. Luke's Episcopal Church to the National Register of Historic Places.

We are pleased to advise you that St. Luke's Episcopal Church was nominated by the State of Texas through the State Historic Preservation Officer and was entered in the National Register on January 17, 1974. The enclosed brochure and fact sheet describe the National Register and its grant-in-aid program.

National Register properties are eligible to be considered for matching grants-in-aid under this program if they are in accordance with an approved statewide historic preservation plan. Grant-inaid applications are made by the State through the State Historic Preservation Officer. Mrs. Pittman may wish to consult the Texas State Historic Preservation Officer, Mr. Truett Latimer, Executive Director, Texas State Historical Survey Committee, Post Office Box 12276, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711, concerning applying for a grant to restore the church.

A similar reply is being sent to the Honorable Lloyd Bentsen, United States Senate, who also inquired in behalf of Mrs. Pittman concerning this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Allen Connelly

Associate Director

Enclosures

(Constituent's letter returned to both)

cc: Senator Bentsen's Washington Office Mr. Truett Latimer, State Historic Preservation Officer for Texas) w/c of incs. CP

Regional Director-SWR) w/c of inc.

SIMILAR LETTER SENT TO: Honorable Lloyd Bentsen United States Senator 912 Federal Office Building Austin, Texas 78701

Director's Reading File

CShull: crb: 1-24-7