

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NATIONAL
REGISTER

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

1. NAME OF PROPERTY

Historic name: St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Other name/site number: Site No. 837

2. LOCATION

Street & number: 612 North Pecan

Not for publication: N/A

City/town: Wharton

State: TX *County:* Wharton

Code: 481 *Zip Code:* 77488

3. CLASSIFICATION

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property: *Contributing* *Noncontributing*

<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	<i>buildings</i>
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	<i>sites</i>
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	<i>structures</i>
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	<i>objects</i>
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	<i>Total</i>

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic and Architectural Resources of Wharton, Wharton County, Texas

4. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this x nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property x meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

 See continuation sheet.

Laurie J. Munnell
Signature of certifying official

27 Jan. 1993
Date

State Historic Preservation Officer, Texas Historical Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

 See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CERTIFICATION

I, hereby certify that this property is:

~~Entered in the~~
National Register

1 entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.

Delores Byers 3/18/93

 determined eligible for the
National Register

 See continuation sheet.

 determined not eligible for the
National Register

 removed from the National Register

 other (explain):

for
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. FUNCTION OR USE

Historic: RELIGION: Religious Facility

Current: RELIGION: Religious Facility

7. DESCRIPTION

Architectural Classification: LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Late Gothic Revival

Materials: foundation Concrete
walls Brick
roof Asphalt
other N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

 x See continuation sheet.

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: locally

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : A

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1929

Significant Dates: 1929

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

 x See continuation sheet.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Wharton, Wharton County, Texas

Description:

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is a large 1-story masonry building facing west on a corner lot along North Pecan Street. Its rectangular form is modified by a 3-story crenelated tower on the northwest corner. The interior features an open nave accessed through a double wooden door under arched art glass windows. The church exhibits Late Gothic Revival detailing with arched windows and stepped buttresses on the corners. A gable roof with asphalt shingles covers the building and terminates in capped gabled parapets on the west and east elevations.

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is a large 1-story masonry building facing west on a corner lot along North Pecan Street. The church is on a flat lot in a largely residential neighborhood. Its basic rectangular form contains an open nave. Mature deciduous trees and shrubbery surround the church.

The principal facade is dominated by centrally placed double wooden doors under an arched art glass windows and two 1/1 art glass windows. A 3-story crenelated tower on the northwest corner rises above the mainblock of the church and features arched art glass windows on the tower and arched louvered windows in the bell tower.

The church exhibits Late Gothic Revival detailing with arched windows and stepped buttresses on the corners. A gable roof with asphalt shingles covers the building and terminates in capped gabled parapets on the west and east elevations.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Wharton, Wharton County, Texas

Statement of Significance:

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church (1929) at 612 North Pecan is an excellent example of Late Gothic Revival style and one of Wharton's best preserved historic brick churches. It retains a high degree of integrity with virtually no alterations. The church is nominated under Criterion C for architecture and associated with the context: *Community Development in Wharton, Texas, 1875-1942.*

In 1924 St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Missouri Synod purchased the lot from George A. Boerger for \$200 and built a temporary building. The congregation was served by a circuit riding minister who also ministered in Richmond, Edna, Needville, Bay City and Matagorda. A more permanent building was needed in 1929 and dedicated March 16, 1930. It still serves the congregation.

St. John's is one of Wharton's most noteworthy examples of ecclesiastical architecture. It is one of two brick churches remaining of at least 50 years of age. The other is the Old First Methodist Episcopal Church, South (Site No. 735) also nominated to the National Register. The lancet windows, crenelated corner tower, and decorative buttresses make the building an fine example of the Late Gothic Revival style and eligible for listing under Criterion C.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See bibliography of historic context statement.

 x See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

 preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

 previously listed in the National Register

 previously determined eligible by the National Register

 designated a National Historic Landmark

 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #

 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary Location of Additional Data:

 x State historic preservation office (Texas Historical Commission)

 Other state agency

 Federal agency

 Local government

 University

 Other -- Specify Repository:

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreage of Property: Less than one acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A 14 782240 3246280 B

C D

 See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: Barbee Addition, Block 11, Lot 8

Boundary Justification: The property includes all areas historically associated with the building.

11. FORM PREPARED BY (assisted by Dwayne Jones, Preservation Planner, THC staff)

Name/Title: Ed Galloway and Ralph Newlan

Organization: Hardy-Heck-Moore

Date: July 1989

January 1992

Street & Number: 2112 Rio Grande

Telephone: 512-478-8014

City or Town: Austin

State: TX *Zip:* 78705

2/1/93

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Wharton MPS

Wharton County, TEXAS

Date Listed

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---------|
| 21. House at 401 North Richmond | Entered in the
National Register | 3/18/93 |
| 22. House at 512 North Resident | Entered in the
National Register | 3/18/93 |
| 23. Linn Street Historic District | Substantive Review | 3/18/93 |
| 24. Merrill--Roten House | Entered in the
National Register | 3/18/93 |
| 25. Moran--Moore House | Entered in the
National Register | 3/18/93 |
| 26. Speaker, J. H., House | Entered in the
National Register | 3/18/93 |
| 27. St. John's Evengelical Lutheran Church | Entered in the
National Register | 3/18/93 |
| 28. Texas and New Orleans Railroad Depot | Entered in the
National Register | 3/18/93 |
| 29. Texas and New Orleans Railroad Bridge | Entered in the
National Register | 3/18/93 |
| 30. West Milam Street Mercantile Historic District | Entered in the
National Register | 3/18/93 |
| 31. Worthing, Louis F., House | Entered in the
National Register | 3/18/93 |

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

MULTIPLE NAME: Wharton MPS

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Wharton

DATE RECEIVED: 2/01/93

DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/16/93

DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/04/93

DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/18/93

DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 93000100

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 3/18/93 DATE

Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA
REVIEWER
DISCIPLINE
DATE

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

___count ___resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

___architectural classification
___materials
___descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas 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

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ___verbal boundary description
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
SITE No. 837
WHARTON CO., TEXAS
13 OF 39

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500657