

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

1. NAME OF PROPERTY

Historic name: Sacred Heart Catholic Church

Other name/site number: 3000

2. LOCATION

Street & number: 1633 South Eighth Street

not for publication: N/A

City/town: Abilene

State: TX *County:* Taylor

code: 441 *zip code:* 79602

3. CLASSIFICATION

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

<i>Number of Resources within Property:</i>	<i>Contributing</i>	<i>Noncontributing</i>
	__2__	___ buildings
	___	___ sites
	___	___ structures
	___	___ objects
__2__	__0__	<i>Total</i>

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic and Architectural Resources in Abilene, 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.

Curtis Powell 2-12-92
Signature of certifying official 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

entered in the National Register Alana Byer 3/23/92
 See continuation sheet.

 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

Sub: Religious facility

Current: Religion

Sub: Religious facility

7. DESCRIPTION

Architectural Classification: Spanish Colonial Revival

Materials: foundation brick
walls brick
roof tile
other tile; cast stone

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

Area(s) of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1931

Significant Dates: 1931

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Dielmann, Leo M.J.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above. x See continuation sheet.

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National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7/8 Page 5Historic and Architectural Resources
of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas

Description:

Sacred Heart Catholic Church is a 2-story, load bearing masonry building with a basilica plan and gable roofs. The exterior walls are a combination of brick, glazed tile, and cast stone detailing and the roofs of the nave and transepts are covered with ceramic tile. The church features a richly embellished blend of Spanish Colonial Revival and Moorish detailing. Facing north on South Eighth, the church is in a residential area. The building retains its integrity.

The front (north) facade is the most elaborately detailed elevation, its 3-bay front is accented by a 3-story domed tower with belfry. The basilica plan is broken only by the primary entrance that is offset in the tower. The double door primary entrance is framed by a cast stone horseshoe arch and bas relief surround. Openings are formed by flat arches, blunt arches and horseback arches. Cast stone architraves frame individual and multiple openings. Richly detailed cast stone engaged columns add to the plasticity of the facade. The windows are filled with leaded art glass and stained glass panels. A stained glass filled bypanum, above the door, completes the ornamentation of the entrance. Blunt arches with cast stone hood molds accent the 3-bays of the nave, while the transepts are enlivened by horseshoe arches, glazed tile, and elaborate cast stone detailing.

A 2-story, frame, educational building stands east of the sanctuary and has brickwork on the porch that is similar to the church. Although asbestos siding has been applied to the exterior, the building retains enough integrity to be Contributing.

Statement of Significance:

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, built in 1931, is nominated under Criterion C in the area of Architecture, as the city's least altered and best preserved sanctuary. It is an outstanding local architectural specimen, incorporating Spanish Colonial Revival and Moorish stylistic elements. Prominent San Antonio architect Leo M.J. Dielmann, designed the building. The building is associated with the historic context "The Railroad and Abilene's Development into a Wholesale and Distribution Center in West Texas, 1881-1939." The building is in good condition and retains its integrity.

The majority of Abilene's early residents were Protestants, and Baptists, Methodists and Presbyterians were among the first to organize and establish churches. Protestants far outnumbered other religious groups in the city but local Catholics held the first mass in Abilene reportedly as early as 1881 (Duff and Seibt 1980:163). The first and subsequent masses were held in the homes of citizens but by 1895 the first sanctuary of what became known as Sacred Heart

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

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Historic and Architectural Resources
of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas

Catholic Church was dedicated. This building stood at the corner of North Fifth and Beech streets, where present day St. Paul's Methodist Church now stands.

With Abilene's growth during the early 20th century, the church experienced a shortage of space and plans were made to build a new sanctuary. Father Henry Krufer led building efforts. In 1926 the church was sold to the St. Francis Assisi Parish and was moved to Cottonwood Street where it served Abilene's Hispanic community. Father Krufer originally recommended that the new Sanctuary for Sacred Heart be built on the grounds of St. Joseph's Academy, a school the Catholic Sisters of Divine Providence operated, rather than on three lots on South Eighth Street which the church had owned since the early 1920s. However, church leaders finally selected the site on South Eighth Street "... with easy access to Sayles Boulevard and Butternut Street from the approximate geological center of the parish" (Schroeder 1973:12, 36, 37, 39).

Architect Leo M.J. Dielmann of San Antonio designed Sacred Heart Catholic Church and many other Catholic churches throughout the state, including Our Lady of Lourdes (National Register 1986) in Victoria, Texas.

Most local historic churches built before 1939 display Gothic Revival detailing or are vernacular buildings with little or no stylistic detailing. Sacred Heart Catholic Church, however, stands out among the others because of its unique Spanish Colonial Revival and Moorish detailing. Indeed, the sanctuary is among the city's most noteworthy buildings.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

 x See bibliography for associated historic context.

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:

- State historic preservation office (Texas Historical Commission)
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government (City of Abilene Planning Department)
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: Abilene Preservation League

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreage of Property: Less than one acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	14	430240	3589340	B	_	_	_
C	_	_	_	D	_	_	_

Verbal Boundary Description:

Hughes Addition (LT8 4-B), Block 186, Lots 3-6

Boundary Justification:

The boundary includes the area that has been historically associated with the property and that retains its historic and architectural integrity.

11. FORM PREPARED BY (assisted by Amy E. Dase, Historian, THC staff)

Name/Title: David Moore, Historian
 Organization: Hardy Heck Moore
 Street & Number: 2112 Rio Grande
 City or town: Austin

Date: June 1989; January 1992
 Telephone: 512/478-8014
 State: TX Zip: 78705

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Historic and Architectural Resources
of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas

Jhules Reading House
421 Reading
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas
Photographed by David Moore
Winter 1989
Negative with Texas Historical Commission
Northwest oblique, camera facing southeast
Photograph 41 of 48

Albert S. and Ruth Goodloe House
1302 Sayles Boulevard
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas
Photographed by David Moore
Winter 1989
Negative with Texas Historical Commission
East facade, camera facing west
Photograph 42 of 48

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
1633 South Eighth
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas
Photographed by David Moore
Winter 1989
Negative with Texas Historical Commission
Northeast oblique, camera facing southwest
Photograph 43 of 48

Thomas L. Blanton House
3425 South Seventh
Abilene, Taylor County, Texas
Photographed by David Moore
Winter 1989
Negative with Texas Historical Commission
North facade, camera facing south
Photograph 44 of 48

2/19/92

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Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Abilene MPS
TEXAS

Date Listed

COVER	Substantive Review	Date Listed
		12/18/91
92000225	1915 Taylor County Courthouse	3/23/92
92000193	Abilene Christian College Administration Building	3/23/92
91001811	Abilene Commercial Historic District	12/18/91
92000200	Abilene Fire Station No. 2	3/23/92
92000205	Abilene Street Railway Company Barn	3/23/92
92000191	Abilene and Northern Railway Company Depot <i>owned by</i>	3/23/92
92000214	Ackers, William and Mary, House	3/23/92
92000234	Blanton, Thomas L., House <u>Substantive Review</u>	3/23/92
92000229	Boyd--Hall House	3/23/92
92000206	Caldwell Hall <u>Substantive Review</u>	3/23/92
92000195	Cash, W. A. V., House <u>Substantive Review</u>	3/23/92
92000218	Castle, David S., House <u>Substantive Review</u>	3/23/92
92000211	Chambers, Samuel A., House	3/23/92
92000237	Davis, George R., House	3/23/92
92000199	Dillingham, O. D. and Ada, House	3/23/92
92000222	Dodd--Harkrider House <u>Substantive Review</u>	3/23/92
92000204	Evans, J. W., House	3/23/92
92000228	Federal Building (<i>now returned</i>)	Ret.
92000210	Finley, Eugene L., House	3/23/92
92000226	First Presbyterian Church <u>Substantive Review</u>	3/23/92
92000215	Fritz, David C. and Docia, House	3/23/92
92000192	Fulwiler, William J., House <i>owned by</i> <u>Substantive Review</u>	3/23/92
92000232	Goodloe, Albert S. and Ruth, House	3/23/92
92000207	Green, Roland A. D., House	3/23/92
92000236	Higginbotham, J. G., House	3/23/92
92000196	House at 1127 Ash Street	3/23/92
92000224	Hughes, Ed S., Company Warehouse	3/23/92
92000212	Jones, A. T., House	3/23/92
92000221	Lanius, C. A., House <u>Substantive Review</u>	3/23/92
92000194	Luce Hall <u>Substantive Review</u>	3/23/92
92000220	Magee, J. D., House	3/23/92
92000201	McDaniel, George W. and Lavina, House	3/23/92
92000219	McDonald Hall	3/23/92
92000209	McMurry College Administration Building <u>Substantive Review</u>	3/23/92
92000198	Minter, William A., House	3/23/92
92000216	Motz, Charles, House	3/23/92
92000230	Parramore, D. D., House	3/23/92
92000223	Radford, James M., Grocery Company Warehouse	3/23/92
92000231	Reading, Jhules, House	3/23/92
92000235	Roberts, Nathan J. and Nancy, House	3/23/92
92000233	Sacred Heart Catholic Church	3/23/92

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Sacred Heart Catholic Church

MULTIPLE NAME: Abilene MPS

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Taylor

DATE RECEIVED: 2/19/92 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 3/06/92
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/22/92 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/04/92
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 92000233

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 3/23/92 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



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH
1633 SOUTH EIGHTH
ABILENE, TAYLOR CO., TEXAS

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH
ABILENE, TAYLOR CO., TEXAS
PHOTOGRAPH 43 of 48
Photo 44 of 48

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500625