

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This building is one of the largest and most consistently well-detailed Gothic churches in the area. Aside from recent cleaning and sandblasting, which was handled in a restrained and professional manner, it remains in its original condition and design. An educational wing has been added to the west side of the rear, but being in a compatible spirit with the original design, does not detract from the appearance. Indeed, the landscaped area at this side greatly enhances the siting of the structure.

Particularly noteworthy is the quality of cut stone work in the detailing of the windows and entrances, where Gothic precedents have been faithfully and lavishly simulated. The delicate, tracery-like patterns of stone and its grey color contrast nicely with the dark-hued brick, considerably lightening what might otherwise be the somber countenance of the facade. The corbeling and other forms of texturizing exhibited in the brick of the facade also serve to enhance its dignity and character. The facade is not the only imposing aspect of the building. Its two asymmetrical spires are a major point of interest in the town's low skyline. The imposing mass of the east and north walls climbing steeply up Hiter Street from rear to front make for an impressive sight.

The Gothic theme is reflected in the detailing of the interior. Both the apse and the roof trusses are adaptations of Gothic arches. The massing of the organ pipes is also supportive of the general Gothic theme. Several other features, though not of Gothic precedence are nonetheless noteworthy. The original gas lighting fixtures, which have been electrified, drop symmetrically from either side of the roof truss bases. The woodwork, including the beams, pews and ceiling, is consistently dark and frequently embellished with detail throughout but contrasts nicely with the plain white plaster walls. Also important is the highly unusual polygonal projecting balcony at the rear of the sanctuary, through whose arched opening the rose window projects its multi-colored light.