United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms* Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic First	t United Methodist	Church of Drumright		×
and/or common	same	Ū.		
2. Loca			and the second	
street & number	115 N. Pennsy	Ivania Ave.	ſ	√A not for publication
city, town D	rumright	vicinity of	congressional district	No. 2
state Oklal	homa cod	e 40 county	Creek	code 037
3. Clas	sification			
Category district _X_ building(s) structure site object	Ownership public private both Public Acquisition N/Ain process being considered	Status _X_ occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted _X_ yes: unrestricted no	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. Own	er of Prope	rtv		
	United Methodist C 115 N. Pennsylvan			
city, town I	Drumright	vicinity of	state	Oklahoma
5. 'Loca	ation of Leg	al Descripti	on	
courthouse, regi	stry of deeds, etc. Cour	nty Clerk's Office		
street & number	Creek County Cou	rthouse	·····	
city, town Sa	apulpa		state	Oklahoma
6. Rep	resentation	in Existing	Surveys	
title Cushing (Dil Field Project	has this pro	operty been determined e	legible? yes \underline{X} no
date]	L980		federal sta	te county loca
depository for su	urvey records Preserv	ation Office, Okla	homa Historical Soc	iety
city, town Ok	klahoma City		state	Oklahoma

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7. Description

Condition x_ excellent good fair	deteriorated ruins unexposed	Check one x_ unaltered altered	Check one _x_ original s moved	ite date
tair	unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Drumright First United Methodist Church is a one-story building of English Gothic design. The building is approximately 35 feet wide by 100 feet long. A seventy-seven foot tower marks the entrance on the east end of the church. Gothic windows and Gothic architectural vocabulary applied on the tower gives the building a medieval appearance. Flying buttresses are used to support the masonry building along the north and south walls. The tower is also supported by flying buttresses. Roman arches are featured around a series of windows on the north side of the church. The doors are made of solid red oak. There has been no alterations to the building and it remains in its original condition.

The materials used in the masonry construction were roughly-hewn Arkansas sandstone and Bedford Indian limestone as specified by the architect, F.A. Duggan. Mr. Duggan designed several churches in the Tulsa area. All interior wood used in the building is red oak as also specified by Mr. Duggan.

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture x architecture art commerce communications		Iandscape architectur Iaw Iterature	re religion science sculpture x social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1927 - present	Builder/Architect F.	A. Duggan	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Drumright Methodist Church is significant for two reasons: (1) it played an important role in establishing a moral code to follow in the lawless and viceridden oil boom town of Drumright, and (2) the elaborate nature of the church building which was erected in an era of primitive boom town conditions when most structures were temporary and built as inexpensively as possible.

Churches served as essential social institutions in the process of strengthening communities in the Cushing oil field towns. They were one of the first organizations established in the oil field towns. They provided a social outlet for oil field workers and their families as well as establishing morality in the boom towns where law enforcement and justice were scarce.

The elaborate features and amount of funds invested in the Drumright Methodist Church building reflected the newly-acquired wealth derived from oil field royalties. Aaron Drumright, co-founder of the town, contributed a large portion of the building costs totaling \$45,000. Drumright's wealth was attained through the sale of oil leases and townsite properties.

The church is the only English Gothic style building in the Cushing oil field area. The stained glass windows are unique because of the leaded diamond pane construction and the designs of the stained glass windows along the north and south sides of the sanctuary. There are five distinct pairs of window patterns, each matching on the north and south walls. The window patterns have no narrative content which is unusual for a religious structure of this scale. These ornate features were an attempt at sophistication for a small oil boom town in Oklahoma.

9. Major Bibliographical References

UTN NOT VERIFIED

Drumright Methodist Church Records Interview: Mrs. W.J. Volok, April, 1980.

10. Geographical Data

Ju

Chief of Registration

Acreage of nominated property Under Quadrangle name Drumright, OK.	one_acre	Quadrangle	scale7.5'		
A 1 14 7 1 6 1 8 0 3 9 8 5 Zone Easting Northing	2 10 15 B	Zone Easting N	Iorthing		
Verbal boundary description and justification Lots 1-5, Block 48, M. Jones Addition, Drumright, Oklahoma					
List all states and counties for prop	erties overlapping sta	te or county boundaries			
state N/A	code county		code		
state	code county		code		
11. Form Prepare	d By				
name/title Kathy L. Morgan	Directe	d by Dr. George O. Car	ney		
organization Cushing Oil Field	d Historic Pres. S	urveydate 7/17/80			
street & number Oklahoma Stat	e University	telephone 405-624-6	5248		
city or town Stillwater		state Oklahoma			
12. State Historic	Preservati	on Officer Ce	rtification		
The evaluated significance of this propert	ty within the state is:				
As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.					
State Historic Preservation Officer signat	ure Competer	lf 2-2-82			
title	,	date			
For HCRS use only I hereby certify that this property is a Tell Grourena	Included in the National	date ,?/	8/2		
Keeper of the National Register		diate			