

'Country Cathedral'

Pictured is the Oslo "Country Cathedral" Lutheran Church which is located midway between Gruber, Tex., Guymon and Texhoma (See inset for exact location). The

church will dedicate a new and unique pipe organ Sunday at the beginning of the worship service at 11 a.m. The public is invited to attend.

Country Cathedral To Dedicate Organ

Members of Oslo Lutheran Church, sometimes referred to as the "Country Cathedral", invite all interested friends and neighbors to join with them in the dedication of their new pipe organ. The dedication will be held at the beginning of the worship service at 11 a.m. Sunday.

This is the culmination of a project involving long and faithful study, planning and design. The motivation of the project has been the underlying desire to inspire the most heartfelt personal expression and participation on

the part of the worshiper.

Oslo Lutheran, a small country congregation, is rather unique in many ways. It is located in the Oslo Community midway between Gruver, Tex. — Guymon and Texhoma. It is a friendly, progressive and growing church which includes members not only from the local rural area but also from the three surrounding towns, who agree that a 20 minute drive to the little country cathedral on Sunday mornings is a relaxing time of family togetherness in preparation for worship. Oslo

Lutheran is well known in the American Lutheran Church for its stewardship in pioneering the total sponsorship of mission churches by one congregation. Churches in Odessa and Lubbock, Tex. were sponsored by Oslo.

Preliminary research over the past 10 years leading to plans for the organ included visits to churches in many parts of the United States, Germany, Holland, Switzerland, England and the Scandinavian countries to study and compare church acoustics and church organs both historic and modern.

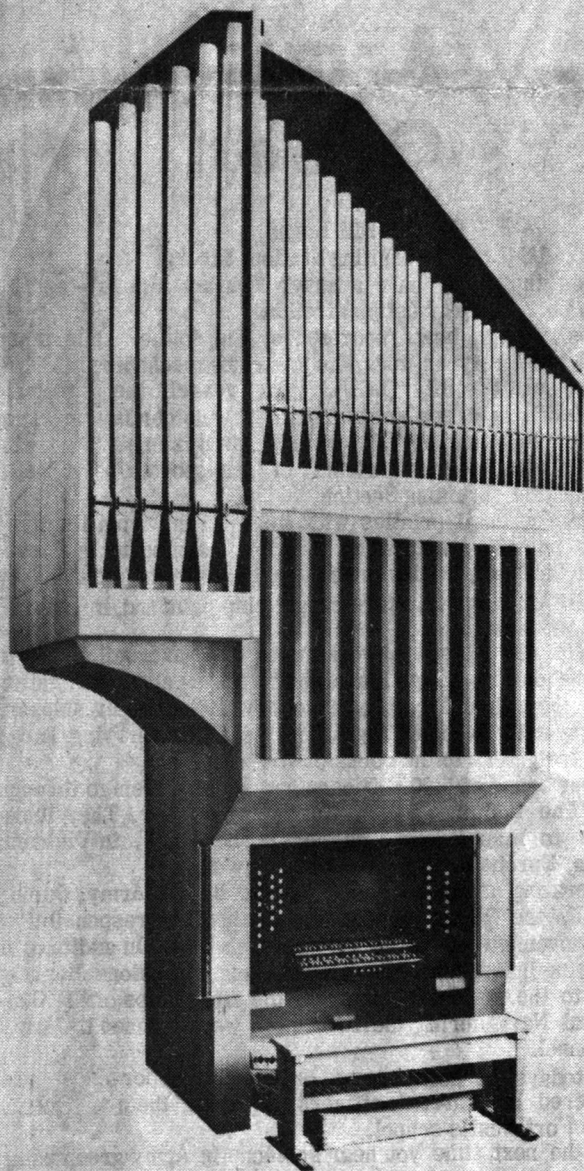
The firm selected for designing, building and installing the Oslo organ was Robert L. Sipe, Inc. of Dallas. The president of this firm has gained national recognition for his instruments which combine some of the finest historic and modern principles of pipe organ building. The re-discovery of some of these principles was pioneered by Dr. Albert Schweitzer who recognized that many of the historic organs built 150 to 200 years ago and still being used today are more dependable, more efficient and more inspiring for crystal clear tonal leading of congregational worship than most of the pipe organs built during the last 100 years.

Some of these principles include:

(1) Placement of the instrument within the sanctuary rather than buried in a wall recession or chamber. (This permits low wind pressure to be used for gentle unforced tone and requires fewer pipes.)

(2) An acoustically designed cabinet or case is used to blend and project the tone.

(3) Slider type wind chests and mechanical key action are together employed, rather than electric valves and electric key-board contacts for each note and



Oslo Organ

The Oslo organ, shown above, was designed and installed by Robert L. Sipe, Inc. of Dallas, a nationally recognized builder of pipe organs. The organ was custom designed for the church and the church structure renovated for ideal placement and best tonal and acoustic quality.

Organ

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pipe wind valve. (This provides more precise control and blend of the pipe's tonal speech as well as greater simplicity and dependability.) These principles are applied using the most modern materials. The action of the organ stops and automatic stop combination action is electric.

The organ was custom designed for the building. Planning for a most successful installation included minor renovation of the sanctuary entrance for ideal placement of the instrument in a high structural position. Also the carpeting and composition tile floor was replaced with an all stone floor. This has result-

ed in not only a bright and cheerful appearance but also clear and live accoustics. Preaching is now naturally amplified without a public address system and the worshiper is accoustically encouraged to participate heartily in singing and responses as his voice is automatically blended and joined with the grand chorus of fellow worshipers.

Sipe, the organ builder, spent many months with his associates in designing and building the many intricate hand made parts of the instrument. The pipes were made to his specifications in Germany and Holland. They are arranged very compactly within the cabinet work of the organ case and range in size from smaller than a pencil for the high pitch tones to eight feet in length for deep bass tones. Some of the larger pipes are made of mahogany wood, and others in zinc, copper, or highly polished pure tin. Each pipe must be carefully voiced at the final installation site for tonal quality and balance. The console is made of oak to match the church pews and also contrasting rosewood, with ebony keys and stop knobs.

A recent recognition of Sipe's artistic ability is the announcement of the merging of his firm with the AEolian Skinner Organ Co, of Boston, Mass. AEolian Skinner is perhaps the best known pipe organ company in the United States. They have built many famous instruments in this country including the organ at the Mormon Tabernacle in Salt Lake City and also the organ of the Cathedral of St. John the Devine in New York City which is the largest cathedral in North America.