St. Michael Archangel's Church in Smolnik

The construction of the temple was completed in 1791. It is a log building made of massive wooden beams. The high historical value of this small church stems from the fact that it is one of the few examples of Boyko-style church architecture preserved in the Polish Bieszczady Mountains. Its characteristics include the similar size of the three parts: matroneum, nave, and sanctuary. Each of them is covered with a roof in the form of a dome. The whole temple is covered with shingles. The wood has turned dark brown.

The matroneum, nave, and sanctuary were built on a square plan. The nave is wider than the other two parts. However, they are all the same height. Each part is covered with a hip roof. The roof above the nave is the highest. The hip roofs are made of four triangular slopes meeting at the peak. Each top is crowned by an onion dome with a forged cross. The crosses have two horizontal beams and a slanted bottom one. Beneath the main part of the roof, we have another roof tier which is lower and narrower.

The entire building is surrounded by wide eaves with small rectangular windows above. The windowpanes are divided into smaller squares. There is one window on the southern side of each part of the church, as well as on the eastern wall of the sanctuary. They are also located on the northern walls of the matroneum and the nave.

Currently, the temple is standing on a hill, among meadows, away from other buildings. It was once surrounded by houses of the lively village inhabited by the Boyko ethnographic group. It disappeared after the forced resettlement in 1951. As a result of the shifted borders, Smolnik became part of the Polish People's Republic. Local people were transported to distant regions of the Soviet Union. The fate of the temple became as tragic as the fate of the members of this Greek Catholic parish. The church became a scene of devastation, burglary, and it was turned into a warehouse in the end, yet it survived. It experienced a turning point when it was added to the register of historic monuments in 1969. In 1973, the church was handed over to the Roman Catholic parish. It introduced a décor that was different from the previous one, unrelated to the Eastern liturgical tradition and local culture. Since 2009, the church has been undergoing restoration aimed at bringing back the original character of the interior.

The length of the entire building: 17 m

The height of the matroneum: 11 m

The width of the matroneum: 4.5 m

The height of the nave: 13 m

The width of the nave: 6 m

The height of the sanctuary: 11 m

The width of the sanctuary: 5 m