

Rural Churches of Baldwin County

(Thematic Group)

Contact: Ray C. Lane, Jr.
P. O. Box 7
Stockton, Al. 36579

Historic Name: Stockton Methodist Church

Common Name: Stockton Methodist Church

Location: East side Highway 59, Stockton

Verbal Boundary Description:

Begin at the southeast corner of Highway 59 and County 21, opposite the Masonic Lodge. Thence proceed 235 feet in a northeasterly direction to a point, thence east 190 feet to a point, thence 175 feet in a southeasterly direction to a point, thence south 265 feet to a point, thence in a northwesterly direction 380 feet to the point of beginning.

Acreage: 2.3

UTM: 16/418/575/3431/470

Date of Construction: 1929

Architect/Builder: A. J. Helton

Statement of Significance

Criterion C-Architecture:

The Stockton Methodist Church is significant as an intact rural house of worship. Though constructed in 1929, the most recent building in the thematic group, the church is representative of an earlier aesthetic with its Classical Revival inspiration. The building is thus significant as a formal architectural statement in a community dominated by simple vernacular buildings.

Integrity:

The Stockton Methodist Church retains its integrity of location, materials and design. Exterior integrity is good with the only significant changes being brick pavers on the concrete block porch and concrete block infill between the piers. Interior alterations include acoustic ceiling tile, new pews and partitions on either side of the entrances.

Description:

The Stockton Methodist Church is a one-story, frame, 3x6 bay gable roof front structure resting on brick piers. A recessed porch covers the full facade and the simple entablature and pedimented front gable are supported on massive square brick columns. The double wooden panel doors have a transom above and paired 9/9 windows each side. The facade features flush boards and the clapboarded pediment has a diamond louvered vent. The porch itself is concrete block with

brick pavers. The rear elevation has a rear entrance on the north side and a pair of 6/6 windows. The boxed cornice has closed returns at the rear.

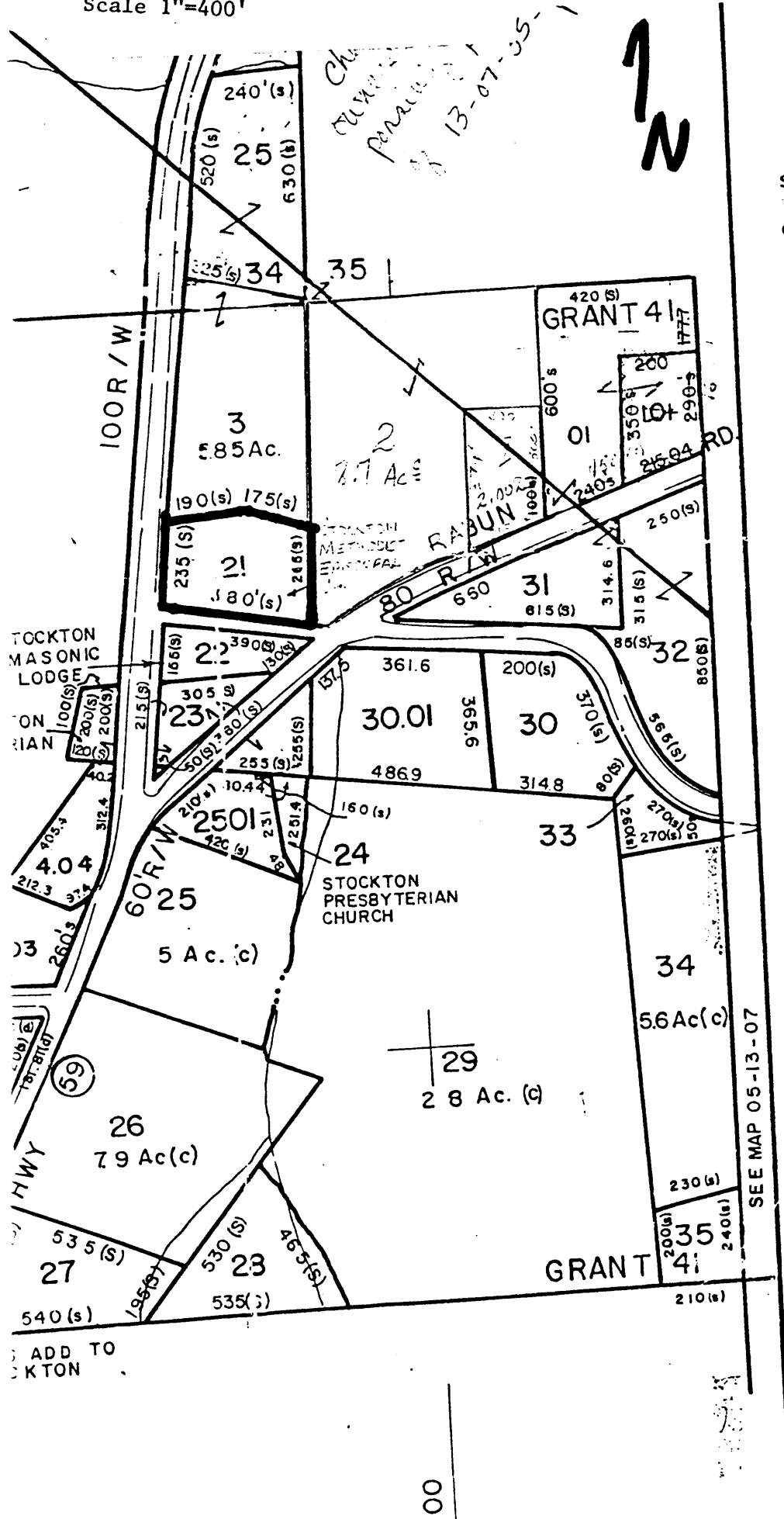
The sanctuary is entered through a vestibule. Partitions to either side of the vestibule create classroom space. The pews are divided by a single aisle down the middle. Boxed ceiling beams run the width of the sanctuary and globe lights are suspended between. Paneled wainscoting runs around the room and the chancery rail is balustraded. The altar is slightly recessed. Office space is behind the altar.

Historical Summary:

In 1845 Methodists and Presbyterians in the Stockton area worshipped together. Stockton was a farming and lumber community with water and road connections. It was not until 1885 that the Methodists officially organized. A church was constructed shortly thereafter but was destroyed by fire. After the 1926 hurricane the congregation purchased a lot from the state for \$350 and dismantled an old schoolhouse on the property. One of the congregation, A. J. Helton, used the older materials in constructing a new church. This explains the church's older appearance. The building was dedicated in 1929. The present congregation numbers about sixty.

Contributing Building 1

Scale 1"=400'



LEGEND

- STATE LINE ----- ARE.
- COUNTY LINE ----- ARE.
- CORPORATION LINE ----- DIME
- DISTRICT LINE ----- DIME
- ROAD R/W ===== WAT
- TRAVELED ROAD WAY ===== INTI
- RAILROAD R/W ===== U.S.
- PROPERTY LINE ----- STA
- LAND HOOK ----- CO
- INTERIOR TRACT LINE, OR ORIGINAL TRACT LINE ----- RO
- SUBDIVISION LOT NUMBER 29 ----- MA
- PARCEL NUMBER 15 ----- LIN
- BLOCK LIMIT, (WHERE APPLICABLE) ----- SE
- OWNERSHIP MAP BLOCK, (WHERE APPLICABLE) (2) ----- ST
- CHURCHES, SCHOOLS, CEMETERIES, AIRPORTS, GOVERNMENT LANDS, ETC. BY NAME ----- CC

| DATE | BY | REVIS |
|-------|------|-------|
| 9-80 | DER. | CHANG |
| 12-81 | MAM | |
| 4-83 | CPK | |
| 5-84 | LC | |
| 12-85 | DD | |

SECTIONS

TOWN 1 NORT

05-1
MAP I