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() NOT FOR PUBLICATION

SOUTH CAROLINA INVENTORY FORM FOR HISTORIC DISTRICTS AND
INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES IN A MULTIPLE PROPERTY SUBMISSION

NAME OF MULTIPLE PROPERTY SUBMISSION: Lower Richland County Multiple Resource Area

PREFERRED NAME OF PROPERTY: Hopkins Presbyterian Church

HISTORIC NAME OF PROPERTY: Hopkins Methodist Church; Hopkins Presbyterian Church

COMMON NAME OF PROPERTY: Hopkins Presbyterian Church

LOCATION: Southeast of the junction of County Roads 66 and 86 in the community
of Hopkins

CLASSIFICATION: Building

OWNER: Hopkins Presbyterian Cemetery Association
c/o Mr. & Mrs. J. Carlton McCracken
Route 1, Box 79
Hopkins, S. C. 29061

DESCRIPTION

The Hopkins Presbyterian Church is a small, one-story frame building constructed ca. 1891. The building has weatherboard siding and a brick pier foundation. The longitudinal gable roof is pedimented at either end. Entrance is by a small vestibule beneath the northwest gable. This vestibule has a gabled roof and an arched doorway. Single six-over-six-light sash flank the vestibule. The main gable end and the vestibule's gable feature alternating courses of imbricated and squared shingles. The northeast side elevation has three single, six-over-six-light sash windows; the southwest side, originally identical, has had a small frame anteroom added, with entrance to the sanctuary through what was originally the third window. The southeast (rear) elevation features a tripartite window, with a central, rectangular window rising above two smaller lights.

The building's interior includes the small vestibule and a modest sanctuary with beaded-board walls and ceiling. Surviving original furnishings include wooden pews, pulpit chairs, a lectern, a communion table, and a pump organ. A wood stove once provided heat; this has been removed, although the small brick flue remains above the roof.

The church is located on a large lot that also contains a cemetery.

SIGNIFICANCE

AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture - Religion

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: S (for office use only)

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

Hopkins Presbyterian Church is significant as an unusually intact example of a small nineteenth century, rural church. Distinctive architectural features of the building include the round-arched entrance, the imbricated and squared shingles in the gable ends, and the tripartite window on the rear. The building was built ca. 1891 for the Hopkins Methodist Church, but the congregation lapsed, and in 1919 the building was purchased by the Hopkins Presbyterian Church.¹ Hopkins Presbyterian Church had begun in the late nineteenth century as a small group which met in a nearby school building. A student from the Columbia Presbyterian Seminary preached to the group two Sundays each month. This continued until 1916 when the Hopkins Presbyterian Church was formally organized.² The congregation was small; there were fifteen charter members.³ By 1937 there were 41 members, but in 1955 the membership had grown so small that services were discontinued.⁴ Today the church and cemetery are maintained by the Hopkins Presbyterian Cemetery Association.

ACREAGE: Approximately .59 acre

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The boundary of the nominated property is shown as the black line on the accompanying Richland County tax map # 21614, section 1, parcel 2, and tax map #21615, with a scale of 1 inch equalling 100 feet. It includes the historic building (church), cemetery and their immediate surroundings.

QUAD NAME: Congaree, S. C.

QUAD SCALE: 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCE POINT: 17/511650/3751982

OTHER INFORMATION:

FOOTNOTES

(1) Deed Book U, pp. 519-20 and Deed Book BY, p. 53, Richland County Register of Mesne Conveyance, Richland County Judicial Center, Columbia, S.C.; F.D. Jones and W.H. Mills, eds., History of the Presbyterian Church in South Carolina Since 1850 (Columbia, S. C.: Synod of South Carolina, 1926), pp. 657-58.

(2) Jones and Mills, pp. 657-58.

(3) Ibid.

(4) Interview with Mrs. Carlton McCracken, Hopkins, S.C., July 12, 1985; Works Progress Administration, "Survey of State and Local Records: 1936," Church Records From Richland County, South Caroliniana Library, Columbia, S. C.