

Form 10-300  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: South Carolina	
COUNTY: Charleston	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 715-45,0049	DATE 5/14/71

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Trinity Episcopal Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
About 1.2 miles north of town on S.C. 174.

CITY OR TOWN:  
Edisto Island

STATE: South Carolina 29438      CODE: 45      COUNTY: Charleston      CODE: 019 30

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Trinity Episcopal Church

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Edisto Island      STATE: South Carolina      CODE: 45

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Register of Mesne Conveyance

STREET AND NUMBER:  
2 Court House Square

CITY OR TOWN: Edisto Island      STATE: South Carolina      CODE: 45

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
South Carolina Preliminary Survey of Historic Places

DATE OF SURVEY: 1969       Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
South Carolina Department of Archives and History

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1430 Senate Street, P.O. Box 11, 188 Capitol Station

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia      STATE: South Carolina      CODE: 45

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_  
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**7. DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Trinity Episcopal Church is a one-story wooden structure built on ground level. Short flight of steps leads to porch which extends full width of building. Porch has slender, square posts which support a triangular pediment. Vertical planks of pediment, pointed at base, form zig-zag design. Triangular louver at center of pediment is both decorative and functional.

Inset steeple, covered with white shingles, has decorative louvers. Double, three-panel entrance of facade is surmounted by elaborate, semi-circular fanlight. Windows, flanking entrance, have smaller, semi-circular fanlights above and shutters. Side walls have four windows identical to those at front. Building's only chimney, located between pairs of windows on north side, protrudes above eaves to the extent that its top is almost even with peak of roof.

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**3. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1876

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                        | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture  | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                      | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian            | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                        | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                 | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |   |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Edisto is one of South Carolina's earlier-settled sea islands, the Earl of Shaftesbury (Lord Ashley Cooper) acquiring plantation lands there in 1674 (when it was called Locke Island for John Locke) and South Carolina's Colonial Governor Joseph Morton building a home there in the 1680's. A number of residences and several historic churches remain from the island's flourishing plantation period, the late 18th and first half of the 19th centuries, when wealth from long staple sea island cotton produced elegant homes for an educated cultured society. Already on the National Register, as a National Historic Landmark, is Edisto's Brick House.

This present Episcopal Church was built in 1876 as a replacement for an older structure which was burned accidentally. It is the only Episcopal Church and the only example of Victorian church architecture on Edisto Island.

This building with its white boards and shingles contrasted with its dark green roof, shutters and louvers fits in well with its parklike surroundings. The balancing of shingles in the steeple with the verticals in the gables and horizontal lines of the lower facade enhance appearance. The highly decorated character of the area above the eaves is more than offset by the area below, which is that of an essentially rural church as is borne out by the fan-lighted clear glass windows and fan-lighted double entrance door.

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**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Graydon, Nell S. Tales of Edisto. Columbia, South Carolina. 1955. The R.L. Bryan Company.  
 Thomas, Albert Sidney. Historical Account of the Protestant Episcopal Church in South Carolina 1820-1957. Columbia, South Carolina. 1957. The R.L. Bryan Company.

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 . "	0 . "		32° 34' 09"	80° 17' 04"	
NE	0 . "	0 . "				
SE	0 . "	0 . "				
SW	0 . "	0 . "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

RECEIVED  
 FEB 25 1971  
 NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Elias B. Bull, Historical Researcher

ORGANIZATION: Berkeley-Charleston Regional Planning Commission DATE: January 14, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER: 2 Court House Square

CITY OR TOWN: Charleston STATE: South Carolina CODE: 45

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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 National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: *Robert S. Lopez*

Title: Director of South Carolina Department of Archives & History

Date: 2/14/71

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

*Ernest A. Rasmussen*  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: MAY 14 1971

ATTEST: *William J. Smoot*  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: APR 27 1971

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