

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received **NOV 25 1983**

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Mount Enon Church and Cemetery

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number Old Stage Coach Road, 4 1/2 miles east of Baconton N/A not for publication

city, town Baconton VIC vicinity of

state Georgia code 013 county Mitchell code 205

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: cemetery

4. Owner of Property

name Mount Enon Church and Cemetery Committee; Mr. Jesse Jackson, Chairman

street & number 1202 North Court Street

city, town Quitman N/A vicinity of state Georgia 31643

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Mitchell County Courthouse

city, town Camilla state Georgia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition

excellent

good

fair

deteriorated

ruins

unexposed

Check one

unaltered

altered

Check one

original site

moved

date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Mount Enon Baptist Church is a one-story, frame, wooden rural church with a gable roof and boxed cornice on the vestibule and the sanctuary. The weather-boarded church rests on brick piers. The two six-over-six windows on the vestibule have simple wooden surrounds. The church is entered through the vestibule by two narrow, four-paneled wooden doors reached by new concrete steps. There is a two-tiered wooden steeple with a belfry centered over the vestibule. The church has no other exterior ornamentation. The interior consists of an entrance vestibule that leads into the sanctuary. The interior is finished in beaded tongue-and-groover paneling, original pine floors, original pine pews, and an altar or lectern. The ceiling is finished with plain pine boards. There are four twelve-light, wooden, double-hung windows on both the north and south sides of the sanctuary. Two similar windows are on the west side or rear of the building. Due to the rural nature of this church, very few modern conveniences have been added. It sits in a natural, tree-shaded setting befitting a rural church. Most of the trees are pines and oaks. The church is far removed from any other buildings. The cemetery located to the rear of the church is a typical rural Georgia cemetery with marked burials dating back to the mid-nineteenth century. A modern fence with commemorative gate was added along the front of the property in 1975. It contains brick pillars and a wrought-iron gate with the words, "Mt. Enon Cemetery" within it.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Local History
	<input type="checkbox"/> invention			

Specific dates 1889, church;
ca. 1857-62, cemetery **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Mount Enon Church and Cemetery are significant in architecture and local history.

Architecturally, the church is significant as a typical, late-nineteenth-century rural Baptist church that has retained its rural setting and most of its original fabric, thus exemplifying the vast number of churches of that type that once abounded in rural Georgia. Its plain, locally produced features include the plain pine floor, pews, and altar of the sanctuary, the simple box-like structure providing the functional needs for a church, a vestibule and a sanctuary. The belfry is a special feature which is not always found on every rural church. The church's setting of pine and oaks also adds to its significance as a typical rural church. In the years before urbanization, citizens were buried near rural, country churches if not on their own plantations; hence, the cemetery is an important part of the church property.

In local history, the church is significant as the last standing structure associated with the dead town of Gum Pond, which was located a mile or so south of the church. In 1860, Gum Pond had 400 people and, at its crossroads, a general store, an inn, a relay station for horse changes, and a blacksmith shop. During the Civil War, the area's population increased with refugee families and their slaves. The Mount Enon Baptist Church congregation was established for the community in 1857 and was the only congregation and facility for worship until the Methodists built their church in 1870. The town of Gum Pond decreased in size and significance after nearby Baconton was created in 1869 and eventually the local population and their religious institutions all moved there, drawn by the lure of convenient railroad connections. This church facility, built in 1889, was forced to close its doors in 1928 due to a loss of members. The church remains one of the three oldest in Mitchell County and as the only standing remains of the once-thriving community of Gum Pond. It is the center for an annual observance by descendants of the congregation and the town to perpetually remember the dead town of Gum Pond and its families.

These areas of significance support property eligibility under the National Register criteria A and C.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Miller, Virginia L. "Historic Property Information Form/Structural Site Survey Form," 1978, based on deeds, newspapers, town and county histories, and Georgia Baptist Historical Society records, on file at the Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property Approximately 8 acres

Quadrangle name Putney, Georgia

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	6	7	7	4	4	3	0	3	4	7	7	2	6	5
Zone		Easting						Northing						

B

Zone		Easting						Northing						

C

Zone		Easting						Northing						

D

Zone		Easting						Northing						

E

Zone		Easting						Northing						

F

Zone		Easting						Northing						

G

Zone		Easting						Northing						

H

Zone		Easting						Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification The nominated property is all that was transferred as church property in 1977 to the trustees of the Mount Enon Church and Cemetery Committee and all that was historically associated with the church and cemetery. It is marked on the enclosed plat map.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., Historian

Historic Preservation Section

organization Georgia Department of Natural Resources date October 21, 1983

street & number 270 Washington Street, S.W.

telephone (404) 656-2840

city or town Atlanta

state Georgia 30334

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Elizabeth A. Lyon
Elizabeth A. Lyon

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 11/17/83

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

Entered in the
National Register

date 12/22/83

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

Mount Enon Church and Cemetery
Near Baconton, Mitchell County, Georgia

SKETCH/PLAT MAP

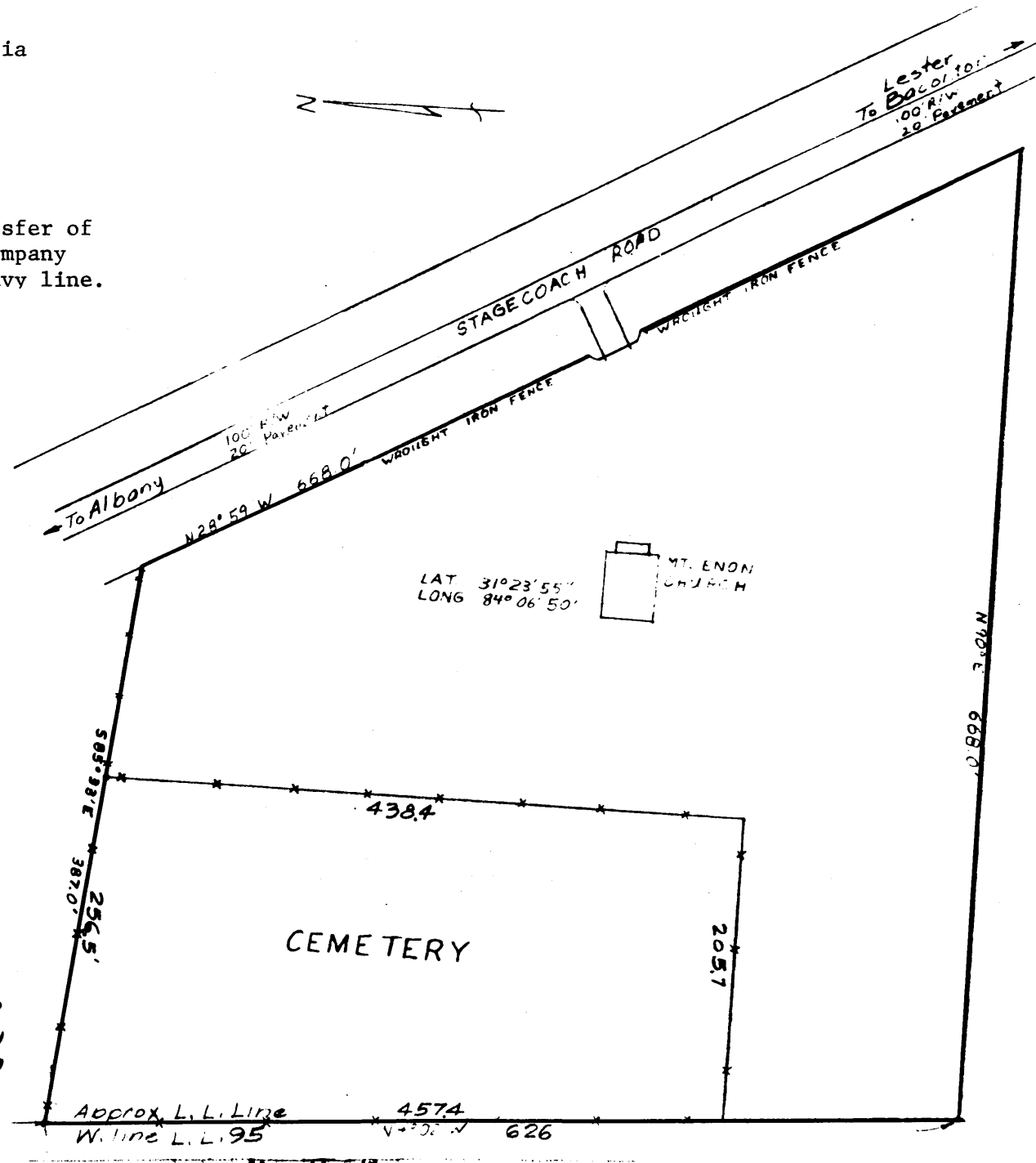
Scale: 1" = 100'

North: ←

Date: 1976

Source: Plat drawn to accompany transfer of
title by Dean Engineering Company

Key: Nominated property marked by heavy line.



L. J. Dean

Site Plat
Mt. Enon Church & Cemetery
Pt. LL 95, 9th Land District
Mitchell County, Georgia
Scale: 1" = 60' 17 June, 1976
Dean Engineering Company
Albany, Georgia

← Pt. to LL Cor

Approx. L. L. Line
W. line L. L. 95

457.4
W. line L. L. 95

NOTE 668.0'