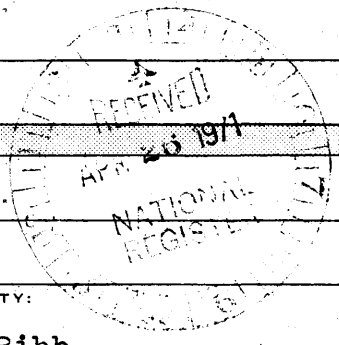


PH 0002593

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: GEORGIA	
COUNTY: BIBB	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.7.13.0028	DATE 7/14/71



1. NAME

COMMON:
Christ Episcopal Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Christ Episcopal Church

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
538 - 566 Walnut Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Macon

STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **13** COUNTY: **Bibb** CODE: **021**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes: Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>		

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:
Christ Episcopal Church

STREET AND NUMBER:
538 - 566 Walnut Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Macon** STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **13**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Bibb County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Macon

CITY OR TOWN: **Macon** STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **13**

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **less than 1 acre**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: **1. The Historic Architecture of Macon by Carl Feiss and Russell Wright**

* DATE OF SURVEY: **1970** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Middle Georgia Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:
Macon Coliseum

CITY OR TOWN: **Macon** STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **13**

STATE: **GEORGIA**

COUNTY: **BIBB**

ENTRY NUMBER: **71.7.13.0028**

DATE: **7/14/71**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

* 2. Historical Survey by Middle Georgia Historical Society
1970 Local

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The most prominent feature of this Gothic revival church is the gracefully proportioned central tower. The buttresses at its corners frame the arched entrance which has a handsome pair of paneled doors leading into the Narthex. A tall arched louvered opening is in each tower wall in the belfry above. The tower is crowned with battlements and corner finials which are the most highly developed and decorative elements on the building's exterior. (These battlements are recent, but they exactly reproduce the original ones which had been removed years ago.) Flanking the tower on each side is a tall arched window with label mould above.

The sides of the church have unadorned arched window openings, with bays defined by buttresses that are capped above the roof line with finely detailed finials. The roof is of painted tin.

The exterior walls are of plastered masonry. This plaster contains a pink-beige sand and some areas have a green moss which appears after a rain giving subtle variations of color which add character to the building's exterior. The weathering of the exterior also adds considerable character.

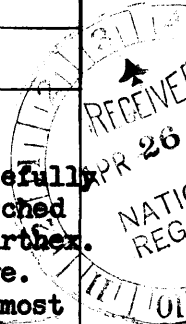
A cloister connects the church building with the parish house to the left. Although this later addition is more Tudor in character and its exterior plaster is less successful than the church's, there is an overall harmony of scale and character that is very pleasant. The landscaping, particularly the cloister garden, enhances the building in its otherwise undistinguished urban setting.

In general, the most important characteristics of the exterior design is its unpretentious simplicity, judicious use of decoration, and excellent massing of elements. For example, this is a considerably more successful design than another Gothic revival church, St. John's, Savannah, which was built in the same year.

The interior has a graceful triple archway at the chancel, and the simply vaulted sanctuary originally had a large window behind the altar which was later replaced by a handsome wood reredos. The recently added organ in the chancel is the only other major change that has been made. The wood trussed roof over the Nave is of particular interest, with diagonal wood decking that alternates direction between beams. A gallery is at the rear of the Nave. In general, the pictorial stained glass windows are of high quality, and the geometric stained glass windows at the rear of the Nave and in the Narthex are of particular delight.

This church has obviously received respectful care through the years. The unaffected dignity of its design, particularly its exterior, makes it one of the finest examples of parish church architecture to be found anywhere.

*Open
basement
2002-09*



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1852

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

The history of Christ Church closely parallels that of the City of Macon itself.

Christ Church, the oldest church in the Atlanta Episcopal Diocese, was organized in 1825, only two years after Macon was laid out. Land at the corner of Walnut and Third Streets was purchased in 1831 for \$400.00. The first church was built on this property in 1834, but by 1850 the congregation had outgrown the building.

In 1851 Lewis Whittle (see Randolph-Whittle-Smith-Davis House) and Nathan Munroe (see Munroe-Goolsby House) were appointed to raise subscriptions, and a cornerstone was laid for the new building later that year. Bricks from the old building were removed during its razing and were used in the construction of the present church building which was consecrated on May 2, 1852.

There was a change made during construction in the original design, at the suggestion of William B. Johnston (see P.L. Hay House). He, in order to improve the structure, liberally defrayed the expense of the change.

Other prominent Maconites who were members of this parish include Dr. Ambrose Baber (see Clinic Hospital), I.C. Plant, Asher Ayres, Simri Rose (see Rose Hill Hospital), and Elam Alexander, architect builder of many of Macon's great homes.

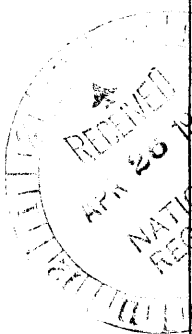
The church bell, along with bells of other Macon churches, was melted and made into cannon balls for the Confederate government, in the latter years of the War Between the States.

In 1867 Sidney Lanier, Macon-born, world-famed poet (see Sidney Lanier Birthplace), married Miss Mary Day in this church.

This is the mother church of all Episcopal churches in this area. Missions were established in southwest Macon, the mission now being St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

The church was remodeled in the 1920's and the adjacent parish house constructed in 1926.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

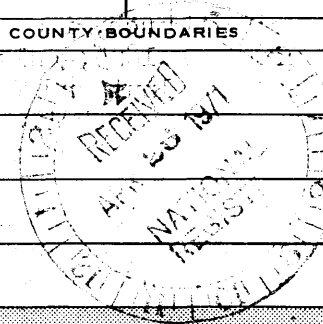
Butler, John C. History of Macon and Central Georgia.
 Macon, Georgia, 1879.
 Records of Christ Episcopal Church.
 Young, Gholson & Hargrove. The History of Macon, Georgia 1823-1949.
 Macon, Georgia, 1950.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		32°	50'	20"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		83°	37'	37"
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mr. John J. McKay, Jr., President

ORGANIZATION: **Middle Georgia Historical Society, Inc.** DATE: **March 23, 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER:
c/o Macon Coliseum

CITY OR TOWN: **Macon** STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **13**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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: Mary Gregory Jewett
 Title: State Liaison Officer
 Date: April 19, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest A. Combs
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

JUL 14 1971

Date: _____

ATTEST:
William H. ...
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: **JUN 23 1971**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	
GEORGIA	
COUNTY	
BIBB	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
7/7/73 0028	7/14/71

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

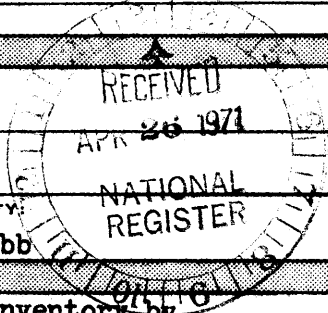
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AND/OR HISTORIC:	Christ Episcopal Church

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Macon	

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Georgia	13	Bibb	021

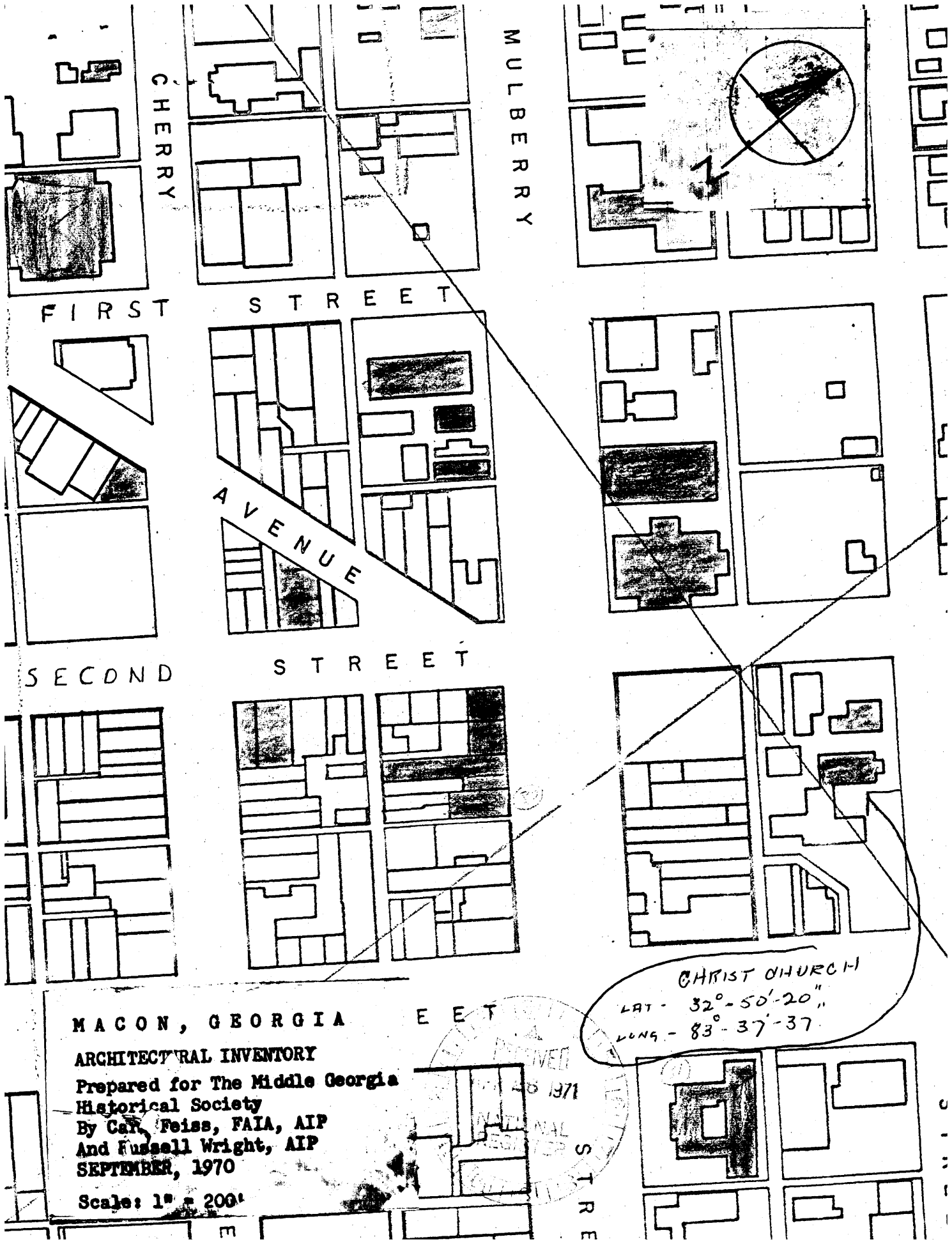


3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:	Macon, Georgia Architectural Inventory by Carl Feiss, FAIA, AIP and Russell Wright, AIP
SCALE:	1" = 200'
DATE:	September, 1970

4. REQUIREMENTS

- TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS
1. Property boundaries where required.
 2. North arrow.
 3. Latitude and longitude reference.



CHERRY

MULBERRY

FIRST

STREET

AVENUE

SECOND

STREET

CHRIST CHURCH

LAT - 32°-50'-20"

LONG - 83°-37'-37"

MACON, GEORGIA

ARCHITECTURAL INVENTORY

Prepared for The Middle Georgia Historical Society

By Carl Feiss, FAIA, AIP
And Fussell Wright, AIP

SEPTEMBER, 1970

Scale: 1" = 200'

RECEIVED
SEP 26 1971
NATIONAL ARCHITECTURAL RECORD SERVICE

EAST STREET