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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

MAY 27 1994

### National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

AGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

#### 1. Name of Property

historic name Shubuta Baptist Church

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

#### 2. Location

street & number Eucutta Street at U.S. Highway 45 N/A  not for publication

city or town Shubuta N/A  vicinity

state Mississippi code MS county Clarke code 023 zip code 39360

#### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Kenneth H. O'Pool MAY 20, 1994  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting official/Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.  See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Elson H. Beall  
Signature of the Keeper

Entered in the National Register Date of Action 6/24/94

Shubuta Baptist Church  
Name of Property

Clarke County, Mississippi  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	1	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

Historic Resources in Clarke County, MS

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Religion: religious facility

Religion: religious facility

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Carpenter Gothic

foundation brick

walls weatherboard

roof asphalt

other

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Shubuta Baptist Church  
Name of Property

Clarke County, Mississippi  
County and State

### 8. Statement of Significance

#### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

#### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

#### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

### 9. Major Bibliographical References

#### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

#### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

#### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

#### Period of Significance

1894

1906

1914

#### Significant Dates

1894

1906

1914

#### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

#### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

#### Architect/Builder

Unknown

#### Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Shubuta Baptist Church  
Name of Property

Clarke County, Mississippi  
County and State

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## 10. Geographical Data

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**Acreage of Property** approximately one acre

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 

1	6	3	3	9	1	6	0	3	5	2	6	0	3	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

3 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

4 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

See continuation sheet

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Brenda R. Crook, Architectural Historian

organization Mississippi Department of Archives & History date March 1994

street & number P.O. Box 571 telephone (601) 359-6940

city or town Jackson state MS zip code 39205-0571

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### Additional Documentation

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

#### Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

#### Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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#### Property Owner

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(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Shubuta Baptist Church

street & number P.O. Box 296 telephone (601) 687-9109

city or town Shubuta state MS zip code 39360-0296

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**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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## 7. DESCRIPTION

Situated on approximately one acre of land at the northwest corner of Eucutta Street and U.S. Highway 45, the Shubuta Baptist Church is a late Victorian vernacular Carpenter Gothic style building. The original section of the church was built in 1894 and is a cross-gabled building highlighted by a two-story bell tower at its southeast corner. In 1906 a rear gabled addition was made to the building to provide Sunday school rooms and a baptistry, and in 1914 a large two-story gabled addition sympathetic to the design of the church was made to the west elevation of the building to provide additional Sunday school rooms. The church rests on brick piers infilled with latticed brick skirting, and the walls are finished with clapboard and a wooden water table. The complex gable roof is trimmed by a plain raking cornice, and decorative sawn gable ornaments are in both the south and east gable peaks of the 1894 building. The roof of the tower is a steeply-pitched, pyramidal, bell-cast roof crowned by a metal finial and trimmed with a bracketed cornice. Due to deterioration of the sash, the original art glass windows were replaced in 1986 with new art glass windows of similar design; however, the building retains a high degree of integrity.

The main (south) facade is a four-bay elevation with three gables and a bell tower. Accessed by a flight of six steps, the main entrance is located at the west end in the bell tower and contains six-panel, double-leaf wooden doors crowned by a peaked art glass transom. Above the entrance is a large ventilator composed of two rectangular louvered panels topped by a peaked louvered panel. The bay to the west of the tower contains three double-hung art glass windows capped by a peaked transom, above which is an oculus, also filled with art glass. The other two bays of the south facade are located in the 1914 addition and contain an entrance of six-panel, double-leaf doors, above which is a peaked art glass window, and in the westernmost bay a pair of multi-light art glass windows topped by a four-part peaked window. The east elevation has eight bays, each containing double-hung, peaked, art glass windows, and in the gable is an oculus.

The interior of the church retains a good degree of integrity. The walls of the sanctuary are clad in vertical beaded board finished with molded chair rails and plain wide baseboards, and the ceiling is also clad in beaded board. Door and window openings

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Shubuta Baptist Church  
Shubuta, Clarke County, Mississippi

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feature molded surrounds, with the door surrounds having well-detailed corner and plinth blocks. A round arch supported by pilasters frames the entrance to the chancel. Although the pulpit furniture dates to 1951, the pews are original to the building. Four large wooden doors that roll up from the floor separate the sanctuary from a large classroom to the west. When additional space is needed in the sanctuary, these doors are rolled open. The Sunday school rooms also retain a high degree of integrity, having beaded board walls, three-panel glazed doors with scalloped molding beneath the glazing, molded trim with corner and plinth blocks, and art glass windows.

Located on the grounds, to the west of the church, is the U.C. Wells Annex, a one-story, front-gabled, three-by-five bay, brick-veneered educational building constructed in 1979. It does not contribute to the historic character of the church.

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Shubuta, Clarke County, Mississippi

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8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Shubuta Baptist Church is a locally significant example of vernacular Carpenter Gothic ecclesiastical architecture of the late Victorian period. It is one of only two Late Victorian Carpenter Gothic style buildings in Clarke County, the other being the Shubuta Methodist Episcopal Church, South, which was built in 1891. The Shubuta Baptist Church was constructed in 1894 and is the second church building for the congregation, which was organized in November 1856. In 1906, due to increased membership, a rear gabled addition was made to the building to provide Sunday school rooms and a baptistry; prior to this addition, members were baptized in the Chickasawhay River, at Coopers well, and Shubuta Creek. In 1914 a large addition sympathetic to the design of the original church structure was made to the west side elevation to provide additional Sunday school space. This addition also allowed for the size of the sanctuary to be increased whenever necessary by simply rolling up the four large wooden doors that separate the sanctuary from a large classroom. Although the original art glass windows throughout the church have been replaced with new art glass windows, the building retains a high degree of integrity on both the exterior and interior.

The church displays such significant features as the two-story tower with bell-cast pyramidal roof crowned by a finial and trimmed with brackets, a gable ornament and oculus in each of the gables of the 1894 building, peaked openings, and interior features such as beaded board walls and ceilings, molded chair rails, molded surrounds with well-detailed corner and plinth blocks, and wooden rolling doors separating the sanctuary from the Sunday school addition.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Shubuta Baptist Church  
Shubuta, Clarke County, Mississippi

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## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Crook, Brenda R., architectural historian with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson. Inspection of Shubuta Baptist Church, February 1994.

Enzweiler, Susan M. "Historic Resources in Clarke County, Mississippi," National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, August 15, 1993.

McInnis, Linda W. "Shubuta Baptist Church History," November 1981.

McInnis, Linda W., Church Historian, Shubuta Baptist Church. Interviewed by Brenda R. Crook, architectural historian with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, February 1994.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for Shubuta, Mississippi, 1895, 1900, 1912, 1926. On microfilm at the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson.

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

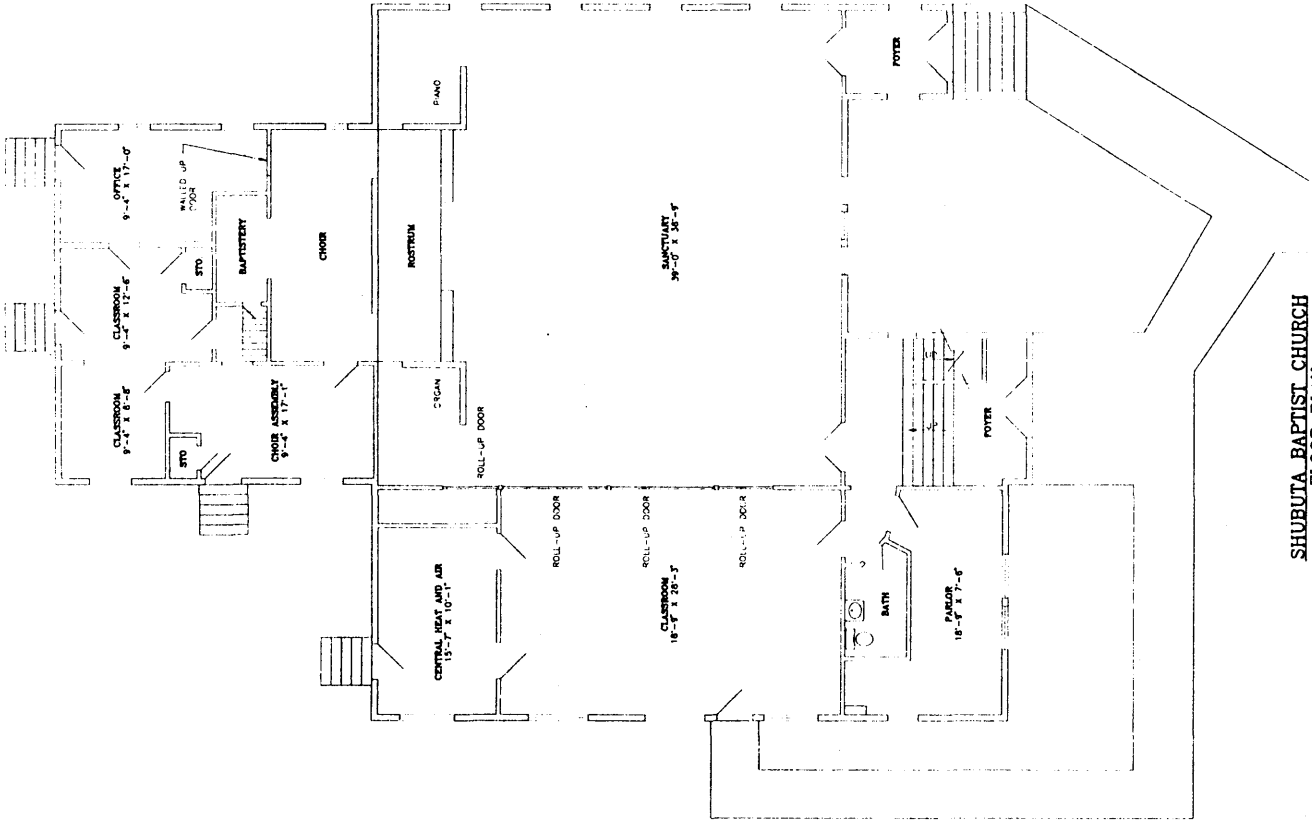
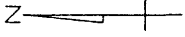
### Verbal Boundary Description:

Lot 42 of the M & O Railroad Survey of Shubuta, described as beginning in the Northwest corner of the intersection of Eucutta Street and High Street, running West 220 feet, North 230 feet, East 153 feet, and South 240 feet to the point of beginning, in the Town of Shubuta, Clarke County, Mississippi.

### Boundary Justification:

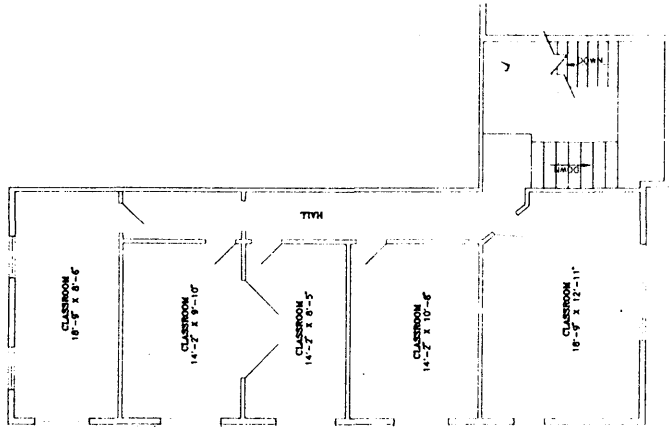
The nominated property consists of the town lot historically associated with the church.





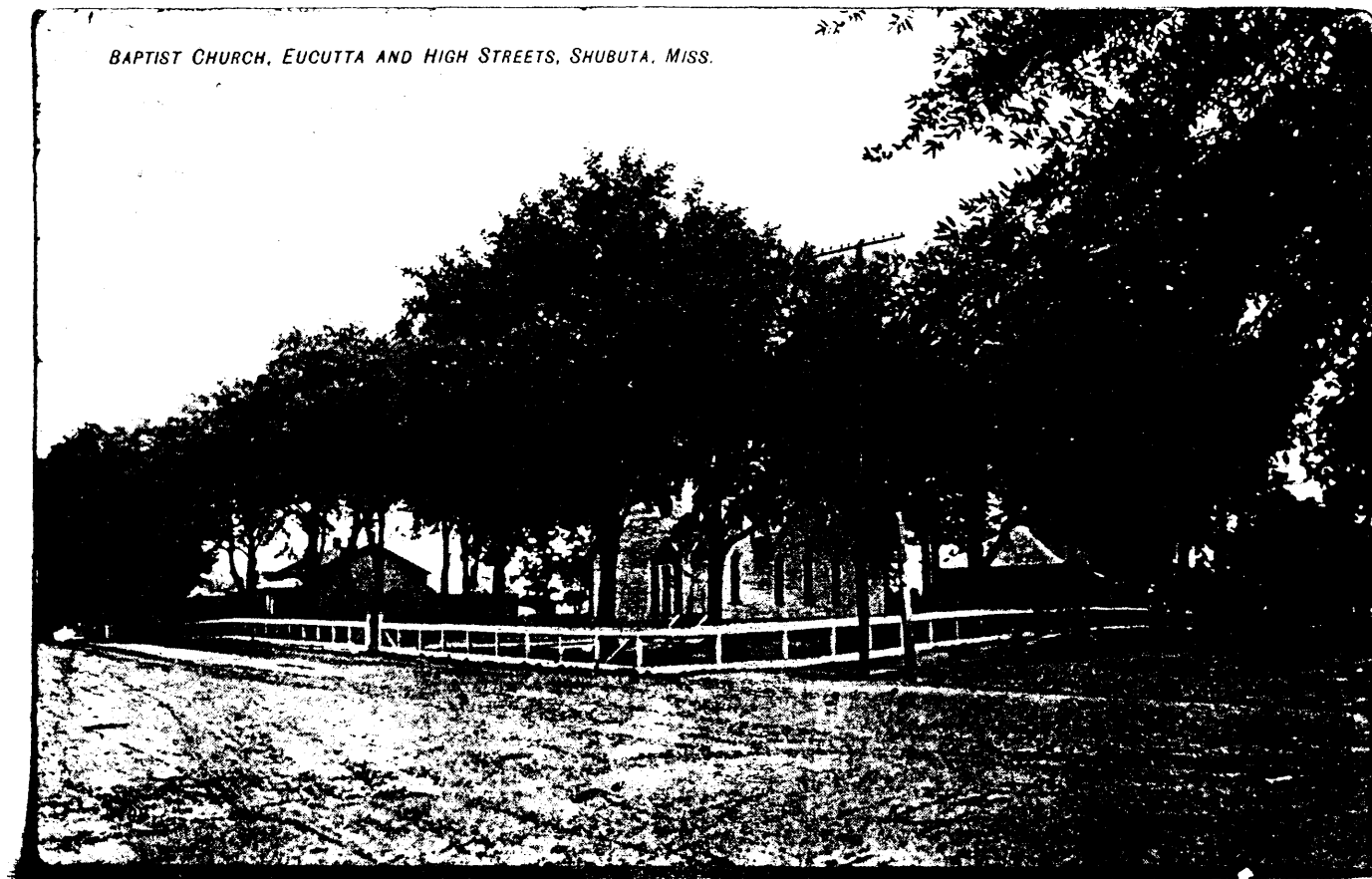
SHUBUTA BAPTIST CHURCH  
FLOOR PLAN

By Douglas R. Rowley  
1994



2ND FLOOR PLAN  
SCALE: 3/16" = 1'-0"

BAPTIST CHURCH, EUCUTTA AND HIGH STREETS, SHUBUTA, MISS.



From Cooper Postcard Collection, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson. Photo circa 1900.