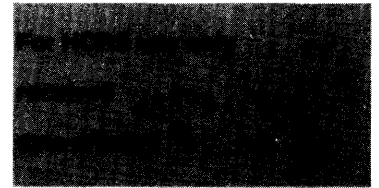


United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Grace Episcopal Church

and/or common

2. Location

Pike Rd.

street & number 1 mile South of Atlanta Hwy on west side of Pike Road  
9 miles East of Montgomery not for publication

city, town Mount Mt. Meigs vicinity of congressional district 2

state Alabama code 01 county Montgomery code 001

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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Alabama Diocese of the Protestant Episcopal Church

street & number 521 North 20th Street

city, town Birmingham vicinity of state Alabama

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse

street & number Washington Street

city, town Montgomery state Alabama

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Alabama Inventory has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1970-present  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Alabama Historical Commission

city, town Montgomery state Alabama

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## 7. Description

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**Condition** excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved

date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

Situated at the end of an unpaved lane in a grove of trees, Grace Episcopal Church is a one story frame, Carpenter Gothic Church with board and batten siding. It rests on a brick pier (with some brick infill) foundation and has a steeply pitched main gable roof finished with a box cornice. The Vestry extends as a small gabled wing on the northern end of the east elevation; a small open entrance porch is located on the southern end of the same side. This porch is gabled, topped with a wooden cross and has two square wooden posts trimmed with scrollsaw work. Entrance to the building is through a paneled, double-leaf lancet-arch door. Another similar entrance (single leaf) leads into the vestry. Two lancet arched windows are located on the east wall between the vestry and porch; similar windows are located on the east and north walls of the vestry and on the south wall of the church.

The interior features a trussed ceiling and tongue-in-groove walls and ceiling, all stained a dark color.

The major alteration to the church has been the cutting of a new opening on the west wall to allow access to a breezeway connecting the church to the 1970 Parish Hall. The Parish Hall is a small gabled structure with board and batten siding. The only other alteration to the building has consisted of the substitution of concrete steps with metal balustrades for the original wooden steps leading to the vestry and entrance porch; gas heat and ceiling fans were installed in the 20th century. Originally the building was heated with a wood-burning stove.

# 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
	<input type="checkbox"/> invention			

**Specific dates**      1893                      **Builder/Architect**      Unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

Architecture: This is a good example of a small, late 19th-century rural Gothic Revival Church. With the exception of the addition of a Parish Hall in 1970, the building has been unaltered and presents an excellent illustration of the continued popularity of the Gothic Revival style for religious structures well into the last decades of the 19th century.

Religion: Located near Mt. Meigs in eastern Montgomery County, once one of the richest cotton producing sections in the region, Grace Episcopal Church has long served as the only church of that denomination in the area. Diocesan records indicate that there was a congregation in existence as early as 1846; the present building dates from 1892-93.

\* \* \* \* \*

Although there is no record of the designer and builder, the simple Carpenter Gothic structure was probably constructed under the supervision of E. S. Armistead, the first Senior Warden and a leading member of the church. The cost of the building was \$1,170.45. On May 1, 1893, when it was admitted to the Diocese as an organized mission, Grace Church was placed in the charge of the rector of St. John's Episcopal Church in Montgomery; later, it was a ward of the Church of the Holy Comforter, also in Montgomery. At the time of its admission to the Diocese, the church had fifty members.

Through the years, with the advent of the boll weevil and the reduction of cotton planting, Mt. Meigs suffered economically and, consequently, people left the community. The church roles, too, declined, but a loyal few managed to keep the congregation alive. In the 1960s, under the leadership of part-time minister Allwyn Vickers, the church began to revive, and in 1970, a parish hall was added to the building. In 1978, the church got its first full-time rector, Reverend John Abraham.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

" Grace Church." n. author, n.d., n.p., in files of Landmarks Foundation

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 3.3 acres

Quadrangle name Mt. Meigs

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

### UMT References

A	1 6	5 8 4	9 5 0	3 5 7 9	9 5 0
	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** Beginning at a point where the center line of the ROW of the Georgia Washington Road intersects the west right of way line of the Pike Road; thence north along the west ROW line of the Pike Road 288' to the point of beginning; thence west 884'; thence N. 165'; thence E. 884' to the W. ROW of Pike Road; thence S. 165'.

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

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mary Ann. Neeley(Landmarks Foundation of Montgomery) & Ellen Mertins

organization Alabama Historical Commission

date October 9, 1981

street & number 725 Monroe Street

telephone (205) 832-6621

city or town Montgomery

state Alabama

# 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 1-6-82

For HCRS use only

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

Entered in the National Register

*for facting*  
Albion Byers  
Keeper of the National Register

date 2/19/82

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration