

43. RANDOLPH STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST
210 Randolph Avenue

Randolph Street Church of Christ
Rev. H. L. Tipton, Jr.
210 Randolph Avenue
Huntsville, Alabama 35801

East 30' of Block 33 and West 30' of Block 34, Old Town;
60' (Randolph) X 105'
16 538055 3843090

1887: Architect unknown
Col. O. M. Hundley, Huntsville, contractor

DESCRIPTION

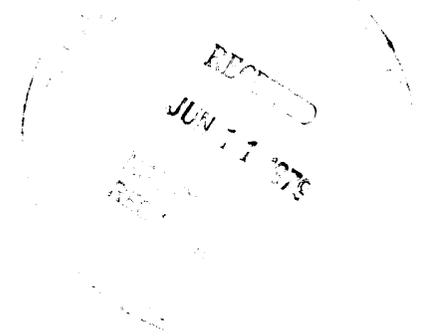
The church is a one-story, brick structure of Gothic Revival design with a steep gable roof and a square tower centered on the front facade. The brick is a dark brown with thin mortar joints of matching color laid with headers every sixth course. The side walls are divided into bays by brick pilasters which serve as symbolic buttresses being a header deep at the top and a stretcher deep at the bottom. They also appear at the corners of the facade and of the tower. The eaves of the gable and the tops of the bays are delicately corbelled. Each bay contains one pointed arch, double lancet window. There is an entrance under a pointed toplight on either side of the central tower. The tower terminates in a cluster of four small gables carrying a short modern spire. The tower above the eaves is faced with patterned tin. The building is about 35 feet wide by 60 feet long and measures approximately 30 feet to the eaves.

SIGNIFICANCE

Built as the Christian Church, this small structure is a late example of early Gothic Revival design with its simple wood tracery in pointed arch windows, centered frontal entrance tower, symbolic buttresses, and gablets supporting a small spire. The dark brown brick with pencilled joints reinforces the solidity of the building. The church was built in 1887 just a half block off the Public Square when the center of town served as the religious, cultural and governmental as well as commercial center.

Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Hundley, the parents of O. R. Hundley who built the Hundley House, were instrumental in erecting the church. Mrs. Hundley donated the land, and Mr. Hundley supervised the construction.

The building is typical of the box-like church with lancet windows and frontal tower that became popular in rural areas



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Continuation:

throughout the country. Although these churches of the later nineteenth century were often board and batten, the native and traditional brick was substituted in this instance. An unusual feature is the lack of central entrance in the tower, here replaced by a door in each side wall with the front wall having an Italianate style window which is repeated by double, round-topped vents under each gable. The spire is a recent replacement.