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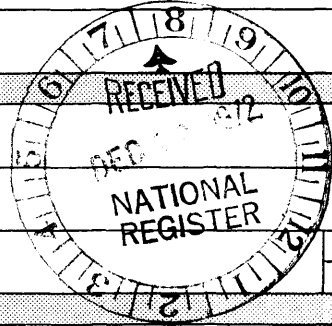
Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	ALABAMA	
COUNTY:	ELMORE	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
	FEB 15	1978



1. NAME

COMMON:
First United Methodist Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Methodist Episcopal Church

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
308 Tuskeena Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Wetumpka

STATE: Alabama CODE: 01 COUNTY: Elmore CODE: 051

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
First United Methodist Church

STREET AND NUMBER:
308 Tuskeena Street

CITY OR TOWN: Wetumpka STATE: Alabama CODE: 01

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Prattville STATE: Alabama CODE: 01

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1936 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D. C. CODE: 08

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The original structure consisted of a two-story building, with the nave on the second floor and the fellowship hall on the first floor. At a later date (probably around 1900) a one-room, one-story addition was made. In 1957, an educational wing was added which compliments the original design.

The roof of the original building was of hand-made wooden shingles, a substantial portion of which remains under the present tile roof.

Recent renovations and restorations returned the building to its original character. The heavily pilastered Greek Revival exterior was cleaned but allowed to retain its aged character. Capitals of all pilasters were returned to their original color. The Italianate wooden brackets at the roof line were allowed to remain since they are a part of the original structure.

The interior was restored to its original character which served to emphasize the beauty of the Greek Revival plaster mouldings, trim and pilasters. The interior, over a period of time, had been altered to take on a dark Gothic appearance with dark wood trim, doors and wood panelling in the chancel area. The interior now is characterized with emphasis on lightness and detail. The wood flooring in the original building is as it existed. The brick flooring on the first floor foyer was restored.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1853

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Wetumpka Methodist Church, with its heavily pilastered Greek Revival exterior design and suggestion of Italianate influence is architecturally unique for the period in which it was built. According to the architect, James Seay, the architectural values of exterior scale and interior detailing is of considerable significance.

The Methodist congregation was organized in Wetumpka in 1837 and occupied two buildings prior to the construction of the present one. In 1851 it was decided that a new church was necessary and by 1853 plans were being made. The old building was subsequently moved to another location and is presently being used as a residence.

The present building was completed in 1854. Following the architectural tradition of early Methodism, straight back pews were used, with the men sitting on one side and the women on the other.

A place was provided in the nave for the slaves in the early days, but by choice, they worshipped in the first floor Fellowship Hall with their own minister leading the services. Until recent years, the first floor was also used as a polling place for the citizens of this area during local and national elections.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lazenby, Marion Elias. History of Alabama-West Florida Methodism. Nashville, Tennessee: Parthenon Publishing Co., 1960.

Porter, Elizabeth G., and Smith, Madora L. History of Wetumpka Methodist Church. Wetumpka, Alabama: First United Methodist Church, 1954.

West, Anson. A History of Methodism in Alabama. Nashville, Tennessee: Methodist Publishing House, 1893.

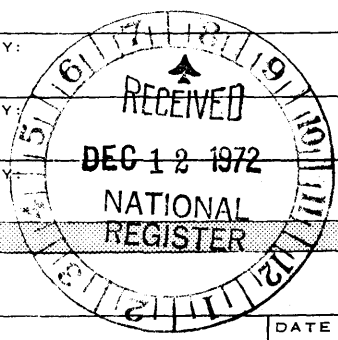
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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 TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "	32	32	25	
NE	° ' "	° ' "	86	12	42	
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

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

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
W. Warner Floyd, Executive Director

ORGANIZATION: **Alabama Historical Commission** DATE: **November 16, 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:
305 South Lawrence Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Montgomery** STATE: **Alabama** CODE: **01**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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 Wils B. Howard Jr.

Title SLD

Date Nov. 21, 1972

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

Robert M. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 2/15/73

ATTEST:

William Shultz
Keeper of The National Register

Date 2.14.73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS