

PH0690627

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAY 16 1977
DATE ENTERED	FEB 14 1978

**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  
Taveau Church  
AND/OR COMMON  
Tavou Church

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
On eastern side of road approximately one mile north of the crossing  
of County Highway 44 by Seaboard Coastline Railroad Tracks  
CITY, TOWN  
Cordesville  
STATE  
South Carolina  
VICINITY OF  
# 1  
COUNTY  
Berkeley  
CODE  
045  
CODE  
015

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED (exterior)	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER vacant

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME  
Cordesville United Methodist Church  
STREET & NUMBER  
c/o Rev. James Washington  
Rt. 3, Box 334-E  
CITY, TOWN  
Charleston Heights  
VICINITY OF  
STATE  
South Carolina

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
Berkeley County Courthouse  
STREET & NUMBER  
Main Street  
CITY, TOWN  
Moncks Corner  
STATE  
South Carolina

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina  
DATE  
1973  
DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS  
South Carolina Department of Archives and History  
CITY, TOWN  
Columbia  
STATE  
South Carolina

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Taveau Church is a small, early 19th Century clapboard structure, located in rural Berkeley County. It is constructed on a low brick pier foundation and has a medium gable roof with boxed cornice.

The front facade is located on the gable side of the roof and features a small pedimented portico supported by four slender wooden Doric columns. The foundations and steps of the portico are brick, although the area between the foundations has been filled in with concrete blocks. The entrance is composed of double doors with a 12-light double row transom. Each of the two doors has six panels. A window is located on each side of the portico.

Both side facades feature a central double-door entrance flanked by two windows on each side. These entrances also feature a 12-light double row transom.

All windows are 16/16 with paneled shutters.

Additions to the structure include an exterior chimney to the right side, a cupola near the front facade, and a metal roof.

Interior: The furnishings of the interior (including pews and altar) appear to be original. The walls have been altered, however, being narrow tongue and groove siding (probably added during the late 19th or early 20th Century). The chancel area has also been altered, the two sides having been partitioned off into two rooms. The entrance end of the interior features a small gallery of three bays with sophisticated detailing including dentil molding.

Surroundings: Included within the nominated acreage is a cemetery.

# 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Taveau Church is an unusual example of early 19th Century church architecture. Located in rural Berkeley County, it exhibits an air of sophistication seldom seen in rural church architecture.

Little is known about the early history of Taveau Church. In 1932 Louisa Cheves Stoney made the following note in her edited version of A Day on Cooper River by John B. Irving:

Dr. Irving tells us that Clermont [a plantation on the Cooper River at the time of Irving's writing (ca. 1840)] was at that time the home of Augustus Taveau. His mother, Martha Caroline Swinton [Taveau], had married first John Ball, Sr. She belonged to Edisto Island and was a strong Presbyterian; here, in the midst of Episcopalians, she built a church on Clermont to make sure that the gospel might be preached in the country. Known as Taveau Church, it is now used by negroes.<sup>1</sup>

The church was used by a black congregation until the 1970s.

Architecture: Taveau Church features several notable architectural details. These include the 12-light double row transoms over the three entrances, the 16/16 windows with paneled shutters, and the Doric portico. The proportions of the structure are basically Federal, as evidenced by the pediment of medium pitch and the slender Doric columns. Equally significant is the plan of the building with entrances on three sides and chancel at the rear. The exterior is basically unaltered.

<sup>1</sup> Louisa Cheves Stoney, ed., A Day on Cooper River, John B. Irving (1932; rpt. Columbia: R.L. Bryan, 1969), p. 33.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Irving, John B. A Day on Cooper River. Ed. Louisa Cheves Stoney. 1932; rpt. Columbia: R.L. Bryan, 1969.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY ca. 1/2 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1	7
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5	9	8	9	4	0
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3	6	6	3	3	4	0
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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Bordering west on county highway 44; north, east, and south on Mepkin Plantation lands.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Elias Bull, Regional Preservation Planner,  
Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments  
Kappy McNulty

ORGANIZATION DATE  
South Carolina Department of Archives and History March 8, 1977

STREET & NUMBER TELEPHONE  
1430 Senate Street 803-758-5816

CITY OR TOWN STATE  
Columbia South Carolina

# 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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE DATE  
Charles E. Lee 4/14/77  
State Historic Preservation Officer

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION ATTEST <i>Robert B. Rettig</i> _____ _____ _____	DATE <u>2/14/78</u> _____ _____ _____