Form 10-300 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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COUNTY:			

Sumter FOR NPS USE ONLY

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

ENTRY NUMBER DATE (Type all entries - complete applicable sections) 1. NAME COMMON: Church of the Holy Cross Holy Cross Episcopal Church - Church of the Holy Cross 2. LOCATION STREET AND NUMBER: located on S. C. Hwy. 261, turning to the right just beyond Shaw Air Force CITY OR TOWN: Base at Stateburg, S. C. Stateburg STATE COUNTY: CODE CODE 045 Sumter 085 South Carolina 3. CLASSIFICATION CATEGORY ACCESSIBLE OWNERSHIP STATUS (Check One) TO THE PUBLIC Yes: Public Public Acquisition: ▼ Occupied District X Building X Private Restricted ☐ In Process Site Structure Unoccupied ☐ Unrestricted ☐ Both ☐ Being Considered ☐ Object Preservation work ☐ No in progress PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) ☐ Park Agricultural Government Transportation Comments Commercial Industrial Private Residence Other (Specify) 🕱 Religious ☐ Educational ■ Military Entertainment Museum Scientific 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME: Vestry of the Church STREET AND NUMBER: CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE 045 South Carolina Stateburg 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Sumter County Court House STREET AND NUMBER: North Main Street CITY OR TOWN: STATE CODE 045 South Carolina Sumter 6,

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REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS		
TITLE OF SURVEY:	ď	
South Carolina Preliminary Survey of Historic Places	7	
DATE OF SURVEY: 1969	Z	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:	Ę	
South Carolina Department of Archives and History	BER	
1430 Senate Street, P.O.Box 11,188, Capital Station 29211		
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7.	DESCRIPTION							
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	CONDITION	☐ Excellent	[™] Good	☐ Fair	☐ Det	eriorated	Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	CONDITION		(Check O	ne)			(Ch	eck One)
		☐ Alte	red	Unaltered			Moved	Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (II known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Exterior: Built in 1850, Holy Cross Episcopal was designed to resemble an Old World Parish Church. Of Gothic Revival design, constructed of yellow pisé de terre (rammed or packed earth). The stuccoed walls are over 40 feet in height. The roof is of high-pitched red tile. A corner tower and pointed arches are also a part of this cruciform structure.

Interior: The walls are stuccoed but are painted gray to give the appearance of stone. Bohemian stained glass windows, designed by Violett le Duc, are placed over the altar and on the west end of the church. The design of the windows over the altar are of figures, such as Peter, whereas those on the west end represent the more conventional aspects of the Church, such as the chalice. A wooden altar, carved walnut paws, and a tracker-type organ are also in the church. The organ made by Henry Irwin, is one of the few still in existence. The floors of the church are tiled.

SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as .	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	17th Century Ie and Known) 1850	19th Century	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che		late)	
Abor iginal	☐ Education	☐ Political	Urban Planning
☐ Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
☐ Historic	Industry	losophy	
☐ Agriculture	Invention	🔀 Science	
Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
☐ Commerce	Literature	itarian	
☐ Communications	☐ Military	Theater	
☐ Conservation	☐ Music	Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Holy Cross Episcopal Church, located in Stateburg, South Carolina is a major example of architecture produced during the antebellum period of American history.

Architecture: Edward C. Jones, designer of the Holy Cross Episcopal Church was one of the best known South Carolina architects of the antebellum era. (His designs date from c. 1848-1861). Located in Charleston, his office was the training ground for such architects as Francis Lee (later a partner), Louis Barbot, and John Devereux. Although structures such as Richard Furman Hall at Furman University and Trinity Methodist Church in Charleston are still in existence, much of Jones' work has been destroyed.

Holy Cross Episcopal Church is considered by many as Jones' most unusual design. Resembling an Old World Parish Church, this cruciform structure is a notable example of Gothic Revival. It was built in 1850, constructed of yellow pise de terre - earth packed between wooden molds, tamped, and left to dry until it becomes as hard as baked brick. Walls constructed of pise de terre (minimum depth of 13 inches) are almost impervious to earthquakes. They may crack but will not collapse. Holy Cross Episcopal is significant in that it, along with various other structures in Stateburg, comprises the largest complex in the United States of pise de terre buildings.

Religion/Philosophy: Serving as a religious center for over one hundred years, Holy Cross is actually the second church on the site, having replaced a frame structure built there when the parish was incorporated.

Science: Buried in the graveyard of Holy Cross Church is Joel Poinsett, member and organizer of the S. C. Board of Public Works, U. S. congressman, minister to Mexico, Secretary of War, and first president of the National Institute for the Promotion of Science (forerunner of the Smithsonian Institute). An opponent of Calhoun's "nullification policy," he is probably best remembered for bringing the poinsettia flower to this country from Mexico.

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Gregorie, Anne K. <u>History of Sumter County.</u> Sumter: Library Board of Sumter County, 1954.

Julien, Carl, and Milling, Chapman J. <u>Beneath So Kind a Sky.</u> Columbia, S. C.: U. S. C. Press, 1958.

WPA. South Carolina, a Guide to the Palmetto State. New York, Oxford University Press, 1941.

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