

PH0023434

10th Congressional District
Robert G. Stephens, Jr.

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:	Georgia	
COUNTY:	Richmond	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
	APR 11 1973	

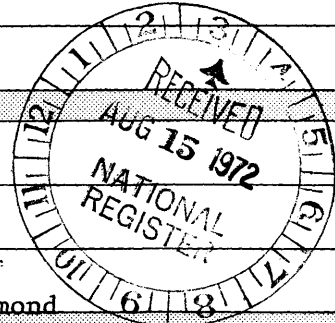
1. NAME

COMMON:
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
6th and Reynolds Streets
CITY OR TOWN:
Augusta

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Georgia	13	Richmond	245



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Church Wardens and Vestrymen of the Episcopal Church in Augusta called
STREET AND NUMBER:
605 Reynolds Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Augusta
STATE:
Georgia
CODE
13

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Richmond County Court House
STREET AND NUMBER:
Greene Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Augusta
STATE:
Georgia
CODE
13

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Tax Assessors Office, Richmond County, Georgia
STREET AND NUMBER:
Municipal Building
CITY OR TOWN:
Augusta
STATE:
Georgia
CODE
13

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Georgia
COUNTY: Richmond
ENTRY NUMBER: APR 11 1973
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7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input 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

St. Paul's Episcopal Church and its grounds mark the site of the first church of Augusta built in 1750 and the site of the old Fort Augusta, built as protection against Indians. Called Fort Cornwallis during the Revolutionary War, its capture by "Lighthorse Harry" Lee was a great blow to the English cause. A Celtic cross on the church grounds marks the site of the old fortress.

The present structure is a 1916 copy of the old Federal style church building of 1818 which was the third church on the site. The existing building was planned and supervised by architect Henry Wendell with relatively faithful adherence to John Lund's original exterior design and with some modifications of the old interior design. (A copy of the old church photograph is enclosed.)

This church of red brick in Flemish bond has three entrances: one central projecting entrance section and two recessed ones on either side. A colonaded facade in the classical revival style with Doric columns surrounds the entrances and completes the portico. The present entrance motif, slightly recessed in an arch and running almost the entire vertical length of the brick wall, is made of double doors atop which is a variation of the Palladian window. Outlining the tall arches, the windows of the body of the church as well, is a type of spaced keystone or quoin work rendered in light limestone. In comparison with an earlier photograph, the fenestration over the double doors was noted as two slender Gothic windows within the arch. The two part church steeple remains in overall view unchanged. However details of cornices around the steeple's lower portion as well as the absence of the louvres that appeared in the earlier church's bell tower signify some change. In the present steeple each of the four sides of the lower brick portion is centered with a round window with globe-like tracery, surrounded also by the quoin work. The top section is a multi-sided bell tower with arches between Ionic pillars holding up a domed roof. Here the piers on which the pillars rest, as well as the dome and pinnacle sizes, also suggest some deviation in detail from the earlier building.

The interior of the building has arched, vaulted ceilings and coupled pilasters with unusual stylized Corinthian capitals. The Palladian window in the chancel over the altar is of stained glass as are the arched memorial windows in the main body of the church. There are six of these windows on each side, their arches springing from coupled pilasters in keeping with the rest of the architecture. The stained glass memorial windows are said to be valued at nearly one million dollars.

Comparing the interior of the building in 1877 and 1906 shows several changes made in the old church from a simple uncluttered design to Victorian gilt and mosaic ornaments. The present interior is simple and more in keeping with the original 1818 church. However the present altar windows and chancel architectural details of pilasters have more elaboration than the 1818 building photographed in 1877.

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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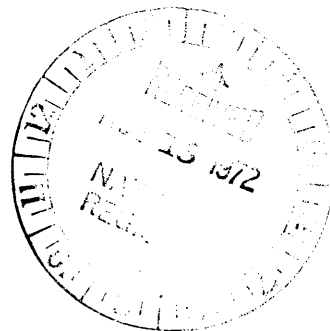
(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Georgia	
COUNTY Richmond	
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7. Description (St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Augusta, Georgia)

The church furniture, including the altar, was saved from the fire of 1916, and much of it is in use in the new church. The baptismal font, the only relic of the first church, is a simple Neo-classical pillar and bowl brought from England in 1751.



8. SIGNIFICANCE

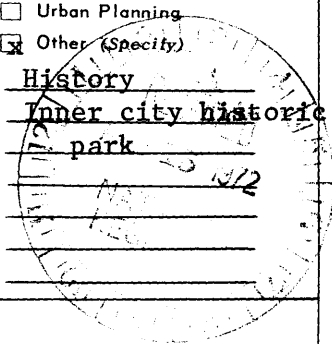
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input checked="" 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) 1735, 1750, 1818, 1916 - 18

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>History</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	<u>Inner city historic park</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Here on the banks of the Savannah River General Oglethorpe in 1735 founded Georgia's second city as a fortress and Indian trading center up river from Savannah. Here in 1750-51 the first St. Paul's Church and Graveyard were located and dedicated "under the guns of Ft. Augusta" by the Reverend Jonathan Copp, St. Paul's first minister, sent to Georgia by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. Here are buried some of the most notable people in Georgia history under tombstones and monuments with distinguished funerary architectural qualifications. But this place is more than the site of the founding of Augusta and of the birth of Augusta Episcopalianism. It is an inner-city garden spot - a history park. The major feature of this park, the existing church building, is perhaps the most significant aspect of the site. Dating from 1916 it is an early example of careful, though not archaeological, reconstruction which perpetuates the look of history amidst ancient trees and monuments near the heart of a busy city.

During the first fifty years of Augusta, this place was the site of the only church in the area. It was a gathering place in case of Indian attack, immediately outside the fort. (The law at that time required that every male citizen over eighteen, when he attended church, to go armed with a good gun or pair of pistols with at least six rounds of ammunition.) All births, marriages, and deaths were recorded at the church, and burials were performed in the churchyard, so that most of the life of early Augusta centered around St. Paul's, and most of the early Augustans were buried in the adjoining cemetery.

When, in 1758, the Church of England was formally established in Georgia by act of the Colonial Assembly, St. Paul's became the established church in this part of Georgia. The colony was divided into eight parishes which served as political as well as ecclesiastical units. St. Paul's was the district including the present Richmond County and several of the surrounding counties.

In 1777, during the American Revolution, St. Paul's Parish was abolished and the territory renamed Richmond County. The church building, under the guns of the fort whose name had been changed to Cornwallis, was destroyed by gunfire when the forces of General Andrew Pickens and Lt. Col. "Lighthorse Harry" Lee captured the fort. And in 1786, all church property was confiscated by the State of Georgia. Episcopalianism as holdovers from the

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Jones, Charles C. and Dutcher, Salem. Memorial History of Augusta, Georgia. Syracuse, N.Y., 1890.
 Miller, William K. History of St. Paul's Church, Augusta, Georgia. Augusta, Georgia, 1945.
 Schley, George, and Glover Bailie. Historic Augusta, Inc. Presented first draft.

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	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		33° 28' 33.3"	81° 57' 38"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

UTM
 17/410650
 3704270
 CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: two acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
William R. Mitchell, Jr., Director, Georgia Historic Sites Survey

ORGANIZATION: Georgia Historical Commission DATE: July 20, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
116 Mitchell Street, SW

CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta STATE: Georgia CODE: 13

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

<p>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:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>Mary Gregory Jewett</u></p> <p>Title <u>State Liaison Officer</u></p> <p>Date <u>August 7, 1972</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>Robert M. Utley</u> Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>4/11/73</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>W. J. Murtagh</u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>4 4 73</u></p>
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(Continuation Sheet)

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8. Significance (St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Augusta, Georgia)

Church of England, were persecuted. The glebe lands of the church were sold and a small, very ordinary wooden building was constructed for non-denominational services. On November 26, 1789, the first Thanksgiving Day service in Augusta was held in this building by the Rev. Mr. Palmer, an Episcopal clergyman.

By 1818, opposition to the Episcopal Church had died down, and in that year the Georgia legislature conveyed to the Trustees of the Episcopal Church in Georgia the title to the original churchyard and cemetery of St. Paul's. That same year, construction was begun on the third church building "94 feet long, 64 feet wide, with 127 pews on the ground floor not including the gallery," designed by John Lund, Architect. This building housed St. Paul's for the next 98 years until the fire of 1916 burned it to the ground.

A new church was begun on the old site as nearly like the old building as possible in 1916, under the planned supervision of Henry Wendell. The building was formally consecrated by Bishop Frederick R. Reese on May 7, 1919.

The present building of St. Paul's Episcopal Church is significant in that it was an early 20th century attempt to make a faithful copy of an early 19th century building. It came before the days of such monumental archaeological undertakings as the Governor's Palace at Colonial Williamsburg. Little is known about Henry Wendell, the supervising architect or of the reconstruction procedure that he used, but a comparison of the results with the enclosed photograph of the 1818 original verify that Wendell's 1916 work was quite close to the spirit and the fact of the destroyed original.

The tombstones in the cemetery date from the very earliest days of the colony and include later celebrities like General George B. Matthews, a former governor, who died in Augusta on his way to Washington to horsewhip President Monroe for a personal grievance; Commodore Oliver Bowen who captured an English ship off Tybee Island and sent the gunpowder to Boston where it is said to have been used in the Battle of Bunker Hill; William Longstreet who invented and operated a steam-driven boat on the Savannah before Fulton took the "Clermont" up the Hudson. Many grave markers possess artistic merits which add to their significance as monuments.

At the rear of the churchyard in the Oglethorpe Gardens is a Celtic cross of granite erected by the Colonial Dames on the site of Fort Augusta-Cornwallis. A damaged cannon at its foot was brought from England by General Oglethorpe in 1733 to be used at Fort Augusta.

St. Paul's, its surrounding property and gardens constitutes a park-like area that adds to the livability and beauty of downtown Augusta.