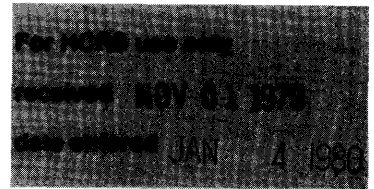


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 Oakey Streak Methodist Episcopal Church South

and/or common Oakey Streak Methodist Church

2. Location

Butler County highway 59, intersection at highway 23,
street & number 20 miles south of Butler County Courthouse ___ not for publication

city, town Greenville *ms.* vicinity of congressional district 2

state Alabama code 01 county Butler code 013

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<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:

4. Owner of Property

name United Methodist Conference

street & number P. O. Drawer 69

city, town Andalusia ___ vicinity of state Alabama 36420

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Butler County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Greenville state Alabama

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Alabama Inventory has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes no

date 1978-present ___ federal state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records Alabama Historical Commission

city, town Montgomery state Alabama

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Oakey Streak Methodist Church is a simple, rectangular, one-story frame structure with a central tower. Built in the second half of the 19th century and altered in the early part of the 20th century, it has Gothic influences. Facing east from the crest of the highest ridge around, the church and its adjacent cemetery command a view of many miles of rolling hills, once in cultivation, but now covered with the growth of young pine trees. The first settlers in this area named the place for the strip of oaks that grew here in the midst of a pine forest. A few of the original old oaks survive in the vicinity of the church.

The main sanctuary is approximately 32 feet wide by 48 feet long with a gabled roof and boxed cornice with returns. In the belfrey of the square tower there are single verticle openings with horizontal louvers on the north and south sides and a double opening on the east side. A pyramidal base topped by an octagonal spire with finial forms the roof of the tower. The latter rests on, or appears to rise out of, a slightly wider entrance vestibule. The sloped roof areas on the north and south of the vestibule appear as buttresses for the tower. Above the double-doored entrance is an equilateral arched transom divided in three parts by equilateral arched muntins. Both north and south sides of the vestibule have single double-hung windows with single pane sashes. The east facade, also, has one triangle-arched double-hung window with 3/2 panes on either side of the tower. Four equally spaced, double-hung windows with 2/2 panes per sash are located in the north and south walls; a window, like those of the sides, and a single door are found on the west (rear) elevation. The drop siding is also used for all outside door and window facings, with the groove turned to the outer edge. The hand-hewn sills of the structure rest on brick piers around the extremities and stone piers in the center.

The interior is paneled throughout with three inch boards that have a center bead and one-edge bead. Beveled areas occur at the confluence of the north and south walls and ceiling. The grooved, exterior siding is also used for interior baseboards, chair-rails, and as door and window facings. A five inch board with a center bead is employed diagonally for the wainscoting. Flooring is laid in four courses from the rear of the church to the entrance foyer. The first three courses of flooring vary in width from 6 3/4 inches to 6 1/4 inches, while the most eastern course is composed of 5 1/4 inch boards. Two aisles provide access from the entrance foyer to the pulpit platform and communion rail and the original handmade pews furnish seating. Short pews are located on the outside walls, while the wide center pews are divided in the middle. Until the 1930's men sat on the left side and women on the right. Old wicker chairs are used on the pulpit platform, and three of the original handmade pews located on the southside serve as seating for the choir.

Exterior changes consist of concrete steps that replaced the original ones of wood; 20th century drop siding; the recent extension of the roof line of the foyer to provide a canopy over the entrance; new six raised panel doors in place of the original doors of four molded panels; and a composition shingle roof, which resembles the original wooden shingles. Kerosene lamps were discarded in favor of new ceiling fixtures with milk glass globes when the church was wired for electricity in the 1950s. The original, primitive-type, interior woodwork graining was painted over recently, but the interior is little changed from its 1903 appearance.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 2

Examination reveals that the hand-hewn sills are not continuous for the entire length of the sanctuary. Instead, they and the flooring at the rear of the sanctuary indicate that the building was extended about 8 feet at the time of the bell tower's construction in 1903 and that the drop siding was added then. The break in flooring and sill construction coincides with the center of a window, and all exterior siding and interior paneling are unaltered from their date of construction. It appears likely that around the 1880s a frame sanctuary was built by the congregation on this site, and that it was enlarged and altered in 1903 into the present form.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Oakey Streak Methodist Church is an example of the vernacular interpretation of the Gothic style in a rural Alabama church built in the second half of the last century. Like so many rural churches in the South, it has served not only the religious needs of this community, but also the social needs as well.

Architecturally, Oakey Streak resembles many simple Gothic influenced one-room frame churches, especially Methodist, built throughout the southeast in the years after the War Between the States and before World War II. In these the Gothic influence was most evident in the use of triangular-arched or lancet windows and transoms, and in the interior beveled areas at the confluence of the walls and ceilings.

The church was organized by 1831 and on December 7, 1850, A. M. Reid deeded the present location of ten acres to the church trustees. For several years a log building served the congregation, but was replaced by the present structure sometime in the last half of the 19th century. In 1903 the square tower was added, and with the exception of the loss of the original spire to lightning, the building has had few structural alterations since then. Around the church and the Dawson Mason Lodge, which was located nearby until it was razed about 1940, revolved most social life in this area. Besides the regular Sunday School and church services, protracted meetings, all-day-singings-with-dinner-on-the-ground, the annual cemetery decoration or memorial day, Baptisms, weddings, and funerals were all occasions for local people to get together at the Oakey Streak Methodist Church. The center pews are divided, and until the 1930's, all males sat on the left side of the sanctuary and all females on the right. Membership of the church is down from pervious years, but regular services are still held each second and fourth Sunday in every month.

During the past year the congregation made many improvements to the structure in an effort to restore it to its 1903 appearance and to preserve it for the future.

9. Major Bibliographical References

see continuation sheet

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property 48 acres

Quadrangle name Industry Alabama

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

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5	4	3	9	6	0
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3	4	9	0	7	0	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

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 Zone Easting Northing

C

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Northeast quarter of the ~~Northwest~~ ^{North} quarter of the Northeast quarter of Section 27, Township 7, Range 15.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jackson R. Stell, Historic Resources Coordinator

organization Alabama Historical Commission date October 26, 1979

street & number 725 Monroe Street telephone (205) 832-6621

city or town Montgomery state Alabama 36130

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Miss B. Howard, Jr.

title SHPO - Alabama date October 29, 1979

For HCRS use only
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Sally J. Odell date 1/4/80
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: W. H. ... date 1/2/80
 Chief of Registration

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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DATE ENTERED

JAN 4 1980

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Carlton, Mrs. Raymond. Andalusia. Interview, September 17, 1979.

Little, John Buckner. The History of Butler County, Alabama, From 1815 to 1885.
Cincinatti: Elm St. Printing Co., 1885.

Massengale, Dr. R. Glenn. Montgomery. Interview, September 17, 1979.

Nix, Ms. Fern. Greenville. Interview, September 19, 1979.

Williamson, Mr. Richard. Andalusia. Interview, July 11, 1979.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Oakey Streak Methodist Episcopal Church

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ALABAMA, Butler

DATE RECEIVED: 5/27/05 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/10/05
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 80000680

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 7/9 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept

REVIEWER Edson Ball

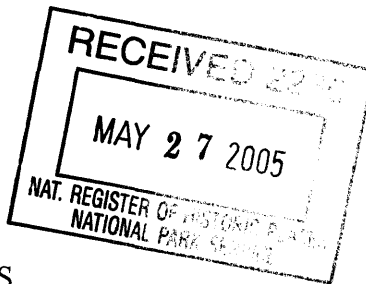
DISCIPLINE History

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 7/2/05

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 1,2,3,5,7 Page 1 name of property: Oakey Streak Methodist Episcopal Church South
county and State Butler County, AL

Section I.

Oakey Streak Methodist Episcopal Church South (additional documentation)

Section II

Butler County Highway 59 at intersection of Highway 23, Greenville Vicinity

Section III

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Richard A. Brown Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer 5/24/05
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Alabama Historical Commission (State Historic Preservation Office)
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

Section V

Classification

This amendment increases the number of contributing resources by 1 (1 contributing site), for a total of 2 contributing resources in this listing.

Section VII

Oakey Streak Methodist Church Cemetery lies directly to the east of the church on three of the ten acres originally listed as part of this nomination. A.M. Reid gave the ten-acre tract to the congregation for the establishment of the church building and cemetery in 1850. The cemetery is located directly across the access drive in front of the church and is now enclosed by a chain link fence. The cemetery is situated on a high, cleared flat spot that is surrounded by timberland.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7,8,9,10 Page 2 name of property: Oakey Streak Methodist Episcopal Church South
county and State Butler County, AL

The earliest marked burials date from the 1860s during the Civil War, making the establishment of the cemetery contemporary with the use of the land by the church. The cemetery contains approximately 400 burials, including an estimated 100 unmarked graves, which include slave/former slave burials and early settlers. The unmarked graves are concentrated in the north end of the cemetery. Some graves in the north end are marked with native rock markers, although recently some of these markers have been removed and are in danger of further vandalism. Burials in the cemetery are marked with a variety of materials: native rock (including piles at the head and foot of the grave and complete box tomb enclosures), concrete, brick and granite coping, marble, iron fencing, and cedar plantings. Some of the coping enclosures have been covered with crushed rock or pea gravel. The cemetery includes a mix of old/original and newer/replacement grave markers as the Cemetery Committee has made efforts to repair or replace those markers that have been damaged through time. The Cemetery Committee placed a monument to mark those unmarked graves and prevent overlapping burials. Historic burials also include 22 Confederate graves and six World War II casualties. Of the 276 marked burials, 224 are 50 years old or older (81%). The cemetery is still in use but nearly full.

Section VIII

Reason for inclusion of additional resource. When the nomination for the Oakey Streak Methodist Episcopal Church South was completed in 1980, the associated cemetery visible in the original photographs was not included within the resource description or resource count, but clearly falls within the boundaries of the property. The cemetery's establishment is contemporary with the church building and plays an important associative role in conveying the setting of this rural church. Trustees of the cemetery board requested the submission of additional documentation on the cemetery itself to record the presence and nature of the cemetery as part of the Oakey Streak Methodist Episcopal Church South nomination.

IX Bibliography

Census of Oakey Streak Methodist Church Cemetery. Originally compiled by Frances Tutchtone and Elizabeth Blackwell, 1965. Revised and updated by Cecil H. Shine, October 1976.

Oakey Streak Cemetery Census, Butler County, Alabama. Compiled by Helen Bartlett and Tonia Porter, April 2, 1997. Taken from the USGenWeb Archives.

Section X

No additional acreage is being added to the district, nor are any boundary changes proposed.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section photos Page 3 name of property: Oakey Streak Methodist Episcopal Church South
county and State Butler County, AL

Photographs

Oakey Streak Methodist Episcopal Church South
Butler County, Alabama
Fern Nix, photographer
October 2004
Negatives in possession of photographer

1. Detail of grave markers and iron fence enclosure
2. View of cemetery looking west towards the church
3. Detail of marble grave marker, looking west
4. View of stone grave enclosures, looking southwest
5. Headstones, looking west
6. View of cemetery looking west
7. Detail of graves and iron fence enclosure
8. View of cemetery looking southeast
9. Examples of newer headstone, facing west
10. View of cemetery, looking north