

**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 Robinson Springs United Methodist Church

and/or common

2. Location

AL 14 and AL 143

street & number Southeast intersection Alabama 14 and 143 not for publication

city, town Robinson Springs vicinity of congressional district 3

state Alabama code 01 county Elmore code 051

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 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 (Reverand John Vickers, Superintendent, Selma District)

street & number 128 Russell Drive

city, town Selma vicinity of state Alabama

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Elmore County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Wetumpka state Alabama

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic American Building Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1934-present federal state county local

depository for survey records Library of Congress

city, town Washington state D. C.

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered
(minor)

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Robinson Springs United Methodist Church is a mid-19th century Greek Revival building. The temple-form, dystyle in Antis structure is of braced frame construction resting on brick piers which have been enclosed with cinderblock. A central belfry with round-arched louvered openings appears to be slightly later than the building itself. The interior has an intact gallery supported on Tuscan columns and reached by a pair of enclosed stairs. Although the original chancel rail and pews are still in use, the pulpit has been slightly modified. The original triple sash were replaced in the 20th century and a rear addition was added to the building. The front steps were replaced with concrete, and the church has recently been re-roofed. In 1969, a small parsonage was constructed on the church lot.

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) <i>Local History</i>
Specific dates	late 1840s	Builder/Architect	Unknown	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

ARCHITECTURE: This is one of Alabama's most noted rural churches and is a fine local interpretation of the Greek Revival. The temple-form, dystyle in antis, frame structure is based on Town and Davis' West Presbyterian Church (New York, 1831), but the local design source is more likely Dakin and Gallier's Government Street Presbyterian Church (Mobile, 1836-37).

LOCAL HISTORY: The church is locally important as the center of 19th century Methodist worship in the small communities of Rocky Mount, Millbrook, Coosada, County Line, Elmore, Deatsville, Speigner, and Robinson Springs. It was established by some of the leading planters in the area.

The early congregation was established around 1828-1830 and the first church, built of logs, was located approximately one mile east of the present building. The eleven charter members were Rev. Peyton and Martha Bibb, Mr. James Robinson, Mr. Alexander McKeithen, Mr. Lewis G. and Mary Ann Robinson, Mr. William Zeigler, Mr. George Speigner, Mr. Benjamin Gaines, Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. Ezekiel Cooper. Mr. Eli Robinson, who owned property around the church, donated the land for the current structure. Local traditions date the present building from between 1845 and 1850, a period consistent with the design of the building.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Faulk, Josie. "History of Robinson Springs United Methodist Church." n.p., n.d.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property less than one
 Quadrangle name Elmore Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UMT References

A	1 6	5 58	7 5 0	3 5 9 7	5 2 5	B					
	Zone	Easting	Northing				Zone	Easting	Northing		
C						D					
E						F					
G						H					

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet. Includes church, parsonage and land in church ownership.

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

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ellen Mertins and Barry Loveland
 organization Alabama Historical Commission date September, 1981
 street & number 725 Monroe Street telephone 832-6621
 city or town Montgomery state Alabama

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.

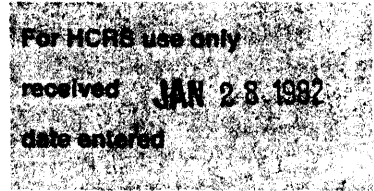
State Historic Preservation Officer signature *[Signature]*

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 1/22/82

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<i>[Signature]</i> Keeper of the National Register	Entered in the National Register date <u>3/1/82</u>
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

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Continuation sheet

Item number 10

Page 1

Begin at the Southeast corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 28, Township 18, Range 17, run thence North 295 feet, run thence West 400 feet to the point of beginning, from said point of beginning run thence North 210 feet, run thence West 165 feet to the East right of way line of the Old Birmingham-Montgomery Paved Highway, run thence in a southerly direction, along the East right of way line of the said Old Birmingham-Montgomery Paved Highway to a point on said right of way line which is 195 feet West of the point of beginning, run thence East 195 feet to the point of beginning, and being and intended to be that certain property known as the Robinson Springs Methodist Church property.