

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

JUN 05 1989

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Corinth Baptist Church other names/site number

2. Location

street & number North Herndon Street not for publication city, town Union vicinity state South Carolina code SC county Union code 087 zip code 29379

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: private (checked), public-local, public-State, public-Federal. Category of Property: building(s) (checked), district, site, structure, object. Number of Resources within Property: Contributing 1, Noncontributing 0, Total 1. Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0.

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic Resources of Union, SC, c. 1823 - c. 1940

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet. Signature of certifying official: Mary W. Edmonds Date: 5/10/89. Mary W. Edmonds, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, SC Dept of Archives & History State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet. Signature of commenting or other official Date State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is: entered in the National Register. (checked) See continuation sheet. determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet. determined not eligible for the National Register. removed from the National Register. other, (explain:). Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Religion/Religious Structure

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Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Religion/Religious Structure

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th & Early 20th Century Revivals;  
Late Gothic Revival

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Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

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walls Brick

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roof Asphalt

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other 

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Describe present and historic physical appearance.

This church conforms to the general description under property type "Black Churches." Notable features of the building include the steeple with pyramidal roof at the left facade; pointed-arch windows; trefoil window in the front gable; and decorative belt courses on the steeple and the exterior chimney.

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally  statewide  locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

Architecture  
Ethnic Heritage/Black

1894 - c. 1930

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

This church was built in 1894 as the first separate building to house Corinth Baptist Church, which was the first black congregation in Union. (1) It is significant both for its association with the early black history of Union and as an example of an early vernacular interpretation of architectural styles common to religious buildings of the period. Corinth Baptist Church was established c. 1883 and had its first services in the old Union Methodist Church, which was located on North Enterprise (then Grog) Street, near the present location of Union Mill. In 1893 Thomas C. Duncan, owner of the new mill, intended to expand his operations and build a company store; he purchased the old building and lot from the congregation for \$600. The congregation purchased a lot on North Herndon (then Judgment) Street in January 1894 and began construction of a new church, which was completed by the end of the year. (2)

Although the Corinth Baptist Church is a religious property and the church has undergone several alterations in the twentieth century, its primary significance is for its association with the early black history of Union and it is eligible for the National Register under the theme of Ethnic Heritage/Black as well as under the theme of Architecture.

NOTES

(1) Preliminary Information Sheet for Corinth Baptist Church, National Register office files, South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, South Carolina Department of Archives and History Columbia, S.C.; Bernice A. Thompson, "Corinth Baptist Church," in Mannie Lee Mabry, Editor, Union County Heritage - South Carolina (Winston-Salem, NC: Hunter Publishing Company for the Union County Heritage Committee, 1981), pp. 353-54. Allan D. Charles, Professor of History at the University of South Carolina-Union and author of a history of Union County, speculates that the Corinth congregation

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

SC Department of Archives & History

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property Less than one acre

UTM References

A 17 442760 3841580  
 Zone Easting Northing

C \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zone Easting Northing

D \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nomination is shown as the black line on the accompanying map, "Corinth Baptist Church (Individual Listing)," drawn at a scale of 1"=100'.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the church and its immediate surroundings.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title J. Tracy Power, NR Historian; H. Thomas Shaw, Branch Supervisor, Survey/Registration  
 organization SC Department of Archives & History date 10 July 1988  
 street & number PO Box 11669 telephone (803) 734-8610  
 city or town Columbia state SC zip code 29211

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Additional Information

Corinth Baptist Church, Union, S.C.

Historic Resources of Union, S.C., c. 1823 - c. 1940

Alterations include a c. 1944 Sunday School annex at the rear and a c. 1959 porch at the principal entrance. Though some material was replaced during the c. 1959 renovations, the window and door openings were not altered. These modern alterations do not significantly impair the integrity of the building.

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purchased an early nineteenth-century Presbyterian sanctuary, moved it to the present lot, and brick-veneered the form of the present church around the frame church. Allan D. Charles, The Narrative History of Union, South Carolina (Spartanburg, SC: The Reprint Company, Publishers, for the Union County Historical Foundation and the Arthur State Bank, 1987), pp. 293, 345. Members of the congregation, however, state that the church was built as a completely new brick building in 1894; and physical evidence as well as an examination of the 1902, 1910, 1917, and 1926 Sanborn Fire Insurance Company maps shows conclusively that the walls of the present church are load-bearing brick and not brick veneer over a earlier frame building.

(2) Ibid.

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PHOTOGRAPHS

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The following information is the same for each of the photographs:

Name of property: Corinth Baptist Church (Historic Resources of  
Union multiple property submission)  
Location of property: Union County, South Carolina  
Photographer: Reverend Archie P. Calhoun, Corinth Baptist Church  
Location of negative: Corinth Baptist Church  
Date: 1986

Additional information for each photograph follows:

1. Facade
2. Facade detail
3. Left elevation