

PH0002291

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:  
Florida

COUNTY:  
Leon

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE:  
MAY 3 1974

H/S  
ZML  
N33X3140  
E 11/1/00

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Pisgah United Methodist Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Old Pisgah Church

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: *N of Tallahassee, SE off Fla. 151*  
~~Just off SR 151, 1.6 miles NE of junction with Roberts Rd. (SR154)~~

CITY OR TOWN: Tallahassee vic.      CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Second

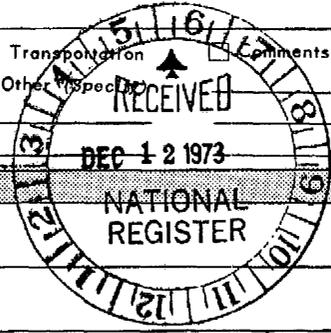
STATE: Florida      CODE: 12      COUNTY: Leon      CODE: 073

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input 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:  
Trustees of Pisgah United Methodist Church

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Tallahassee      STATE: Florida      CODE: 12

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Leon County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
S. Monroe St.

CITY OR TOWN: Tallahassee      STATE: Florida      CODE: 12

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
N/A

DATE OF SURVEY:       Federal       State       County       Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:      STATE:      CODE:

STATE: Florida  
 COUNTY: Leon  
 ENTRY NUMBER: MAY 3 1974  
 DATE:

FOR NPS USE ONLY

**7. DESCRIPTION**

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

Of frame construction with clapboard siding, this simple rectilinear building has its hand hewn sill resting on brick piers. Its simple exterior details are classic revival, the main facade being dominated by a large pediment with cornice and entablature. Panelled pilasters define all four corners of the structure. The main entrance to the narthex consists of double panelled doors with entablature above and there are single panelled auxillary doors on either side. Originally the entrance porch probably spanned the entire front of the structure allowing entrance through all three doors.

The interior of the church is typical of the "new church plan" as described by Hugh Morrison relative to the interior of Old North Church in Boston. That is, it is a rectangular building with longitudinal aisles separating the groups of square boxed pews. The interior architectural scheme is two-story with galleries on three sides carried on simple rounded Doric columns. The elongated sash windows (still with original glass) transcend both first and second floor, admitting adequate light to the gallery area. Exterior louvered shutters open from the top. The ceiling is crossed with lattice strips to give the effect of coffering, although there is some question as to the origin of this work. The altar rests on a simple raised platform at the north end of the church which is defined by a plain balustrade.

The entire structure is in excellent condition due to constant use and maintenance.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input 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)

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 type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although the exact date of the beginning of Pisgah United Methodist Church cannot be established conclusively, there is evidence which indicates that the congregation first formed in the 1820's. At the South Carolina Conference of the Methodist Church held in Fayetteville, North Carolina on January 20, 1825, provisions were made for a circuit preacher to serve in the vicinity of Tallahassee, the new capitol of the Territory of Florida. The Centreville community northeast of Tallahassee was included in this district. Five years later, on May 3, 1830, a "Society" or organized congregation of Methodists was officially created at Pisgah Church near Centreville. John Slade, known as the "Father of Methodism in Florida," represented the Conference at the organizational meeting of the thirty-four charter members. In that same year, Pisgah Church became part of the Georgia Conference and remained so until the Florida Conference was created in 1845 to encompass the new state of Florida.

During the Territorial period, the people of Pisgah Church were ministered to by circuit riding pastors who met the needs of several frontier congregations in the Tallahassee area. Conditions of life in northern Florida were severe in the Territorial Period. Hostilities of the Second Seminole War (1835-1842) affected the Pisgah vicinity; among other things, it slowed the expansion of population. Still, the Church at Pisgah grew; at some point during this period the original church structure, which is believed to have been of logs, was replaced by a frame building which was later to give way to the current structure. In the 1840's and 1850's, the area prospered agriculturally, and the church continued to be a vital part of the surrounding community.

This continued prosperity was reflected by the erection of a new church structure in the late 1850's. A deed dated December 12, 1858, recorded the transfer of seven acres of land from Jacob and Rose Anna Felkel to the trustees of

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See attached sheet.

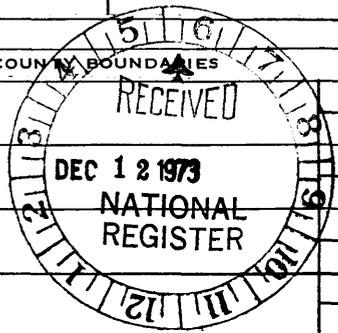
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	° ' "	° ' "		N30° 33' 05"	W84° 09' 26"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Diane D. Greer, Historic Sites Specialist  
Mildred L. Fryman, Graduate Assistant

ORGANIZATION: Div. of Archives, History and Records Mgt. DATE: 6-73

STREET AND NUMBER: Department of State, The Capitol

CITY OR TOWN: Tallahassee STATE: Florida CODE: 12

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 type="checkbox"/> Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name: <u><i>Robert Williams</i></u></p> <p>Title: <u>Historic Preservation Officer</u></p> <p>Date: <u>12-5-73</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u><i>Dr. R. W. Rosten</i></u>          Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date: <u>5/3/74</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u><i>Wm. M. ...</i></u>          Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date: <u>5.2.74</u></p>
--	--

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Florida	
COUNTY	Leon	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
	MAY 3	1974

(Number all entries) 8. Significance

-2-

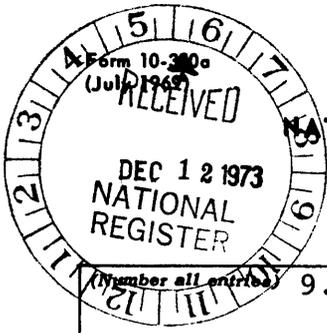
Pisgah Church for the amount of \$125. The deed stipulated that a church was to be erected on the land. With funds raised by a subscription campaign, a new building was erected at a cost of \$5200, and was dedicated in 1859. The architectural integrity of this structure is impressive today; the significance of the design of this building and the quality of the workmanship contained herein is more fully discussed in the physical description section of this nomination.

An important source of information about Pisgah Church is the autobiographical work entitled The Lights and Shadows of an Itinerant Life, which was written by Simon Peter Richardson, the man who led the campaign to erect the current Pisgah Church building. Mr. Richardson returned to Pisgah as pastor in 1863-64. He led the older men of the community in a home defense unit known as the "Old Guards" which was organized as part of the Confederate military effort during the Civil War.

After the Civil War, the population of the area and the size of the congregation at Pisgah decreased due to economic factors which affected plantations in the area and to the departure of Negro members who now wished to form their own separate church. Although the membership dwindled, Pisgah Church remained a social and cultural as well as a religious center. Over the years it has been the scene of political rallies, temperance meetings, musical programs and lectures as well as religious services. Today its congregation is vital and active in the community life of the area.

In addition to the architectural significance which the Pisgah Church possesses, the Church symbolizes the long evolution of community life in north central Florida. The church has experienced nearly a century and a half of existence as a religious congregation, over a hundred years of which has centered around the existing church structure. Although no events of major historical importance have taken place at the church, it has been an integral part of the life of the Tallahassee area since its inception, and it is in this fact that its historical significance lies.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Florida	
COUNTY	
Leon	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 3 1974

9. Bibliography

MAY 3 1974  
-1-

- Blake, Sallie E. Tallahassee of Yesterday. Tallahassee: T.J. Appleyard, 1924.
- Booth, Norman E. "A History of Pisgah Methodist Church (1825-1868)." Typescript, 1966.
- Davis, Mary Lamar. "Tallahassee Through Territorial Days," Apalachee, (1944). pp. 47-61.
- Delp, Theo Frances Rowe. "History of Tallahassee District of the Methodist Church." Manuscript, 1965.
- The Doctrines and Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church. New York: Emory and Waugh Publishers, 1828.
- The Doctrines and Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Nashville: Stevenson and Owens Agents, 1855.
- Dunkle, W. F. "History of Pisgah Methodist Church, Leon County, Florida." Manuscript, 1945.
- Early, John. Minutes of the Annual Conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, 1846-1851. Richmond, Virginia: Advocate Office, 1851.
- Eppes, Susan Bradford. Through Some Eventful Years. Macon, Georgia: J.W. Burke Company, 1926.
- Journal of the Florida Annual Conference of the Methodist Church. Nashville: The Methodist Publishing House, 1965.
- Ley, John C. Fifty-two Years in Florida. Nashville: Methodist Publishing House, 1899.
- McKnight, Blanche Syfret. "The Church in the Wildwood," in Historic Churches of the South. Mary Lorraine Smith, ed. Atlanta: Foote and Davis, Inc., 1952.
- Morrison, Hugh. Early American Architecture. New York: Oxford University Press, 1952.
- Register of Members and Probationers in Pisgah, Leon County, Florida, Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Nashville: Stevenson and Owens Publishers, 1857.
- Richardson, Simon Peter. The Lights and Shadows of an Itinerant Life. Nashville: Methodist Publishing House, 1901.

(con't)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Florida	
COUNTY	Leon	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		MAY 3 1974

(Number all entries) 9. Bibliography (con't)

-2-

Smith, George G., Jr. History of Methodism in Georgia and Florida. Macon, Georgia: J.W. Burke Company, 1877.

Thrift, Charles T., Jr. The Trial of the Florida Circuit Rider. Lakeland, Florida: Florida Southern College Press, 1944.

