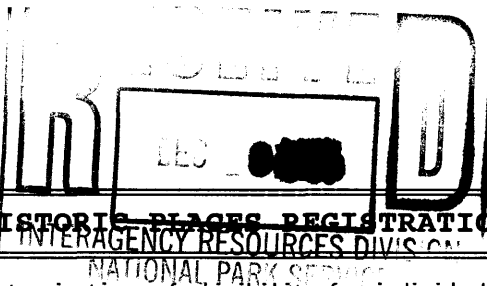


1564



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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 Carswell Grove Baptist Church and Cemetery
other names/site number n/a

2. Location

street & number Big Buckhead Road off U.S. 25/Georgia Highway 21
city, town Perkins (X) vicinity of
county Jenkins code GA 165
state Georgia code GA zip code 30822

() not for publication

3. Classification

Ownership of Property:

- (X) private
- () public-local
- () public-state
- () public-federal

Category of Property

- (X) building(s)
- () district
- () site
- () structure
- () object

Number of Resources within Property:

	<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>
buildings	1	0
sites	1	0
structures	0	0
objects	0	0
total	2	0

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: n/a

Name of related multiple property listing: n/a

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 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 the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Mark Edwards

Signature of certifying official

10/16/95
Date

Mark R. Edwards
State Historic Preservation Officer,
Georgia Department of Natural Resources

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 or bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

Edson H. Beall

1.22.96

determined eligible for the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, explain:

see continuation sheet

Edson H. Beall

Signature, Keeper of the National Register

Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

RELIGION/religious facility
FUNERARY/cemetery

Current Functions:

RELIGION/religious facility
FUNERARY/cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

LATE VICTORIAN: Gothic

Materials:

foundation	brick
walls	wood
roof	metal
other	n/a

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The Carswell Grove Baptist Church and Cemetery is located in Jenkins County, Georgia, two miles south of Perkins. It is a rural church building constructed in 1919 and a small cemetery affiliated with the church (photo #1). The church is extremely intact with only minor changes.

The wood-framed building is rectangular with a front-gabled roof and two square towers, one at each corner of the front facade (photo #2). Weatherboarding covers the building's exterior, and the foundation is brick.

The building's Gothic Revival-style details include pointed-arch windows with simple tracery and drip-molds, blind pointed arches applied above the entrance doors, and a scalloped raking cornice along the front gable (photo #3). A triple pointed-arch window is located on the front facade between the towers.

The two towers, one larger than the other, originally contained the two front entrances (one door has been removed) and are topped with pyramidal roofs. A small pump house has been added to the southwest tower. The apse on the building's rear facade consists of a five-sided bay with pointed-arch windows (photo #4).

On the interior, the building's open sanctuary space is intact except for a small foyer that has been enclosed at the entrance (photo #5). The southwest tower entrance is now used as a restroom. Original beaded boards remain on the walls, ceiling, and wainscoting. The sanctuary contains its historic pews. There are three sections of

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section 7

pews facing the pulpit with two aisles. In front of the pulpit, there are two more sections of pews which face each other. A raised platform in the apse contains the pulpit and choir area (photos #6 and #7). Two small rooms flank the apse.

The church cemetery is located to the rear and along both sides of the church building (photos #8 and #9). The cemetery was begun around 1870 shortly after the original church building was constructed on this site. Some of the graves are marked by modest headstones, stone slabs or both. The graves laid out randomly. A number of the church's past ministers are buried in the cemetery.

The front yard of the church is sparsely grassed with sandy soil and no formal landscaping. The areas around the immediate church yard have scrub brush and some trees.

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): N/A

A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

Architecture
Ethnic Heritage: African American
Religion

Period of Significance:

c.1870-1919

Significant Dates:

c.1870 - First church built and cemetery started
1919 - First church burned and present church built

Significant Person(s):

n/a

Cultural Affiliation:

n/a

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

n/a

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8

Significance of property, justification of criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above:

Narrative statement of significance (areas of significance)

The Carswell Grove Baptist Church Complex, which is made up of the Carswell Grove Church and Cemetery, is significant for its architecture, and for its importance in the African American and religious history of the Carswell Grove Community and Jenkins County. It is an extremely intact resource which still plays an important role in the area.

The property is significant in architecture for the very intact 1919 church building. The building is a very good example of an early 20th-century wood-framed rural church building. The church's rectangular massing with two front towers and simple Gothic Revival-style details is an archetypical African-American historic church architectural form built in the late-19th and early-20th centuries, as identified in Historic Black Resources: A Handbook for the Identification, Documentation, and Evaluation of Historic African-American Properties in Georgia by Carole Merritt, 1984.

The property is significant in ethnic heritage: African American as a religious institution that served the rural black population of the surrounding area. This complex has served as a centerpiece for the spiritual and communal activities of the Carswell Grove Community. The church grew out of nearby Big Buckhead Baptist Church, which was a white congregation. The black population of the area worshipped together with the white congregation of Big Buckhead until after the Civil War. Carswell Grove was organized as a separate church in 1867, and shortly after that a building was constructed on the current property. The land was given to the church by Judge John Wright Carswell, and the church was named in his honor. The church still has an active congregation.

It is significant in religion because it has served the religious, social and cultural needs of a remote, rural African-American community. The church complex is significant as the center of the religious life of the Carswell Grove community since the 1919. The beginnings of the Carswell Grove Church date back to 1867 when the congregation was formed after a split with the Big Buckhead Baptist Church. The church complex has been the place where its members have gathered and worshiped. Since its construction seventy-six years ago, the church building has symbolized the stronghold of religious belief in the Carswell Grove community.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section 8

National Register Criteria

The Carswell Grove Baptist Church and Cemetery are eligible under Criterion A for its significance in the African-American and religious history in the community and as a good example of an African-American religious institution that serves the surrounding rural community. The Church is also eligible under Criterion C as an excellent and intact example of an early-20th century church building with Gothic Revival-style detailing.

Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

The Carswell Grove Baptist Church meets Criteria Consideration A as it derives its primary significance from its historical importance and its architectural characteristics.

Period of significance (justification)

The cemetery was started c.1870 and the church being nominated was constructed in 1919 after the previous church burned.

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

The Carswell Grove Baptist Church is the contributing building. The cemetery is the contributing site. There are no noncontributing resources.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Sams, Lizzie. "Carswell Grove Baptist Church," Historic Property Information Form, July 5, 1994. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia, with supplemental information.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): (X) N/A

- () 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:

- (X) State historic preservation office
- () Other State Agency
- () Federal agency
- () Local government
- () University
- () Other, Specify Repository:

Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

n/a

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approximately 2.5 acres

UTM References

A) Zone 17 Easting 404250 Northing 3640690

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary includes the Carswell Grove Baptist Church and Cemetery as indicated on the enclosed tax map with a heavy black line, drawn to scale. The nominated property is Parcel 12 on Map 8, Jenkins County, Scale 1" = 660' (the only available map showing the legal boundaries of the property).

Boundary Justification

The boundaries are the current and historic legal boundaries encompassing the church and cemetery.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Leslie N. Sharp, National Register Consultant
organization Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
street & number 500 The Healey Building, 57 Forsyth St., NW
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30303
telephone (404) 656-2840 **date** September 26, 1995

(OHP form version 12-08-93)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

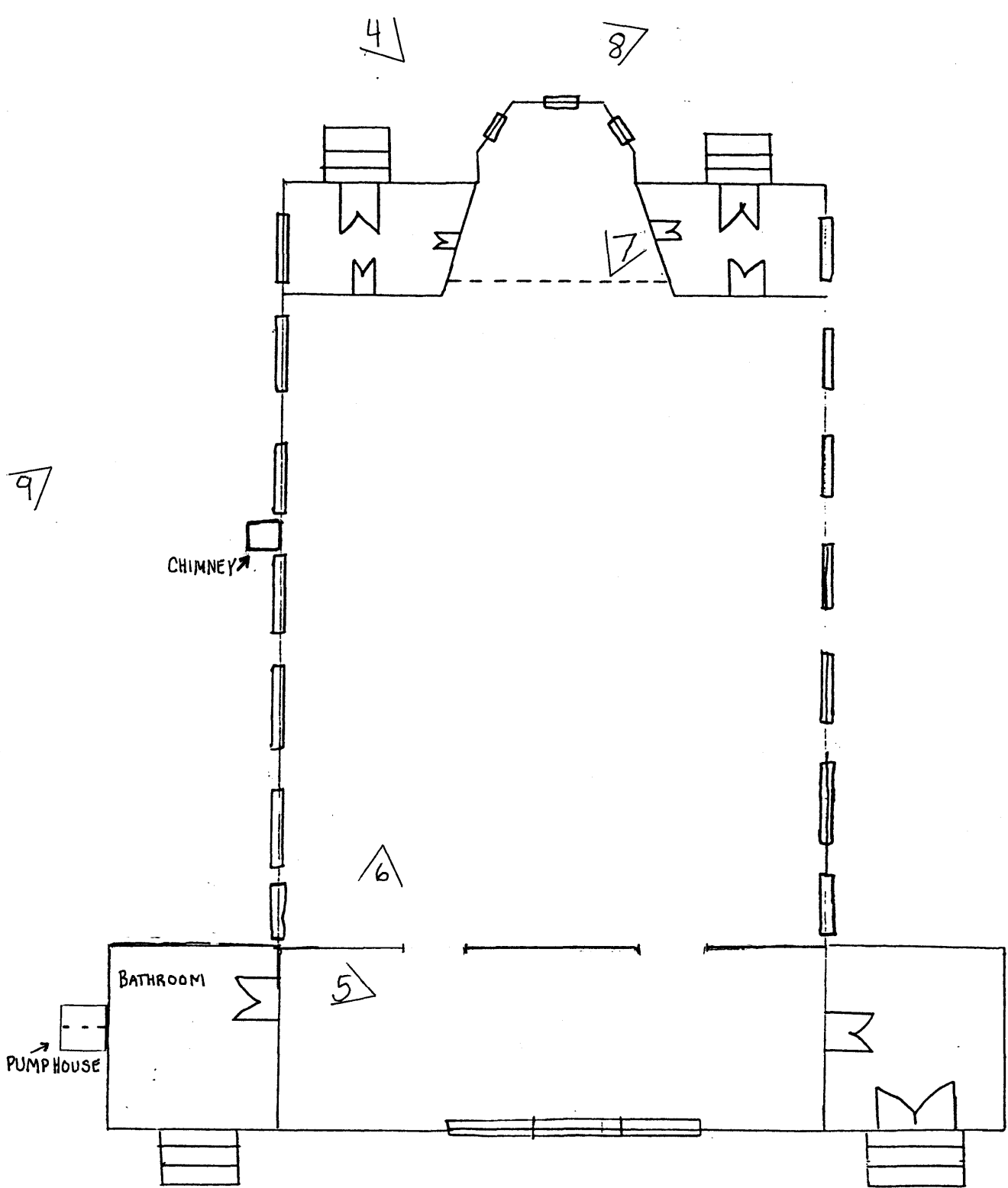
National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Photographs

Name of Property: Carswell Grove Baptist Church and Cemetery
City or Vicinity: Vicinity of Perkins
County: Jenkins County
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: September 1994

Description of Photograph(s):

- 1 of 9: Carswell Grove Baptist Church, front and west facades; photographer facing north.
- 2 of 9: Front and east facades; photographer facing northwest.
- 3 of 9: Rear and east facades; photographer facing south.
- 4 of 9: Detail of apse on rear facade; photographer facing southeast.
- 5 of 9: Foyer looking toward southeast tower; photographer facing east.
- 6 of 9: Sanctuary looking toward pulpit in apse; photographer facing northwest.
- 7 of 9: Sanctuary looking from apse; photographer facing southeast.
- 8 of 9: Portion of cemetery at the rear of the church; photographer facing south.
- 9 of 9: Portion of cemetery on the west side of the church; photographer facing north.



CARSWELL GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH AND
CEMETERY

JENKINS COUNTY, GEORGIA

FLOOR PLAN

PHOTOGRAPHS/DIRECTION OF VIEW: \triangleright

SCALE: NONE

NORTH: \rightarrow

13

4

8

9

CHIMNEY

6

BATHROOM

5

PUMPHOUSE

2

11