

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: South Carolina	
COUNTY: Beaufort	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70.10.45.0040	DATE 10/22/70

1. NAME

COMMON:
Sheldon Church Ruins

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Prince William's Parish Church

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
4.8 miles E of Pocotaligo on U.S. 21

CITY OR TOWN:
Gardens Corner *vicinity*

STATE: South Carolina CODE: 39 COUNTY: Beaufort CODE: 013

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
St. Helena's Episcopal Church and Diocese of South Carolina

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Beaufort STATE: South Carolina CODE: 39

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Clerk of Court and Auditor's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:
Beaufort County Court House, Bay Street

CITY OR TOWN: Beaufort STATE: South Carolina CODE: 39

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
South Carolina Survey of Historic Places (Preliminary)

DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
South Carolina Department of Archives and History

STREET AND NUMBER:
1430 Senate Street, Box 11, 188 Capitol Station

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia STATE: South Carolina CODE: 39

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

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

Even though the gable roof, pediment, windows and interior have long been devastated and wild vegetation surrounds the ruins and clings to parts of the walls, the classic simplicity of the Sheldon Church design still remains.

Surrounded by moss-draped live oaks, the original three-and-one-half-foot-thick colonnaded walls of Flemish Bond and the four all-header bond portico columns remain, attesting to the solid construction and master craftsmanship which enabled it to withstand two conflagrations and 223 years of existence.

Completed by 1753, Sheldon Church was built along a row of seven Tuscan columns (six engaged and one outstanding). On the north, five bays between the engaged columns were filled with a single tier of tall, round-headed windows; the other bay was left open for a portico. On the south, one bay held a doorway with a fan-shaped window above.

At the eastern end, above the altar, was a Palladian window, with a round-headed window to each side.

The western facade had an elegant portico, crowned by a triangular pediment with bulls-eye window and cornice with dentils. The large front doorway had a fanlight above and two round-headed windows, symmetrically spaced, on either side.

Inside the front entrance was a large font supported by bronze lions-claws. The Bull family coat of arms was built into the wall near the pew of Governor William Bull. The grave of the first Lieutenant Governor William Bull, beneath the chancel, was re-marked with a memorial in 1956.

Marble sarcophagi in the churchyard bear the names of South Carolina leaders.

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SEP 12 1970
 NATIONAL ARCHIVES
 COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **built 1745-1753**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Sheldon Church (Prince William's Parish Church) is said to be the first conscious attempt ^{IN} America to imitate a Greek temple.

The land was donated from the original holdings of the first landgrave, Edmund Bellinger, who was awarded the lands by a patent dated May 7, 1698, promulgated by the Lords Proprietors.

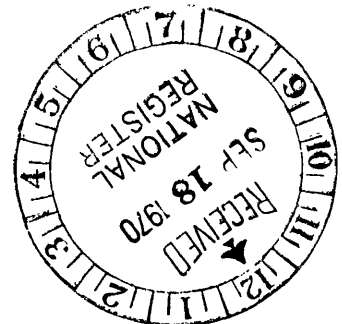
The name Sheldon Church was used in honor of the Bull family whose nearby Carolina plantation and ancestral home in Warwickshire, England, were both called Sheldon Hall.

A political and military center for the area during the Revolutionary War, the church served by concealing arms and ammunition in the Bull family vault and by providing a place for Continental troops to drill. Sheldon Church was burned by General Augustine Prevost's British troops in May, 1779.

Sherman's 15th Corps under General John Logan burned Sheldon Church on January 14, 1865 and it was never rebuilt.

In 1925, the Reverend R. M. Marshall inaugurated memorial services in the ruins of old Sheldon Church, held annually on the second Sunday after Easter.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Dalcho, Fredrick. An Historical Account of the Protestant Episcopal Church in South Carolina. Charleston: E. Thayer, 1820

Millar, John Fitzhugh. The Architects of the American Colonies. Barre, Mass.: Barre Publishers, 1968.

Todd, John R. and Hutson, Francis M. Prince William's Parish and Plantations., Richmond, Virginia: Garrett and Massie, 1935.

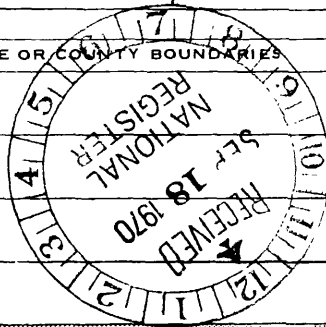
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	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	° ' "	° ' "		32 ° 37 ' 02.57 "	80 ° 46 ' 31.22 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 4 1/2 acres

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: Dollie McGrath, Historic Resources Coordinator I

ORGANIZATION: South Carolina Department of Archives and History DATE: August 5, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER: 1430 Senate Street, Box 11, 188 Capitol Station

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia STATE: South Carolina CODE: 39

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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:

National State Local

Name: [Signature]

Title: Director, South Carolina Department Archives & History

Date: August 29, 1970

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

[Signature]
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 OCT 22 1970

Date _____

ATTEST: [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register
 OCT 14 1970

Date _____