

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: South Carolina	
COUNTY: Sumter	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Church of the Holy Cross

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Holy Cross Episcopal Church - Church of the Holy Cross

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
located on S. C. Hwy. 261, turning to the right just beyond Shaw Air Force

CITY OR TOWN: Base at Stateburg, S. C.  
Stateburg

STATE South Carolina	CODE 045	COUNTY: Sumter	CODE 085
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**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"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	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"/> 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) _____ _____
Comments		_____	

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Vestry of the Church

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Stateburg	STATE: South Carolina	CODE: 045
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**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Sumter County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:  
North Main Street

CITY OR TOWN: Sumter	STATE: South Carolina	CODE: 045
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**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
South Carolina Preliminary Survey of Historic Places

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, P.O.Box 11,188, Capital Station 29211

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia	STATE: South Carolina	CODE: 045
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

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 type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Exterior: Built in 1850, Holy Cross Episcopal was designed to resemble an Old World Parish Church. Of Gothic Revival design, constructed of yellow pisé de terre (rammed or packed earth). The stuccoed walls are over 40 feet in height. The roof is of high-pitched red tile. A corner tower and pointed arches are also a part of this cruciform structure.

Interior: The walls are stuccoed but are painted gray to give the appearance of stone. Bohemian stained glass windows, designed by Violett le Duc, are placed over the altar and on the west end of the church. The design of the windows over the altar are of figures, such as Peter, whereas those on the west end represent the more conventional aspects of the Church, such as the chalice. A wooden altar, carved walnut pews, and a tracker-type organ are also in the church. The organ made by Henry Irwin, is one of the few still in existence. The floors of the church are tiled.

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**3. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input 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) **1850**

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 checked="" 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

Holy Cross Episcopal Church, located in Stateburg, South Carolina is a major example of architecture produced during the antebellum period of American history.

Architecture: Edward C. Jones, designer of the Holy Cross Episcopal Church was one of the best known South Carolina architects of the antebellum era. (His designs date from c. 1848-1861). Located in Charleston, his office was the training ground for such architects as Francis Lee (later a partner), Louis Barbot, and John Devereux. Although structures such as Richard Furman Hall at Furman University and Trinity Methodist Church in Charleston are still in existence, much of Jones' work has been destroyed.

Holy Cross Episcopal Church is considered by many as Jones' most unusual design. Resembling an Old World Parish Church, this cruciform structure is a notable example of Gothic Revival. It was built in 1850, constructed of yellow pisé de terre - earth packed between wooden molds, tamped, and left to dry until it becomes as hard as baked brick. Walls constructed of pisé de terre (minimum depth of 13 inches) are almost impervious to earthquakes. They may crack but will not collapse. Holy Cross Episcopal is significant in that it, along with various other structures in Stateburg, comprises the largest complex in the United States of pisé de terre buildings.

Religion/Philosophy: Serving as a religious center for over one hundred years, Holy Cross is actually the second church on the site, having replaced a frame structure built there when the parish was incorporated.

Science: Buried in the graveyard of Holy Cross Church is Joel Poinsett, member and organizer of the S. C. Board of Public Works, U. S. congressman, minister to Mexico, Secretary of War, and first president of the National Institute for the Promotion of Science (forerunner of the Smithsonian Institute). An opponent of Calhoun's "nullification policy," he is probably best remembered for bringing the poinsettia flower to this country from Mexico.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Gregorie, Anne K. History of Sumter County. Sumter: Library Board of Sumter County, 1954.

Julien, Carl, and Milling, Chapman J. Beneath So Kind a Sky. Columbia, S. C.: U. S. C. Press, 1958.

WPA. South Carolina, a Guide to the Palmetto State. New York, Oxford University Press, 1941.

**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
NW	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		33	57	15
SE	° ' "	° ' "		80	31	55
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **2 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Mary Ann Eaddy - Historic Preservation Division**

ORGANIZATION: **S. C. Dept. of Archives and History**      DATE: **4/23/73**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1430 Senate Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Columbia**      STATE: **South Carolina**      CODE: **045**

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION      NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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 Charles E. Lee  
**Charles E. Lee**

Title Director, S. C. Department of Archives and History

Date April 30, 1973

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation*

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Keeper of The National Register*

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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