

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

JUN 5 1978

DATE ENTERED

NOV 14 1978

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

 SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
 TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS
1 NAME

HISTORIC

Salem Black River Presbyterian Church

AND/OR COMMON

Brick Church

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

South Carolina Highway # 521

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Sumter

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

5

 VICINITY OF

STATE

South Carolina

CODE

045

COUNTY

Sumter

CODE

085

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**
 DISTRICT
 BUILDING(S)
 STRUCTURE
 SITE
 OBJECT
OWNERSHIP
 PUBLIC
 PRIVATE
 BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
 IN PROCESS
 BEING CONSIDERED
STATUS
 OCCUPIED
 UNOCCUPIED
 WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
 YES: RESTRICTED
 YES: UNRESTRICTED
 NO
PRESENT USE
 AGRICULTURE
 COMMERCIAL
 EDUCATIONAL
 ENTERTAINMENT
 GOVERNMENT
 INDUSTRIAL
 MILITARY
 MUSEUM
 PARK
 PRIVATE RESIDENCE
 RELIGIOUS
 SCIENTIFIC
 TRANSPORTATION
 OTHER:
4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Congregation of Salem Black River Presbyterian Church

STREET & NUMBER

Route 1

CITY, TOWN

Mayesville

— VICINITY OF

STATE

South Carolina 29104

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Sumter County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Sumter

STATE

South Carolina

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina

DATE

1973 (update)

— FEDERAL STATE — COUNTY — LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

South Carolina Department of Archives & History

CITY, TOWN

Columbia

STATE

South Carolina

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED (minor)

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located in rural Sumter County, South Carolina, Salem Black River Presbyterian Church was constructed in 1846. Representative of the Greek Revival style of architecture, the structure is rectangular in plan, measuring approximately 45' wide and 75' long. The structure is constructed of hand-made brick in common bond and features a low gable roof covered by standing seam terne.

The front facade features a brick pediment supported by four massive stucco-over-brick columns of a simplified Greek Doric order. The pediment features a triangular louvered lunette. The front facade is divided into three bays and features two pairs of single-paneled doors with windows above. The entrance doors flank a central 30/30/30 window.

The side facades are divided into six bays, four of which feature 24/24/24 windows. On both sides, the bay nearest the rear contains a double paneled door with window above. These doors, like those of the front facade, open directly into the nave of the church. The rear facade is similar to the front facade and is divided into three bays. It has two doors which give access to interior stairs rising to the slave gallery.

All of the windows retain their original granite sills and louvered shutters. Granite is also used for the steps to all entrances. Brick pilasters delineate the bays, and molded brick defines the entablature and cornice of the pediment.

INTERIOR: Basilican in plan, the interior of Salem Black River Church is simple. Walls and ceilings are of plaster, and floors are of heart pine. A slave gallery extends along three sides and is supported by square paneled wooden pillars. The gallery is accessible only by the exterior doors (which open to twin stairways), located at the rear of the church. The boxed pews retain their original graining and are divided into four sections by side aisles. The pulpit and altar table are built on a podium, the back wall of which terminates in a recessed arch.

SURROUNDINGS: Located to the rear of the church and included in the nominated acreage is the Session House, also constructed in 1846. Of clapboard construction, the building measures approximately 15' by 30'. It is simple in design, featuring 9/9 windows with board and batten shutters and doors, a gable roof, and twin exterior chimneys. The interior is divided into two rooms. Also included within the nominated acreage is the church cemetery which is enclosed by an early 20th Century iron fence.

The church, Session House, and graveyard have been well-maintained. Services continue to be held at the church twice a month.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1846 BUILDER/ARCHITECT J. Lomas & Co. (Builder)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Salem Black River Presbyterian Church, built in 1846, is significant for its historical associations with the development of Sumter County and as a well-preserved example of Greek Revival architecture. From the time of its organization in the mid-18th Century until the present, Salem Church (also known as Brick Church), has played an important role in the development and history of the surrounding rural community.

The earliest known history of Salem Church was compiled in 1825. According to these records, ca. 1759 David Anderson gave land for the construction of a meeting house. A log structure was built soon thereafter but was replaced by a frame building ca. 1768. The church apparently did not have a full-time pastor until 1773 when Thomas Reese came to Salem, serving until 1792. Reese was a highly educated man and was awarded the degree of divinity from Princeton for an essay on the influence of religion in civil society.

In 1804 the congregation erected its third church; and by 1825 it numbered 89 communicants, 45 white and 44 black. By 1840 the congregation included 42 white members and 118 black. In 1846 the fourth and present structure was erected.

Throughout its history, many locally prominent individuals have worshipped at Salem Black River Church. James W. English (1797-1841), an elder of Salem in 1828, later served in both the South Carolina House of Representatives and the South Carolina Senate. Matthew Peterson Mayes (1794-1878), a leader in the church, served in the South Carolina House of Representatives and was a signer of the Ordinance of Secession. James McBride Dabbs, a 20th Century regional author, was also a member of Brick Church.

Salem Church derives additional significance as the mother church of several other Presbyterian churches in the area. Its Session House, located directly behind the church, is important in its own right, having served as a community library for many years. Finally, the church cemetery contains the graves of many former communicants, the earliest marked grave dating from 1794.

ARCHITECTURE: Constructed in 1846, Salem Black River Church is a virtually unaltered example of the Greek Revival style of architecture. Characteristics which exemplify this style include the massive stucco-over-brick columns, the gable roof, and the pedimented portico. Being constructed of brick, Salem Church

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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Gregorie, Anne King. History of Sumter County, South Carolina. Sumter: Library Board of Sumter, 1954, pp. 27, 57, 136.

(continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY ca. 4 acres

Longitude W 80° - 09' - 39"
Latitude N 33° - 55' - 57"

QUADRANGLE NAME _____

QUADRANGLE SCALE _____

UTM REFERENCES

A

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

B

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

C

--	--	--

D

--	--	--

E

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F

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G

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H

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION The property measures approximately 300' by 600' and is in the shape of a rectangle. On the east it is bound by S.C. Highway # 521. On the south, west and north it is bound by land owned by Salem Black River Presbyterian Church.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Kappy McNulty

Wayne Gray, Santee-Lynches Council of
of Governments

ORGANIZATION

South Carolina Department of Archives & History

DATE

March 22, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 11,669 Capitol Station

TELEPHONE

(803) 758-5816

CITY OR TOWN

Columbia

STATE

South Carolina

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Charles E. Lee

TITLE

Charles E. Lee
State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

May 22, 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Charles E. Lee

DATE

11-14-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: *Marcelle S. [Signature]*

DATE

11-9-78

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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differs from most rural antebellum churches in South Carolina, the majority of which are built of wood.

The Session House is also of architectural significance. Built upon low brick piers, it is constructed of wood and is simple in design. Although it was also constructed in 1846, its proportions and construction reflect a more conservative style of architecture than the Brick Church.

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RECEIVED	1076
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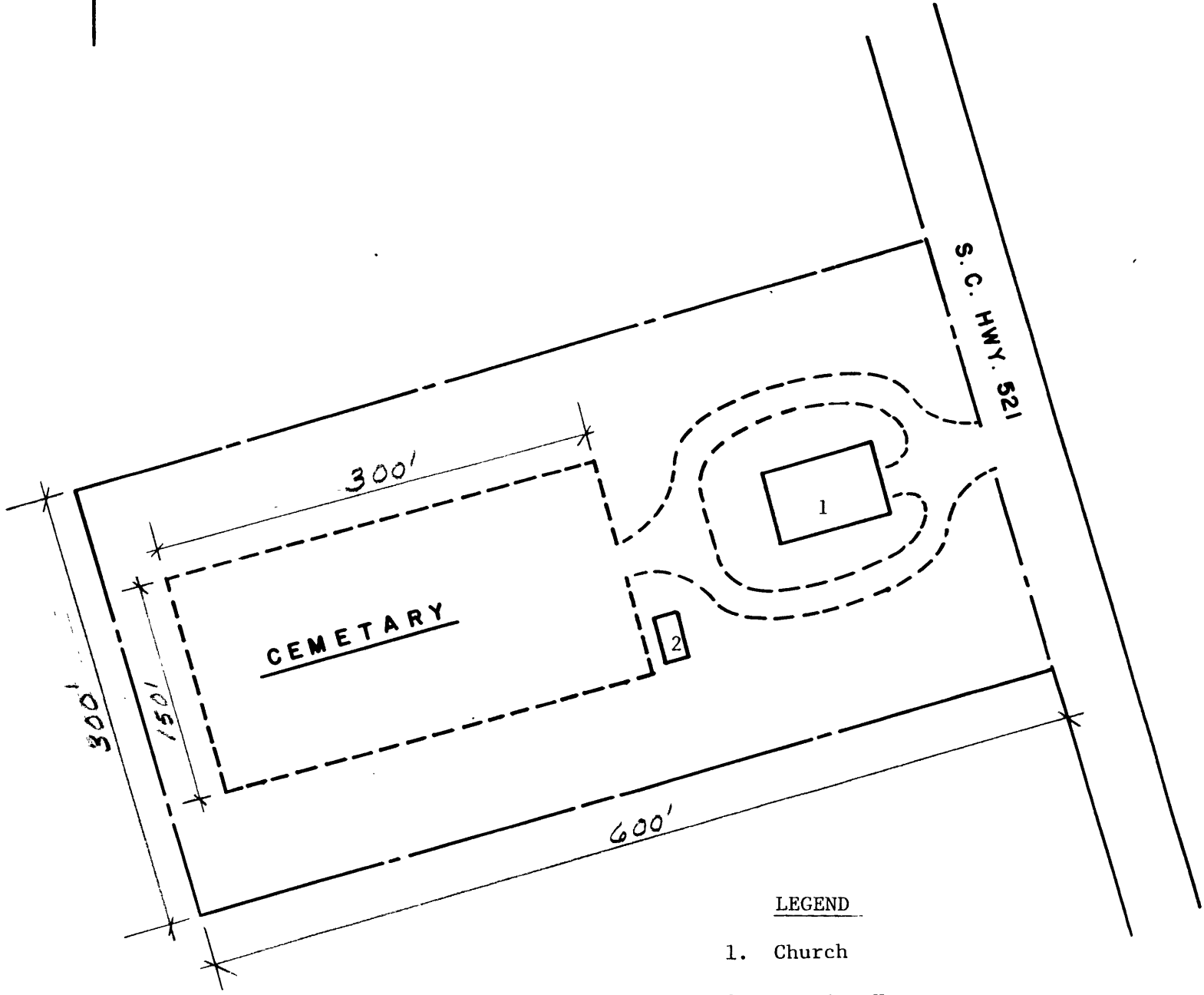
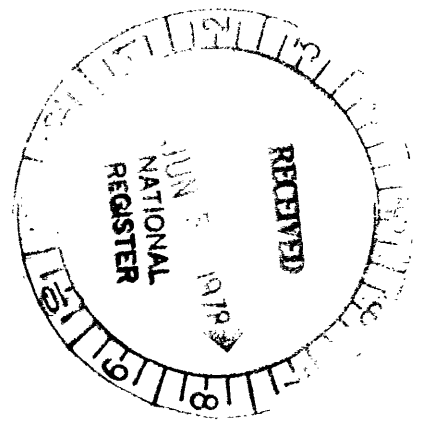
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LEGEND

- 1. Church
- 2. Session House