Jum No. 10-2 40 1925, 10-741

95 FLD STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED 8/21/80

SEE IN	NSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO						
NAME	TYPE ALL ENTRIES C	COMPLETE APPLICA	BLE SECTIONS				
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ністоліс Віаск Міроо Ва	aptist Ch <u>urch (prefer</u>	red)	•				
AND/OR COMMON	apaise onarch (precen		<u> </u>				
Belin Church	·						
LOCATION STREET & NUMBER	LOCATION Approximately 1.5 miles north-northwest of the intersection of South Carolina Highway 41 and South Carolina Highway 51.						
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	NOT FOR PUBLICATION						
CITY, TOWN Nesmi th		••		ONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT			
STATE	<u> </u>	_X_ VICINITY OF		CODE			
South Carolin	a	045	Williamsburg	089			
CLASSIFIC	ATION						
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENT USE			
Y ^{DISTRICT}	V_PUBLIC	OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM			
Apultoing(s)	^_PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK			
—\$fructure —\$it€∕	_BOTH PUBLIC ACQUISITION	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT	X RELIGIOUS			
OBJECT	_JN PROCESS	XYES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC			
	_REING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	JNDUSTRIAL	_TRANSPORTATION			
		NO	MILITARY	_OTHER:			
OWNER OF	PROPERTY						
NAME Southeas	t Baptist Association	Rev. Edward M.	Carney				
STREET & NUMBER	semary Avenue	·	·				
city. town Andrews,		VICINITY OF	statë South Caroli	na 29510			
LOCATION	OF LEGAL DESCR	RIPTION					
COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS,E	ac Williamsburg Coun	ty Courthouse					
STHEET & NUMBER	125 West Mafn Str	eet					
CITY, TOWN	Kingstree		South Caroli	na 29510			
REPRESEN	TATION IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS					
TITLE	of Victoria Di i	m Cauth Caustin					
DATE	of Historic Places i	n south Larolina	······				
1973 (upd	ate)		X.STATE _COUNTYLOCAL	<u> </u>			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS	South Carolina Depa	rtment of Archive	es and History				
CITY, FOWN	Columbia		South Caroli	na 20211			



CONDITION

_EXCELLENT

.__FAIR

_DETERIORATED

__RUINS __UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

X UNALTERED

CHECK ONE

XORIGINAL SITE

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Black Mingo Baptist Church, located in Williamsburg County approximately three miles southeast of Nesmith, South Carolina, was constructed ca. 1843 with funds provided by Cleland Belin. An example of the meeting house form of church building, Black Mingo Baptist Church also features elements which reflect a local interpretation of the Greek Revival style.

Exterior: A two-story rectangular block, the church is set on low brick piers. Pier brickwork is American Common bond. The frame building is sheathed with weatherboard and has a low-pitched gable roof. Presently, the roof is covered with modern composition shingles, although the original wood shingled roof is intact beneath. A wide, beaded entablature with a deep, plain boxed cornice extends unbroken around the perimeter of the roofline. An unfluted, two-story pilaster distinguishes each corner of the building. Round headed windows with intersecting tracery are featured on all elevations. The central bay of the facade (northwest elevation) and the northeast and southwest elevations have narrow, three-paneled, double doors with a semi-circular transom with intersecting tracery.

The facade is divided into three evenly spaced bays; the first story features a central doorway flanked at right and left by a 9 over 6 window and the second story features three 6 over 6 windows. This elevation is characterized by a deep, boxed pediment created by the gable end. The three-bay door and window arrangement of the facade is repeated on both side elevations with the exception that the bays are more widely spaced. A large 30 over 30 window dominates the central bay of both stories of the southeast elevation; it is flanked by 6 over 6 windows on the first story level. The deep, boxed pediment of the facade gable end is repeated on the rear elevation.

The church is distinguished by several elements reflective of the Greek Revival style, including: the two-story, unfluted corner pilasters; the wide beaded entablature; and the deep, boxed pediments. Also of note are the scriptural quotations on panels mounted in the center of the frieze on the northwest and southwest elevations.

Interior: The building has a rectangular floor plan. A second-story slave gallery on three sides with dado paneling to the balcony rail, is supported by elongated wooden columns. A double-run stairway located to the left of the front entrance leads to the gallery. Basically unaltered since its construction, the church features original fabric throughout, including: wide board floors; wide horizontal board wainscoting and wide vertical board walls above; and, the vaulted lath and plaster ceiling of the nave. Of particular note are the original pews and the scriptural quotations painted on the front of the pulpit, over the rear window and front door, and on the frieze below the slave gallery.

Surroundings: Black Mingo Baptist Church is located in a rural setting and is encircled by wooded land. South Carolina secondary road 162 bounds the property to the northwest and southwest. Included in the nominated acreage is a cemetery which surrounds the church and includes graves of Cleland Belin and other early members of the congregation. Because of the isolation of the site and the threat of vandalism, a high chain link fence has been erected around the property.

PERIOD	AF			
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	A RELIGION
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_1500-1599 .	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMAMITARIAN
_ .1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	music	THEATER
X 1800-1899	COMMERCE	_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	_TRANSPORTATION
_1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	JNDUSTRY INVENTION	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	Local History)

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1843

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Black Mingo Baptist Church, located in Williamsburg County approximately three miles southeast of Nesmith, South Carolina, near the site of the deserted town of Willtown, was built ca. 1843 with funds donated by Cleland Belin. The meeting house type church features characteristics which reflect a local interpretation of the Greek Revival style. The building is historically significant because of its association with the development of the Baptist denomination in the Willtown area and with an individual prominent in the history of the region.

According to local tradition Cleland Belin, who was a descendant of William Screven, founder of the Baptist Church in the South, came to Willtown ca. 1810 to live with his uncle John Screven. The tradition continues that Belin became a Baptist, and a meeting house was constructed near Willtown ca. 1820. However, the first primary record of a Baptist Church in the vicinity of Willtown is a reference in the 1840s to Black Mingo Baptist Church.

Willtown was located on the banks of Black Mingo Creek, and Cleland Belin became one of the most prosperous and prominent residents of the area as a merchant and owner of flat bottom boats. He built the Black Mingo Baptist Church ca. 1843 near his residence approximately one half mile from the village of Willtown. The Black Mingo congregation became a member of the Welsh Neck Baptist Association ca. 1845. At this time the church had twelve white and six black members and was supplied by the association with a missionary minister. During the nineteenth century the group grew slowly. However, by the 1920s the congregation had disbanded and Black Mingo Baptist Church was abandoned. In 1936 finding the building in need of repair and threatened by abuse, the congregation of nearby Nesmith Baptist Church resolved to "preserve the property and keep it in repair" and to hold worship services in the church not less than four times a year. Today Black Mingo Baptist Church continues to be maintained, and services are held in the church on the fifth Sunday of each month that has a fifth Sunday.

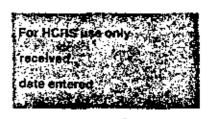
Architecture: Black Mingo Baptist Church, a meeting house type building, is a significant example of a local interpretation of the Greek Revival style. In addition, the church has been maintained and is virtually unaltered except for the roof covering. Notable architectural features include: the round headed window and door openings with intersecting tracery; the two-story, unfluted corner pilasters; the wide beaded entablature; the deep, boxed pediments; and, the slave gallery supported by elongated columns.

MAJOR BIBLIOGR	APHICAL REFE	RENCES	•	
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Florence Morning News (Flo	orence, S.C.), 8 A	ugust 1976.		
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LIST ALL STATES AND	COUNTIES FOR PROPER	TIES OVERLAPPING	STATE OR COUNTY BOL	INDAHIES
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FORM PREPARED AAME/TIME Mary Watson Historic Preservatio	, Kathy	Elaine Eaddy, T Hendrix, Wacc Development Co		orical Society anning and
South Carolina Depar	tment of Archives	and History	May 26, 1980	
STREET & NUMBER Box 11,669, Capitol	Station		TELEPHONE 803-758-5816	
city on sown Columbia			State South Caroli	na 29211
STATE HISTORIC				N
THE EVA:	LUATED SIGNIFICANCE O STA	F THIS PROPERTY WI TE	THIN THE STATE IS:	
As the designated State Historic hereby nominate this property for criteria and procedures set forth t	r inclusion in the National	Register and certify th		
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION O	······································	als? «	7 9	
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FOR NPS USE ONLY THEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE	S PROPERTY IS INCLUDE	D IN THE NATIONAL F	EGISTER	
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KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL P	EGISTER	 		

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United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

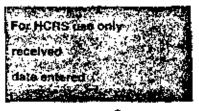
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Page

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United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

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