

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**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 St. James Church, Goose Creek

AND/OR COMMON St. James Church, Goose Creek

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

South Carolina

___ VICINITY OF
CODE
45

001
COUNTY
Berkeley

CODE
015

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME The Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina

STREET & NUMBER 138 Wentworth Street

CITY, TOWN

Charleston ___ VICINITY OF

STATE
South Carolina

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, Clerk of the Court's Office
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER P. O. Box 218

CITY, TOWN

Moncks Corner

STATE
South Carolina

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE

1939, 1940

FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

Division of Prints and Photographs, Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington

STATE
D.C.

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

In 1706, the General Assembly passed an act that made the Church of England the Established Church in South Carolina, and laid out nine parishes, one of which was Saint James at Goose Creek. The first church was a wooden building, but construction on the existing brick church began about 1713 and was completed in 1719. The vestry was incorporated in 1778, and it is said that the presence of the royal coat of arms over the pulpit saved the church from destruction in 1779-1780, when British troops overran South Carolina during the Revolution. Services were discontinued during the latter part of the war, and the Church of England was disestablished. The revival of the Episcopal Church in South Carolina took place gradually in the period 1795-1817.

Saint James' Church is a small, compact, one-story structure with stucco-covered brick walls, and a slate jerkinhead roof. Rectangular in shape, the church is 50 feet long and 40 feet wide. Entrances are at the west end at the north and south sides. The round-arched windows of the church are protected by exterior wooden shutters, and framed by plaster architraves adorned with cherub's heads.

The corners of the building are marked by large quoins, and a small stucco cornice adorns the eaves line. The east end has three arched windows, the center one slightly larger than the other two. The north and south sides are similar, each side containing a center entrance and two arched windows on either side. The side doorways are segmentally pedimented with modified Roman Doric pilasters and simplified entablatures. The west end contains the main entrance and flanking arched windows on either side. This is the most elaborate of the three doors, where a frieze, carried by flanking Roman Doric pilasters, is adorned by triglyphs and metope reliefs showing flaming hearts. Above this, a triangular pediment bears a stucco relief pelican piercing her breast with her own beak to nourish her young, the symbol adopted by the Anglican Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, which had sent both money and clergymen to Charleston from London in 1702.

The interior features a rectangular plan, nave and flanking aisles, dividing the 18th century box pews, and a pair of colonnades run from west end to chancel. The flat plaster ceiling is higher over the nave than over the aisles. A curved pulpit stairway leads to the focal point of the east end of the church; the pulpit, reading desk, and sounding board, behind which rises a large baroque painted plaster reredos. Two pairs of composite pilasters carry the broken ends of a heavily enriched scroll pediment, and between these are the Royal Arms of George I, the lion and unicorn, modelled in high relief and painted in full color. At the west end of the church, over an open narthex, is a large wooden gallery which is reached by means of a small stair in the northwest corner. The gallery is supported on four dwarf columns and two pilasters with simple Ionic capitals.

(Continued)

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input 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 1713-1719

BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built 1713-1719 by early planters from Barbados, St. James Goose Creek is one of the earliest Georgian churches in the English colonies. The building is not only early, however, but generally recognized as one of the real architectural beauties in a category of small eighteenth-century parish churches. Although somewhat altered and restored, much of the exterior fabric and most of the interior woodwork is original.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hugh Morrison, Early American Architecture (New York, 1952).
 Samuel Stoney, Plantations of the Carolina Low Country (Chasn, 1938).
 Edward F. Rines, Old Historic Churches of America (New York, 1936).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA ^{1/4}

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY C.

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	7
5	9
0	3
8	9

3	6	4	8	7	8	0
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING				

B

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING				

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

(See Continuation Sheet)

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

James Dillon, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Historic Sites Survey, National Park Service

DATE

4/23/76

STREET & NUMBER

1100 L Street NW.

TELEPHONE

202-523-5464

CITY OR TOWN

Washington

STATE

D.C. 20240

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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

9/28/82

ATTEST

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

LANDMARKS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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CONTINUATION SHEET

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In 1844, St. Michael's Church, Charleston, paid for repairs to St. James, which was then in very poor condition. In this work, iron tie rods were inserted just above the side aisle ceilings to brace the side walls. The earthquake of 1886 seriously damaged the building generally, and the entire west gable end wall collapsed. Restoration work has taken place in 1907, 1949, and 1955.

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The official boundary of Saint James Church, Goose Creek, South Carolina, or as it is more familiarly known, "The Goose Creek Church," consists simply of a small patch of land on which the building stands, and a small area around it.

The historical extent of the churchyard remains clearly defined, since the old stone wall around the building remains in place. Located near the Berkeley-Charleston County line east of Route 52 near the Goose Creek Reservoir, the site of the Goose Creek Church lies entirely within Berkeley County and has an area of approximately 1/4 acre. No structures at the site contribute to the national significance of the landmark, other than the church itself.

Note: The brickwall which surrounds the churchyard forms the boundary of the landmark. However, the stone wall is of a much later period and does not add to the national significance of the landmark.