

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, Santee

AND/OR COMMON

St. James Church, Santee

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

unnumbered, unnamed

\_\_\_ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

McClellanville Georgetown

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

001

STATE

South Carolina

CODE

45

COUNTY

Charleston

CODE

019

**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

\_\_\_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

The Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina

STREET &amp; NUMBER

138 Wentworth Street

CITY, TOWN

Charleston

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

South Carolina

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. (RMC) Registrar of Mesnes and Conveyances

STREET &amp; NUMBER

P.O. Box 726

CITY, TOWN

Charleston

STATE

South Carolina

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE

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 type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" 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		

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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Church of Saint James Santee was one of those laid out under the Church Act of 1706, and actually built in 1768. It is a simple, country, Georgian church which nevertheless clearly says to us that it had an architectural awareness of sophisticated form. While using standard period forms such as elongated round-headed windows on all four sides, a delicate palladian window in the east end, box pews organized into a rectangular plan under a slate, hipped roof, and a simple box cornice, the church also reaches out to introduce something new.

The pedimented classical porticos on both the north and south sides are aspects more elaborate than one would expect here, and the execution of the four brick columns on either side, is remarkably complete. The introduction of this element, here at this time, shows the desire to keep up with the fashionable building trends in centers such as Charleston. The eight brick columns have molded brick bases and capitals, and even a noticeable entasis.

The main entrance faces south, to the country road which passes by about 25 yards away. The original orientation of the church, with its delicate palladian window at the east end, was doubtless along the long axis, so that that window served as the backdrop to the communion table placed at that end. Unfortunately, for some unknown reason, this focal point of the religious service was moved during the 18th century to its present, rather awkward position in the middle of the north wall, directly opposite the main entrance. To accommodate this and form a vestry, the exterior of the north portico has been filled in with brick walls between its columns.

The heavy Georgian shutters and panelled doors retain most of their original hardware, while the interior too is original, with its box pews, pulpit, classical window frames, and coved ceiling, combining to create an effect of graceful simplicity.

Used only occasionally for religious services by the Diocese of South Carolina, the church then is open only from time to time, to visitors. It is located in a very remote area of Charleston county, with no other structures located along the dirt road to it, for at least a mile in any direction.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

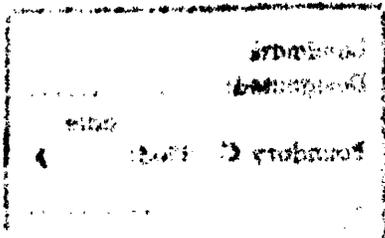
PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<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 checked="" 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    1768

BUILDER/ARCHITECT    anonymous

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Saint James Church (Santee) is an excellent example of those rural South Carolina churches of the 18th century which achieved a remarkable sophistication in brick and/or stucco exteriors, and finely wood-panelled interiors. Saint James Santee introduced a new attempt at architectural distinction, using two pedimented classical porticos supported on four brick columns, a provincial reflection of the new splendor which was also being found in Charleston. The seating plan, which originally had the chancel at the end of the long axis, but now has it across the short one, was changed at sometime probably in the 18th century for some unknown reason.



# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA $\frac{1}{4}$ acre

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_  
 UTM REFERENCES 17.643060.3671200

A          
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

B          
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Located in a very remote area of Charleston County, the Church of Saint James, McClellanville, lies west of Route 17/701, south of the Santee River, approximately 5 miles north of McClellanville on an unnumbered unnamed dirt road clearly shown on the accompanying USGS map.  
 The ownership lines of the diocese of South Carolina at the property construct a rectangle of land around the church building comprising approximately one-fourth acre.

### 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 DATE: 9-10-76  
 ORGANIZATION: National Park Service, Historic Sites Survey TELEPHONE: 202/523-5464  
 STREET & NUMBER: 1100 L Street  
 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.

Designated: APRIL 15, 1978  
 Boundary C filed: June 21, 1978

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

### FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

*[Signature]*

DATE: 11/24/78

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

((NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS))

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CONTINUATION SHEET      Saint James Church, Santee  
Boundary                      ITEM NUMBER      10      PAGE      2

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This area is clearly defined visually by the chain link fence standing there, and shall also define the official boundary of this national historic landmark. No structures other than the church contribute to the national significance of the landmark.