

Form 10-300  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

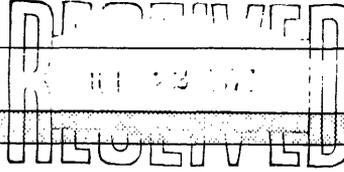
STATE: South Carolina	
COUNTY: Colleton	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 72.145.0002	DATE 1/5/72

1. NAME

COMMON:

Pon Pon Chapel

AND/OR HISTORIC:



2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

On Parker's Ferry Road, 1 mi. from S.C. 64.

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE

South Carolina

29488

CODE

45

COUNTY:

Colleton

CODE

029 15

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY  
(Check One)

- District
- Site
- Building
- Structure
- Object

OWNERSHIP

- Public
- Private
- Both

- Public Acquisition:
- In Process
  - Being Considered

STATUS

- Occupied
- Unoccupied
- Preservation work in progress

ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC

- Yes:
- Restricted
  - Unrestricted
  - No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Agricultural
- Commercial
- Educational
- Entertainment
- Government
- Industrial
- Military
- Museum
- Park
- Private Residence
- Religious
- Scientific
- Transportation
- Other (Specify)
- Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina

STREET AND NUMBER:

138 Wentworth Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Charleston,

STATE:

South Carolina

CODE

45

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:

Colleton County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Walterboro

STATE:

South Carolina

CODE

45

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

S.C. 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 Capitol Station

CITY OR TOWN:

Columbia

STATE:

South Carolina

CODE

45

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COUNTY:

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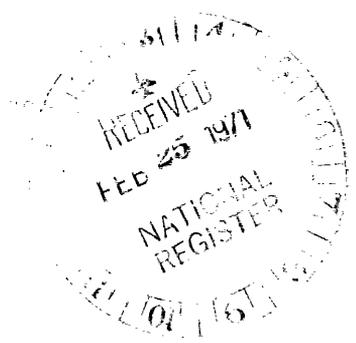
7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The facade of Pon Pon Chapel had a central entrance flanked by a window on either side. Both windows and entrance were designed as semi-circular arches with brickwork pattern of one stretcher alternating with two header bricks. Two round windows on second level in same brickwork pattern. Walls in Flemish bond.

Since 1832, Pon Pon Chapel has been in ruins. A hurricane in September 1959 toppled much of the ruin. Plans for restoration have been jointly undertaken by the Colleton County Historical Society and the Episcopal church.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**3. SIGNIFICANCE**

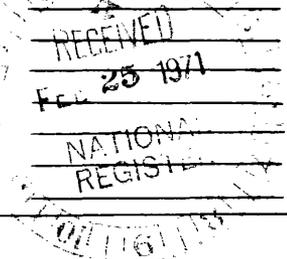
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<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) 1754

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 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

Established 1725 by Act of the General Assembly, Pon Pon Chapel of Ease was one of two serving St. Bartholomew's Parish after the Yemassee War (1715) aborted plans for a parish church.

At time of construction, the chapel site, now isolated, was located on Parker's Ferry Road, the busy stage-coach thoroughfare which connected Charleston and Savannah. President George Washington traveled this road on his Southern tour in spring 1791.

In 1754, a brick chapel was erected to replace the earlier wooden structure. This brick chapel burned in 1801, and Pon Pon Chapel has subsequently been known as the Burnt Church. Rebuilt between 1819 and 1822, the chapel was in use until 1832 when it was reduced to ruins either by disrepair or a second burning.

John Wesley preached two sermons at Pon Pon on April 24, 1737. Also of significance is the church burial ground. Here are the graves of two Congressmen, Aedanus Burke and O'Brien Smith, and numerous other local leaders.

The South Carolina Department of Archives and History erected an historical marker here in August 1970.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Dalcho, Frederick. An Historical Account of the Protestant Episcopal Church in South Carolina. Charleston, South Carolina. 1820.  
 Glover, Beulah. Narratives of Colleton County. Walterboro, South Carolina. 1962.  
 Julien, Carl. Sea Islands to Sand Hills. Columbia, South Carolina. 1954.  
 Thomas, Albert Sidney. A Historical Account of the Protestant Episcopal Church in South Carolina 1820-1957. Columbia, South Carolina. 1957.  
 Wesley, John. The Works of John Wesley, Volume 1. Grand Rapids, Michigan. N.D.

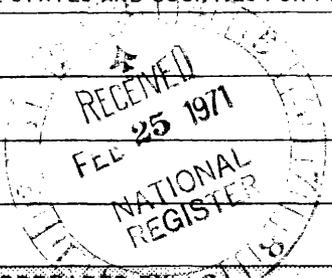
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			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	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"	32°	48'	30"	80°	29'	33"
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"						
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"						
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 4.1 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Nancy R. Ruhf, Historic Resources Coordinator I

ORGANIZATION: South Carolina Department of Archives and History DATE: 12/10/71

STREET AND NUMBER: 1430 Senate Street, P.O. Box 11,188 Capitol Station

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia STATE: South Carolina CODE: 45

**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: *James S. Lopez*  
 Title: Director, South Carolina Department of Archives & History  
 Date: 2/14/71

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

*Ernest A. Connally*  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
 JAN 5 1972

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ATTEST: *William Montague*  
 Keeper of The National Register  
 DEC 20 1971  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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COUNTY	
Colleton	
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(Number all entries)

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8. SIGNIFICANCE

Pon Pon Chapel



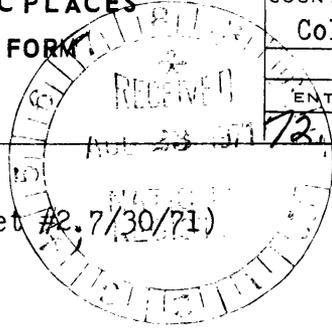
The ruins of Pon Pon Chapel have long been an area landmark and reminder of the early establishment of the Anglican religion in St. Bartholomew's Parish. Because of the destruction wrought by the Yemassee War in 1715 and the subsequent shifting of the population, St. Bartholomew's, unlike other colonial parishes, was unable to organize and build a central parish church. For this reason, an act was passed by the Assembly of the Province of South Carolina on December 9, 1725 which authorized a chapel of ease to be built in St. Bartholomew's near Cox's plantation and gave the minister permission to "constantly celebrate divine service in the said chappel as other ministers do in the several parish churches." As a rule chapels of ease did not enjoy all of the privileges afforded to the parish church which kept all vital statistics for the parish, held elections and carried out many of the political duties of the parish. Usually the chapels of ease served parishoners who lived a great distance from the parish church. Thus Pon Pon Chapel was exceptional as a chapel of ease which performed all the functions of a full parish church and was for many years the sole Anglican worship place in the area.

Pending acceptance on the National Register, the Colleton County Historical Society plans to apply for a grant to stabilize the ruins.

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(Continuation Sheet)



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8/16/71

(Number all entries)

8. SIGNIFICANCE (8. Continuation Sheet #2.7/30/71)

Pon Pon Chapel

In colonial South Carolina, the <sup>Anglican</sup> church's importance was more than religious. Interwoven into the development of South Carolina, the church was also important historically. Thus we rate as valuable the physical vestiges of any church and chapel buildings remaining from this period.

In his South Carolina: A Synoptic History for Laymen, Dr. Lewis Jones, head of the history department at Wofford College and one of the state's most respected historians, explains the peculiar importance of the colonial church in South Carolina.

According to Dr. Jones, the Church Act of 1706 was one of the most significant laws in South Carolina legislative history, not only in making the Anglican the established church and at the same time allowing dissenters to become eligible for all political offices, but also because of its crucial non-ecclesiastical aspects -- mainly that of providing for the creation of 10 parishes and churches which were, in reality, political units of government.

These parishes were more than church divisions, explains Dr. Jones. In a colony devoid of local government, the parishes (and those later created) were to serve as election districts, or precincts, for coastal and Low Country representation in the colonial and state legislatures until 1865.

As Eugene Sirmans, author of Colonial South Carolina: A Political History 1663-1763, stated, "the real seat of the establishment in South Carolina was in the parish vestry." The vestry, elected every Easter Monday by St. Bartholomew's Parish Anglican freeholders meeting at Pon Pon, was responsible for providing a register of births, marriages and deaths, for supervising parish finances and church repairs and for administering poor relief.

St. Bartholomew's was one of the two parishes in Colleton County created by the Church Act of 1706. The fact that Pon Pon was not only a Chapel of Ease but also functioned as the Parish Church establishes its historical and political importance quite apart from any religious significance it had. It also explains why even the ruins of Pon Pon are valued by the people of Colleton as a landmark, enough so that they are raising money to stabilize and preserve them.

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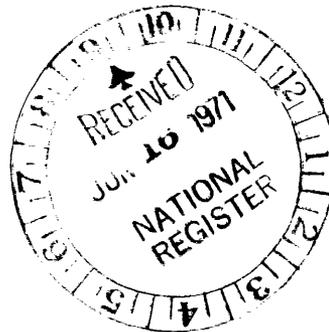
(Number all entries)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Pon Pon Chapel

Cooper, Thomas (editor). The Statutes at Large of South Carolina. Vol. III.  
Columbia, South Carolina: 1838.

Fripp, William Edward. "Minutes of the Vestry, St. Bartholomew's  
Parish." The South Carolina Historical and Genealogical  
Magazine. Volumes 50 and 51 (1950-51): 50: pp. 173-203;  
51: pp. 10-23, 78-96, 145-163, 229-242.



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9. Major Bibliographical References

Pon Pon Chapel

Jones, Lewis P. South Carolina: A Synoptic History for Laymen.  
Columbia, South Carolina: Sandlapper Press Inc., 1971.

Sirmans, M. Eugene. Colonial South Carolina: A Political History  
1663-1763. Chapel Hill, North Carolina: The University of  
North Carolina Press, 1966.

Wallace, D.D. South Carolina: A Short History. Columbia, South Carolina:  
University of South Carolina Press, 1966.

