

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Kingston Presbyterian Church
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 800 Third Avenue not for publication _____
city or town Conway vicinity _____
state South Carolina code SC county Horry code 051 zip code 29526

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide X locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official _____ Date _____

Elizabeth M. Johnson, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, S.C. Dept. of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is: Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

- entered in the National Register
___ See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the
National Register
___ See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the
National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____

Kingston Presbyterian Church
Name of Property

Horry County, South Carolina
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing	
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>2</u>		buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site			sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure			structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object			objects
		<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Category: Religion

Category: Religious Facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Category: Religion

Subcategory: Religious Facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival

Colonial Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Brick; Stucco

roof Asphalt

other Stucco

Wood

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Kingston Presbyterian Church
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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- a owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- b removed from its original location.
- c a birthplace or a grave.
- d a cemetery.
- e a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- f a commemorative property.
- g less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1858, 1956

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Architect/Builder

Eaton, Otis Charles C. Benton and Sons (Wilson, N.C.)
Harper, Walter D.
Little, Henry Pyle

Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository:
S.C. Dept. of Archives & History,
Columbia, S.C.

Kingston Presbyterian Church
Name of Property

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 1.6 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing
1 <u>17 680919 3745523</u>	3 <u>17 680920 3745423</u>	5 <u>17 680857 3745500</u>
2 <u>17 680964 3755458</u>	4 <u>17 680877 3745467</u>	
<u>See continuation sheet.</u>		

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kweku Ainuson [with the assistance of the SHPO staff]
organization Strom Thurmond Institute, Clemson University date 21 August 2009
street & number _____ telephone (864) 654-5716
city or town Clemson state SC zip code 29631

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white** photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Kingston Presbyterian Church
street & number 800 Third Avenue telephone (843) 248-4200
city or town Conway state SC zip code 29526

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended(16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). **Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Register of Historic Places
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Kingston Presbyterian Church
Name of Property
Horry County, South Carolina
County and State

Description

The Kingston Presbyterian Church, at the corner of Third Avenue and Kingston Street in Conway, Horry County, South Carolina, is located on a large lot with the church facing Third Avenue, on a bluff overlooking Kingston Lake and the Waccamaw River.

Kingston Presbyterian Church (1858)

This Greek Revival church features an engaged, fully-pedimented portico set on paneled, square pillars. The columns rest on low brick piers that are engaged to the brick steps [ca. 1955]. The building also contains paneled pilasters on each corner along with louvered shutters for windows on the south [facade], west and east elevations. Two sets of double-leaf paneled doors with architraves and cornices on the church's façade are accessed by individual sets of brick steps with iron hand railings [ca. 1955] and flank a massive, triple sash window with architrave and cornice. This and each window along the side elevations contains twenty lights per sash. Smaller windows [six-over-six double-hung sash] at the gallery level within the portico - one over each entrance doorway - were closed ca. 1955 during other renovations to the portico area. The building's entablature and boxed cornice continues unbroken to incorporate the portico. The roof is sheathed in asphalt architectural shingles; however, was clad with cypress shingles well into the twentieth century. The building was originally sheathed with weatherboard, but was covered in stucco in 1930 when a stuccoed brick addition was added to the rear.

The 1930 brick addition, which is accessed on the west side of the building, features an inset, pedimented entrance with a circular window above it. Also on the west side, there are four fixed windows, two on each story, that have thirty lights each. The addition features a cross-gabled wing that extends a short distance into the cemetery. Walter D. Harper, an architect from Florence, South Carolina, designed the addition as well as a number of buildings in Florence and the Pee Dee region of South Carolina. Henry Pyle Little, who lived in the Beaty-Little House in Conway—also listed in the National Register—and constructed many buildings in Conway and Horry County during the first half of the twentieth century, served as contractor for the addition.

The present steeple was added to the building in 1962. It consists of a square wooden base, surmounted by a graduated octagonal lantern featuring four arched, multi-light windows and urn finials at every corner of both the square base and lantern. The eight-sided conical spire is sheathed in shingles and is completed with a copper ball finial at its apex. The steeple replaced a late nineteenth-century steeple with a rectangular base and a pointed spire containing diamond-shaped, louvered vents, damaged by Hurricane Hazel in 1954. When initially constructed the church, a Greek Revival temple form edifice, had no steeple.¹

¹ New South Associates, "A Historical and Architectural Survey of Conway, Horry County, South Carolina" (Stone Mountain, Ga.: New South Associates, 2005).

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Kingston Presbyterian Church
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The church contains a vestibule that is entered from the two main entrances within the portico and is located under a portion of the gallery. Staircases on either side access the gallery from the vestibule. Originally, a door located near the front of the building but on the west elevation [Kingston Street] accessed the gallery in an enclosed staircase; however, that door was closed during the 1930 addition and renovations and the staircase reconfigured. The current east gallery staircase was configured from an old janitor's closet. The gallery itself, having been closed off for a number of years was reopened and renovated in 1930. Two sets of double-leaf doors access the sanctuary from the vestibule. The sanctuary measures fifty-one feet by thirty-five feet with a ceiling height of twenty-one feet. The original pulpit was relocated to one of the church's meeting rooms in another building. Three ranks of wooden pews, the middle section of which is wider and the paneled ends and backs of which are painted white, occupy the bulk of the carpeted wooden floor space of the sanctuary. A paneled partition, the same height and alignment as the pews, separates the three sections of pews from the open area surrounding the communion table and elevated pulpit platform. A beamed or semi-coffered ceiling, adorned with large Colonial Revival brass chandeliers, was installed during the 1930 renovations. To the north of the pulpit is a choir loft set behind a low paneled wall and framed by a large, heavily moulded square proscenium arch. The inset for the choir loft, part of the 1930 addition, is finished in a high paneled wainscot and features a large central panel with classical broken pediment surround. Flanking the proscenium arch and above the single-leaf six panel doors to either side of the pulpit, as well as on the upper side walls of the choir loft, are large rectangular grilles for the church's pipe organ operations.

A chandelier with four arms for kerosene lamps dates from ca. 1879 hangs in the choir loft. When Kingston Presbyterian Church installed electrical lights in 1908, it was given to the Waccamaw Presbyterian Church, which later had it electrified. The chandelier was returned to Kingston Church sometime after 1958, and restored.

Sometime in the late nineteenth century a church bell was ordered from New York but never arrived because the vessel carrying the bell was lost at sea. The vessel carrying a second bell was also wrecked in a storm, but its cargo was salvaged and the bell, with a patent date of 1860, was eventually recovered and sent to the church.

Educational Building (1956)

In 1956 a brick educational building, costing about \$100,000, was built a short distance to the southeast of the sanctuary in what had been laid out as the southern end of the church's cemetery. The site closely approximated the location of the previous Kingston Presbyterian Church sanctuary. The educational building, with a two-story Colonial Revival style residential appearance, was designed by the Wilson, North Carolina, architectural firm of Charles C. Benton and Sons. Moore Construction Company of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, served as the general contractor. It was dedicated on October 14, 1956, and put into service. Approached through brick gateposts with ball finials and curving support walls, the building features an entrance with broken scrolled pediment surround, an octagonal cameo window above, six-over-six, double-hung windows with louvered shutters, a modillioned cornice, and lateral gabled slate roof. A large pitched and flat roof portion of the building extends to the east toward Kingston Lake.

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Kingston Presbyterian Church
Name of Property
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The Kingston Presbyterian Church is at the corner of Third Avenue and Kingston Street in Conway, Horry County, South Carolina, on a bluff overlooking Kingston Lake and the Waccamaw River.

The church, built in 1858, is an outstanding example of antebellum Greek Revival ecclesiastical design; a 1930 addition and 1962 steeple do not compromise its architectural integrity and significance. It is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C as a significant example of church architecture; as such, it also meets the standards for exceptional significance under Criteria Consideration A.

Additional Information

Kingston Township and the village of Kingston were established when the British Crown decreed that a township should be laid out on the Waccamaw River some hundred miles from Charles Town.² The site of present-day Conway was chosen on the farthest inner side of the Waccamaw River. The boundaries of the new township were laid out after a 1732 survey by Alexander Skene and Justice William Wright.³ The name Kingston was chosen in honor of King George II, and the township and village were opened for settlement in 1735.

Shortly after Kingston was opened up for settlement in 1734, there was a church established upon the Waccamaw. Though the exact date and name of this church is not well documented, the location of this church is not in dispute. It was located on the banks of the Waccamaw.⁴ Presbyterian historian George Howe notes that the pioneers of this settlement were predominantly Scots-Irish Presbyterian and observed that it was “natural that the first church in the town and township of Kingston was of the Presbyterian faith.”⁵

One of the first ministers to preach at Kingston—sometimes also called Waccamaw Township—was Reverend John Baxter, who was holding services here as early as 1734, before the creation of the Kingston Township.⁶ The diary of Reverend Archibald Simpson records that the first regular minister of the Presbyterian Church in Kingston was Reverend William Donaldson. In February 1756, during a meeting of the Presbytery in Charleston, Donaldson accepted a call to be sent to the church on the Waccamaw; he served that congregation until his death in 1759.⁷

² Paul Quattlebaum, *The Kingston Presbyterian Church, Pee Dee Presbytery, Conway, South Carolina, 1858-1958* (Conway: Kingston Presbyterian Church, 1958), p. 3.

³ Catherine H. Lewis, *Horry County, South Carolina, 1730-1993* (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1998), p. 7.

⁴ Quattlebaum, p. 3.

⁵ George Howe, *History of the Presbyterian Church in South Carolina* (Columbia: Duffie and Chapman, 1870).

⁶ Quattlebaum, p. 5.

⁷ Quattlebaum, p. 6.

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The church appears on Henry Mouzon's 1775 "An Accurate Map of North and South Carolina". The Presbyterians allowed Methodist and Episcopal congregations to use their church on occasion. Methodist Bishop Francis Asbury noted in his diary in 1795 that "the old Presbyterian meeting house" had been repaired by the Methodist congregation for their services. It eventually fell into disuse and was finally blown down in a storm sometime between 1795 and 1858. Paul Quattlebaum's history of Kingston Presbyterian Church observes that once the congregation began to decline there was no real organized Presbyterian congregation here until the present church was built in 1858.⁸

In 1801, Kingston was renamed Conwayborough by the South Carolina General Assembly in honor of General Robert Conway; Conwayborough was later renamed Conway in 1883. Conwayborough became the county seat of the new Horry District the same year.⁹

In 1855, Reverend M.D. Fraser of Harmony Presbytery offered to help the citizens of Conwayborough build a new Presbyterian church. After townspeople subscribed for about \$600.00 toward the cost of a new building, they passed a resolution stating that they were "firmly convinced that the establishment of an additional religious association in Conwayboro would be conducive to the temporal and spiritual welfare of its citizens and that of the district of Horry at large," that they appreciated "the generous and liberal aid" offered to them by the Presbytery, and that they pledged \$300.00 annually to pay a Presbyterian minister for the new church.¹⁰

After Mrs. Jane Norman donated a lot adjacent to the "town burying ground," work on the new sanctuary began in early 1858. The cornerstone was laid that spring, with master builder Otis Eaton—a carpenter and ship builder from Bucksport, Maine who had come to the area to build ships—as the contractor.

Architecture

The architectural design of the Kingston Presbyterian Church is significant as an excellent example of the Greek Revival style popular in mid-to-late antebellum America, a local expression of nationalism and freedom from aristocratic or ecclesiastical associations.

A masterpiece of architectural design, Kingston Presbyterian Church symbolizes the social and economic success of the village. It features a portico set on square columns with recessed panels, square pilasters on façade, three-bay façade with central triple sash windows of twenty lights each and flanking double doors with architrave.

⁸ Quattlebaum, pp. 6, 7.

⁹ Lewis, pp. 46, 50.

¹⁰ Quattlebaum, pp. 9-10.

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Kingston Presbyterian Church
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Kingston Presbyterian Church Cemetery

The church cemetery, originally the “town burying ground,” was established soon after Kingston Township was created ca. 1737 and eventually became the cemetery for Kingston Presbyterian Church, organized shortly after the township. The cemetery is particularly significant for its fine Victorian-era gravestone art, and was individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places on 5 August 1986.

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Section number 9 Page 10

Kingston Presbyterian Church
Name of Property
Horry County, South Carolina
County and State

Select Bibliography

- Bedford, A. Goff. *The Independent Republic: A Survey History of Horry County, South Carolina*. Conway: Horry County Historical Society, 1989.
- Howe, George. *History of the Presbyterian Church in South Carolina*. Two Volumes. Columbia: Duffie and Chapman, 1870 and 1883.
- Jones, F.D., and W.H. Mills. *History of the Presyberian Church in South Carolina Since 1850*. Columbia: The R.L. Bryan Company for the Synod of South Carolina, 1926.
- Lewis, Catherine H. *Horry County, South Carolina, 1730-1993*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1998.
- New South Associates. "A Historical and Architectural Survey of Conway, Horry County, South Carolina." Stone Mountain, Ga.: New South Associates, 2005.
- Quattlebaum, Paul. "Presbyterian Church on the Waccamaw." *South Carolina Historical Magazine* LIV:2 (April 1953).
- _____. *The Kingston Presbyterian Church, Pee Dee Presbytery, Conway, South Carolina, 1858-1958*. Conway: Kingston Presbyterian Church, 1958.
- Wells, John E., & Robert E. Dalton. *The South Carolina Architects, 1885-1935: A Biographical Dictionary*. Richmond: New South Architectural Press, 1992.

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Kingston Presbyterian Church
Name of Property
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County and State

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property is illustrated as the parcels at the corner of Third Avenue and Kingston Street, Horry County Tax Parcels # 137-02-01009 and 13702-01-004 marked with a heavy black line as “Kingston Presbyterian Church and Cemetery.”

Boundary Justification

This boundary includes the 1858 church and 1956 educational building and their immediate settings as well as the church cemetery, which was previously listed in the National Register in 1986; it brings all the historic resources associated with Kingston Presbyterian Church into a single National Register boundary.

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Section number Photographs Page 11

Kingston Presbyterian Church
Name of Property
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The following information is the same for each of the photographs:

Name of Property: Kingston Presbyterian Church
Location of Property: Third Avenue and Kingston Street
Conway, Horry County, South Carolina

Name of Photographer and Date of Photographs: Bradley S. Sauls, S.C. Department of Archives and History
September 2008

Location of Original Digital Files: S.C. Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

1. Kingston Presbyterian Church, Facade, Looking North Up Kingston Street
2. Kingston Presbyterian Church, Facade
3. Kingston Presbyterian Church, Facade Left Oblique
4. Kingston Presbyterian Church, Steeple
5. Kingston Presbyterian Church, Steeple Detail
6. Kingston Presbyterian Church, Portico Detail
7. Kingston Presbyterian Church, Right Elevation and 1930 Addition
8. Kingston Presbyterian Church, View Toward Pulpit from Sanctuary
9. Kingston Presbyterian Church, View of Gallery From Pulpit
10. Kingston Presbyterian Church, View of Sanctuary and Pulpit From Gallery
11. Kingston Presbyterian Church, View of Sanctuary and Gallery
12. Kingston Presbyterian Church, Narthex and Gallery Stair
13. Kingston Presbyterian Church, 1956 Educational Building