

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: Jasper	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 23 1972

1. NAME

COMMON:
Robertville Baptist Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
In town at intersection of U. S. 321 and County Road 26.

CITY OR TOWN:
Robertville (mailing address: Pineland, S. C. 29924)

STATE South Carolina	CODE 29934	COUNTY: Jasper	CODE 053
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Robertville Baptist Church

STREET AND NUMBER:
Intersection of U. S. 321 and County Road 26

CITY OR TOWN:
Robertville

STATE:
South Carolina

CODE:
39

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Department of Archives & History

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

CITY OR TOWN:
Columbia

STATE:
South Carolina

CODE:
39

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
South Carolina Survey of Historic Places (Preliminary)

DATE OF SURVEY:
 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
South Carolina Department of Archives and History

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

CITY OR TOWN:
Columbia

STATE:
South Carolina

CODE:
39

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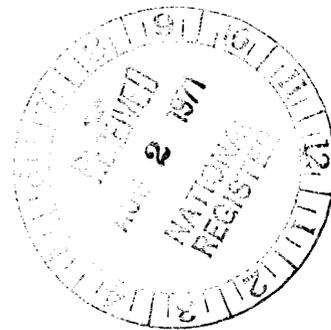
7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Greek Revival style of white clapboard with Gothic details. Gable roof, lancet panel with surrounding architrave in gable. Portico supported by only two Doric columns (without capitals) on pedestals. Double front panelled door is crowned by a lancet arch. Building is five bays long consisting of lancet windows of clear panes. Two front steps across width of building.

Interior - center aisle leads to communion table in front of raised pulpit platform. Plaster above simple wainscoting. Plain pews. All wood is original.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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)

C. 1847

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 checked="" 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

The building is an area landmark and a valuable part of South Carolina's architectural heritage. Additional importance stems from the importance of many of its members.

Known as the "Mother of Churches" in the area, Robertville Baptist Church, organized in 1781 by the Rev. Alexander Scott, served the area's early settlers, mostly Welsh and Huguenots. Distinguished for its impressive number sent into the ministry (50 white and 100 colored), the church today has a small but active congregation.

First called Black Swamp Baptist Church, the name was changed in 1934 to Robertville, honoring the Robert family, all lineal descendants of Pierre Robert, Huguenot minister who emigrated to America after the revocation of the edict of Nantes.

Present church building, constructed c. 1847, was formerly Ascension Episcopal Church of Gillisonville, purchased by the Robertville Baptists and moved to present location about 1867. Remaining unaltered and designed with graceful simplicity, the little church gains its charm from an unusual but successful blending of styles. The classic columns without capitals are placed only at each end of the portico instead of extending all the way across. This arrangement leaves open to view the entrance with original doors, surmounted by a lancet Gothic arch. The Gothic detail is repeated in the gable ornament above and in the windows.

The church listed among its earlier members such prominent South Carolinians as Alexander James Lawton, Colonel in War of 1812, member of Nullification Convention 1832-33, South Carolina Senator 1864-65; and Alexander Robert Lawton, Confederate Brigadier General (wounded at Antietam, he afterwards served the South as Quartermaster General of the Confederacy), a founder of the American Bar Association and one of its early presidents, United States Minister to Austria. His nephew, General Henry Martyn Robert, Chief General of Engineers United States Army, who became famous for his authoritative Robert's Rules of Order, attended church here during his youth.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Dowling, W. H. "Black Swamp Baptist Church," Baptist Courier, 1903.
 Julien, Carl and Chloilde, R. Martin. Sea Islands To Sand Hills.
 Columbia, South Carolina: University of South Carolina Press, 1954.
 King, Joe M. A History of South Carolina Baptists. Columbia, South
 Carolina: R. L. Bryan Company, 1964.
 Lawton, Thomas O. Jr. "Robertville." Unpublished, 1957.
 Perry, Grace Fox. News and Courier (Charleston). February 21, 1960,
 page 2.

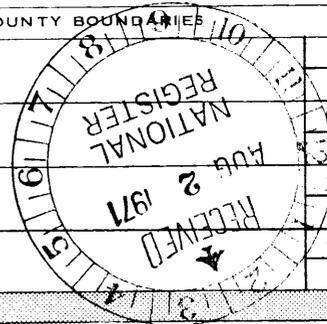
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	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	° ' "	° ' "		32 ° 35 ' 10 "	81 ° 11 ' 58 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **about 2 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:
Norman McCorkle, Historic Resources Coordinator I

ORGANIZATION: **South Carolina Department Archives and History** DATE: **May 11, 1971**

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

CITY OR TOWN: **Columbia** STATE: **South Carolina** CODE: **39**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 Charles S. Lee

Title Director, South Carolina Department Archives and History

Date 6/14/71

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest A. Connolly
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

FEB 23 1972

Date _____

ATTEST:
William M. [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date **FEB 11 1972**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
South Carolina	
COUNTY	
Jasper	
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	FEB 23 1972

(Number all entries)

ROBERTVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

9. Bibliography

- Reynolds, Emily Bellinger and Fautt, Joan Reynolds. Biographical Directory of the Senate of the State of South Carolina 1776-1964. Columbia, South Carolina: South Carolina Archives Department, 1964.
- Thomas, Albert Sidney. The Episcopal Church in South Carolina. Columbia, South Carolina: R. L. Bryan Company, 1957.
- Townsend, Leah. South Carolina Baptists 1670-1805. Florence, South Carolina: Florence Printing Company, 1935.

