

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 Lynchburg Presbyterian Church

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number S.C. Highway 341 not for publication _____
city or town South Lynchburg vicinity X
state South Carolina code SC county Lee code 061 zip code 29080

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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.)

Mary W. Edmonds 8/12/04
Signature of certifying official Date

Mary W. Edmonds, 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:
 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): _____

Edson H. Beall 10/1/04
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Lynchburg Presbyterian Church
Name of Property

Lee 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	1		buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	1		sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure			structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object			objects
		2	0	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register
0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Category: RELIGION
FUNERARY

Subcategory: Religious Facility
Cemetery

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Category: RELIGION
FUNERARY

Subcategory: Religious Facility
Cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)
Greek Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)
foundation Brick
walls Wood
roof Asphalt
other

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

Lynchburg Presbyterian Church
Name of Property

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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

1855

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance

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:
Lynchburg Cemetery Association

Lynchburg Presbyterian Church
Name of Property

Lee County, South Carolina
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 1.87 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing
1 <u>17 585504 3768515</u>	3 <u>17 586328 3768436</u>
2 <u>17 586382 3768388</u>	4 <u>17 586452 3768567</u>

___ See continuation sheet.

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 J. Tracy Power and Andrew W. Chandler, S.C. State Historic Preservation Office
 organization S.C. Department of Archives and History date 8 July 2004
 street & number 8301 Parklane Rd. telephone (803) 896-6182
 city or town Columbia state SC zip code 29223

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 Lynchburg Cemetery Association, Inc.
 street & number P.O. Box 66 telephone _____
 city or town Lynchburg state SC zip code 29080

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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Lynchburg Presbyterian Church
Name of Property
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Lynchburg Presbyterian Church, on S.C. Highway 341 just southeast of the city limits of Lynchburg, in Lee County, South Carolina, is a late antebellum, two-story temple-form, Greek Revival style building with an engaged tetrastyle portico featuring four massive stuccoed solid brick columns. Set upon an open pier brick foundation and sheathed in six-inch wide weatherboard, the building is a local interpretation of the Tuscan order of architecture. The columns measure twenty-one inches in diameter, extend twenty-two feet in height, are set upon enlarged, high plinth blocks that are set directly in the ground, and feature elongated capitals with an unusually low necking band. The outer columns are freestanding, while the two central ones are engaged to the modern brick steps that access the equally modern recessed porch deck with iron handrails. Within the portico are two double-leaf entrances with simple molded surrounds. No other fenestration is present on the building's façade. A small triangularly-shaped, bifurcated and louvered ventilator interrupts the wide expanse of the portico's pediment. Corner and wall pilasters adorn each side elevation. Between each pilaster is a nine-over-nine, double-hung sash window, measuring eight feet in height and three feet, four inches in width on the first floor and a six-over-six, double-hung sash window, measuring five feet in height and three feet, four inches in width. The lower windows are currently covered with corrugated metal panels, while those on the gallery level feature louvered wooden shutters. A simple entablature with unadorned frieze and boxed cornice completes the side elevations. The building's rear [northeast] elevation has a boxed cornice and returns [open pediment] with no fenestration on either level. The gable roof is currently clad with asphalt gravel shingles that in 1989 replaced four layers of asphalt shingles and two sets of cypress shingles.

The interior is primarily a single room with plaster walls and twenty-one foot high ceiling, undecorated except for a large circular plaster medallion in the center. The original plaster is largely intact except for spots of water intrusion damage in the ceiling that occurred unnoticed before the roof was replaced in 1989. Paneled wainscoting surrounds the interior space along the outer walls, while a paneled balustraded gallery supported by square pillars with capitals extends along the southwest, northwest and southeast sides of the building's interior space. Their entrance was accessed through the back of the building by two narrow passages to steep staircases that have been removed

A pilaster and panel-surrounded proscenium arch with recessed, canted pulpit bay or chancel dominates the sanctuary at the northeast end of the building. A smaller plaster medallion adorns the chancel ceiling. A sub-ceiling covering the opening of the ceiling and second story galleries was installed in 1940 for heating purposes but has been recently removed. At one time the upper galleries served as elementary Sunday school rooms before new rooms were added to the rear of the building in 1939. These additions have also been removed and the original back wall replaced.

Behind the Communion table are the pulpit and chairs on a raised platform within the central recessed chancel. On the east side the chancel is flanked by the choir section which is fronted by a floor-mounted curtain apron and old pump organ which is still playable. The pews are divided into

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three sections; the northwest and southeast sections are below the two upper galleries that are supported by solid heart pine seven-inch square pillars. The seven center pews are nine feet long. The nine north pews and the eleven south pews are all eight feet long. All pew boards, backs, seats and sides are of solid heart pine and hand hewn; pew backs and sides are paneled. All flooring boards are also heart pine, random width and hand hewn. The pine floor joists are up to twenty feet long. Some dowel and peg fastening construction was used but is not visible. The entire building measures forty-one feet long and thirty-eight feet wide plus the nine-foot front portico.

The back half of the church's three-acre lot is the church cemetery, with random placed plots and monuments of various designs and dates from the mid-nineteenth century through the late twentieth century. Most common gravestone types include table-top tombs, obelisks and tablets carved from marble or granite. To the rear of the cemetery an annex of more than an acre has been added where the most recent burials are located. The historic cemetery and cemetery annex are both maintained by the Lynchburg Cemetery Association. Only the historic section of the cemetery and the church, comprising 1.87 acres, is included in this nomination.

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Lynchburg Presbyterian Church, built in 1855, is significant as an excellent example of late antebellum Greek Revival ecclesiastical architecture. It is one of the few antebellum buildings still extant in the original community of Lynchburg (now South Lynchburg). This area was named Lynchburg because of the close proximity of Lynch's River, sometimes known as Lynch's Creek.

This three-acre site was donated to the congregation by Mrs. Anna English Law in 1855. Ownership was challenged and went to court in 1856, but title was perfected by court order in 1856 and 1857. The sanctuary was built by members of the congregation, with the assistance of members of the Lynchburg Methodist Church and several slaves and free blacks as well.

The church is on the east-west route between Sumterville and Florence, which would later become a flourishing rail center. The first store and post office in Lynchburg are at the crossroad of this east-west route with the north-south route known as "the Mecklenburg Road", one which connected Charleston and Georgetown to Kingstree, then through Lynchburg on to Bishopville and Cheraw, and then to connections to Charlotte, N.C. The road through Lynchburg ran almost parallel to the high ground at Lynch's Creek. The crossroad to Florence crossed the river at a ferry two miles east of the church. The Mecklenburg Road was a dirt road until 1934, when it was paved and designated S.C. Highway 341.

When the railroad was built in 1854 a mile north of the church in a settlement then called "Magnolia," the population center shifted toward the railhead. The community there was soon named Lynchburg, and the area around this church was renamed South Lynchburg.

There were twenty-one charter members when the congregation was organized--in the Lynchburg Methodist Church sanctuary--and the first minister to serve the church was Rev. W.W. Wilson, a native of County Kerry, Ireland. He also served the Bishopville Presbyterian Church. Rev. T.H. Law, who served as a chaplain in the Confederate Army for the last two years of the Civil War, left the Lynchburg Presbyterian Church without a minister from 1863 to 1865. From the end of the war until 1982 the church was in continuous operation; the congregation was dissolved in 1984.¹

The church's cemetery, established in the churchyard in the 1850s, was the only cemetery in the vicinity for members of Lynchburg Presbyterian Church, as well as those from the local Methodist and Baptist churches.

¹ "The Lynchburg Cemetery Association Church and Cemetery," unpublished typescript by Howard Vincent, Lynchburg, S.C., 2004; copy in the National Register files, South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.; F.D. Jones and W.H. Mills, *History of the Presbyterian Church in South Carolina Since 1850* (Columbia: The R.L. Bryan Company, 1926), pp. 803-04; Cassie Nicholes, *Historical Sketches of Sumter County: Its Birth and Growth* (Columbia: The R.L. Bryan Company, 1975), p. 132.

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REFERENCES

Jones, F.D., and W.H. Mills. *History of the Presbyterian Church in South Carolina Since 1850*.
Columbia: The R.L. Bryan Company, 1926.

"The Lynchburg Cemetery Association Church and Cemetery," unpublished typescript by Howard
Vincent, Lynchburg, S.C., 2004; copy in the National Register files, South Carolina State
Historic Preservation Office, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia,
S.C.

Nicholes, Cassie. *Historical Sketches of Sumter County: Its Birth and Growth*. Columbia: The R.L.
Bryan Company, 1975.

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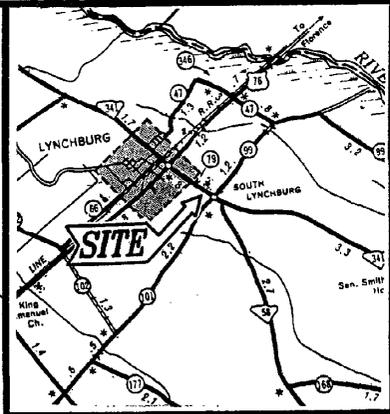
Lynchburg Presbyterian Church
Name of Property
Lee County, South Carolina
County and State

Verbal Boundary Description

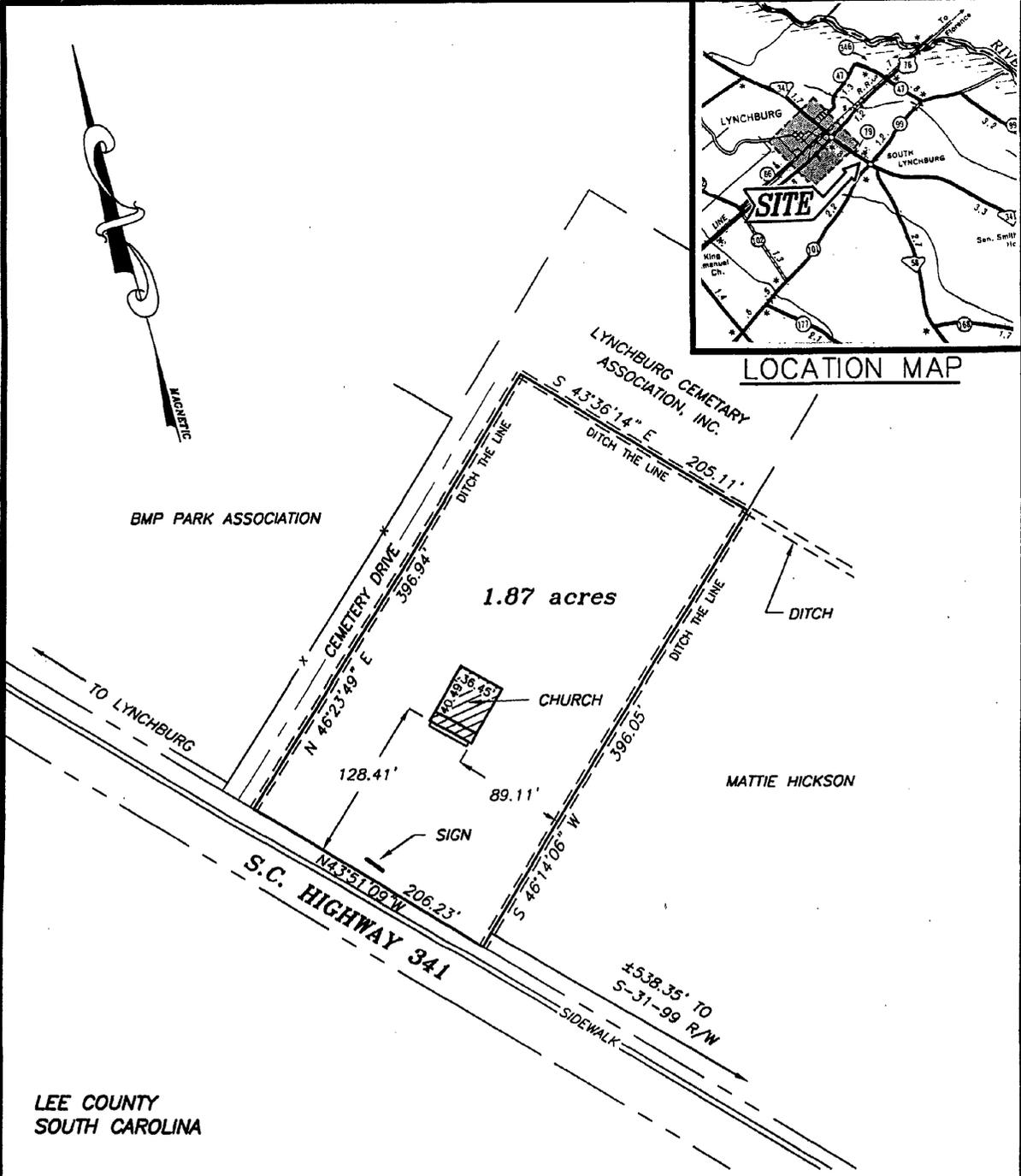
The boundary of the nominated property is shown on the accompanying plat of Lynchburg Presbyterian Church, Lee County, drawn at a scale of 1" = 100', and containing 1.87 acres.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is restricted to the historic church building and its associated historic cemetery.



LOCATION MAP



LEE COUNTY
SOUTH CAROLINA

PLAT

OF 1.87 ACRES LOCATED SOUTHEAST OF LYNCHBURG, LEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA BEING THAT PROPERTY RECORDED IN THE DEED BOOK V-8, PG 567 IN THE CLERK OF COURT OFFICE IN LEE COUNTY, S.C. SURVEYED FOR:

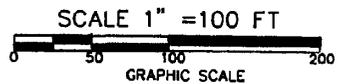
LYNCHBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DATE: MARCH 8, 2004 JOB NO: 03382 FLD BK: 186 PAGE: 33 REF JOB NO: TM#:

I HEREBY STATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION AND BELIEF, THE SURVEY SHOWN HEREON WAS MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE MINIMUM STANDARDS MANUAL FOR THE PRACTICE OF LAND SURVEYING IN SOUTH CAROLINA, AND MEETS OR EXCEEDS THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A CLASS "A" SURVEY AS SPECIFIED THEREIN, ALSO THERE ARE NO ENCROACHMENTS, PROJECTIONS, OR SETBACKS AFFECTING THE PROPERTY OTHER THAN THOSE SHOWN. ALSO I HAVE CONSULTED THE FEDERAL INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION FLOOD HAZARD MAP 450126 0150 B, EFFECTIVE DATE DEC. 15, 1990 AND FOUND THE SUBJECT PROPERTY TO NOT BE IN A FLOOD ZONE. UNLESS NOTED HEREON THIS MAP DOES NOT ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS OR SUBSURFACE INVESTIGATION.



NESBITT SURVEYING CO., INC.
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U.S. HIGHWAY 76 & ALLIGATOR ROAD
TIMMONSVILLE, S.C. 29161
PHONE (843) 346-3302



David A. Nesbitt
DAVID A. NESBITT RLS NO 7623



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

Name of Property: Lynchburg Presbyterian Church
Location of Property: S.C. Highway 341, South Lynchburg
Lee County, South Carolina

Name of Photographer: J. Tracy Power, South Carolina SHPO
Date of Photographs: 29 May 2004
Location of Original Negatives: S.C. Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

1. Southeast oblique view
2. Oblique view of east elevation
3. Façade [south elevation]
4. Detail of portico
5. Southeast elevation [right side]
6. Oblique view of west elevation
7. Interior view of gallery [east side]
8. Detail of gallery pier capital
9. Proscenium arch [upper portion of chancel/pulpit bay]
10. Detail of central ceiling plaster medallion
11. Section under east gallery for pump organ and choir
12. Detail of nine-over-nine light window [main level] from inside
13. Rear [east] view of church with cemetery
14. Rear [north] view of church with cemetery
15. Cemetery [view from southeast]
16. Cemetery [view from northwest]