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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 Siloam School
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 1331 Congaree Road not for publication _____
city or town Eastover vicinity X
state South Carolina code SC county Richland code 079 zip code 29044

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 _____
Signature of certifying official Date 3/1/96

Mary W. Edmonds, Deputy SHPO, S.C. Department of Archives & 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): _____

M. J. M. Way _____
Signature of Keeper Date of Action 4/15/96

M. J. M. Way _____
Signature of Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
1	0	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

African-American Primary and Secondary Public School Buildings in S.C., 1895-1954

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: EDUCATION

Sub: School

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: RELIGIOUS

Sub: Religious Facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Other/Early 20th-Century
Rural School

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick
roof Metal
walls Wood
other _____

Narrative Description

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

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 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)

EDUCATION

Significant Dates

1936

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Period of Significance

1936-1945

Architect/Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(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: South Carolina Department of Archives & History, Columbia

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property Approximately 1 acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	17	516120	3755080	3	17	516080 3755040
2	17	516120	3755040	4	17	516080 3755080

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 Katherine H. Richardson
organization Heritage Preservation Associates date 6 April 1995
street & number 26 Harby Avenue telephone (803) 775-6682
city or town Sumter state S.C. zip code 29150

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 Siloam Baptist Church, c/o. Mr. Glen Davis
street & number 1925 Smith Street telephone (803) 783-3524
city or town Columbia state S.C. zip code 29209

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National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 5

Siloam School
name of property
Richland County, South Carolina
county and State

Siloam School is a one-story, two-room school built ca. 1936 which stands on a one-acre lot next to Siloam Baptist Church on S.C. Highway 769 (also called Congaree Road), near its intersection with S.C. Secondary Road 2759 in rural lower Richland County. The building stands on brick piers and is clad in shiplap weatherboard. The gable end building has a metal roof and has two interior brick flues. The school has a small one-story addition on the southern elevation. It has a recessed porch supported by square wooden posts and the two main entrances open from the porch. Another door on the front elevation leads to the addition; this door is sheltered by a small, metal shed-roofed stoop. The building is in sound condition and retains its integrity.

The original part of Siloam School is a long rectangular building with a long recessed front porch supported by wooden posts. Above the porch is a wide angled gable which runs only to the ridge of the roof and does not continue to the rear elevation of the building. There is a rectangular louvered wooden vent in the gable. The two main front entrances are five-panelled doors typically seen from the turn of the twentieth century to the 1930s. Flanking the wide front porch are sets of 6/6 sash windows placed high on the wall. Under the porch are two 6/6 sash windows located between the doors. The rear, or eastern, elevation of the original part of the building has four 9/9 sash windows. The northern facade has no windows, only a modern replacement for the original vent in the gable.

The addition on the southern facade is sympathetic to the massing and lines of the original part of the school. It, too, is gable-end and has a metal roof slightly lower than that of the original part of the building. The addition is entered by a front door which is five-panelled. It has one 6/6 sash window on the front facade, four 6/6 sash windows on the southern elevation, and another door and window on the eastern facade. There is a small louvered vent in the gable of the addition. All four exterior doorways of the building are approached by a short flight of brick steps with no handrail.

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Section 8 Page 6

Siloam School

name of property

Richland County, South Carolina

county and State

Siloam School, built ca. 1936 as a rural African-American school, is significant as a property associated with the general development of South Carolina public education for African-Americans from ca. 1895 to 1954, and as a local example of the type of rural school building approved by the State Board of Education in the early- to mid-twentieth century and built to provide "separate but equal" facilities for white and black schoolchildren.

Siloam School was built on land owned by John P. Prince, who sold the one-acre lot to Richland County School District 7 in 1920.¹ This present building, constructed with funds from the Works Progress Administration (WPA), was built to replace an earlier school built ca. 1920, which had itself replaced a previous school nearby called Beulah School. It operated as a school until 1956, when it closed and was acquired by Siloam Baptist Church, which now maintains it.²

The state of African-American education in Richland County in the first half of the twentieth century was no different from that in the rest of South Carolina during the period. As John Hammond Moore sums up the educational scene in the county from 1890 to 1940,

During these fifty years, education prospered at all levels in a relative sense. That is, it improved markedly, but that improvement often was less than was claimed, rarely reached desired goals, and failed to keep pace with national trends. Times, for the most part, were hard; money scarce. Those skeptical of public education's benefits were reluctant to spend tax dollars on schools, especially black schools. This attitude, by no means limited to the Midlands or to the South, for that matter, obviously was pervasive and rooted in self-interest.³

¹Richland County Deeds, Vol. BV, p. 520, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Richland County Courthouse, Columbia, S.C.

²David Blick, Interview with Mr. Ulysses Barber, Eastover, S.C., 1994; Annual Report of the Richland County School Superintendent, 1935, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

³John Hammond Moore, Columbia and Richland County: A South Carolina Community, 1740-1990 (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1993), p. 350.

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Section 8 Page 7

Siloam School

name of property

Richland County, South Carolina

county and State

In 1890 there were 67 public schools in Richland County. By 1940, there were only 92 public schools. The half century brought changes such as a longer school year, increased expenditures per student, and teacher salaries based upon merit and service. Yet there remained vast disparity. By 1930, the average spent on each white student in Richland County was \$71.71; a mere \$13.69 was spent per black student. The educational structure of the rural schools gradually became more like that of the city schools during this period, with a superintendent and board of education rather than governance by a county school commissioner. Yet, as the city schools offered an increased range of subjects and consolidated its one-room, one-teacher to create larger schools with more classes taught under one roof, the rural schools remained largely one-room affairs. In 1926, for example, 48 of the 73 rural black schools had one teacher and presumably one room.⁴

The rural schools held an important place in the social life of their communities. John Hammond Moore writes, "A Richland County school . . . became the social-cultural center . . . scores of little houses, both black and white, became the prime focus of local life, and, since they touched virtually every household, were, in a sense, rivals of both church and Sunday School."⁵

Despite the politics of the times, whenever new schools were built for black or whites in South Carolina during this era, they most often were built according to state-approved plans or were a variation of the standardized plans. Siloam School is a representative example of the progressive school movement in South Carolina between ca. 1895 and 1954. It stands as an important place in the social life of this Lower Richland County community. As well, the school is a symbol of the struggle faced by African-Americans to gain equal access to an adequate education in an era of disenfranchisement and segregation.

⁴Moore, pp. 350-1.

⁵Ibid.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 8

Siloam School
name of property
Richland County, South Carolina
county and State

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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South Carolina Department of Education. Annual Report of
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S.C.

Secondary Sources

Blick, David. "Preservation and Interpretation of the Rural
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Carolina, 1895-1954." Unpublished Master's thesis,
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Moore, John Hammond. Columbia and Richland County: A South
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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 9

Siloam School
name of property
Richland County, South Carolina
county and State

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property is shown as the line marked "Siloam School" on Richland County Tax Map 27800, Section 3, Parcel 20, drawn at a scale of 1"=400'.

Verbal Boundary Justification

The nominated acreage includes the school and its historic setting and emphasizes the rural character of the school.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section PHOTOGRAPHS Page 11 Siloam School
name of property
Richland County, South Carolina
county and State

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

Name of Property: Siloam School
Location: 1331 Congaree Road
Eastover, S.C. 29044
County: Richland
Name of Photographer: Katherine H. Richardson
Heritage Preservation Associates,
Sumter, S.C.
Location of Original
Negatives: Heritage Preservation Associates,
Sumter, S.C.
Date of Photographs: April 1995

1. Facade view
2. Facade and right elevation
3. Left elevation
4. Rear elevation