



STATE OF ALABAMA

ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION
725 MONROE STREET
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36104
PHONE: 832-6621



ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS AND HERITAGE NOMINATION FORM

COUNTY Washington

PRESENT NAME St. Stephens Methodist Church HISTORIC NAME

LOCATION (Street and number)

TOWN (Give directions if rural) St. Stephens

PRESENT USE Religious HISTORIC USE Religious

OWNERSHIP: Public () Private (X) Public acquisition being considered ()

OWNER'S NAME St. Stephens Methodist Church

MAILING ADDRESS

St. Stephens, Alabama

CONDITION: Excellent (X) Good () Fair () Ruins ()

INTEGRITY: Original site (X) Moved () When?

From where? Give details in significance

THREATS: No (X) Yes () By what?

RESTORATION WORK: Being considered () Underway () Completed () Not planned ()

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Open land (X) Woodland (X) Scattered buildings (X)

Highway building density () Commercial () Industrial ()

Residential () Rural (X)

If there are numerous buildings in the area, could this structure be part of a Historic District? Yes

SIGNIFICANCE: Why is this important (X) associated with events, persons, or movements

Local (X) State () National ()

(X) a good example of a type or style of structure

() other

Explain: This is one of the earliest churches in the St. Stephens area.

SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

Date of Construction 1857 Date of additions _____

Architect or Builder L. J. Wilson was granted the contract to build the church

Give a complete but concise history of the structure.

St. Stephens was named for the first Christian Martyr, Saint Stephens, who was stoned to death by his enemies. The original site of St. Stephens is now deserted, it had served as the territorial capitol of Alabama in 1818, and before that had been the U. S. Land Office. It was originally settled, for the most part, by French sailors in 1714. In the early 1820's New St. Stephens was begun.

The first mention of a church in St. Stephens was when Lorenzo Dow preached in the early 1800's. However the first mention of an organized Methodist Church in St. Stephens was in 1856, the building was constructed in 1857. The land was donated by Levin Jefferson Wilson and his wife. L.J.Wilson was given \$500.00 for the construction of the church.

State sources of information for the above:

DESCRIPTION

(For bridges, trestles, viaducts, tunnels, canals, railroad lines, or objects see supplement Form 1)

Make a sketch of the floor plan of the building, showing dimensions, related structures, and north arrow. Also indicate front of structure.

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 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

Wooden construction, heart pine timber, medium pitched roof, Gothic-type windows and arched transom entrance.

Main part of the church, the auditorium, is the original church, with wide pine plank flooring.

Front porch and education rooms have been added later, and the cupola may have been added later, also.

The building is still in use, and is in excellent condition, nicely painted, and well-kept both inside and outside. Some of the early pulpit furniture is still being used.

Another addition is being constructed at the left rear of the building at the present time.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. 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)

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/Phi-	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	losophy	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	itarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

This is one of the earliest churches in the new St. Stephens area, and is still being used actively

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	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 . "		31° 33' 03" N	88° 03' 58" W	
NE	0 . "	0 . "				
SE	0 . "	0 . "				
SW	0 . "	0 . "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Two acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
David K. Morris, Historical Survey Project Director

ORGANIZATION: Ala-Tombigbee Rivers Regional Plan. & Dev. Comm. DATE: 3/21/73

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 269

CITY OR TOWN: Camden STATE: Alabama 36726 CODE:

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 _____

Title _____

Date _____

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: ALABAMA	
COUNTY: WASHINGTON	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: ST. STEPHENS METHODIST CHURCH

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: St. Stephens

STATE: Alabama

CODE: COUNTY: Washington

CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION

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

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Alabama-West Florida Methodist Conference

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: St. Stephens

STATE: Alabama

CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Washington County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Chatom

STATE: Alabama

CODE:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: ALABAMA
COUNTY: WASHINGTON

FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER: DATE:

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

 Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

 Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

 Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Wooden construction, heart pine timber, medium pitched roof, Gothic-type windows and arched transom entrance.

Main part of the church, the auditorium, is the original church, with wide pine plank flooring.

Front porch and education rooms have been added later, and the cupola may have been added later, also.

The building is still in use, and is in excellent condition, nicely painted, and well-kept both inside and outside. Some of the early pulpit furniture is still being used.

Another addition is being constructed at the left rear of the building at the present time.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. 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. 1857

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/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This is one of the earliest churches in the new St. Stephens area, and is still being used actively

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

W 12 20 77 W 20 22 12

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	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 . "		31° 33' 03" N	89° 03' 58" W	
NE	0 . "	0 . "				
SE	0 . "	0 . "				
SW	0 . "	0 . "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Two acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
David K. Morris, Historical Survey Project Director

ORGANIZATION: Ala-Tombigbee Rivers Regional Plan. & Dev. Comm. DATE: 3/21/73

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 269

CITY OR TOWN: Camden STATE: Alabama 36726 CODE:

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 _____

Title _____

Date _____

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

CHOCTAW COUNTY

CLARE COUNTY
TOMBIGBEE RIVER



Methodist Church
St. Stephens

31° 33' 03" N

115° 50' 58" W





