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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Midway Methodist Church and Cemet	ery			
other names/site number		2.1	1.5	<u></u>
2. Location				
street & number County Road 31			de l	not for publication
city or town Vaiden	and the		2 1	x vicinity
state Mississippi code MS county	Carroll c	ode	15	zip code 39176
3. State/Federal Agency Certification		No. 1		
As the designated authority under the National Historic	Preservation Act, as	amende	ed,	1
I hereby certify that this <u>X</u> nomination <u>request</u> for registering properties in the National Register of His requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.	for determination of e storic Places and me	eligibility ets the p	meets	the documentation standards ral and professional
In my opinion, the property <u>X</u> meets <u>does not</u> be considered significant at the following level(s) of sig		egister C	riteria.	I recommend that this property
nationalstatewideX_local				
Signature of certifying official/Title	Date			
Otata as Federal annound Tribal Coversent				
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government				
In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the Natio	nal Register criteria.			
Signature of commenting official	D	ate		
Title	State or Federal agency/b	ureau or T	ribal Go	vernment
4. National Park Service Certification				
I hereby certify that this property is:				
entered in the National Register	determined	d eligible fo	or the Na	tional Register
determined not eligible for the National Register	removed fr	om the Na	tional Re	egister
other (explain:)				
	s. Sale			
Signature of the Keeper	[Date of Act	tion	

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Midway Methodist Church and Cemeter	
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city or town Vaiden	x vicinity
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3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
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be considered significant at the following level(s) of significant at the following level(s) of significal at the following level(s) of significal at the following level(s) of significal at the following level(s) of significant at the followi	<u>9-19-11</u> Date
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National	Register criteria.
Signature of commenting official	Date
Title Sta	te or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government
4. National Park Service Certification	
I hereby certify that this property is:	
entered in the National Register	determined eligible for the National Register
determined not eligible for the National Register	removed from the National Register
other (explain:)	
Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action

1

Midway Methodist Church and Cemetery Name of Property

5. Classification

(Expires 5/31/2012)

Carroll County, Mississippi County and State

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 in the count.)
X private public - Local public - State public - Federal Name of related multiple pro (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a	X building(s) district site structure object	Contributing Noncontributing 1 1 buildings district district 1 site structure object 2 1 Total
6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions.) RELIGION/religious facility		Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions.) RELIGION/religious facility
7. Description		Materials

Midway Methodist Church and Cemetery Name of Property (Expires 5/31/2012)

Carroll County, Mississippi County and State

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Midway Methodist Church and Cemetery are located in rural Carroll County, Mississippi, about nine miles southwest of the community of Vaiden. The church is a one-story frame building with a standing seam metal gable roof. The church sits on a slight rise off County Road 31. The church cemetery, surrounded by a metal chain link fence, is located immediately west of the church building. A modern restroom building is located to the north.

Narrative Description

The Midway Methodist Church and Cemetery are located on the north side of County Road 31 in a rural area of Carroll County, Mississippi, about nine miles southwest of the community of Vaiden. The church is a one-story wood frame building with a gable roof. The exterior walls are clad with asbestos shingles. The roof has a standing seam metal roof. The cemetery is located to the west of the church. The surrounding area is a mix of woods and agricultural fields with scattered residences. The foundation is sandstone piers.

The primary elevation is south, facing the highway. There is a louvered vent in the apex of the gable and a broad cornice that appears on all elevations except the rear. A single metal light fixture is centered in the wall over a sign which states "Welcome to Midway Church." Two doors are set above concrete stoops. The wood plank doors are protected by metal storm doors.

The east and west elevations are identical. The broad cornice with a slight eave overhang is visible. Four metal-frame windows are evenly spaced and set in simple wood surrounds.

The south elevation is plain with no doors or windows. There is no cornice. The gable apex holds a louvered vent.

The interior of the church is one room with an eighteen foot ceiling. The ceiling is covered by tongue and groove bead board. The walls are plank. The floor is carpeted. Eight rows of handmade pews, original to the building, are arranged with two aisles. A slightly raised platform centered on the north wall holds the rostrum flanked by two lecterns, also original to the building. Three choir pews are found to the east the altar. Three similar pews to the west of the altar were referred to as "the Amen Corner." Three brass kerosene light fixtures remain.

Cemetery

3

(Expires 5/31/2012)

Midway Methodist Church and Cemetery Name of Property Carroll County, Mississippi County and State

The Midway Methodist Church Cemetery is located immediately to the west of the church. The cemetery is surrounded by a chain link metal fence with double gates for access. There is scant landscaping. Plots are generally laid out in north-south rows. There are a variety of marker styles, illustrating long-time use. Burials continue in the cemetery. The oldest known marker is dated 1860. Since the cemetery was established near the same time the church was built, it is considered contributing.

Rest Rooms

A small gable roof wood frame restroom building is located about fifty feet north of the church. It is a later addition to the property and is not a contributing resource.

Integrity

There have been some alterations to the Midway Methodist Church. The original weatherboard exterior was badly deteriorating and was covered with asbestos siding in 1944-45. It is believed that at the same time the original 6/6 double-hung wood windows were replaced with metal frame windows. The original roof material is not known, but the current metal seam roof, installed in 2010, replaced an earlier metal roof. Since more than fifty years have passed since the alterations, they have taken on significance of their own. The church was wired for electricity in the 1950s and at about the same time two butane heaters replaced pot-bellied stoves.

The Midway Methodist Church retains sufficient integrity for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Midway Methodist Church and Cemetery Name of Property

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
Х	

Х

В

Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.



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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EXPLORATION AND

SETTLEMENT; ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1860

Significant Dates

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

x	A	Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
	в	removed from its original location.
	с	a birthplace or grave.
x	D	a cemetery.
1	E	a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
-	F	a commemorative property.
	G	less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Period of Significance (justification)

The Midway Methodist Church was built in 1860.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

The property is being nominated for architectural significance .

Significant Person (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

(Expires 5/31/2012)

Carroll County, Mississippi County and State Midway Methodist Church and Cemetery Name of Property (Expires 5/31/2012)

Carroll County, Mississippi County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Midway Methodist Church and Cemetery in Carroll County, Mississippi, is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places for local significance under Criterion A as the only remaining elements of the built environment in the Midway community and under Criterion C as a good local example of an antebellum rural vernacular Greek Revival church.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

Exploration and Settlement

The Midway community was established in 1859 by immigrants from North Carolina. Dudley Stone and his two sons and four sons-in-law arrived in the area in October 1859. One of the first structures built in the community was a church. Stone and his wife deeded the land where the church and a school were located to the trustees of the Midway Church in 1860.¹

Under the terms of the deed, the building was a Union Church, used by multiple denominations. On the first Sunday of the month, the Cumberland Presbyterian Church worshiped there. The second Sunday was assigned to the Methodist Episcopal Church South. The Baptists occupied the building on the third Sunday, while the New School Presbyterians of the United Synod South held services on the fourth Sunday of the month. It is not clear how long the different denominations shared the church, however in August 1872, the trustees Dudley Stone, R.S. McEacham and Daniel Adair executed a deed transferring ownership to the Methodist Episcopal Church.² The Methodists continued to worship in the building until 1994. Recognizing the declining rural population and the lack of active members, the Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church discontinued the church. Ownership was transferred to the Midway Church Cemetery Association, the current owners. The church is used in conjunction with burials in the cemetery and for an annual homecoming service.³

¹ Vaiden Garden Club. Vaiden Heritage. Florence, MS: Messenger Press, 1976. p.155.

² Carroll County Deed Book, Book Y, p. 663-664.

³_Mississippi Conference, The United Methodist Church, 1994 Official Journal and Yearbook. p. 302

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Midway Methodist Church and Cemetery Name of Property Carroll County, Mississippi County and State

In addition to the church building, the early settlers established a cemetery on the land donated by Dudley Stone. The oldest extant stone marks the grave of Sarah Stone, born July 5, 1858-died February 28, 1860. Many of the early Midway settlers are buried in the cemetery. Perhaps the most notable is Dudley Stone and his first wife, Sallie.

In addition to the church and cemetery, a school building was constructed on the land donated by Dudley Stone. The school was established about 1860. In 1905, the trustees of the Midway Methodist Episcopal Church South, deeded the school building and lot to Carroll County. The one-room school building was a frame building with a single gable-end entrance. There were 6/6 double-hung wood windows in the building. The blackboard consisted of one wall painted black. There was no interior plumbing and heat was provided by a stove in the center of the room. The school closed in 1945 when Midway School was consolidated with the Vaiden schools. The school building is no longer standing.⁴

By 1887, there was a sufficient population in the Midway area to establish the Midway Voting Precinct, Beat 5, Carroll County. The voting precinct was consolidated with Vaiden in 1966.⁵ Mississippi Governor Earl Brewer, who served from 1912 to 1916, is the community's most famous son.

The Midway Methodist Church and Cemetery are the last visible reminders of the settlement of the Midway community.

Architecture

The Midway Methodist Church, built c. 1860, is a rectangular building, approximately 42 feet by 28 feet. The sills are constructed from massive hand hewn timber. Most piers are large sandstone rocks. The wood frame building has a gable roof with a gable entrance which creates the appearance of a temple front. A broad wood cornice extends around three elevations of the building. Two symmetrically placed doors provide access.

The building is a good local example of a common vernacular form. Architectural historian Richard Cawthon, described the form, stating "the most common of these forms was a one-story building of simple rectangular shape, with a gabled roof and either one center door or two paired, symmetrically placed doors on the front gable end of the building." Cawthon cited the Bethany Presbyterian Church (NR, 2003) near Centerville, Amite County and the Lebanon Presbyterian Church (NR, 1999) near Learned in Hinds County as examples of the form with two entrances. The origin of the double entrance may be related to the custom of having separate seating areas for men and women, although all churches with paired doors did not maintain gender-segregated seating.⁶ Midway tradition holds that women used the door on the right and men used the door on the left.⁷

In addition to the churches cited by Cawthon other wood frame churches with two symmetrically placed doors in the gable front include the Tabernacle Methodist Church, built 1857 (NR,1996), and the Pleasant Valley Methodist Church, built c. 1845 (NR,1996) in Copiah County. Known examples that have been destroyed include the Carolina Presbyterian Church, Neshoba County; Osborne Creek Baptist Church, Prentiss County; and, Boykin Methodist Church, Smith County. Although no intensive survey of Carroll County has been completed, there are at least two comparable buildings in rural Carroll County. The Valley Hill Methodist Church is located about five miles west of Carrolton on Highway 82. The congregation was formed in 1902 and the present building was constructed in 1911. A covered portico has been added to the building. The Bethel Methodist Church is located east of Jefferson. It was established in 1836. However, two earlier buildings were lost and the current structure was built in 1941. It is difficult to determine how many churches of this rural vernacular style are left in Mississippi since they were built in rural areas and there is no centralized record of construction, the style used, or whether they remain today.

Although somewhat altered, the Midway Methodist Church remains a good local example of the rural Greek Revival vernacular form. The sandstone piers are highly unusual building element. The interior retains a high degree of integrity with its original furnishings and light fixtures.

⁴ Vaiden Heritage, p. 157.

⁵ Vaiden Heritage, p.159.

⁶ Sherry Pace, *Historic Churches of Mississippi*. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2007. p. x.

⁷ Janie Brown Johnson, Midway Memories. Hilary Sykes, Indianola, 1979.

(Expires 5/31/2012)

Midway Methodist Church and Cemetery Name of Property Carroll County, Mississippi County and State

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Carroll County Deed Books.

Johnson, Janice Brown. Midway Memories. Hilary Sykes, Indianola, MS: 1979.

Mississippi Conference, The United Methodist Church, 1994 Official Journal and Yearbook.

Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Historic Preservation Division, Statewide Survey files.

Pace, Sherry. Historic Churches of Mississippi. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2007.

Vaiden Garden Club. Vaiden Heritage. Florence, MS: Messenger Press, 1976.

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 #
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #

- Primary location of additional data:
- X State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University Other
- Name of repository:

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 015-VAI-6013

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 7 acres

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

Midway Methodist Church and Cemetery Name of Property

9

Carroll County, Mississippi County and State

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

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2				4			
	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	6

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter lying north of county road 31 in Section 27, Township 17 North, Range 4 East, Second Judicial District, Carroll County, Mississippi, more particularly described below.

Commencing at a Point located at the Northeast corner of said Section 27, Township 17 North, Range 4 East, Second Judicial District, Carroll County, Mississippi: thence South along the east line of said section for a distance of 3070.93 feet to a Set Iron Rod (N: 1384744.09, E: 2442237.06) located at the northeast corner of the above said property said point being the POINT OF BEGINNING.

Thence, along said east line S 00°13'39" E for a distance of 401.07 feet to a Set Iron Rod (N: 1384343.03, E: 2442238.65) located on the north right-of-way of County Road 31; thence,

S 65°28'48" W along said right-of-way for a distance of 101.78 feet to a Point (N: 1384300.79, E: 2442146.04); thence, S 65°13'15" W along said right-of-way for a distance of 99.22 feet to a Point (N: 1384259.21, E: 2442055.96); thence, S 65°12'42" W along said right-of-way for a distance of 112.84 feet to a Point (N: 1384211.90, E: 2441953.52); thence, S 65°14'20" W along said right-of-way for a distance of 104.92 feet to a Point (N: 1384167.95, E: 2441858.24); thence, S 65°20'23" W along said right-of-way for a distance of 80.26 feet to a Point (N: 1384134.46, E: 2441785.30); thence, S 65°12'09" W along said right-of-way for a distance of 70.60 feet to a Point (N: 1384104.85, E: 2441785.30); thence, S 65°25'46" W along said right-of-way for a distance of 72.79 feet to a Point (N: 1384074.59, E: 2441655.01); thence, S 65°58'02" W along said right-of-way for a distance of 61.18 feet to a Point (N: 1384074.59, E: 2441655.01); thence, S 65°28'35" W along said right-of-way for a distance of 36.37 feet to a Point (N: 1384035.74, E: 2441599.14); thence, S 69°30'18" W along said right-of-way for a distance of 43.05 feet to a Point (N: 1384035.74, E: 2441565.55); thence, S 69°30'18" W along said right-of-way for a distance of 43.05 feet to a Point (N: 1384005.34, E: 2441525.22); thence, S 71°58'07" W along said right-of-way for a distance of 49.51 feet to a Point (N: 1384005.34, E: 2441478.14); thence, N 00°00'00" E for a distance of 390.62 feet to a Set Iron Rod (N: 1384395.96, E: 2441478.14); thence N 65°21'28" E for a distance of 834.96 feet to a Set Iron Rod (N: 1384744.09, E: 2442237.06); Said point being the POINT OF BEGINNING.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

This is the rural parcel historically associated with the Midway Methodist Church and Cemetery.

11. Form Prepared By		
name/title Josie Ross Minchew		and the set of the
organization Secretary, Midway Cemetery Association	date August 18, 2011	
street & number 1208 Front Street	telephone	Carl Carl Ser

	Department of the Interior Service / National Register of Historic Place 0 O	s Registration Form MB No. 1024-0018		(Expires 5/31/2012)
Midway Met Name of Prope	hodist Church and Cemetery	- Coloradore		Carroll County, Mississippi County and State
city or town	Vaiden	state	MS	zip code 39176
e-mail		and the second second	2	18 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

• 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. Key all photographs to this map.

- Continuation Sheets
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Midway Methodist Ch		Midway Methodist Church and	d Cemetery
City or Vicinit	ty:	Vaiden vicinity	
County:	Carroll	State	: Mississippi
Photographe	r:	Jennifer Baughn, MDAH	
Date Photographed:		December 14, 2010	
Description o	f Photog	raph(s) and number:	

1 of 10 Exterior, south elevation, camera facing north 2 of 10 Exterior, south and east elevation, camera facing northwest 3 of 10 Exterior, east and north elevation, camera facing southwest 4 of 10 Exterior, sandstone pier, camera facing southwest 5 of 10 Restrooms, camera facing west 6 of 10 Interior, facing altar, camera facing north 7 of 10 Interior, facing entrance, camera facing south 8 of 10 Interior, door, camera facing south 9 of 10 Cemetery, camera facing east 10 of 10 Cemetery, camera facing west

(Expires 5/31/2012)

Midway Methodist Church and Cemetery

Name of Property

Carroll County, Mississippi County and State

Property Owner:		1 1 1 1 1 1 2 M	
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.).)		
name		and a start of the	_
street & number	telephone		
city or town	state	zip code	_

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.460 et seq.). Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



Midway Church and Cemetery Vaiden vicinity, Carroll County



Midway Methodist Church and Cemetery Vaiden vicinity, Carroll County

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