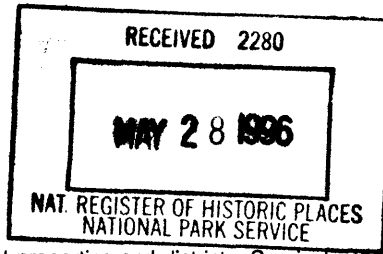


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



705

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 an 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 Carpenter Methodist Episcopal Church South

other names/site number Carpenter United Methodist Church (preferred)

2. Location

street & number Carpenter Road, 1.1 mile north of MS Highway 18 N/A not for publication

city or town Utica vicinity

state Mississippi code MS county Copiah code 29 zip code 39050

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Kenneth H. P. Pool May 21, 1996
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
State of 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 certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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
Signature of the Keeper
Entered in the
National Register

6/28/96
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
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		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

Historic and Architectural Resources of Copiah
County, Mississippi

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Religion: religious facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Religion: religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Carpenter Gothic

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick
walls weatherboard
roof asphalt
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 in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or 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

1901

Significant Dates

1901

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Price, Will A. (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:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 5	7 1 8 9 4 0	3 5 4 6 5 4 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

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 Brenda R. Crook, Architectural Historian

organization Mississippi Dept. of Archives and History date February 16, 1996

street & number P.O. Box 571 telephone (601) 359-6940

city or town Jackson state MS zip code 39205-0571

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 SHPO or FPO.)

(Attention: Bishop Jack Meadors)

name Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church

street & number P.O. Box 931 telephone 601/833-1619

city or town Jackson state MS zip code 39205

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 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 Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetCarpenter United Methodist Church
Copiah County, MississippiSection number 7 Page 1

7. DESCRIPTION

Situated in the tiny village of Carpenter in the northwest corner of Copiah County, the United Methodist Church is a late Victorian vernacular Carpenter Gothic building. Constructed in 1901, the church is a frame, gable-front structure highlighted by a square corner tower with a louvered belfry and an octagonal spire. The church rests on brick foundation piers, and the walls are finished with weatherboard. The steeply-pitched gable roof is clad in asphalt shingles.

The main (east) facade is a two-bay elevation, with the corner tower containing the entrance, constituting one "bay," and the gabled main front wall forming a second "bay." The entrance contains double-leaf, six-panel doors crowned by a pointed-arched transom having a colored glass border. A wooden belt course and an oculus filled with a colored glass multifoil are above the entrance. The belfry, which has a pointed-arched, louvered opening, is surmounted by an octagonal spire. The other bay of the main facade contains a pointed-arched window opening filled with paired, pointed-arched, four-over-four, double-hung, colored glass windows with colored glass borders. Above this opening is a wooden belt course, and an oculus is in the gable.

The south elevation has five pointed-arched, four-over-four, double-hung, colored glass windows with colored glass borders. Above the window in the tower are a wooden belt course and an oculus, and in the belfry is a pointed-arched, louvered opening. The north elevation has four pointed-arched window openings. About 1950 a rear addition was made to the building. The addition, which is clad in composition shingles and has metal windows, is small and does not detract from the historic character of the building.

The interior of the church retains a high degree of integrity. The walls of the entrance vestibule are clad in beaded board, and a built-in ladder on the south wall accesses the belfry while the sanctuary is accessed through an entrance on the north wall containing double-leaf, two-panel doors topped by a single-light transom. The sanctuary has a wooden floor, stained beaded board wainscoting, a heavily molded chair rail, and beaded board walls and ceiling. The windows are trimmed with plain surrounds with plinth blocks. The building retains its original pews set to each side of a central aisle, beaded board podium on a curved dais, and altar rail with

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Carpenter United Methodist Church
Copiah County, Mississippi

Section number 7 Page 2

7. DESCRIPTION (Continued)

turned balusters and molded hand rail. The rear addition is accessed through a five-panel door and contains two small classrooms, a bathroom, and a small fellowship hall.

Although membership is small, worship services continue to be held every Sunday.

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Continuation Sheet

Carpenter United Methodist Church
Copiah County, Mississippi

Section number 8 Page 3

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Carpenter United Methodist Church is a locally significant example of vernacular Carpenter Gothic ecclesiastical architecture of the late Victorian period. Built in 1901, it is one of only three Late Victorian Carpenter Gothic style buildings identified to date in Copiah County, the others being the Wesson Presbyterian Church (1877-1878) and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church (1872) in Hazlehurst (the latter of which has been altered by the additions of an entrance vestibule to the main facade and artificial siding).

The Registration Requirements for Religious Resources are discussed on pages 67-69 of the MPS cover document entitled "Historic and Architectural Resources of Copiah County, Mississippi." (The associated historic context developed in the MPS cover document and represented by this property is "Copiah County's Development from the Post-Bellum Period to the End of World War II, 1866-1945.") The Carpenter United Methodist Church was evaluated using the Mississippi Department of Archives and History's guidelines for assessing vernacular churches and was found to be eligible because of the high quality of its design and because it retains a high degree of physical integrity. The only alteration to the building is the small rear addition. In addition to retaining architectural integrity, the church retains integrity of location and setting, as well as feeling and association.

The Carpenter United Methodist Church was built by Will A. Price, who owned a cotton gin, box factory, and saw mill in Carpenter. Mr. Price reportedly saved the best lumber from his saw mill for use in building the church (Drake; Dooley).

Carpenter was settled in the early 1880s along the route of the Natchez, Jackson and Columbus Railroad line, which was completed in 1882. Although the population of Carpenter has always remained small, the rural community was nevertheless important because it supplied services--including rail service--to the area farmers. The town was a religious, educational, and social center for the surrounding area. Today, only several houses, two churches, and a school (now in ruins) are all that remain to reflect the early development of Carpenter brought about by the coming of the railroad and the vegetable and lumber industries.

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Carpenter United Methodist Church
Copiah County, Mississippi

Section number 9, 10 Page 4

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cawthon, Richard J. "National Register Eligibility Criteria for Churches in Mississippi." Unpublished, January 28, 1994. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson.

Crook, Brenda, architectural historian with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson. Inspection of Carpenter United Methodist Church, February 14, 1996.

Dooley, Margie, member of Carpenter United Methodist Church. Interviewed by Brenda R. Crook, architectural historian with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, at Carpenter, February 14, 1996.

Drake, Rebecca Blackwell. "Carpenter recalls memories of a bygone railroad town." Copiah County Courier [Hazlehurst]. October 3, 1990.

Earls, Reverend Denise, pastor of Carpenter United Methodist Church. Interviewed by Brenda R. Crook, architectural historian with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, at Carpenter, February 14, 1996.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description: Parcel No. 10.01 as shown on Map No. 14 in the Copiah County Tax Assessor's Office. This parcel is located in the NE 1/4 SW 1/4 SW 1/4 Section 2, Township 12 North, Range 5 East.

Boundary Justification: The boundaries being nominated include the parcel historically associated with the church.



Carpenter United Methodist Church
Copiah County, Mississippi
Brenda R. Crook

February 1996

MS Dept. of Archives & History

East (main) & South elevation, view to NW

Photo 1 of 4



Carpenter United Methodist Church
Copiah County, Mississippi

Brenda R. Crook

February 1996

MS Dept. of Archives & History

East (main) & North elevations, view to SW

Photo 2 of 4



Carpenter United Methodist Church
Copiah County, Mississippi
Brenda R. Crook

February 1996

MS Dept. of Archives & History

Looking toward podium, view to SW

Photo 3 of 4



Carpenter United Methodist Church
Copiah County, Mississippi
Brenda R. Crook

February 1996
MS Dept. of Archives & History
View to NE (Sanctuary)
Photo 4 of 4