

**BEAUFORT COUNTY
HISTORIC SITES SURVEY - 1997**

INTENSIVE LEVEL BUILDING INVENTORY FORM

Statewide Survey Site Form
State Historic Preservation Office
South Carolina Department of Archives and History
Columbia, SC

Site Number: U- 13 - 539
Access County Site #
USGS Quad: 025 Beaufort
Doc. Level: Intensive Level-Building

Historic name(s): Union Church Map Ref.: PR 11 Tax Number: R110 010 000 0168 0000
Common name(s): Port Royal Playhouse City Block Ref.: Island: Port Royal Is.
Address/location: 1004 11th St. City/Vicinity of (vic.) Port Royal
Date: 1878 Alteration date: 1980 ca.
Ownership: 1. private 2. city 3. county 4. state 5. federal 6. unknown
Category: 1. building 2. site 3. structure 4. object
Historic use(s): church Current uses: single dwelling

National Register Status: _____ Date: _____ Listing Name: _____ NRIS # _____

SHPO National Register Evaluation: Individually eligible as part of multiple prop. nom. _____ Name: Historic Res. of Port Royal

Consultant Recommendation: Contributes to potential local district Name: Port Royal Historic District

Previous Survey: _____ Reference: _____ Notes: _____
 H.A.B.S. Other _____
 Feiss-Wright (1969) _____
 Historic Resources of the Lowcountry (1979) _____
 Milner Historic District Inventory (1979) _____
 A Guide to Historic Beaufort (1995 ed.) _____

Photograph: _____



Photographs:

- prints
- slides
- negatives

Date: 7/1/97

Recorder: D. Schneider, Historic Beaufort Fdn.

Roll # Neg. View of:
B-01 19 S facade & W elev., fac. NE

Style: _____ Commercial Form: _____

Core Shape: rectangular Stories: 1 story Construction: frame
 Roof: Shape: gable (end to front) Material: raised seam metal

Chimney: Type: _____ Material: _____

Exterior Walls: weatherboard

Windows: single Type: _____ Pane 9/6
 Config.: _____

Doors: double Foundation: brick piers

Porch Height: 1 story Porch Width: entrance bay only Porch Roof Shape: hip
 Porch Details: posts
 slat balusters Decorative Elements: _____

Outbuildings: none Interior Features: _____

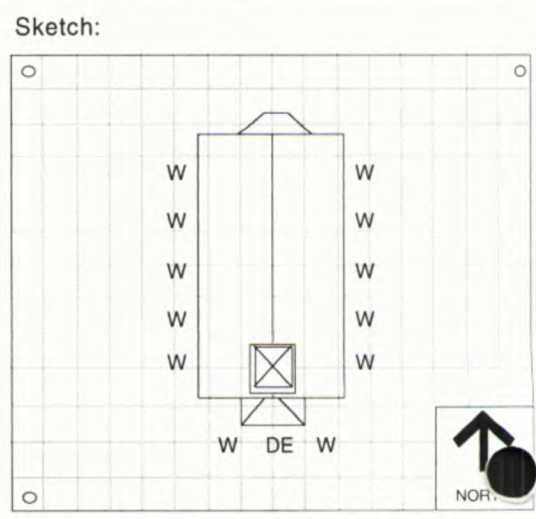
Number of Related Resources: _____

Surroundings: residential Acreage: _____ Quadrangle: Beaufort

Alterations: Alteration date: 1980 ca. Integrity: good Condition: good
 Alterations have typically been limited to the interior during its conversion to a playhouse. Despite these changes, the interior retains good integrity.

Description: Rectangular 3 x 5 bay 1 story frame church w/front-facing gable raised seam metal roof. Roof has two tier bell tower with belcast hipped roof and rectangular louvered vents. 1 story porch at entrance bay with hipped roof. Central entrance with double paneled doors flanked by 9/6 double hung windows w/ arched upper sash. Similar windows are found in all bays of the side elevations. The northern window at the west elev. has been infilled with plywood. The rear has a simply projecting polygonal apse.

Historical Data: According to a 5/11/1882 article in the Palmetto Post, this church building was constructed in 1878 "on a lot of land donated for the purpose by Mr. D. F. Appleton, and its cost in the rough was near \$1,000. Since that time the building has been vastly improved, until now it is an attractive structure." Established as a free church, its clergy included Rev. T. B. Craig, a Presbyterian minister installed as pastor in 1882. A 9/8/1892 Palmetto Post article stated that "steps are being taken to raise funds for repainting and generally repairing the port Royal Free Church." The building was used by the Port Royal Methodist Church congregation about 1894 - 1896. That congregation later disbanded but was reorganized in about 1950. They again used the building for a short time. Since that time, the building was used for community meetings and has been converted in recent years for use as a theatre. Shown on the 1924 Sanborn map as "Union Church."



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Informant/ Bibliography: "A Brief History of the Town of Port Royal, S.C.," Gerhard Spieler, 1992. Sanborn maps, 1905, 1912, & 1924