

# Historic Resources Survey of Georgetown County, South Carolina

Report submitted to:  
Georgetown County Visitors Bureau, 263 Commerce Drive, Suite 101, Pawleys Island SC 29585

and  
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side elevations, and buttresses, which are also covered in wood shingles. This church is also associated with Colonel Walter H. Andrews, as he served as the Senior Warden of the church.

Brown Chapel (Resource No. 736), built in 1933, is also a vernacular example of the Neoclassical style. The brick structure has a front gable roof with a full-facade, colonnaded porch beneath the front-facing gable. Four round columns support the front gable. Additional architectural elements include flat arches with keystones, cornice returns, nine-over-nine double hung sash windows, and fanlights.

The cemeteries associated with five of the churches are located on the church property, usually behind the church. The exception is Union Methodist Episcopal Church South, whose cemetery is across the street from the church. This cemetery (Resource No. 668.01) is the oldest of the five cemeteries identified. Established circa 1845, the cemetery has several grave markers dated to the late 1880's and early 1900's, as well as more recent markers. Live oaks, mature magnolia trees, and highly decorative wrought iron fencing separating family plots indicates the older portion of the cemetery. The graves of Confederate soldiers, prominent members of the community, and the founder of Union Church are all located in this cemetery.

#### EDUCATIONAL PROPERTIES

Nine educational facilities were inventoried during the survey; four rural African-American schools, a rural white school, the old Andrews High School, previously discussed, the 1955 Andrews High School, and the Choppee School, constructed in the same year (Figure 24). As was the case with the rural religious properties in Georgetown County, many of the rural educational facilities are undistinguished in their architecture or have been altered. These properties may be significant for their role in community growth or their association with a cultural group and, therefore, further research is needed to identify these properties and properly assign significance.

Two of the rural African-American schools are both simple frame structures with double hung sash windows and gabled roofs. Winyah Elementary (Resource No. 718), located south of the city of Georgetown on South Island Road, was built circa 1925 and was used as a one-room schoolhouse until 1954. The small schoolhouse still has the original weatherboard, front-to-end gable roof with exposed rafters, and heavy moldings around the windows and doors. The school now appears to be vacant.

The Elm Grove School (Resource No. 719) is located on Rose Hill Road, less than a mile from Altman Avenue. Built in the 1940's, the Elm Grove School is a frame constructed, two-room schoolhouse with a side gable roof, weatherboard, and exposed rafters along the roofline. The school was the only African-American school in the area and the only African-American school on public property left in Georgetown County. The building has also been used as the area voting precinct and, most recently, as a hunt club.

The third African-American school is the Sandy Island School (Resource No. 735). Built for the African-American community inhabiting the island, the school is a vernacular example of the Neoclassical style. The brick structure has a front-to-end gable roof with a full-facade, colonnaded porch beneath the front-facing gable. Square brick columns support the front gable. Additional architectural features include cornice returns on the gable ends, a masonry foundation covered in stucco, nine-over-nine double hung sash windows, two exterior brick chimneys, and beadboard on the porch ceiling.

Miss Ruby's School (Resource No. 713) is probably the most well-known educational property surveyed. Located on Baskerville Road, Ruby Middleton Forsythe, known as Miss Ruby to her students and members of the community, taught classes in the building to the African-American children of Pawleys Island for over

fifty years. Miss Ruby was the wife of the long-time vicar of the Holy Cross-Faith Memorial Church, W.E. Forsythe. Reverend Forsythe was assigned to Holy Cross-Faith Memorial in 1926 and Miss Ruby joined her husband in 1938 after teaching school in Charleston, South Carolina. Although others had begun teaching at the school, the arrival of Reverend Forsythe and his wife, an experienced teacher, gave the children of Pawleys Island a chance at a good education. The children were divided into grades and taught a core curriculum of language skills and mathematics as well as secondary subjects such as religion and Latin. Emphasizing discipline and work, the children were expected to do chores around the school, such as collecting firewood, and to learn obedience and responsibility. Miss Ruby taught at the school until her death in 1992. The classes at the school continued on under the guidance of Carolyn Wallace until 2000 when diocese decided to close the school. Miss Ruby was recognized nationally by several different media outlets. She appeared on behalf of the school and her educational philosophy on national television programs such as NBC Evening News and 60 Minutes. She was named as one of "America's Unsung Heroes" by *Newsweek* magazine and *Life* and *Parade* magazines wrote articles on her accomplishments. The school is a two-story frame building, with the first floor containing classroom space and a stage and the second floor the residential area for the Forsythe family. The Holy Cross - Faith Memorial Church has plans to restore the school building in order to use it as a parish library and meeting space for the parish community.

The 1955 Andrews High School (Resource No. 922) consists of seven buildings on an 11.58 acre site southwest of downtown Andrews. Constructed in the International style, the buildings are all flat-roofed brick structures with irregular foundations featuring multiple projections and extensions (Figure 25). The main building is two stories in height, with a projecting brick frame and in-set composite masonry panels. Ribbon bands of glass block windows are placed over single sash tilting windows on both the first and second floors. The front entry is recessed, with double doors bracked by plate glass windows. The other buildings on the campus reflect this style and these materials; details found in the campus structures include the use of glass block windows, hinged windows for ventilation, and panel masonry insets covered with a gravel conglomerate. All are single story except for the main building and the gymnasium, which has a two story central core with hinged ribbon windows on the upper story for ventilation. The campus' landscape features an entry plaza with a sculpture comprised of large cement blocks. Buildings are connected by concrete walkways with a covering of corrugated metal or plexiglass. Ornamental shrubs and trees are grouped as foundation plantings and the space between the main building and the gymnasium, near the entry, is also landscaped. A circular drive with parking from Maple Avenue appears to have provided access for drop-offs; a drive bisects the block running from Maple to West Alder Street and off of this drive is a small parking lot in front of the main building and a larger parking lot in front of the classroom buildings. A brick and wood school sign is found on the Maple Avenue entrance.

Campus architecture is found predominantly on the eastern side of this block. The western side of the campus block is primarily devoted to athletic fields, with a shop building located in the southwestern corner of the block. The 1955 Andrews High School is currently vacant and a number of windows have been replaced with plywood sheathing and other deterioration has occurred. Designed by W. D. Harper & Sons, the school is similar in appearance to the Choppee School, which was designed by the same architect and built at the same time. The 1955 Andrews High School is currently for sale.

The Choppee School (Resource No. 921) is located at 8189 Choppee Road. Also designed by W. D. Harper & Sons, the Choppee School was reportedly built contemporary with the Andrews High School, in c. 1955. The Choppee School consists of five buildings, one of which, the former main building, was extensively remodeled and added onto in c. 1990 and now serves as the Choppee Health Complex (Figure 26). Various other community services occupy other elements of the Choppee School, although none were open at the time of the survey. The architectural style and materials of the Choppee School are identical to those of the 1955 Andrews High School. All of the buildings at Choppee, except the gymnasium, are single story in height; the gym building is two stories in height and features a large, ca. 1990 brick addition on one side. While the materials and style of the two schools are the same, none of the buildings themselves appear to be identical, indicating that plans and designs were not copied from one school to the next, although styles and materials were. The landscape of the Choppee School also varies from that of Andrews, and is more linear, with the buildings arranged in a row along Choppee Road with parking areas fronting the structures. Athletic fields are found behind this complex. In addition to being the smaller of the two schools, the Choppee Schools lacks the sculpture and other landscapes features seen at the 1955 Andrews High School.

Table 10. Educational Properties Inventoried

Survey No.	Name	Address	Town/Vicinity	Date of Construction
0682	Andrews High School	Corner of Ashland and Farr Street	Andrews	c. 1920
0713	Miss Ruby's School House	88 Baskerville Road	Pawleys Island	c. 1915
0718	Winyah Elementary School	> 100 yd southwest on Geneva Lane from South Island Road	Georgetown	c. 1925
0719	Elm Grove School	Westside of Rose Hill Rd 7 miles southeast of Altman Avenue	Choppee	c. 1940
0735	Sandy Island School (Community Center)	Sandy Island	Sandy Island	c. 1935
0737	Pawleys Island Senior Citizens Center	76 Duncan Road	Pawleys Island	c. 1950
0739	Oak Grove School	1185 Georgetown Highway	Olin	c. 1935
0921	Choppee School	1889 Choppee Road	Ramsey Grove	c. 1955
0922	1955 Andrews High School	Corner of Maple Avenue and MLK Drive	Andrews	c. 1955

Figure 26  
The Choppee School, Resource Number 921

