

1354
Rural Churches of Baldwin County

#9

JUL 26 1988

(Thematic Group)

Contact: Bert Tuggle
Rt. 5 Box 780
Foley, Al. 36535

Historic Name: Swift Presbyterian Church

Common Name: Swift Presbyterian Church

Location: End Swift Church Road, south of Barin Field, Miflin

Verbal Boundary Description:

Begin at a point 600 feet north of Wolf Creek at the end of a gravel road off Swift Church Road. Thence proceed north 420 feet to a point, thence east 180 feet to a point, thence south 420 feet to a point and thence west 180 feet to the point of beginning.

Acreage: 1.7

UTM: 16/493/680/3360/360

Date of Construction: 1907

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Statement of Significance

Criterion C-Architecture:

Swift Presbyterian Church is significant as one of three remaining frame Gothic Revival Churches in Baldwin County. It is also significant as the highest architectural expression in the Miflin community, where simple construction was the rule.

Integrity:

The Swift Presbyterian Church retains its integrity of location, materials and design. Exterior integrity is excellent. The rear additions, a one-story frame, classroom building and a pair of somewhat lower wings date from 1960 and 1975 respectively. The only changes to the historic fabric of the church are boarded over windows on the second story of the tower.

Interior integrity is good. Though the ceiling is dropped, the original beaded board is present. The lights and ceiling fans are modern and carpet has been placed down the aisle. The pews have been padded and the pulpit replaced.

Description:

Swift Church sits at the end of a gravel road south and east of Foley. Pine trees and azalea bushes surround the building while beyond the lot scrub woods and fields are the rule. The building itself is a one-story, frame 2x4 bay structure resting on concrete cones. There are a staggered pair of gables

on the facade and a square two-story tower on the southwest corner. A recessed porch abuts the tower and is supported on Tuscan columns. The entrance consists of double wooden doors with six lights each and a transom. There is an entrance to the tower from the west side of the porch and the south face of the tower's first floor has a 2/2 window. A pent extends across the dominant gable and around the tower. The second story of the tower has boarded-up windows and is open at the top revealing the bell. A pyramidal roof with metal spire caps the structure. 2/2 windows are present on each side of the church and a single interior brick chimney is present on the ridge toward the facade.

Two rear additions date from 1960 and 1975 respectively. The oldest rear addition is a one-story frame structure with casement windows and gable roof perpendicular to the church. On either side of this is a slightly smaller gable wing, also frame but with 6/6 aluminum sash windows.

The interior consists of a one-room sanctuary with offices and classrooms in the addition. The sanctuary has beaded board walls with a chair-rail, wooden window surrounds and baseboards. The chimney shaft runs up the center of the south wall and is stuccoed. A panel door leads into the tower which has beaded board walls and serves as storage. Pews are arranged on either side of a central, carpeted aisle and the dropped ceiling is garreted. The pulpit is a recent addition.

Historical Summary:

Baldwin County's vast pine forests attracted lumber industries in growing numbers by the turn of the century. These industries in turn bred communities complete with houses, schools and churches. One such community, on the northern reaches of Wolf Bay, was Miflin. By 1905 this rural hamlet had a school and many houses but no church. One of the lumber barons in the area, C. A. Swift, provided the land and lumber for a Presbyterian Church which was begun in 1905. The building was completed in 1907 and formally organized by the Presbytery of Mobile in 1910. Swift himself became an elder and remained a generous contributor. The church was named in his honor in 1924. The congregation was always small, hovering around fifty. The present congregation is constructing a new church to the west but will retain the original.

Contributing Building	1
Contributing Site	<u>1</u>
Total	2

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Rural Churches of Baldwin County TR
State ALABAMA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Cover | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u>Melores Byrum 8/25/88</u> |
| 1. First Baptist Church | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u>Melores Byrum 8/25/88</u>
Attest _____ |
| 2. Latham United Methodist Church | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u>Melores Byrum 8/25/88</u>
Attest _____ |
| 3. Lebanon Chapel A.M.E. Church | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u>Melores Byrum 8/25/88</u>
Attest _____ |
| 4. Montgomery Hill Baptist Church | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u>Melores Byrum 8/25/88</u>
Attest _____ |
| 5. St. Mark's Lutheran Church | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u>Melores Byrum 8/25/88</u>
Attest _____ |
| 6. St. Patrick's Catholic Church | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u>Melores Byrum 8/25/88</u>
Attest _____ |
| 7. St. Paul's Episcopal Church | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u>Melores Byrum 8/25/88</u>
Attest _____ |
| 8. Stockton Methodist Church | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u>Melores Byrum 8/25/88</u>
Attest _____ |
| 9. Swift Presbyterian Church | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u>Melores Byrum 8/25/88</u>
Attest _____ |
| 10. Twin Beach A.M.E. Church | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u>Melores Byrum 8/25/88</u>
Attest _____ |

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Swift Presbyterian Church
NAME:

MULTIPLE Rural Churches of Baldwin County TR
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ALABAMA, Baldwin

DATE RECEIVED: 7/26/88 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/09/88
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/25/88 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/09/88
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 88001357

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 8/25/88 DATE

Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS (CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS SIDE)

Decision: _____
Date: _____
Signature: _____
Title: _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

___count ___resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

___architectural classification ___materials ___descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

___criteria ___criteria considerations ___areas of sig.
___periods of sig. ___significant dates ___cultural affl.
___sig. person ___architect/builder ___sig. statement

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ___verbal boundary description
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning the nomination may be directed to

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone _____



Scot

10
Rural Churches of Baldwin County, Alabama
Thematic Group

Swift Presbyterian Church
Miflin, Alabama

John Sledge, photographer
August 1987

MHDC negative file BA #127/16

Facade, camera facing n.

1 of 6



Rural Churches of Baldwin County, Alabama
Thematic Group
Swift Presbyterian Church
Miflin, Alabama
John Sledge, photographer
August 1987
MHDC negative file BA #127/17
General, camera facing nw.
2 of 6



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Rural Churches of Baldwin County, Alabama
Thematic Group
Swift Presbyterian Church
Miflin, Alabama
John Sledge, photographer
August 1987
MHDC negative file BA #127/18
Side view, camera facing w.
3 of 6



20

Rural Churches of Baldwin County, Alabama
Thematic Group
Swift Presbyterian Church
Miflin, Alabama
John Sledge, photographer
August 1987
MHDC negative file BA #126/20
Rear, camera facing s.
4 of 6



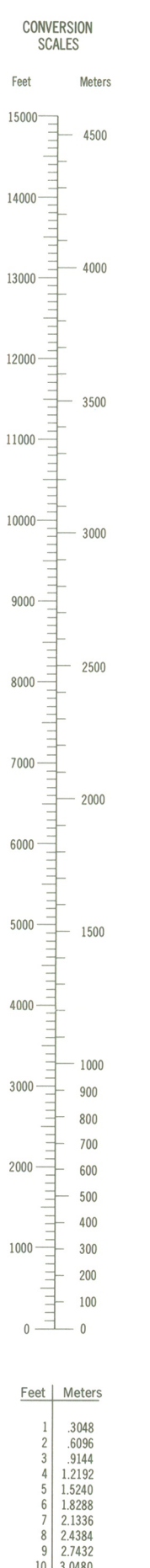
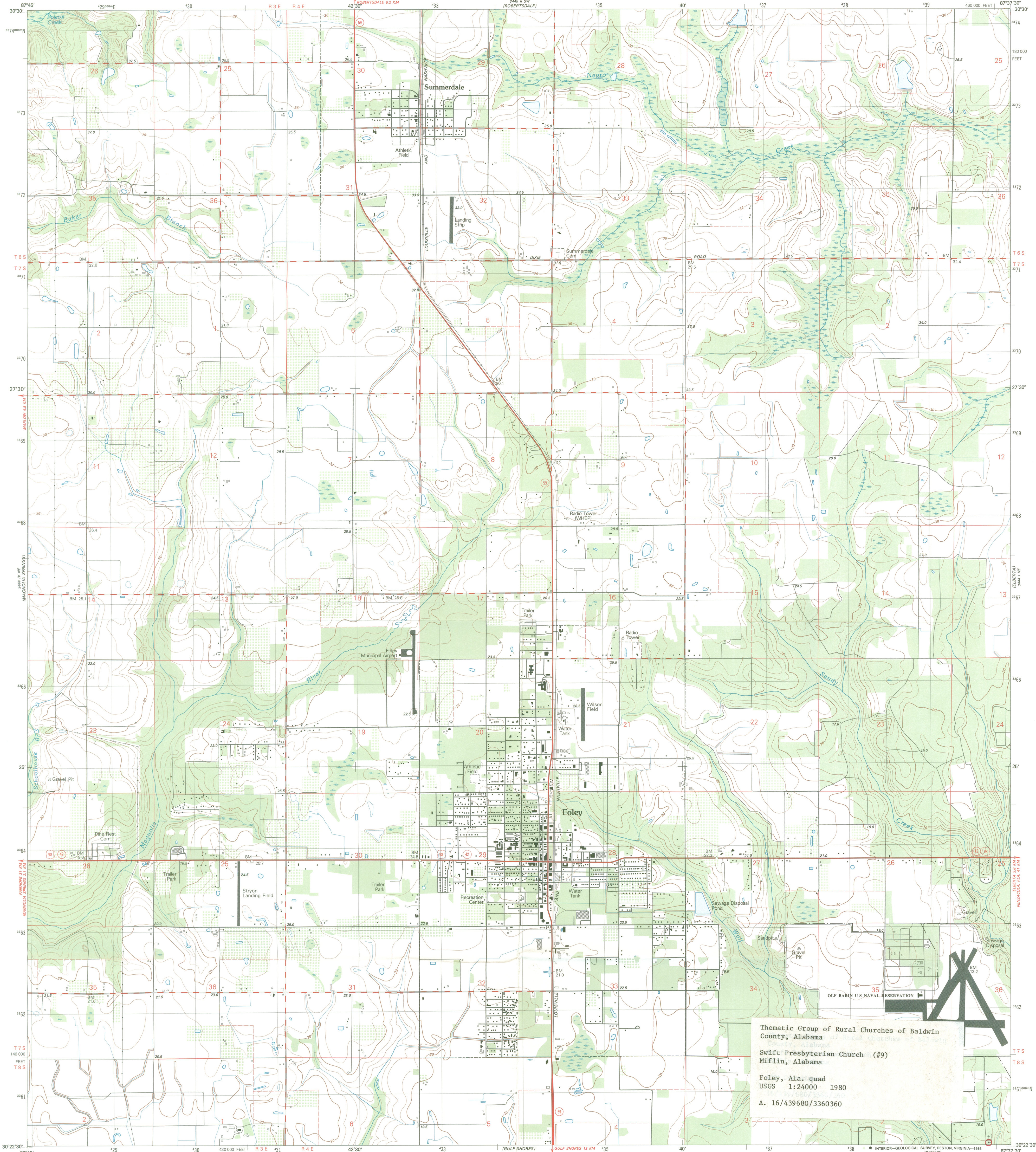
Rural Churches of Baldwin County, Alabama
Thematic Group
Swift Presbyterian Church
Miflin, Alabama
John Sledge, photographer
September 1987
MHDC negative file BA #128/26
Interior, camera facing s, entrance.
5 of 6



#9

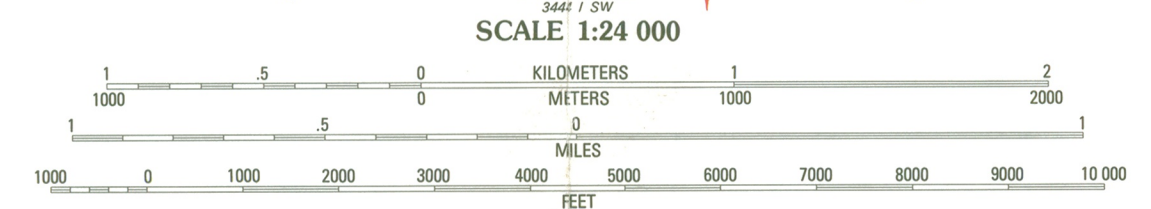
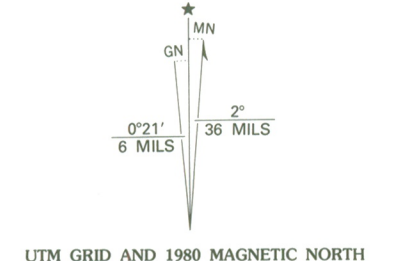
25

Rural Churches of Baldwin County, Alabama
Thematic Group
Swift Presbyterian Church
Miflin, Alabama
John Sledge, photographer
September 1987
MHDC negative file BA #128/25
Interior, camera facing n, altar.
6 of 6



Thematic Group of Rural Churches of Baldwin County, Alabama
Swift Presbyterian Church (#9)
Miflin, Alabama
Foley, Ala. quad
USGS 1:24000 1980
A. 16/439680/3360360

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Alabama Geodetic Survey
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1976. Field checked 1976. Map edited 1980
Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Alabama coordinate system, west zone (transverse Mercator)
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 16
1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 18 meters south and 1 meter west as shown by dashed corner ticks
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is uncheckd
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map



CONTOUR INTERVAL 2 METERS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.5 METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, hard surface Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface Unimproved road
Interstate Route U. S. Route State Route

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