

# African American Historic Places in South Carolina

The following properties in South Carolina were listed in the National Register of Historic Places or recognized by the South Carolina Historical Marker program from July 2018 - June 2019 and have important associations with African American history

State Historic Preservation Office  
South Carolina Department of Archives and History

**HM** = Historical Marker

**NR** = National Register of Historic Places

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## AIKEN COUNTY

### **ZION HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH HM** **5415 WAGENER RD., SALLEY**

The congregation of Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church originated c.1894, when tradition holds that members began worshipping at a brush arbor across the road. Rev. James Turner was the first pastor. Early church leadership included men and women born enslaved as well as free. Many were farmers. To accommodate the church's growing membership, congregants acquired the present site in 1897 and soon after built the first chapel. The first chapel was a one-story wood frame clapboard building with a three-story tiered bell tower projecting from the front façade. It was razed after the current church was built in 1986. *Sponsored by Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church, 2019*

## BEAUFORT COUNTY

### **CAMPBELL CHAPEL NR** **23 BOUNDARY STREET, BLUFFTON**

Campbell Chapel AME Church sits on a .63-acre lot on the east side of Boundary Street in Bluffton, South Carolina, and is significant for its associations with the local African American community during Reconstruction and the late 19th century. It was constructed in 1853 and altered upon acquisition by the African



Methodist Episcopal (AME) church from a white Methodist congregation in 1874. It is likely that some of the nine freedmen who purchased the buildings as trustees for the AME church were previously enslaved by members of the white congregation. The new congregation immediately altered the building, making it their own and making additional changes as the church grew and thrived. A cast-iron bell was likely purchased and installed around 1874 and remains today in the cupola. It retains historic fabric that is both original and reflective of the change in ownership and the needs of the new congregation. A raised choir loft was added in 1957 and an addition placed on the southeast corner in 1966. The simple rectangular plan of the original structure is typical of the Greek Revival style, commonly used for church and civic buildings in the United States in the 1850s. During the period of significance, the church provided a location where congregation members were educated, practiced their religion, and expanded their outreach and participation in the greater community. Listed in the National Register April 26, 2019.

**MARY FIELD SCHOOL HM**  
**203 SCHOOL RD., DAUFUSKIE ISLAND**

Following Emancipation, education was a priority for African American families on Daufuskie. Adults and children attended school at First Union African Baptist Church 1872-1934. Church families purchased land in 1930 and by 1933 had raised funds to build a school. Workers from the island built the school. The two-room Mary Field School opened in 1934 with grades 1-6. Mary Field became a Beaufort Co. school in the 1950s. Miss Frances Jones taught on the island 1930-1969 and educated several generations of Daufuskie families. Author Pat Conroy was briefly a teacher here 1969-70 and his novel *The Water is Wide* was based on his experience. In 2009 the former school building was renovated to be used for church functions and as a community center. *Sponsored by Daufuskie Island Historical Foundation, 2018*

**BERKELEY COUNTY**

**CORDESVILLE ROSENWALD SCHOOL HM**  
**DOCTOR EVANS RD. S. OF UMPS LN., CORDESVILLE**

Cordesville Rosenwald School, the first African American public school in Cordesville, S.C., was built on this site in 1923-24 at a total cost of \$5,400. Constructed as a four-room frame building, it was one of almost 500 schools in S.C. funded in part by the Julius Rosenwald Foundation, 1917-1932. The Rosenwald Foundation provided \$1,100 with the balance coming from public contributions, including \$2,000 from the African American community. The original frame school burned in the 1930s and was replaced by a brick schoolhouse. Students here would go on to Dixie Training School, later known

as Berkeley High School. *Sponsored by Alumni and Friends of Cordesville School, 2019*

## **CHARLESTON COUNTY**

### **EMANUEL A.M.E. CHURCH NR 110 CALHOUN ST., CHARLESTON**

The Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church is a Gothic Revival building designed by John Henry Devereux. The congregation of Emanuel AME dates to 1816, though the construction of the current sanctuary did not begin until 1891. Though work was completed in 1892, the building was badly damaged by a cyclone the next year and work on the building did not resume until 1901. Built in brick, the three-story building was stuccoed over between 1949 and 1951. After its completion in 1901, the church became a center of African American life in Charleston, attracting national figures who spoke before mass meetings and public gatherings. In the 1960s, the church became a key staging ground for civil rights activity, bringing it to national prominence. Emanuel served as a prominent organizing and meeting venue as the Charleston Movement pushed back against segregation in the city, led in part by Emanuel's minister Reverend B.J. Glover. Movement activities originating in the church resonated outward into the streets of Charleston, bringing about lasting change in the city and underscoring South Carolina's central role in the national Civil Rights Movement. This involvement in civil rights activity continued through the Hospital Workers' Strike of 1969, when Coretta Scott King spoke at the church in support of the striking workers. The church's place within the community, as an institution that was controlled entirely by African Americans, allowed it to play a vital role in the struggle for civil rights in Charleston. Listed in the National Register October 25, 2018.



### **FABER HOUSE (HAMETIC HOTEL) NR 635 EAST BAY STREET, CHARLESTON**

The Faber House (1836-c.1840) is a three-story mansion located in the East Side (historically Hampstead Village) neighborhood of Charleston that was designed in the Early Classical Revival style with unique elements of Palladian architecture. While other local structures incorporated aspects of Palladian



style, the Faber House showcases the purity of this form, incorporating architectural elements such as strict symmetry, a soaring portico with pediment roof, Classical architectural detailing, and use of the Greek orders. Although the Faber House experienced different interior uses and mechanical upgrades, the house retains a high level of historic integrity and stands today as one of the few remaining antebellum suburban mansions in the East Side

neighborhood of Charleston. It is also listed for its significance as one of the only African American hotels in the city from 1920 to 1932. Named the Hametic Hotel, the building catered to black travelers and met the community's needs for social spaces during Jim Crow segregation. Listed in the National Register April 30, 2019.

## **LINCOLNVILLE HM**

**CORNER OF W. BROAD AND LINCOLN STS. (STATE RD. S-10-881), LINCOLNVILLE**

The Town of Lincolnvile was founded in 1867 by seven African American leaders: Daniel Adger, Marc Buffett, Rev. Richard H. Cain, Hector Grant, Rev. Lewis Ruffin Nichols, Rev. M.B. Salters, and Walter Steele. The town was located along the S.C.R.R. and was originally known as Pump Pond because the steam engines would stop here to refill their tanks. It was renamed Lincolnvile in honor of Abraham Lincoln. The town was formally incorporated in 1889. Lincolnvile was established as an African American enclave. Rev. R.H. Cain purchased 500 acres, divided it into town lots, and sold to black settlers. By 1884 there were approximately 120 families living here and the town government was composed entirely of African American men. In addition to founding the town, Cain also served in the S.C. Senate and the U.S. House (1873-5, 1877-9). He was the first pastor of Emanuel A.M.E. Church after the Civil War and was appointed bishop in 1880. *Sponsored by the Town of Lincolnvile, 2018*

## **DARLINGTON COUNTY**

### **ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH HM**

**307 W. WASHINGTON ST., HARTSVILLE**

St. Joseph's began as a missionary parish to serve Hartsville's African American community. Established in 1945, the parish operated a school and convent in addition to the church. By 1953 the school, which served African American students, included grades K-7 and had 90 enrollees. In 1967 the

school and convent closed. In 1980 the church merged with St. Mary the Virgin Mother. *Sponsored by the City of Hartsville, 2018*

**MT. RONA MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH HM**  
**245 LUMBER RD., SOCIETY HILL, SC**

Mt. Rona was founded c.1903, when the first trustees purchased this site. Early members included the Bacote, Leek, Martin, Brock, Mills, and Moses families. Among the earliest church institutions were the Deacons Board, Senior Choir, and Missionary Society. In 2007, a new sanctuary was built next to the original chapel. *Sponsored by the Congregation, 2019*

**DORCHESTER COUNTY**

**ST. GEORGE ROSENWALD  
SCHOOL NR**  
**205 ANN ST., ST. GEORGE**



The St. George Rosenwald School is a one story, H-shaped, wood-framed building originally built in 1925 according to the Rosenwald Fund's Community School Plan "Floor Plan No. 6-A" for a six teacher school. Later additions to the building added five additional rooms: one room to each wing c. 1935, two rooms to the southwestern wing c. 1950, and one room to the northeastern wing c. 1954. The St. George Rosenwald School served as a school from its opening in 1925 to its closing in 1954, providing important educational services during the period of Jim Crow when discriminatory state funding meant that African American children had far fewer educational opportunities. During its use as a school, it was also an important part of the Black community of St. George, serving as a meeting and gathering place for the local neighborhood. After it closed, the school continued to be utilized as a community center, used for both social events and political events, including classes and meetings held by the Congress of Racial Equality in 1965. It is significant for its contributions to the history of African American education and community organizing related to the Civil Rights Movement. It is further significant for its architecture, which is representative of the distinctive styles created by the Rosenwald Fund's Fletcher Dresslar and Samuel Smith. One of only two Rosenwald Schools built in Dorchester County, it is the only one that survives today. Listed in the National Register October 2, 2018.

## **EDGEFIELD COUNTY**

### **MT. PLEASANT BAPTIST CHURCH HM**

***115 STEEPLE RD., JOHNSTON***

Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church was organized in 1869 when the African American members of Philippi Baptist Church requested permission to form an independent congregation. Fifty-two African American members, most of them recently emancipated freed people, formed the core of the original congregation. From the early days the church also supported a school for African American children. In 1939 the Baptist Young People's Union formed a Johnston chapter in the small two-room schoolhouse that once stood on the property. Rev. E.M. Gordon served the longest tenure of any pastor here, from 1968 to 2014. *Sponsored by Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, 2019*

## **FLORENCE COUNTY**

### **CIVIL RIGHTS SIT-INS HM**

***INTERSECTION OF N. DARGAN ST. AND W. EVANS ST., FLORENCE***

On March 3-4, 1960, members of the Florence Youth branch of the NAACP staged protest demonstrations here at the former S.H. Kress store. Wilson H.S. students marched from Trinity Baptist Church to sit at the store's lunch counter, but were refused service and asked to leave. The police were called and the students left peacefully. Store management closed the counter before reopening shortly after. On March 4, 1960, students planned to picket in front of the store, but were arrested while walking up the building. Forty-eight protestors were arrested and charged with "parading without a permit." The convictions were appealed to the S.C. Supreme Court and overturned in *City of Florence v. George* (1962). The lunch counter remained closed until the 1970s when it was reopened with service for all. *Sponsored by Florence County Museum, 2019*

### **JAMESTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT NR**

***APPROX. ONE MILE N OF U.S. HWY. 76/30, E OF JAMESTOWN RD., FLORENCE VICINITY***

The Jamestown Historic District is located in the Pee Dee Region of South Carolina in northeast Florence County. Jamestown is a historically African American agricultural settlement that consists of one building, eight archaeological sites, and one cemetery. The one extant contributing building, called the Jane James House, is a one-and-a-half story dwelling built c. 1900. The modest home was built using materials from the surrounding area by its inhabitants and serves as an example of the kind of buildings that were present throughout Jamestown at its peak. In addition, Jamestown's large

family cemetery is also notable for representing how burial and funerary practices at the site have been influenced by African and African American traditions. The Jane James House serves as an example of a late 19th to early 20th century African American agricultural property. Aside from the Jane James House and the cemetery, there are also eight other sites scattered throughout the district that contain the archaeological remains of historic house sites, all which would have been similar in age and type to the Jane James House. Although unique in many respects, the history of Jamestown also reflects the broad patterns of African American history in the South during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries: the story of black history after the Civil War, the story of southern agriculture in the first half of the twentieth century, and the story of community development in a time when many groups of African Americans struggled to survive and assert their independence. Jamestown is an unusual example of African Americans employing the mechanism of cooperative purchase to acquire land in the difficult decades after Reconstruction when white Democrats had regained control of the South. The community then maintained that cooperative sense and thrived for roughly seventy years, from its establishment in 1870 until its decline in the 1940s. Listed in the National Register October 25, 2018.



**TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH HM**  
**124 W. DARLINGTON ST., FLORENCE**

Trinity Baptist organized in 1868, with Rev. Wesley J. Parnell (d.1873) serving as its first pastor. The church initially met at the home of members Jacob and Sarah Lindsey on Front St. before obtaining a property at the corner of Dargan and Marlboro Sts. The church acquired this site in 1884 and began meeting in a small frame sanctuary. Construction began on the current church around 1893 and finished by 1909. One of the city's oldest historically black churches, Trinity became an important site for African American religious and civic life in 20<sup>th</sup> century Florence. Ministers often held city and state leadership positions. Beginning in the 1940s, the church was a hub of activity related to the civil rights movement, hosting meetings, N.A.A.C.P. events, and national figures like Thurgood Marshall and Fannie Lou Hamer. *Sponsored by Trinity Baptist Church, 2019*

**GEORGETOWN COUNTY**

**JAMES A. BOWLEY HM**  
**231 KING ST., GEORGETOWN**

In the 1870s, this was the home of James Alfred Bowley (c.1844-1891). Born enslaved in Maryland, Bowley was the great nephew of Harriet Tubman (c.1822-1913). In 1850, Tubman and Bowley's free father organized a plan to free Bowley and his mother and sister, making them the first enslaved people who Tubman helped emancipate. Bowley attended school in Philadelphia before rejoining his family in Canada. During the Civil War, he served as a landsman in the United States Navy. After the war, Bowley moved to Georgetown and worked for the Freedmen's Bureau as a teacher. By 1870, he had married Laura Clark (1854-1932) and lived at this location. They sold the home in 1880. Bowley served in the S.C. House (1869-1874) and was trustee for the University of S.C. when it was briefly integrated. In 1874, a rivalry with another black Republican led to a violent clash that made national news. Bowley also founded the short-lived *Georgetown Planet* newspaper. *Sponsored by the Gullah Geechee Chamber, 2019*

**FRIENDLY AID SOCIETY / ROSEMONT SCHOOL HM**  
**809 PALM ST., GEORGETOWN**

The Christian Friendly Aid Society (CFAS), an African American benevolent society, built a lodge here c.1947. The Society began in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century among neighborhood families descended from people once enslaved on Rosemont Plantation, approx. 10 mi. north of here. The Society assisted members with medical and funeral costs, while the lodge served as a place to socialize and discuss community issues. Shortly after the CFAS constructed

the lodge, the building housed the Rosemont School, a segregated elementary school in the Georgetown County School District. The school was previously located on the site of Rosemont Plantation and served black families still living on the plantation grounds. The school kept an enrollment of around 40-50 children attending the first and second grades. It closed in 1955 when J.B. Beck Elementary opened. *Sponsored by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Mu Phi Omega Chapter, 2019*

## **HAMPTON COUNTY**

### **YEMASSEE ROSENWALD SCHOOL /FENNEL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HM 131 YEMASSEE HWY., YEMASSEE**

In 1929 Elvira Jackson sold 4 acres of land to Yemassee School District #26 for \$500. The land was to be used to build an African American school and Yemassee Rosenwald School (Yemassee Colored School), a five-teacher school funded in part by the Rosenwald Foundation helped to fund four schools in Hampton Co. Yemassee Rosenwald School served the African American community 1929-1954. In 1954 it was replaced by Fennell Elementary School. Fennell, which remains today, was built with funds from the S.C. Equalization Program. It was named for Clarence Fennell, an African American farmer, preacher, and community leader from Hampton Co. it remained a segregated African American school until 1970. *Sponsored by Pilgrim Ford Church and the Arnold Fields Community Endowment, 2018*



### **BRUNSON ROSENWALD SCHOOL/ALLEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HM N. BROAD ST. NEAR INTERSECTION WITH PREACHER ST., BRUNSON**

The Brunson Rosenwald School, also known as the Brunson Colored School, was built on this site in 1925-26. The two-teacher schoolhouse was one of four in Hampton County that was funded in part by the Julius Rosenwald Foundation (1917-1932). The school was constructed at a total cost of \$2,700 and served the African American community here from 1926 until 1954. Brunson Rosenwald School was replaced by Allen Elementary School in 1954. Allen Elementary was one of many schools in S.C. built as part of the state's "school equalization program." It remained a segregated school for African American students until the county desegregated schools in 1969-70. It was

given to the Committee for the Betterment of Poor People and then the Town of Brunson. *Sponsored by the Town of Brunson, the Committee for the Betterment of Poor People, and the Arnold Fields Community Endowment, 2018*

**ESTILL ROSENWALD SCHOOL/ESTILL TRAINING SCHOOL HM**  
**555 3<sup>RD</sup> ST., ESTILL**

The Estill Rosenwald School (Estill Colored School), was built on this site in 1925-26. Funded in part by the Julius Rosenwald Foundation (1917-1932), it was one of four Rosenwald Schools in Hampton Co. The Estill School was originally a five-teacher school and was constructed at a cost of \$7,200. The Foundation gave \$1,300, the local African American community gave \$2,900, and the balance was from public funds. Estill Rosenwald School served the African American community 1926-1954. In 1954 a new school, Estill Training School, was built on this site. Funded by the S.C. equalization program, Estill Training also served African American students. Estill Training became Estill Middle School in 1970 when federal court rulings required all S.C. school districts to finally implement plans to racially integrate their schools.

*Sponsored by the Arnold Fields Community Endowment, 2018*

**JASPER COUNTY**

**CLEMENTA CARLOS PINCKNEY HM**  
**2740 TILLMAN RD., RIDGELAND**

Clementa Carlos Pinckney (1973-2015) answered the call to preach at the age of 13 here at St. John AME Church and received his first appointment to pastor at the age of 18. As a pastor, he served innumerable parishioners in many S.C. churches, including Youngs Chapel AME, Mt. Horr AME, and Campbell Chapel AME. His last appointment was as pastor at Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston. Pinckney was elected to the S.C. House of Representatives in 1996 at the age of 23, becoming the youngest African American elected to the S.C. legislature. In 2000 he was elected to the S.C. Senate. Sen. Pinckney was killed on June 17, 2015 along with 8 of his parishioners at Emanuel AME. A public viewing was held here at St. John AME. President Barack Obama delivered the eulogy at his funeral. *Sponsored by the Jasper County Historical Society and Those He Loved and Served, 2018*

## **LEXINGTON COUNTY**

### **BLINDING OF ISAAC WOODARD HM**

***WEST CHURCH ST. NEAR FULMER ST., BATESBURG-LEESVILLE***

Sgt. Isaac Woodard, a black soldier, was removed from a bus in Batesburg and arrested on Feb. 12, 1946, after a dispute with the bus driver. Woodard was beaten and blinded by a town police officer and the next day convicted in town court for “drunk and disorderly.” The incident led Harry Truman to form a Council on Civil Rights and issue Executive Order 9981, which desegregated the U.S. Armed Forces in 1948. The police officer was charged with violating Woodard’s civil rights but was acquitted by an all-white jury. The result troubled the presiding judge, J. Waties Waring, who would go on to issue landmark civil rights rulings, including a dissent in *Briggs v. Elliott* (1952), which became a model for *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954). In 2018 a judge, on the town’s motion, expunged Woodard’s conviction. *Sponsored by the Sgt. Isaac Woodard Historical Marker Association, 2019 [Dedicated to the memory of Isaac Woodard, 2019] (bracketed text written in Braille)*

## **ORANGEBURG COUNTY**

### **ORANGEBURG DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT NR**

***ALONG SECTIONS OF RUSSELL, BROUGHTON, MIDDLETON, CHURCH, MEETING, ST. JOHN, HAMPTON, AND AMELIA STREETS AROUND THE PUBLIC SQUARE, ORANGEBURG***

Originally listed in 1985 for commercial, industrial, architectural, governmental, and social significance, the Orangeburg Downtown Historic District is a prime example of the evolution of a downtown commercial district from the late nineteenth to the mid-twentieth centuries. The district is also significant for its associations with the Civil Rights Movement, especially the sit-ins at the Kress Department Store, and for associations with Orangeburg’s Jewish history. A majority of the buildings in the district were built between ca. 1883 and ca. 1925 when Orangeburg underwent tremendous growth, with a smaller number of buildings representing postwar architecture and commerce. Buildings in the district are constructed mainly of brick and represent various architectural movements of the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries, including Romanesque Revival, Victorian, Neo-Classical, and Modern. Listed in the National Register September 20, 1985; Additional Documentation approved January 22, 2019.

## **RICHLAND COUNTY**

### **BOOKER T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM NR 1400 WHEAT ST., COLUMBIA**

The Booker T. Washington High School Auditorium is the last extant building of Booker T. Washington High School, a segregated school for African American students. The school opened in 1916 and became an important institution for the African American community in Columbia and across South Carolina.

The auditorium was constructed in 1956 using state funds dedicated to equalizing African American schools across South Carolina, which the state government hoped would forestall a push toward integrated schools. The auditorium is a brick building constructed in the International Style typical of school construction in South Carolina during the 1950s. The building housed an auditorium as well as classrooms for the vocational and performing arts at the school. The auditorium was also used for a number of public events that brought together the school and local Columbia community. From 1956 until 1970, the auditorium served the segregated high school. Booker T. Washington High School and other schools in Richland District One were integrated in 1970-71. The other buildings making up the Booker T. Washington High School campus were torn down by the University of South Carolina, which bought the school in 1974, leaving the auditorium as the only remaining building. The building retains much of the same appearance as it did when constructed in 1956, with the exception of a 2013 rear addition that now serves as the main entrance. Listed in the National Register October 25, 2018.



### **DR. CYRIL O. SPANN MEDICAL OFFICE NR**

**2226 HAMPTON ST., COLUMBIA**

The Dr. Cyril O. Spann Medical Office is a small, one-story building located in a mixed use sector in Columbia's historically African American Waverly neighborhood. It is significant for its association with the history of segregated healthcare facilities in Columbia and with Dr. Cyril O. Spann, believed to have been the only black surgeon in South Carolina in

the 1960s and early '70s. The building is of simple, Modern design typical of the early 1960s, and it served as Spann's office from its 1963 construction until Spann's death in 1979. It is located near the former Good Samaritan-Waverly Hospital, a segregated black hospital established in 1952 where Spann served as chief of staff from 1966 until the hospital's closure in 1973. Unlike the segregated hospital wings and waiting rooms that typically greeted black patients seeking care, Dr. Spann's office was one created by and for African Americans. A distinctly modern, purpose-built doctor's office, Spann's practice marked a shift from earlier African American doctors' offices in Columbia, which were often located in residences or re-purposed buildings. Listed in the National Register May 20, 2019.

**DR. MATILDA A. EVANS HOUSE NR  
2027 TAYLOR ST., COLUMBIA**

The Dr. Matilda A. Evans House is a two-and-one-half story, wood frame American Foursquare built circa 1915. The house exhibits simplified characteristics of the Colonial Revival style and is located in a commercial district in a historic African American community with two historically black colleges/universities (HBCUs) — Benedict College and Allen University — in the immediate vicinity. The house is significant for its association with the life and work of Dr. Matilda Arabelle Evans, a physician and philanthropist who worked tirelessly for the African American community and bridged racial and gender divides with her work. Dr. Evans was a

major reformer and public health advocate in Columbia, South Carolina and was the first black woman to practice medicine in South Carolina. Though her work was centered in Columbia, the effects of her work permeated the entire state. Her life and work is a tribute to the agency displayed by black women who fought to combat the oppressive system of Jim Crow segregation. Her home, the only extant structure in Columbia associated with Dr. Evans, reflects her contributions to the state's medical and African American history. Listed in the National Register January 22, 2019.



## **SPARTANBURG COUNTY**

### **LITTLE AFRICA HM**

**1701 LITTLE AFRICA RD., CHESNEE**

Little Africa was one of a number of independent African American communities formed across the South after the Civil War. Founded c.1880 by former slaves Simpson Foster and Emanuel Waddell, it was originally just a few acres set aside for their relatives. It grew to several hundred residents as other families settled nearby seeking economic opportunity and refuge from white supremacy. Many early residents were farmers, and agriculture remained central to life in Little Africa for decades. By 1910, community leaders had built the two-room Africa School to teach local children. One of S.C.'s first Rosenwald Fund schools later opened there. Near the school, community members built Fairview C.M.E. c.1912, one mile west of here. Congregants first organized themselves c.1902. *Sponsored by Little Africa Community Members and Friends, 2019*

### **EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY HM**

**121 ERNEST L. COLLINS AVE., SPARTANBURG**

The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany was est. 1893 as a mission to Spartanburg's African American residents. Rev. Theodore D. Bratton (1862-1944) organized the church as an affiliate of historically white Church of the Advent. The earliest members of Epiphany met downtown in a building on Wall St. The church founded a school in 1904. Its first settled pastor Rev. Samuel Whittemore Grice (1881-1940) began service in 1905. The Church of the Epiphany moved to this site by 1912, when the current chapel was completed. S.C.'s bishop at the time called it "one of the most attractive and churchly buildings in the Diocese." Its new location along what was then South Liberty Street was a common settling place for freed blacks after the Civil War. After urban renewal in the 1970s, this was one of the few historic structures left in the neighborhood. *Sponsored by the Church of the Epiphany, 2019*

## **Sumter County**

### **GOODWILL SCHOOL HM**

**221 N. BRICK CHURCH RD., MAYESVILLE**

Goodwill School was established by missionaries from the Northern Presbyterian Church shortly after the Civil War. The school served freed people and their children. In an 1872 report, the Committee on Freedmen of the Presbyterian Church reported that Goodwill School served 350 students and was one of the most active Presbyterian parochial schools in South Carolina.

The building that stands today was built about 1890. The Presbyterian Church continued to sponsor the school until 1933. Goodwill Presbyterian Church continued to operate the school until it was consolidated with Sumter Co. Public School District 2 in 1960. Throughout its history Goodwill School provided education to African American students from Sumter Co. and beyond. *Sponsored by Sumter County Historical Commission, 2019*

## **UNION COUNTY**

### **POPLAR GROVE SCHOOL HM** ***NEAR 109 TINKLER CREEK RD., UNION***

Poplar Grove School opened in 1927 as a four-classroom school for African American students in Union Co. An extra classroom was added in 1941. In the mid-1960s the original four classrooms were removed and the remaining large classroom was made into a private residence. As of 2018, the remaining portion of the building is the last of the Rosenwald-era African American Schools in Union Co. Though Poplar Grove School is often referred to as a “Rosenwald School,” it is not clear that it received assistance from the Rosenwald Fund. Regardless, Poplar Grove offered educational opportunity to African American students at a time when S.C. schools were segregated. Of the rural African American schools in Union Co., Poplar Grove produced the largest number of college graduates. *Sponsored by the South Carolina Humanities Council and Poplar Grove Alumni, 2018*