

Statewide Survey of Historic Properties

State Historic Preservation Office
South Carolina Department of Archives and History
8301 Parklane Road
Columbia, SC 29223-4905 (803) 896-6100

Site No. 1586 Status U Revisit
Quadrangle Name: Spartanburg
Tax Map No. 7-17-07-035.00

SURVEY FORM

Identification

Historic Name: Ben Avon Methodist Church
Common Name: Methodist Church
Address/Location: 2362 Avondale Dr
City: Spartanburg ✓ Vicinity of County: Spartanburg
Ownership: Private Category: Building Other:
Historical Use: Religion
Current Use: Religion
SHPO National Register Determination of Eligibility: Not Eligible

Property Description

Construction Date: 1963 Construction: Masonry
Historic Core Shape: Rectangular Exterior Walls: Brick veneer
Other: Foundation: Brick
Commercial Form: Roof Shape: Gable, end-to-front
Other: Roof Material: Composition shingle
Stories: 2 stories Porch Shape:
Other: Porch Width:

Description/Significant Features:

The two-story Ben Avon Methodist Church is a sprawling a sprawling masonry complex, arranged in a U-shape. The building is composed of three primary sections: a northern two-story, side-gabled, four bay northern wing (which appears to be the earliest section and retain early paired multi-light metal casement windows); a southern single-story, flat-roof wing displaying a solid brick facade void of fenestration; and a single-story front-gabled mid-twentieth sanctuary which spans north to south and connects the two wings. The sanctuary features a steep-pitched roof, brick cladding, and modern multi-light fixed windows.

Alterations (include date(s), if known):

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

Prather and Thomas, Spartanburg

Historical Information

Historical Information:

Ben Avon Methodist Church built its first church at its current site in 1948 at 2362 Avondale Avenue, which it had to replace the following year after fire destroyed it. Due to serious structural issues, the congregation had to demolish this building in 1962 and replace it the following year. Little known about architects Prather and Thomas, who did not include commissions in AIA historical directories. Known to have designed SC National Guard Armories and/or Motor Vehicle Storage Buildings at Greenwood, Pacolet Mills, and Spartanburg.

Source(s) of Information:

Spartanburg Herald, December 1, 1962, February 9, 1963, and October 5, 1963.

South Carolina National Guard website at <https://www.scguard.com/architects/prather-and-thomas/>

Digital Photo ID(s)

File Name:	View:	Other:
01586001.jpg	Facing North	
01586002.jpg	Facing Southwest	
01586003.jpg	Facing West	
01586004.jpg	Facing Southeast	
01586005.jpg	Facing West	Interior

Program Management

Recorded by:

Marvin Brown/Sarah Potere

Organization:

AECOM

Date Recorded:

11/28/2018



Digital Photo ID: 01586001.jpg
View: Facing North



Digital Photo ID: 01586002.jpg
View: Facing Southwest



Digital Photo ID: 01586003.jpg
View: Facing West



Digital Photo ID: 01586004.jpg
View: Facing Southeast



Digital Photo ID: 01586005.jpg
View: Facing West