

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Set in the pine forest land north of the town of Holden, the Macedonia Baptist Church is accessible only via a three mile dirt road. The church is a four-bay, gable fronted board and batten structure with a rear semi-octagonal chancel bay and two horizontal panel front doors. The gables and the rear bay are sheathed in clapboards. The church retains its original pews, its original cast iron stove, and most of its original 6 over 6 windows.

Specific dates 1898
Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)
Criterion C

The Macedonia Baptist Church is significant in the area of architecture as an almost perfectly preserved typical example of a late-nineteenth century frame country church and represents therefore a local unpretentious building tradition. It is also very probably the oldest structure in the vicinity of the town of Holden.

The Macedonia Baptist Church is the oldest Baptist church building in Livingston Parish. Constructed in 1898, it is a good example of what a typical, rural Louisiana church was like.

The Macedonia Baptist Church was organized in May, 1856 in a grove under a magnolia tree. Church was held at the homes of different members until the congregation shared a building with the Methodists. However, this arrangement did not work out very well. According to an early history of the church, the Methodists "drove" the Baptists out. The congregation then proceeded to build their first church house, which was a log structure valued at \$50. It was followed in 1871 by a board house valued at \$500. The present structure the congregation's third church house, was completed in 1898 and is still used for church services.

Major Bibliographical References

Vertical File, Livingston Parish, Louisiana Room, LSU Library, Baton Rouge.

Baton Rouge Sunday Advocate, May 7, 1978.

The Free State: A History and Place-Names Study of Livingston Parish, prepared by members of Livingston Parish American Revolution Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

Research report on Macedonia Baptist Church prepared by Clark Forrest, located in Macedonia Baptist Church National Register File, State Historic Preservation Office, Baton Rouge.