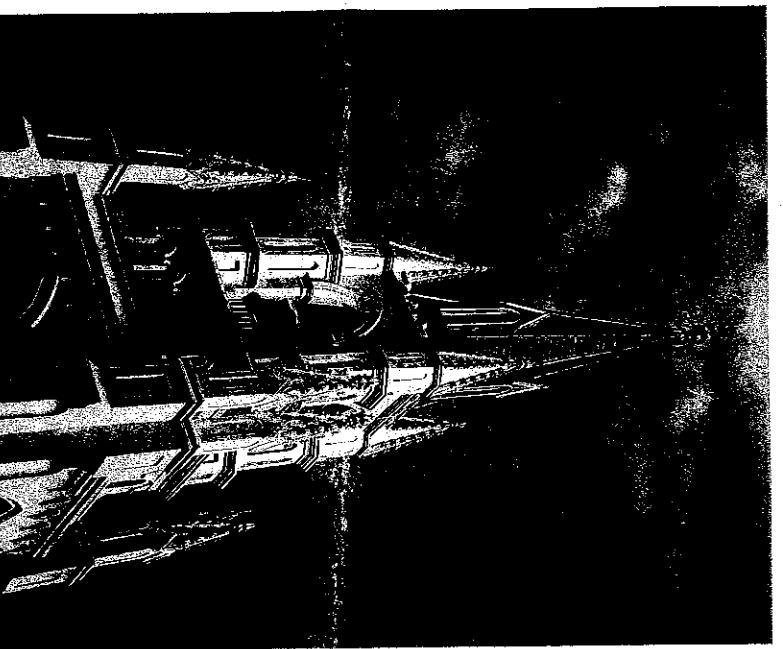


The sanctuary of St.  
Stephen's Episcopal  
Church



The pinnacled spire of  
Grace Episcopal Church.

## The Churches of Charleston & the Lowcountry 80 by The Preservation Society of Charleston, 1994

tion of Mount Moriah Union Methodist Church joined the Episcopal Church and were given St. Stephen's as their place of worship. The all-black congregation continued to worship there for some sixty-five years. In July 1987 a small number of whites joined St. Stephen's. Old and new members then began a dialogue about what they might do to make this unique church a place for integrated worship. The Reverend A. Houghton was appointed priest-in-charge and has developed St. Stephen's into a church of the people, with the laity making policy and decisions. The words emblazoned over the church doorway, "My house shall be called a house of prayer for all people," became the mission statement for the congregation.

### *Grace Episcopal Church*

98 Wentworth Street

Grace Episcopal Church was founded in 1846 with the intention of establishing an Episcopal church in the growing area of Charleston Village. Initial worship services were held together with the congregation in the chapel at the College of Charleston while the new church was being built.

The building was designed in the Gothic Revival style by Edward Brickell White and completed on November 1, 1848. The pinnacled spire and elaborate stone folds around the great front door are characteristic of this popular style. The interior vaulting is also notable.

The memorial windows of Grace Church are teaching windows, each containing scenes from the life of Christ as well as representations of clergy and laypersons associated with the church. The altar window, the great rear window, four windows in the nave, two in the narthex, and twelve clerestory windows were all designed by the sixth rector, Dr. Ralph Sadler Meadowcroft. Located over the rear doorway, the largest window took over a year to complete. It contains more than ten thousand pieces of glass. A small window on the Epistle side of the



The Gothic Revival sanctuary of Grace Episcopal, renovated after damage from Hurricane Hugo



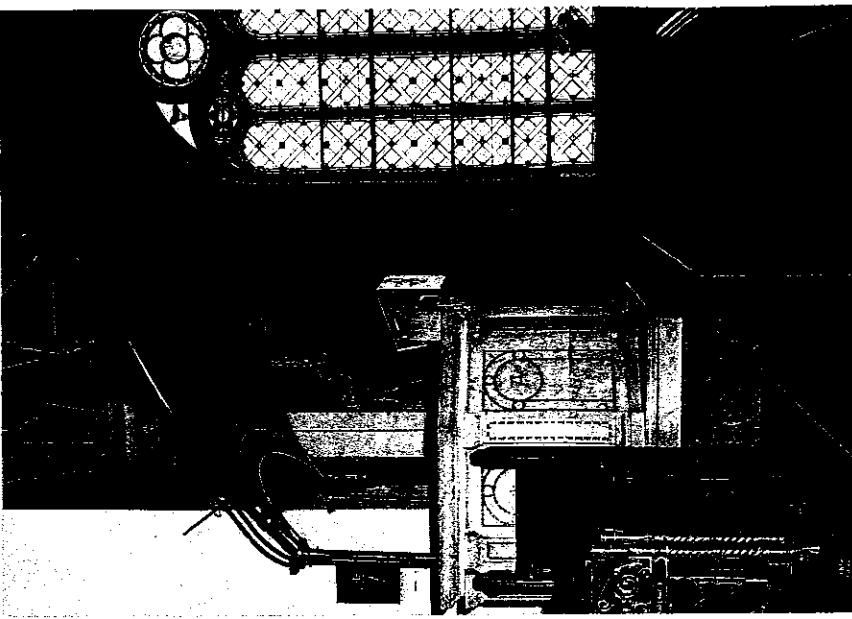
The Church of the Holy Communion at Ashley and Cannon

narthex contains an angel with the face of a small girl who drowned on Sullivan's Island. Grace Church was closed for a year in 1864 because of bombardment from Morris Island. The church was reopened soon after the evacuation, during Federal occupation.

#### *Church of the Holy Communion*

218 Ashley Avenue

The Church of the Holy Communion was founded in 1848, and its present building was consecrated in 1855. Since its construction, the building has undergone two expansions. The rear wall was removed in 1868, and a recessed chancel and organ chamber were built to accommodate a new organ, stained-glass windows, and a marble altar with memorial cross. The present chancel was constructed when the rear of the building was again removed in 1871. Transepts were added at that time, and the roof was raised and replaced with a new roof modelled



Holy Communion's marble pulpit and unique sounding board