

VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

File no.76-286 Negative no(s). 4898

SURVEY FORM

Historic name Belle Haven Cemetery	Common name Belle Haven Church Site
County/Town/City Prince William County	
Street address or route number cl mile east of	Kopp on Marine Corps Road, c500' NW of Lookout Tower
USGS Quad Joplin	Date or period Late 19th century, early 20th
Original owner Baptist Church	Architect/builder/craftsmen
Original use Church & cemetery	
Present owner U.S. Government	Source of name
Present owner address c/o Quantico Marine	Source of date
Base, Quantico, Va.	Stories
Present use Cemetery	Foundation and wall const'n
Acreage INCLUDED IN MARINE BASE	
	Roof type

State condition of structure and environs Cemetery grounds are in good condition.

State potential threats to structure Note any archaeological interest

Should be investigated for possible register potential? yes ___ no ___

Architectural description (Note significant features of plan, structural system and interior and exterior decoration, taking care to point out aspects not visible or clear from photographs. Explain nature and period of all alterations and additions. List any outbuildings and their approximate ages, cemeteries, etc.)

Small frame church once located here allegedly resembled Woodbine Baptist Church. Church was demolished in 1946. Cemetery is fairly large, though smaller now than it was before the 1942 U.S. Marine Corps acquisition.

Interior inspected?

Historical significance (Chain of title; individuals, families, events, etc., associated with the property.)

Shortly after the Civil War, Thomas Woolfenden, who had fought on the Union side, purchased about 1,000 acres in southeastern Prince William County along the north side of the Chopawamsic Creek, near Joplin Road. Woolfenden, a Baltimorean whose ancestors had come from England, settled down on the farm with his wife, Isabel, and family. Soon afterwards Woolfenden donated land for a Baptist church which was built and named Belle Haven. Nearby, the village of Kopp was formed around a nucleus of a post office and general store. At about the same time the Holmeses, who owned land across Joplin Road from the Woolfendens' farm, donated land for a school to be erected across from the church, named Holmes School after its donors. Belle Haven Community near Kopp was probably a thriving place in the early 1900s.

Quantico, the closest town to Belle Haven and Kopp, was becoming a shipbuilding center on the Potomac when the U.S. Navy established a 6,000-acre temporary training camp for the Marines, shortly after the U.S. declared war on Germany in 1917. In 1918 after the Armistice, the Marine Corps base was made permanent. In 1942 over 51,000 acres of land west of U.S. Highway 1 was purchased for expansion of the Marine Corps base. Nicknamed the "Guadalcanal Area," realistic training took place here to prepare Marines for fighting in the Pacific, and vacated farms were used for target practice. The village of Kopp and Belle Haven Church were included in the 1942 land acquisition. The church, which parishoners had hoped to save, was demolished in 1946. In 1947 the cemetery was again made available for new burials, though the title of the land remains with the U.S. government.

Form No. VHLC-01-004

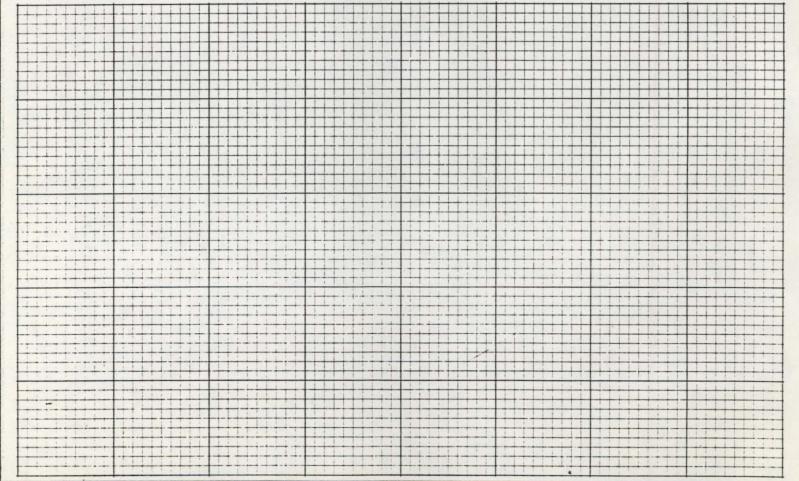
Published sources (Books, articles, etc., with bibliographic data.) Lt. Col. Charles A. Fleming et al, Quantico: Crossroads of the Marine Corps (1978), pp. 77-78.

Primary sources (Manuscript documentary or graphic materials; give location.) Mr. Woolfenden has church records and other historical materials on Kopp.

Names and addresses of persons interviewed Ray Woolfenden, 214 S. Main St., Dumfries. Also know-ledgable but not contacted: Mrs. Annie Shumate, Henderson House, Dumfries.

Plan (Indicate locations of rooms, doorways, windows, alterations, etc.)

Site plan (Locate and identify outbuildings, dependencies and significant topographical features.)



Name, address and title of recorder Frances Jones, Architectural Historian - Surreyor, HYPDC

JAN 1980

