

VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

File no. 76-127

Negative no(s), 4361, 4366

SURVEY FORM

Historic name Antioch Baptist Church

County/Town/City

Street address or route number Rt. 601, Waterfall, Va.

USGS Quad Thoroughfare Gap Original owner Date or period 1901
Architect/builder/craftsmen

Original use Church

Present owner Trustees of Haymarket Baptist Source of name

Present owner address Church, c/o Preston Smith, Haymarket Baptist Church, 14800 Present use Church Washington St... Source of date Church history, architectural evidence.

Stories 1

Present use Church Washington St., Acreage c5 acres Haymarket, Va.

Foundation and wall const'n Stone foundation, frame wall

construction.

Common name

Roof type Metal-covered gable roof.

State condition of structure and environs Church and surrounding area in very good condition.

State potential threats to structure None. 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.)

Interior: Matchboard wainscoting; beaded ceiling; door & window trim and floors stained dark & varnished; walls painted white. Heated by 2 stoves. Electric lights hang from ceiling and kerosene lamps attached on brackets along wall. Painted portraits of former pastors and other church members on rear wall. Painting over pulpit of Samaritan Woman at the Well, painted by Milton Gossom at age 15.

Caretaker's house, thought to be constructed of logs, and log outbuilding, once a shoemakers shop, are located on the church property and are described separately.

Cemetery on the property contains cll0 marked graves burials and many others marked with rough stones.

Interior inspected? Yes.

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

Antioch Baptist Church was organized in 1837. Services at that time were held in a log cabin, possibly the present caretaker's house to the left of the later church, which is said to have originally been a schoolhouse on Poplar Hill, the Foley plantation. Other sources say the log cabin/schoolhouse in which services were first held was moved to Sully Plantation in Fairfax County. Sully survey sheet, 2d paragraph, reads:

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"There is a log schoolhouse on the property which originally stood on Antioch Farm (sic.) in Prince William County. It was moved to Fairfax County in 1929 and moved again to the Sully property about 1962."

The first church was built c1840, of stone. It was demolished in about 1900, and the present frame building was constructed in 1901.

The church yard is surrounded by a stone wall which was erected in 1952. Inscribed on the gateposts, are the words, "Antioch Baptist Church" and, "In memory of William and Jennie Yeatman."

Regular services have not been heli at Antioch Baptist Church since the mid-1960s, however special events there include an annual homecoming in August and an occasional wedding or funeral.

This church is monumental; it is actually quite massive, though it appears to be small in its present setting, against a stand of large old trees. It would be hard to find a more bucolic setting, or more pleasantly old-fashioned church than this church at Antioch, situated as it is at the foot of the Bull Run Mountains, beside Little Bull Run. The building and grounds are exceptionally well cared for by the church's members.

Form No. VHLC-01-004

Sources and bibliography Published sources (Books, articles, etc., with bibliographic data.)

Writer's Project, W.P.A., Prince William, The Story of Its People and Its Places (1941, 1961) p. 187.
Primary sources (Manuscript documentary or graphic materials: give location.)

Church History written by John Harrison, updated by Benoni Harrison, available in manuscript.

Names and addresses of persons interviewed Mrs. Pauline Padgett, Mt. Atlas Lane, Haymarket, Va. Mrs. Jean Barnes, Haymarket, Va. James Gossom, Haymarket, Va.





