



VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

File no. 76-248
Negative no(s). 5179

SURVEY FORM Cemetery

Historic name Broad Run Church Site & County/Town/City Prince William County Street address or route number vic. 12750 Old Church Rd., Nokesville, Va. USGS Quad Nokesville Original owner Redman family? Original use Church & Cemetery Present owner George S. Jones & Barbara L. Present owner address 10409 Crockett Rd. Nokesville, Va. Present use. Woods & cattle enclosure Acreage 73.07 acres	Common name Slaty Run Church; Church at Redmans Date or period 1752 Architect/builder/craftsmen William More & Gabriel Muffitt (builders) Source of name Source of date Published histories, records of Dettin- gen Parish Stories N/A Foundation and wall const'n N/A Roof type N/A
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State condition of structure and environs Site is in fair condition. Exposed ruins of church walls are visible. Cattle are allowed to roam on the site, which is wooded but clear of underbrush. Many State potential threats to structure of the markers are either broken, buried, or possibly stolen. Note any archaeological interest This is an archeological site.

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.)

According to one source, the Broad Run Church Site and Cemetery are situated on an approximately 100 foot square, fronting Old Church Road and included in a fenced, c6-acre wooded area just north of Slate or Slaty Run. Across the road from the site is a private road leading to Cedar Run. Just north of this driveway are several residences. A newly-built house sits between the church site and Slaty Run. At the point where Old Church Road crosses Slaty Run, the creek is flowing east toward Cedar Run. The area around this site is still fairly rural. Brentsville is about 3/4 mile north by Old Church Road.

Cattle have been allowed to roam on the church and cemetery site, thus contributing to the site's deterioration. While the animals have probably damaged the grave markers, their browsing has also prevented the site from being covered with thick unuerbrush, as happens so often with rural archeological sites.

Interior inspected? N/A

Historical significance (Chain of title; individuals, families, events, etc., associated with the property.)
 Begun in 1752, Broad Run Church was a brick Anglican church and one of the two churches in Dettingen Parish in the mid-18th century. The other, Quantico Church was begun at the same time and was also financed with tobacco.

Dettingen Parish was formed in 1744 from Hamilton Parish. The boundaries of Dettingen Parish roughly corresponded to those of present Prince William County. Dettingen Parish, like other pre-Revolutionary parishes in Virginia, was a civil as well as ecclesiastical division, for during much of the Virginia colony's history, churches were responsible for, among other civic duties, collecting taxes to support the Church and other local government functions, caring for the poor and indigent, educating and apprenticing poor children, and processioning the boundaries of lands. Twelve vestrymen elected for 3-year terms carried out the above-named civil duties and were usually the most prominent men in a parish. In 1786, the Virginia legislature "disestablished" the Episcopal Church by removing from the vestry all civil duties and the power to tax. By 1799, disestablishment was complete and magisterial districts had been created to manage the civil affairs formerly vested in the Anglican Church.

The records of Dettingen Parish, which have been published, include the Vestry Book (1745-1785), the Minutes of the Meetings of the Overseer of the Poor (1788-1802), and Indentures (1749-1782). In this record book are many references to the church erected on Broad Run in 1752. The church's builders were William More and Gabriel Muffitt. The church, which is also referred to as "Broad Run Chaple," "Slaty Run Church," and "the church at Redmans" [Readmans, Redmons], was paid for in four installments of approximately 20,000 lbs. of tobacco, (continued next page)

CONTINUATION SHEET
BROAD RUN CHURCH SITE & CEMETERY

Published Sources (continued)

R. J. Ratcliffe, This Was Prince William (c1976), pp. 16-17;
Records of Dettingen Parish, Prince William County, Virginia; Vestrybook, 1745-1785;
Minutes of Meetings of the Overseer of the Poor, 1788-1802; Indentures, 1749-1782,
(publ. 1976).

Historical Significance (continued)

from October 1752 to December 1755.

During the time the church was being built in the upper part of the parish, the rector was Rev. James Scott, who also oversaw the erection of the Quantico Church, the companion church to Broad Run Church. Cathrine Bristoe was sexton at Broad Run Church and Joseph Thurman was clerk and reader.

Fairfax Harrison refers to the 18th century Virginia parishes as "working symbols of an ancient race inheritance." Of the seven brick churches built in old Prince William (the region incorporating Fairfax, Loudoun, Fauquier, Arlington, and present Prince William Counties), only Pohick, Falls Church, and Christ Church still survive. The four lost churches are Quantico, Broad Run, Elk Run, and Payne's. "Their sites," according to Harrison, "are enduring bench marks of the highest reach of the tide of the old civilization of Virginia. A contour line drawn through those sites may be taken as a boundary which, without changing his habit, the tidewater planter could not pass on his march to the Blue Ridge. For beyond that boundary began the America of today." (Harrison, p. 300). between
1752 and
1770

The church at Broad Run was supplanted after the turn of the century by a chapel at Brentsville. That chapel was in turn replaced in the 1840s by a stone church, St. James, now known as Hatcher's Memorial Baptist Church. Broad Run Church had fallen to ruins by 1857, according to a contemporary comment by Bishop Meade. The Bishop's writings, published in part in the WPA guide to Prince William County, described the Broad Run Church as having several galleries which were erected by the vestry and sold to the old aristocratic families.

The site of the old church, which measured approximately, 30 feet by 60 feet, is in the woods, surrounded by an old cemetery containing approximately 100 stones. The oldest marked grave is dated 1788. Some of the family names of those buried in the cemetery are Burroughs, Thompson, Lovelace, and Roseberry. One source mentions that the vestry had offices in the church yard.

Sources and bibliography

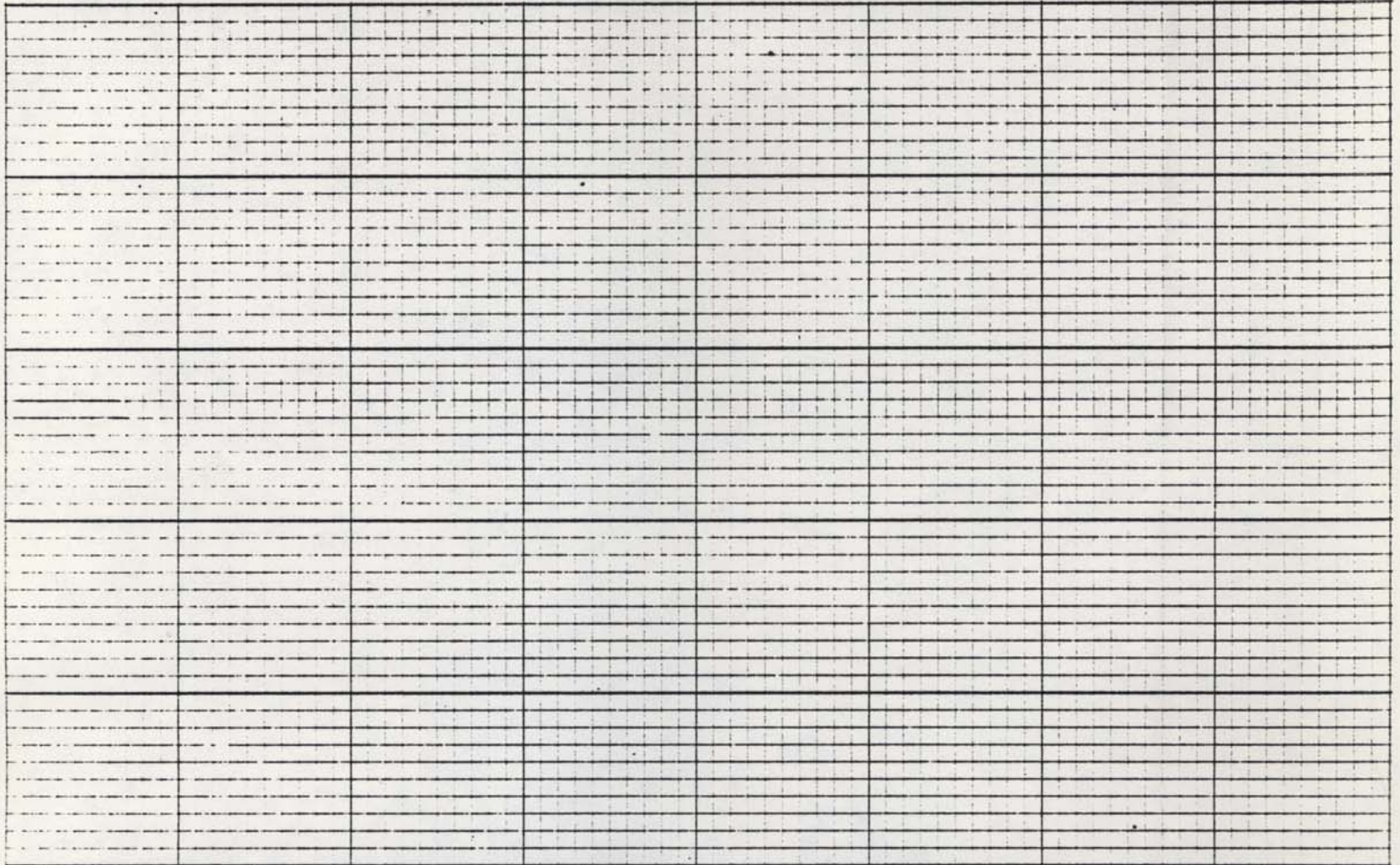
Published sources (Books, articles, etc., with bibliographic data.)

W.P.A., Writer's Project, Prince William, The Story of Its People and Its Places (c1941), pp.30, 114-115; Fairfax Harrison, Landmarks of Old Prince William (c1924, 1964), pp.293-294; 300;

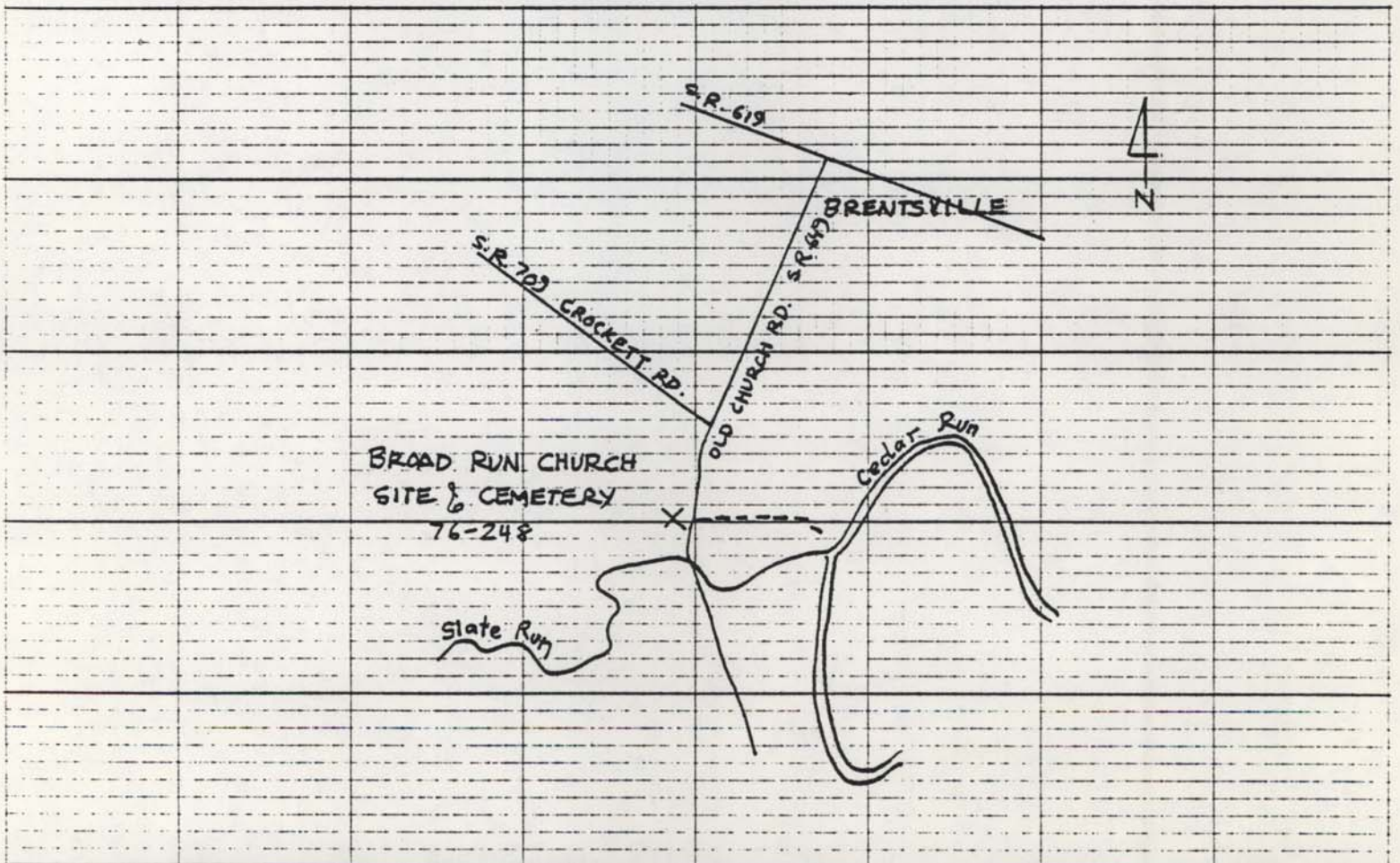
Primary sources (Manuscript documentary or graphic materials; give location.) (continued next page)

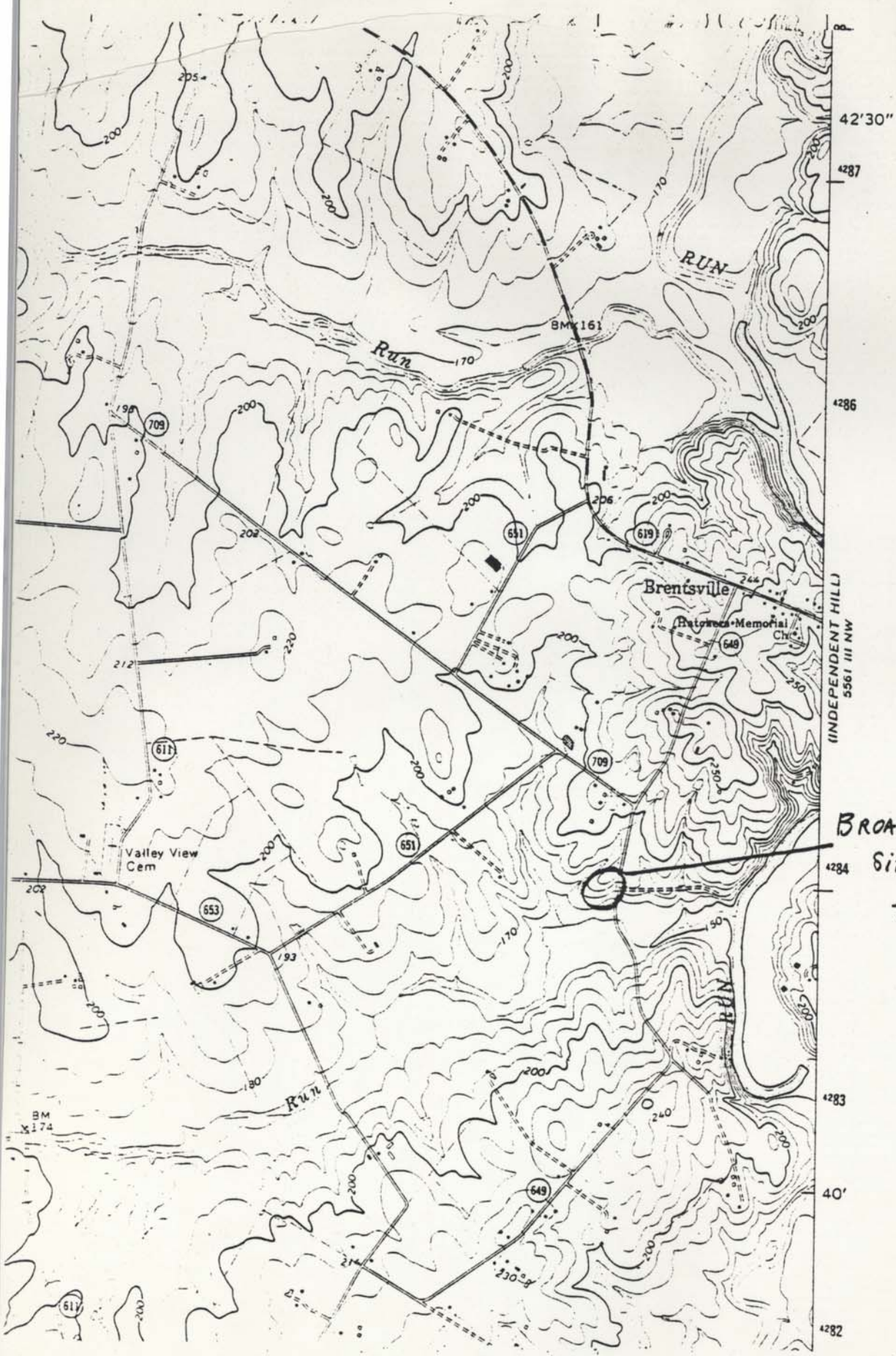
Names and addresses of persons interviewed E. R. Conner III, Manassas Museum; Mrs. Anne P. Flory, 14313 Minnieville Rd., Woodbridge, Va. 22192; R. J. Ratcliffe, Manassas, Va.

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



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





BROAD RUN CHURCH
SITE & CEMETERY
76-248

NOKESVILLE QUAD.