



**VIRGINIA  
HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION**

File no. 155-116
Negative no(s). 4903

SURVEY FORM

Historic name <b>First Baptist Church</b>	Common name
County/Town/City <b>Manassas</b>	
Street address or route number <b>9258 Center Street, Manassas, VA 22110</b>	
USGS Quad <b>Manassas</b>	Date or period <b>1905</b>
Original owner <b>Trustees of First Baptist</b>	Architect/builder/craftsmen
Original use <b>Church</b>	
Present owner <b>Trustees of First Baptist</b>	Source of name
Present owner address <b>9258 Center St. Manassas, VA 22110</b>	Source of date <b>Cornerstone; church history; arch. evidence</b>
	Stories <b>2 stories</b>
Present use <b>Church</b>	Foundation and wall const'n <b>Stone foundation, frame walls</b>
Acreage <b>c.25 acre</b>	Roof type <b>asphalt-covered gable roof</b>

State condition of structure and environs **Good**

State potential threats to structure  
Note any archaeological interest

Should be investigated for possible register potential? yes \_\_\_ no X

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.)

This is a two-story, frame-constructed, Gothic revival church. The exterior, which formerly was covered with weatherboards, was clad in vinyl to simulate weatherboards in 1975. The church's asphalt shingle-covered gable roof (installed in 1975) is bracketed and has eaves returns. A small steeple atop the roof, made of aluminum or vinyl, was installed in 1975 to replace a deteriorating bell tower which sat on the roof ridge and had been built at the same time as the church. There is a two-story cinder block addition on the rear of the church. The church has rectangular 2/2 sliding sash clear glass windows on the ground floor, and pointed-arch, sash, colored windows on the second floor, the auditorium level.

According to one informant, the red sandstone foundation at the front of the church and off the southeast corner, measuring about 10 feet square, was laid as a bell tower foundation, but for some reason the tower was never built. This foundation has a cornerstone commemorating the life of Rev. Marshall D. Williams, the church's founder and pastor for many years.

Inside, the sanctuary, on the second floor, is reached by a double stair which rises along both sides of the entrance. Sunday school classes are held in the basement rooms.

The church recently acquired the adjacent property on the east and had the old frame house (see John Braxton House 155-117) on the lot demolished, probably to use the lot for parking.

There has been much razing of older houses on this block recently. Three houses on Peabody Street were torn down, during the last year, in part because they were substandard

Interior inspected? **NO.**

(continued)

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

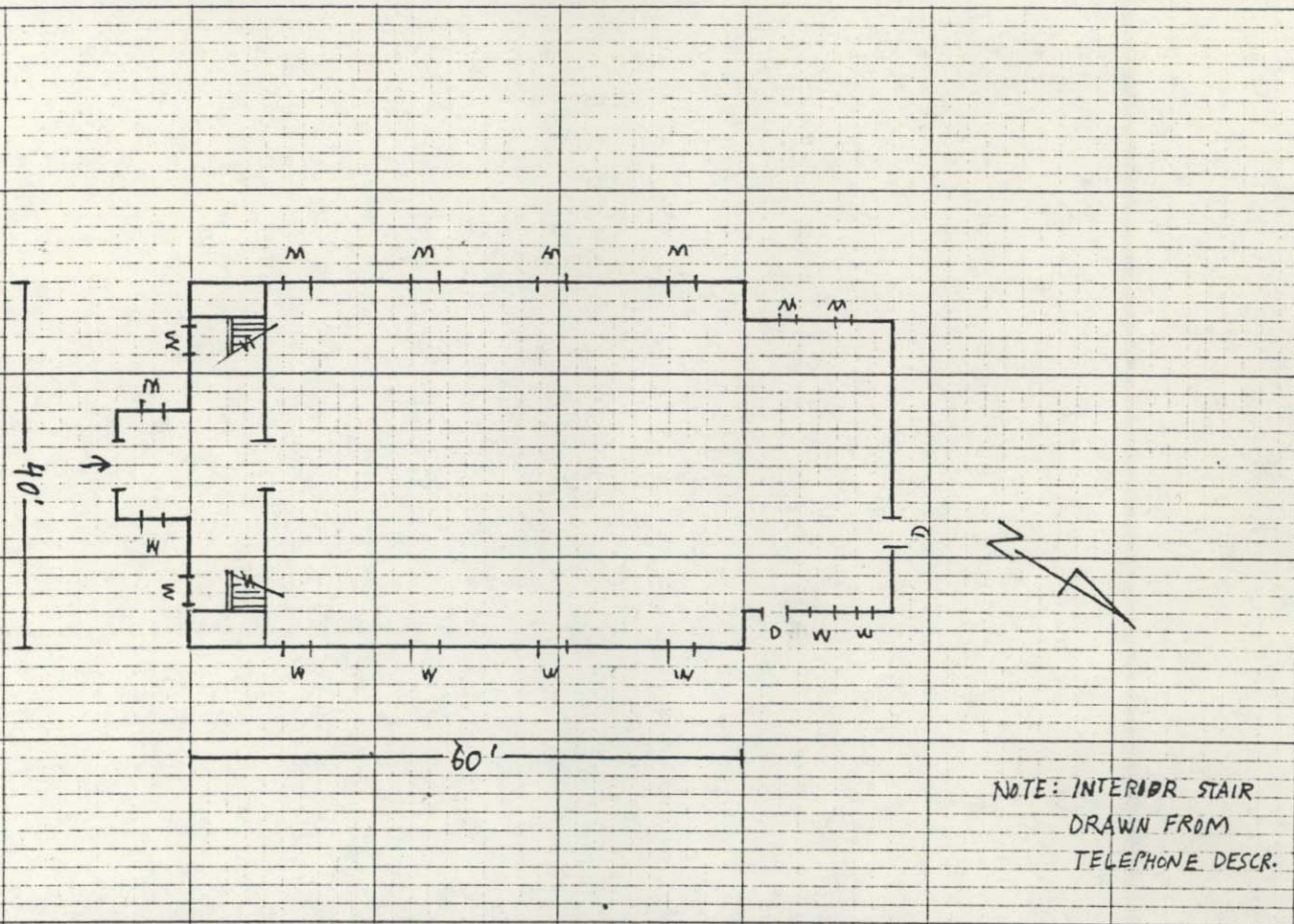
The church was organized in 1872 or 1874 by Marshall D. Williams and others, including Rev. S.W. Madden, said to have been the church's first minister. Before the first church was erected, services were held in a small frame schoolhouse located on Liberty Street (Brown School?). In 1879 the first church was built on the south side of Center Street between West Street and Grant Avenue, on land donated to the church by Isaac Baldwin. This church was a small simple frame building. In 1905, a new church was erected on the north side of Ceter Street between Peabody Street and Grant Avenue on land purchased from Mr. Baldwin.

and bibliography  
 ed sources (Books, articles, etc., with bibliographic data.)  
 le on First Baptist in Manassas Journal, 19 May 1911.

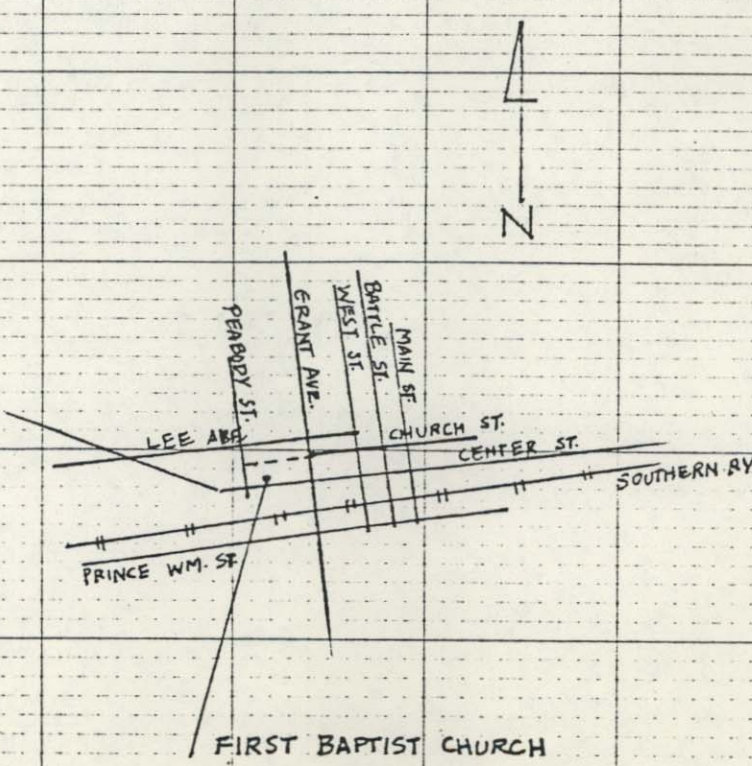
primary sources (Manuscript documentary or graphic materials; give location.)  
 urch history available.

Names and addresses of persons interviewed Rev. Wm. Davis, former pastor, 1st Baptist Church, 9212  
 ouglas Street, Manassas; Rev. H. Preston Johnson, present pastor.

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



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



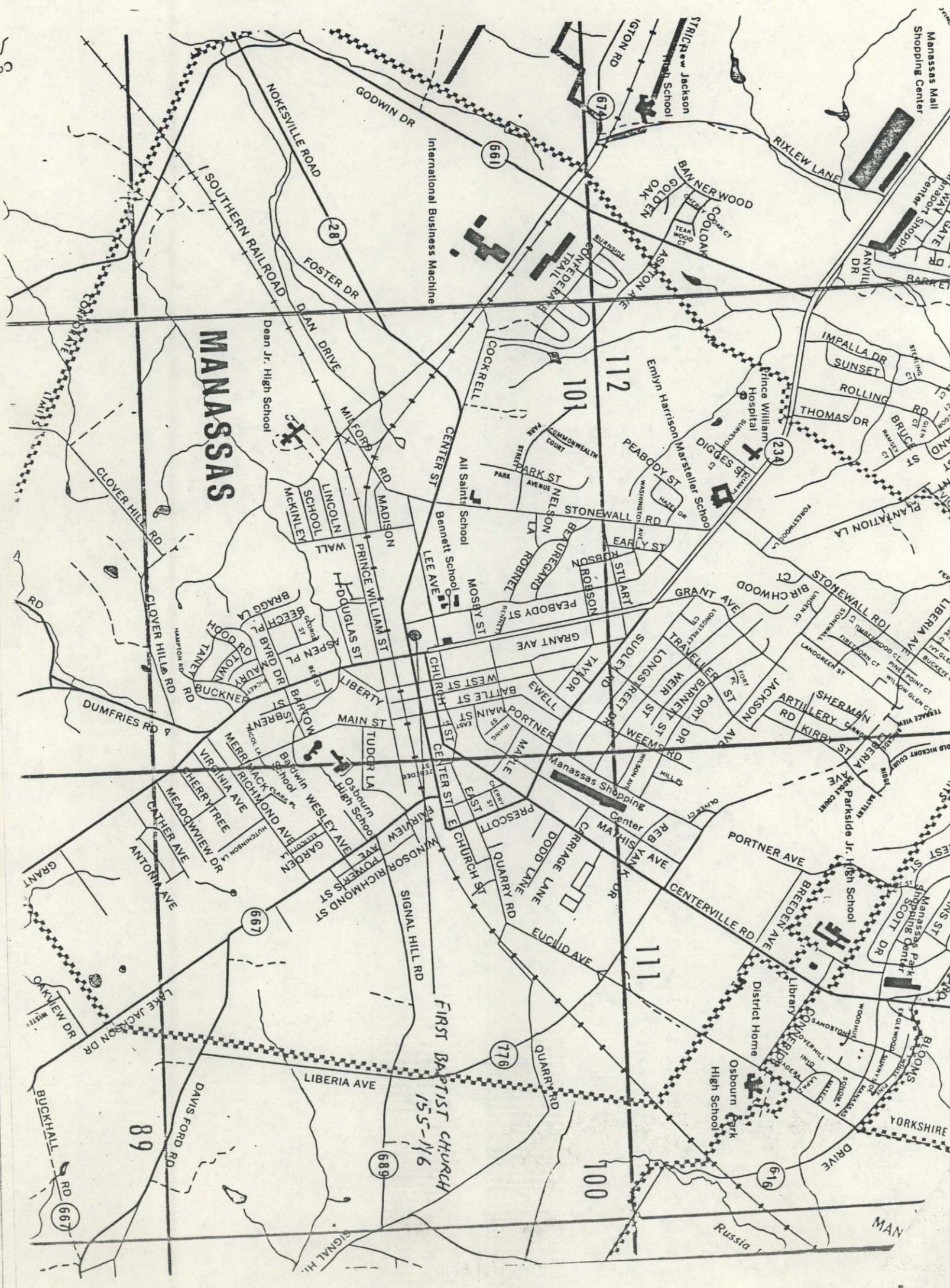
Name, address and title of recorder Frances Jones, Architectural  
Historian - Surveyor, NVPDC

Date  
 MARCH 1980

First Baptist Church  
(Continuation Sheet)

Architectural Description (continued)

and also because the City is building the continuation of Church St. through the middle of this block. This church gave up some of its land for the street construction, but may benefit from the proposed creation of a public parking lot nearby.



**MANASSAS**

International Business Machine

NOKESVILLE ROAD

SOUTHERN RAILROAD

GODWIN DR

FOSTER DR

DAN DRIVE

MINFORD RD

MADISON

PRINCE WILLIAM ST

DODGLES ST

LIBERTY

TUDOR LA

MAIN ST

CHURCH ST

CENTERS ST

FARMVIEW

WINDSOR

RICHMOND ST

SIGNAL HILL RD

LIBERIA AVE

QUARRY RD

EUCUID AVE

CENTERVILLE RD

PORTNER AVE

BREDDEN AVE

OSBOURN HIGH SCHOOL

DISTRICT HOME

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
155-116

674

661

697

776

689

616

667

89

112

101

111

100

234

STRICTON JACKSON  
HIGH SCHOOL

BANNERWOOD  
GOLDEN OAK  
TEAMWOOD CT

ASHTON AVE

EMILYN HARRISON MARSHALLER SCHOOL

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Manassas Mall  
Shopping Center

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