



VIRGINIA
HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

File no.	76-164
Negative no(s).	4370

SURVEY FORM

Historic name	Mount Calvary Church/Jennie	Common name	
County/Town/City	Prince William	Dean Marker	
Street address or route number	vic. 4900 Sudley Road, Catharpin, Va.		
USGS Quad	Gainesville	Date or period	1921 or 1923, 1975
Original owner	Mount Calvary Baptist Congre-	Architect/builder/craftsmen	
Original use	Church	gation	
Present owner	Mount Calvary Baptist Congre-	Source of name	
Present owner address	gation	Source of date	Local historian
Present use	Church	Stories	1 story
Acreage		Foundation and wall const'n	Block? foundation, frame walls
		Roof type	Shingle-covered (?) gable roof

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 ___

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.)

Present church built 1921. Burned partly 16 January 1975 and rebuilt with new steeple.

First church on site (1880) was built of logs and was said to have been triangular in shape.

Marker reads: In Memory of/Jennie Dean/1852-1913/Founder of the/Manassas Industrial School/Not dead, but sleepeth,/She has done a great work.

Interior inspected?

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

This site is important not because of the present church, but because the church was built on the site of an earlier church founded by Jennie Dean, who is buried in the church graveyard and whose marker commemorates her as also the founder of the Manassas Industrial School, q.v.

Jennie Dean, born of slave parents in 1852 in Prince William County, near this site, became a missionary after working as a domestic servant for many years in Washington. Through her efforts, several churches in the area were built, including one each at Wellington in Prince William and Conklin in Loudoun County, and the original log church on this site.

An enthusiastic, able fund-raiser and promoter of education for Blacks, Jennie Dean's chief accomplishment was the establishment in 1894 of the Manassas Industrial School for Colored Youth. Its mission was to provide technical training for boys and girls. In the late 1930s the school was purchased by Fauquier, Fairfax, and Prince William Counties and operated until the mid-1950s as a public regional high school.

Dean Middle School, near the site of the Manassas Industrial School, was named in Jennie Dean's honor.

(continued)

Mount Calvary Church/Jennie Dean Marker
(Continuation Sheet)

Historical Significance (continued)

A short note relating to Blacks' settlement in the area of Sudley Road and Aldie Road: the land between the above-mentioned crossing and the intersection of Sudley Road and Gum Spring Road, north to Bull Run is, according to a local historian, a 200-acre parcel sold to free Negroes by Mrs. Sarah C. Ball, who inherited the "Wilford" farm from Landon Carter of Woodland. The intersection of Aldie Road and Sudley Road was known as "Flatiron Corner" because the church there, a log structure, was triangular-shaped, and was probably situated on a wedge-shaped parcel.

Jennie Dean's house, described in *People and Places* as a dilapidated two-part affair with a log rear section located on a high bank overlooking Sudley Road, was razed in the 1960s.

Published Sources (continued)

Lewis, Stephen Johnson, Undaunted Faith: The Story of Jennie Dean (Catlett, Va., 1942).

Ratcliffe, R. J., This Was Manassas (c1973), pp. 46-47, 57.

Simmons, Catherine, "Manassas, Va., 1873-1973," unpublished Master's Thesis in possession of Prince William Library.