

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

St. John's Church, Grub Hill

AND/OR COMMON

Grub Hill Church

2 LOCATION

3.8 miles WNW of Chula;
STREET & NUMBER .2 mile N of Nibbs Creek; W side of State Route 609;
.3 mile SW of intersection of State Routes 609 and 636.
NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Chula

X VICINITY OF

Fifth (W. C. Daniel)

STATE

Virginia

CODE

51

COUNTY

Amelia

CODE

04

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Board of Trustees, St. John's Church, Grub Hill. c/o The Rector

STREET & NUMBER

Christ Episcopal Church

CITY, TOWN

Amelia,

VICINITY OF

STATE

Virginia 23002

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Amelia County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Amelia

STATE

Virginia 23002

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (2) (See continuation sheet #1)

TITLE (1)

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey

DATE

July 1967, 1969, 1978

FEDERAL X STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission - 221 Governor Street

CITY, TOWN

Richmond,

STATE

Virginia 23219

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Set back from State Route 609 on a small but conspicuous knoll in the farmlands of Amelia County, Grub Hill Church is a well-preserved example of vernacular Gothic Revival architecture. The church is a rectangular, one-story, gable-roof structure in four-course American bond. The entrance front, located on the west end of the building, has two doorways, each retaining its original raised Gothic paneled doors. In the transom area is a similar Gothic panel. Each doorway is encased by a simple architrave. Between the doorways in the center of the facade is a double-hung, pointed-arched window of diamond panes, with wood paneling filling the triangle formed at the top of the arch. A brick string course runs above the doorway and frames the top third of the central window. The corners of the church are delineated by brick buttresses with pinnacles featuring insets in the form of a cross. A wooden cornice lines the gable.

Identical in appearance, the north and south sides consist of three bays with double-hung, diamond-pane windows framed by a string course matching that found on the west elevation. The east elevation contains a simple rear entrance and a small storage area, lighted by a window similar to those on the sides. The rear extension is covered by a shed roof. A wooden cornice like that found on the west elevation completes the rear composition. On either side of the church is found the cemetery, surrounded by a cast-iron fence erected in the 1870s.

The interior of the church remains in an excellent state of preservation and contains original furnishings that date from the time of the consecration in 1852. The scrolled end pews are original, as is the gallery in the rear. The reredos and triptych were carved for the church in 1870, and the baptismal font is dated 1858. The sanctuary retains its original carpeting. Electrical lighting fixtures were installed recently and are the only modern convenience.

RCC

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1852

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Grub Hill Church is a significant example of a small rural parish church that has survived in a relatively unaltered state of preservation. Located in the farmlands of Amelia County, the church is a vernacular interpretation of the Gothic Revival, as it had become popularized in ecclesiastical architecture by the middle of the 19th century.

The building was consecrated on June 4, 1852, by the Episcopal Bishop William Meade as St. John's Church, Grubhill. "Grub Hill" is an antiquated place name derived from the "Grub Hill" slave quarters of the Tabb family, who gave the land for the building of an Episcopal church. A wooden church was erected on the site in 1762, torn down, and replaced by the present edifice in 1852. The church, although fronted on the west, is approached from the east, the road in front of the church having fallen into disuse.

Both the interior and exterior of the church remain unaltered, the interior providing a complete picture of the rural church in the 19th century. Of note is the sanctuary area which contains its original furnishings, including a triptych, the work of the carver "H. Jacob" completed in 1870. Jacob also carved the church furniture, having signed the sanctuary chairs. A servants' gallery remains in place in the rear of the church. Although the church is used sparingly and only for summer services, the cemetery continues to serve the Amelia Grub Hill community.

RCC & MTP

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Meade, Bishop William. Old Churches, Ministers, and Families of Virginia, 2 vols. Philadelphia, 1857. (reprinted 1966) vol. II, pp. 20-23.
 "Grub Hill Church, Raleigh Parish, Amelia County, Virginia". n.d., unpublished history in Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission files.
 Vestry Records of Grub Hill Church, 1850, 1852. Copies in Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission files.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 1/2 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	2,3,7,0,5,0	4,1,4,3,1,2,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundaries of St. John's Church, Grub Hill are drawn to coincide with the fence surrounding the church and cemetery.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE

March, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

221 Governor Street

TELEPHONE

(804) 786-3144

CITY OR TOWN

Richmond

STATE

Virginia 23219

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Tucker Hill, Executive Director
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE APR 18 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

St. John's Church, Grub Hill, Amelia County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET #1

ITEM NUMBER 6

PAGE 1

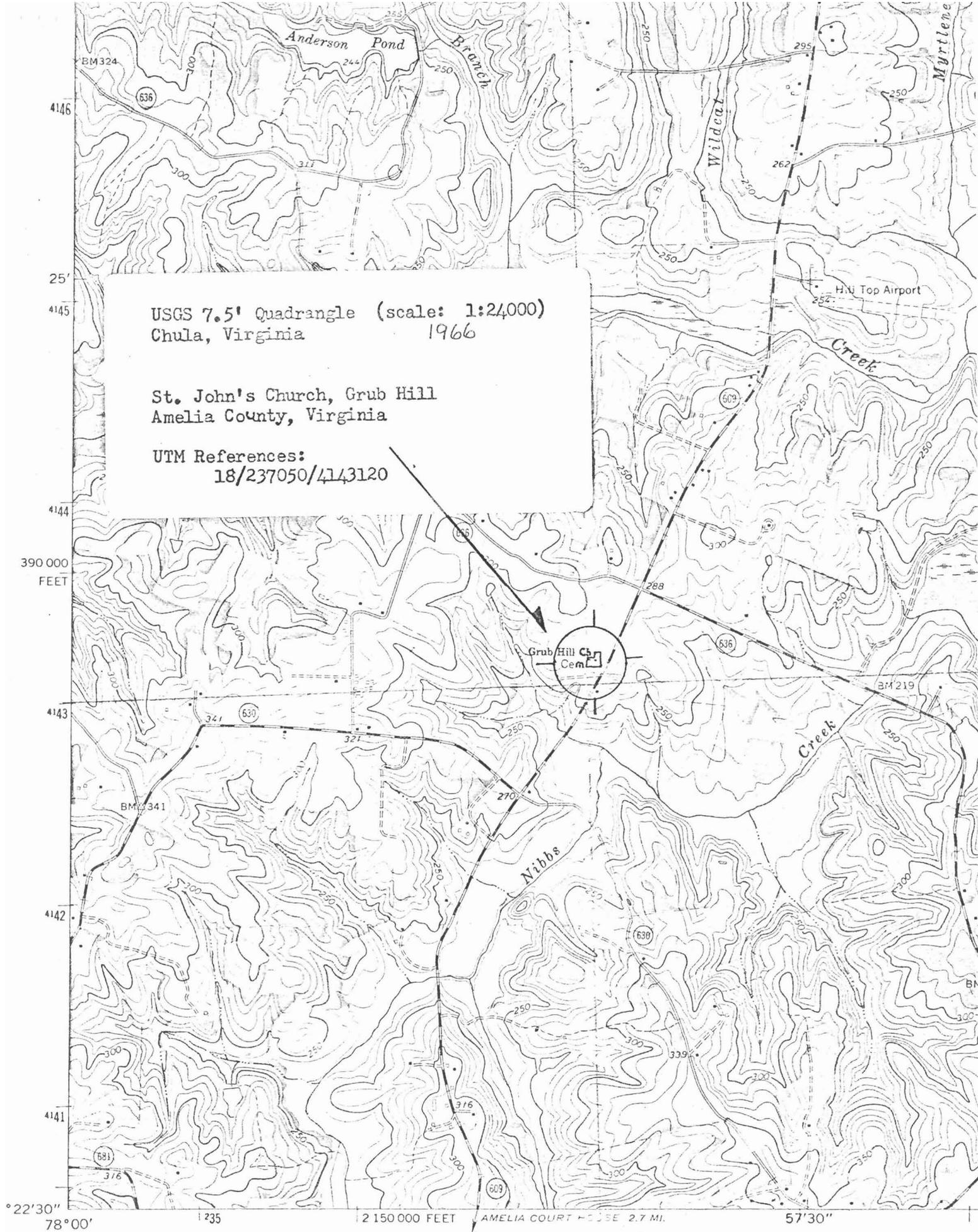
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

- (2) Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory
1969 Federal
Library of Congress
Washington, D. C.

USGS 7.5' Quadrangle (scale: 1:24,000)
Chula, Virginia 1966

St. John's Church, Grub Hill
Amelia County, Virginia

UTM References:
18/237050/4143120



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1963 and 1964. Field checked 1966

5358 /
RSVILLE
500

