

VLR- 9/15/99 NRHP- 2/3/00

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill (Episcopal)

Other names, site number _____ DHR File # 043-0103

2. Location

street & number 1214 Wilmer Avenue not for publication
city or town County of Henrico vicinity _____
state Virginia code VA county Henrico code 087
zip code 23227

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this x nomination _____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property x meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria I recommend that this property be considered significant _____ nationally _____ statewide x locally. (_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

M. Cotton _____ 12/8/99

Signature of certifying official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (_____
See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

_____ entered in the National Register _____

____ See continuation sheet.

_____ determined eligible for the _____
National Register

____ See continuation sheet.

_____ determined not eligible for the _____
National Register

_____ removed from the National Register _____

_____ other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

private

public-local

public-State

public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

building(s)

district

site

structure

object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u> 2 </u>	<u> 1 </u>	buildings
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	sites
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	structures
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	objects
<u> 3 </u>	<u> 1 </u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Religion Sub: religious facility - church

<u> Funerary </u>	<u> cemetery- </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Religion Sub: religious facility - church, church office, church school

<u> Funerary </u>	<u> cemetery </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

 Mid-19th Century - Gothic Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick Masonry

roof Slate

walls Brick

other _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or a grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance 1860- Present 1910

Significant Dates 1860

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Clifton A. Hall

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

previously listed in the National Register

previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property 12.576 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	18	283120	4164850	3	18	282820 4164590
2	18	283120	4164590	4	18	282820 4164850

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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11. Form Prepared By

=====

name/title Elliott DeMerell

organization _____ date June 1999

street & number 218 S. Boulevard #11 telephone (804) 358-9055

city or town Richmond state VA zip code 23220

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Additional Documentation

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name The Trustees of Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill (see continuation sheet 14)

street & number 1214 Wilmer Avenue telephone (804) 266-2431

city or town Richmond state VA zip code 23227

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Section 7 Page 1

Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill
Henrico County, Virginia

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill, built between 1859 and 1860 in Henrico County, Virginia, is a superb example of late antebellum Gothic Revival ecclesiastical architecture. It is very likely that it was the last such building constructed before the Civil War began. The church is situated within 12.576 wooded acres. Sharing the site are a cemetery (contributing site), the church school, ca. 1910 (contributing building) and a parish house, ca. 1957 (noncontributing building). The church's design is based on 13th and 14th century English parish churches. Its main building is complimented by the offset tower-spire. As a representative of the latter phase of the Gothic Revival it illustrates a greater historical understanding of English medieval church design prevalent among contemporary architects of the period. Clifton A. Hall of G. C. Hall & Son architects of Rhode Island is credited with the design for Emmanuel Church. Hall apparently used the same design for Trinity Methodist Church in Providence, R.I., built between 1864 and 1865. The tower-spires on the two churches are nearly identical and the buildings are similar in appearance.

SETTING

The church and its asymmetrical tower with spire are predominantly brick in construction with cement and stone elements. The roof of the church proper is slate. The spire surmounting the tower is of wooden composition. The building is situated towards the rear of the property. The rear of the church is partially surrounded by its cemetery that extends from the southeast to the northeast. To the south connected to the church by a covered loggia is the parish house. Further to the southwest is the church's school building. The approach to the church is made via a paved road that culminates in a circular drive in front of the church entrance and continues into the main parking lot, which returns to the main drive.

ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS

Emmanuel Church's late Gothic Revival design has remained largely unchanged from its construction in 1860. The building's plan, which incorporates a main church building with an offset tower with spire, is reminiscent of 13th and 14th century medieval English parish churches.

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Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill
Henrico County, Virginia

Frequently noted as an architectural jewel of its community, Emmanuel Church has been referred to by architectural historian Jeffery O'Dell as, "...an exceptionally fine example of ecclesiastical architecture of the period immediately preceding the War Between the

States."¹ O'Dell continues in his description saying, "The church features a parapeted vestibule; a six-bay nave punctuated by decorative buttresses; lancet windows (some with original stained glass), a quatrefoil window in the east end, and brickwork of 5-course American bond."²

Use of the Gothic Revival as a style for church architecture was transmitted from England to America, largely through literary means. The influence of English ecclesiastical societies that promoted the Gothic style would manifest itself in American counterparts. Architectural historian, Calder Loth in his book, *The Only Proper Style: Gothic Architecture in America*, states, "The lack of architectural purity in many new churches outside eastern metropolitan areas prompted the American Society to try to control quality in Gothic design by recommending the Early English parish church as the most suitable model for religious edifices."³ This broader push for the use of the Gothic style is important for Emmanuel Church due to the fact that the congregation employed Rhode Island resident, Clifton A. Hall (1826-1913) as the architect. Hall's exposure to northern American Gothic precedents would be reflected in his design for Emmanuel.

Architectural historian, Michael Corrigan in his work, "Puritans in Priestly Garb: The Gothic Taste in Antebellum Church Architecture" focuses on Emmanuel Church. Corrigan states that in addition to being perhaps the last antebellum Gothic Revival church to be finished before the hostilities of the Civil War broke out, Emmanuel Church is distinguished in its interpretation of the Gothic parish church.⁴

Corrigan provides a description of the building stating,

Its steep, wide roof and broad facade reflect a shift in taste from the long, narrow, tall rectangular box to a lower and more picturesque of Gothic derived from older medieval models, and its asymmetrical tower and spire reflect the influence of Richard Upjohn and ultimately of [A.W.N.] Pugin's Gothic adaptations of English Baroque church architecture.⁵

The church's plan has two main elements, the church building and the tower with spire. The main building has a broad steeply sloped gable slate roof that runs along an east-west

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Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill
Henrico County, Virginia

axis. The slate is applied in wide horizontal bands of fish-scale shaped slates alternating with bands of horizontal rectangular slates. The roof terminates in gables whose lower ends have skew corbels.

The gable ends are parapeted. There is an ornamental brick verge under the roofline. In the center of the main facade gable is a Gothic quatrefoil window surmounted by a hooded drip molding. At ground level, two lancet stained glass windows with hooded drip moldings flank a vestibule.

Entry to the church is gained by a parapeted vestibule whose roof line mirrors the main gable. Each side of the front vestibule wall, like the main church wall, has a brownstone bracket beneath the skew corbel. The ends of the main wall terminate in decorative buttresses with stepped brownstone caps. The buttresses terminate in stepped water tables of rounded brick. The side walls of the protruding vestibule have square windows with hooded drip moldings. The vestibule has a lancet door that echoes the church windows. Its wooden door is divided into two equal parts. When closed the rails and styles of the double doors form a cross. Four concrete steps with curved iron railings lead up to the main door.

The side walls of the church are divided into six bays. They continue the five-course American bond brickwork of the main facade. The lancet stained glass windows of each bay have hooded drip moldings repeating the design of those on the main facade. Each bay is separated by a decorative buttress, whose counterparts have been described in the main and vestibule walls.

The rear of the main church building changes to form the vestry room that imitates the main building. Its gabled roof runs perpendicular to the main building along a north-south axis. There are three square windows with hooded drip molding along the gable sides. The end wall has five square windows with hooded drip molding.

The offset tower on the main facade is situated to the left of the main structure. It has three components: a brick tower, a wooden drum covered with metal and a wooden spire. The lower section of the tower follows the design of the main church building. Its five-course American bond brickwork possesses a lancet entry door of the same arrangement as the church vestibule. It has decorative angle buttresses on the front and side walls like those that surround the building.

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Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill
Henrico County, Virginia

The sides of the upper section of the brick tower are pierced with lancet windows similar to those of the main building. This section has chamfered corners. The bottom part of each chamfer is finished with a triangular concrete piece. The top part of each is finished with a triangular hood supported by rounded corbels on top of a trapezoidal concrete section.

The drum section has eight louvered lancet openings that feature triangular hoods supported by floral corbels.

The octagonal spire is steeply inclined. The sections between the vertical ribs have a criss-cross pattern that forms diamond shaped tiles. The spire pinnacle is capped with a cone pierced with a ring topped with a flat spike. The current spire, dating from 1915, measures seventy feet in height. The original spire was dismantled for safety reasons.

The composition of the tower-spire is unique in that it flows smoothly from one element to another. Tower, drum and spire are all part of an organic whole. Many English precedents have sternly square towers surmounted by broached spires. In them, the connecting elements are truncated pyramidal shapes. At Emmanuel the tower-spire forms a comprehensive whole.

Inside the church, the sanctuary and nave comprise one large space. One enters the nave from the vestibule that extends a few feet from the church proper. Following that is an overhanging gallery, original to the building, constructed as a place for servants. Currently it contains the church organ. It is enclosed by a lancet arch balustrade. The roof is supported by wooden scissors trusses that have pendants at the beam intersections. Presently the ceiling is crossed by iron tie rods. They were added a decade after the church's completion to counteract sagging. Modern lighting is provided by ten lamps of Gothic design suspended by chains hanging from the ceiling. The church differs from traditional arrangement in that the altar is on the west wall as opposed to the east wall.

The altar wall is adorned with three large catechetical tablets. The tablets possess the hooded moldings found on the outside windows and are themselves enclosed by two equilateral pointed arch moldings. The sanctuary is on a raised dais and enveloped by a pointed arch balustrade. Two doorways to the rear vestry room flank the altar. There is a door on the south side in the place of the second window from the altar. It opens to the loggia connecting to the parish house.

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Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill
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The wooden and metal pews are arranged into two sections separated by the main aisle. They are believed to have originally been streetcar benches. As such they are reversible. The back supports fold down changing the direction of the pews in much the same way that streetcar benches could be reversed when the cars changed direction.

There are more than a dozen painted or stained glass windows which provide for the illumination of Emmanuel's interior. They have hood moldings similar to the exterior windows. Four are from the Franz Mayer studio in Germany. Two other were created by the J. R. Lamb studio in New Jersey. The dates of the Mayer and Lamb windows are not known, but are believed to have been installed after 1917. One window from Heaton, Butler & Boyne of London was installed in 1925. Two others came from the William Willet studio in Philadelphia in the 1950s.

Architect, Clifton Hall reused his design for Emmanuel Church at Trinity Methodist Church in Providence. Church historian, Stephen Row in his 1988 history of Emmanuel stated,

William McKenzie Woodward, principal historic preservation planner for the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, has pointed out that one of Clifton Hall's church buildings in Providence bears a striking resemblance to Emmanuel Church. Trinity Methodist Church, which dates from 1864-1865, has the same steep pitched roof and steeple structure at the left of the front entrance as Emmanuel. In fact, the tower and spire at Trinity Methodist are virtually identical to that of Emmanuel.

This design... is typical of the general medievalizing forms common in Providence ecclesiastical architecture around mid-century that somewhat combine northern Gothic forms and Lombard Romanesque forms, here notably the juxtaposition of geometric forms in the tower," Woodward says.

The overall form is largely derivative of English parish churches of the 13th and 14th centuries, a favorite source particularly for Episcopal churches at this time. ⁶

The church shares the 12.576 acres with the cemetery and two structures: a parish house and the church school building. The church parish house was built in 1957. It is joined to the church by an open brick loggia covered by a slate roof. The design of the two-story

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Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill
Henrico County, Virginia

building continues the Gothic Revival style of the main edifice. Due to its date of construction it is a noncontributing building.

The current education building, formerly the parochial school, was built in 1910. It was designed as a medieval English cottage, whose lower stories are irregular stone masonry. The upper story is half timbered in plaster and wood. It is a contributing building.

The carefully designed cemetery is located amidst the numerous trees at the rear of the church's property. A small road winds throughout forming circular areas and rounded spaces. There are over 200 plots with many graves dating to the church's beginnings. The cemetery is a contributing site.

Emmanuel Church is unique in two ways. One, it is perhaps the last late phase Gothic Revival ecclesiastical building constructed in the United States before the outbreak of the Civil War. Two, it is a Southern church designed by a Northern architect, Clifton A. Hall. The prominent irony between these two points demonstrates the broad influence and use of the Gothic Revival in the United States in the period from the 1840s to the 1860s. Emmanuel Church stands as a particularly fine example of this style and an important reminder of this period in American architecture.

ENDNOTES

¹ Jeffery O'Dell, *Inventory of Early Architecture and Historic and Archeology Sites, County of Henrico, Virginia*. County of Henrico, Virginia, 1976, 77.

² O'Dell, 77.

³ Calder Loth, *The Only Proper Style: Gothic Architecture in America*. Boston: New York Graphic Society, 1975, 62.

⁴ Michael Corrigan, "Puritans in Priestly Garb: The Gothic Taste in Antebellum Church Architecture." Masters Thesis. Virginia Commonwealth University, 1988, 68.

⁵ Corrigan, 68.

⁶ Stephen E. Row, *Emmanuel Church - Brook Hill, 1860-1985; A Parish History*. Richmond, Virginia, 1988, 48.

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Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill
Henrico County, Virginia

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill, at 1214 Wilmer Avenue near Richmond in Henrico County, Virginia, is a late Gothic Revival style antebellum church. Built between 1859 and 1860 and attributed to architect Clifton A. Hall (1826-1913) of C. G. Hall & Son architects of Providence, Rhode Island, Emmanuel Church is perhaps the last such ecclesiastical building erected in the United States before the Civil War began. It is an outstanding example of the last phase of the antebellum Gothic Revival style. Clifton Hall was the architect for Trinity Methodist Church in Providence, R.I. (built between 1864 and 1865). That church bears a striking resemblance to Emmanuel Church. The Gothic Revival was the predominant style for church design, especially for the Episcopal Church, from the 1840s to the 1860s. Emmanuel Church is unusual in that its congregation employed a Northern architect belying a sophistication that was unusual for a parish church. The church sits on a wooded site and shares that site with a contributing cemetery, a contributing education building (ca. 1910) and a noncontributing parish house (ca. 1957).

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Emmanuel Church began as the dream of two brothers, John and Daniel Kerr Stewart. The two brothers were born on the Island of Bute, near Rothesay, in the West of Scotland.¹ They arrived in Virginia in the 1830s. Finding prosperity in the business of tobacco and cotton, John Stewart accrued enough wealth to purchase the Brook Hill estate in 1842.² The financial security of the Stewarts provided for the construction of Emmanuel Church, seven and five-sixths acres of land, salary for the clergy, and presumably the retention of an architect to design the church.

The first organizational meeting of the church took place on March 14, 1859 and was attended by the Stewart brothers and "persons friendly to the establishment of a Protestant Episcopal Church in the neighborhood of Brook Hill."³ The church was built in response to the needs of the Brook Hill community. Prior to the construction of Emmanuel, residents in the vicinity of Brook Hill and the Stewarts at Brook Hill itself were required to make a considerable journey into the city of Richmond to worship.

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Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill
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By November 1859, the building committee had engaged an architect for the new church. Marion Stewart Peterkin (1849-1942), daughter of John Stewart, one of the founders of Emmanuel Church, named Charles Griffith Hall as the architect. She recalled,

... in 1859, Mr. Charles Hall of Providence, Rhode Island (who was the architect for Dr. Haxall's house on the corner of Grace and Sixth Streets now known as Dr. McGuire's house [no longer extant]) appeared with blue prints and estimates, my older sisters scented building, and soon the foundation of both the Rectory and Emmanuel were dug.⁴

Currently no documentation has been found to firmly establish Charles Hall's role in the construction of *Emmanuel*. Architectural historian Michael Corrigan who focuses on Emmanuel in his study of the Gothic style in Virginia antebellum churches attributes the church's design to another member of the Hall family. Corrigan states,

It is not surprising that Emmanuel should manifest some stylistic connections to [Richard] Upjohn, because it was designed by Clifton A. Hall [1826-1913], a Boston born architect who established himself in Providence, Rhode Island around 1850, shortly after Upjohn's Grace Church with asymmetric tower and spire was constructed there.

He continues,

The attribution of Emmanuel's design to Hall would perhaps not be so strong if Hall had not reproduced the design for a church built in Providence only five years later. Hall, a parishioner of Trinity Methodist congregation, chose to reuse his design for Emmanuel Church for the new Trinity Methodist Church, 1864-1865.⁵

The two churches are very similar in form, volume and detail. While Trinity has aisles under separate roofs and a large pointed window in the facade gable, in all other respects the two churches are alike. Obviously Hall who designed churches, schools and public buildings in Rhode Island, considered his design for Emmanuel successful enough to reproduce it for his own congregation.⁶

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Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill
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The connection between Mrs. Peterkin's recollection and Mr. Corrigan's attribution is that Charles Hall and Clifton Hall were father and son. The Halls had established a family architectural practice, C.G. Hall & Son, around 1850 in Providence. With the close professional association between father and son, it is logical to assume that the design of Emmanuel is indebted to the Hall family.

In its massing Trinity Church is almost a mirror image of Emmanuel. Although larger, it possesses the same offset tower, and gable-front sanctuary plan as its earlier predecessor. The smooth flowing tower-spire arrangements at both churches are the same, except that the second level at Trinity is more vertical in proportion. The main building of the Providence church has the same broad gabled roof but utilizes a large lancet window in the facade gable, probably to accommodate the church's lighting needs.

Trinity Church is part of the Trinity Square Historic District in Providence, which includes several other Clifton Hall buildings, including Hall's own house. The district is described in the nomination form,

The Trinity Square Historic District contains several structures of statewide architectural importance. Trinity Methodist Church is a large and well designed structure planned by a well known local architect [Hall], and one of the first thoroughly Gothic churches in Rhode Island erected by any Protestant denomination other than the Episcopalians.⁷

The precedent of this important design is Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill.

The resemblance between the two churches is strong enough to mark them as created by the same hand. Corrigan's establishment of the younger Hall as the architect is substantiated by mention of Hall's work in the South found in his obituary.⁸

The congregation took an unusual step in employing a Northern architect to design the church. Generally a local architect would be called upon for this type of construction. Virginia possessed a number of qualified and talented architects in this period as well as many familiar with the Gothic style. Emmanuel's choice represents sophistication unique in a country parish.

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Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill
Henrico County, Virginia

The foundation was laid in 1859 and was finished in June 1860. The church was consecrated on July 6, 1860. A contemporary account of the ceremony in a local newspaper awarded the following praise, "One of the handsomest church edifices in Virginia has just been completed on Brooke Turnpike, four miles from Richmond, and also a beautiful rectory for the use of clergyman, Rev. Richard Wilmer."⁹

One of the first individuals contacted by the Stewarts was the Reverend Richard Hooker Wilmer (1816-1900). Wilmer was a native Virginian who had developed a good reputation for his pastoral work and preaching in nearby areas of the state. Wilmer remained at Emmanuel until 1862. On March 6, 1862, Wilmer was consecrated at St. Paul's Church in Richmond as the second bishop of Alabama.¹⁰ He is distinguished as being the only bishop consecrated in the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Confederate States of America.

Emmanuel's completion in 1860 makes it perhaps the last Gothic revival church built before the beginning of the Civil War. Situated within 12.576 wooded acres on the outskirts of Richmond, Emmanuel was in close proximity to many battles outside the city. In those early years, the church was passed by soldiers of both armies and served occasionally as a hospital. Many Confederate soldiers were buried in the cemetery.

Church historian, Stephen Row remarks,

Perhaps a country church with less spiritual stamina might have collapsed under the burdens of its existence at the crossroads of so mighty a conflict, but Emmanuel survived the Civil War period relatively intact.¹¹

Emmanuel was part of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Confederate States of America during this time. However Emmanuel was established as a free church and allowed the black community to attend services.

In his centennial history, church historian G. Maclaren Brydon, summarized the spirit of Emmanuel stating,

The primary conviction and purpose to serve the spiritual needs of a large and scattered community showed itself from the earliest days in the establishment of its parish school, and also in a determination to minister to the Negro element

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Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill
Henrico County, Virginia

in its population - a ministry which was born during the heat of the War Between the States, and was carried on down to the earlier part of the present generation.¹²

Emmanuel Church represents one of the last examples—if not the last example—of Antebellum Gothic Revival churches in the United States. It is ironic that the last church of this style built before the separation of the country was constructed in the South by a Northern architect. It is an exceptional illustration of the late phase of the Gothic Revival. This design was important enough to architect, Clifton Hall that he reused it in another architecturally significant building, Trinity Methodist Church in Providence. Emmanuel represents the widespread appeal of the Gothic Revival in the United States. This style was the adopted design of the Episcopal Church. By the 1840s, American practitioners had developed a sophisticated and more detailed knowledge of medieval English precedents. Emmanuel symbolizes a later and more refined manifestation of this style, and as such, is an important reminder of this period in American architecture.

ENDNOTES

¹ G. Maclaren Brydon and Marion Stewart Peterkin, *The Story of Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill in the Diocese of Virginia, 1860 to 1960*. Richmond, Virginia: Whittet & Shepperson, 1960, 7.

² Stephen E. Row, *Emmanuel Church - Brook Hill, 1860-1985*. Richmond, Virginia, 1988, 3.

³ Row, 7.

⁴ Brydon and Peterkin, 53.

⁵ Michael Corrigan, "Puritans in Priestly Garb: The 'Gothic Taste' in Antebellum Virginia Church Architecture." Masters Thesis, Virginia Commonwealth University, 1998, 68.

⁶ Corrigan, 69.

⁷ National Register of Historic Places nomination form. Trinity Square Historic District, Providence, Rhode Island, 1 January 1980, 55.

⁸ Obituary. *The Providence Journal*. Providence, Rhode Island, 1 January 1913. Withey, 257.

⁹ Row, 10.

¹⁰ Row, 14.

¹¹ Row, 15.

¹² Row, 73.

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Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill
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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

- Brydon, G. Maclaren and Marion Stewart Peterkin. *The Story of Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill in the Diocese of Virginia, 1860 to 1960*. Richmond, Virginia: Whittet & Shepperson, 1960.
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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill
Henrico County, Virginia

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Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The property nominated as Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill is identified as tax parcel 95-0A-2E in the tax maps of Henrico County, Virginia.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries for the nominated property include all of the resources historically associated with Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill
Henrico County, Virginia

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**Trustees - Emmanuel Church at Brook Hill, nominated by the Rector and Vestry and
appointed by the Circuit Court**

Mr. C. M. Bache
1606 Bellevue Avenue
Richmond, Virginia 23227

Mr. J. Thomas Sears
1606 Lake Avenue
Richmond, Virginia 23226

Mrs. Mary T. Bryan Perkins
325 Charmian Road
Richmond, Virginia 23226

Mr. Robert r. Setliff
9111 Berkwood Court
Mechanicsville, Virginia 23116

Mr. P. C. Omohundro
807 Dirk Drive
Richmond, Virginia 23227

Mrs. Patricia M. Rowe
2338 Chancellor Road
Richmond, Virginia 23235

5459 (11 NE)
(GLE. ALLEN)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

COMMONWEALTH
DIVISION OF MINER

77° 30' 37° 37' 30" 280000m E 781 782 ASHLAND 9 MI YELLOW TAVERN 0.8 MI 21' 30" FREDERICKSBURG 49 MI YELLOW TAVERN 1.3 MI 5559 III NW (YELLOW TAVERN)

166000m N



Immanuel Church
Henrico County, VA
7 E N
18 283120 4164850
18 283120 4164590
18 282870 4164590
18 282820 4164850

4164
GUM SPRINGS (U.S. 522) 26 MI.
OILVILLE 18 MI.

FOREST
CEME

Ginter Park