

VLR-12/13/88 NRHP-8/18/89

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 of eligibility for Individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name: Greenwich Presbyterian Church and Cemetery other names/site number: DHL File No. 76-175

2. Location

street & number: 9510 Burwell Road city, town: Greenwich state: Virginia code: VA county: Prince William code: 152 zip code: 22123 N/A not for publication N/A vicinity

3. Classification

Table with 3 columns: Ownership of Property, Category of Property, Number of Resources within Property. Includes sub-rows for private/public, building(s)/district/site/structure/object, and Contributing/Noncontributing buildings/sites/structures/objects/Total.

Name of related multiple property listing: Civil War Properties, Prince William County, VA Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet. Signature of certifying official: A. Bryan Mitchell, Director, Virginia Division of Historic Landmarks, State of Virginia and bureau. Date: June 16, 1989. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet. Signature of commenting or other official. Date. State or Federal agency and bureau.

5. 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 the Keeper. Date of Action.

---

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions):

Religion: religious structure;  
Funerary: cemetery

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions):

Religion: religious structure;  
Funerary: cemetery

---

**7. Description**Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions):

Gothic Revival

Material (enter categories from instructions):

foundation: brick  
walls: brickroof: asphalt shingle-covered  
other:

---

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

[ X ] See continuation sheet

---

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

[ ] nationally [ ] statewide [ X ] locally

Applicable National Register Criteria [ X ] A [ ] B [ X ] C [ ] D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) [ X ] A [ ] B [ ] C [ X ] D [ ] E [ ] F [ ] G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

Military

Period of Significance:

1861-1865

Significant Dates:

1859, 1861-1865

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Significant Person: N/A

Architect/Builder:

Mr. Spillman, contractor

---

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

[ X ] See continuation sheet

---

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

---

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A  
 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  
Specify repository: DHL  
221 Governor Street, Richmond, VA 23219

---

---

**10. Geographical Data**

---

Acreage of property: 7.6 acres

UTM References:

A /18/ /2.69.860/ /42.91.970/  
Zone Easting Northing  
C // / // /  
Zone Easting Northing

B // / // /  
Zone Easting Northing  
D // / // /  
Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

---

Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundaries are the same as those for land parcel #107-01-50. Please refer to the attached photocopy of the County parcel map (1"=200'). The property is bounded by Burwell Road on the east, Greenwich Road on the west, and Vint Hill Road on the north. The southern edge of the woods, which are located about 500 feet behind the Church, follows the southern boundary of this site.

Boundary Justification:

The boundaries encompass the parcel of land historically associated with Greenwich Presbyterian Church.

---

---

**11. Form Prepared By**

---

name/title: Jan Townsend, County Archaeologist  
organization: Prince William County, Planning Office  
street & number: 1 County Complex Court  
city or town: Prince William

date: May 1989  
telephone: (703) 335-6830  
state: VA zip code: 22192

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number: 7 Page: 1

---

Property Type: Mosby's Confederacy and the Union  
Occupation

Summary Description

This historical property consists of a church that is an excellent example of a rusticated Gothic Revival rural church and its associated cemetery. The church, which was built in the late 1850s, is a one-story, gable-roofed brick building with two pointed-arched front doors, decorative buttresses on the side walls, and large, pointed, arched windows on the front and side walls. Small gable-roofed porches supported by rustic cedar posts are located in front of each entry door. A distinctive, wooden church tower is atop the church. The inside of the church was renovated in the 1950s; the outside appears as it did in the 1860s. The adjacent cemetery includes at least 100 headstones. Several Civil War soldiers are also buried here, including Captain Bradford Smith Hoskins, a colorful Englishman who rode with Colonel John Singleton Mosby.

There is one noncontributing structure on the property. It is a more modern building that is used as a Sunday school and for meetings. The church and the cemetery are in very good condition and have a high degree of historical integrity. The setting is very peaceful.

Description

Greenwich Presbyterian Church is an excellent example of a rusticated Gothic Revival rural church. It is one story; the foundation and walls are brick. The church structure is about 52 feet by 35 feet. The gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The brick walls are laid in 7-course American bond with scored mortar joints. There is a molded brick water table all around. The front doors have pointed arches, and are constructed in diagonally-laid board and batten style. The large, pointed-arched, sliding sash windows have pastel-colored diamond panes.

Exterior decorative elements include a sawtooth-design, molded brick cornice; decorative buttresses, which define the bays and separate the four lancet arch sliding sash windows on each long side; and twin front entrances, each of which has a shingle-covered, gable-roofed, one-bay porch supported by rustic cedar

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number: 7      Page: 2

---

posts. Each porch entry also has decorated bargeboards with pendant and finial. The wooden church tower has a louvred belfry and a shingle-covered spire topped by a weathervane. A small wooden shed, covered with brick-design asphalt sheeting, abuts the back wall of the church, but is out of view unless one is directly behind the building.

The interior is plain. Two rows of box pews painted white with dark accents fill the church. The walls are plaster. The ceiling is coved. There is a crown moulding, and waist-high, beaded wainscoting around the entire room. A winding, enclosed stair opposite the left entrance rises to the balcony, which is supported by eight-sided wooden posts. There is a low platform at the altar end containing a lectern and other church furniture. Wooden pilasters attached to the altar end wall describe a Tudor arch.

In the churchyard is a cemetery containing more than 100 headstones representing the Mayhugh, Sinclair, Thornton, Moxley, Washington, and Green families, among others. In addition, there are gravestones for several Civil War soldiers including Pvt. Reuben Robinson (1848-1942), Co. B, 192d Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and T. E. Edmonds, who was killed in the Battle of Seven Pines and died on May 31, 1862, at the age of 23 years. According to T. E. Edmonds's headstone, S. I. Edmonds and J. B. Edmonds died on April 26, 1862, and March 29, 1862, respectively. Both of these individuals were in their early twenties and likely died in a Civil War camp where epidemics were commonplace. The most significant and impressive headstone belongs to the Civil War soldier Bradford Smith Hoskins, who rode with Mosby. Hoskins's story will be discussed in greater detail in the "Statement of Significance" section.

The church and cemetery are surrounded by a wooden rail fence, and the lot has many established trees and shrubs. A historical marker, which was placed by the Prince William County Historical Commission and describes the history of Greenwich, is located near Vint Hill Road. The parking lot is gravel. The back part of the lot is wooded. Although the church has roads on three sides, they are not well-traveled. As a result, the overall setting is very peaceful.

The existing church was built from 1854 to 1858. Mr. Spillman was the contractor. Extensive repairs had to be done the year after it

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number: 7      Page: 3

---

was built. According to church records (anonymous n.d.:3), the walls of the new church began to bulge, the steeple needed further bracing, and the roof was sagging and leaking badly. The contractor was required to brace the walls with three tie rods; to build brick foundation pillars under the floor, placing octagonal columns on them to the gallery, and further columns to the base of the steeple; rebuild the roof so that the arched ceiling could be used instead of a flat ceiling; and install braces.

An iron fence was erected around the churchyard in 1908--it has since been replaced by the wooden fence. The type of fence used prior to 1908 is unknown. Originally, one could enter the churchyard by way of gates on the east and west side of the yard. About 1908 these entrances were blocked (gable-roofed structures still mark the location of these entrances). An entry gate was then built on the north side of the property, where it is today. (anonymous n.d.:14)

The original ceiling fell in about 1900, and it was replaced with a metal one. The present pulpit was given as a gift in 1909. The original pulpit was apparently massive and beautiful, but no record remains describing it or what happened to it.

In 1951 repairs were made to the church interior. The floor, consisting of wide pine boards that had been destroyed by termites, was replaced with new oak flooring. While the floor was up, an automatic furnace was installed. A center aisle was constructed to replace the former double aisles that led from each door to the church front. Much of the wainscoting had to be replaced, and the mahogany-colored pews and wainscoting were painted a light color. (anonymous n.d.:14)

The church and cemetery are in excellent condition. There is one noncontributing building on the church property. It is located to the west of the church and consists of two structures joined together by a passageway. One of the structures is a two-level, brick and cinder block building that was built in 1948 to serve as a meeting place and a Sunday school building. In 1972 the Education Wing, a one-story, modern-style brick building, was built next to the Sunday school building. They are now connected.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number: 8 Page: 1

---

Summary Significance Statement

Greenwich Presbyterian Church is the only example of a rusticated Gothic Revival church in Prince William County. Its exterior appears as it did when it was built in the late 1850s. The church has a number of distinctive architectural features including pointed-arched doors and windows, a prominent wooden church tower, buttresses, and unusual rustic posts supporting gable-roofed porches in front of each entry. Charles Green, of The Lawn, donated the land for the church and paid for its construction. During the Civil War, he convinced Union military leaders that the church was technically English property and could not be taken over by Union troops. Greenwich Church is the only church in the County that was not damaged by Union troops. Its integrity is excellent. The graves of Captain Bradford Smith Hoskins, the Englishman who rode with Colonel John S. Mosby, and several other Civil War soldiers are located in the cemetery.

Historical Background

The Greenwich Presbyterian Church was organized in 1802 when Aminta Elizabeth Moxley, wife of Gilbert Irland Moxley, began holding services in her house, The Grove, located at Greenwich. Eventually, a small log structure was built for church services, and the congregation was officially organized in 1810. In 1812 a larger log structure was built as a church on the northwest corner of the present church property.

About 1854 Charles Green, an Englishman who had settled in Savannah, Georgia, purchased land in Greenwich and named it The Lawn. He also married his second wife, Lucy Irland Hunton, who was a granddaughter of Mrs. Gilbert Moxley. The Greens acquired 3 acres beside the log church for a new church and largely financed the construction from 1854 through 1859 of the present-day brick church. The minister during the construction of the Church was Rev. John W. R. Pugh. The deed for the original three acres given by Mr. Green cannot be found. Church officials assume that it was destroyed during the Civil War along with the numerous other records that were located at the Brentsville Courthouse (anonymous n.d.:3).

The brick church was not taken over by Union troops or damaged during the Civil War, which may be the only instance of its kind in

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number: 8      Page: 2

---

this part of the state. When Union troops attempted to seize the newly built church for a hospital, Green strongly objected. He argued that the deed contained a draw-back clause stating that the property should return to the heirs if it ceased to be used for religious purposes. This meant that it would revert back to him and, since he was an Englishman that would make the church English property. Union officers accepted this argument for the brick church and it remained untouched. The log building (the former church), however, was used as a hospital and at the end of the war was burned by the Union troops. Whether the fire was intentional or not is unknown. (anonymous n.d.:3-4)

The most predominate marker in the churchyard belongs to Bradford Smith Hoskins, an Englishman who rode with Col. John Mosby. The inscription reads: "In memory of Bradford Smith Hoskins, son of the Reverend W. E. Hoskins, Rector of Chiddingstone, Kent, England, Late Captain in Her Britannic Majesty's Forty-fourth Regiment. He fell near this place XXXI May MDCCCLXIII, AE XXX years."

The following account of Hoskins's participation in the American Civil War is based on a report compiled by James L. Cooke in 1967.

Captain Hoskins was a professional soldier and fought with distinction in the Crimean Campaign. After returning to England, he sold his commission. He then joined the Italian Garibaldi in his Sicilian expedition. The American Civil War attracted his attention, and he offered his services to General Jeb Stuart, who in turn sent him to Colonel John Mosby. Captain Hoskins, in his neat British uniform stood in contrast to Mosby's rangers, most of whom had no uniform at all.

Spurning the pistol, which Mosby required his men to carry, Captain Hoskins fought with his sword and was an accomplished swordsman. According to Mosby, in Hoskins's first engagement, which was at Chantilly, Hoskins cut a path through the Federal cavalry with his sword. He fought in a number of mounted fights between Mosby's rangers and troops of the U.S. cavalry and became well-respected for his fighting skills.

In April 1863, at Miskill Farm, a few miles north of Leesburg, Mosby and 69 of his men were surprised by two groups of Federal cavalry composed of 150 seasoned fighters. Most of Mosby's men were asleep in the barn, and none of the horses were saddled or



**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number: 8      Page: 3

---

bridled when the attack occurred. All was confusion as the rangers grabbed for their horses. Some rode without saddles--but all had revolvers that they used against the sword-wielding Union troops. Hoskins was in the thick of it, his British sword clashing with Yankee sabers. Mosby's men shot the Union captain and his horse and killed a lieutenant and nine others. Fifteen Union soldiers were too badly wounded to be moved. Mosby's rangers led away 82 prisoners.

On May 29, 1863, Mosby and 48 men left the vicinity of Aldie and headed into Prince William County. They had obtained a small howitzer and planned to use it to disrupt rail traffic supplying General Hooker's army on the Rappahannock River. Mosby and his followers galloped up the Carolina Road to the tiny village of Greenwich. They stopped at The Lawn, the home of Charles Green. It is unlikely that Mosby was acquainted with the Green family. There were men in his command, however, who were related to Mrs. Green, the former Lucy Irland Hunton. The rangers were made welcome and particularly so since Green and Hoskins were fellow countrymen. Refreshments were served in the drawing room. It is said that Mosby played the piano, and the whole group sang and cheered him on in great style.

Soon Mosby and his men were off, riding south on Burwell Road. That night they camped in the vicinity of Kettle Run. The next morning they were awakened by reveille from the Union camps up and down the railroad. They broke camp and soon reached their destination. Quietly they pried a rail loose and attached a wire that ran back to the underbrush along the tracks. The howitzer was readied and they waited. After a seemingly long time, a train was sighted coming from the Nokesville area.

With a loud clatter and clash, the locomotive hit the spot where a moment before the rail had been jerked away. Slowly the engine and several cars settled down on the crossties. Mosby's men were firing as they rushed the train. Fire was returned by Union soldiers on the train. Two shots from the howitzer, however, lead the northern troops to believe that a large military force was attacking, and they retreated into the woods on the other side of the train. The rangers gathered what they could and quickly set about burning the rest. The smoke, however, alerted those in the nearby Union camps. The howitzer was limbered up; and with loot

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number: 8 Page: 4

---

tied to their saddles, Mosby's men started back up the road towards Greenwich.

They had not gone far when the Fifth New York Cavalry appeared on the road in front of them. The howitzer was unlimbered and a shell was thrown at the approaching troops, scattering them. The Union cavalry unit reformed and continued to pursue Mosby's group. After several exchanges, Mosby decided he would have to stand and fight. He sent Sam Chapman on ahead to find a suitable place for setting up the howitzer and taking a defensive stand.

To slow the Federal cavalry, Mosby, Captain Hoskins and three others turned and dashed into the midst of their pursuers. Two Union men dropped, but others closed in. Captain Hoskins fell from his horse mortally wounded. (Jones 1972:127) Mosby and the three remaining men retreated. They joined Chapman and the others, who had positioned themselves at the top of a small lane leading off the Carolina Road. (The site is just across the County line in Fauquier County.)

Federal troops gathered at the foot of the lane and charged up in a neat column of four. At fifty yards, the howitzer fired canister. Ten Union men dropped from their saddles and the rest faltered. Out dashed Mosby and his men, driving the Union soldiers back down the lane and up the road about a half mile. There the Union troops met reinforcements and regrouped. Mosby and his men returned to the gun location. The Federals charged three more times and were thrown back. Mosby, recognizing his weak position, signaled his men to disperse into the surrounding woods. The few rangers still fighting on foot around the gun were overpowered. Most, however, escaped. One ranger was captured and Sam Chapman was seriously wounded.

The Union troops began caring for their wounded and collecting their dead. They also readied the howitzer, which had originally belonged to the Union army, for transport back to their camp.

It is probably at this time that Mr. Green came up the road in his cart being pulled by oxen. (His horses had been previously commandeered by the Union army.) He stopped and picked up Hoskins and then proceeded up the lane, where he offered ice water and brandy to Union soldiers. Because he was believed to be too seriously wounded to be taken as a prisoner, Sam Chapman was loaded

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number: 8      Page: 5

---

onto the cart with Captain Hoskins. The wounded men were taken back to The Lawn, where they were placed under the care of Mrs. Green and her mother, Mrs. Hunton. Chapman recovered from his wounds and later rejoined Mosby. Captain Hoskins, however, was too seriously wounded and died.

At the request of Captain Hoskins's father, over the captain's grave, Mr. Green erected a monument surmounted by a cross bearing the inscription "In Hoc Signo Vincos" (In This Sign You Will Conquer).

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number: 9      Page: 1

---

Anonymous

n.d. "History of Greenwich Presbyterian Church."  
Photocopy of article on file at the County.

Cooke, James L. Cooke

1967 "A Single Tombstone Inspires Builder."  
Manuscript on file at the County.

Jones, Francis

1980 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission  
survey form for Greenwich Presbyterian Church.

Jones, Virgil Carrington

1972 Ranger Mosby. EPM Publication. McLean, VA.

Ratcliffe, R. Jackson

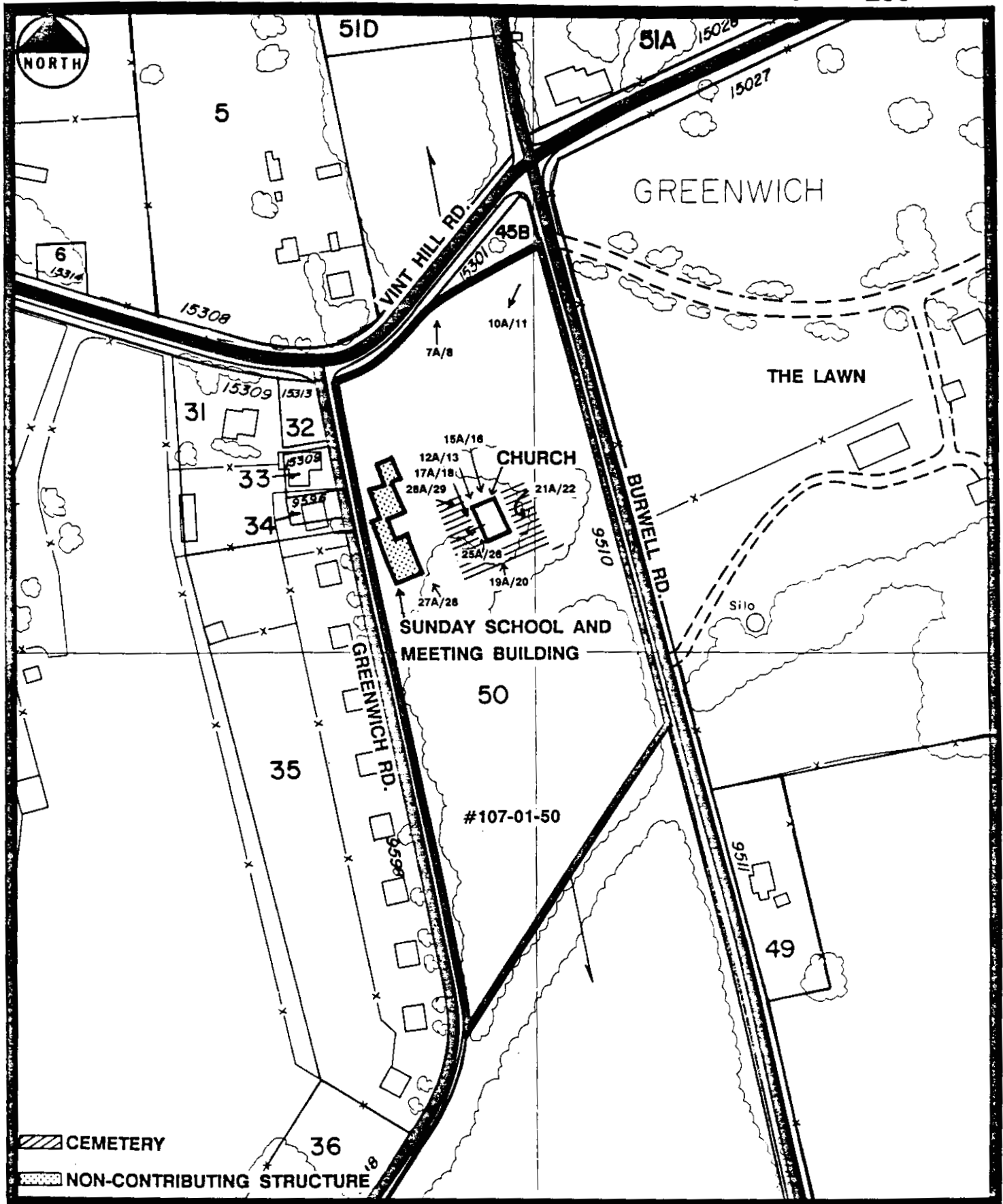
1978 This Was Prince William. Potomac Press.  
Leesburg, VA.

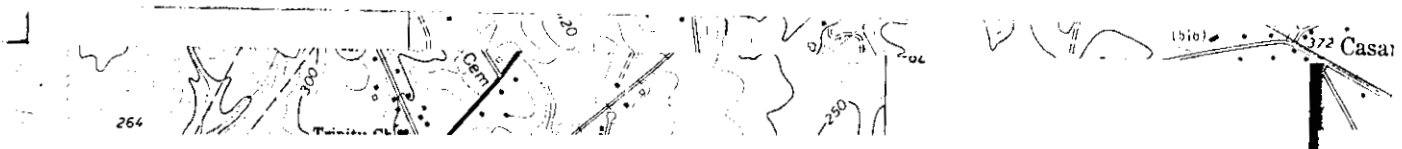
W.P.A.

1976 Prince William: The Story of Its People and  
Places. Reprint of 1961 edition, originally compiled in 1941.  
The Bethelhem Good Housekeeping Club, Manassas, VA.

# GREENWICH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH & CEMETERY

1" = 200'

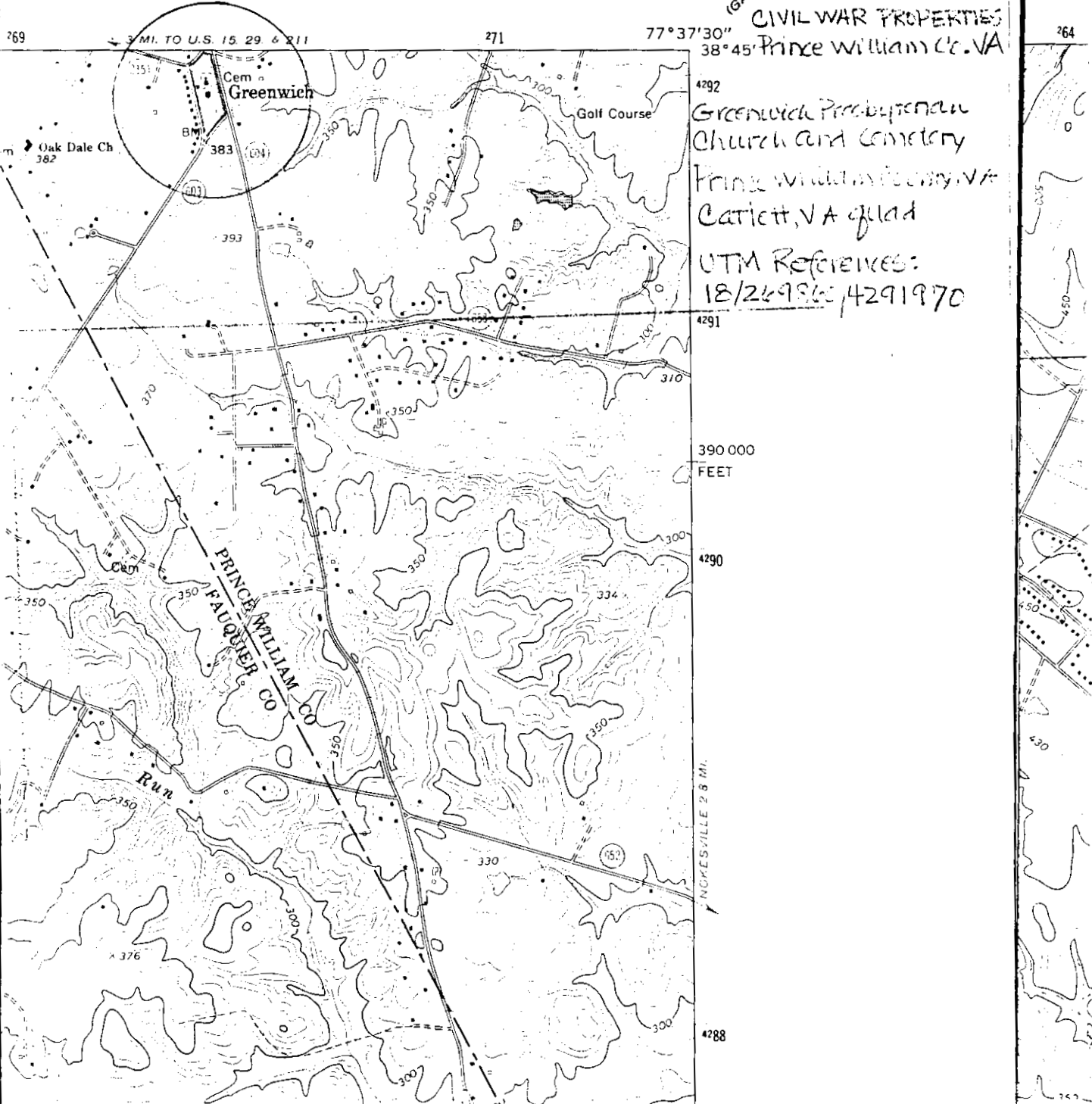




CATLETT QUADRANGLE  
 VIRGINIA  
 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

5461 1 SE  
 (GAINESVILLE)

CIVIL WAR PROPERTIES  
 Prince William Co. VA



3 MI. TO U.S. 15, 29 & 211

UTM REFERENCES:  
 18/24996, 4291970

390 000  
 FEET

GAINESVILLE 2.8 MI.