

VLR-9/19/72 NRHP-8/14/73

Form 10-300  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: VIRGINIA	
COUNTY: RICHMOND	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:  
FARNHAM CHURCH

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
N side of intersection of Rt. 602 and Rt. 692.

CITY OR TOWN:  
Farnham (William Lloyd Scott, Eighth District Congressman)

STATE Virginia	CODE 51	COUNTY: Richmond	CODE 159
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered
PRESENT USE ((Check One Or More as Appropriate))		<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes: Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
VESTRY (The Reverend Dabney Wellford)

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Vestry of Farnham Church

CITY OR TOWN:  
Warsaw

STATE:  
Virginia

CODE:  
51

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Richmond County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Warsaw

STATE:  
Virginia

CODE:  
51

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1934  
Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Lib of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Washington

STATE:  
D.C.

CODE:  
11

SEE I STRUCTIONS

STATE: VIRGINIA

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Dominating the tiny village of Farnham, the parish church of North Farnham Parish is situated at the intersection of County Routes 692, 602 and 607. The brick structure is laid out in the shape of a Latin cross, its extreme dimensions are 63'8" X 58'2". The building has been desecrated, abandoned and gutted by fire at various times, thus only the brick walls up to the base of the gables are original. What remains of the walls is a splendid example of colonial craftsmanship. They are laid in Flemish bond with very consistent glazing above the water table with English bond below. The molded water table consists of a cavetto and ovolo. A maximum depth of rubbed brick is employed at the building's corners and at the window jambs. Unfortunately almost none of the original mortar joints appear to survive, the building seems to have been completely repointed throughout. The gables of unglazed Flemish bond are replacements; the original roof was probably hipped, making the building's original form not unlike Christ Church, Lancaster County. The west, north, and south brick doorways also have been replaced, although the original pedestals remain. Except for the two east windows in the chancel (the openings of which have been cemented up) all of the original gauged brick semi-circular arches have been replaced. The circular windows in the north, south and west gabled were installed in 1921 when the church underwent its last major renovation.

Farnham's present interior was installed in the 1921 renovation, and is in a dignified Georgian Revival style. It includes a barrel-vaulted ceiling, paneled wainscoting, and simple, Georgian style pulpit, doorways and altarpiece.

G.H.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century  
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1737

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                      |   |  |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry    | losophy   | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention   | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                  | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | Architecture                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-            | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature  | itarian   | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music       | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation           | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Farnham Church is the parish church of North Farnham Parish which was created from Farnham Parish in 1683. The present building, dating from 1737, was built to replace an earlier church of circa 1660 which stood about three miles west of the village of Farnham. The church was abandoned after the Disestablishment, and the building is believed to have been used as both a barn and a distillery. In 1814, there was a skirmish with raiders from the British fleet at Farnham, and as a result, bullet holes mark the south face of the south transept. The church was recovered from a gutted state in 1834, but it was used as a stable by Federal Troops during the War Between the States, and not restored to service again until 1873. Fire gutted the structure in 1887, and it remained in ruins until it was once again restored in 1921.

The colonial silver owned by Farnham was forcibly sold in 1802. Colonel John Tayloe of nearby Mount Airy Plantation later bought the silver and gave it to Saint John's Church in Washington in 1816. It was returned to Farnham in 1876. This silver was made in London and has been ascribed to Joseph Fainell.

Despite the loss of its original roof and interior Farnham Church remains as an excellent example of the cruciform-type colonial church. It's brickwork exhibits the highest level of colonial craftsmanship.

G.H.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Rawlings, James Scott, Virginia's Colonial Churches. Richmond: Garrett and Massie, 1963.

Rose, Harold Wickliffe, The Colonial Houses of Worship in America. New York: Hastings House, 1963.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		37°	53'	10"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		76°	37'	33"
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than ten acres.

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION STAFF

ORGANIZATION: VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION DATE: August, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond STATE: Virginia CODE: 51

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name \_\_\_\_\_

J. R. Fishburne, Director

Title Va. Historic Landmarks Commission

Date \_\_\_\_\_

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation*

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Keeper of The National Register*

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

*(Continuation Sheet)*

STATE VIRGINIA	
COUNTY RICHMOND	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

*(Number all entries)*

6.

Historic American Building Survey Inventory

1958

Federal

Library of Congress

Washington, D. C. 11

