

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

VLR: 12/04/96  
NRHP: 02/21/97

### 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 St. Paul's Vestry House

other names/site number VDHR File No. 118-78

#### 2. Location

street & number 308 Seventh Street not for publication N/A

city or town Lynchburg vicinity \_\_\_\_\_

state Virginia code VA county Lynchburg (Independent City) code 680 Zip 24504

#### 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.)

[Signature]  
Signature of certifying official

12/30/96  
Date

**Virginia Department of Historic Resources**

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 removed from the National Register  
See continuation sheet. other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

determined eligible for the National Register \_\_\_\_\_  
National Register Signature of Keeper

See continuation sheet.  
determined not eligible for the National Register Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

St. Paul's Vestry House  
Lynchburg, Virginia

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**5. Classification**

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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>  1  </u>	<u>  0  </u>	buildings
<u>  0  </u>	<u>  0  </u>	sites
<u>  0  </u>	<u>  0  </u>	structures
<u>  0  </u>	<u>  0  </u>	objects
<u>  1  </u>	<u>  0  </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  

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:   RELIGION   Sub:   religious facility  

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:   COMMERCE/TRADE   Sub:   business  

\_\_\_\_\_

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

  Classical Revival    
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



St. Paul's Vestry House  
Lynchburg, Virginia

Significant Dates 1855  
1903  
1916

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

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder unknown

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

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### 9. Major Bibliographical References

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(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: Va. Dept. Of Historic Resources (Richmond); Jones Memorial Library, (Lynchburg)

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### 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property .04 acres

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

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	17 641 200	42 35 000	2		
3	_____	_____	4	_____	_____

See continuation sheet.

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

St. Paul's Vestry House  
Lynchburg, Virginia

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

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title: Nancy Jamerson Weiland

Organization: Lunan Preservation date August 24, 1996

street & number: 619 First Street telephone (804)528-4530

city or town Lynchburg state VA zip code 24504

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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.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

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

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**Property Owner**

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

name William V. Giles, Jr.

street & number 1050 Greenway Court telephone (804)845-8172

city or town Lynchburg state VA zip code 24503

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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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National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

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Saint Paul's Vestry House  
Lynchburg, Virginia

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**Narrative Description:**

**Building: Exterior**

308 Seventh Street is a single-story Classical Revival-style building with a simple low-pitched gable roof and a rectangular plan with regular bays of four windows on each side elevation. The front elevation features a simple pedimented porch cover supported by two scrolled brackets. The front entrance has a symmetrically-placed, single, recessed-panel wood door with divided side lights and a transom. The steps at the front door are likely a 1900s addition.

The foundation is at grade level at the south elevation, with a full-height brick basement wall at the north side elevation, which features three equally-spaced ornamental diamond-shaped staggered brick vents and a simple-cut brick watertable.

The facade is painted brick, common bond with 6th-course headers. The windows are six-over-six wood double-hung sashes, with wood sills and contemporary louvered wood shutters with metal scroll holdbacks. The roof is standing-steam metal with integral gutters at the cornice, with a simple extended overhand 18 inches wide at both gable ends and the cornice line, which is made of a 6' crown and flat rim board combination.

**Building: Interior**

The interior of this building has been partitioned for contemporary use. The entrance portion of the building, however, retains its original configuration. Although the details are made to match the original trim, the interior window trim has been carefully preserved and appears to be original. All crown molding on the interior matches what is believed to be the original molding. It is possible that the molding along the outer walls is original.

The front door dimensions are 8' high by 3'3" wide. There are side lights and transom which appear to be original. At the rear is a second entrance with a small vestibule running the width of the building. The entrance door from the vestibule to the main portion of the building is also original, as the trim matches the front door trim.

The windows are 6'7" high by 3'6" wide. The lights are six-over-six. The glass size is 10.5" wide by 17.5" high. All walls have a chair rail and painted wainscot. The base boards are 10" high, matching original examples from a Minard Lafever handbook. The ceilings throughout the principal spaces of the building are 12 feet in height.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section 8 Page 2

Saint Paul's Vestry House  
Lynchburg, Virginia

**8. Statement of Significance**

The St. Paul's Vestry House in Lynchburg, Virginia, is significant Under Criteria C as likely the only vestry house built exclusively for the governing body of an Episcopal Church in Virginia. In other Episcopal churches, the Vestry met either in the church itself or in a parish house built to house Sunday school rooms or other administrative offices of the church. The fact that a separate building was erected for the vestry is indicative of the prominent position of the members of that governing body of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in mid-19th century Lynchburg as well as of the financial well-being of the congregation. The Episcopal Church in Virginia, in decline for more than a half century following disestablishment in the late 18th century, saw a resurgence of its position and membership in the 1840s and 1850s. The construction of a large Gothic Revival church for St. Paul's in 1851 with an insured value of \$12,000 underscores the affluence of the church. Under Criteria A, the Vestry House also derives its significance from having served as the first home of the Lynchburg Woman's Club from 1903 to 1916, an educational and philanthropic organization that contributed to the cultural life of the community. Although no longer housing the Woman's Club, the small, classical-revival building remains an important symbol of the Lynchburg Woman's Club's influence in the city's cultural enlightenment. The building also symbolizes the Lynchburg Woman's Club's place in the late-19th and early 20th-century movement around the country to form associations of women for the "social, intellectual and cultural benefits of their members."<sup>1</sup>

**Historical Background**

In September of 1822 a group of people interested in the Episcopal Church met at the Franklin Hotel in Lynchburg with plans to organize a church. By 1824 a building fund drive had generated \$2,804. Mrs. George Cabell donated the lot at Seventh and Church streets on the southeast corner where the first Episcopal Church in Lynchburg was completed in 1826. As part of the deed requirements, the gift of land by Mrs. Cabell was to revert to the Cabell heirs if the building ceased to be used for religious purposes. Mrs. Cabell was the former Sarah Winston, a daughter of Judge Edmund Winston, and wife of Dr. George Cabell, physician to Patrick Henry.

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<sup>1</sup>Anne Firor Scott, *Making the Invisible Woman Visible*, (Urbana: University of Illinois, 1984) 2.

















