

VLR - 8-21-91
NRHP - 1-28-92

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 Salem Presbyterian Parsonage
other names/site number Old Manse (VDHR File No. 129-14)

2. Location

street & number 530 East Main Street N/A not for publication
city, town Salem N/A vicinity
state Virginia code VA county Salem (city) code 775 zip code 24153

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

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

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

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 standard for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 38 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

Date 12 Dec 91

Director, 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.

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: Church-related residence

DOMESTIC: Secondary structure

DOMESTIC: Single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Hotel

DOMESTIC: Secondary structure

LANDSCAPE: Garden

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK

walls BRICK

WOOD: Weatherboard

roof METAL

other CONCRETE

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

8. Statement of Significance

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

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1847-1922

Significant Dates

1847
1879
1922

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:
Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources
221 Governor St., Richmond, VA 23219

10. Geographical Data

Acres of property 0.5 acres

UTM References

A 17 584060 4127630
 Zone Easting Northing

B _____
 Zone Easting Northing

D _____
 Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the nominated property are depicted on the accompanying plat, "Survey for Charlotte B. Griffith ... Nov. 4, 1977."

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundaries correspond to the present property lines of the nominated property and include the portion of the original property that retains its historic integrity.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Daniel Pezzoni
 organization Preservation Technologies date June 1, 1991
 street & number PO Box 742 telephone (703) 366-0133
 city or town Roanoke state Virginia zip code 24004

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7. DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Summary

The Salem Presbyterian Parsonage is located at 530 East Main Street on the eastern edge of the historic downtown of Salem, Virginia. At the core of the northward-facing house is a two-story brick center-passage-plan I house built in 1847. A detached brick kitchen was built to the rear of the house, probably during the 1850s. To the 1847 core a front wing was added about 1879 giving the overall house an L-shaped configuration. During the period 1896-1909 a dining room with a bay window was inserted between the house and the kitchen, and in 1922 another addition was made to the front of the house filling in the "L" and creating the present double-pile form.

The Salem Presbyterian Parsonage retains considerable Greek Revival exterior and interior detailing dating to the mid-nineteenth century, some of it recycled to later sections of the house. The house sits on a landscaped half-acre lot that includes two noncontributing resources--a 1920s or 30s frame garage and a garden with a serpentine wall designed by landscape architect Stanley Abbott in 1946.¹

House: Exterior

The original 1847 section of the Salem Presbyterian Parsonage and the later additions are constructed of brick laid in a four-course American bond with pencilled mortar joints. Running at the top of the north and south walls of the 1847 section are cyma recta cornices formed by molded bricks. The kitchen has simple corbelled brick cornices. Brick chimneys with stepped shoulders rise on the east and west gable ends of the original section and on the south gable end of the kitchen.

The gabled roofs of the original section, kitchen and additions are sheathed in standing seam metal (the house has had metal roofing since the mid-nineteenth century). The front of the house is given a distinctive "M" profile by the two gable ends of the two front additions. In these two front gables are circular louvered vents; in the gable ends of the original section are perforated metal-covered vents that were probably added around 1912. The north gable of the kitchen has beaded rake boards. The house formerly had gutters.

Originally the 1847 section of the house had a three-bay front elevation that was mirrored on the rear elevation. The gable ends lacked windows. The original windows had wooden lintels flanked by small corner blocks with recessed bull's-eyes. Two of the second-

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story rear windows survive; both have iron pintels for shutters; one bears evidence of an original pale blue or light gray trim color. Windows were cut in the east and west gable ends of the 1847 house at some point after the mid-1850s; they may have been added during the late 1870s to compensate for light lost as a result of the first front addition. These windows have molded surrounds with nine-over-nine sash on the first story and nine-over-six sash on the second story. One of these cut-in windows on the west gable end has a delicate wrought iron shutter stop.

The two front additions to the house have coupled four-over-four sash windows with molded caps (the trim of the 1922 windows is a near replica of the trim of the ca. 1879 windows). The dining room bay has segmental-arched six-over-nine sash windows (the central window was made into an entryway in the 1940s). The kitchen has three two-over-two sash windows with plain surrounds. All the exterior window trim of the house is presently painted white; the ca. 1879 and 1922 windows on the front of the house have muntins painted black. Most windows formerly had louvered wooden shutters, several of which survive.

The original front entry to the house survives although it was moved forward when the last front addition was made in 1922. The entry has a Greek Revival surround composed of pilasters with recessed molded

panels surmounted by a decorative transom. The six-panel front door dates to the mid or late twentieth century; the screen door dates to the 1980s.

Across the front of the house extends a one-story porch with a hipped roof supported by fluted Doric columns. The porch also has a balustrade with thick square balusters, fluted pilasters against the house wall, a beaded tongue-and-groove ceiling, brick foundation piers and lattice underpinning, and two sets of concrete steps.

The present porch approximates in form, placement and detailing the porch that stood against the front of the 1847 house during the mid-1850s. The antebellum porch was also one-story in height and appears to have extended across most of the front elevation. It appears to have been supported by Doric columns and featured a second-tier balcony with a delicate railing. When the first wing was added to the front of the house about 1879 the porch was reconstituted to form a smaller porch in the reentrant angle of the front elevation of the house.² The present front porch apparently utilizes several of the Doric columns that supported the antebellum and postbellum porches.

On the back of the house are nineteenth-century porches that have been partially enclosed. The screened porch along the east side of the kitchen has square posts with

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molded caps and early-twentieth-century beaded tongue-and-groove walling. The porch across the east end of the back of the original section of the house is enclosed with weatherboard siding. Above this porch is a second-story sleeping porch that features banks of six-over-six sash windows. This sleeping porch was built in 1912 at the request of the Rev. LeRoy Gresham.³ Adjoining the sleeping porch is a two-story gabled stair enclosure with weatherboard siding and cornice returns. This addition dates to the period 1896-1909.

Evidence of an early shed-roofed porch across the back of the 1847 house survives in the form of a line of nails at the level of the second-story window sills. These nails, which have cut shanks and bulbous cast heads, are of a type that appears in mid-nineteenth-century contexts in Roanoke and Botetourt counties.⁴ The nails were used to attach the tin roofing or flashing of the former porch to the brick wall of the house (scraps of the tin survive).

Around the turn of the twentieth century the kitchen was extensively remodelled; its floor was raised 1'-8", old doors and windows were walled up and new ones created, and the chimney and upper half of the exterior walls were relaid. The chimney may actually have been rebuilt somewhat later (possibly during the 1940s) since it incorporates a functional exterior

fireplace and raised hearth. Some of the changes to the kitchen may have occurred during the late 1910s.

House: Interior

Despite numerous additions and alterations to the Salem Presbyterian Parsonage through the years, the interior of the house preserves a consistent character. Little of the antebellum Greek Revival detailing has been compromised, and the detailing of the ca. 1879 wing, executed in a later version of the Greek Revival style, is compatible with the original detailing. The detailing of later sections of the house either mimics earlier styling or is astylistic.

Interior wall and ceiling finishes are plaster over lath (split lath in the 1847 section, sawn lath in later sections). The 1847 section retains Greek Revival molded baseboards, two-panel doors, and door trim featuring corner blocks with recessed bull's-eyes identical to those of the original exterior window trim. The baseboards were originally painted black with a later coat of brown. The surrounds of the early (but not original) gable-end windows of the 1847 section have conventional Greek Revival moldings. The window trim in the west first-story room appears to have been painted tan originally with a sill painted a bright green.

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The west first-story room of the 1847 house is slightly smaller than the original east first-story room and has finer detailing, suggesting that it functioned as the parlor. This room has a molded chair rail and a Greek Revival mantel with tapered pilasters, a friezeboard with a single recessed panel flanked by projections that continue the pilasters, and a heavy echinus molding under the shelf. The room appears to have been painted a light blue-gray originally with a later coat of gray-green paint.

The original east first-story room has a somewhat unusual Greek Revival mantel with a narrow recessed frieze panel that spans the full length of the mantel and rests on top of narrow pilasters with recessed panels. The two-panel door between the east first-story room and the center passage has a lock box bearing the inscription "Carpenter's Patent / J. Tildesley Licensee" and a decorative brass keeper bearing the inscription "Carpenter Patentee." Originally this door was a rich red color (possibly an indication of varnished graining). Both first-story rooms in the 1847 section have twentieth-century crown molds and built-in shelving on the south walls.

The first-story center passage contains a stair that dates to the period 1896-1909. The stair has a paneled square newel post set at an angle on the bullnosed lowest step, turned pendant knobs under the upper

newels, and simple balusters. Under the stair is a closet.

The original center-passage stair was moved to the two-story rear stair enclosure and made into a secondary service stair. This original stair has winders at the top and bottom of a single run of steps, a turned late-nineteenth-century newel at the bottom set of winders and the original slender tapered columnar newel at the top winders, simple balusters, a beaded handrail, and paneling in the spandrel. The paneling is arranged horizontally and is recessed with molded rails and stiles (at present the paneling is obscured by a partition added in the 1980s to create a kitchen out of a portion of the back stair hall). Under the stair is a short door of two single-panel leaves that is accessed from a laundry room in one of the enclosed rear porches. This door opens onto a basement stair that descends under the secondary stair.

The original second-story rooms have molded baseboards and door and window trim that are less elaborate than the detailing on the first story. The mantels in these rooms combine Federal-style elements such as a clearly defined architrave surrounding the fireplace opening with Greek Revival detailing such as echinus moldings under the shelf. Early paint colors are evident on the trim of the original front window of the second-story east room (now comprising the trim of a door

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to a closet). The earliest paint layer (presumably dating to 1847) has a creamy ocher color; later colors are light gray and white.

The first and second stories of the ca. 1879 front wing are similarly detailed with molded door and window trim, beaded baseboards, and late Greek Revival pilastered mantels with peaked friezeboards. The first-story mantel has a conventional arched cast iron coal grate; the second-story mantel has an elaborate coal grate with ornament imitative of leather strapwork. About 1950 a bathroom and closet were placed in one corner of the first-story room.

The interior of the 1922 front addition is simply detailed. In the large first-story room is the original front entry surround, which was moved forward from the end of the center passage when the addition was made. Flanking the door and transom are recessed panels, the stiles that define them rising to corner blocks with recessed bull's-eyes. The doorway between the first-story room of the addition and the west room of the 1847 section formerly had french doors. In the second story is a bedroom with a crown molding and an extension of the second-story center passage that ends at a linen closet with translucent glass doors and a bathroom with a hexagonal tile floor.

To the rear of the 1847 section are

the first and second story enclosed porches, the 1896-1909 stair enclosure for the secondary stair, the 1896-1909 bay-windowed dining room, and the antebellum kitchen. The first-story enclosed porches contain at the present time an entry foyer / salesroom, a kitchenette, and a laundry room. The laundry room has a flush board ceiling made of reused (shelving?) boards screwed to the ceiling joists. The dining room has wallpapered walls and molded baseboards, crown molds and chair rails. Both the dining room and the kitchen have plain turn-of-the-twentieth-century door and window trim. Between the dining room and kitchen is a narrow pantry with small windows at both ends.

House: Basement and Attic

The complexities of the main living spaces of the Salem Presbyterian Parsonage are reflected in the basement and attic of the house. The basement under the 1847 section of the house repeats the center-passage arrangement. The ceiling joists are straight-sawn and the brick walls are generally stuccoed and whitewashed. The east room has a sloping concrete floor and a hatch on one wall that are evidence of its former use as a coal cellar (the concrete floor may also have served to combat dampness in the basement and was probably poured at the request of the Rev. LeRoy Gresham in 1912).⁵

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The narrow center room is paved with brick pavers laid in a stretcher bond. At the front and back of the center room, at the base of the walls, are curious, low, stepped buttresses. The ceiling structure of this room indicates the former existence of a stair to the center-passage above.

The west basement room has a circular-sawn lath and plaster ceiling. Doorways on the east and south walls have bevelled surrounds that are probably antebellum in date. The south doorway (which may originally have opened to a bulkhead or a gallery under the conjectural porch that may have extended across the back of the 1847 house) has a batten door constructed of irregular beaded boards. Tapered cross members are dovetailed into the boards, holding them together. The door may have been reused from some other antebellum building since it has been cut down to fit its present doorway. Across the front wall of the original basement are three large vents that were formerly fitted with horizontal wood bars.

Straight-sawn joists (measuring 9" by 3" in section) also form the original floor of the kitchen that survives under the circular-sawn joists of the present kitchen floor. Most of the nineteenth-century tongue-and-groove floor boards of the original kitchen floor survive in situ. The joists under the floors of the dining room, the front brick additions and the rear frame

additions are circular-sawn, with the exception of the joists under the former ca. 1879 front porch (now incorporated into the floor structure of the second front addition) which are straight-sawn and have plaster key stains indicating their former use as ceiling joists in another structure. The front sill of the former ca. 1879 porch is formed by a reused hewn beam (9-1/2" by 9" in section) with numerous mortises for former studs.

The joists under the ca. 1879 front addition are reinforced with cross bridging. The brick foundation of the ca. 1879 addition has narrow vertical vents on the east and west sides. The brick and concrete steps that provided access to the 1870s front porch during the early twentieth century survive under the floor of the second front addition. Painted in black on the exterior surface of the foundation wall of the 1847 section is the inscription "EO" (or "Ea").

In the attic of the 1847 section of the house straight-sawn ceiling joists, common rafters, ridge boards and roof boards are visible. The roof boards are attached to the rafters with cut nails with beveled shanks. Built into the interior gable walls of the attic are a number of molded bricks left over from the construction of the 1847 section or recycled from the cornices as a result of the construction of additions. The

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tongue-and-groove flooring in the attic was installed in 1912. The roof of the ca. 1879 front addition is constructed of circular-sawn joists with straight-sawn roof boards. The roof of the 1922 front addition has circular-sawn joists.

Outbuildings and Yard Features

Two sources from the mid-nineteenth century provide information on the characteristics of the grounds at the Salem Presbyterian Parsonage during that period. One, Edward Beyer's painting of Salem, executed in the mid-1850s, shows a lot shaded by trees and shrubs sloping down to the macadamized Southwest Turnpike on the north side (see continuation sheet). The present front yard preserves some of this original character, although successive widenings of East Main Street have gradually encroached upon it.

The other source is more informative but also more problematic. A book of treasurer's records for the Salem Presbyterian Church covering the years 1853 to 1867 contains an untitled site plan depicting an I house and outbuildings set amid landscaped grounds.⁶ This book was most likely kept by George Hannah, who was church treasurer during the 1850s. Hannah purchased the parsonage from John Day in 1851 and sold it to the church in 1854. This and other circumstantial evidence strongly suggest that the site plan depicts the parsonage (see

continuation sheet).

The site plan shows a landscaped yard around the house separated by a fence from the more utilitarian rear of the lot. The house yard is bordered by small trees or shrubs and has a small elliptical feature near a rear wing that may represent a well or cistern. Also near the rear wing is a large diamond-shaped feature that may represent a planting bed or the foundations of a smokehouse that burned on the property in April 1852.⁷ Encircling the house are curving walkways that have branches leading down to the main road and to a side alley. One of the walkways passes close to the east gable of the house near to where subsurface brick pavers have been found by the present owner of the property. Two outbuildings are depicted behind the house, one accessed by the alley and possibly representing a stable, the other a smaller, two-unit building located adjacent to the house yard and to a rectangular feature that may represent a poultry yard.

Although the site plan corresponds in many ways to the known characteristics of the site, there are several discrepancies. The side alley shown on the plan passes farther to the east than the present side alley (McCauley Drive). Also, the plan shows a rear ell consisting of two units that may be interpreted as a dining room and kitchen; the proportions and placement of this ell do not correspond to the present

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arrangement or to the architectural evidence for former rear elements. However, church histories refer to a detached log kitchen that preceded the present brick kitchen, and the site plan can be interpreted as showing a dining room as infill between the preexisting house and a kitchen. Presumably these features would have been obliterated by the construction of the present kitchen and (much later) the dining room. Unfortunately, the mid-1850s Beyer painting does not show the back of the house or the rear of the lot. The only other known depiction of the back of the house dates to 1924, after the house had attained its present form. Nevertheless, this 1924 photograph is informative in that it shows a pasture occupying the rear half of the lot and two or three weatherboarded outbuildings in the vicinity of the outbuildings shown on the 1850s site plan.⁸ These outbuildings were removed by 1941.⁹

Presently the only outbuilding on the lot is a one-bay frame garage that was probably built between 1924 and 1941. Located on McCauley Drive behind the house, the garage has a poured concrete foundation, a gable roof with projecting rafter ends in the eaves, and novelty weatherboard siding.

The front and rear yards are shaded by a number of deciduous and evergreen trees including a large magnolia off the south gable end of the kitchen and white pines forming

a border around the rear of the lot. A concrete walkway leads from the front steps of the house to the sidewalk along East Main Street.

During the early twentieth century an iron fence with acorn-shaped finials was erected around the front yard; the last remnant of this fence was moved to a location between the kitchen and garage in the 1980s. Stored in the garage on the property is a delicate wrought iron gate that probably dates to the mid-nineteenth-century. The gate combines machined and hand-forged features and could be of local manufacture.¹⁰

Landscape architect Stanley Abbott designed the garden that was added to the west side of the house in 1946-47.¹¹ The garden is enclosed by a serpentine brick wall and is composed of three terraces that step down from an entrance at the south end. The entrance has an iron gate in the form of a lyre. The two upper terraces of the garden are planted in grass with azalea and ivy borders; the lower terrace is paved in brick and has a small semi-circular goldfish pond. Brick steps rise from the garden to the entry made from the middle window of the dining room bay window.

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8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Salem Presbyterian Parsonage, located at the eastern edge of the historic downtown of Salem, Virginia, has long been an important fixture in the life of the Salem community. At the core of the parsonage is a Greek Revival-style brick I house built by blacksmith John Day in 1847. Salem's Presbyterian congregation acquired the house in 1854 and made several major additions to it by the early twentieth century, transforming the house into a spacious residence befitting the minister of a prosperous urban congregation. Despite many changes the house displays a consistency of material and detailing that results in part from the recycling of antebellum elements such as Doric front porch columns and a Greek Revival entry surround. Also on the property is a 1946-47 garden designed by noted Virginia landscape architect Stanley Abbott. Now operated as a bed and breakfast, the Salem Presbyterian Parsonage is in an excellent state of preservation.

JUSTIFICATION OF CRITERIA

The Salem Presbyterian Parsonage is locally significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture as an example of an accretive house form that retains considerable original

fabric as well as notable features from later periods of construction. The period of significance for the house begins with the date of construction of its earliest section in 1847 and ends in 1922, the date of the last significant alteration/addition to the parsonage. A noncontributing garage dating from the 1920s or 30s and a noncontributing garden designed by Stanley Abbott, added in 1946-47, are also on the property.

HISTORICAL DISCUSSION

John Day's Ownership

The original section of the Salem Presbyterian Parsonage was built by John W. Day in 1847 on a 1-1/12-acre parcel he had acquired for \$325 from Nathaniel Burwell in January of the same year.¹² Day, a blacksmith, operated a blacksmith shop in rented quarters across present-day East Main Street from his new house.¹³ His establishment was well located to serve travelers approaching Salem from the east on what at the time was the main road linking Eastern Virginia and the Mid-Atlantic states with Southwest Virginia and states to the south and west. At the time Day built his house this road was being macadamized and otherwise improved as the Southwestern Turnpike. Edward Beyer's mid-1850s painting of Salem, which was probably produced with the aid of a camera lucida, shows a small frame blacksmith shop across from Day's

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house and a blacksmith wearing an apron in the doorway of the shop (see continuation sheet).

In the 1850 census John Day is listed as a thirty-three-year-old blacksmith and the possessor of \$2,500 worth of real estate. Day's thirty-year-old wife Hester J. and his young children James, Sarah, Charles H. and Benjamin completed his family. Also residing in the household was William Morris, a nineteen-year-old blacksmith. Day owned six slaves in 1850, including three men who probably worked with Day and Morris at the blacksmith shop (the Beyer painting shows two black men shoeing a horse in the side yard of the shop).¹⁴

Day sold his house and lot for \$2,000 to George Hannah in November 1851.¹⁵ In January 1852, for \$300, Day purchased a one-acre lot from Nathaniel Burwell that adjoined his former property on the west side.¹⁶ By the end of 1852 Day had built on his new lot a two-story weatherboarded house valued at \$800.¹⁷ There Day lived until 1856 when he purchased a tract on Carvin Creek in the Hollins vicinity of Roanoke County (a tract later known as Sunnybrook Farm) where he may have operated a mill.¹⁸ In 1860 John Day was listed as a farmer owning \$8,000 worth of real estate and \$1,770 worth of personal estate (in part accounted for by the one slave he owned, a fifteen-year-old girl).¹⁹ Day's four children continued to live with him but his wife was

listed as Mary, aged thirty-four. Although he was a slaveowner and although one source cites him as having enlisted as a private in the Confederate army, John Day was included in an 1867 list of Roanoke County citizens trusted by Federal authorities to uphold order during local reconstruction. Day was described in the list as "opposed to succession; a sensible man and loyal."²⁰ In addition to his farming activities Day continued smithing and was listed as having done \$800 worth of farm work in the 1870 industrial census.

George Hannah's Ownership

The second owner of the Salem Presbyterian Parsonage, George Hannah (ca. 1820 - 1865), apparently lived in Salem in the early 1840s where he was a member of the Presbyterian church. In 1850 Hannah was listed as a merchant residing in Botetourt County with his wife Sarah F., aged twenty-seven, and his young daughter Rebecca F.²¹ Hannah owned no real estate in 1850 although he did own three slaves.²² Hannah apparently lived in New Castle in present-day Craig County (formed from Botetourt County in 1851) in 1850.

In August 1851 Hannah was dismissed from the New Castle Presbyterian Church, where he had been an elder, and accepted (or readmitted) into the Salem church.²³ Hannah was promptly appointed an elder and

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treasurer for the Salem church. Hannah served as a notary public for the county from 1851 through 1863.²⁴

Hannah purchased John Day's house and lot for \$2,000 and moved in with his family (which included another daughter, Mary, by 1851). Hannah and his family were nearly visited by tragedy in the early hours of April 3, 1852, when a smokehouse close to the house caught fire. According to a newspaper account of the period, most of the town's population turned out to help extinguish the blaze.²⁵

The session of the Salem church met once at Hannah's house (in October 1852) before deciding to purchase it in 1854. The congregation set about to raise the \$3,000 purchase price by subscription and agreed to pay Hannah in \$1,000 installments due in November 1854, 1855 and 1856.²⁶

George Hannah continued to live in or near Salem until his death in 1865. In November 1854 he purchased a 221-acre farm located several miles east of Salem on Peters Creek.²⁷ In 1859 he lived in a rented house on the southern outskirts of Salem.²⁸ The 1860 census lists no real estate belonging to Hannah but does list personal estate valued at \$8,300. Hannah owned six slaves in 1860.²⁹ At the time of his death Hannah owned several parcels adjacent to Salem.³⁰

Church Ownership

During the years of church ownership from 1854 to 1941 the Salem Presbyterian Parsonage was usually referred to as the "parsonage" in church and other records and occasionally as the "manse." The first minister to occupy the house was Beverly Tucker Lacy (1819-1900) who served the Salem congregation from 1852 to 1857.³¹ During the Civil War Lacy served as Chaplain of the 2nd Corps of the Army of Northern Virginia.

Lacy was succeeded by John Francis Lanneau (1809-1867) who had served as a missionary in Jerusalem for the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions from 1836 to 1846. Lanneau served the Salem congregation from 1859 to 1861 and married a Salem woman, Virginia Jeter.

The third minister to occupy the parsonage was Lindsay Hughes Blanton (1832-1914) who served the Salem congregation from 1861 to 1868. During the war years Blanton also served as Chaplain for the 54th Virginia Regiment and the 25th Battalion of the Confederate Army. From 1880 to 1907 Blanton served as chancellor and vice president of the Central University of Kentucky, located in Danville, Kentucky.

The fourth minister to occupy the parsonage was Thomas Lewis Preston (1835-1895) who served the Salem congregation from 1868 to 1869.

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Preston was succeeded by William W. Houston (1839-1891) who served the Salem congregation from 1869 to 1879. In 1870 Houston's household included himself, his thirty-two-year-old wife Mary W., his three young children, a forty-five-year-old black cook named Lucy Johnston, and a fourteen-year-old white nurse named Letitia Nelson.³² Like two of his predecessors Houston served as an army chaplain during the Civil War. In June 1879 the Salem Presbyterian Church transferred the western half of the parsonage lot to Houston and paid him \$350 as compensation "for certain repairs and improvements put upon the said Salem Presbyterian Church parsonage."³³

Houston was succeeded by Edward Clifford Gordon (1842-1922) who served the Salem congregation from 1880 to 1888. Gordon was a prolific writer; among his writings was "The Sunday School Teacher's Work." After Salem Gordon moved to Missouri where he served as a professor at and president of Westminster College during the years 1892 to 1898. He later served as Superintendent of Home Missions for the Synod of Missouri (1911-1921).

Following Gordon was James Robertson Bridges (1852-1930) who served the Salem congregation from 1889 to 1895. Bridges later served as the President of the Presbyterian College for Women (1899-1911) and as editor (1911-1930) of the Presbyterian Standard, published in

Charlotte, North Carolina.

Bridges was succeeded by Henry Clay Van Meter Campbell (1853-1912) who served the Salem congregation from 1896 to 1909. In 1900 Campbell lived at the parsonage with his wife Flora B. (born 1860) and their three young children.³⁴ Campbell had been a businessman before entering the clergy and he appears to have taken an active interest in the life of the Salem community. He was one of several speakers at the Salem Centennial celebration in 1902. Campbell is credited with adding the rear stair enclosure and dining room to the parsonage.

The last and longest occupant of the parsonage was LeRoy Gresham (1871-1955) who served the Salem congregation from 1909 to 1946 and who lived at the parsonage from 1909 until 1939. Gresham had practiced law before entering the clergy. He is said to have been independently wealthy and to have undertaken a major remodeling of the parsonage at his own expense.³⁵ This remodeling included the addition of 1922. Gresham moved from the parsonage to a residence he built for himself on Market Street in Salem (in 1968 the Gresham House was purchased by Roanoke College as a residence for its president).³⁶

Recent Private Ownership

The Salem Presbyterian Parsonage property was purchased for \$5,100 in

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August 1941 by attorney Fielding Logan.³⁷ According to one account the house had deteriorated during the period when it stood unoccupied and Logan undertook another remodeling.³⁸ The foundation of the kitchen was substantially rebuilt, but otherwise changes to the historic fabric of the house were minor, consisting of a few replaced doors and windows and the insertion of bedroom closets and half baths.

In 1946 Logan hired his friend, landscape architect Stanley Abbott, to design the garden on the west side of the house. Abbott was then a resident of Salem where he served as the landscape architect for the Blue Ridge Parkway. Fielding Logan and his wife Jean Markham used the garden to entertain. As a member of the Board of Trustees of Roanoke College, Logan used the garden for a number of college receptions.³⁹

In later years the Salem Presbyterian Parsonage was owned by the Darby and Lautenschlager families before being purchased by the present owner, Mrs. Charlotte B. Griffith, in 1977.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

The Salem Presbyterian Parsonage underwent almost continuous change from 1847 through the mid-twentieth century. The complex evolution of the house began with its construction as the residence of John Day, a mechanic of middling

socioeconomic status. From 1854 to 1939 the house served as the residence of a succession of Presbyterian ministers and their wives, each with functional requirements and aesthetic preferences in turn subject to the input of the church leadership and auxiliaries. Finally, the house reverted to a private residence and the 1946-47 garden was constructed, giving the property its present form.

At another level of analysis the evolution of the house reflects changes at the larger scale of the Salem Presbyterian Church and the Salem community. Both the church and the town experienced dramatic growth and change from the mid-nineteenth century through the early twentieth century, and the house grew and changed accordingly.

The brick I house that John Day built in 1847 was modest in size (slightly over 1200 square feet) and served by a detached log kitchen. Nevertheless the house represented a substantial residence compared to the log and frame dwellings that constituted the majority of Salem's antebellum housing stock. The primary function of the house was to provide shelter for Day's young family and live-in apprentices and servants, but in its symmetrical form and stylish brick construction the house announced Day's entry into the ranks of Salem's middle class.

The house and other buildings on

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Day's one-acre parcel were valued at \$1,500 during Day's ownership from 1847 (when "\$1,500 added for improvements" appeared next to Day's entry) until 1851 and also for the years 1852 to 1854 when George Hannah was listed as the owner of the property.⁴⁰ Hannah sold the property to the Salem Presbyterian Church for \$3,000 in 1854, a considerable increase in value that suggests some sort of embellishments to the property.⁴¹ The Doric front porch that appears in Beyer's mid-1850s painting (and that apparently survives incorporated into the present front porch) may in fact date to Hannah's 1851-54 tenure. The ornamental landscaping and the addition to the rear suggested in the untitled site plan (assuming the plan depicts the parsonage, and if so was actually realized) and possibly also the antebellum (although not original) brick kitchen may account for some of the rise in value. This speculation should be tempered by the fact that the 1852-54 period marks the construction of the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad line just south of Salem, an event that undoubtedly contributed to higher property values.

The Salem Presbyterian Parsonage shares architectural details with several other antebellum Salem buildings. The recessed bull's-eyes in the corner blocks of the original doors and windows at the parsonage have been documented in one other Salem building: the 1838-

41 Roanoke County Court House, constructed by Salem builder and hotelier William C. Williams.⁴²

The Doric porch columns of the parsonage are similar to columns in the porticos of a number of houses in Salem and vicinity. One house in particular -- Monterey (VDHR File 129-12), the Powell H. Huff House, built across Main Street and to the west of the parsonage about 1850 - has Doric columns virtually identical to those of the parsonage. Several of the Monterey columns were assembled off-center in relation to their capitals, a flaw that is repeated in several of the parsonage columns. Monterey also has flattened pilasters with entasis, fluting and echinus moldings like those of the parsonage. These stylistic similarities also provide convincing evidence that the Salem Presbyterian Parsonage porch columns are indeed antebellum in date (rather than later imitations) and were recycled as the front porch was changed.

The recessed bull's-eye corner blocks are one manifestation of a design motif that is repeated throughout the original section of the parsonage: the decorative use of recessed surfaces. The front entry surround, the spandrel under the original stair, and the first-story mantels all incorporate single or multiple recessed panels. This all-pervasive design motif represents an uncharacteristically imaginative use of the stock design elements of the

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period.

By the late 1920s the parsonage had been enlarged to over 3,750 square feet, rivaling in size many of the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival mansions built in Salem during its turn-of-the-twentieth-century railroad and industrial prosperity. The three major modifications that occurred after initial construction were apparently undertaken by the resident ministers themselves. The ca. 1879 addition to the front transformed the house from a relatively straight-forward antebellum I house into a variant of the popular postbellum L-plan.⁴³ The 1896-1909 dining room with its stylish bay window was in the same vein as the ca. 1879 work. Then, when irregular Victorian compositions were passing out of favor during the early twentieth century, the second front addition returned the house to its earlier symmetry while giving it a blockiness more in keeping with the Georgian Revival and Foursquare styles then current. Although these changes reflected the spatial requirements and aesthetic preferences of the occupants of the parsonage, they served the added purpose of demonstrating the prosperity and worldliness of the congregation.

The final addition to the front of the parsonage resulted in a double-gabled facade composition. Symmetrical double-gabled facades appear on several Salem and northern

Roanoke County houses. Next door to the parsonage on East Main Street is the McCauley House, a two-story antebellum log house with two flanking gable-fronted frame wings dating to the late nineteenth century. At 6910 Williamson Road in the Hollins vicinity of Roanoke County is Lakeview Farm, a two-story brick house dating to the late nineteenth century with two symmetrical front gables. In the McCauley House example the double-gable form is additive; in the Lakeview Farm example the form appears to be original to the house. The double-gable front of the Salem Presbyterian Parsonage therefore represents an instance of an infrequent but viable turn-of-the-twentieth-century facade type in the area.

As for minor alterations, the church records are particularly informative for the early 1910s when the Rev. Gresham requested the addition of a sleeping porch and improvements to the kitchen and complained about dampness in the basement and heat in the attic, ministerial input that resulted in changes to the architectural fabric of the house. The minutes also indicate that the church elders took advantage of the periods between ministers (lasting from months to years) to repaint the parsonage and make minor repairs, improvements that were in part intended to make a positive impression on prospective ministers and their families. The Ladies Aid Society of the church (which usually

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included the minister's wife) is credited with raising money for wallpapering and making repairs to the parsonage and for purchasing the iron fence that enclosed the front yard; the society also contributed \$100 towards the modifications that took place during the period 1896-1909.⁴⁴

In the case of the Salem Presbyterian Parsonage during the period of church ownership, the creation and elaboration of architectural form was largely the product of a corporate decision making process, unlike the case for most domestic architecture where relatively few persons (the client and the builder or craftsman) determined form and finishes. Some of the architectural fabric in the house, such as the batten door and reused beam in the basement and the ceiling boards in the enclosed back porch, appear to be architectural hand-me-downs from the parishioners or the church itself. In these ways the Salem Presbyterian Parsonage differs subtly from other, privately-owned dwellings.

The 1946-47 garden along the west side of the house was one of several works in the Roanoke Valley by noted Virginia landscape architect Stanley Abbott. Abbott, a graduate of Cornell, came to the Roanoke Valley in 1933 to supervise the construction of the Blue Ridge Parkway. Abbott lived and worked in the valley (except for two years during World War II) until 1948,

when he moved his practice to Richmond. In addition to the Salem Presbyterian Parsonage garden, Logan designed landscaping for Roanoke newspaperman and civic leader Junius Fishburn and several vice presidents of the Norfolk and Western Railroad. Abbott also produced landscaping designs for the campuses of Roanoke College, Radford, Hollins, and the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. The classical-colonial design of the Salem Presbyterian Parsonage garden is said to have been typical of Stanley Abbott's residential work during the period.⁴⁵

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ENDNOTES

A number of individuals contributed to this nomination. Charlotte Griffith, the present owner of the Salem Presbyterian Parsonage, undertook the initial historic research that formed the basis for the Historical Discussion in the Statement of Significance. Mrs. Griffith and her family facilitated the project in countless other ways. Salem historians Woody Middleton and Dr. Warren Moorman made available the archives of the Salem Presbyterian Church and the Salem Historical Society. Clare White of the Roanoke Valley Historical Society and Carol Tuckwiller of the Roanoke Public Library also provided archival assistance. Mike Barber made computer hardware available to the project, and Gene Barfield developed the photographs that accompany the nomination.

2. A photograph of the house with the reconfigured porch of the 1870s is contained in Virginia Department of Historic Resources (hereafter VDHR) File 129-14, Richmond.

3. Salem Presbyterian Church Minutes, at the Salem Presbyterian Church, Salem, Virginia.

4. Mid-nineteenth-century cut nails with bulbous heads identical to those at the Salem Presbyterian Church have been identified at the John-Shepherd House, Roanoke County, Virginia (VDHR File 80-130) and the McClure-Baker House, Botetourt County, Virginia (VDHR File 11-364).

1. Interview with Carlton Abbott, Williamsburg, Virginia, September 9, 1991

5. Salem Presbyterian Church Minutes.

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6. Treasurer's Records, 1853-1867, #1. The records are kept at the Salem Presbyterian Church, Salem, Virginia.
7. "Another Cry of Fire." Roanoke Beacon, April 4, 1852. Original copies of the Salem, Virginia newspaper are at the Roanoke Public Library, Roanoke, Virginia.
8. Aerial Views of Roanoke and Vicinity made for Roanoke Railway and Electric Company by Underwood and Underwood. (1924). This album of photographs is at the Roanoke Public Library, Roanoke, Virginia.
9. Roanoke County Deed Book 290, page 503.
10. Possibly this gate was made by John Day, the blacksmith who owned the property from 1847 until 1852.
11. Jim Fulghum, "The Old Presbyterian Manse." (n. d.). Typescript contained in VDHR File 129-14, Richmond, Virginia.
12. Roanoke County Deed Book C, page 88.
13. Whitwell and Winborne, The Architectural Heritage of the Roanoke Valley, page 84.
14. U. S. Census, 1850 Roanoke County (Va.) Slave Schedules.
15. Roanoke County Deed Book D, page 319.
16. Roanoke County Deed Book D, page 359.
17. Roanoke County 1852 Land Book.
18. Roanoke County Deed Book E, page 616. In July 1856 John Day applied for permission to build a dam on Carvin Creek, as related in Roanoke County Chancery File 2628.
19. U. S. Census, 1860 Roanoke County (Free) Population Schedules and Slave Schedules.
20. The information on Day's enlistment is contained in an undated manuscript volume at the Roanoke County Clerk's Office entitled History and Wars of Roanoke County; on Day's Union sympathies, in Deedie Kagey, When Past is Prologue: A History of Roanoke County. (Roanoke, Va.: Roanoke County Sesquicentennial Committee, 1988) 222.
21. U. S. Census, 1850 Botetourt County Population Schedules.
22. Ibid; U. S. Census, 1850 Botetourt County Slave Schedules.

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23. Sessional Records of Salem Church, Roanoke County, Virginia, No. 2, 66. The records are in the form of a manuscript book at the Salem Presbyterian Church, Salem, Virginia.
24. Roanoke County Common Law Order Book D.
25. "Another Cry of Fire." Roanoke Beacon, April 4, 1852.
26. Roanoke County Deed Book E, page 239.
27. Roanoke County Deed Book F, page 241.
28. Roanoke County Chancery File 366.
29. U. S. Census, 1860 Roanoke County Slave Schedules.
30. Roanoke County Chancery File 415.
31. Collier S. Harvey. Prelude to the Present, Salem Presbyterian Church. (Salem, Va.?: n. p., 1981), 20. Unless otherwise indicated, all information on Salem Presbyterian Church ministers is from Collier and A Brief Historical Sketch of the Salem Presbyterian Church, Salem, Virginia, 1831-1931. (Salem, Va.: Dooley Printing Company, 1931).
32. U. S. Census, 1870 Roanoke County Population Schedules.
33. Roanoke County Deed Book K, page 413.
34. U. S. Census, 1900 Roanoke County Population Schedules.
35. Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory, "The Old Manse." (n. d.). Contained in VDHR File 129-14, Richmond.
36. Norwood C. Middleton. Salem, A Virginia Chronicle. (Salem, Va.: Salem Historical Society, Inc., 1986), 388.
37. Roanoke County Deed Book 290, page 503.
38. Jim Fulghum, "The Old Presbyterian Manse." (n. d.). Contained in VDHR File 129-14, Richmond.
39. Ibid. Interviews with Carlton Abbott and Fielding L. Logan, Jr.
40. Roanoke County Land Books, 1848-53.
41. Roanoke County Deed Book E, page 239.
42. Norwood C. Middleton, Salem, A Virginia Chronicle. (Salem, Va.: Salem Historical Society, Inc., 1986), 55. A close-up photograph of the

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courthouse appears in "Jaycee Sesquicentennial Edition." [Salem, Va.] Times Register, August 8, 1952, page 33.

43. A Salem T-plan house of about 1870 with window detailing nearly identical to that of the 1870s addition to the parsonage appears in Whitwell and Winborne, The Architectural Heritage of the Roanoke Valley, page 114.

44. A Brief Historical Sketch of the Salem Presbyterian Church, Salem, Virginia, 1831-1931. (Salem, Va.: Dooley Printing Company, 1931) 12, 18.

45. Carlton Abbott interview.

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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1985).

Roanoke County chancery, common law, deed and tax records.

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Salem, Va.

Whitwell, William L., and Winborne, Lee W. The Architectural
Heritage of the Roanoke Valley. (Charlottesville: The
University Press of Virginia, 1982).

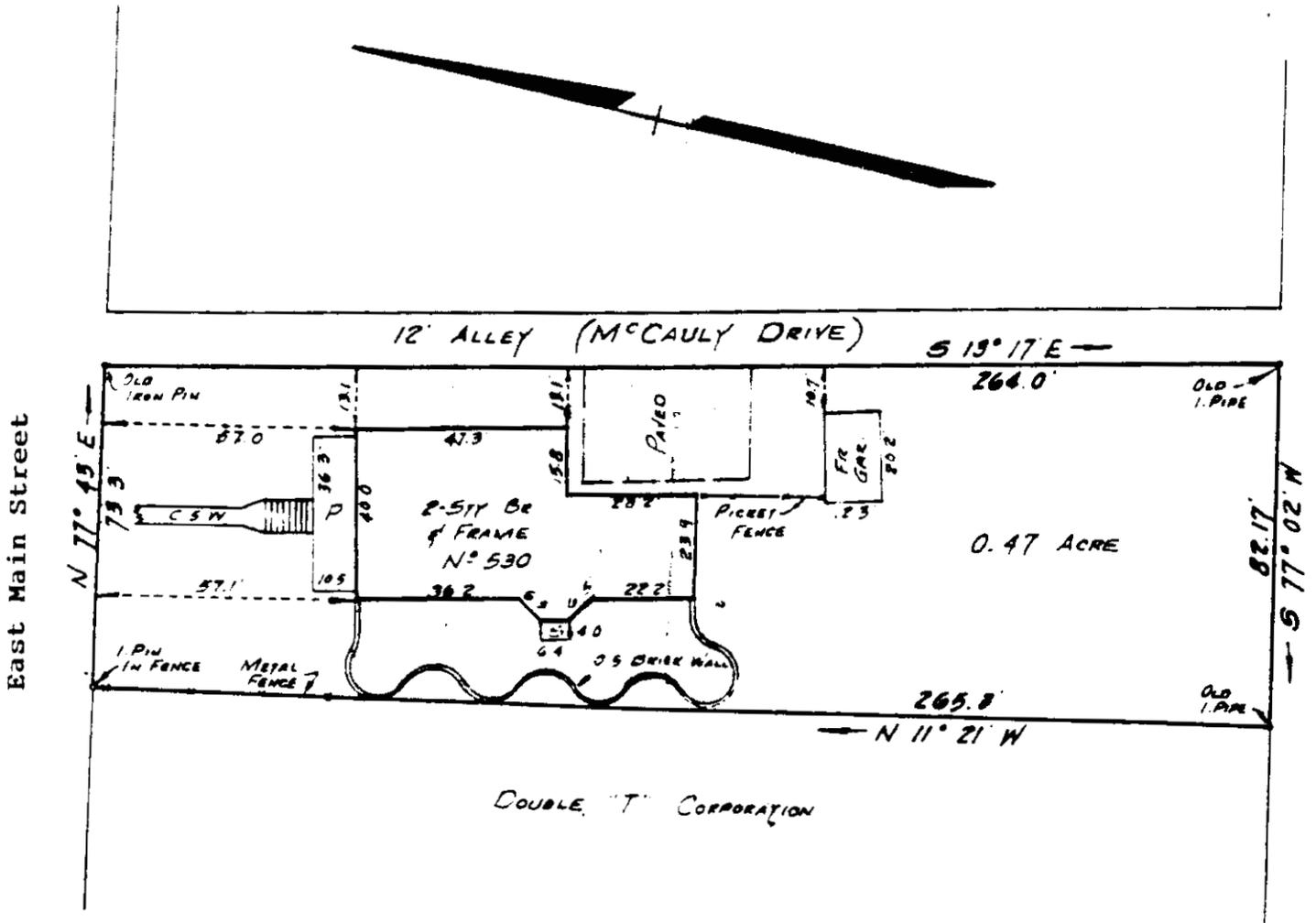
U. S. Census, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, and 1900 Roanoke County
Population and Slave Schedules.

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REFERENCE :
4, PG. 472

SURVEY FOR CHARLOTTE B. GRIFFITH

OF A 0.47 ACRE TRACT SITUATE ON THE
SOUTH SIDE EAST MAIN STREET

SALEM VIRGINIA

SCALE: 1" = 40'

Nov. 4, 1977

CERTIFIED CORRECT

BY: JACK G. BESS

CERTIFIED LAND SURVEYOR

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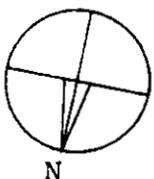
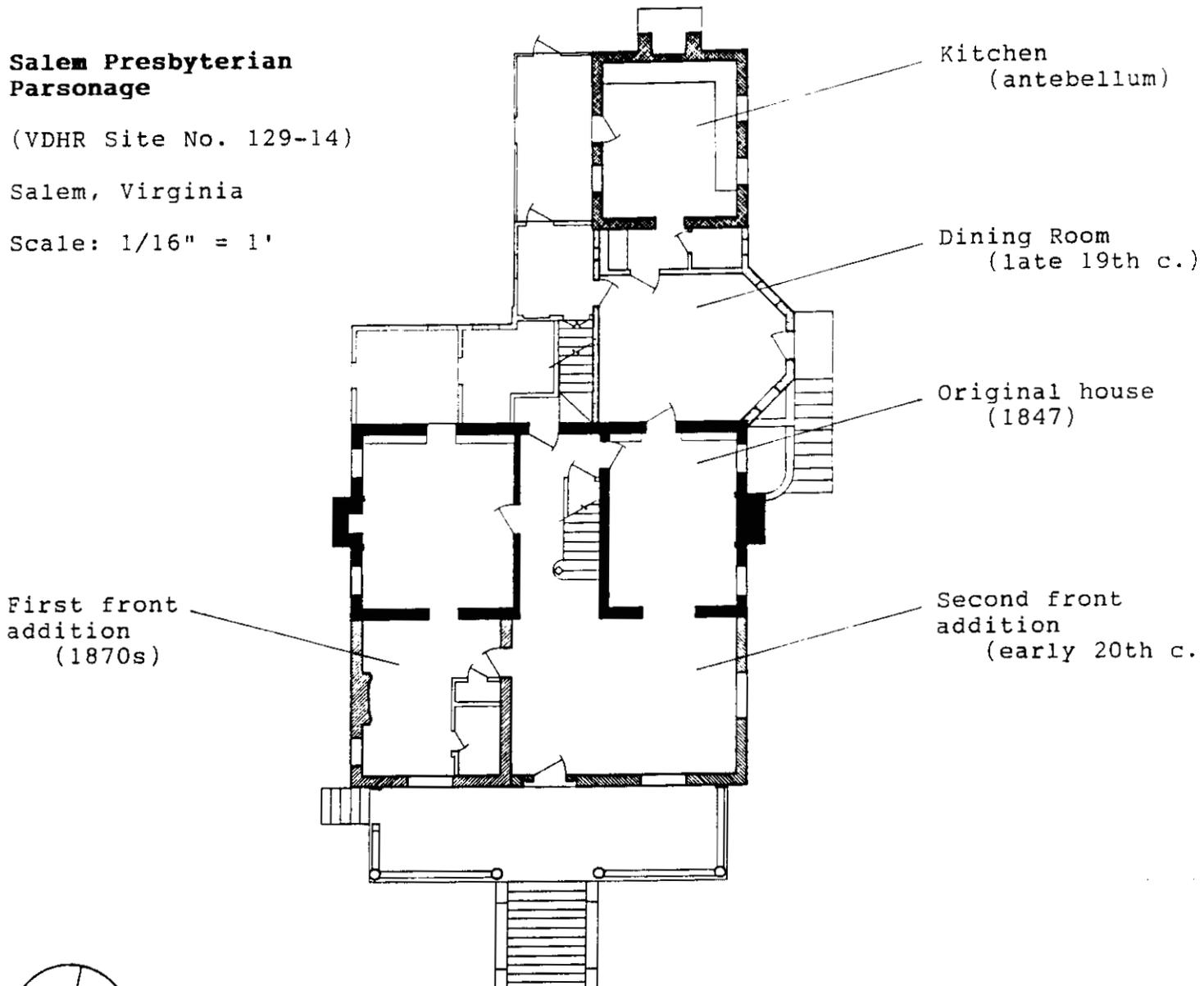
Section number Graphic Page 24

Salem Presbyterian Parsonage

(VDHR Site No. 129-14)

Salem, Virginia

Scale: 1/16" = 1'

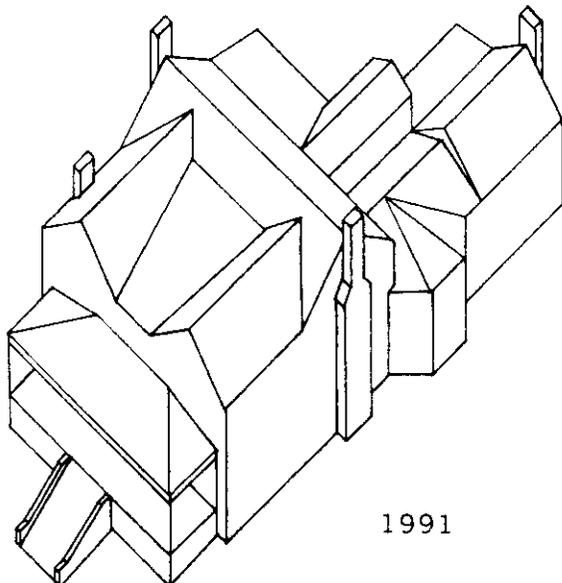
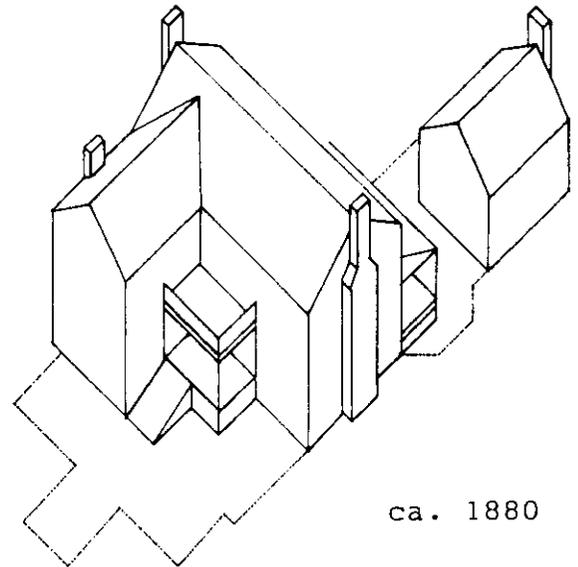
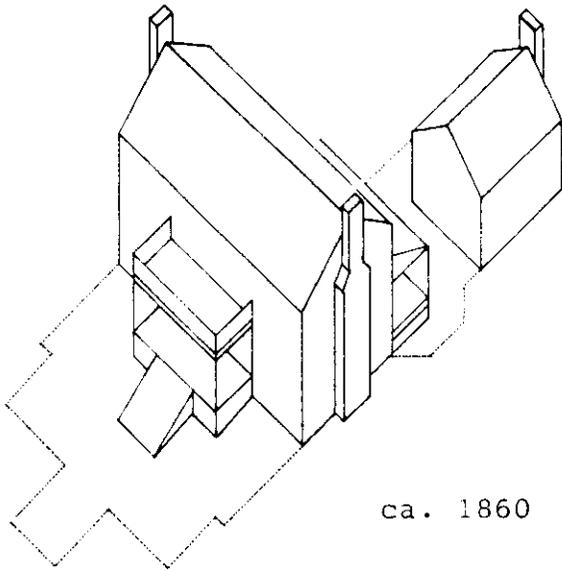


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Salem Presbyterian Parsonage, Salem, Va.



**Salem Presbyterian
Parsonage**

Isometric diagrams showing the evolution of the house. Footprint of present house portrayed with dotted line in the two top diagrams. (no scale)

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Salem Presbyterian Parsonage, Salem, Va.



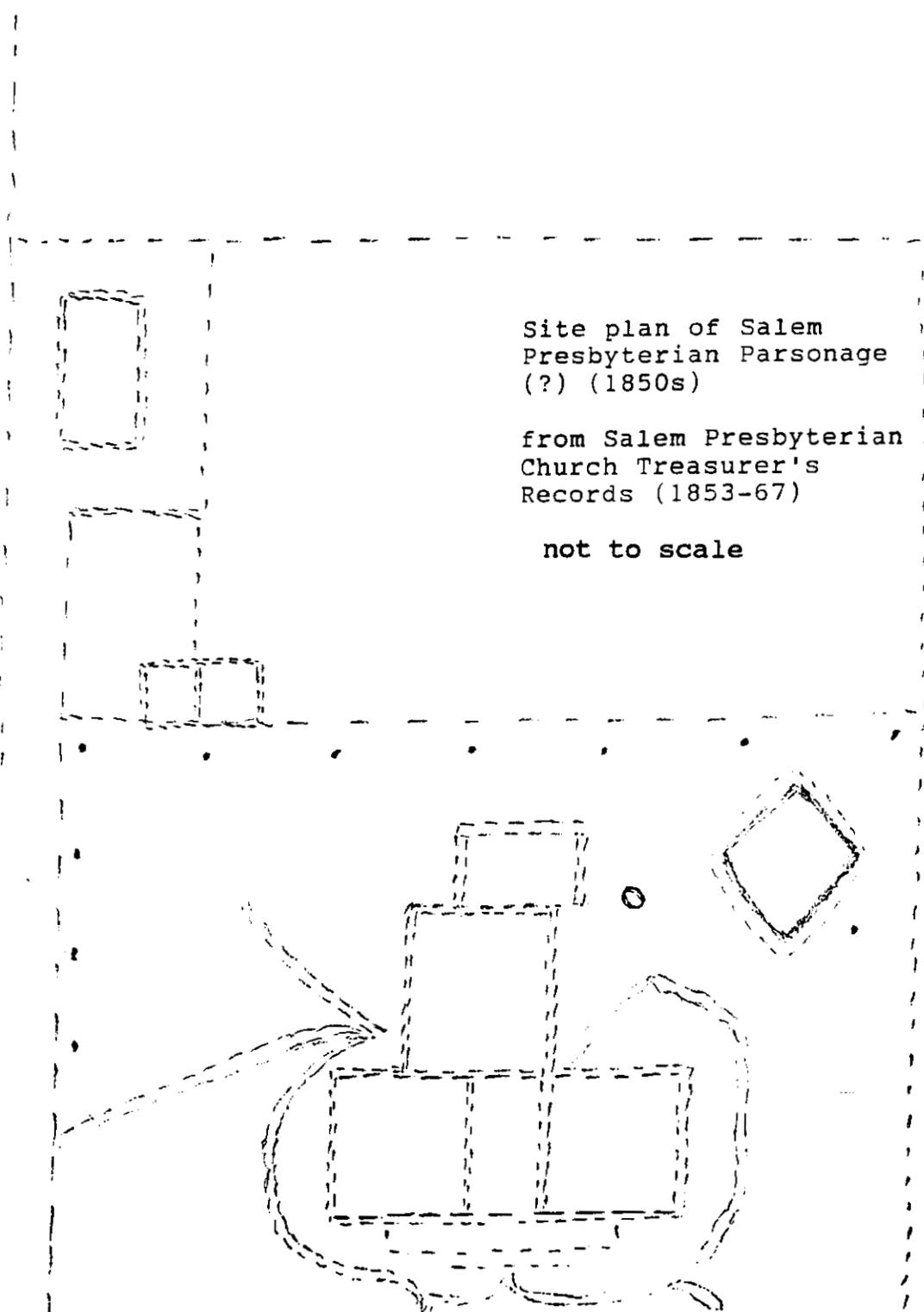
Detail of Edward Beyer's mid-1850s painting of Salem, Va. The detail shows the front porch and part of the east gable end of the Salem Presbyterian Parsonage at the extreme left, and a blacksmith shop with associated figures at the extreme right (the shop probably belonged to John Day at the time the painting was made). Other Salem landmarks shown in the detail include the Williams-Brown House in the right middle ground and the original spire of the Salem Presbyterian Church in the left distance (both buildings are listed in the National Register).

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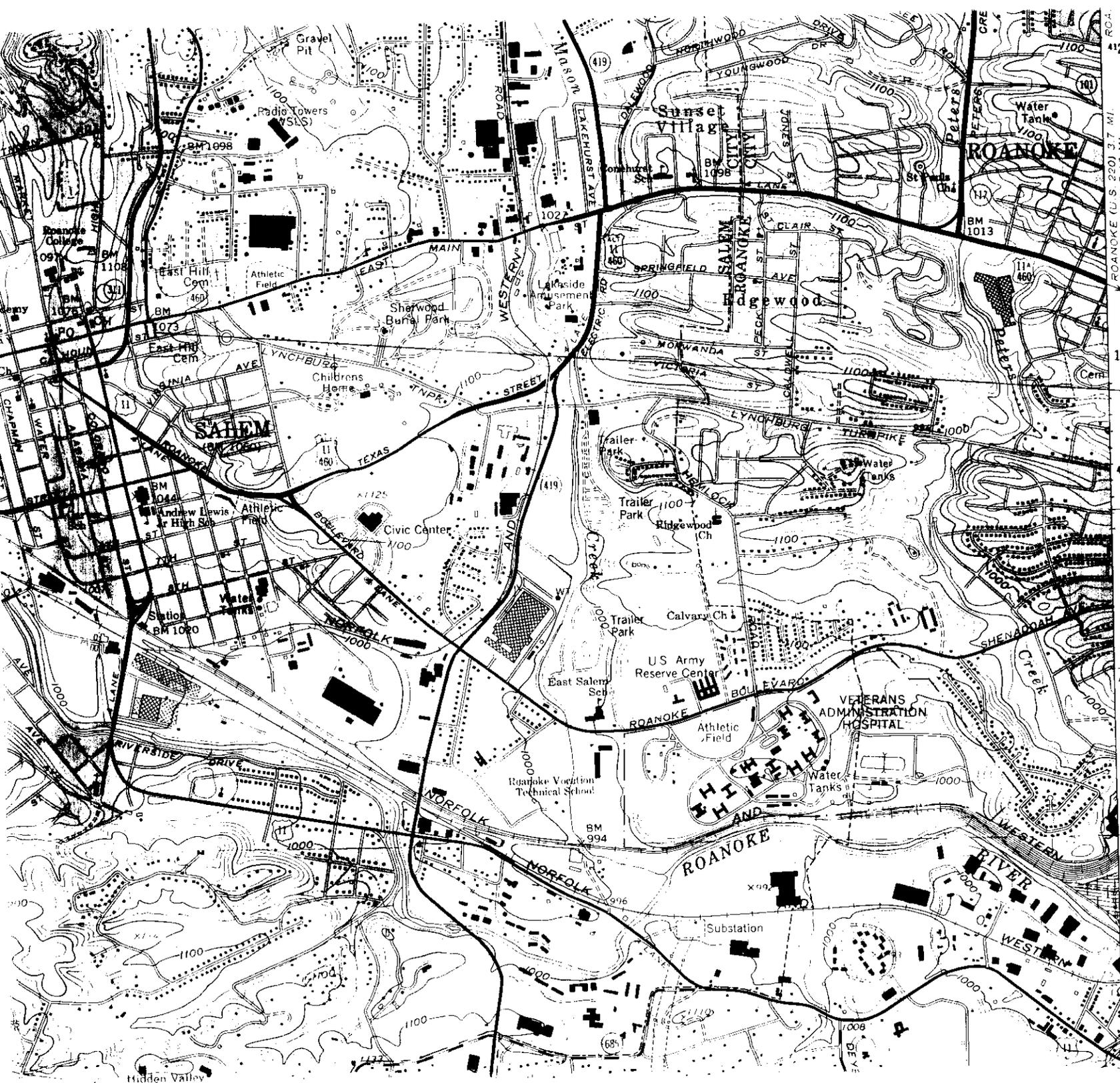
Salem Presbyterian Parsonage, Salem, Va.



Site plan of Salem
Presbyterian Parsonage
(?) (1850s)

from Salem Presbyterian
Church Treasurer's
Records (1853-67)

not to scale



4129
 ROANOKE (U.S. 220) 3.7 MI.
 STEWARTSVILLE 1.3 MI.
 17'30"
 4127
 4126
 4125
 ROANOKE (U.S. 220) 3.7 MI.

**SALEM
 PRESBYTERIAN
 PARSONAGE**
 (VDNR # 129-14)
 SALEM, VA.
 Z 17
 UTM: E 584060
 N 4127630