

VLR-5/16/78 NRHP-4/6/79

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED Apr 6 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Old Christiansburg Industrial Institute (Preferred)

154-5004

AND/OR COMMON

Hill School, Schaeffer Memorial Baptist Church

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

570 High Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Christiansburg

VICINITY OF

Ninth (William C. Wampler)

STATE

Virginia

CODE

51

COUNTY

Montgomery

CODE

121

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

X OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

X BUILDING(S)

X PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

X EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

X RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

X YES RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

X OTHER: civic

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Congregation, Schaeffer Memorial Baptist Church

STREET & NUMBER

570 High Street

CITY, TOWN

Christiansburg

VICINITY OF

STATE
Virginia 24073

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Montgomery County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Christiansburg

STATE
Virginia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey

DATE

1977, 1978

FEDERAL X STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, 221 Governor Street

CITY, TOWN

Richmond

STATE
Virginia 23219

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT church	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED church	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD school	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED school	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Situated on a high promontory overlooking the town of Christiansburg, the Christiansburg Industrial Institute consists of three buildings significant in the earliest history of the institution. These include the Hill School (1885), the Schaeffer Memorial Baptist Church (1885), and the Primary Annex (1888).

Schaeffer Memorial Baptist Church and the Primary Annex

Built in a vernacular interpretation of Victorian Gothic, the Schaeffer Memorial Baptist Church is a brick, seven-course-American-bond, gable-roof structure with a projecting southeast corner tower. The tower consists of four stages. The first contains a central double-door entrance capped by a Gothic transom and framed by a projecting brick arch. The corners of the tower are framed by brick buttresses which terminate at a wooden cornice. The second stage contains an elongated triple-hung sash window capped by a raised-brick arch and divided in the middle by a plain wooden panel. A border of colored square lights frames panes of clear glass. The third stage consists of a wood-frame belfry with louvres. Finally, the fourth stage contains a pyramidal shingled roof with small dormers.

The main body of the church is located to the west of the tower and contains a buttressed, projecting gabled entry. This entrance is marked by double doors surmounted by a Gothic-inspired, stained-glass transom. A round stained-glass window containing a Star of David is located above the entry on the second story. The wall surface around the window and entry is raised, accentuating the architectural elements. The western bay contains a multi-paned window with a border of colored square lights. The second story contains a multi-paned arched window with border panes of colored glass.

The east and west elevations consist of four bays. The fenestration on the first story consists of multi-paned, hung-sash windows, each with a border of colored square lights. Each of the second-story windows consists of a multi-paned, arched window of hung sash, with a border of clear and colored square lights. The north or rear elevation contains a raised wall plane, flanked on both sides in the first story by a transom-light doorway. A circular stained-glass window similar to that found on the south elevation lights the second story and is flanked by a pair of multi-paned, hung-sash windows with borders of clear and square lights.

The interior plan of the church consists of a church hall on the first floor and the church sanctuary and nave on the second floor. The sanctuary preserves the original church furnishings and pulpit, and the original pews are still in use.

Connected to the church by a covered passageway is a wood-frame, tent-roof octagon, known as the Primary Annex. Simply finished in the interior, the annex contains striking examples of Victorian stained-glass windows, including a memorial window in honor of Ada A. Schaeffer, the wife of Captain Schaeffer, the founder of the institute, which graces the chancel.

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1885; 1888 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Charles S. Schaeffer, (amateur designer)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Christiansburg Industrial Institute and the Schaeffer Memorial Baptist Church are monuments in the social, educational, and religious history of the black community of southwestern Virginia. Through the early efforts of Captain Charles S. Schaeffer, the founder of the institute, the blacks of Montgomery County were able to receive educational and technical skills. It is from this instruction provided at the school and encouraged by the Memorial Baptist Church that the Christiansburg black population has contributed significantly to the ranks of leadership in Montgomery County.

The history of the Christiansburg Industrial Institute began in 1866 when a Freedmen's Bureau school first opened in Montgomery County. During the Reconstruction period, separate schools for blacks and whites were established in the Christiansburg area, as elsewhere. Founded by Captain Charles S. Schaeffer, a Freedmen's Bureau agent, the private school for primary-aged Negroes was established five years before the public school system became a reality. Both academic and religious training were emphasized during most of Schaeffer's thirty-year affiliation.

Not long after organizing a class for the freedmen in 1866, Captain Schaeffer, later an ordained Baptist minister, formally opened the Christiansburg African Baptist Church. This meeting house was used jointly for church and school purposes. The Sunday School enrollment exceeded the day-school membership, with some teachers also teaching Bible classes at night. The combination frame structure built in 1867 served as an elementary schoolhouse, with black Baptists using it for a meeting house on nights and weekends. In 1869 an addition was built to accommodate rapid growth. By this time students were attending the school from long distances, having arranged board "in the poor cabins of the neighborhood" or at Captain Schaeffer's home.

In 1873 Schaeffer supervised the building of the "first house for Normal school purposes." The large, two-story structure was paid for through Quaker aid, with four teachers added to the faculty. By 1885 the structure was outgrown, and a new two-and-one-half-story schoolhouse, the Hill School, was built simultaneously with the Memorial Church. An annex was added to the complex in 1888.

The Friends' Freedmen's Association, a Philalephia-based organization of the Society of Friends, supported the school in Christiansburg throughout its existence. In 1895 Booker T. Washington was convinced by the Society of Friends to take over the supervision of the school, resulting in a much-expanded curriculum. The Institute modeled its program on those pioneered at Tuskegee and Hampton. Limited space for boarding students along with the new program necessitated the acquisition of a new campus for high school training. The older students were transferred to a ninety-eight-acre farm complex in 1902. Until 1953 the Hill School remained the Preparatory Industrial School for black students.

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CONTINUATION SHEET #2

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 1

8. SIGNIFICANCE

From 1953 to 1967, the Young People's Christian Association used the old Hill School building for the purposes of Christian education and supervised recreation for young people in the community. After 1967 the Trustees of the Schaeffer Memorial Baptist Church leased the structure to the Christiansburg Community Center, who in turn subleased the building to a delegate agency, the New River Community Action, Inc. The building is still used as a community center.

The Schaeffer Memorial Baptist Church continues to function as a Baptist meeting house, retaining all of its original fabric, including chancel furniture, pews, and baptistry. A memorial plaque and portrait of Captain Schaeffer hang on either side of the chancel.

RCC

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Christiansburg School District, Minute Book, 1870-1898. Montgomery School Board Office, Christiansburg, Virginia

Dickenson, Richard B. and Ann Swain. "Shaeffer Memorial Baptist Church and Christiansburg Industrial Institute (Hill School)." Unpublished report in files of Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, 1977.

Friends' Freedmen's Association. Department of Records of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Religious Society of Friends (microfilm). Executive Committee Minutes, 1895-1973.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,7	55,27,7,0	4,11,02,7,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION Beginning at a point on N side of High Street, approximately 100'E of intersection with Shaffer Street; thence extending approximately 125'N; thence extending about 450' ENE; thence extending about 150' SSE to N side of High Street; thence following 500' W along said street to point of origin. The boundaries thus encompass lots 258 and 253 in the Town of Christiansburg.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE

May, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

221 Governor Street

TELEPHONE

(804) 786-3144

CITY OR TOWN

Richmond

STATE

Virginia 23219

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

John Hill

TITLE Tucker Hill, Executive Director
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE MAY 16 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE Apr 6 1979

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Old Christiansburg Industrial Institute (Preferred), Montgomery County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET #1

ITEM NUMBER 9 & 7 PAGE 1

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Harrison, Charles H. The Story of a Consecrated Life. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co., 1900.
- Long, Edgar A. Papers, 1895-1924. In possession of John Preston McConnell Library Archives, Radford, Virginia.
- Montgomery County, Virginia, School Board Records. Minutes, 1904-1966.
- Poteet, George F. "Secondary Education in Montgomery County, 1776-1936." M.A. thesis, University of Virginia, 1936.
- Rockefeller Foundation Archives, New York. Correspondence, memoranda, reports, circulars of the General Education Board in connection with Christiansburg Industrial Institute, 1902-1928.
- Schaeffer, Captain Charles S., Diary, 1856-1899, Vols. II, III. In possession of Mrs. T. Allen Phillips, Laurel, Delaware.
- Swain, Ann S. "Christiansburg Institute: From Freedmen's Bureau Enterprise to Regional High School." M.A. thesis, Radford College, Radford, Virginia, 1975.
- Washington, Booker T. U. S. Library of Congress. Vols. II, IV, ed. Louis R. Harlan, et al. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1972.

7. DESCRIPTION

Hill School

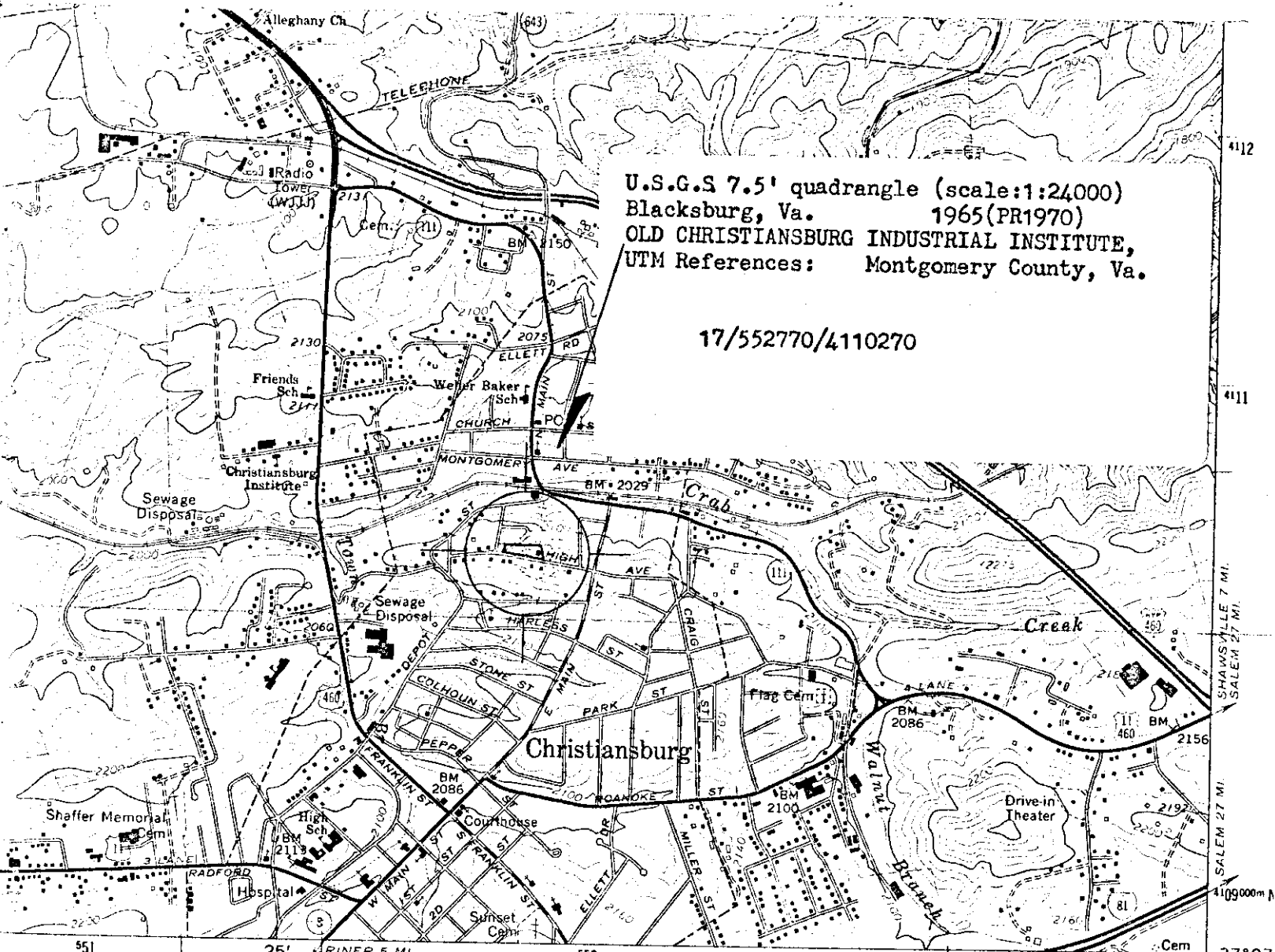
The Hill School is located immediately to the west of the Schaeffer Memorial Baptist Church and was built at the same time. It is a two-and-one-half-story, cruciform-plan, gable-roof structure set on a low stone foundation. It is constructed in six-course-American-bond brickwork.

Identical in appearance, the entrances found on the east and west elevations each consist of an arched, transom-light double-paneled doorway flanked on both sides by narrow arched hung-sash windows. The second floor of two bays consists of multi-paned, hung-sash windows with borders of clear square lights. All the lintels and sills found on the building are constructed of wood.

The north and south elevations contain four bays, with windows identical to those found on the west and east elevations. Although the building is stylistically in the Italianate mode, the windows suggest a Queen Anne Revival inspiration.

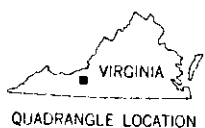
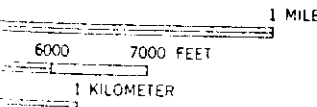
The interior of the school has been radically altered. The building ceased to function as a school in 1953 and has since undergone extensive alterations.

RCC



U.S.G.S 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24,000)
 Blacksburg, Va. 1965 (PR1970)
 OLD CHRISTIANSBURG INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE,
 UTM References: Montgomery County, Va.

17/552770/4110270



INTERIOR - GEOLOGICAL SURVEY WASHINGTON, D. C. - 1971
 554 24 MI TO VA. 6 555000m E 80°22'30"

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Heavy-duty ————— Light-duty - - - - -
- Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt - - - - -
- Interstate Route ◻ U. S. Route ○ State Route

STANDARDS
 N. D. C. 20242
 WILLE, VIRGINIA 22903
 AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

BLACKSBURG, VA.

N3707.5—W8022.5/7.5

1965
 PHOTOREVISED 1970
 AMS 4958 III NW—SERIES V834

