

VLR-5/13/69 NRHP-11/12/69

Form 10-300  
(Dec. 1968)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Virginia	
COUNTY: Culpeper	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME			
COMMON: Little Fork Church			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Oak Shade Church; Little Fork Church			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: .8 mi. N of Hazel River, .6 mi. E of intersection of Rt. 726, Rt. 229 and Rt. 611, NE corner of intersection of Rt. 624 and Rt. 726.			
CITY OR TOWN:			
STATE Virginia		CODE 45	COUNTY: Culpeper
			CODE 047

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

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNERS NAME: St. Mark's Parish			
STREET AND NUMBER: 115 N. East Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Culpeper	STATE: Virginia	CODE 45	STATE: Virginia COUNTY: Culpeper

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Culpeper County Court House			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: Culpeper	STATE Virginia	CODE 45	STATE: Virginia COUNTY: Culpeper
APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 acre			

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1941 Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/>			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: Washington	STATE: D. C.	CODE 08	FOR NPS USE ONLY ENTRY NUMBER DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

# 7. DESCRIPTION

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

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Little Fork Church is a one-story brick structure which measures approximately 83½' x 33½'. Its walls are laid in Flemish bond with random glazed headers above and below the water table. Unfortunately most of the brick below the water table as well as the brick gutter have been covered by cement. Rubbed brick marks the four corners of the building as well as the window jambs, principal window arches, and original door jambs. The long south wall of the church is divided into seven-bays containing six semi-circular arched windows and a central door. This door, as well as the west door, has been altered but probably both originally featured brick pediments. The west facade has two small rectangular windows placed high on the wall as if to be gallery windows although it is not certain that the church ever had a gallery. The whole of the building is surrounded by a modillion cornice (probably the original) and is crowned by a hipped roof.

The church's most important interior feature is its original reredos located between the two arched east windows. It consists of four tablets separated by Doric pilasters and topped by a triangular pediment. Other original interior fabric includes the wainscoting and probably the coved cornice. The pulpit, which is thought to have stood opposite the south door, has disappeared as have the original pews. The window trim and sash is early but thought not to be colonial.

Little Fork's churchyard contains no graves but does possess a large marble monument erected in 1904 to the memory of the Little Fork Rangers, a Confederate company.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 6. 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) 1774-76

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal ☐Education ☐Political ☐Urban Planning ☐Prehistoric ☐Engineering ☐

Religion/Phi-

Other (Specify) ☒Historic ☐Industry ☐losophy ☐ArchitectureAgriculture ☐Invention ☐Science ☐Art ☒Landscape ☐Sculpture ☐Commerce ☐Architecture ☐

Social/Human-

Communications ☐Literature ☐itarian ☐Conservation ☐Military ☐Theater ☐Music ☐Transportation ☐

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Little Fork Church was erected during the years 1774-76 to replace an earlier wooden structure destroyed by fire in 1773. It is believed that Little Fork was designed by John Ariss, to whom the nearly identical Lamb's Creek Church (1769-70) is also attributed.

Little Fork Church is one of the few colonial churches to survive in northern Piedmont Virginia, however it was never a parish church. It served only as a chapel for St. Mark's Parish until the Disestablishment. Like most of Virginia's colonial churches, Little Fork served as a stable for Union troops during the Civil War. Used by the Methodists until several years ago, the church once again serves as a chapel for St. Mark's Parish.

Although relatively neglected at present, Little Fork Church remains one of Virginia's finer and better preserved colonial churches. It is also one of the few colonial churches to retain a large proportion of its original interiors. It has been said that the church's elaborate reredos was executed by the same craftsman who built the mantel at Salubria, a colonial mansion also in Culpeper County.

Located in a somewhat remote section of the county, Little Fork's immediate environs still possess the rural character they had in the eighteenth century.

# 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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

# 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "	38 °	36 ' 00 "	77 ° 57 ' 18 "
NE	° ' "	° ' "			
SE	° ' "	° ' "			
SW	° ' "	° ' "			

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

# 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:	
Staff, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, James W. Moody, Jr., Director	
ORGANIZATION	DATE
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission	June 2, 1969
STREET AND NUMBER:	
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building	
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE
Richmond	Virginia
	CODE
	45

# 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

# NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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 \_\_\_\_\_

Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman  
Title Virginia Historic Landmarks Comm.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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 Culpeper	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

6. Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory  
1958 Federal  
Library of Congress  
Washington, D. C.

Code: 08

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Report #23-13  
1968 State  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission  
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Code: ~~768~~ 45

Lat. 38° 36' 00"

U.S.G.S. 15' quadrangle (Scale: 1:62500)  
Warrenton, Va. (1927)

Little Fork Church

Latitude  
38° 36' 00"

Longitude  
77° 57' 18"

310 000  
FEET

38° 30'  
78° 00'

(Gordonville) 78° 00'

Topography by J.M. Rawls, R.H. Runyan, G.E. Sisson, and H.R. Kilmer  
Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial photographs  
taken by Air Corps, U.S. Army  
Surveyed in 1927

CULPEPER 1.7 MI.  
CHARLOTTESVILLE 48 MI.

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty ————— Light-duty —————  
Medium-duty ————— Unimproved dirt —————

U.S. Route State Route

APPROXIMATE MEAN  
SEIGNIORITY, 1927

CULPEPER 6.5 MI.  
CHARLOTTESVILLE 51 MI.

3000 0 3000 6000

CONTOUR  
DATUM

FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGIC  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC