



In a bullet list, include any outbuildings or secondary resources or major landscape features (such as barns, sheds, dam and mill pond, storage tanks, scales, railroad spurs, etc.), including their condition and their estimated construction dates.

N/A

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4. Property's History and Significance (Please do not exceed one page)

Briefly explain the property's historic importance, such as significant events, persons, and/or families associated with the property.

If the property is important for its architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, or other aspects of design, please include a brief explanation of this aspect.

The Petersville Schoolhouse is a significant part of Petersville Baptist Church and the Petersville Community because it was the first school constructed for children of ex-slaves - many of which have descendants residing in the community and attending the church to this day. The church was organized in 1871 by Norris Hobson, Isaac Fleming, Norris Hartwell, Jesse Scruggs, and Betty Thomas. According to our church history, Norris Hobson's grandfather purchased 17.5 acres from a Mr. J. P. Wilson, and the church was built in 1871. The first elected pastor of the church was Rev. Benjamin W. Hartwell. He and his wife, Niocy, are buried in the cemetery. See Attachment 2. There are many of their descendants still residing in the Petersville Community and members of the church.

By 1870, there were small log buildings with earthen floors built as black schools in all areas of Buckingham County. Therefore, it is assumed that the schoolhouse was built sometime after the building of the church. The last known schoolteacher who taught at the school was Mrs. Annie Jackson. See Attachment 3 is a photo of Mrs. Jackson and students taken inside of the school, and a photo taken during a social event. Mrs. Jackson and her husband, Arthur Jackson, are buried in the cemetery. See Attachment 4. Many of the students are deceased, but there are a few of students residing in the community and members of the church.

In addition to being a school, the building was used for meetings, social and community activities, such as parties, dinner sales to help purchase items for the church, Easter Egg hunts, and to show movies from old projectors. See a copy of minutes from 1943 and 1952 as Attachment 5.

Surnames of community people, such as Anderson, Blaine, Booker, Brown, Carter, Fleming, Foster, Hartwell, Hatcher, Henderson, Liggins, Mayo, Taylor, and Woodson made up the Petersville Community as far back to 1830 based on graves in the cemetery. Many of the descendants reside in the community and are members of the church.

Dr. Carter G. Woodson is the father of Black History. His homeplace is approximately 15 to 20 minutes from the Petersville Baptist Church and community. He has descendants still residing in the Community and surrounding communities that are members of the church. You will find many headstones and markers in the cemetery who are descendants of Dr. Woodson.

Please list all sources of information used to research the history of the property, such as deeds, census and tax records, and/or published articles and books. (It is not necessary to attach lengthy articles or family genealogies to this form.)

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- White, Charles W, The Hidden and Forgotten, Lamp-Post Publicity, Meherrin, Virginia 2017.
-
- Petersville Baptist Church Anniversary for 125th, October 20, 1996; 135th, Sunday, October 22, 2006; and 140th, October 30, 2011, celebrations.

5. Property Ownership (Check as many categories as apply):

Private: X Public\Local Public\State Public\Federal

Current Legal Owner(s) of the Property (If the property has more than one owner, please list each below or on an additional sheet.)

name/title: Petersville Baptist Church
organization: Petersville Baptist Church
street & number: 3330 Petersville Church Road
city or town: New Canton state: VA zip code: 23123
e-mail: antonio.allen@galimcarenc.com telephone: 804 916-9419

Legal Owner's Signature: Antonio Allen Sr. Trustee Chairman
Date: 11/10/2025

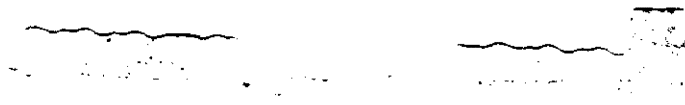
In the event of corporate ownership you must provide the name and title of the appropriate contact person.

Contact person: Jessie M. Woodson-Johnson
Daytime Telephone: (434) 390-7577

Applicant Information (Individual completing form if other than legal owner of property)

name/title: Rev. Dr. Jessie M. Woodson-Johnson, Associate Minister
organization: Petersville Baptist Church
street & number: 3781 Petersville Church Road
city or town: New Canton state: VA zip code: 23123
e-mail: jrjrj12@gmail.com telephone: (434) 390-7577
Date: 11/10/2025

PLEASE DO NOT ATTACH CONTINUATION SHEETS TO THIS FORM. THANK YOU!



The Junior League
of the Peteraville
School. Cordially
Invites You and Your
Friends to their Easter
Egg Hunt April
- 26, 1943, at the
Peteraville School.
at Two O'clock.

Admission 10¢.
Prize to be given
to the Girl or Boy
finding the most
Eggs.

Pres. Norman Parker
Sect Jeannette Lapham
Sponsor,
Mrs. Jackson.

The handle open for and
call for fitting and the
after the 2nd bath frog placed

very was the reading of the
 spirit of the last meeting on
 motion by sea friends
 the same spirit was
 and adopt. With through sea
 friends an motion by sea
 Fleming sister sister
 friends was granted for better
 of distinction to committee
 with church up of
 after the same friends
 order on motion

*
Foster. We will notify the church
to meet Sept 15th Sat to
decide on ordination of the
members on Communion of the
Appoint by J. Fleming. We will
to help Bro Taylor and Bro W. H. H. H.
on the 1st of the Communion, with
the minister Coffman will meet
here on the 1st of the Communion in Jan.
an ordination by J. H. H. H. the
Church will pay Bro J. H. H. H.

The \$4.10 For wood cut

on motion by Bro. Hord
We will have the wood cut in the
G. H. land where burnt over
Left Mass early

With Bro. L. Bro. H. F. Long
Pastor of the Church

Section 3 of Preliminary Information Form

From Jessie Woodson-Johnson <jrajrjlj@gmail.com>

Date Thu 11/13/2025 4:22 PM

To McKnight, Joanna (DHR) <joanna.mcknight@dhr.virginia.gov>; rebecca johnson <rcjohnson1089@gmail.com>; Hubbard, Quatro (DHR) <Quatro.Hubbard@dhr.virginia.gov>

Since I am not able to scan the above-referenced document, I am providing the following that I had included in the form:

School

Segregation of schools began in 1870, just five (5) years after the end of slavery. The Petersville School is a vernacular styled, one-story, one-room building that is rectangular in shape, and it has weatherboard siding. There is only a front entrance to the school and the building has a window in the front, back, and left side of the building. The roof is tin. The interior of the school has its original wooden floor. What appears to be the original chimney is still in place. The school has a combination of both shiplap and sheetrock walls. The school is currently used as a shed, but it is evident that the building was once used as a school and social meeting place for the church and the Petersville Community. See Attachment 1.

Church

In 1871, the land was purchased, and a log cabin was built as a place of worship for newly freed slaves. As membership grew, a new structure had to be built. In 1938, the building was crushed with ice and snow. Some faithful members, through hard labor and the will of God, were able to re-erect the building so worship services could resume in the spring. In September 1972, physical improvements were made to the church by adding bathrooms, a choir room, and a pastor's study. In 1982, the church underwent more physical renovations, such as the purchase of new pews, new carpet, a public announcement system, ceiling fans, air conditioning, new tables for the outdoor dining area, a new front door entrance, and new steps with a handicap ramp.

A fellowship hall, which included a kitchen and baptismal pool, was constructed to the south wing of the church in 1991. In August 1998, the walls that contained the foundation of over a century of spiritual history came tumbling down when the start of a new church construction was being built to the existing fellowship hall. The first worship service in our new church was held in July 1999.

The members of the church, along with donations, allowed further expansion of the church when an addition to the church and fellowship hall was built and named the Nehemiah House in 2013. This addition has a vaulted ceiling, a commercial style kitchen, a stage, and separate bathrooms for males and females. The Nehemiah House has the capacity to hold approximately 230 people, with an entrance facing the south of the building. This building is the formal dining room of the church. It is also used for conferences, larger birthday parties, wedding receptions, repasses, homecoming dinners, and other social events. Entrance to Nehemiah House can also be entered through the fellowship hall.

In 2023, the fellowship hall was renovated and renamed the Agape Center, where church school and smaller social events are held.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. I hope this gives you more information that can be useful.

Thank you so much for helping us.

--

Rev. Dr. Jessie M. Woodson-Johnson, D.Min.

John 4:29

Petersville School – J. McKnight notes (Additional Description for PIF)

School

The Petersville School is a vernacular one-story, one-room building that is rectangular in shape with weatherboard siding and a hipped metal roof. There is only a front entrance to the school and the building has paired wood windows in the front, back, and on the left side of the building.

The interior of the school has its original wooden flooring. What appears to be the original chimney stack is intact. Sheetrock covers the walls and ceilings, but original beadboard remains intact at the ceiling level. The PIF states that “shiplap” remains intact along some wall areas.


The school is currently used as a shed, but it is evident that the building was once used as a school and social meeting place for the church and the Petersville Community.

Cemetery

There is a sizeable cemetery with approximately 200 marked burials adjacent to the church building. Burials range in date – with the earliest appearing to be 1910, but many markers are undated, thus could be older. Markers range in form, material, and type.

PIF BOUNDARY MAP

Petersville School and Cemetery
Buckingham County, VA
DHR ID# 014-5028


 Proposed Boundary

0 400
Feet



PIF AERIAL-VICINITY MAP

Petersville School and Cemetery
Buckingham County, VA
DHR ID# 014-5028

 Proposed Boundary

0 1,500
 Feet



















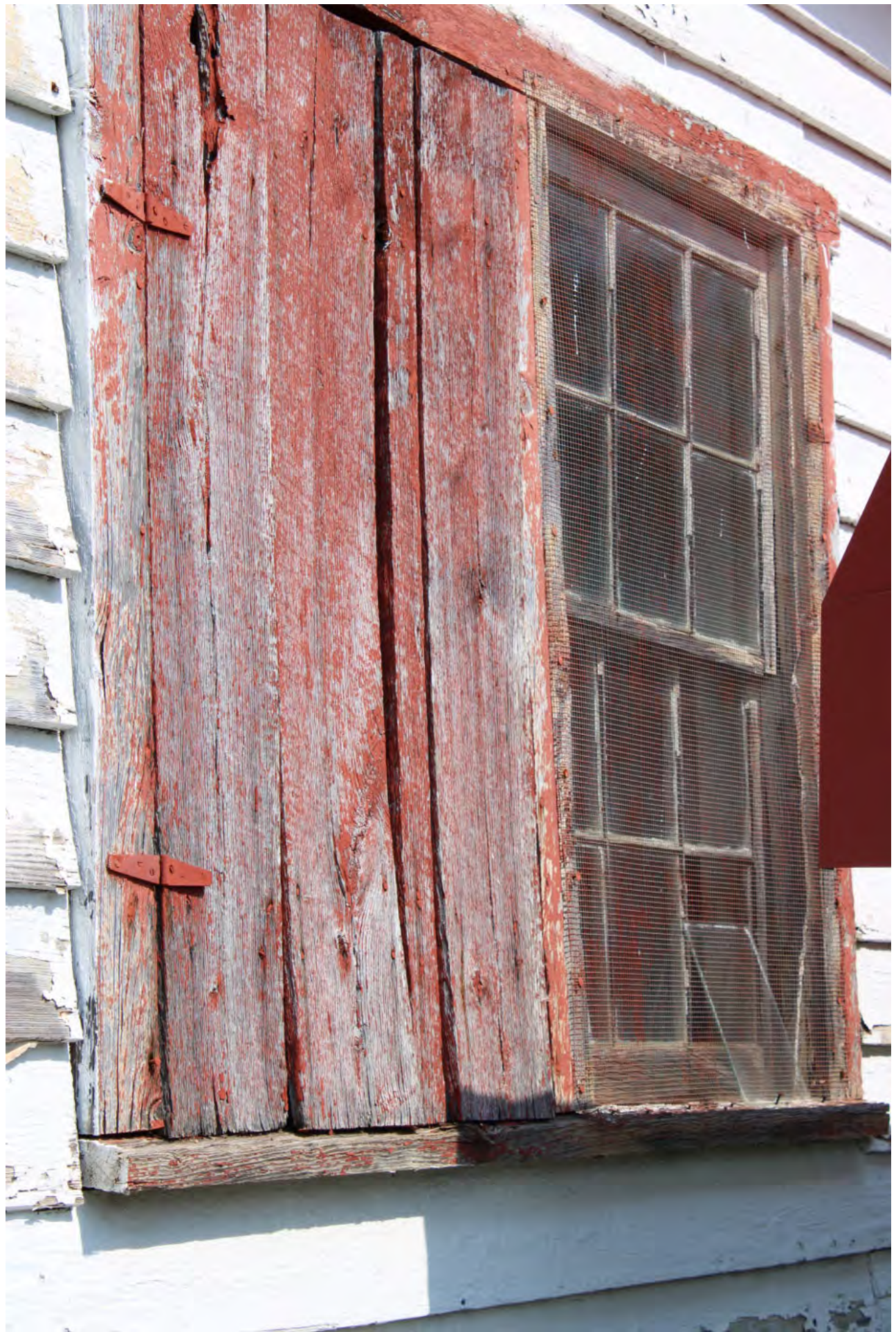


















































MOTHER
AGELINE BOOKER
Born May 1, 1861
Died May 23, 1910

A pious mother
Devoted child
BOOKER





WILLIAM B. BOOKER
CO. C
10 ENGRS.
U.S.A.





MABELLE ALBERT
BORN
SEP. 12, 1866
DIED APRIL 13, 1949
WIFE OF THE LATE
JAMES T. ALBERT
A CAPTAIN IN THE
PRESIDENTIAL COY
OF THE
ARRESTED & WOUNDED
IN 1861



EDIE A. R. NICHOLAS
JUNE 10, 1852
DIED NOV. 21, 1947
WE FOLLOW THEE
GOOD LORD WE FOLLOW THEE
BEST SLEEP ON
AND TAKE THY
REST

IN MEMORY OF



MICY HART WILL

Born Oct. 9, 1849

Died May 21 1925

Aged 75. 7 Mos. 12 dys

AT REST





AT REST
OUR
MOTHER
OLD
WIFE







A tall, rectangular, weathered grey stone gravestone stands in a grassy cemetery. The top of the stone features a decorative carving of a sunburst or starburst design. Below this, there is a small, arched niche containing a five-pointed star. The main body of the stone is inscribed with the name 'IRENE E.' in large, bold, capital letters. Below the name, in smaller letters, is 'Wife of', followed by 'W. M. FLEMING' in large, bold, capital letters. The dates 'April 13, 1897' and 'Nov. 30, 1922' are inscribed in a smaller font. At the bottom of the inscription, it reads 'We hope to meet again, in Heaven'. The base of the stone is partially buried in the ground, which is covered with dry, yellowish-brown grass. In the background, other gravestones are visible, some adorned with flowers, and a dense line of green trees under a clear blue sky.

IRENE E.

Wife of
W. M. FLEMING
April 13, 1897
Nov. 30, 1922

We hope to meet
again, in Heaven



A weathered, upright gravestone with a rounded top, set in a grassy cemetery. The stone is inscribed with the name 'LESTER E. KEARNEY' in a large, arched font. Above the name is the phrase 'My Darling Son' and below it are the birth and death dates: 'Born Feb. 12, 1903' and 'Died May 18, 1924'. At the bottom, it says 'At Rest.' The stone is mounted on a simple rectangular base.

My Darling Son

LESTER E. KEARNEY

Born

Feb. 12, 1903

Died

May 18, 1924

At Rest.

NATHAN BOOKER

PVT US ARMY

WORLD WAR I

1895

1963



JOHN
SAMUEL
FLEMING

VIRGINIA

PVT

155 DEPOT BRIGADE
WORLD WAR I

AUGUST 4 1894

SEPTEMBER 3 1962









