



**PRELIMINARY INFORMATION FORM (PIF) for INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES**

*Note: PIFs are prepared by applicants and evaluated by DHR staff and the State Review Board based on information known at the time of preparation. Recommendations concerning PIFs are subject to change if new information becomes available.*

**DHR No. (to be completed by DHR staff)** 054-0029

**1. General Property Information**

Property name: Goldmine Baptist Church

Property address: 2007 Goldmine Road

City or Town Louisa County

Zip code: 23093

Name of the Independent City or County where the property is located: Louisa County

Category of Property (choose only one of the following):

Building X

Site \_\_\_\_\_

Structure \_\_\_\_\_

Object \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Physical Aspects**

Acreage: 0.7

Setting (choose only one of the following):

Urban \_\_\_\_\_ Suburban \_\_\_\_\_ Town \_\_\_\_\_ Village \_\_\_\_\_ Hamlet \_\_\_\_\_ Rural X

Briefly describe the property's overall location and setting, including any notable landscape features:

Surrounded on three sides by the bucolic Gold Mine Creek Agricultural and Forest District, Goldmine Baptist Church abuts the power company-owned property encompassing Gold Mine Creek and nearby Lake Anna. To the rear of the property, the view is heavily wooded. To the east, the only visible structure - a former community center-turned house- can be seen. Across the road, a thin line of brush conceals swampy terrain often frequented by water fowl.



### 3. Architectural Description

Architectural Style(s): Greek Revival

If the property was designed by an architect, landscape architect, engineer, or other professional, please list here: \_\_\_\_\_

If the builder is known, please list here: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of construction (can be approximate): 1852

**Narrative Description (Please do not exceed one page in describing the property):**

Briefly describe the property's general characteristics, such as its current use (and historic use if different), as well as the primary building or structure on the property (such as a house, store, mill, factory, depot, bridge, etc.). Include the materials and method(s) of construction, physical appearance and condition (exterior and interior), and any additions or other major alterations.

Goldmine Baptist Church is an exemplary example of Greek Revival architecture popular between the 1820s and 1860s. More than 170 years after the church's consecration, the striking stepped gable roofline and brick stretcher bond front facade stand as testament to the builders' commitment to quality and lasting construction. At some point in the modern era, a one-story brick vestibule was added at the front of the structure, adding much needed bathrooms to support the building's use as the home of an active congregation.

On the sides of the original structure, the more common American bond technique was used to construct the stout, two-story structural brick walls, each hand molded and painstakingly fired out of local clay. The vast plane of the side walls are interrupted only by three large windows on each side. Above them, a metal roof sits supported by thick, live edge rafters visible from the church's attic.

Inside the single-room two story structure, a set of five original greek doric columns rest on a wood floor, supporting what was once an open gallery upstairs – now walled off to serve as an oversized chase for the forced-air heat system added in the mid 1990s. On either side of the sanctuary, two historic chimneys have been repurposed to vent large propane-fired heating units, likely also dating to the 1990s. Opposite the original structure's twin front doors, a non-original stage has been added, partially obstructing one of the two rear exterior entrances.

Overall, the property remains in unbelievably good condition given its age, having been actively maintained by the congregation for the vast majority of its lifetime. Despite recent neglect, no signs of water intrusion can be seen on the inside. Though no records have been found, it is clear an engineered solution has been put in place to ensure the longevity of the structure, as evinced by the large architectural tension rods that span the sanctuary and the concrete buttress supporting the foundation of the structure's eastern side wall.

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: The church is the sole structure on the property.



#### 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 1760s were a time of growing frustration with British rule, and by extension the Church of England. As early as 1763, the preaching of Nathaniel Saunders, Samuel Harris, James Read, Lewis Craig, and others had stirred the interest of many people in the goldmine creek neighborhood, resulting in calls for the creation of a formal Baptist congregation in Louisa County. Housed in a 40' x 20' building erected on the land of Joseph Thompson, the new church was named "Thompson's Meeting House" after its first minister, Reverend David Thompson. Though he was briefly jailed for preaching without a license, Thompson built a thriving congregation, passing off the reins to John Leiland, who served as pastor until 1791.

In 1801, the selection of Reverend George Morris as minister led to a division within Thompson's Meeting House, leading a minority of members to leave the congregation and establish a new church two miles to the east on land donated by William and Frances Martin. With recognition from the Goshen Baptist Association, the congregation's membership flourished inside a newly constructed frame meeting house named Goldmine Baptist Church. Reverend William Waller became pastor of the church in 1807 and was succeeded by Reverend William Y. Hiter, who ministered to the church for 30 years.

In 1829, geographic diversity in the congregation led to the establishment of Lower Goldmine Church, now known as Louisa Baptist Church. Despite the distance, Goldmine church – which was for a time known as Upper Goldmine church – shared a pastor with its offshoot. From 1852 to 1855, both churches fell under the ministerial guidance of Alfred Elijah Dickinson, who would later rise to prominence as director of the Baptist General Assembly of Virginia's colportage ministry during the Civil War and subsequently led Richmond's stately Leigh Street Baptist Church.

The current Goldmine Baptist Church building was constructed in 1852. Constructed out of hand-moulded clay bricks and lime mortar, the impressive two story Greek Revival structure features a stretcher bond facade. In addition to two still-present (though now interior) front double doors that welcomed the congregation's white members, two smaller doors to the building's side and rear provided segregated access to narrow stairs and a balcony – the assigned seating for slaves prior to the Civil War. According to church records, all but one black congregants chose not to leave Goldmine Church upon gaining their freedom.

Though modifications have been made to the structure over the years, the craftsmanship and care that went into Goldmine Baptist Church's construction is still obvious today. Sadly, the old frame meeting house is no longer standing. A cemetery, reportedly, once stood on a hill behind the present church, but no traces of it remain.



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.)

- Massie, Quintus. History of Gold Mine Church. Aug. 1937.
- "Dictionary of Virginia Biography - Alfred Elijah Dickinson (3 December 1830-20 November 1906) Biography." Virginia.gov, 2025, old.lva.virginia.gov/public/dvb/bio.asp?b=Dickinson\_Alfred\_Elijah. Accessed 15 Oct. 2025.
- Petty, Gene. *200 Years of Worship: Goldmine Baptist Church*, Goldmine Baptist Church, Louisa, Virginia, 1970

**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: 2007 Goldmine LLC

organization: \_\_\_\_\_

street & number: 109 E 16th Street

city or town: Richmond state: VA zip code: 23224

e-mail: Samanthagalina@gmail.com telephone: (631) 672-8494

Legal Owner's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 10/15/25

• • *Signature required for processing all applications.* • •

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

Contact person: Samantha Galina

Daytime Telephone: (631) 672-8494

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

name/title: Felix Schapiro

organization: 2007 Goldmine LLC

street & number: 109 E 16th St

city or town: Richmond state: Virginia zip code: 23224

e-mail: Felix.Schapiro@gmail.com telephone: 804-432-9652

Date: 10/14/2025

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





Methodist Episcopal Church South, 1848  
Washington, Kentucky



Joseph Priestly Memorial Chapel, 1834  
Northumberland County, Pennsylvania





St. Paul's Parish, 1841  
Point of Rocks, Maryland



Poolesville Presbyterian Church, 1847  
Montgomery County, Maryland

Maryland's National Register Properties:  
Uniontown Academy



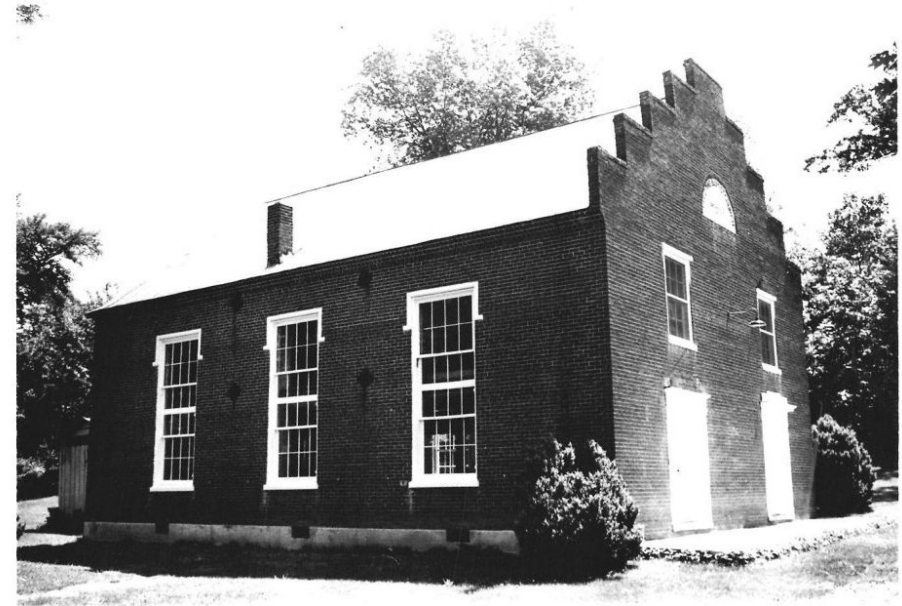
Maryland Historical Trust  
Jennifer K. Cosham, 04/25/2006

Union Town Academy, 1851  
Carroll County, Maryland





Wesley's Chapel United Methodist Church, 1853  
Fluvanna County, Virginia




Goldmine Baptist Church, 1852  
Louisa County, Virginia



# PIF BOUNDARY MAP

Goldmine Baptist Church  
Louisa County, VA  
DHR ID# 054-0029

 Proposed Boundary


0 100  
Feet





# PIF AERIAL-VICINITY MAP

Goldmine Baptist Church  
Louisa County, VA  
DHR ID# 054-0029

 Proposed Boundary

0 500  
 Feet













GOLD MINE BAPTIST CHURCH  
ORGANIZED  
1770





































































