



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## Department of Historic Resources

Matt Strickler  
*Secretary of Natural Resources*

2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23221

Julie V. Langan  
*Director*

Tel: (804) 367-2323  
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[www.dhr.virginia.gov](http://www.dhr.virginia.gov)

January 15, 2021

Carey Jones  
Certified Local Government Coordinator  
Planning and Development Review  
900 E. Broad Street, Room 510  
Richmond, VA 23219

**Re: St. John's United Holy Church of America, City of Richmond, VA**

Dear Ms. Jones:

The Department of Historic Resources (DHR), Virginia's historic preservation office, is planning to present the **enclosed** National Register nomination for Virginia's State Review Board and Historic Resources Board for recommendation to the National Register of Historic Places and inclusion in the Virginia Landmarks Register.

Because this resource is within your Certified Local Government, the Architectural Review Board (ARB) is entitled to a sixty-day comment period during which the ARB may review the draft nomination and relay any comments or concerns to the DHR. I hope you will consider the enclosed nomination at your next meeting and relay your comments to us. All comments will be forwarded to the SHPO Director and the Boards for consideration along with the nomination. We have scheduled the nomination for presentation to our boards on **Thursday, March 18, 2021**, and would like to receive your comments by that time in fulfillment of the comment period. This letter serves as notification initiating the sixty-day comment period and no further action will be taken on the nomination until we have received your comments or the full sixty-day period has passed.

I look forward to receiving your comments. Should you have any further questions regarding the nomination or the register program, please call me directly at 804-482-6445.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Edwards".

David Edwards  
Director, Community Services Division

cc: Mayor Levar Stoney; Lincoln Saunders

Enclosure

Western Region Office  
962 Kime Lane  
Salem, VA 24153  
Tel: (540) 387-5443  
Fax: (540) 387-5446

Northern Region Office  
5357 Main Street  
PO Box 519  
Stephens City, VA 22655  
Tel: (540) 868-7029  
Fax: (540) 868-7033

Eastern Region Office  
2801 Kensington Avenue  
Richmond, VA 23221  
Tel: (804) 367-2323  
Fax: (804) 367-2391

## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Historic Resources (DHR), 2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23221  
(804) 482-6446; [www.dhr.virginia.gov](http://www.dhr.virginia.gov)

### Rights of Private Property Owners to Comment and/or Object to a Nomination for Listing in the Virginia Landmarks Register and/or the National Register of Historic Places

The Department of Historic Resources (DHR) is Virginia's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). DHR administers the Virginia Landmarks Register on behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia and, as the SHPO, administers Virginia's participation in the National Register of Historic Places, which is managed by the National Park Service. DHR is your primary point of contact for all matters related to the Virginia Landmarks Register (VLR) and the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

#### Supporting and/or Commenting on a Nomination

A private property owner who supports a nomination for listing in either or both the VLR and the NRHP is invited to send a letter of support but is not required to do so in order for the nomination to proceed. Private property owners also are welcome to comment on a nomination even if they do not seek to go on record with either a vote of support for or an objection to a nomination. Copies of letters of support and/or comment are provided to the State Review Board (SRB) and the Board of Historic Resources (BHR) for review, along with the nomination to which they refer, and are included with the nomination if the SRB has recommended it to proceed to the NRHP.

#### Objecting to a Nomination

A private property owner has the right to object to listing in either the VLR or the NRHP, or object to listing in both registers. For a private property that is being individually nominated, each owner or partial owner of the private property may object to listing regardless of the portion of the property that party owns. For a historic district that is being nominated, each owner of private property in the proposed historic district is counted as one individual regardless of how many properties that party owns, and regardless of whether the properties contribute to the significance of the district.

The private property owner's objection to listing must be provided to DHR in writing. Any owner or partial owner of private property who chooses to object to listing shall submit to DHR a written statement of objection that has been attested and notarized by a notary public and that references the subject property by address and/or parcel number and certifying that the party is the sole or partial owner of the private property, as appropriate. Only upon such submission shall such objecting owner be counted by DHR in determining whether a majority of private property owners has objected to a nomination. An objection to both the VLR and NRHP designations can be submitted in the same letter. However, in order for an objection to listing in the VLR to be counted, it must be submitted to DHR a minimum of 7 business days prior to the scheduled Board meeting listed in the notification letter. An objection to NRHP listing will stand even if the letter arrives too late for consideration of the VLR listing.

For an individually nominated private property, if **a majority** of the private property's owners object according to the process described herein, the nomination will not proceed. For a historic district nomination, if **a majority** of the private property owners within the historic district boundary object according to the process described herein, the nomination will not proceed. In both types of cases, as the SHPO, DHR shall submit the nomination to the National Park Service's Keeper for a determination of eligibility of the property for listing in the NRHP. If the property is then determined eligible for listing, although not formally listed, Federal agencies will be required to allow for the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation to have an opportunity to comment before the agency may fund, license, or assist a project which will affect the property.

Letters of objection must be addressed to the State Historic Preservation Officer at the Department of Historic Resources, 2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23221.

Letters of objection received a minimum of 7 business days prior to the Board meeting will be copied to the members of the SRB and BHR for review, along with the nomination to which they refer. If, at the Board meeting, the nomination is approved to proceed to the NRHP, all letters of objection will be forwarded to the National Park Service to consider with their review of the nomination, along with any letters of support or comment that DHR has received. Letters of objection to listing in the National Register of Historic Places may be submitted to DHR even after the Board meeting at which the nomination is approved. DHR will forward any letters of objection to the National Park Service. The National Park Service continues to accept letters of objection up to the date of listing in the NRHP. The National Park Service typically concludes review and approval of a nomination within approximately 55 days of receipt of the nomination from DHR.

## **St. John's United Holy Church of America, Inc., City of Richmond, DHR No. 127-7209**

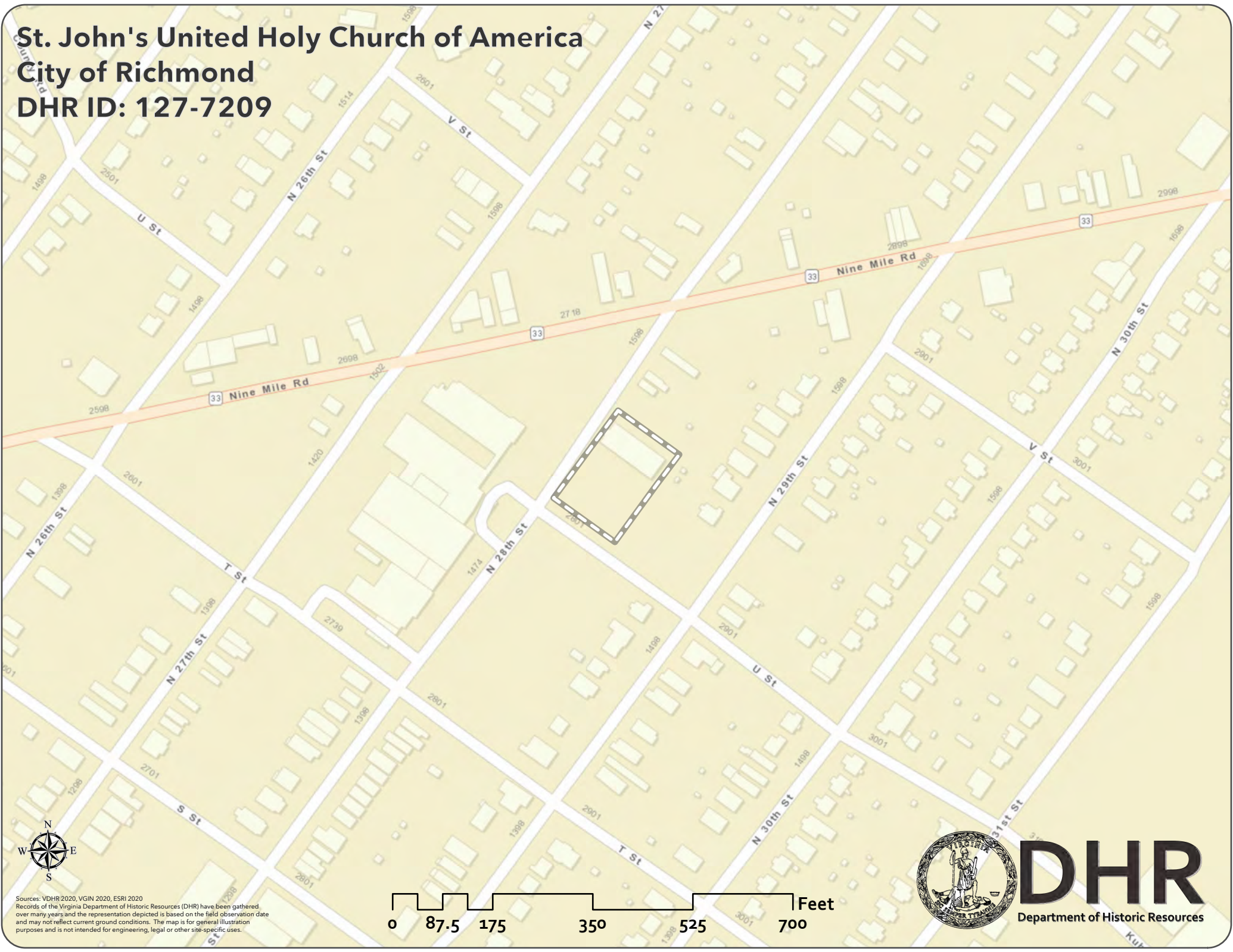
St. John's United Holy Church of America, Inc. is a one-story, three-bay, Colonial Revival church with a gable-front roof. Built in 1931, the church, which is raised on an English basement, features six-course American-bond brick walls, strip pilasters at the corners, and sixteen-over-sixteen wood sash windows. A central one-bay Tuscan entry portico is reached by steps to each side. The portico incorporates a carefully detailed two-part architrave. A later addition extends to the south towards an alley. The interior of the sanctuary features rough textured plaster walls and a ceiling clad in decorative pressed metal featuring square coffers. The primary space in the English basement is an assembly hall with a regularly spaced double row of eight steel columns supporting the floor above. An added kitchen occupies the east corner, likely completed in 1942. A low concrete platform that forms a stage across a portion of the southeast end of the room was probably added at the same time as the kitchen. The concrete platform incorporates a baptismal basin with a cover. The church is the only resource on the property and is a contributing building.

The church, built in Richmond's Fairfield neighborhood in 1931-32 by St. Johns United Holy Church, is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Ethnic Heritage: African American as a building associated with an important African American church founded in the early twentieth century. Under Criterion B in the area of Social History, the property is locally significant for its association with Reverend Dr. James Forbes Jr., who served as minister to the church from 1965-1973 during the latter years of the Civil Rights movement and had an illustrious career that continued into the early 21<sup>st</sup> century. The property is also locally significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture as an unusually well-preserved example of the type of building constructed by that denomination during the period of segregation. The congregation has carefully preserved significant elements of its original architectural form and materials. The property's period of significance is 1932-1973, beginning with construction of the building and ending with the culmination of the pastorship of Reverend Dr. James Forbes Jr. Significant dates for the property are 1932, when the extant building replaced the congregation's original frame sanctuary, and c. 1950, when the rear addition was constructed. St. John's United Holy Church of America meets Criteria Consideration A for religious properties because it derives its primary significance from its historical importance under Criteria A and B, and from its architectural importance under Criterion C.

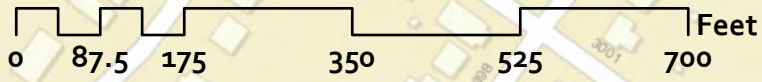
# St. John's United Holy Church of America

## City of Richmond

DHR ID: 127-7209



Sources: VDHR 2020, VGIN 2020, ESRI 2020  
Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years and the representation depicted is based on the field observation date and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general illustration purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses.



# DHR

Department of Historic Resources

## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Historic Resources (DHR), 2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23221

### **Key Points about the National and State Register Process for Property Owners**

- Listing in the national and state registers is honorary. It recognizes a historic property's importance to its community, the State, and/or the Nation as well as encouraging good stewardship of the historic property.
- National and state register listings do not place restrictions on private property owners. Owners have no obligation to open their properties to the public, to restore them, or even to maintain them, if they choose not to do so.
- Under Federal and State laws, private property owners can do anything they wish with their Register-listed property, provided that no Federal or State license, permit, or funding is involved.
- If a listed property is destroyed or its integrity is greatly altered, it is removed from the registers.
- To ensure public participation in the nomination process, property owners and local officials are notified of proposed nominations to the National Register and provided the opportunity to comment. In addition, once a nomination is submitted to the National Park Service another public comment period is published in the *Federal Register*. Further details about the public participation process are available at [http://www.dhr.virginia.gov/register/GuidanceMaterials/LegalNotificationForm\\_2016.pdf](http://www.dhr.virginia.gov/register/GuidanceMaterials/LegalNotificationForm_2016.pdf)
- Federal agencies whose projects affect a listed property must give DHR (Virginia's State Historic Preservation Office) an opportunity to comment on the project and its effects on the property. Further details are provided below.
- Federal and State Investment Tax Credits for rehabilitation and other provisions are available, should a property owner choose to use them. Further details are provided below.
- Owners may also qualify for Federal grants for historic preservation when funding is available. Refer to the National Park Service web site for Federal grant information. Currently, Virginia has no grants available for privately owned properties.

### **National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)**

Established under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, the national historic preservation program is a partnership between the Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments; private organizations; and the public. The Act and its provisions establish the framework within which citizens plan, identify, evaluate, register, and protect significant historic and archeological properties throughout the country. Central to this framework is the NRHP--the Nation's official list of historic properties worthy of preservation, administered by the National Park Service (NPS), Department of the Interior. Properties listed in the NRHP include districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture.

Historic places are nominated to the NRHP by nominating authorities: the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), appointed by the Governor of the State in which the property is located; the Federal Preservation Officer (FPO) for properties under Federal ownership or control; or by the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) if the property is on tribal lands. Anyone can prepare a nomination to the NRHP, at which time the SHPO, FPO or THPO reviews the proposed nomination, and notifies property owners and local officials of the intent to nominate. Nominations submitted through the State must first be approved by a State Review Board (SRB) before being reviewed by the NPS. The members of the SRB, who are appointed by the SHPO, use the same criteria as the National Register to evaluate properties and then recommend them to the NPS for listing in the NRHP.

The NRHP continues to reflect the desire of Americans, as expressed in the NHPA, that "the historical and cultural foundation of the nation should be preserved as a living part of our community life and development in order to give a sense of orientation to the American people."

### **Virginia Landmarks Register (VLR)**

In 1966, the Virginia General Assembly established the Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, now the Department of Historic Resources (DHR). DHR is the State Historic Preservation Office responsible for managing

the VLR, the state's official list of properties important to Virginia's history. The Historic Resources Board (HRB), appointed by the Governor of Virginia, is responsible for listing properties to the VLR. Just as the same evaluation criteria are used for the National and State registers, the same register form is also used for both the VLR and the NRHP. Nearly 2300 historic properties are listed in the VLR. This number does not include the tens of thousands of properties within each listed historic district.

### **Federal and State Tax Provisions**

The Tax Reform Act of 1986 revises the historic preservation tax incentives authorized by Congress in the Tax Reform Act of 1976, the Revenue Act of 1978, the Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980, the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981, and the Tax Reform Act of 1984, and, as of January 1, 1987, provides for a 20% Investment Tax Credit (ITC) with a full adjustment to basis for rehabilitating historic commercial, industrial and rental residential buildings. The former 15% and 20% ITCs for rehabilitations of older commercial buildings are combined into a single 10% ITC for commercial or industrial buildings built before 1936. The Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980 provides Federal tax deductions for charitable contributions for conservation purposes of partial interests in historically important land areas or structures. Whether these provisions are advantageous to a property owner is dependent upon the particular circumstances of the property and the owner.

Owners of properties listed in the VLR may be eligible for a 25% ITC for the certified rehabilitation of income-producing and non-income producing certified historic structures such as commercial, industrial, or rental or non-rental residential buildings. Owners who rehabilitate an income-producing building listed in both the National and State registers may use both Federal and State ITCs. Tax Credits are only available if a property owner chooses to use them and individuals should consult the appropriate local IRS office for assistance in determining the tax consequences of the above provisions. Refer also to 36 CFR 67 at the Heritage Preservation Services web site or to the Tax Credit Program on the DHR web site.

### **Results of Federal and State Listing**

Property owners, historic district sponsoring organizations, and/or local governments may purchase an attractive official plaque noting designation for properties in historic districts and individually listed properties. Owners of recognized historic properties are also eligible for the Virginia Preservation Easement Program, as well as technical assistance from the staff of DHR. Professional architects, architectural historians, and archaeologists are available to provide technical guidance in the care and maintenance of buildings and sites.

Planning for Federal, federally licensed, and federally assisted projects includes consideration of historic properties. Section 106 of the NHPA requires that Federal agencies allow the SHPO an opportunity to comment on all projects affecting historic properties either listed in or determined eligible for listing in the NRHP. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation ([www.achp.gov](http://www.achp.gov)) oversees and ensures the consideration of historic properties in the Federal planning process. Buildings listed in the VLR may also be considered as part of a state-funded project, such as highway planning. Register listing also requires consideration in issuing a surface coal mining permit. In accordance with the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (30 U.S.C. 1201-1328; 91 Stat. 445), there must be consideration of historic values in the decision to issue a surface coal mining permit where coal is located. Staff at DHR are available to provide more information about these requirements.

Local governments may have laws to encourage the preservation of their historic places. Such programs are established at the local level and therefore are entirely separate from the Register process managed by DHR. Some local governments have enacted their own identification procedures; some use listing in the National and State registers as an indicator of historic significance. Local historic preservation programs can provide some protection against the possible harmful effects of State-funded, -licensed, or -assisted projects. Some provide limited financial assistance to owners in the form of grants, loans, or tax benefits. They may establish other protections or reviews for preservation purposes. Your local government's planning department can provide more information.

### **Websites with Additional Information**

[www.nps.gov/history](http://www.nps.gov/history) - National Park Service's main website for Historic Preservation and History programs

[www.nps.gov/nr/](http://www.nps.gov/nr/) - National Register of Historic Places main website

[www.cr.nps.gov/local-law/nhpa1966.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/local-law/nhpa1966.htm) - Provides the full text of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966

[www.dhr.virginia.gov](http://www.dhr.virginia.gov) - Department of Historic Resources (DHR) main website

[www.dhr.virginia.gov/register/register.htm](http://www.dhr.virginia.gov/register/register.htm) - Registers Homepage of DHR's website

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 for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: St. John's United Holy Church of America, Inc.

Other names/site number: DHR #127-7209

Name of related multiple property listing:  
N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

## 2. Location

Street & number: 1507 North 28<sup>th</sup> Street

City or town: Richmond State: VA County: Independent City

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national \_\_\_ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A X B X C \_\_\_ D

<p>_____  <b>Signature of certifying official/Title:</b>  <u>Virginia Department of Historic Resources</u>  <b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b></p>	<p>_____  <b>Date</b></p>
<p>In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.</p>	
<p>_____  <b>Signature of commenting official:</b></p>	<p>_____  <b>Date</b></p>
<p>_____  <b>Title :</b></p>	<p>_____  <b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b></p>

St. John's United Holy Church of America, Inc.  
Name of Property

City of Richmond, VA  
County and State

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#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register  
 determined eligible for the National Register  
 determined not eligible for the National Register  
 removed from the National Register  
 other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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#### 5. Classification

##### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

##### Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object



St. John's United Holy Church of America, Inc.  
Name of Property

City of Richmond, VA  
County and State

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION/religious facility

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION/religious facility

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

St. John's United Holy Church of America, Inc.  
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County and State

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS/Colonial Revival

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**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK; METAL/tin

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

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### Summary Paragraph

St. John's United Holy Church of America, Inc. is a one-story, three-bay, Colonial Revival church with a gable-front roof. Built in 1931, the church, which is raised on an English basement, features six-course American-bond brick walls, strip pilasters at the corners, and sixteen-over-sixteen wood sash windows. A central one-bay Tuscan entry portico is reached by steps to each side. The portico incorporates a carefully detailed two-part architrave. A later addition extends to the south towards an alley. The interior of the sanctuary features rough textured plaster walls and a ceiling clad in decorative pressed metal featuring square coffers. The primary space in the English basement is an assembly hall with a regularly spaced double row of eight steel columns supporting the floor above. An added kitchen occupies the east corner, likely completed in 1942. A low concrete platform that forms a stage across a portion of the southeast end of the room was probably added at the same time as the kitchen. The concrete platform incorporates a baptismal basin with a cover. The church is the only resource on the property and is a contributing building. The building is in good condition and possesses high levels of historic integrity in terms of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Changes that have been made have generally respected its architectural integrity.

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### Narrative Description

St. John's United Holy Church of America, Inc.  
Name of Property

City of Richmond, VA  
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### **Setting**

The church faces directly onto North 28<sup>th</sup> Street in Richmond's East End. The neighborhood around the church is in transition. It was formerly a residential neighborhood. A hospital has been built directly across the street and a paved parking lot is directly adjacent to the church's southwest side. Other structures on the block have been demolished, leaving behind vacant lots.

### **Exterior**

St. John's United Holy Church is a Colonial Revival, one-story, three-bay, brick, nave-plan church facing North 28<sup>th</sup> Street with a minimal setback. The gable-front roof is covered with block-tin standing-seam metal roofing. The molded wood box cornice includes returns in the front gable. The church features six-course American-bond walls, brick strip pilasters at the corners, and sixteen-over-sixteen wood sash windows. The windows are arranged in one bay to each side of the front entry and in four bays along each side. The windows are treated plainly, without jack arches or lintels, except on the front, where the two windows flanking the portico are treated with molded wood surrounds, molded sills, and classical cornices. The main entry, centrally located in the front wall, consists of an added pair of aluminum storefront doors topped by an original eighteen-light transom. The entry is protected by a one-bay Tuscan portico incorporating a carefully detailed two-part architrave. Concrete steps ascend to either side. The front of the porch is spanned by an original section of ornamental iron railing. The gable contains a bull's eye window with keystones at the top and bottom and to each side. The corner stone, located at the north corner, is inscribed with "St. John's - Holiness / Church / Organized-A.D. 1915 / Erected-A.D. 1931."

The building is raised on an English basement lit by three-over-three wood sash windows that are aligned with the first-floor openings. A tall brick chimney rises on the north side near the rear and a small flue rises on the south side near the center of that wall. A c. 1950 brick-clad concrete block addition was made to the rear of the church in the mid-twentieth century. The exterior is clad with running-bond brick. It features six-over-six sash windows, flush steel doors, and a large, off-center chimney on the rear wall. Two basement doors with concrete steps are located at the east and west ends of the north side of the original section and another on the north side of the rear addition. A modern wood canopy has been added over the western basement entry to provide rain protection for church members entering and exiting the basement. A double door provides an exit from the basement on the south side of the rear addition as well.

### **Interior**

The sanctuary, located on the first floor, features rough-textured plastered walls defined by a series of projecting piers between the windows arranged along each side. The high ceiling rises within the roof to the bottom of the collar beams. The flat center section of the ceiling and the sloping areas that flank it on either side are clad in decorative pressed metal featuring square coffers. A central square contains a decorative medallion, while four pendant schoolhouse-style

St. John's United Holy Church of America, Inc.  
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light fixtures are suspended from decorative medallions that occupy the quadrants. The ceiling is bordered by a Greek anthemion frieze that runs around the entire room.

Woodwork in the sanctuary includes one-part architrave trim at the doors and windows and a molded baseboard. The windows are filled with opaque patterned pressed glass. The entry is located within a partial height frame vestibule that extends to one side to contain the stairs to the basement. A small office has been added to the side of the entry vestibule. The floor is carpeted. The first floor of the mid-twentieth century addition to the rear of the building contains a choir room and offices for church staff.

The basement interior is primarily made up of a rectangular assembly hall with plaster walls, linoleum and poured concrete flooring, and a pressed metal ceiling. The ceiling is made up of a grid of small square coffers with a small cove cornice around the outside walls. The basement is lit by regularly spaced schoolhouse light fixtures. A double row of eight steel columns supports the floor above. The two exterior doors on the northeast side are original. Small restrooms that occupied the corners in the northwest end have been enlarged. A large kitchen occupies the east corner. It was likely added in 1942. A low concrete platform that forms a stage across a portion of the southeast end of the room was probably added at the same time as the kitchen. The concrete platform incorporates a baptismal basin, now covered with plywood. A door at the center of the rear wall leads to the basement of the rear addition. A storage room occupies most of the addition, but an enclosed boiler room in the southeast corner of the addition contains a furnace that provides steam to radiators throughout the building.

### **Secondary Resources**

There are no secondary resources.

### **Integrity Analysis**

The location of the church is at the site purchased in the year the church was formed. The church has occupied the site and held services there continuously ever since. The initial frame structure was removed, and the current brick building was built in its place as funds were raised by the congregation. The setting around the site has changed, as the row houses surrounding the church on 28<sup>th</sup> Street have been demolished and a hospital constructed across the street in 1979.

The exterior design facing 28th Street remains as it was initially constructed. The original portions of the building remain visible on the northeast and southwest elevations; however, the elevations are elongated by the rear addition. The materials used on the exterior of the addition are consistent with the original; however, the location of the joint between the original and the addition is apparent due to aging and difference in workmanship. This is true on the interior as well with the sanctuary and entry vestibule remaining as original, but for the added church office and the choir area behind the altar. Both were paneled with wood at the time the office was added in the late 1970s or early 1980s, according to church members' recollection.

St. John's United Holy Church of America, Inc.  
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The feeling of the original 1931 church has been largely maintained in the sanctuary and the basement level assembly hall, as the original construction and materials remain in place and in good condition. The addition is a discrete space on both levels, separated by walls from the original portion. There is clear demarcation between the original and later sections, however, care was taken to maintain the feeling of the original church congregational spaces. Given the overall integrity of the sanctuary, 28<sup>th</sup> street elevation and assembly area, the association with the period of the church's construction is maintained.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ETHNIC HERITAGE: African American

SOCIAL HISTORY

ARCHITECTURE

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1932 – 1973

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1932

c. 1950

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Forbes, James A. Jr.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Andrews, Anthony H.

Wooding, J.B.

\_\_\_\_\_

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The church, built in Richmond's Fairfield neighborhood in 1931-32 by St. Johns United Holy Church, is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Ethnic Heritage: African American as a building associated with an important African American church founded in the early twentieth century. Under Criterion B in the area of Social History, the property is locally significant for its association with Reverend Dr. James Forbes Jr., who served as minister to the church from 1965-1973 during the latter years of the Civil Rights movement and had an illustrious career that continued into the early 21<sup>st</sup> century. The property is also locally significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture as an unusually well-preserved example of the type of building constructed by that denomination during the period of segregation. The congregation has carefully preserved significant elements of its original architectural form and materials. The property's period of significance is 1932-1973, beginning with construction of the building and ending with the culmination of the pastorship of Reverend Dr. James Forbes Jr. Significant dates for the property are 1932, when the extant building replaced the congregation's original frame sanctuary, and c. 1950, when the rear addition was constructed. St. John's United Holy Church of America meets Criteria Consideration A for religious properties because it derives its primary significance from its historical importance under Criteria A and B, and from its architectural importance under Criterion C.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

**Criterion A: Ethnic Heritage: African American**

St. John's United Holy Church is an outgrowth of a powerful religious movement involving an experience of holiness which emerged out of the Methodist Church in the late nineteenth century. The Holiness Movement led to the secession of many Methodists to form separate denominations. Among the African-American churches, Holiness organizations emerged from African Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal Zion, and Baptist congregations. The idea that underlay the movement, originating with John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, has been described as a doctrine of "a second work of grace" leading to perfection, a belief that spread among Wesleyan Methodists in the 1840s [e.g., Cooper, "Means of Grace as Formative Holiness"].

The United Holy Church of America, Inc. was founded in Method, North Carolina, in 1886. It is one of the oldest African American Pentecostal churches in the United States. It "emphasized the doctrines of justification, sanctification, and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit as evidenced by speaking in tongues, . . . [although] they were viewed more as Holiness churches than as Pentecostal" [DuPree xxxv]. Today, the church has congregations across the nation and around the world.



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In Richmond, the St. John's congregation (sometimes identified as the St. John's Holiness Church), began with street preaching on the corner of 17<sup>th</sup> and Franklin streets. The Rev. William Fountain and his wife, who had moved across the James River from Manchester, organized a Holiness church at 29<sup>th</sup> and M streets in 1915. Rev. Fountain served as the first pastor. Future pastor and bishop William Clements "was drawn to the revival" at the original location. Later he and his wife Lena were moved to declare their faith at a service at the 29<sup>th</sup> Street location. The current site on the east side of North 28<sup>th</sup> Street was purchased in the same year and a frame church building constructed soon after. Congregational history indicates that this was the first new church in the city built by a black Pentecostal Church [St. John's United Holy Church, *1915-1980: 65 Years Church Anniversary Celebration, 1507 North 28<sup>th</sup> Street*].

The church has remained at the same site for more than 100 years to the present day. The ministers who served the church during the first half century included:

- Rev. William Fountain- 1915-1919
- Elder Joseph Silver- 1919-c1922
- Elder (later Bishop) William Clements- c1922-1960
- Rev. James Percy Jackson 1960-1965
- Rev. James A. Forbes, Jr 1965-1973
- Rev. Tyler C. Milner 1974-1979

African American churches have long been recognized for their significance in the lives of Virginia's African Americans. During the slavery era, enslaved African Americans were not free to choose a means of worship for themselves; whatever religious instruction made available to them was at the dictate of the slave owner. Free African Americans established churches during the colonial and early republic periods. In the Commonwealth, among those recently listed in the NRHP is First Baptist Church in Richmond (listed in 2017). Although the current church building dates to 1956, the congregation itself began in the early 1770s. From that date through the onset of the Civil War, African American churches functioned in difficult conditions as many whites opposed persons of color convening for any purpose without white supervision. After the Nat Turner Rebellion in 1831, Virginia's General Assembly passed laws requiring oversight of all African American churches by a white minister and forbade gatherings that were not supervised by at least one white person [Lewes and Hanbury, 11-12, 14].

After the Civil War, religious freedom ranked high among the cherished freedoms attained by newly emancipated African Americans and those who had been free prior to the war. For the first time in Virginia's history, African Americans engaged in self-determination in religious and funerary practices, which led to a proliferation of new denominations and congregations across the state. Well-known denominations, including the African Methodist Episcopal Church and Zion Baptist Church, flourished through the late 19<sup>th</sup> century up to the present day. African American worship traditions, such as a sense of celebration, gospel and improvisational music, community experience and uplift based on the felt presence of grace, and interactive prayer, are understood to be deeply rooted in African Americans' lived experiences from their antecedents

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in Africa, the Middle Passage, slavery, emancipation, Jim Crow, civil rights victories, and continued evolution to the present day. From these experiences, African American congregations have developed a diverse array of practices, some of which are particular to a single denomination and other that are more broadly used. While churches based in the Pentecostal tradition, such as St. John's United Holy Church of America, are associated with the aforementioned traditions, other personal experiences are prioritized too. The spontaneous demonstrations of faith and grace, as experienced by Rev. Fountain and his wife and Bishop Clements and his wife, are examples of this aspect of the Pentecostal tradition [Jones, "African American Worship"].

The central role played by the African American church in community life is as a place that provided autonomy, religious freedom, social and recreational opportunities, and community organizing and uplift. These roles go beyond the exercise of religion to embrace civil, political, and economic freedoms, whether curtailed during the slavery era, wielded carefully during the racial terrorism that characterized the Jim Crow era, or flourishing as part of the Civil Rights movement. For these reasons, St. John's United Holy Church of America is locally significant in the area of Ethnic Heritage: African American for its century-long association with Richmond's African American community.

### **Criterion B: Social History**

Reverend Dr. James A. Forbes Jr served as minister to the St. John's United Holy Church of America from 1965-1973 during the latter years of the Civil Rights movement. While serving as minister, Reverend Forbes also engaged in civic activism in support of Richmond's black community, including serving as president of the Urban League of Greater Richmond and as Campus Minister at Virginia Union University, among other leadership roles in Richmond organizations ["Reverend Dr. James A. Forbes Jr's Biography" *The History Makers*].

Forbes's biography and professional accomplishments are described on multiple websites, all of which appear to have used a common set of source material. He was born in 1935 in Burgaw, North Carolina. His parents were James Forbes Sr. and Mabel Clemons Forbes. The senior Forbes worked as a salesman and served as pastor of the Providence United Holy Church in Raleigh, North Carolina. Mabel Forbes worked as a domestic, one of the few employment options available to African American women during Jim Crow. One of eight children, the junior Forbes and his siblings were raised with the church as the center of their family life. In 1953, James Forbes Jr. left Raleigh to attend Howard University with the intention of becoming a medical doctor. Although he completed a degree in chemistry in 1957, Forbes abandoned medical school to attend Union Theological Seminary in New York City, where he completed a master of divinity degree in 1962 [*The History Makers*; Ring, Encyclopedia.com; CUCC Weekly News, July 12, 2019; The Riverside Church in the City of New York; The Connecticut Forum, October 14, 2005; Howard University Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel, October 22, 2017; CUCC Weekly Enews, July 12, 2019].

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Following his seminary studies, Forbes returned to North Carolina and worked briefly at his father's church. In 1962, he became a student intern at Olin Binkley Memorial Baptist Church in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, then went on to serve at Holy Trinity Church in Wilmington and St. Paul's Holy Church in Roxboro, North Carolina, before taking a position at St. John's United Holy Church of American in Richmond in 1965. While in Richmond, Forbes continued his academic studies by earning a clinical pastoral education certificate from the Medical College of Virginia in 1968. This was in addition to his community service and capacity as a campus minister at Virginia Union University [*The History Makers*; Ring, Encyclopedia.com; CUCC Weekly News, July 12, 2019; The Riverside Church in the City of New York; The Connecticut Forum, October 14, 2005; Howard University Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel, October 22, 2017; CUCC Weekly Enews, July 12, 2019].

It appears that Forbes left Richmond to attend New York's Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School, where he attained a doctorate in ministry. Thereafter, Forbes's career continued on an illustrious trajectory that included returning to New York in 1976 to join the faculty at Union Theological Seminary, where he became the first Joe R. Engle Professor of Preaching in 1985 and being named the school's first Harry Emerson Fosdick Adjunct Professor of Preaching in 1989. The same year, he became the first African American minister at Riverside Church, one of the largest multicultural and interdenominational congregations in the United States [*The History Makers*; Ring, Encyclopedia.com; CUCC Weekly News, July 12, 2019; The Riverside Church in the City of New York; The Connecticut Forum, October 14, 2005; Howard University Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel, October 22, 2017; CUCC Weekly Enews, July 12, 2019].

His academic and professional achievements, together with his prodigious energy and charismatic preaching style, led to him being dubbed a "preacher's preacher." *Ebony* magazine named Forbes one of America's "greatest Black preachers" in 1985 and 1993. In 1996, *Newsweek* recognized Forbes as one of the 12 "most effective preachers" in the English-speaking world. Forbes's intense style led to disputes with some congregation members at Riverside Church, but also contributed to his continuing rise as one of the most prominent ministers in the United States [Ari L. Goldman, May 18, 1992]. In 1995, Forbes's "Healing the Spirit of America" was edited from The Davison Lectures at Warren Wilson College. In 1998, he acted as the inaugural Luce Lecturer at Harvard Divinity School with an emphasis on urban ministry. The same year, he participated in the Department of Justice Roundtable on Your Violence at the White House and delivered the keynote address at the President's Initiative on Race meeting in New Orleans. Starting in 1992, Forbes served as co-chair of A Partnership of Faith, an interfaith organization composed of Protestant, Catholic, Jewish and Muslim communities in New York City. This aspect of his career perhaps reached its apex with his address to the 2004 Democratic National Convention. In 2007, he retired from Riverside Church as a senior emeritus minister, but then established a non-profit, non-partisan foundation, Healing of the Nations, with a focus on spiritual revitalization. Forbes accumulated 14 honorary degrees from Princeton University, Trinity College, Colgate University, and University of Richmond (Virginia). On the personal side, Forbes married Bettye Franks and the couple had one child, James Forbes III [*The History Makers*; Ring, Encyclopedia.com; CUCC Weekly News, July 12, 2019; The Riverside Church in the City of New York, Ari L. Goldman, May 18, 1992; The Connecticut Forum, October 14,

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2005;Howard University Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel, October 22, 2017; CUCC Weekly Enews, July 12, 2019].

Although Forbes preached at St. John's United Holy Church of America early in his career, between 1965-1973, this was a formative period that included his first long-term tenure as a minister, completion of a clinical pastoral education certificate from the Medical College of Virginia, and serving as a campus minister at the historically black Virginia Union University. The church is likely the property most closely associated with Forbes's career in Richmond and, based on information known to date, in all of Virginia. Consequently, St. John's United Holy Church of America is significant at the local level under Criterion B for its direct association with Forbes's contributions to Richmond in the area of Social History.

### **Criterion C: Architecture**

When the congregation had outgrown its first building, the present church was commissioned and begun in 1931. The designer or architect is not known. The new building was constructed of brick and made use of modest Colonial Revival details. When the new church was built, the old church was purchased by Mt. Tabor Baptist and moved to their church site nearby on Fairmont Avenue. It is no longer standing. The mid-block site of St. John's Church historically was flanked by narrow lots filled with row houses. The sides of the new building were shielded by adjacent structures and, as a result, the principal architectural details were focused primarily on the church's street front facade.

Construction was phased as funds were raised. The basement was completed first and was covered with a temporary roof and used for church services in 1931. Fundraising was encouraged by the issuance of certificates showing that sponsors had purchased a brick to be used in the construction. The floor plan originally incorporated a shallow "choir stand" at the east end, flanked by a women's dressing room and restroom to the south and a small men's room and "finance room" to the north, linked by a narrow corridor across the rear containing a door to the exterior (see Figure 3). A platform containing the pulpit and official seating extended in front of the choir. The communion table was located on the floor in front of the pulpit. The basement contained a large meeting room. The northwest end of the basement housed the interior stair to the first floor and two small bathrooms. An enclosed room in the southeast corner apparently served as the boiler room. The furnace was served by a large chimney in the adjacent wall.

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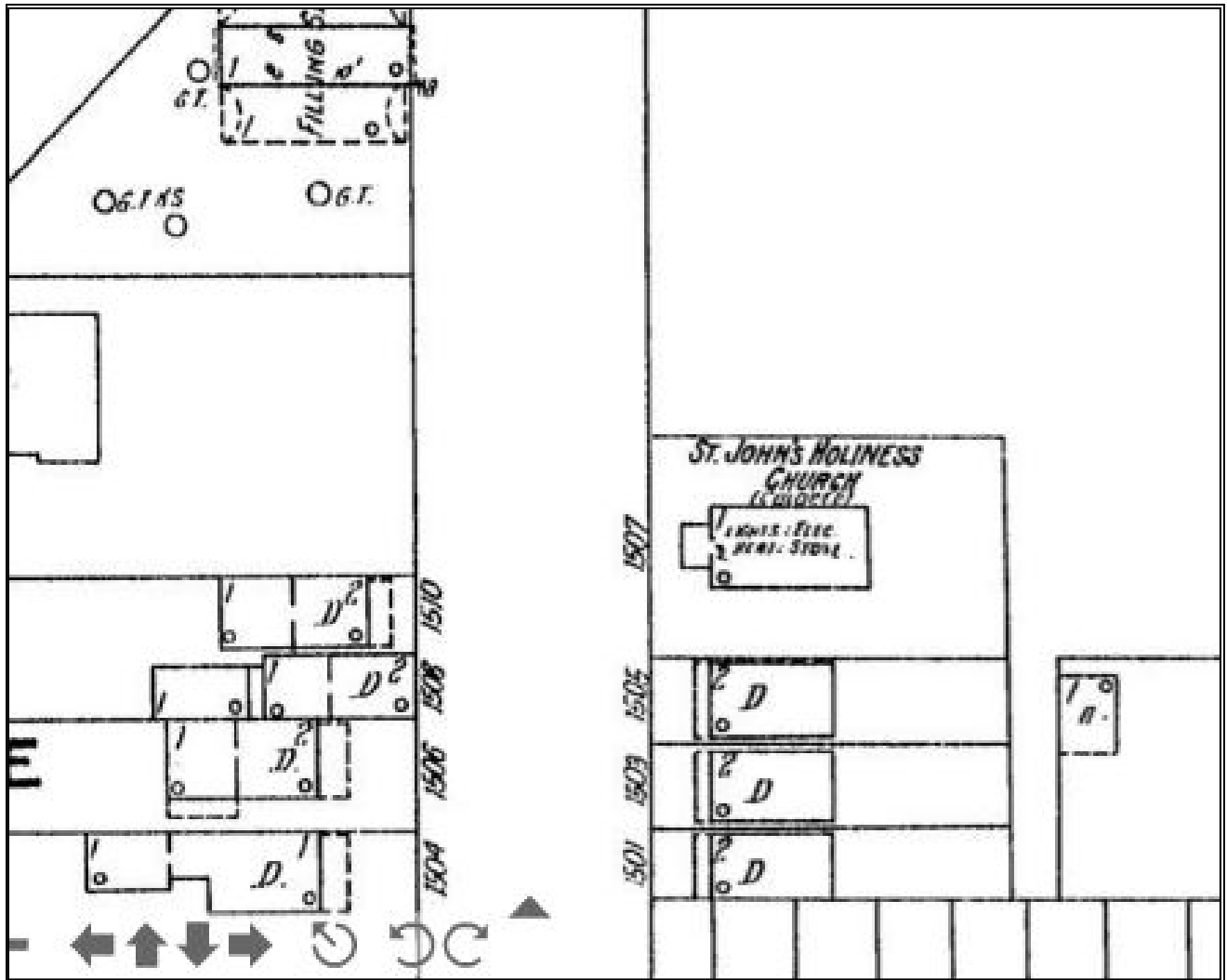


Figure 1: 1925 Sanborn Map. It shows the original church of 1915.

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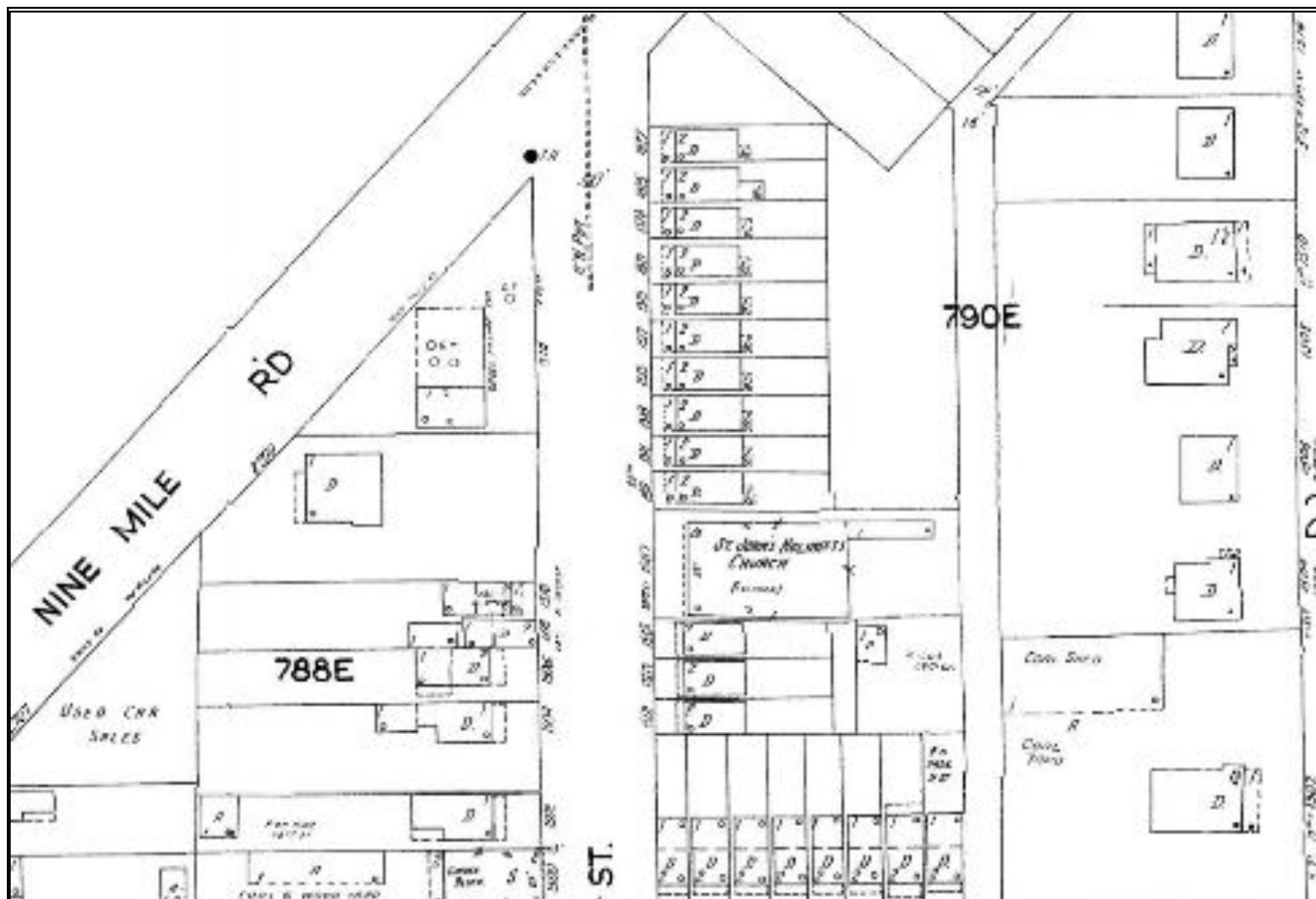


Figure 2: 1950 Sanborn Map. It shows the church of 1931, with the furnace room extending to the rear.

The church was subject to minor alterations in about 1942. A kitchen was added in that year in the former boiler room in the northeast corner. A concrete platform was extended along the rear wall beside the enclosure, incorporating a small baptismal pool. It seems likely that the present kitchen was the original location of the boiler or furnace room and that the furnace was placed in the new wing in order to make that space available. A long furnace room wing formerly extended to the east from the rear wall of the church. The boiler flue apparently extended into the main basement to enter the original furnace chimney. It had its own exterior entry, as would be typical for a furnace room.

At some point in the mid-twentieth century, the civil engineering firm of Anthony H. Andrews and his associate J. B. Wooding prepared plans for a wing to be built at the rear of the church [Undated drawings, St. John's United Holy Church, Inc.]. This c. 1950 addition, which was built according to the drawings, enlarged the pulpit area and the choir stand, while also adding a baptismal pool, additional restrooms, and a choir room. The former boiler room wing to the east was removed. An archway was added to mask the change in ceiling height between the sanctuary and the platform. Not much has been uncovered about either Andrews or Wooding. J. B.

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Wooding drew the plans for a concrete-block addition to Abbots Hardware Store on Colley Avenue in Norfolk in 1951 [Norfolk Building Inspection Office Collection, Library of Virginia].

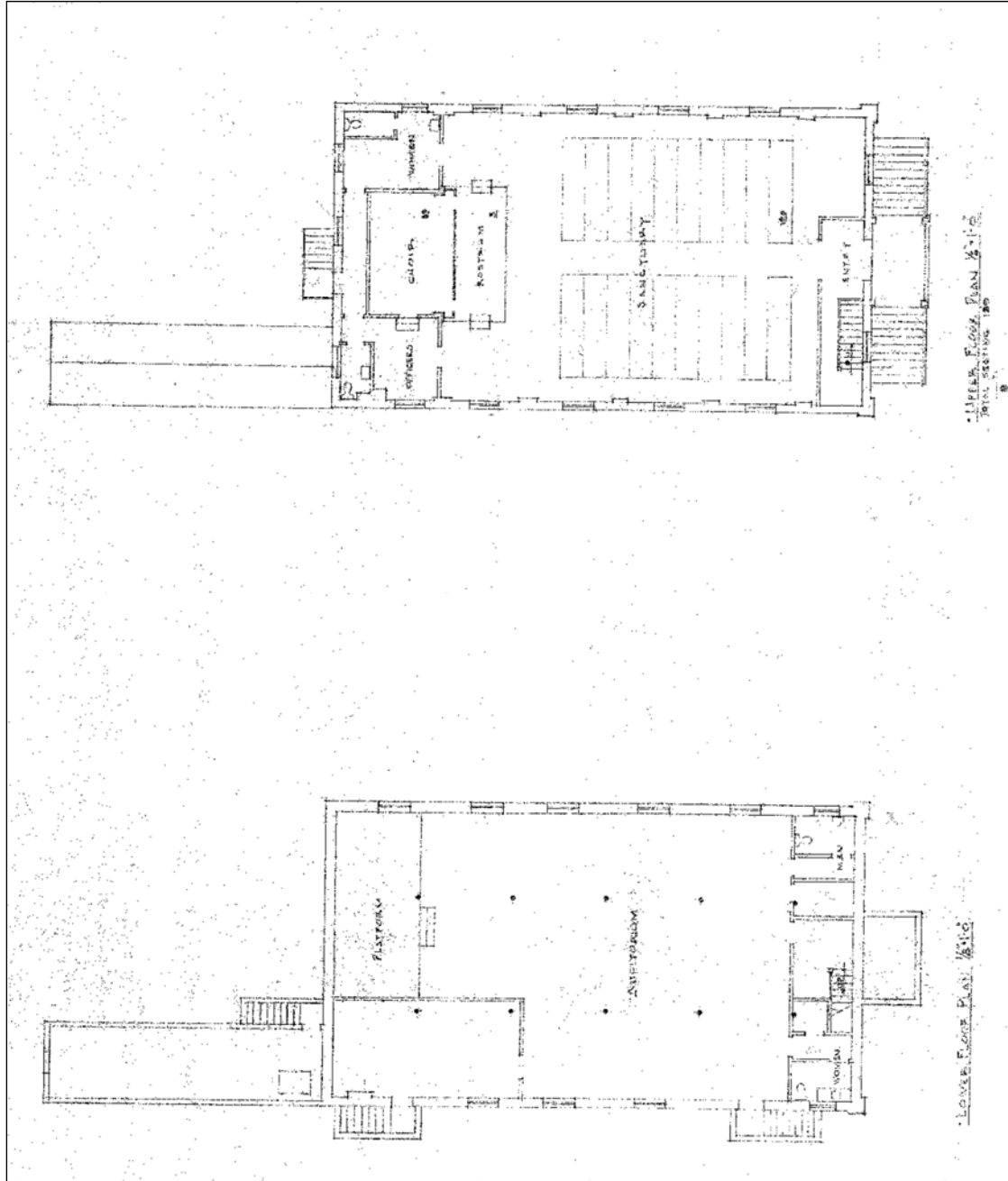


Figure 3: Anthony H. Andrews and J. B. Wooding, Existing Floor Plans, St. John's United Holy Church. No date (c. 1950) [St. John's United Holy Church]. These plans were drawn as part of the planning for the rear addition. They document the form of the church before the addition.

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### **Alterations and Additions to the Church**

The same firm also provided a proposal for a phased project at the church [Undated drawings, St. John's United Holy Church, Inc.]. This called for a wing to the side of the church that was never built. It would have included a fellowship and assembly room, a recreation room, nursery, kitchen, and restrooms in the basement and a pastor's study, restrooms, and assembly room with platform on the upper floor. The proposal also showed a rationalization of the circulation pattern at the front of the church. This included extending a narthex across the west end, moving the entrance to the north side at the northwest corner, and adding a large handicapped ramp on the north. It also included removing the existing interior basement stair, and replacing the front porch with a new projecting staircase. The changes proposed for the west end were never made.

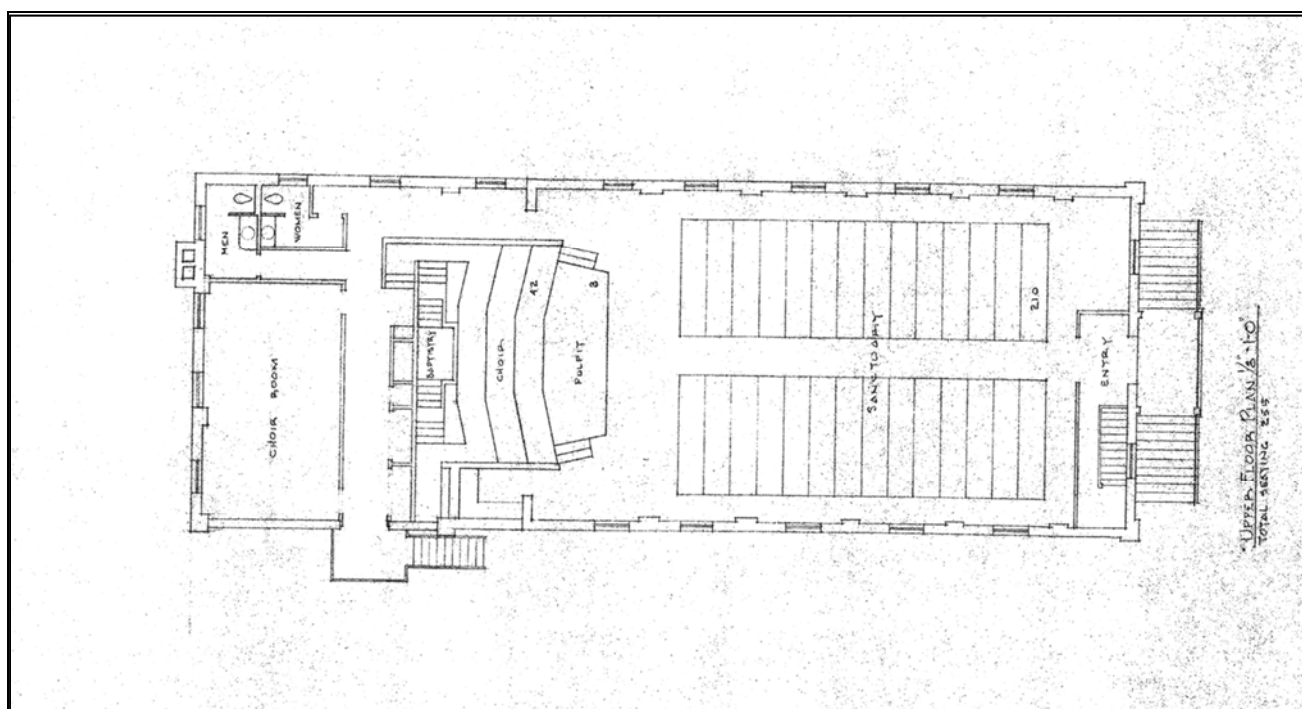


Figure 4: Anthony H. Andrews and J. B. Wooding, Detail, Proposal for Phase I of alterations and east end addition at St. John's United Holy Church, no date (c. 1950) [St. John's United Holy Church, Inc.].

### **Character-Defining Features**

The character of the church as it faces North 28<sup>th</sup> street is defined by the Colonial Revival details, brickwork and the Tuscan order portico. The features give the church a stately presence on the street and a sense of permanence and prominence.

On the interior, the woodwork and frieze contribute to this sense of stateliness. The pressed metal ceiling is decorated with a repeating stylized nine-square based pattern that recalls a quilt. This pattern creates a sense of unity within the sanctuary, and is associated by the congregation with the nine-square quilt pattern used as a symbol for a safe haven during the time of the



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Underground Railroad [phone interview with Janice Jones, chair of Church Facilities  
Committee.]

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

### Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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**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 # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** DHR #127-7209

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreege of Property** 0.575

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

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Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_  
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 37.540559 | Longitude: -77.405773 |
| 2. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |
| 3. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |
| 4. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |

**Or**  
**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |          |           |           |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The historic boundary of the nominated property coincides with the parcel identified on the tax parcel maps of the City of Richmond City as E0000790043. The true and correct historic boundary is shown on the attached Tax Parcel Map and Sketch Map & Photo Key.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary contains the land historically associated with St. John's United Holy Church, defining its urban context on the edge of the historic North Church Hill neighborhood, and encompasses all known historic resources associated with the property.

---

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: John Spain  
organization: Glave and Holmes Architecture  
street & number: 2101 E. Main St.  
city or town: Richmond state: VA zip code: 23223  
e-mail: jspan@glaveandholmes.com  
telephone: 804 649-9303  
date: February 7, 2020

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### **Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

### **Photographs**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### **Photo Log**

Name of Property: St John's United Holy Church of America, Inc.

City or Vicinity: Richmond

County: N/A

State: Virginia

Photographer: John Spain

Date Photographed: May 1, 2019

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 14: VA\_Richmond City\_St Johns UHC\_0001

View: 28<sup>th</sup> Street entrance, looking southwest.

2 of 14: VA\_Richmond City\_St Johns UHC\_0002

Exterior Detail:.Tuscan entrance portico facing 28<sup>th</sup> Street, looking south.

3 of 14: VA\_Richmond City\_St Johns UHC\_0003

View: Northeast side, looking west. The addition begins to the left of the downspout near the tall chimney.

4 of 14: VA\_Richmond City\_St Johns UHC\_0004

View: Southwest side, looking north. The addition begins three bricks to the left of the door.

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5 of 14. VA\_Richmond City\_St Johns UHC\_0005  
View: Sanctuary interior, looking southeast.

6 of 14. VA\_Richmond City\_St Johns UHC\_0006  
View: Sanctuary interior, looking northwest.

7 of 14. VA\_Richmond City\_St Johns UHC\_0007  
View: Assembly Hall, looking northwest.

8 of 14. VA\_Richmond City\_St Johns UHC\_0008  
View: Kitchen, looking southeast.

9 of 14. VA\_Richmond City\_St Johns UHC\_0009  
View: Addition Basement, looking northwest. The brick wall is the original building.

10 of 14. VA\_Richmond City\_St Johns UHC\_0010  
View: Assembly Hall, looking southeast.

11 of 14. VA\_Richmond City\_St Johns UHC\_0011  
Exterior Detail:.Bull's eye window facing 28<sup>th</sup> Street, looking southeast.

12 of 14. VA\_Richmond City\_St Johns UHC\_0013  
Exterior Detail:.Window with moldings and cornice facing 28<sup>th</sup> Street, looking southeast.

13 of 14. VA\_Richmond City\_St Johns UHC\_0014  
Interior Detail:.Ceiling pattern at perimeter, anthemion frieze, architrave at window.

14 of 14. VA\_Richmond City\_St Johns UHC\_0015  
Interior Detail:.Ceiling central square and typical stylized nine-square pattern.

## Index of Figures

1. 1925 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Richmond VA. It shows the original church of 1915.
2. 1950 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Richmond VA. It shows the church of 1931, with the furnace room extending to the rear.
3. Anthony H. Andrews and J. B. Wooding, Existing Floor Plans, St. John's United Holy Church. No date (c. 1950) [St. John's United Holy Church]. These plans were drawn as part of the planning for the rear addition. They document the form of the church before the addition.

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4. Anthony H. Andrews and J. B. Wooding, Detail, Proposal for Phase I of alterations and east end addition at St. John's United Holy Church, no date (c 1950) [St. John's United Holy Church, Inc.].

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



**LOCATION MAP**

St. John's United Holy Church of America, Inc.

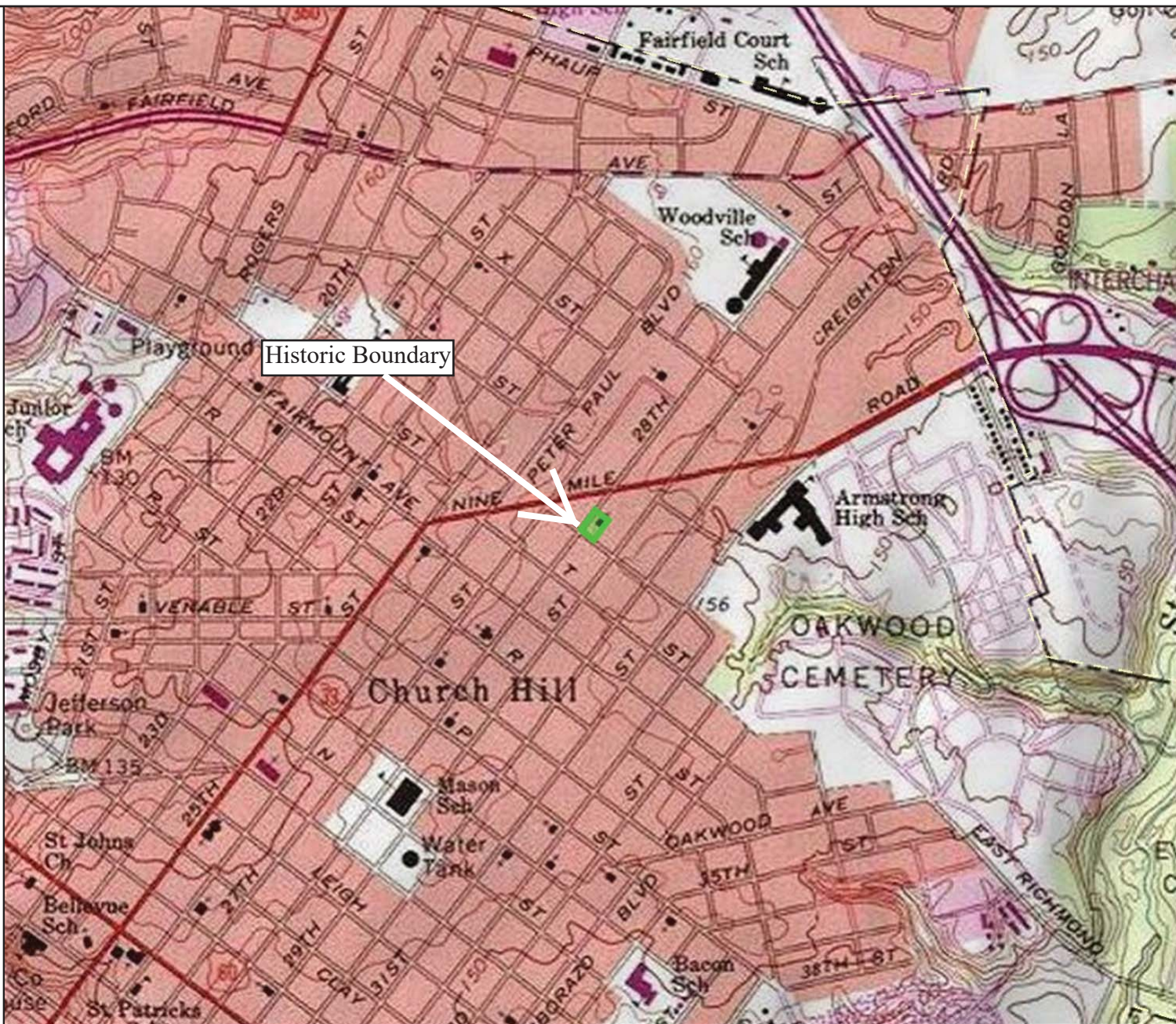
City of Richmond, VA

DHR No. 127-7209

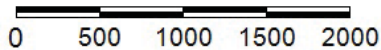
**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Latitude: 37.540559

Longitude: -77.405773



Feet



1:18,056 / 1"=1,505 Feet

**Title:**

**Date: 1/13/2021**

*DISCLAIMER: Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. Map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". More information is available in the DHR Archives located at DHR's Richmond office.*



*Notice if AE sites: Locations of archaeological sites may be sensitive the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and Code of Virginia §2.2-3705.7 (10). Release of precise locations may threaten archaeological sites and historic resources.*

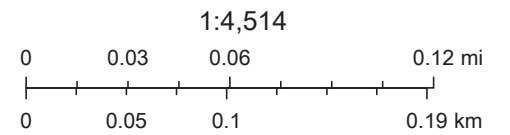


# Aerial View



1/12/2021, 3:36:36 PM

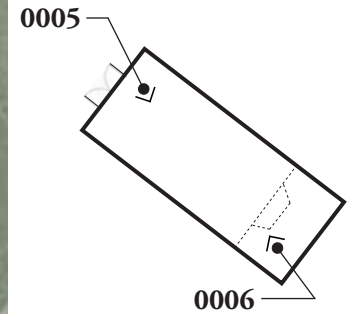
-  CityBoundary
-  Parcels



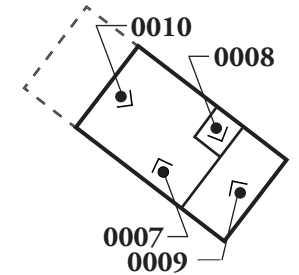
# SKETCH MAP AND PHOTO KEY (exterior)



## Interior Views:



**Assembly Hall**  
Upper Level



**Assembly Hall**  
Lower Level

**St. John's United Holy Church of America, Inc.**  
City of Richmond, VA 23223; DHR #127-7209

Church - contributing  
building



**Photo Locations** ← 0001



Richmond Parcel Mapper  
<https://cor.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=c3ed34c0fb38441fb95cd2d2d6a22d48>  
 Accessed 1/12/2021

TAX PARCEL MAP

St. John's United Holy Church of America Inc.  
 City of Richmond, VA 23223  
 DHR #127-7209



Site #: 127-7209  
 Latitude: 37° 32' 26" N  
 Longitude: 77° 24' 21" W



1507  
1915  
REAR  
1916  
HORN PEARL T.C.

1507



1507







"Holiness becometh thine house, Oh Lord, Forever..."

"Celebrating a Century of God's Grace and Mercy" 1915-2015

EXIT

EXIT











EXIT

Blue storage box

Storage bins and supplies on shelves

Stacked folders and papers

Desk clutter including printer and bags

Black cabinet with storage bins and boxes

Wood-paneled wall in adjacent room











