

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

SC-2391

# 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: Emmanuel Baptist Church

Other names/site number: DHR# 005-5071

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: 205 Sandidges Road

City or town: Amherst State: VA County: Amherst

Not For Publication:  N/A Vicinity:  x

### 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 \_\_\_ B X C \_\_\_ D

	<u>3-7-18</u>
<b>Signature of certifying official/Title:</b>	<b>Date</b>
<u>Virginia Department of Historic Resources</u>	
<b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b>	

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

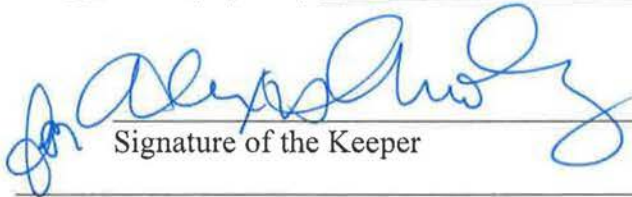
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**4. National Park Service Certification**

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:)

  
Signature of the Keeper

4/27/18  
Date of Action

**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

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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION: religious facility

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

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION: religious facility

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

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS: Late Gothic Revival

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

Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK, WOOD, METAL

### 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

Emmanuel Baptist Church is a circa 1907, Late Gothic Revival-style church located in central Amherst County, Virginia. It stands on the southern outskirts of the rural community known as Sandidges and on the west side of Sandidges Road (State Route 610). The church yard is open with scattered mature hardwoods. Behind the church is a playground, storage shed, and carport, all of which are identified as non-contributing resources and are of a small scale that does not affect the property's integrity of setting. Another non-contributing building, the circa 1939 Sandidges School, acquired by Emmanuel Church in 2008, stands across Sandidges Road from the church. The former school has been repurposed as a community thrift store. The church has foundation plantings around its exposed sides and a memorial garden in front of the church. The present church building is the product of three building phases: The original building including a rear ell was constructed around 1907; a one-story rear addition was erected in 1969; and finally, the breezeway and two-story rear addition were completed in 1996. The later additions complement the earlier construction, which prominently features a three-story bell tower and two canted walls that each have a multiple-part lancet-arched stained-glass window. Another unusual feature is the sanctuary's auditorium-style seating. Emmanuel Church is a well-preserved early twentieth century building and a well-known county landmark. Overall the property has good integrity of location, setting, workmanship, materials, feeling, and association;

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the later additions to the rear of the church do not greatly affect the original building's integrity of design or feeling.

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## **Narrative Description**

### Site Description

Emmanuel Baptist Church is a landmark of the Sandidges community, a former milling town near the Buffalo River in central Amherst County. The church is located south of the village center, at the base of several hills, and on the west side of Sandidges Road (State Route 610). It is about a quarter-mile north of the intersection with Lexington Turnpike (State Route 60). The surrounding yard is open with scattered mature hardwoods. There are foundation plantings around the exposed sides of the church and a memorial garden in the front of the church. The memorial garden contains shrubs and perennial plantings. There are three supporting resources on the church property. Behind the church is a fenced playground, storage shed, and carport. Across Sandidges Road is the circa 1939 Sandidges School, which also historically was associated with the Sandidges village. Emmanuel Baptist acquired the former school in 2008 for use as a thrift store, which operates as a church community ministry.<sup>1</sup>

## **Detailed Building Description**

### Exterior

Emmanuel Baptist Church is a circa 1907 brick, Late Gothic Revival-style church featuring a three-story bell tower and two multiple-part, lancet-arched stained-glass windows. The church has two later additions. The first, in 1969, is a one-story brick addition to the rear and the second, in 1996, is a brick two-story addition with a breezeway to the northeast side of the earlier building.

The original 1907 block consists of the bell tower with a spire, sanctuary, and rear ell. A cornerstone near the tower's entry bay is etched "Emmanuel, July 4, 1907." The foundation, walls, and buttresses are brick laid in 5:1 common bond. The exposed foundation of the southeast and southwest elevations is parged and scored. The door and window openings have lancet arches. All windows of the main section feature multiple pane, stained-glass, fixed window sash and those of the rear ell have transparent glass sash. The windows of the main section have raised lintels and the rear ell has simple lintels. The roofs of the main block's cross gables, the hip roof of the rear ell, and the spire are clad in standing-seam metal.

The main elevation faces southeast. The central feature of the elevation is the three-story bell tower with canted walls containing two multiple-part, lancet-arched stained-glass windows. The canted walls were likely the result of a change to the church's original, traditional form (of which other examples are still seen throughout the county). Emmanuel's primary elevation was altered to accommodate the two large stained-glass windows, which were added circa 1910. It is not known if the current bell tower existed prior to the installation of the windows, or if it also

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<sup>1</sup> History Tech and Landmark Preservation Associates, 2010 (Sandidges Preliminary Information Form, DHR # 005-5231); and Amherst County Deed Book 1116, p. 639.

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dates to circa 1910. Between the canted walls and the tower are two connecting walls, each with a single, two-pane, fixed-sash stained-glass window.

The main entry is through the bell tower. In 1981, Charlie L. Vail (1920-2003) redesigned the original entry which had a concrete stair and simple double-leaf doors; each door had three panels.<sup>2</sup> Now, a brick stair of eight risers leads to the entry, which features a transom and double-leaf batten doors with strap work hinges. Above the transom, in the tower, is an oval insert etched "Emmanuel Church 1907." The exposed sides of the tower have a triple set of lancets with raised lintels and solid panel inserts. Beneath the spire is a louvered lancet vent on each side.

The main block's southwest and northeast elevations are identical. Along the main section are three symmetrically-placed, fixed-sash, lancet windows with seven panes; the center window is taller than those on either side. Each elevation has four symmetrically placed buttresses. The rear ell, on the southwest and northeast sides, has a single-leaf entry with transparent glass lancet transom and a fixed-sash five pane, transparent glass window. These windows were shortened at some point; there is a ghost and the original stool and apron are seen in the wall below the current sash. The northeast elevation is exposed as the wall of the breezeway of the 1996 addition. The southwest elevation has a gable-roofed, single-leaf entry to a storage area.

The northwest elevation of the main block is exposed above the rear ell and it has a louvered vent near the gable. There is a brick chimney flue on the northwest elevation, now hidden by the 1969 rear addition.

The 1969 ell-plan addition is brick with walls laid in running bond and has an asphalt shingle roof with intersecting gables. The southwest elevation has three bays: two small 4/4 double-hung sash windows and a single-leaf entry with a concrete stoop. The wooden door has nine lights in the top section. The northwest elevation has two symmetrically placed 6/6 double-hung sash windows. The northeast elevation was obscured by the 1996 breezeway.

In 1996, the breezeway and a two-story addition were completed. The breezeway, on the 1969 addition's northeast side, is constructed of aluminum and glass and connected the original block's rear ell as well as the 1969 addition to the new two-story addition. The center of the breezeway is an open garden between two glass-enclosed halls. The breezeway and two-story addition have a concrete block foundation and most walls are brick laid in 5:1 common bond. Both sections have asphalt-shingled, gable roofs. All the windows have 1/1 double-hung sash. There is an aluminum and glass single-leaf entry on the southeast. The northwest elevation, at the breezeway, has a double set of windows and a single-leaf metal door and a concrete stoop.

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<sup>2</sup> Charlie Vail was a noted regional architect, he designed the new Emmanuel Methodist Church (Town of Amherst) in 1981. He grew up in Sandidges, his father was the miller. He was once a member of Emmanuel Baptist before he left to fight in World War II. He designed the Amherst County Seal in 1961. His work records are located at Jones Memorial Library, Lynchburg, VA. Additional information was provided by Mary Vail Logwood, interview by Sandra F. Esposito, *Facebook Conversation* (8 December 2016).

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The two-story section has two sets of double windows at the second story. The northeast elevation is built into a hillside with only the second story exposed at the top of the hill. It has four symmetrically placed, paired sets of windows. Between the outer two sets on either side is a single-leaf, metal door with concrete stoop. The southeast elevation has a cross in the center of the wall. At the upper story are two sets of double windows on either side of the cross. On the southwest side, at the lower story, is another double set of windows.

### Interior

The small vestibule at the entry is centered between two sets of stairs with wedge-shaped risers. At the top of both staircases are double-leaf swinging doors that open into the sanctuary. These doors have transparent glass in the top half.

The sanctuary is divided into a nave and a chancel/hall. They are divided by a wall with three lancet arches. The center arch is wider and taller than the others. The nave has a double-aisle arrangement with auditorium seating. The pulpit, in front of the arched wall, is raised from the floor but is lower than the pews. The nave has three sections of wooden pews and two aisles. The pews, the altar table, and pulpit furnishings date from 1913 and are original to the church. The center section of pews is twenty-four feet wide and the outer section pews are twelve feet wide. Near the pulpit, on the southwest side is the choir delineated by a curtained rail. The northeast corner has a handicap ramp to the chancel/hall and the piano/organ. The majority of the floor is carpeted with the original wood flooring exposed beneath the pews. The room has bead-board wainscot. In the aisles are metal building supports and at the junction of the wall and ceiling are metal tie-bars. The ceiling is pressed metal and its current paint scheme was applied in 1972. Hanging from the ceiling is a circa 1940 amber lantern added soon after the building was electrified. There are also two brass chandeliers donated in 1986.

In 2011, an electrical fire in the attic above the nave caused some minor damage. The fire was quickly extinguished and the damage repaired. As a result of the fire, the electrical wiring throughout the church was updated.<sup>3</sup>

A significant feature of the nave is its collection of stained-glass windows. The windows were ordered in 1910 and installed before 1913, which included the reworking of the exterior of the church and creation of the canted walls. All have a similar pattern, including the multiple-part windows on the facade. These large windows were the gift of a Massie family member. The windows feature stylized teardrops near the lancet-arch peaks. The bottom panels of the windows have Latin crosses. The windows along the sides of the nave have seven panes and the large windows have twelve panes. The large windows feature a center oval with four “jewels” or faceted glass pieces in the top, bottom and sides of the oval and above the crosses are a Bible verse. The east window has lilies in the oval and the verse, “If you love me keep my commandments.” The south window has calla lilies and the verse, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” The origin and design of the windows remains unknown; the windows are unsigned. Church lore claims the windows were made in New York and intended for the chapel

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<sup>3</sup> Information concerning the fire was obtained from member and pastor’s wife, Bonnie Davis, in various conversations (October 2016).

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at Sweet Briar College. The windows may have been fabricated in New York but no connection with Sweet Briar College has been found. Sweet Briar was under construction about the time Emmanuel was constructed. The architect of Sweet Briar was Ralph Adams Cram (1863-1942). Though Cram was noted for his Gothic Revival designs, his design for Sweet Briar was Neo-Classical for all campus buildings, including the chapel. There may have been some connection between Cram and a member of the church, but no evidence has been found. Church lore further declares the windows were copied from a European cathedral and known as the "jeweled crown." The original source of the window designs has yet to be found, if one exists. The "jeweled crown," according to the Corning Museum of Glass, refers to the use of faceted glass which resembles jewels that are embedded into the glass.<sup>4</sup>

The pulpit rises from the floor by two risers. It is in front of the arched wall and connects to the chancel/hall. The altar table is in front of the pulpit. Behind the wall is the chancel/hall. The area serves as a passage from the nave to other parts of the church. The rear wall of the chancel/hall has a circa 1960 memorial tripartite stained-glass window depicting Christ in the center flanked by crosses. This window is signed "Payne-Spiers Studio, Paterson, NJ."<sup>5</sup> On either side of the window is a single-leaf, lancet-arched batten door that leads to the rear ell.

The rear ell has two rooms: one used for storage, and the other for the pastor's office. The area has been altered over time including the installation of the memorial window in the chancel and a wall separating the area. The rear ell retains its original flooring, bead-board wainscot, and pressed metal ceiling.

The 1969 addition consists of a hall with two bathrooms and two multiple-purpose rooms. The large room at the rear can be divided into two spaces by closing a built-in accordion door. The decoration of this area is simple.

The 1996 addition has a breezeway connecting the two-story addition to the old building. The center of the breezeway surrounds an open garden. Three of the breezeway walls are constructed with aluminum and glass; the rear wall is brick. The first floor is an open room with a kitchen. The second story has seven classrooms opening onto a central hall. The decoration is simple.

There are numerous memorials to members of the church both on the exterior and interior of the building. There are memorial plantings and a memorial garden in the front of the church and several exterior memorials such as the lamp in the garden, cross on the exterior of the 1996 addition, and playground. The interior memorials include the amber lantern, brass chandeliers, chancel/hall window, and many other items throughout the building. The family names of those honored include Massie, Ware, Crawford, Martin and Wheeler.

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<sup>4</sup> *Corning Museum of Glass: The Rakow Library*. Found online @ [libanswers.cmog.org](http://libanswers.cmog.org) (accessed May 2017); and "The Ralph Adams Cram Architecture of Sweet Briar College." In *Lynchburg, An Architectural History*, by Jr. S. Allen Chambers. Charlottesville, VA: University of Virginia Press, 1981.

<sup>5</sup> Payne-Spiers was a studio located in Paterson New Jersey; it was in business from 1935-1960s. *Corning Museum of Glass: The Rakow Library*. Found online @ [libanswers.cmog.org](http://libanswers.cmog.org) (accessed May 2017).



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## **Secondary Resources**

### Playground – Non-Contributing Site

The playground, circa 2011, is behind the church on the northwest. It is enclosed by a chain-link fence. It contains two pieces of equipment: a swing-slide combination and a swing-set made of wooden support beams. The slide is plastic. This playground is a memorial to former member Sarah Crawford.

### Shed – Non-Contributing Building

The shed is adjacent to the playground. It is a wooden, pre-fabricated storage shed measuring 12 by 10 feet and is set on concrete block footings. It has a double-leaf entry flanked by two 1/1 sash windows. The side-gable roof is clad in standing-seam metal.

### Carport – Non-Contributing Structure

The aluminum carport is directly behind the church. It is anchored in a bed of gravel and its sides are open.

### Sandiges School—Non-Contributing Building

The circa 1930 frame school is located across Sandiges Road from the church. It is considered non-contributing to this nomination because the church acquired the building in 2008, after the church's period of significance. It is one of the few remaining historic buildings of the Sandiges village, along with the church. The building has been a school, residence, and now a thrift shop.

The foundation of the frame building has brick piers that have been infilled and covered with poured concrete. Most windows have dead sashes of six lights. The building has exposed rafter tails at the eaves and the roof is clad in standing-seam metal. The roof has two hipped sections joined by a gable section. There are two chimney flues in the gable section of the roof: one is concrete block and the other is brick.

The recessed entry of the northwest façade has a single-leaf door. The entry has a pediment surround with sidelights flanking the door. There are two dead sash windows south of the recess.

The northeast and southwest elevations each have four dead sash windows. The southeast elevation has a recessed entry with a single-leaf door, next to the door is a 6/6 double-hung sash window. In the recess, north of the entry is another 6/6 double-hung sash window. There are two dead sash windows north of the recess.

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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.)  
ARCHITECTURE

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

**Period of Significance**  
ca. 1907-1969

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

**Significant Dates**  
ca. 1907

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

**Significant Person**  
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)  
N/A

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

**Cultural Affiliation**  
N/A

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

**Architect/Builder**  
Unknown

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

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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.)

Emmanuel Baptist Church is locally significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture and meets Criteria Consideration A for a religious property because its significance is derived from its historic architecture. The property's period of significance spans from construction circa 1907 to the completion of the rear addition in 1969. The church building is an important example of early twentieth century ecclesiastical architecture in Amherst County. Few of the county's early twentieth century church buildings survive because many were razed and replaced by larger mid-20<sup>th</sup> century buildings; other churches have been altered, resulting in little of the original historical materials and workmanship remaining intact. There are now four documented, extant churches in Amherst County that were built between 1901 and 1940. Emmanuel is the only church featuring canted walls and multiple-part, lancet-arched stained glass windows, and is one of just two designed with auditorium seating. It is a landmark building in the county and one of the few remaining historic buildings associated with the former milling town of Sandidges.<sup>6</sup>

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

Emmanuel Baptist Church is one of Amherst County's four documented, extant churches built in the early twentieth century. Today in Amherst County, many of the existing mid-20<sup>th</sup> century churches replaced earlier ones constructed in the late nineteenth to early twentieth centuries. Other early twentieth-century churches have alterations that have reduced their integrity of design and materials. The four churches built between 1901 and 1940 that are the best preserved include Emmanuel, Madison Heights Methodist Church (1905, DHR# 005-5033), El Bethel Methodist (ca. 1930, DHR# 005-5259), and Madison Heights Christian Church (ca. 1932). Each of these buildings has its own style and form. Madison Heights Methodist (known today as Solid Rock Baptist) is a brick church designed in the Romanesque Revival style. Like Emmanuel, it has auditorium-style seating; these are the earliest known buildings in Amherst County to feature this arrangement in a church, although today, many of the newer churches use this type of seating. El Bethel Methodist is a frame church with an eclectic mix of the Classical Revival temple form with Late Gothic Revival stained-glass lancet windows.

Madison Heights Christian Church is the most closely related to Emmanuel stylistically. It is a brick Late Gothic Revival building constructed from the recycled materials of a former Lynchburg church. Like Emmanuel, it has stained-glass lancet-arched windows and a bell tower at the entry. The Madison Heights tower is crenellated. There are lancet arches at the entry and within the tower are round and diamond-shaped stained-glass windows. Emmanuel is the only church of the period with a spired tower at the entry and canted walls dominated by multiple-

<sup>6</sup> Amherst County Heritage 1791-1999, Vol I; and Amherst County Heritage 1791-2004, Vol II; History Tech and Landmark Preservation Associates, 2010 (Sandidges Preliminary Information Form, DHR # 005-5231).

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part, lancet-arched, stained-glass windows. Emmanuel is well preserved and retains much of its integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Little has changed over time and the congregation found other ways to expand their space rather than unsympathetically altering the original church. The additions are compatible in form, scale, and materials, and respect the original design of the church.<sup>7</sup>

In the Virginia Cultural Resource Information System, there are 39 churches in Amherst County that have been documented. The majority of the 39 churches are vernacular forms with no overt stylistic references. Gothic Revival is the most commonly recorded style, but with only four examples (including Emmanuel Baptist Church) currently identified. Macedonia Methodist is the only other rural example of Gothic Revival architecture, while Emmanuel Methodist (DHR #163-0015) and Ascension Episcopal (DHR #163-0006) are both within the town of Amherst.

Three churches in Amherst County have been listed in the Virginia Landmarks Register and/or National Register of Historic Places: the aforementioned Macedonia Methodist Church (DHR #005-5159; VLR 2011 and NRHP 2012); Bear Mountain Indian Mission School (DHR #005-0230; VLR 1996 and NRHP 1997); and St. Luke's Episcopal Church (DHR #005-0016; VLR 2017; NRHP pending). In 2017, the Virginia State Review Board recommended that the El Bethel Methodist (DHR #005-5259), which blends Classical Revival and Gothic Revival stylistic influences, is eligible for the registers. Built in 1868, Bear Mountain Indian Mission School is significant in the area of Ethnic Heritage for its association with Virginia Indians and in the area of Education, but is not listed for architectural significance. St. Luke's Episcopal, built circa 1837, is a significant example of the Greek Revival style with some 1870s Gothic Revival interior finishes. Macedonia Methodist Church, built in 1896, is considered the finest example of the Gothic Revival style in the county, and also is notable on the interior for its use of unpainted, American chestnut beadboard paneling. Its nomination noted that "decorative elements of the [church] buildings would vary according to congregational preference and influence from popular trends."

Emmanuel Baptist Church is one of the surviving historic-age buildings of the Sandidges village. This milling village was established as early as 1828 with a tavern because it was located along the turnpike from New Glasgow (Clifford) to Lexington. The village thrived between 1870 and 1942 and included a large mill, post office, blacksmith and many other buildings in the central business section north of Emmanuel Church, which was on the village outskirts. Additional extant buildings include the mill, store, school and several houses.<sup>8</sup>

## Historical Background

The congregation of Emmanuel was organized on 12 May 1906. The charter members were former members of Mount Moriah Baptist Church. They chose to create a new church

<sup>7</sup> Amherst County Heritage 1791-1999, Vol I; and Amherst County Heritage 1791-2004, Vol II. Amherst County Heritage 1791-2004, Vol II.

<sup>8</sup> History Tech and Landmark Preservation Associates, 2010 (Sandidges Preliminary Information Form, DHR # 005-5231).

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because of the increasing population of Sandidges and because of the distance and the poor road conditions to Mount Moriah, which is approximately three to five miles from Sandidges.<sup>9</sup>

On 14 July 1906 the congregation chose the name, Emmanuel, and decided to construct a new brick church for the cost of \$4,000. By November, the site of the new church was chosen and in January 1907 they acquired the land and construction began. The cornerstone of the church was laid on 4 July 1907 by the Mt. Pleasant Masonic Lodge. Emmanuel was accepted into a field of churches that combined their finances and shared a minister. Emmanuel remained part of various fields until they were able to support their own minister in 1996.

The church was dedicated in 1909 and a Ladies Aid Society was created. In 1910, the Aid Society chose and ordered the stained-glass windows. All of the large stained-glass windows were likely ordered about the same time as a gift to the church. The church windows were installed by 1913 while the church ordered the pews, altar table, and pulpit furniture. Electrification occurred around 1939 and soon thereafter, the circa 1940 amber lantern was installed. Membership growth in the mid-twentieth century required an expansion of the original church. In 1969, the rear one-story addition was completed at the cost of \$11,000.

In 1992, many changes transpired. The congregation grew due to a merger with Faith Baptist Mission (a group that broke from another church). At the same time, the merger enabled the church to withdraw from its joint field, allowing them to have their own minister for the first time in their history. The increased membership also required more space. The most recent addition to the church, consisting of the breezeway and two-story addition, was completed at a cost of \$300,000 and dedicated 6 October 1996.

In 2008, Emmanuel acquired the former Sandidges School, located across the road. It had been used as a residence, but was repurposed for a community ministry and thrift shop. Today, the congregation meets regularly and many current members are descendants of the charter members. The congregation is justifiably proud of their church and its history. They are dedicated to its maintenance and preservation as a landmark of Amherst County.

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<sup>9</sup> All information concerning the church history is from the following sources: Rose K. Bruner, *A History of the Churches in the Piedmont Association of Virginia*. Richmond, VA: Piedmont Association of Virginia, 1976; Amherst County Heritage 1791-1999, Vol I; and Amherst County Heritage 1791-2004, Vol II. Mount Moriah is the earliest Baptist church in Amherst County and is considered the “mother” of many of the still-extant Baptist churches. It is located approximately two miles from Emmanuel, however the road remains a rural road and at the time was unpaved and was likely rough for travel. See the History of Emmanuel Baptist Church (1906-1996) Revised and Updated 1996; Amherst County Deed Books 1116, p. 639; 664, p. 648; 224, p. 409; 2226, p. 77; 65, p. 192; and 60, pp. 192-194.

Emmanuel Baptist Church  
Name of Property

Amherst County, VA  
County and State

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Amherst County Deed Books 1116, p. 639; 664, p. 648; 224, p. 409; 2226, p. 77; 65, p. 192; and 60. pp. 192-194.

*Amherst County Heritage 1791-1999*. Vol. I. 1999. pp. 44-66.

*Amherst County Heritage 1791-2004*. Vol. II. 2004. pp. 34-40.

Amherst County Museum and Historical Society. "Emmanuel Baptist Church files." n.d.

Bruner, Rose K. *A History of the Churches in the Piedmont Association of Virginia*.  
Richmond, VA: Piedmont Association of Virginia, 1976.

History Tech and Landmark Preservation Associates. "*Amherst County Historic Resources Survey Report*." 2010.

Logwood, Mary Vail, interview by Sandra F. Esposito. *Facebook Conversation* (8 December 2016).

"The Ralph Adams Cram Architecture of Sweet Briar College." In *Lynchburg, An Architectural History*, by Jr. S. Allen Chambers. Charlottesville, VA: University of Virginia Press, 1981.

"*The History of Emmanuel Baptist Church (1906-1996) Revised and Updated*." unpublished 1996.

*Corning Museum of Glass: The Rakow Library*. Found online at [www.libanswers.cmog.org](http://www.libanswers.cmog.org) (accessed May 2017).

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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 # \_\_\_\_\_

Emmanuel Baptist Church  
Name of Property

Amherst County, VA  
County and State

**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;  
Amherst County Museum and Historical Society, Amherst, VA

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** DHR# 005-5071

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 3.756 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

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

- |                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 37.661550 N | Longitude: -79.144500 W |
| 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: |



Emmanuel Baptist Church  
Name of Property

Amherst County, VA  
County and State

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

The historic boundaries of the property are coterminous with the tax parcel recorded by Amherst County as Tax Map# 49 A 21 (available at the Amherst County Government Building and online at countyofamherst.com.) The true and correct historic boundaries are shown on the attached Location Map/ Sketch Map.

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

The historic boundaries are coterminous with the tax parcel owned by the church since the building was constructed circa 1907. The property's historic setting as well as all known historic resources are included within the boundaries.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Sandra F. Esposito  
organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number: 140 Cradon Hill Ln.  
city or town: Amherst state: VA zip code: 24521  
e-mail: espositosf@earthlink.net  
telephone: 434-946-7496  
date: October 2017

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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

Emmanuel Baptist Church  
Name of Property

Amherst County, VA  
County and State

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: Emmanuel Baptist Church

City or Vicinity: Amherst vicinity

County: Amherst County

State: Virginia

Photographer: Sandra F. Esposito

Date Photographed: October 2016

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

1 of 11: VA\_AmherstCounty\_EmmanuelBaptistChurch\_0001

View: Primary elevation, facing North

2 of 11: VA\_AmherstCounty\_EmmanuelBaptistChurch\_0002

View: Primary elevation, facing West

3 of 11: VA\_AmherstCounty\_EmmanuelBaptistChurch\_0003

View: Tower detail, facing West

4 of 11: VA\_AmherstCounty\_EmmanuelBaptistChurch\_0004

View: Southwest elevation, facing West

5 of 11: VA\_AmherstCounty\_EmmanuelBaptistChurch\_0005

View: Southwest elevation, facing East

6 of 11: VA\_AmherstCounty\_EmmanuelBaptistChurch\_0006

View: Northwest elevation, facing Southeast

7 of 11: VA\_AmherstCounty\_EmmanuelBaptistChurch\_0007

View: Northeast elevation of 1996 addition, facing Southwest

8 of 11: VA\_AmherstCounty\_EmmanuelBaptistChurch\_0008

View: Interior, Sanctuary, facing Northwest

9 of 11: VA\_AmherstCounty\_EmmanuelBaptistChurch\_0009

Emmanuel Baptist Church  
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View: Interior, Sanctuary, facing Southeast

10 of 11: VA\_AmherstCounty\_EmmanuelBaptistChurch\_0010

View: Interior, Sanctuary, Window detail, facing Northeast

11 of 11: VA\_AmherstCounty\_EmmanuelBaptistChurch\_0011

View: Sandidges School, facing East

**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/ SKETCH MAP

**A-Emmanuel Baptist Church-  
Contributing Building**

**B-Playground- Non-Contributing  
Site**

**C-Shed- Non-Contributing  
Building**

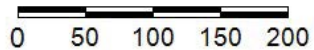
**D-Carport- Non-Contributing  
Structure**

**E-Sandidges School- Non-  
Contributing Building**

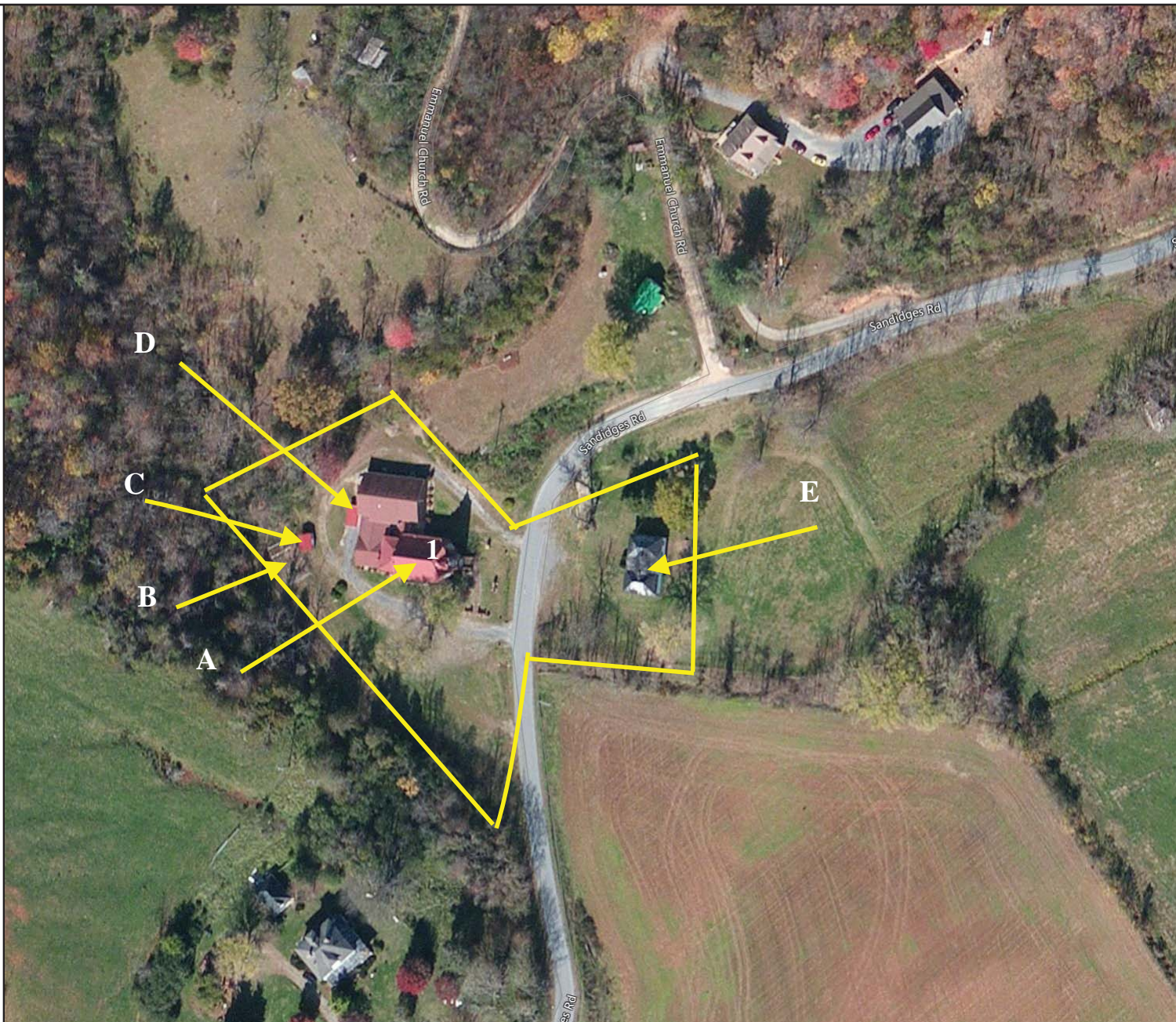
**1 Lat 37.66155N Lon -79.14450W  
LOCATION COORDINATES**



Feet



1:2,257 / 1"=188 Feet

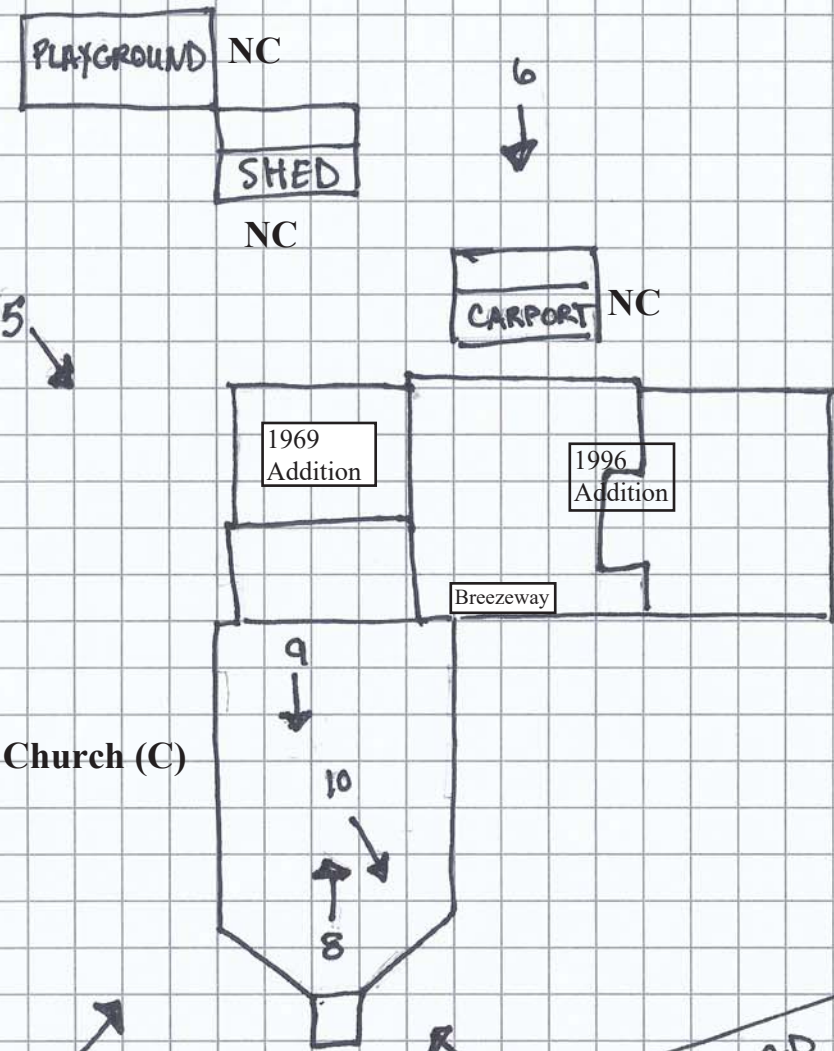


**Title: Emmanuel Baptist Church, Amherst County, VA; DHR #005-5071**

**Date: 6/30/2017**

*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.*

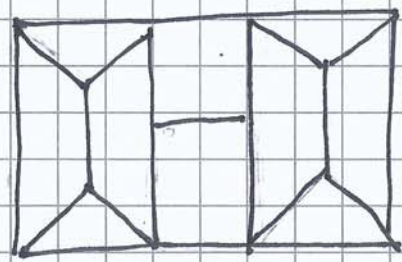


**PHOTO KEY**

NOT TO SCALE

EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH  
 AMHERST VA  
 (DHR # 005-5071)

KEYED TO PHOTOS IN  
 PHOTO LOG



SCHOOL NC

# TAX PARCEL MAP

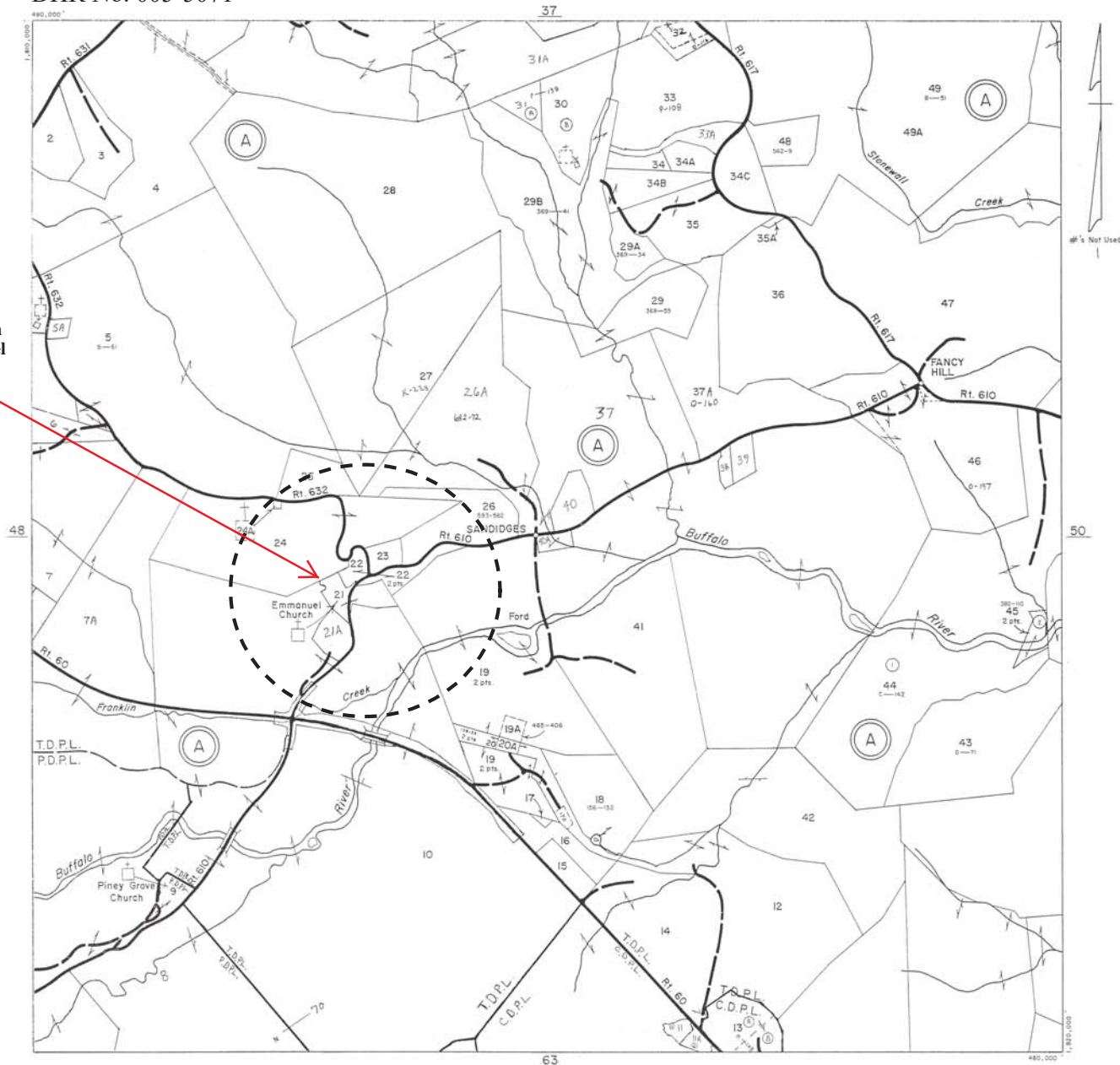
# AMHERST COUNTY

Emmanuel Baptist Church

Amherst County, VA

DHR No. 005-5071

Emmanuel Baptist Church  
Tax Map Parcel  
49 A 21



COURTHOUSE  
PEDLAR  
TEMPERANCE DISTRICT

SECTION 49



MEMORIAL  
TABLET  
1882-1883  
1884-1885  
1886-1887  
1888-1889







SOUTHWESTERN  
CHURCH  
1902

210



















UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 3/14/2018      Date of Pending List: 4/12/2018      Date of 16th Day: 4/27/2018      Date of 45th Day: 4/30/2018      Date of Weekly List: 4/27/2018

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept       Return       Reject      4/27/2018 Date

Abstract/Summary  
Comments:

Recommendation/  
Criteria

Reviewer Control Unit      Discipline \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_      Date \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION:      see attached comments : No      see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## Department of Historic Resources

2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23221



Matt Strickler  
Secretary of Natural Resources

Tel: (804) 367-2323  
Fax: (804) 367-2391  
www.dhr.virginia.gov

March 9, 2018

Mr. Paul Loether  
Chief, National Register of Historic Places and National Historic Landmarks Programs  
National Park Service 2280  
National Register of Historic Places  
Mail Stop 7228  
1849 C St., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20240

**Re: Emmanuel Baptist Church, Amherst County, Virginia**

Dear Mr. Loether:

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the **Emmanuel Baptist Church** to the National Register of Historic Places. Submitted for your review, the nomination has been considered, and approved, by the State Review Board and the Virginia SHPO has recommended it for listing. Any letters of comment or objection have been copied at the end of the nomination material, along with any FPO notification letters.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. My direct phone line is 804-482-6439.

Sincerely,

Lena Sweeten McDonald  
National/State Register Historian

Enclosures

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