

VLR- 8/15/72 NRHP- 12/5/72

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: VIRGINIA	
COUNTY: ESSEX	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
VAUTER'S CHURCH

AND OR HISTORIC:
VAUTER'S CHURCH

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
NE side of Rt. 17, 1 mi. NW of Loretto

CITY OR TOWN:
Loretto vicinity (William Lloyd Scott, Eighth District Congressman)

STATE Virginia	CODE 51	COUNTY: Essex	CODE 057
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3. CLASSIFICATION

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

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
(The Reverend Ralph Fall) The Vestry

STREET AND NUMBER:
Vauter's Church

CITY OR TOWN:
Loretto

STATE: Virginia	CODE 51
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Essex County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Tappahannock

STATE: Virginia	CODE 51
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1932 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE: D. C.	CODE 11
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: VIRGINIA	COUNTY: ESSEX	FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER		
DATE		

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
VIRGINIA	
COUNTY	
ESSEX	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

6.

Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

1958

Federal

Library of Congress

Washington, D. C.

Code: 11

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Vauter's Church stands in a tree shaded church yard on the north side of Route 17 near Loretto in Essex County. The main body of the T-shaped structure measures 56'6" X 30'2"; the wing projects 16' and is 30'2" wide. The building is covered by a steep gable with a slight kick, and with a modillion cornice at its base. The walls are laid in Flemish bond with glazed headers above the bevelled water table and English bond with some irregular use of glazing below. Glazed headers are also used in a row paralleling the barge boards of each gable, and in every other course next to the pilasters of the south doorway. Rubbed brick mark the salient corners, the jambs, and arches of the windows and the two doorways. Queen closers are employed at all salient corners and irregularly at the window jambs. There are four large windows on the north side, two on the east wall, one in each side of the original south wall, one in each side of the wing, and two small windows on the gallery level at the south end. The large windows have rounded arches and are splayed on the interior at the top and sides. The small windows have shallow segmental arches of rowlocks and are splayed at the sides. An intricate segmental-arched brick pediment surmounts the elaborate western doorway with its rounded arch and pilasters. The raked cornice includes syma recta, cyma reversa, fascia and cyma reversa mouldings, while the horizontal cornice omits the cyma reversa. This cornice breaks out over the pilasters to form the beginnings of an abacus, and capitals are formed by the cyma reversa of this cornice. The southern doorway with rudimentary pilasters has a triangular pediment, including two cyma reversas separated by a fascia on both the raked and the horizontal cornice, over a flat arch of gauged brick.

The interior of the structure reflects its T - shape with a raised chancel on the middle of the north side. The original three-decker pulpit which stood in the east end was replaced in 1827 with a Bishop Hobart type pulpit. The present front panels in the pulpit may have been retained from the original. The placing of the pulpit, lectern and altar all within the altar rail as at Vauter's was an arrangement advocated in the early nineteenth century by Bishop John Henry Hobart of New York.

The early interior features include galleries in the west and the south ends. The door frames and the western doors appear to be original and the south doors are probably colonial as are the H-L hinges. In the windows the muntins and some of the panes are possibly original. The large windows have nine lights over nine with four lights in the fan, and the small have six over six. The flagstones of the nave and wing aisles are probably original. The slip pews with doors have the original benches and part of the sides, but these sides were cut down in 1827. The H-hinges still in use are original.

The church was renovated in 1970, during which time a new concrete shingle roof resembling wood shingles replaced the old tin roof. Although the roof trusses are believed to be original, new beams were added to support the increased weight of the roof. A new ceiling has been installed and the walls and ceiling have been plastered.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Vauter's Church is regarded as one of the most graceful examples of colonial ecclesiastical architecture in Virginia. Standing in an unusually good state of preservation, the church is noted for the beauty of its brickwork, especially its fine molded brick doorways and its skillful use of glazed headers. As compared with many of the other colonial churches in the state, Vauter's preserves a large proportion of its original fabric such as doors, trim, and interior fittings, making the building a valuable textbook of eighteenth century details.

Vauter's is the upper Church of St. Anne's Parish, which was formed from Sittingbourne Parish in 1704. This building is the parish's second upper church, and is believed to have been built in two stages. The original rectangular portion of the building apparently was built in 1719, and the south wing of conforming style was added in 1731. The name, Vauter's, seems to derive from the name of the family that owned the adjoining land when the church was built.

The church was abandoned after the Disestablishment until around 1814. It did not suffer so severely as some churches at this time, because the Garnett family of nearby Elmwood Plantation claimed the land on which the church stood, and personally protected the church from vandalism. Regular services were resumed about 1822, and the interior was renovated in 1827. Unlike nearly all other colonial churches in Virginia, Vauter's apparently was not damaged in the Revolution, the War of 1812, or the War Between the States. The church underwent an extensive renovation in 1970.

Vauter's owns part of a silver communion service made in 1724 by William Pearson of London. All of it but one chalice was stolen, possibly during the War Between the States, but another chalice and a paten were recognized, bought and returned to the church in 1909. The flagon has never been found.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Mason, George Carrington, Colonial Churches of Tidewater Virginia.
 Richmond: Whittet & Shepperson, 1945.
 Rawlings, James Scott, Virginia's Colonial Churches, An Architectural Guide. Richmond: Garrett and Massie, 1963.
 Rose, Harold Wickliffe: The Colonial Houses of Worship in America.
 New York: Hastings House, Publishers, 1963.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	38 °	05'	18"	77 °	04'	14"
NE	38 °	05'	18"	77 °	04'	00"
SE	38 °	05'	07"	77 °	04'	00"
SW	38 °	05'	07"	77 °	04'	14"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **10 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission DATE: July, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
 Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond STATE: Virginia CODE: 51

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____
 J. R. Fishburne, Director
 Title Va. Historic Landmarks Commission
 Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

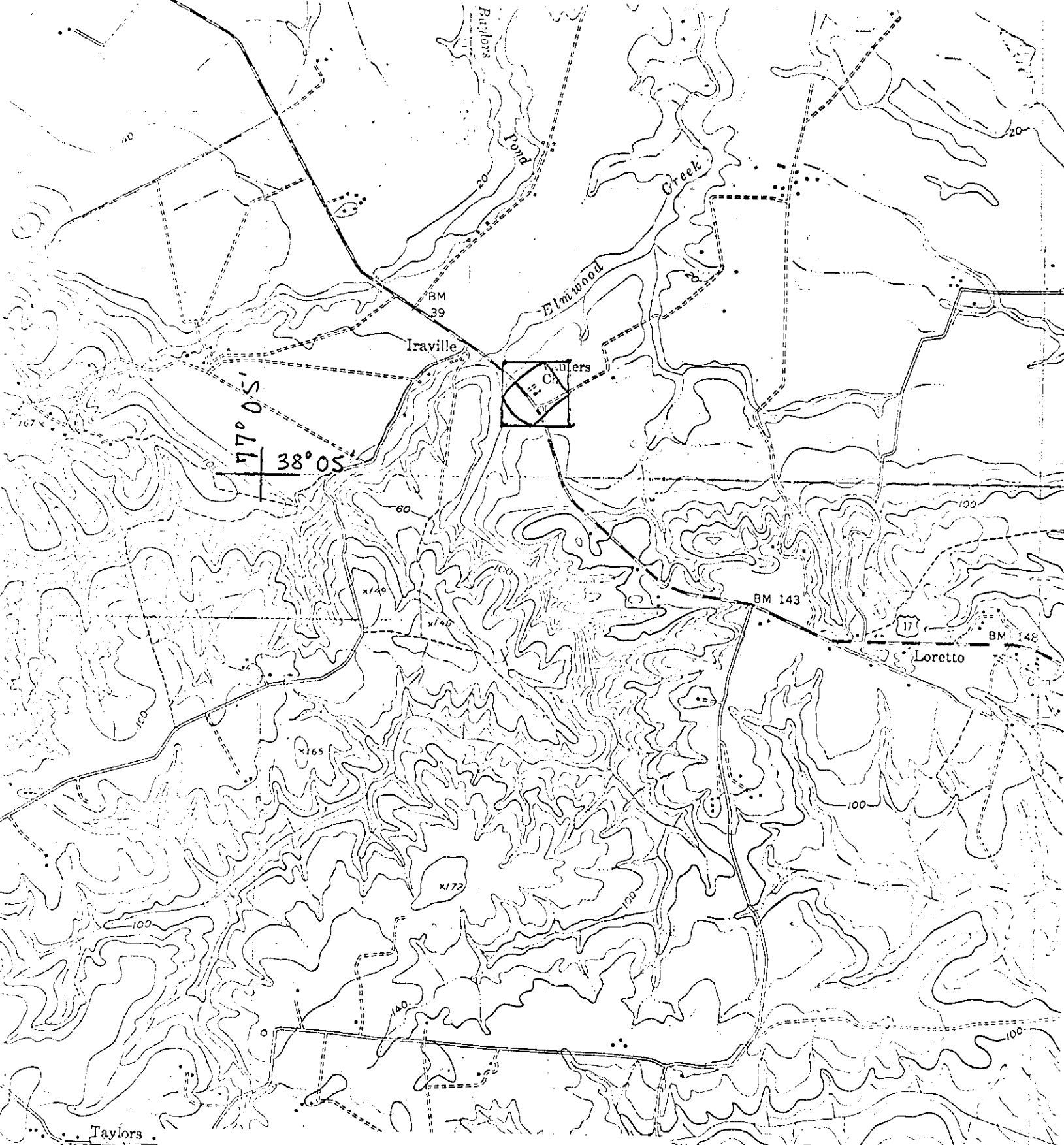
Date _____

ATTEST:

 Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



U.S.G.S. 7½' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)
 Occupacia, Va. 1949

VAUTER'S CHURCH

latitude	longitude
NW38°05'18"	77°04'14"
NE38°05'18"	77°04'00"
SE38°05'07"	77°04'00"
SW38°05'07"	77°04'14"