

VLR- 1/16/73 NRHP- 4/13/73

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: Louisa	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Providence Presbyterian Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
.2 mi. NE of Rt. 700, .3 mi. N of intersection with Rt 250

CITY OR TOWN:
Gun Spring vicinity (Eighth District Congressman William Lloyd Scott)

STATE: Virginia CODE: 51 COUNTY: Louisa CODE: 109

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	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"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	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"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Congregation % Kenneth M. Hart, Clerk of the Session

STREET AND NUMBER:
P.O. Box 165, R.F.D. 3

CITY OR TOWN:
Marshall

STATE: Virginia CODE: 51

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Louisa

STATE: Virginia CODE: 109

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: 1958

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE: D.C. CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTION

STATE: Virginia

COUNTY: Louisa

ENTRY NUMBER

FOR NPS USE ONLY

DATE

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Providence Church is located in a clearing at the end of a wooded lane a fraction of a mile north of U.S. Route 250, and west of the junctions of U.S. Routes 250 and 522.

The three-bay building measures 50'3" x 26'4" and is oriented approximately southeast by northwest. The church has a gable roof covered with tin, and the sides are covered with modern(1940) white clapboards. Two windows open on the upper level in each gable end, and three on each level on each side. The upper double-hung wooden windows have six-over-six sashes. Those on the north side retain their original sills and probably the interior frames. The lower windows have six-over-nine sashes, and a wide wooden shutter on one side. A door opens in the east and another between the center and east bays in the south side. All the openings have plain trim. The original stones in the foundation have been replaced in several areas with new stone and brick.

On the interior there is a gallery in the west end extending halfway along the sides on the north and south. The side galleries are later colonial additions. The handrail of the central portion of the west gallery, the board-and batten front, the supporting beam, the pair of chamfered columns supporting the gallery, and the chamfered pair rising to the ceiling are all original. The floor in the gallery is probably colonial. A narrower chamfered column stands under the north end of the west gallery. The later columns under the side galleries have chamfers and lamb's tongues. Beaded wainscoting encircling the interior, and the beaded ceiling boards are probably colonial or original. The pews, some deriving from a mid-nineteenth century chapel near Yanceyville, are low and have sloping backs. The raised wooden pulpit stands in the east end, and may include some colonial fabric.

G.H.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian; | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1747

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginol | <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | <u>local history</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input 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

Providence Church is one of the few frame churches in Virginia remaining from colonial times and was one of the first Presbyterian churches to be built in the central part of the state. The plain honest exterior and simple rustic interior combine to give the building a particular charm.

Providence Presbyterian Church, originally called Providence Meeting House, was organized about 1747 under the direction of Samuel Morris, and the building was put up that same year. Samuel Davies, the first minister, remained at Providence until 1759, when he left to assume the presidency of the College of New Jersey. John Todd, the second minister, remained until his death in 1793. A distinguished son of the church was Robert Lewis Dabney, noted mid-nineteenth century Presbyterian minister and church architect.

A 1767 will gave the congregation of Providence the means to purchase two silver communion cups made by John Neville of London in 1769-70. These cups have been continuously used by the congregation since that time, making Providence one of very few Presbyterian churches to retain this custom rather than to employ small individual serving glasses.

G.H.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Rawlings, James Scott, Virginia's Colonial Churches. Richmond: Garrett and Massie, 1963.

Wilson, Howard McKnight, The Lexington Presbytery Heritage. Verona, Va.: McClure Press, 1971.

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission files.

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		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
NW	Degrees Minutes Seconds 37° 47' 14"	Degrees Minutes Seconds 77° 54' 27"		Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "	Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "	
NE	37° 47' 14"	77° 54' 10"				
SE	37° 46' 57"	77° 54' 10"				
SW	37° 46' 57"	77° 54' 27"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 15 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: October 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 89-663), 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
Virginia 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

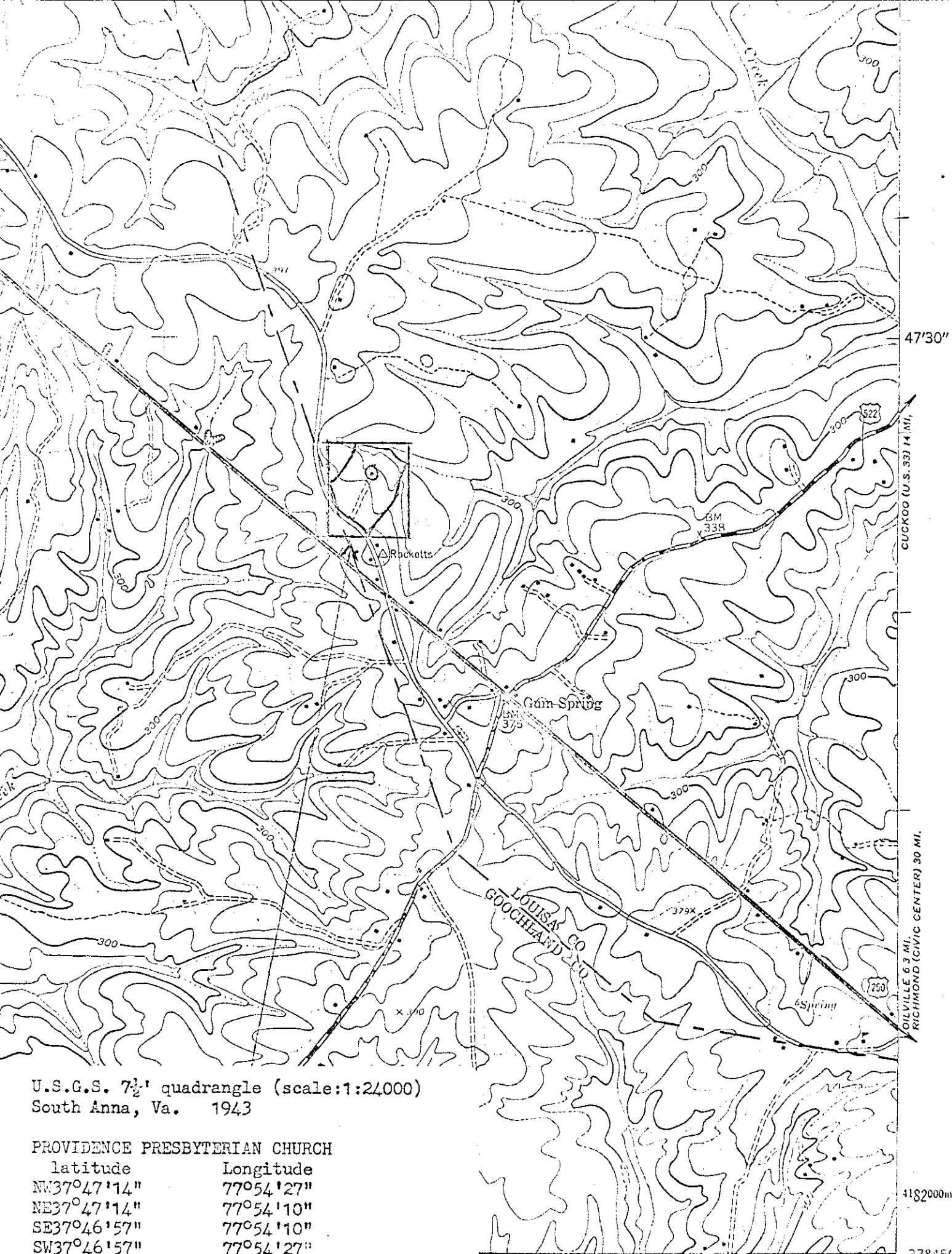
Date: _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date: _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



U.S.G.S. 7½' quadrangle (scale:1:24,000)
 South Anna, Va. 1943

PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

latitude	Longitude
NW37°47'14"	77°54'27"
NE37°47'14"	77°54'10"
SE37°46'57"	77°54'10"
SW37°46'57"	77°54'27"

47'30"

CUCKOO (U.S. 337) 14 MI.

CIVILVILLE 6.3 MI.
 RICHMOND (CIVIC CENTER) 30 MI.

1182000m.N.

37°45'
 77°52'30"

246000m.E.