



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Historic Resources

Matt Strickler
Secretary of Natural Resources

2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23221

Julie V. Langan
Director

July 31, 2018

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Trustees of St. George's Episcopal Church
St. George's Episcopal Church
905 Princess Anne Street
Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Re: St. George's Episcopal Church, City of Fredericksburg

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia, it gives me great pleasure to inform you that the Board of Historic Resources has placed the **Saint George's Episcopal Church** in the Virginia Landmarks Register. The Virginia Landmarks Register (VLR) includes historic landmark buildings, structures, districts, objects, and sites recognized for their historical, architectural, or archaeological significance at a local, state, or national level. The State Review Board also recommended your property for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. Following final staff review, we will forward the nomination to the National Park Service, including my recommendation, along with the Board's, that the resource is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

I thought you would like to know that, because your property is now on the VLR, it is eligible for your voluntary participation in Virginia's Historic Preservation Easement Program, which is administered by DHR on behalf of the Board of Historic Resources. In donating an easement to the Virginia Board of Historic Resources, a property owner protects the historic character and integrity of the property in perpetuity. Easements are developed in close consultation with property owners and tailored to the historic resources on their property. Donation of an easement may qualify for a federal charitable gift deduction and a state land preservation tax credit. Should you be interested, please contact DHR for information about the easement program and donation process.

You also may wish to learn more about the voluntary Virginia Rehabilitation Tax Credit (RTC) program, which is administered by DHR. Virginia provides a 25 percent tax credit on eligible expenses to property owners who rehabilitate their VLR-listed properties according to historic preservation standards. These credits may be utilized over a number of years. Moreover, if your property is used for income-producing purposes, it may be eligible for a federal RTC offering a 20 percent tax credit on qualified rehabilitation expenses. Projects using either state or federal RTCs must comply with *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*.

If you are interested in either of these voluntary programs, please contact DHR. The continuing protection and preservation of registered Virginia landmarks is of immediate concern to this office. We welcome the opportunity to assist you by providing any technical advice on contemplated alterations or sensitive renovations to your property.

Sincerely,

Julie V. Langan
Director and State Historic Preservation Officer

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

Northern Region Office
5357 Main Street
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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. George's Episcopal Church

Other names/site number: 111-0089/111-0132-0289

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: 905 Princess Anne Street

City or town: Fredericksburg State: Virginia County: _____

Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

I hereby certify that this ___ 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 ___ 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 ___ local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D

_____ Signature of certifying official/Title:	_____ Date
_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

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

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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

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>1</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>1</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

FUNERARY: Cemetery

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION: Religious Facility

FUNERARY: Cemetery

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MID-19TH CENTURY: Early Romanesque Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK

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.)

Summary Paragraph

St. George's Episcopal Church is a two-story, three-bay, brick, Romanesque Revival ecclesiastic building designed by Baltimore architect Robert Cary Long, Jr. and constructed by H.G. Reynolds in 1849. The church is located at 905 Princess Anne Street in the historic core of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia. An alley is located to the northeast of the resource, dividing the large block on which the church is located into two parcels. The St. George's Episcopal Church currently sits on one-half acre of land which includes the church and its two large additions McGuire Hall, a mid-twentieth-century school building, and Faulkner Hall, a Sunday school building dating to 1823, the church cemetery, and a small non-contributing shed used in support of the food pantry run by the church. Although some additions have been made to the church complex over time, the property retains a high level of historic integrity in its location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association, and it is located at the heart of, and is a contributing element to, Fredericksburg's National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-listed Fredericksburg Historic District (111-0132), immediately southwest of Market Square (111-0057/111-0132-0204).

Narrative Description

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EXTERIOR

St. George's Episcopal Church is a Romanesque Revival ecclesiastic building situated on a half-acre lot at the northeast corner of Princess Anne and George Streets in downtown Fredericksburg, Virginia. It was designed by Baltimore architect Robert Cary Long, Jr. and construction was completed by H.G. Reynolds in 1849.

The two-story, three-bay church is built in a basilica plan on a raised basement. The masonry structural system is formed of brick laid in English bond. The moderately pitched, front-gabled roof is sheathed in slate shingles and its broken façade (west elevation) features a central, projecting, three-story steeple tower which is discussed in detail below. The steeple contains the town clock (owned by the City of Fredericksburg) and a belfry, and is crowned with a sharply sloped, octagonal spire reaching 168 feet.

The church façade contains three arched doorways, each filled with a double-leaf, four-paneled wood door. Each door is arched to match the structural void and is slightly engaged within a decorative, Romanesque-style surround that features three compound arches and Tuscan order pilasters. A flight of sandstone steps with metal railings leads from the sidewalk to each doorway. The central doorway positioned in the projecting tower is the primary entrance. The other two doorways flank the tower. A wood band or belt course ornamented with a chevron pattern is located approximately 5 feet above the side entries, dividing the first and second stories. Above each of the bands in the second story is a quatrefoil window filled with wood-framed, diamond glass panes. A round-arched, corbelled table adds ornament to the eaves along the façade and all four elevations of the tower above the clock.

The façade of the tower contains an arched, stained-glass window within a Romanesque-style surround at the second story. Above the tower window is the round face of the town clock, also positioned in the same location in the north and south elevations of the tower. A round-arched, corbelled table and a horizontal belt course are above the clock. The belfry, embellished with a wood Venetian arch filled with wooden louvers, provides ventilation in the tower loft. The belfry is capped by a hipped roof sheathed in copper shingles which is pierced by four gabled dormers, each featuring an arched louvered window and rosette. The tower is topped by a steep, copper-clad, octagonal spire terminating with a slim copper cross.

The east elevation of the church contains an arched, corbelled table along the rake of the gable. This corbelled table is broken in two places by small chimney stacks disguised as finials situated at the junction of the nave and chancel, which extends from the east elevation.

On the first floor, the north and south elevations of the nave (central, main portion of the church) are identical. Both contain a series of six arched, pictorial stained-glass windows that were installed between 1907 and 1943, with specific creation dates being noted on each window. Each window is set within a recessed rectangular panel created in the brickwork, denoting each bay on either side of the nave. At the basement level, the north and south elevations contain wood-framed, diamond-paned, casement windows beneath each stained-glass window and below

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the water table. These windows may have originally filled openings in the first story of the nave prior to the installation of the stained-glass windows in the twentieth century (Barbara Willis, personal communication 2017). Centered in the basement level of the south elevation is a secondary entrance leading to Sydnor Hall, the name given to the space in the basement of the main church building. Set beneath an arched doorway, this entry is filled with a double-leaf, paneled, wood door with three fixed lights at the top. A single-leaf, board-and-batten door is located to the east of the secondary entrance and leads to the boiler room.

The chancel (rear section encompassing the altar projecting from the east end of the nave) is accessed by an arched doorway on the south elevation that is positioned in a protruding bay topped by a high-pitched pediment. The chancel is three stories tall at the east elevation and directly abuts the alley behind the church. Above the pediment is a horizontal belt course, which separates the first and second stories, and continues around to the south elevation of the chancel. A corbelled, arched table, which reaches the cornice of the gable roof, lies above the belt course. The chancel contains the same diamond-light casement windows as the basement of the nave. Above the belt course is a large blind arch containing three arched, pictorial stained-glass windows which date to 1885 and depict the "Ascension of Christ" flanked by the Apostles Peter and John (St. George's Episcopal n.d.).

To the north of the chancel is a side-gabled addition constructed around 1910 that houses stairs and service rooms. This addition connects to a multi-bay, three-story, L-shaped classroom wing built in 1958 called McGuire Hall. McGuire Hall runs the entire east perimeter of the lot, turning to the west creating the L shape, and connects to the circa-1823 building known as Faulkner Hall which faces Princess Anne Street (Hicks 2016). Both McGuire Hall and Faulkner Hall are discussed in detail in the following subsections.

McGuire Hall, Classroom Addition

McGuire Hall is a multi-bay, three-story, classroom wing addition built in 1958, as noted on a cornerstone. It was built to support the growing educational needs of the church, but also to connect the main church building with Faulkner Hall. The masonry structural system is constructed of concrete block clad in an English-bonded brick veneer, and the L-shaped roof is sheathed in slate shingles. The lower two stories on the façade of the eastern section of the L do not have any windows and instead feature six recessed arches. The third story was designed in 1995 and contains eight-over-eight, double-hung sash, wood-framed windows above each arch (Barbara Willis, personal communication 2017). The northern section of the façade of the L features three eight-over-eight, double-hung sash, wood-framed windows on the second and third stories as well as a single-leaf, half-glazed, wooden door. The rear (north and west elevations) of the entire hall building features ribbons of three-light, wood-framed, hopper-sash windows.

INTERIOR

The primary entrance leads directly inside the narthex of the church, which features slate floors and plastered walls. On the north and south ends of the narthex are rounded recessed arches dividing it into three sections. Each of the flanking sections features a curved wooden staircase that leads to the gallery at the second story and down to Sydnor Hall. There are three double-leaf

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wood doors on the east end of the narthex by which the nave is entered. The central door is framed by a recessed triple-rounded arch and leads to the center aisle of the nave.

The church has a basilica plan with a wide central aisle, two side aisles, and a high vaulted ceiling. The walls are plastered; the north and south walls contain 12 stained glass windows. The central aisle is flanked by rows of the original wooden pews. Eight large columns support an upper gallery which was added in 1854 when this portion of the church was repaired following a fire (Willis 1978:5). The gallery, which features a decorative wrought railing, surrounds the nave on the north, west, and east sides and holds additional pews for the choir and the pipe organ. Additional columns in the gallery are topped with large arches that provide support for the roof above. The plastered ceiling over the nave is ornamented with molding covering a substantial wooden truss roof.

The pulpit of the church, situated in the east end of the building, is raised three steps above the nave and extends eastward into the chancel. A large arch above the steps supported by pilasters visually divides the nave of the church from the chancel. The chancel has a barrel-vaulted ceiling and features three, pictorial, stained-glass windows dating to 1885. The center window depicts the "Ascension of Christ" flanked by the Apostle Peter and the Apostle John (St. George's Episcopal n.d.). The chancel originally served as a vestry room and was screened off from the nave. Currently, the chancel contains chairs for clergy, an altar, pulpit, and various religious objects. To the north of the pulpit and east of the nave is the sacristy. Further to the north is a modern stairwell leading to McGuire Hall.

In the basement of the main church building, also known as Sydnor Hall, is a large open room with a kitchen. It has wood floors, plastered walls with a chair rail, and a drop ceiling. Paneled, sliding, wood doors with multiple fixed lights can be used to divide the room in half. This area is currently used as the food bank run by the church and also holds the church kitchen and meeting spaces. The church library, situated in the northern portion of the basement/lower level, is accessed through a single-leaf wooden door with three arched lights.

McGuire Hall

McGuire Hall is a L-shaped classroom wing built in 1958 with a third floor designed in 1995. All stories feature long corridors that run the length of the wing, with classrooms, storage rooms, and offices lining the halls. Some of the rooms and portions of hallway feature wood flooring, but most are covered in linoleum. The walls are a mixture of drywall and concrete block with drop ceilings throughout.

SECONDARY RESOURCES

Faulkner Hall, Contributing Building

Faulkner Hall is a one-story, three-bay building constructed in 1823 to serve as a one-room Sunday School and is currently used as meeting space (Hicks 2016). The masonry structural system is constructed of English-bonded brick covered by a front-gabled roof sheathed in slate shingles. The façade (west elevation) features two replacement, six-over-six, double-hung sash,

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wood-framed windows on stone sills set beneath a semi-circular arch that is currently filled with stucco. These windows flank a centered primary entrance that contains a single-leaf, half-glazed, paneled, wood door topped by a four-light transom and jack arch. A louvered vent is set within a wood panel located under a semi-circular arch near the apex of the gable end that may have originally contained a fanlight. The north and south elevations each contain three replacement, six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood-framed windows set upon stone sills and topped by segmental arches. Faulkner Hall is accessed from the outside by a single-leaf, half-glazed, paneled, wood door that is located on the west elevation. A secondary entrance on the east wall filled with a flush metal door provides access from McGuire Hall. Faulkner Hall is a large open room with plaster walls and wood flooring. Simple chair rail molding and baseboards encircle the room.

Cemetery, Contributing Site

Contained in the space bordered by the original church building to the south, McGuire Hall to the east, and Faulkner Hall to the north, is the St. George's Episcopal Church Cemetery. This burial ground dates to about 1750, making it the oldest cemetery in Fredericksburg. It covers approximately 0.19 acre and contains about 120 interments plotted in a rough grid pattern with headstones dating from the mid-eighteenth century. Recent archeological investigations have determined that there are interments under Faulkner and McGuire Halls, as the cemetery is older than all of the currently extant buildings (St. George's Episcopal n.d.). On the west edge of the cemetery is a cast iron fence with a central cast-iron gate and gate posts set upon a raised brick base. The fence divides the cemetery from the public right-of-way along Princess Anne Street to the west. A walkway formed of brick pavers extends east from the sidewalk of Princess Anne Street and stretches northeast where it terminates at the entrance to McGuire Hall. Medium-sized deciduous trees and landscaped shrubs are north of the walkway. Smaller trees and shrubs dot the remainder of the cemetery. In 1815 the Town Council recommended that burials cease at St. George's, as there was no more space, though periodic interments continued until 1920 (Hicks n.d.a). A variety of markers are found throughout the cemetery are largely composed of marble and granite. Most feature little decoration and are either upright, curved, or square headstones or burial vaults. There are also many unmarked graves. Notable interments include John Dandridge (father of Martha Washington), Reverend Edward McGuire (longest serving rector at St. George's from 1813-1858, who helped grow the congregation and build the current church), and John Jones (the oldest standing headstone, dated 1752).

Shed, Noncontributing

A one-story, one-bay, storage shed built in 2016 is located directly south of the church and is situated near the doors that lead into Sydnor Hall on the south elevation of the church (Barbara Willis, personal communication 2017). It is clad in hardiboard clad in stucco and covered by a front-gabled roof sheathed in slate shingles. A single-leaf, paneled, aluminum-clad, wood door is centered on the primary (east) elevation. This storage shed was built to support the food pantry that is run out of Sydnor Hall.

Inventory

Primary Resource: Church (Building), Two-Story, Three-Bay, Romanesque Revival, 1849
Contributing Total: 1

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Secondary Resource: Faulkner Hall (Building), One-Story, Three-Bay, Sunday School, 1823

Contributing *Total:* 1

Secondary Resource: Cemetery (Site), circa-1750

Contributing *Total:* 1

Secondary Resource: Shed (Building), One-Story, One-Bay, 2016 Non-Contributing *Total:* 1

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

RELIGION

EDUCATION

Period of Significance

1721-1959

Significant Dates

1849

1863

1958

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Long, Robert Cary Jr. (architect)

Reynolds, H.G. (builder)

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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.)

St. George's Episcopal Church is eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A and Criterion C at the local level. The church also meets Criteria Consideration A for religious properties since it derives its primary significance from architectural and historical importance. Under Criterion A, St. George's Episcopal Church is significant for its importance to the establishment and growth of Fredericksburg as well as its continued role in local religious life. Built in 1849, this is the third church building located on the site. It is situated next to the City government buildings and historic market square, in the lot of the original plat of Fredericksburg designated for the "church" and approved by the House of Burgesses in 1727 (Royston and Buckner 1721). Since then it has served as a landmark at the center of town, both because of its location and its tall steeple, holding the town clock that has operated consistently since 1851. The church also served as a place of early public education in Fredericksburg through their Sunday school starting as early as 1816. Under Criterion C the church is significant as a prime — and the earliest — example of the Romanesque Revival style in Fredericksburg (Rorrer 1991:9–10). Robert Cary Long, Jr. was a renowned Baltimore architect known for his Gothic Revival and Classical Revival building throughout Virginia and Maryland. By the late 1840s, shortly before his death, he began adopting the Romanesque Revival style with St. George's Episcopal Church being the only example in Virginia (Rorrer 1991:9–10).

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

Before Spotsylvania County and Fredericksburg were officially established, formal religious activities were held at Alexander Spotswood's settlement of Germanna from the communities founding in 1714 until 1720. In that year, legislation created Spotsylvania County as well as St. George's Parish in the same territory (Felder 1982:37–38). The vestry (an elected body of parishioners) built two churches to serve the entire county: one to the north called the Rappahannock Church and one to the south called the Mattapony Church (Quenzel 1951:9). By 1730, the population in western Spotsylvania County had grown significantly, and a proposal for the division of St. George's Parish passed the House of Burgesses thus creating St. Mark's Parish, which comprised the western half of what was St. George's Parish in northern Spotsylvania (Felder 1982:42–43). The creation of St. Mark's Parish occurred simultaneously with the establishment of the Town of Fredericksburg; subsequently, the vestry of St. George's decided to move the location of the Rappahannock Church, still the congregation seat of St. George's Parish, to the growing Town of Fredericksburg (Felder 1982:54). When the first lots of Fredericksburg were informally laid out, the block bounded by Princess Anne, George, Caroline, and William streets was divided in half and the north half was set aside as the "Market Lot" and the south half as the "Church Lot" (Royston and Buckner 1721). By the 1730s, the lot to the south of the church, across George Street, contained the courthouse. The courthouse, together with the church and market square, formed the epicenter of the colonial government in

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Fredericksburg (Fredericksburgva.gov n.d.; Royston and Buckner 1721). In 1734, an ecclesiastic building, still known as the Rappahannock Church, was built on the western half of the "Church Lot" at the corner of Princess Anne and George streets. In the 1750s, the vestry began using the land surrounding the chapel as the church's cemetery. Land in the eastern half of the original "Church Lot" proved unsuitable as a place of burial due to its steep decline towards the Rappahannock River; therefore, in 1772 the House of Burgesses passed an act empowering the vestry to sell this part of the churchyard, leaving the present 0.5-acre lot that the church is located on today (Felder 1982:42-43).

The American Revolution granted individuals religious freedom, and the church lost much of its governing power in the newly created United States (Addison 1951:57-58). Dissenters were no longer obligated to the Episcopal Church and, without any of its previous power, the Episcopal Church was left unable to sustain itself both spiritually and financially. Many saw the church as a part of the old regime and attendance dropped significantly. New denominations, accustomed to relying upon their own resources for support, gained members while popularity fell in the Episcopal Church. During this time, the Rappahannock Church in Fredericksburg fell into disrepair (Quenzel 1951:21).

In 1813, a spiritual rebirth occurred under the new leadership of Reverend Edward McGuire, who replaced the older, frame chapel with a new, more permanent brick structure (Quenzel 1951:21). In the decade following the construction of the new church building, the rights to the property were turned over to the trustees of the church and its name changed to St. George's (Mutual Assurance Society of Virginia 1836). St. George's began running a Sunday school in 1816, making it the first in the region (Hicks 2016). Since children at that time often worked with their parents during the week, the Sunday school was a place where underprivileged children could learn to read and write through reading and copying Bible passages (Hicks 2016). In 1823, a new Sunday school building was erected in the northern half of the property to house the growing Sunday school run by the Episcopal Church (Hicks 2016). Because of the close proximity to the graveyard, the new school brought controversy to the congregation as many felt the church was in "a violation of the Sanctuary of the Grave" and were concerned that there were likely graves beneath the building (The Virginia Herald 1823). Regardless, the new addition was constructed in its planned location. A writer to The Virginia Herald noted that the purpose was to erect a Sunday school building to educate the "poor children of our town and neighbourhood [sic] in the principles of knowledge and religion; thus rescuing from sordid obscurity of ignorance and the poisonous pollutions of vice, many a helpless little one, who but for this Institution, might have languished out its unblest being in hopeless ignorance and degrading crime" (Hicks 2016). This Sunday school building was later called Faulkner Hall, after Reverend Thomas G. Faulkner, who led the church in the twentieth century (Willis 1978).

At its height in 1846, Reverend Edward McGuire recorded that St. George's had 30 Sunday school teachers with over 350 students on any given week. The classes were said to have been integrated with 80 "domestic servants" (likely enslaved children) noted as attending in the 1840s (Hicks 2016). By the mid-nineteenth century, Sunday school attendance was a near universal aspect of childhood until compulsory state education was established in the 1870s which

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required weekday education. At that point, the Sunday school at St. George's started to resemble the Christian education of today (Hicks 2016).

Due to a faulty foundation, the second church was replaced in 1849 by the current and largest of the three churches (Slaughter 1847:49-51). To finance the new church, the vestry sold pews and, as a result, raised more than enough money necessary to pay for design and construction. The parish originally bought a Gothic design from architect Richard Upjohn, but ultimately decided upon a Romanesque-Revival design by Robert Cary Long, Jr. (Rorrer 1991:9). Construction was completed in 1849 by H. G. Reynolds, a builder who constructed many of Long's works (Rorrer 1991:1-3).

The clock was added to the steeple of St. George's in 1851, and while it is owned by the City, the bells that continue to ring today are owned and operated by the church (Willis 1978:5). A fire in 1854 brought several changes to the church with Reverend McGuire noting at the Annual Convention of the Diocese of Virginia that "our church was partially consumed by fire in July last. It has, however, been repaired with renovated beauty and convenience" (Diocese of Virginia 1855:69). The original vestry room, partitioned off to the east in a wing of its own, became part of an enlarged chancel (Quenzel 1951:36). Other restorations included the addition of side galleries to the nave and restoring the clock and bells (Willis 1978:5). The bells were replaced at that time by the current ones which were made by the Meneely's Company of West Troy, New York, weighing approximately 2,500 pounds (Hicks 2017).

During the Civil War, the church, along with most of Fredericksburg, was abandoned with services being held sporadically in the basement. St. George's served as a landmark to soldiers, but also functioned as a shelter, space for religious revivals, and hospital during the war. St. George's served as a site of the Confederate religious revival in 1862 and 1863 when the other churches in town were no longer able to contain the large number of soldiers that were in attendance. This followed a trend of religious revivals that were rippling through the entire Army of Northern Virginia at that time (Harman 2000:105). Reverend William Wallace Bennett wrote, "At 11:00 we assembled at the Episcopal Church. On this occasion, perhaps 1,500 were in attendance, mostly soldiers. Every grade, from private to Major General was represented" (Harman 2000:109). The services during the revival were ecumenical in nature with John William Jones, a Confederate chaplain noting that:

We found out soldiers at Fredericksburg all alive with religious animation. A rich blessing had been poured upon the zealous labors of the Rev. Mr. Owen, Methodist chaplain in Barksdale's Brigade. The Rev. Dr. Burrows, of the Baptist Church, Richmond, had just arrived, expecting to labor with him for some days. As I was to stay but one night, Dr. Burrows courteously insisted on my preaching. So we had a Presbyterian sermon, introduced by Baptist services, under the direction of a Methodist chaplain, in an Episcopal church! Was not that a beautiful solution of the vexed problem of Christian union? The large edifice was crowded with soldiers. They filled the chancel, and covered the pulpit stairs (Jones 1887:305).

St. George's Episcopal Church

Fredericksburg, Virginia

Name of Property

County and State

St. George's functioned as a hospital twice during the war: in 1862 following the First Battle of Fredericksburg and again in 1864 after the Battle of the Wilderness. In 1862, as the wounded retreated off the battlefield they primarily came down Hanover and George Streets, where the largest of the field hospitals was located in St. George's. Union Major General St. Clair Augustin Mulholland recalled that "in the lecture room of the Episcopal Church eight operating tables were in full blast, the floor was densely packed with men whose limbs were crushed, fractured and torn" (Hicks n.d.b). Following the Battle of the Wilderness, Fredericksburg became known as a "City of Hospitals," during which time an observer noted how the entire church was filled with wounded soldiers (Willis 1978:14). Due to them being nailed down, St. George's was the only church in Fredericksburg whose pews survived the war, as they were often the first to go to make way for the wounded and for use as fuel (Hicks n.d.b).

Although services were sporadic, the clock and bells continued to ring throughout the war. Captain William C. Barlett wrote a recollection for *The Free Lance* (as cited in Willis 1978:14) about the Union bombardment of Fredericksburg:

On the night preceding the bombardment, the tall spire of the church loomed like a spectre to the soldiers of the Army of the Potomac camped across the river. Regularly from the belfry came the solemn record of the house resounding among the hills. Driven by frayed nerves and tension, one officer vowed that "the first shot he put in the city should pass through that clock." But the clock survived three days of battle, though in the din of cannonade its tolling could not be heard. On the night of December 14th as the Federal troops retreated back across the river under an injunction of silence, they suddenly heard the sound of the clock of the church ringing out the hour of two—it took up the thread of its monotonous story, ringing out as though exalting with the victors, while the distant hills echoes back in solemn requiem.

St. George's resumed weekly services in December 1864 with the vestry meetings commencing again in April of the following year. The first order of business was to repair the church, which had suffered damages both inside and out including about 17 holes in the steeple (Willis 1978:15). The repairs were completed in 1870 and, in 1876, the first of 16 stained-glass windows were installed (Quenzel 1951:35). Three of the windows were contributed by the renowned Tiffany Studios and Colgate Glass Company of New York (Quenzel 1951:39).

Most recently, St. George's underwent several changes in the twentieth century, the largest consisting of the addition of McGuire Hall, completed in 1959 with plans drawn up in 1995 for a further expansion (Barbara Willis, personal communication 2017; Willis 1978:5). St. George's period of significance ends with the initial construction of McGuire Hall, as that is the last period of noteworthy changes to the historic fabric of the church. McGuire Hall also functions as a school, continuing the legacy of education at the church. Other later changes include a reorganization of the chancel area, replacement of the original copper roof with slate shingles, and the rehabilitation of the steeple (Willis 1978:6). St. George's Episcopal Church has served its congregation as well as the City of Fredericksburg for over 280 year and it still stands as a landmark today.

St. George's Episcopal Church
Name of Property

Fredericksburg, Virginia
County and State

Architectural Analysis

St. George's Episcopal Church is the only Romanesque Revival work of Robert Cary Long, Jr. in Virginia. Long, who designed the Frederick County Courthouse (034-5062/138-0042-1067), the School for the Deaf in Staunton (132-0008), and Kinloch (028-0020), is principally known for his Classical Revival work in Virginia (Rorrer 1991:1-3). However, his designs shifted in the middle of the 1840s as he began adopting the new Romanesque Revival style, with buildings that resembled the Gothic-Revival style with Roman forms (Rorrer 1991:5). This early phase of the style was short lived, as Gothic and Italianate styles remained more popular. The Romanesque style did not reemerge until Henry Hobson Richardson introduced his Richardsonian Romanesque style in the 1870s (Architectural Styles of America and Europe n.d.). The same year St. George's was completed (1849), Long died of cholera, ending his life at the height of his career (Rorrer 1991:9-10).

Though the architectural styling of ecclesiastical and institutional buildings is quite varied in Fredericksburg, St. George's Episcopal Church stands out as the only building constructed in the Romanesque Revival style. St. George's is also an exemplary example of an early Romanesque Revival-style church in Virginia as a whole, as there are only four others in the state that were built during that first phase of the style (1840s and 1850s) as recorded in V-CRIS. The other churches, High Street Methodist in Petersburg (123-0097-0321), the former Sinking Springs Presbyterian Church in Abingdon (140-0005), Charlotte County House United Methodist Church (185-0019), and Middleburg Methodist Church (259-0162-0096), are less grand in form and massing than St. George's and feature fewer high-style detailing.

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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: Central Rappahannock Heritage Center

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 111-0089/111-0132-0289

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.5 acre

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 38.180998 Longitude: -77.273594
2. Latitude: Longitude:
3. Latitude: Longitude:
4. Latitude: Longitude:

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

The NRHP property boundaries are drawn to encompass the current tax parcels where the resource sits which is recorded as parcel numbers 7789-14-3959 and 7789-14-4904 in City of Fredericksburg land records and is depicted on the enclosed tax parcel map.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries encompass the current tax parcel which include property's historic setting as well as all known historic resources.

11. Form Prepared By

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date: February 2018

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. George's Episcopal Church

City or Vicinity: Fredericksburg

State: Virginia

Photographer: C. Sylvester and L. Wiggs

Date Photographed: June 2017

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

1 of 32:

St. George's Episcopal Church, Northwest Oblique, Looking Southeast
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0001

2 of 32:

St. George's Episcopal Church, Southwest Oblique, Looking Northeast
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0002

3 of 32:

St. George's Episcopal Church. West Elevation, Looking East
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0003

4 of 32:

St. George's Episcopal Church, Cemetery, Looking East
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0004

5 of 32:

St. George's Episcopal Church, Faulkner Hall, West Elevation, Looking East
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0005

6 of 32:

St. George's Episcopal Church, Cemetery, Looking Southwest
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0006

7 of 32:

St. George's Episcopal Church, Chancel and McGuire Hall, Looking Southeast
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0007

8 of 32:

St. George's Episcopal Church, McGuire Hall, Looking East
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0008

9 of 32:

St. George's Episcopal Church, McGuire Hall, Looking North
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0009

10 of 32:

St. George's Episcopal Church, North Elevation, Looking West
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0010

11 of 32:

St. George's Episcopal Church, Northeast Oblique, Looking South
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0011

12 of 32:

St. George's Episcopal Church, East Elevation, Looking West
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0012

13 of 32:

St. George's Episcopal Church, Interior, Narthex, Looking East
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0013

14 of 32:

St. George's Episcopal Church, Interior, Narthex, Looking North
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0014

15 of 32:

St. George's Episcopal Church, Interior, Looking East
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0015

16 of 32:

St. George's Episcopal Church, Alter, Looking East
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0016

17 of 32:

St. George's Episcopal Church, Interior, Looking Southwest
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0017

18 of 32:

St. George's Episcopal Church, Interior, Looking West
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0018

19 of 32:

St. George's Episcopal Church, Interior, Balcony Detail, Looking West
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0019

20 of 32:
St. George's Episcopal Church, Interior, View From Balcony, Looking Southwest
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0020

21 of 32:
St. George's Episcopal Church, Interior, Sacristy, Looking North
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0021

22 of 32:
St. George's Episcopal Church, Sydnor Hall, Looking West
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0022

23 of 32:
St. George's Episcopal Church, Shed, Looking West
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0023

24 of 32:
St. George's Episcopal Church, McGuire Hall, Lower Level, Preschool Classrooms, Looking North
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0024

25 of 32:
St. George's Episcopal Church, McGuire Hall, Lower Level, Looking East
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0025

26 of 32:
St. George's Episcopal Church, Faulkner Hall, Looking West
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0026

27 of 32:
St. George's Episcopal Church, Faulkner Hall, Looking East
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0027

28 of 32:
St. George's Episcopal Church, McGuire Hall, Upper Level, Hallway, Looking West
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0028

29 of 32:
St. George's Episcopal Church, McGuire Hall, Upper Level, Music Room, Looking North
VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0029

30 of 32:
St. George's Episcopal Church, Chancel, Main Level, Youth Room, Looking South

VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0030

31 of 32:

St. George's Episcopal Church, Snyder Hall, Kitchen, Looking North

VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0031

32 of 32:

St. George's Episcopal Church, McGuire Hall, Main Level, Hallway, Looking North

VA_Fredericksburg_St.George'sEpiscopalChurch_0032

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.