



BULL RUN UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS

Minister, Rev. Charlotte Lehmann
Administrative Assistant, Tina Cox
Interim Music Director, David Maley

Lifespan Religious Education Director, Kristin Worthington

Board President, Rita Romano
Treasurer, Heather Berthold

March 5, 2023

Architectural Review Board
City of Manassas
9027 Center Street

Dear Board Members,

I am writing to petition the Architectural Review Board (ARB) to initiate the appropriate action to have included on the City of Manassas Historic Landmarks List the Bull Run Unitarian Universalists building (formerly Grace United Methodist Church) located at 9350 Main Street.

Built in the 1920's, this beautiful church is a historic landmark structure that **significantly contributes** to the nature and character of Old Town Manassas.

I look forward to the Board's favorable consideration. As the current president of the congregation, please don't hesitate to contact me for assistance in this matter.

Sincerely

Rita Romano
President
Bull Run Unitarian Universalists

7795-68-0942



VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

File no.	155-43
Negative no(s).	4367, 4904

SURVEY FORM

Historic name	Common name
County/Town/City Manassas	Grace United Methodist Church
Street address or route number 9400 Main Street, Manassas, Va. 22110	
USGS Quad Manassas	Date or period 1931
Original owner Grace Methodist-Episcopal	Architect/builder/craftsmen Albert Speiden, Architect.
Original use Church	Church
Present owner Methodist Board of Missions	Source of name
Present owner address 5001 Echols Avenue	Source of date
Alexandria, Va. 22311	Stories
Present use Church	Foundation and wall const'n Brick.
Acreage	Roof type

State condition of structure and environs Good.

State potential threats to structure
Note any archaeological interest

Should be investigated for possible register potential? yes no

Architectural description (Note significant features of plan, structural system and interior and exterior decoration, taking care to point out aspects not visible or clear from photographs. Explain nature and period of all alterations and additions. List any outbuildings and their approximate ages, cemeteries, etc.)

Interior inspected?

Historical significance (Chain of title; individuals, families, events, etc., associated with the property.)

Methodists were meeting and conducting services in Manassas as early as 1867. The first services were held in Hixson Hall, a room over the store property which was owned by D. J. Arrington, on the northeast corner of Main Street and Quarry Road. It is believed that Presbyterians and Catholics also held services in Hixson's Hall, prior to the construction of their own churches. Grace Methodist Episcopal Church, South, the first Methodist Church in Manassas, was erected in 1890 on a lot donated by J. R. Tillett located on the northwest corner of Center and Zebedee Streets. This building, though no longer used as a church, is still standing and is included elsewhere in the survey. Services were held in this building until about 1926. A parsonage was built on the corner of Fairview and Wesley Avenues sometime between 1896 and 1900. In 1910, a lot for a new church was purchased on the corner of Church and Main Streets. Architect Albert Speiden of Manassas drew up plans for the building, and in 1926 the cornerstone was laid. The basement and main auditorium were completed in 1928. The church was dedicated in 1931. A furnace was installed in 1931; the pipe organ installed in 1936; and the auditorium was refurbished in 1937. The Children's Division was completed in 1940. In 19__ a new parsonage was built at the southeast corner of Portner Avenue and Main Street. The Educational Building to the left of the Sanctuary, containing 18 Sunday School rooms, was completed in 1957. Between 1963 and 1971 the Sanctuary was centrally air-conditioned. The church broadcasts to private homes and the Manassas Manor Nursing Home via closed-circuit television.

Rev. William Sturtevant is the present senior pastor and Rev. Willis Haller the present associate pastor.

Sources and bibliography

Published sources (Books, articles, etc., with bibliographic data.)

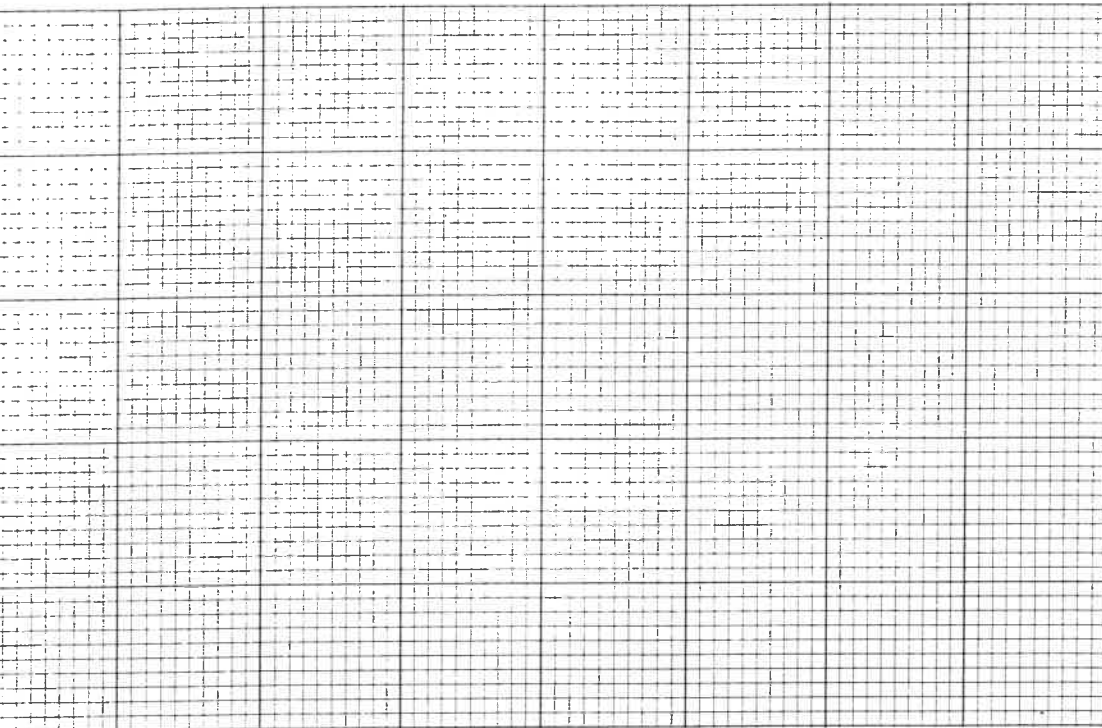
Article, Manassas Journal, 4 June 1931.

Primary sources (Manuscript documentary or graphic materials; give location.)

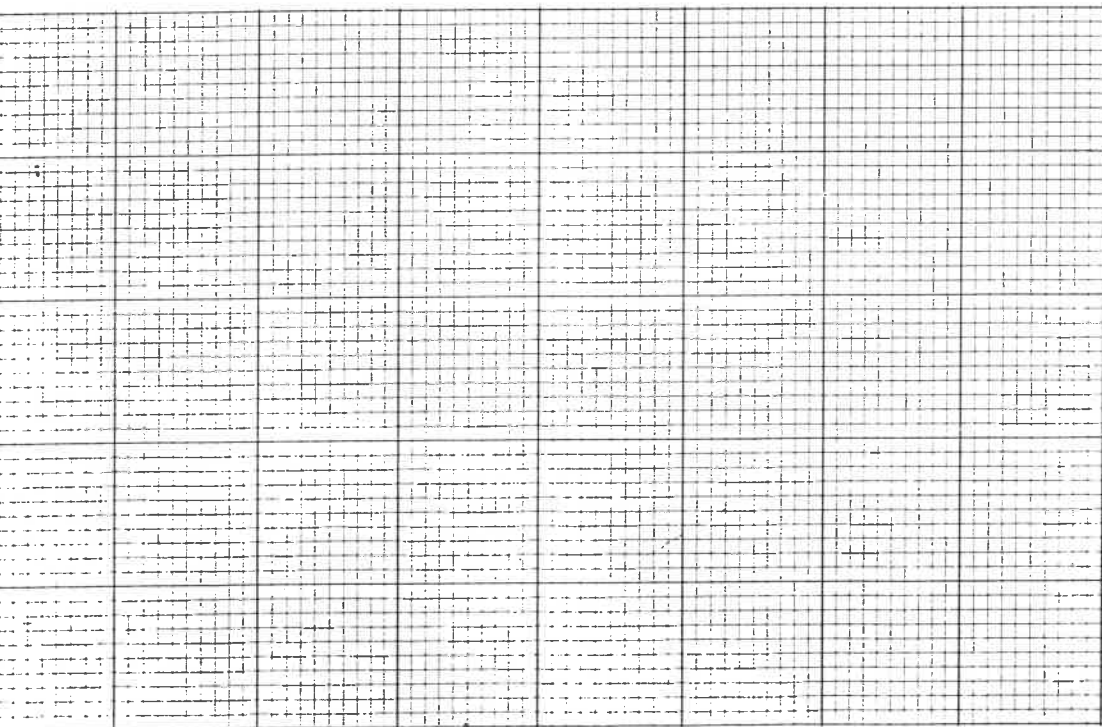
Simmons, Catherine, "Manassas, Virginia, 1873-1973," Unpublished Master's Thesis in possession of Prince William Library. *Historical sketch prepared by the church.*

Names and addresses of persons interviewed

Plan (Indicate locations of rooms, doorways, windows, alterations, etc.)

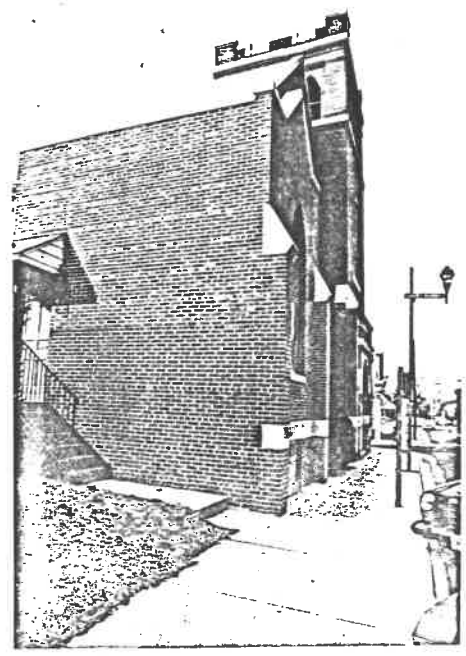
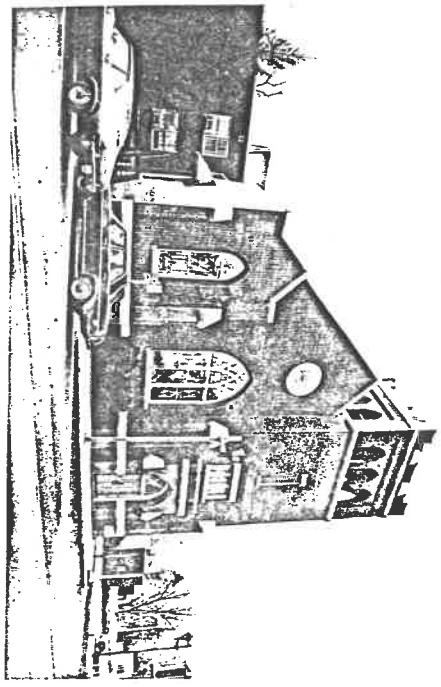
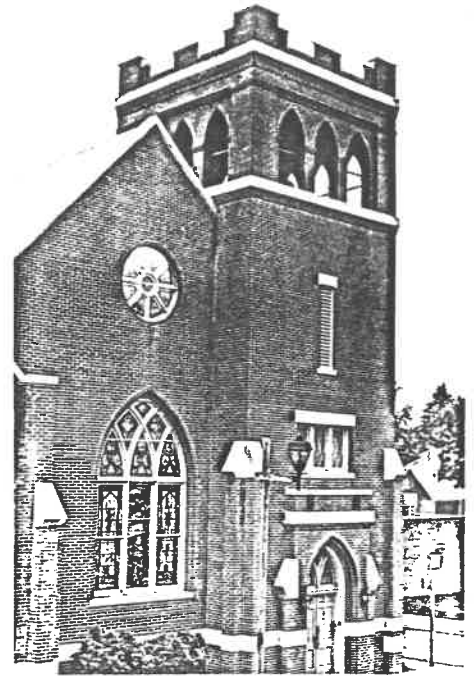
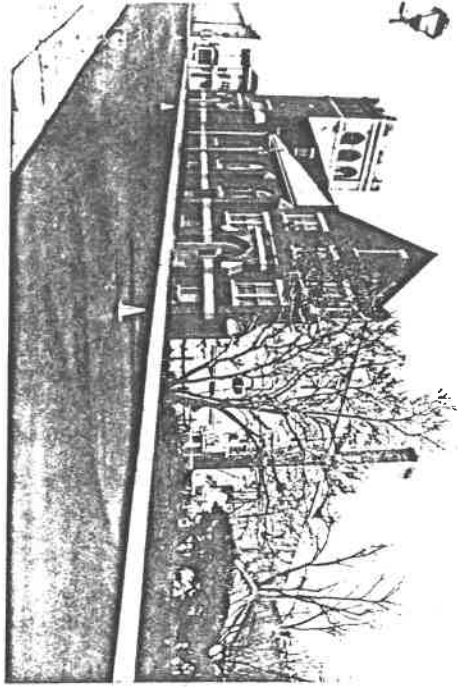


Site plan (Locate and identify outbuildings, dependencies and significant topographical features.)



Name, address and title of recorder Frances Jones, Architectural
Historian - Surveyor, NVPDC

Date
NOV 1979



City of Manassas

Manassas

Reconnaissance Level Survey

DHR Id # 155-0043

Resource Identification

Tax Parcel: 101/01 00/ 426A1/ / /

Other Id#: 155-0161-0160

GPIN # 7795-68-0942

Property Name(s): Grace United Methodist Church {Historic} Bull Run
Unitarian Universalist Congregation/Yoga Center,
9350 Main Street {Current}

Property Date: circa 1931

Address(s): 9350 Main Street {Current}

County/Independent City: Manassas

City: Manassas

State, Zip: Virginia, 20108

USGS Quad Name: MANASSAS

Surrounding Area: City

National Register Eligibility Status

Property is Historic (50 years or older)

Property is associated with the Local Manassas Historic District

Property is associated with the National Register Manassas Historic District [district]

Resource Description

Ownership Status: Private

Primary Resource Exterior Component Description:

Component	Comp Type/Form	Material	Material Treatment
Chimneys	Exterior End	Brick	Stretcher Bond
Chimneys	N/A	N/A	N/A
Foundation	Solid	Brick	Stretcher Bond
Roof	Gable, Cross	Asphalt	Shingle
Porch	N/A	N/A	N/A
Structural System	Masonry	Brick	Stretcher Bond
Windows	Double-Hung	Wood	6/6
Windows	Fixed	Wood	Stained-glass

Site Description: Facing east, the church is sited on a paved sloping lot with landscaping. It is located on the southwest corner of Main Street and Church Street. A courtyard is located in the southeast corner of the property.

WUZIT Count:

No.	Wuzit Types	Historic?
1	Church	Historic

NR Resource Count:

#	NR Resource Type	Contributing Status
1	Building	Contributing

Individual Resource Information

WUZIT: Church

Est. Date of Construction: ... circa 1931

Primary Resource? Yes

Architectural Style: Gothic Revival

Interior Plan Type: Unknown

Accessed? No

Number of Stories: 2

Condition: Good

Threats to Resource: None Known

Description: Set on a stretcher-bond brick foundation, this two-story, three-bay Gothic Revival-style building is a church. It is masonry construction of stretcher-bond brick. The church features a stone belt course, corbelled gothic arches, and square, brick buttresses. It is covered by a cross gable roof sheathed in asphalt shingles. A corner bell tower is three-stories. It is covered by a flat roof with a crenellated parapet. The bell tower has a stone belt course, brick corbelled cornice, brick dentils, pointed arches at the top of the belfry, wood louvers and tripartite diamond pane windows. Fenestration of the main block consists of an entrance with a projecting battlement portico with a corbelled pointed arch, 6/6 double-hung wood windows, stained-glass lancet and pointed arch fixed wood windows, rosette window, and a large pointed arch window with tracette and corbelled surround. A two-story ell addition was constructed on the south elevation of the church. It is masonry construction of 6-course American-bond. It is covered by a flat roof. Fenestration consists of 8/8 double-hung sash wood windows and a projecting battlement portico with a corbelled segmental arched entry.

Cemetery Information**National Register Eligibility Information (Intensive Level Survey)**

Historic Context(s): Architecture/Community Planning, Religion

Time Period(s): World War I to World War II (1945-Present)

Significance Statement:

The Bull Run Unitarian Universalist Congregation/Yoga Center at 9350 Main Street is representative of religious buildings constructed in the early twentieth century. The building was constructed in 1931 by the Grace United Methodist Church. The Methodist congregation was established as early as 1867 and they constructed their first church on the northwest corner of Church and Zebedee Streets in 1890. Services were held in this building until 1926. In 1926, construction began on the present building on the corner of Main and Church Streets. It was dedicated in 1931. The building was designed in the Gothic Revival style by architect Albert Speiden, a prominent architect in the Washington D.C. metropolitan area who resided in Manassas. Typical of the Gothic Revival style are the building's pointed-arched windows, steeply-pitched roof, prominent brick buttresses, and its crenellated bell tower. The building has continuously been used as a religious structure since its construction. This property is a contributing property to National Register Manassas Historic District. As a good representation of an early twentieth-century Gothic Revival Church, the church at 9350 Main Street is Ranked Notable. An intensive-level interior survey and research are recommended.

Ownership Information

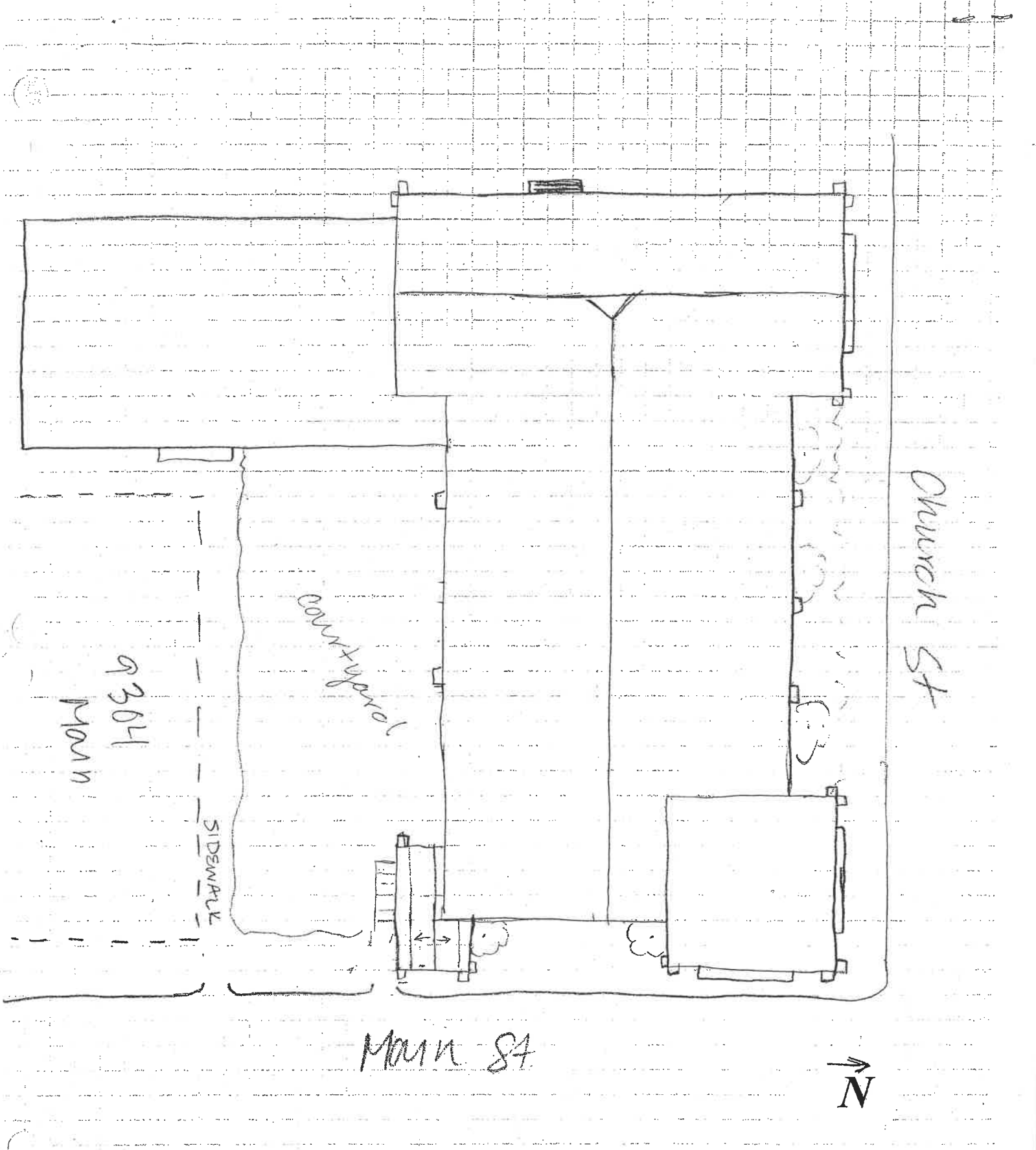
Bull Run Unitarian Universalist Church

Graphic Media Documentation

Medium	Photo Roll	Negative Number	Photo Date
B&W 35mm Photos	EHT 10	16-17	11/23/2005
Digital Photos	EHT 10	16-17	11/23/2005

CRM Event

Reconnaissance Survey EJ: EHT Tracerics, Inc. August 23, 2005



LD. # (s) 7795-68-0942 Address 9350 Main Street



City of Manassas

**REZ #2023-0004 &
ZTA #2023-0001
Historic Landmark Designation
for 9350 Main Street**

Legend



0 25 50 100 150 200 Feet



Map Created by:
Department of Community Development
Map Updated on: 4/11/2023

This map is intended for reference purposes only. Any determination of topography or contours, or any depiction of physical improvements, property lines, or boundaries is for general information only and shall not be used for the design, modification, or construction of improvements to real property or for flood plain determination.