



PRELIMINARY INFORMATION FORM (PIF) for INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES

Note: PIFs are prepared by applicants and evaluated by DHR staff and the State Review Board based on information known at the time of preparation. Recommendations concerning PIFs are subject to change if new information becomes available.

DHR No. (to be completed by DHR staff) 042-5996

1. General Property Information

Property name: Bethany Elementary School (historic), Hanover Community Center (current)

Property address: 14662 Bethany Church Road

City or Town: Montpelier

Zip code: 23192

Name of the Independent City or County where the property is located: Hanover County

Category of Property (choose only one of the following):

Building X

Site

Structure

Object

2. Physical Aspects

Acreage: 8.48

Setting (choose only one of the following):

Urban Suburban Town Village Hamlet Rural X

Briefly describe the property's overall location and setting, including any notable landscape features:

The site is located in rural Western Hanover County.

3. Architectural Description

Architectural Style(s): No discernible style

If the property was designed by an architect, landscape architect, engineer, or other professional, please list here: _____

If the builder is known, please list here: _____

Date of construction (can be approximate): 1957

Narrative Description (Please do not exceed one page in describing the property):

Briefly describe the property's general characteristics, such as its current use (and historic use if different), as well as the primary building or structure on the property (such as a house, store, mill, factory, depot, bridge, etc.). Include the materials and method(s) of construction, physical appearance and condition (exterior and interior), and any additions or other major alterations.

The site is the former segregated Bethany Elementary School. This site is built on property that was purchased by Bethany Baptist Church, located directly across the road from the Center. The first school was built by the church to educate its members and others in the community. The property was given to Hanover County in the 1930's to educate black children. The two four-room buildings were demolished and replaced in 1957 and additional rooms added in 1960. The school was closed in 1983. The building and land was deeded to the Hanover Community Center, Inc by Hanover County Board of Supervisor in 1992.

In a bullet list, include any outbuildings or secondary resources or major landscape features (such as barns, sheds, dam and mill pond, storage tanks, scales, railroad spurs, etc.), including their condition and their estimated construction dates.

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4. Property's History and Significance (Please do not exceed one page)

Briefly explain the property's historic importance, such as significant events, persons, and/or families associated with the property.

If the property is important for its architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, or other aspects of design, please include a brief explanation of this aspect.

The Hanover Community Center (HCC) is located in the former Bethany School, a Hanover public school that was closed in the 1980s. The first school was built in 1915 by the Bethany Baptist Church to educate its members. HCC was a segregated school that served Montpelier, Beaverdam, Coatesville, and Rockville. The county took over the operation of the school around 1929. The Bethany School was built in the 1950s and served the predominately African American community in the area.

Hanover Community Center, Inc. was created in the 1990s as an educational and social resource center for the surrounding community. In addition, County Line Montessori School (CLMS) is housed at the HCC and serves children from 3-18 years old.

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PIF BOUNDARY MAP

Bethany School
Hanover County, VA
DHR ID# 042-5996

 Proposed Boundary

0 500
 Feet







































































































































