



*Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Nomination Report*

**St. Paul Baptist Church**

6109 Charles Town Rd • Kearneysville, WV 25430



## Description of Resource; Architectural Information

St. Paul Baptist Church is located on the east side of West Virginia Route 9 at its junction with Good Folks Road, about two miles south of Kearneysville, West Virginia (Figs. 1a, 1b). As gleaned from its West Virginia Historic Property Inventory Form of 1996, Saint Paul Baptist Church is a one-story, wood-frame, cross-gabled church with a square corner tower over the front entry. Flanking the entrance on the east is a ten-over-twelve, double-hung sash window in a large lancet-arched opening. The church is clad with lap wood siding, and a cross-gable roof is sheathed in standing seam metal. Five-over-one double-hung lancet arch windows are symmetrically placed along the side elevations. The square tower contains the double front entry doors for the church. The door opening is topped by a four-light transom. The tower has a hipped roof and rectangular openings. The roof has a raking box cornice with returns and two interior brick flues. The church is built into a hill with a raised basement. A side-gabled addition with a poured concrete foundation was added to the north elevation of the original section in 1912. A second, shed-roofed addition abuts the rear wall of the 1912 section.<sup>1</sup>

On March 6, 1880, the *Martinsburg Independent* made a historical reference to St. Paul Church's construction, reporting: "Mr. L. Riley is at work on the Free Will Baptist Church at 'Hartstown.'" Mr. R is building the basement walls which are eight feet high, which will be the height of the Sunday School room. The length of the building is thirty-two feet, by twenty-one feet eight inches wide (Fig. 2)."<sup>2</sup> The federal census for 1880 lists "Lester Reiley," age 63, and sons James, Samuel, Joseph, and George, of Arden, Berkeley County, West Virginia, as stone masons. The name "Reiley" has variant spellings.

## Historical Background

Following the abolition of slavery, newly freed African Americans rapidly established communities throughout Jefferson County. Churches were cornerstones of these communities – not only serving as places of worship but also a hub for education, outreach, and community organization. In Kearneysville, St. Paul was the first house of worship built for and by African Americans. The African American community of Kearneysville became known as Hartstown, presumably named after the Hart family who were one of the first African Americans families to own land in the area.

Two pioneers of the community of Hartstown were Mascena Hart and former slave John H. Fox.<sup>3</sup> Fox was a slave on Dandridge Farm in Kearneysville who earned his freedom after enlisting in the Civil War. After gaining his freedom, he went back to work for the Dandridges and used the wages he

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<sup>1</sup> Michael Baker, Jr., *West Virginia Historic Property Inventory Form for St. Paul Church (JF-0078-0063\_Rev01.pdf)*, [https://mapwv.gov/shpo/docs/PDFs/ArchitecturalSites/JF-0078-0063\\_Rev01.pdf](https://mapwv.gov/shpo/docs/PDFs/ArchitecturalSites/JF-0078-0063_Rev01.pdf), accessed October 21, 2021.

<sup>2</sup> *Martinsburg Independent*. (Martinsburg, W. Va.), 06 March 1880. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress. <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84038206/1880-03-06/ed-1/seq-8/>.

<sup>3</sup> Elsie Hamstead, *One Small Village: Kearneysville 1842-1942* (Hagerstown, MD: Hagerstown Printing & Binding, 2000).

earned to purchase properties, including the Toll Gate House along the Smithfield-Shepherdstown Pike and Border's Farm, now known as Fox Glen.<sup>4</sup>

In 1879, John Fox, along with George W. Johnson and George Mason, purchased a plot of land along Old West Virginia Route 9 in Hartstown that would become the home of St. Paul Baptist Church (Fig. 3).<sup>5</sup> In a 2002 interview with Fox's granddaughter, Bertha Fox Jones, she talks of the land her grandfather owned in and around Kearneysville and that a lot of the lumber used to build St. Paul was from his land.<sup>6</sup> In a letter to the editor from 1886, the Reverend B.F. Fox of Shepherdstown wrote, "About six years ago, the Colored Free Baptists at Kearneysville ...decided to buy a lot and build a house of worship. The money being raised by the pastor, a lot was paid for and the erection of a building commenced (see Fig. 4)."<sup>7</sup> It is unclear exactly when the construction of the building was completed but it was officially dedicated in May 1885 (Fig. 5).<sup>8</sup>

In 1883, adjoining land was deeded to Douglas Roper, David Washington, Sr., Benjamin Carter, John H. Fox, and George Mason to expand and use it as a cemetery (Fig. 6).<sup>9</sup> The cemetery on the front lawn has graves dating back to the late 1800s. Beside the Baptist cemetery is a property originally owned by Mascena Hart; the property contains a fenced family burial ground, generally referred to as the Hart-Lucas Family Cemetery. A 1902 deed conveying land to Howard Hart from his father, Mascena Hart makes reference to burials on the property; "The party of the first part reserves in perpetuity the burying ground on this lot, with privilege of going to and from to the public road of persons having friends buried here."<sup>10</sup> Howard Hart would later become a trustee of St Paul. John H. Fox, Mascena Hart, and other prominent families of Hartstown are buried in these two cemeteries in front of St. Paul.

There are two deeds filed on the same date in 1906 showing additional property acquired by the church. The first deed, dated February 25, 1903, was between Douglas Roper and John Fox, Lewis Summers, and George Johnson, (Trustees of the Colored Baptist Church in Kearneysville) in which Douglas Roper divided his adjacent property to give additional land to the church, under the condition

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<sup>4</sup> Elsie Hamstead, "John H. Fox: A Remarkable Life," *Jefferson County Historical Society Magazine* 62 (2001): 41-46.

<sup>5</sup>

Jefferson County (hereafter West Virginia) Deed Book N:25.

<sup>6</sup> Jim Surkamp, "The Bower Foxes: Interview with Bertha Fox Jones," and "Three Memories of Enslavement: The Foxes, McDonalds, and Washingtons, 1850-1865." Interviews conducted May, 2002. <http://justjefferson.com/16Day.htm>

<sup>7</sup> *Spirit of Jefferson*. (Charles Town, Va. [W. Va.]), 02 Feb. 1886. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress. <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84026788/1886-02-02/ed-1/seq-2/>

<sup>8</sup> *Martinsburg herald*. (Martinsburg, W. Va.), 06 June 1885. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress. <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85059533/1885-06-06/ed-1/seq-3/>

<sup>9</sup> *Spirit of Jefferson*. (Charles Town, Va. [W. Va.]), 10 June 1884. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress. <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84026788/1884-06-10/ed-1/seq-5/>

<sup>10</sup> Jefferson County Deed Book 95:419.



that they erect a fence between this portion and his remaining portion (Fig. 7).<sup>11</sup> The second deed, dated September 4, 1905, makes no mention of the fence but includes a more detailed description of the property, including lines it shares with the original church property and “graveyard property (Fig. 8).”<sup>12</sup>

According to original deeds, church trustee documents from 2011, and a current (2021) tax card for the property, the church has historically been referred to as the “Colored Baptist Church” of Kearneysville (Figs. 9, 10). In newspaper archives, the church was also called the “Free Will Baptist Church” of Kearneysville. On April 5, 1879, the *Shepherdstown Register* reported: “The colored folks have broken ground for a church in “Hartstown,” the southern suburb of Kearneysville. The church is to be held by the Free Will Baptists (Fig. 11).”<sup>13</sup> During the mid-1880s, there was controversy between white northerners affiliated with the Free Will Baptist Home Mission Society of New Hampshire, and some church leaders of the Free Will Baptist churches of Kearneysville and Shepherdstown. This is likely what led to the eventual name change from Free Will Baptist to New School Baptist. In December 1886, Lewis Summers and Harrison Morgan were added as “additional trustees of the Free Will Baptist Church at Kearneysville.” As early as July 1887, the church began to be referred to as the New School Baptist Church of Kearneysville (Fig. 12).<sup>14</sup> One of the first public references to the name St. Paul was in 1896 when the *Shepherdstown Register* announced: “The colored Baptists of Kearneysville will hold a festival in St. Paul’s church, that place, Saturday evening next, June 13th (Fig. 13).”<sup>15</sup>

In the earlier days of the church, nearby water sources were used for baptisms. In July 1887, the *Martinsburg Herald* reported: “Two colored persons were baptised by immersion in Mr. Baker’s mill pond, last Sabbath afternoon. The persons baptised had recently joined the New School Baptist Church (colored) at Kearneysville. Quite a number of persons were present to witness the ceremony (revisit Fig.10).”<sup>16</sup> Another post from April 7, 1888 talked of the Reverend Gibson baptizing five people in the nearby mill-pond – “Quite a crowd gathered to witness the administration of the rite. The minister gave

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<sup>11</sup> Jefferson County Deed Book 97:214.

<sup>12</sup> Jefferson County Deed Book 97:215.

<sup>13</sup> *Shepherdstown register*. [volume] (Shepherdstown, Va. [W. Va.]), 11 June 1896. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress. <<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84026824/1896-06-11/ed-1/seq-3/>>

<sup>14</sup> *Martinsburg herald*. (Martinsburg, W. Va.), 09 July 1887. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress. <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85059533/1887-07-09/ed-1/seq-3/>

<sup>15</sup> *Shepherdstown register*. (Shepherdstown, Va. [W. Va.]), 05 April 1879. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress. <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84026824/1879-04-05/ed-1/seq-2/>

<sup>16</sup> *Martinsburg herald*. (Martinsburg, W. Va.), 09 July 1887. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress. <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85059533/1887-07-09/ed-1/seq-3/>

quite a lengthy talk explaining the peculiar tenets of the Baptist creed (see Fig. 14).”<sup>17</sup> At the site of the nearby Kearneysville quarries, three lakes eventually formed. The smallest of the three was used for baptisms by St. Paul.

The descendants of the original trustees and church members remained devoted to St. Paul. John Fox’s son Robert was another descendent devoted to the church throughout his life. In 1920, Robert, who was in failing health, decided to sell all farming implements and livestock; he gave the church this opportunity to fundraise, allowing “St. Paul Baptist Church of Kearneysville [the] exclusive right to sell lunch” during the sale (Fig. 14).<sup>18</sup> Robert’s niece, Bertha Fox Jones, recalled that the church was able to make nearly \$1,000 at this event. Bertha’s father and John’s son, Charles W. Fox, was baptized by the Reverend J. R. Ruffins as a teenager in 1903 and would go on to serve as head deacon of St. Paul for 61 years.<sup>19</sup> Boyd Carter became a trustee of the church in 1927 (Fig. 15).<sup>20</sup> Carter worked at the Kearneysville quarries for more than 40 years and acquired many nearby properties throughout his life, including the land containing the quarries where he once worked. The quarry land – just a short distance from St. Paul – was adjacent to the Kearneysville Methodist Cemetery, and Carter allowed the cemetery to expand onto his land. Later a portion of his gift would be memorialized to him. The African Methodist Episcopal (AME) church associated with the cemetery was Stewart Chapel – built in the late 1880s, directly behind St. Paul. Douglas Roper was a trustee of St Paul’s cemetery, Stewart Chapel, and Kearneysville Methodist Cemetery. For years, the congregation of St. Paul worshipped with Stewart Chapel, rotating between churches every other week. Most of the original families of Hartstown, and many of their descendants, are buried between the Hart-Lucas, Methodist, and Baptist cemeteries.

For more than 100 years, the church has had a thriving congregation and was a cornerstone of the community. There have been weddings, funerals, concerts, revivals, meetings, meals, and other community events. Especially in the early years, a great number of meetings between religious leaders were held at the church. In 1883, “A bush meeting of the Baptist Church colored, Rev. B. F. Fox, will be held at Kearneysville Sunday morning next (see Fig. 16).”<sup>21</sup> A “bush meeting” is a religious

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<sup>17</sup> *Martinsburg herald*. (Martinsburg, W. Va.), 07 April 1888. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress. <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85059533/1888-04-07/ed-1/seq-2/>

<sup>18</sup> *Shepherdstown register*. (Shepherdstown, Va. [W. Va.]), 22 Jan. 1920. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress. <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84026824/1920-01-22/ed-1/seq-4/>

<sup>19</sup> Evelyn M. E. Taylor, Thomas J. Scott, Vivian Jackson Stanton, and Stephen Q. Luckett (illustrator), *Historical Digest of Jefferson County, West Virginia's African American Congregations, 1864-1994: With Selected Churches in Neighboring Berkeley County, W.V., Maryland, and Virginia* (Washington, DC: Middle Atlantic Regional Press, 1994).

<sup>20</sup> *Farmer’s Advocate*. (Charles Town, Jefferson County, West Virginia), 1927 October 8. Page 1. Small Town Papers. <http://fav.stparchive.com/Archive/FAV/FAV10081927P01.php>

<sup>21</sup> *Shepherdstown register*. (Shepherdstown, Va. [W. Va.]), 23 July 1881. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress. <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84026824/1881-07-23/ed-1/seq-2/>

gathering held in the woods. St. Paul Church held other gatherings. In 1890 the Shepherdstown Register announced a concert at the church by “three native-born Africans (Fig. 17).”<sup>22</sup>

Although many of the younger generations have moved away over time, St. Paul has remained a place of homecoming. Pastor Clyde Eggleton recalled years with four to five family reunions a year and, while in town, families would come back to St. Paul to worship together.

There were years in which St. Paul shared a pastor with other churches and even rotated between places of worship. A 1946 obituary for George Martin Carter notes that he served the Baptist churches at Kearneysville and Brunswick Maryland. According to Clyde Eggleton, beginning around the 1940s, St. Paul shared a pastor with Harper’s Ferry, rotating every other week. On the weeks their pastor was in Harper’s Ferry, they would worship at Stewart Chapel. During a 2020 interview with Charles L. Ferguson, a life-long resident of Kearneysville, he talked about his family going to both St. Paul and Stewart Chapel every Sunday in the 1920s and 30s; “I went to St. Paul when I was coming up and the Methodist church across the track. We was in church all day Sunday. When we left St. Paul, we went to the one over the tracks.”

There have been a great number of pastors, deacons, trustees, and other church leaders throughout the years. Evelyn M.E. Taylor’s book, *Historical Digest of Jefferson County, West Virginia's African American Congregations, 1864-1994*, has additional details about the church and its congregations through the years.

St. Paul is currently led by Pastor Clyde Eggleton and the Reverend Jeanette Eggleton – both are also current trustees of the church.

## **Nomination Criteria**

The JCHLC nominates this property under Criterion A for inclusion on the list of registered county landmarks. Criterion A states that a site may be nominated if, in the opinion of the JCHLC, it is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

The leaders of St. Paul Church approve of this nomination.

## **Nomination Action:**

The JCHLC voted unanimously to add St Paul Baptist Church, under Criteria A, to the rolls of registered Jefferson County Historic Landmarks on December 8, 2021.

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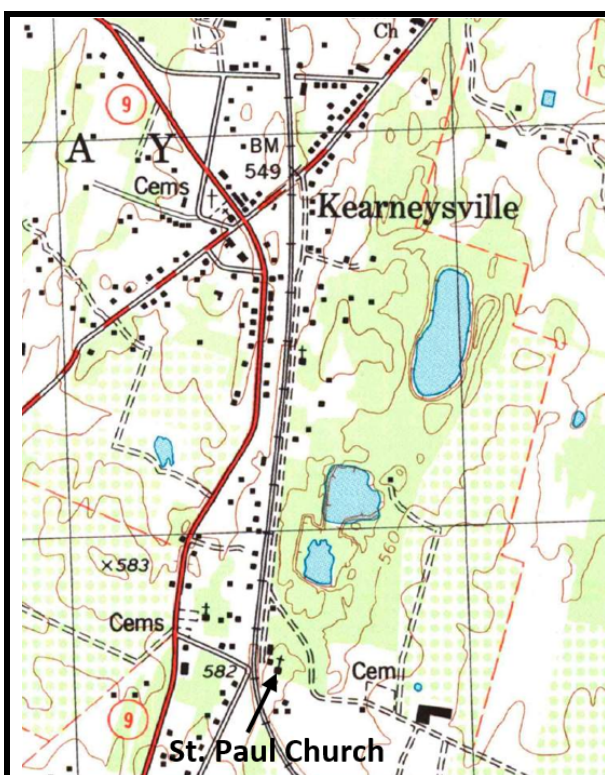
<sup>22</sup>*Shepherdstown register. [volume]* (Shepherdstown, Va. [W. Va.]), 06 June 1890. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress. <<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84026824/1890-06-06/ed-1/seq-3/>>



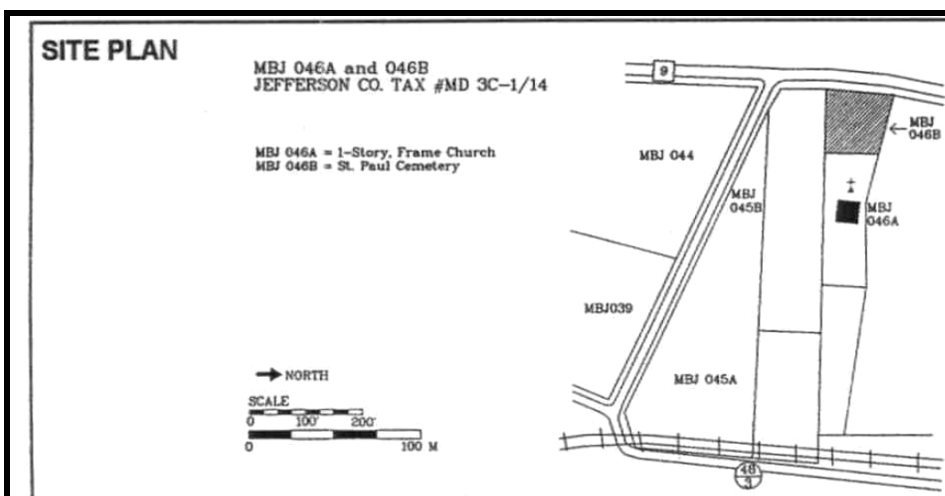
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**Figure 1a.** Location of St. Paul Church at 6109 Charles Town Road, Kearneysville, WV 25430. U.S. Geological Survey. *Martinsburg quadrangle, West Virginia* [map]. 1:24,000. 7.5 Minute Series. Reston, Va: United States Department of the Interior, USGS, 1999. [https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/htbin/tv\\_browse.pl?id=2ea14c1a5f0a493f5d45d4aa99a58258](https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/htbin/tv_browse.pl?id=2ea14c1a5f0a493f5d45d4aa99a58258). Accessed October 23, 2021.



**Figure 1b.** Site Plan of St. Paul Church and cemetery. Michael D. Baker, West Virginia Historic Property Inventory Form for St. Paul Church, JF-0078-0063Rev01, February 14, 1996. [https://mapwv.gov/shpo/docs/PDFs/ArchitecturalSites/JF-0078-0063\\_Rev01.pdf](https://mapwv.gov/shpo/docs/PDFs/ArchitecturalSites/JF-0078-0063_Rev01.pdf) Accessed October 23, 2021.

Mr. L. Riley has just completed the basement of the Free-will Baptist Church in "Hartstown." The building is thirty-two feet long and twenty-one feet wide. The basement story is eight feet high.

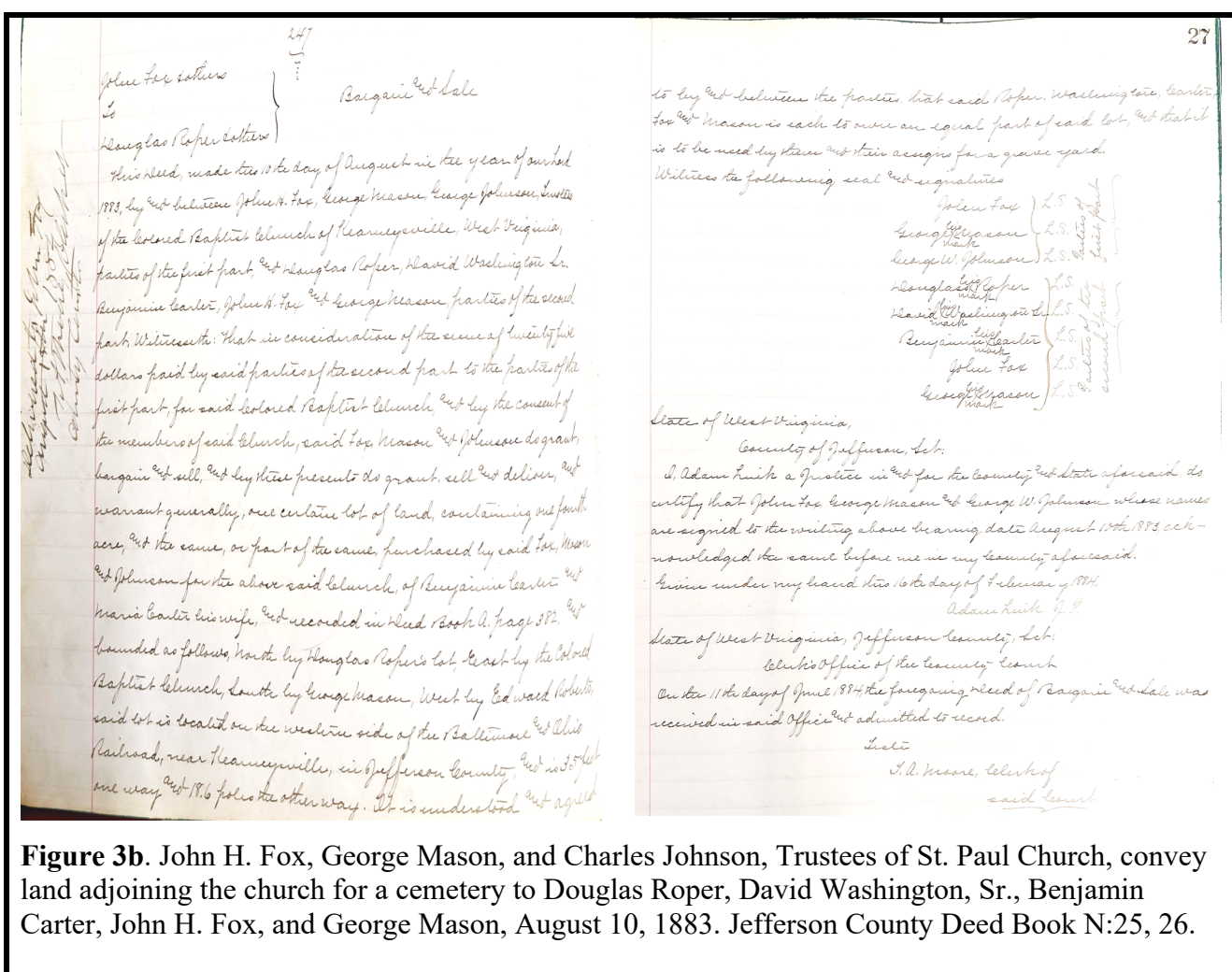
**Figure 2.** Contemporary newspaper article describes dimensions of a new St. Paul Baptist Church in Hartstown and its builder Mr. L. Riley. [Martinsburg Independent March 6, 1880](#)

Benjamin Carter and Maria Carter }  
To John Fox and others }  
This deed, made this 14th day of April in the year 1879, by and between Benjamin Carter and Maria Carter his wife of the first part and John H. Fox, George Mason, George Johnson and their successors, Trustees of the Colored Baptist Church of Kearneysville West Virginia, parties of the second part, witnesses: That in consideration of the sum of forty dollars paid by said parties of the second part to the parties of the first part, said Carter and wife do grant, bargain and sell, and by these presents do grant, sell and convey, and warrant generally, one certain lot of land containing one half acre, and the same or part of the same, purchased by said Carter and Maria Carter of John Brown and Maria Co. his wife and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the County Court of Jefferson County, West Virginia in Deed Book A. page 382, and bounded as follows, North by Douglas Rogers lot, East by Willis Brown, South by George Mason, West by Elias Europe, said lot is located on the west side of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, near Kearneysville in Jefferson County, West Virginia, and is the part that by deed, was to be held by Benjamin Carter, and being 70 feet one way and 18.6 feet the other way.

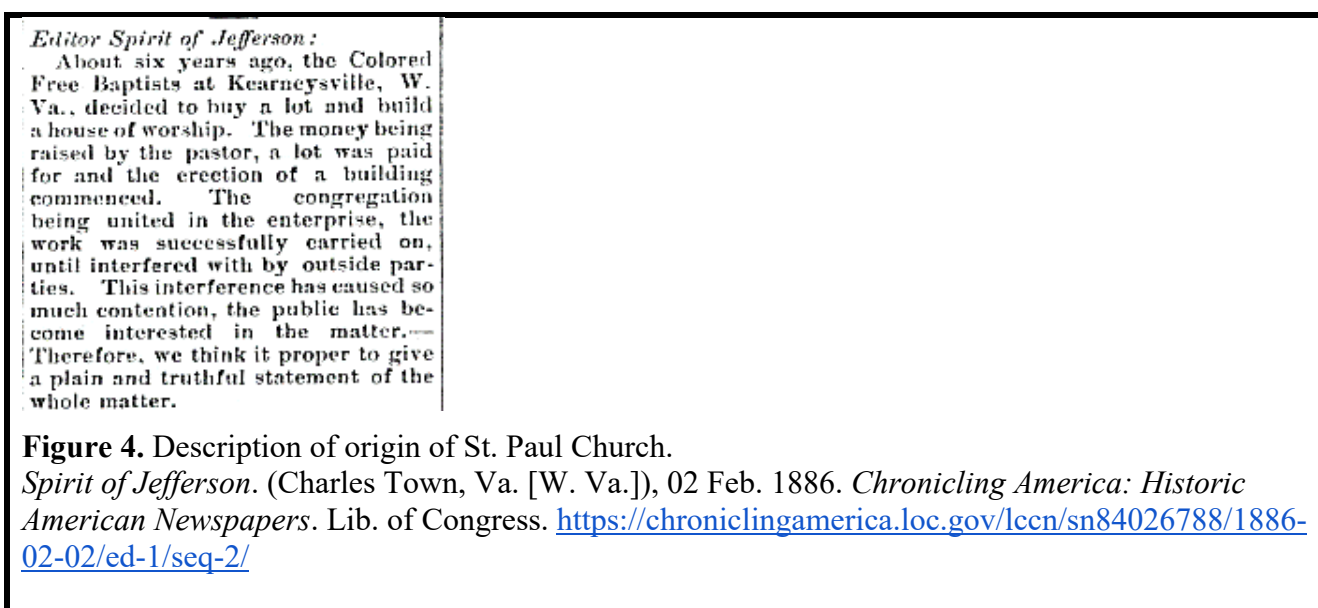
Witness the following seals and signatures.  
Benjamin Carter } L.S.  
Maria Carter } L.S.  
State of West Virginia, County of Jefferson  
I, Adam Link a Justice in and for the County and holding office

*Delivered to John Fox August 13 - 1879  
Jefferson County*

**Figure 3a.** Deed from Benjamin Carter and Maria Carter to John Fox, George W. Johnson, and George Mason for the purchase of St. Paul property, April 14, 1879. Jefferson County Deed Book N:25.



**Figure 3b.** John H. Fox, George Mason, and Charles Johnson, Trustees of St. Paul Church, convey land adjoining the church for a cemetery to Douglas Roper, David Washington, Sr., Benjamin Carter, John H. Fox, and George Mason, August 10, 1883. Jefferson County Deed Book N:25, 26.



**Figure 4.** Description of origin of St. Paul Church. *Spirit of Jefferson*. (Charles Town, Va. [W. Va.]), 02 Feb. 1886. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress. <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84026788/1886-02-02/ed-1/seq-2/>

### KEARNEYSVILLE.

The new colored Baptist Church was dedicated on Sunday last. The Free-Willers are still on the war-path. They say that suit will be brought in the near future to recover the church for the use and benefit of that association. To this end they have employed eminent counsel of Martinsburg while the New School's have engaged the best legal help that Charlestown affords. Lively times are expected and much expense will be incurred. To christians we would put the question, Will the cause of Christ be benefitted thereby?

Figure 5. Notice that the new Baptist Church was dedicated.

Martinsburg herald. (Martinsburg, W. Va.), 06 June 1885. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress. <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85059533/1885-06-06/ed-1/seq-3/>

4. Benjamin Carter and wife to John H. Fox, George Mason and George Johnson, Trustees of the colored Baptist Church of Kearneysville. Deed of Bargain and Sale, dated April 14th. 1879, conveying  $\frac{1}{4}$  Acre of Land. Date of Record, June 11th. 1884.

5. John H. Fox, George Mason and George Johnson, Trustees of the Colored Baptist Church of Kearneysville, to Douglas Roper, David Washington, Sr., Benjamin Carter, George H. Fox and George Mason. Deed of Bargain and Sale. Dated August 10th. 1883, conveying  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an Acre of Land. Date of Record, June 11th. 1884.

Figure 6. Newspaper account of property conveyance for new church.

[\*Spirit of Jefferson\*, June 10, 1884](#)

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Douglas Roper

To: Deed of Bargain and Sale.

John Fox & others, Trustees of Colored Baptist Church.

This Deed made and entered this 25th day of Feb, 1903, by and between Douglas Roper of the first part and John Fox, Lewis Summers, and George Johnson Trustees of the Colored Baptist Church, Kearneysville, All of the County of Jefferson, West Virginia.

Witnesseth: That for and in consideration of the sum of ten dollars cash in hand paid, and the further consideration of the parties of the second part making a good fence between the piece of land sold and the rest of Douglas Roper's land unless said fence is made this deed to be null and void.

The said Douglas Roper doth grant bargain and sell unto those parties of the second part as trustees of said Baptist Church and for the use of said Church a piece of land twelve feet wide and 150 feet long, along the south side of said Douglas Roper's lot and adjoining the Church lot. said lot of land was bought of John Burns and wife of deed dated January 27th 1883, and on record in the clerk's office of the County of Jefferson, W. Va., in Deed Book L. page 470, and is known on plat as Lot No 7.

An Witness our hands and seals this 16th. day of March, 1906.

Douglas Roper (Seal)

State of West Va.,

**Figure 7.** Deed with description of fence along property line. Jefferson County Deed Book 97:214.

297.

Douglas Roper

To: Deed of Bargain and Sale.

John Fox Kothers Trustees of Colored Baptist Church.

This Deed, Made and entered into this 4th day of September, 1905, by and between Douglas Roper, party of the first, and John Fox, George Johnson, and Lewis Summers, and their successors, Trustees of the Colored Baptist Church of Kearneysville, West Virginia, of the second part.

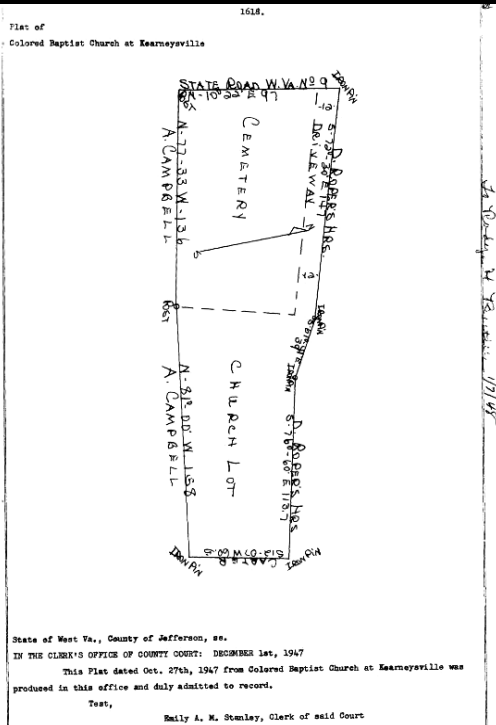
Witnesseth: That for and in consideration of the sum of five dollars, cash in hand paid, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the said party of the first part hereby grants bargain and sell and by these presents have bargained granted and sold, with covenants of general warranty, unto the said Trustees, all of the following lot or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Middleway District, Jefferson Co. West Virginia, and bounded and described as follows:-

Beginning at a stake on the North East corner of property belonging to the Trustees of the Colored Baptist Church and in the line with Douglas Roper, thence with the line of said church property South 12 feet to the Grave Yard Property thence East thirty seven feet along said land and land of the said Colored Baptist Church, to a corner thence a straight line along property of the said Douglas Roper, a North Westwardly course to the place of the beginning, containing in all 222 sq. feet, it being a portion of the same land purchased from the late John Burns

Witness the following signature and seal.

his  
Douglas M Roper (Seal)  
Mack

**Figure 8.** Deed dated September 4, 1905. Clarification of boundaries from an earlier deed. Jefferson County Deed Book 97:215.



**Figure 9.** Plat of 1947 depicting St. Paul Church as “Colored Baptist Church.” Jefferson County Deed Book 170:218.



ASSESSMENT DISTRICT		LEGAL DESCRIPTION	
MIDDLEWAY DIST. 7		EXEMPT	
Kearneysville Lot			
MAP NO.	PLOT NO.	LOT SIZE	ACREAGE
35	14	97 x 147 Irreg.	
OWNER'S NAME		ADDRESS	
1 Baptist Church, Colored			
2 " " "			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			

DATE ACQUIRED	PRD. TAX STAMPS	DEED BOOK	PAGE NO.
10/5/1893		75	115
3/28/08	←	1048	561

**Figure 10.** Current (2021) Tax Map Card of ownership describing St Paul as “Colored Church, Baptist.” Jefferson County Assessor’s Office.

<https://jefferson.wvassessor.com/MapCardViewer.php/?District=07&Map=003C&Parcel=0014&ParcelExt=0000>

The colored folks have broken ground for a church in “Hartstown,” the southern suburb of Kearneysville. The church is to be held by the Free Will Baptists.

**Figure 11.** Newspaper notice citing the original name of the church as “Free Will Baptist.”

[\*Shepherdstown Register\* April 5, 1879](#)

Two colored persons were baptised by immersion in Mr. Baker's mill pond, last Sabbath afternoon; Rev. Mr. Gibson officiating. The persons baptised had recently joined the New School Baptist Church, (colored) at Kearneysville. Quite a number of persons were present to witness the ceremony.

**Figure 12.** Description of baptism by immersion and use of name “New School Baptist Church.”

[\*Martinsburg Herald\*, July 9, 1887](#)



Strader and John L. Clendenning.  
The death of trustees of St. Paul's Baptist Church, of Hartsville, near Kearneysville, made the appointment of three new trustees necessary. Upon the recommendation of St. Paul's congregation, court named James Head, Boyd Carter and William Dixon to fill vacancies on the board of trustees.

Figure 16. Notice of appointment of new trustees. [\*Farmer's Advocate\*, October 8, 1927.](#)

**A Bush Meeting of the Baptist Church colored, Rev. R. F. Fox, will be held at Kerneysville on Sunday morning next.**

Figure 17. Announcement of a "Bush Meeting." A "bush meeting" is a religious gathering held in the woods. [\*Shepherdstown Register\* July 23, 1881](#)

## The Shepherdstown Register.

FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 1890.

### BRIEFS.

Harvest will soon be here.

The census enumerators are on their rounds.

If you want locust cradle fingers call on Lee & Dandridge.

Farmers, see Lee & Dandridge before buying your binder twine.

Garden seed, hoes and garden sets, very cheap, at W. P. Licklider's.

The Charlestown boys will play a game of baseball here on Saturday.

The Presbyterian Manse is being repainted by Messrs. Unseld and Chapline.

Fresh vegetables of all kinds received almost every day at R. M. Balmeyer's.

Lunch in Firemen's Hall Saturday also ice-cream, strawberries, cake, pretty girls, etc.

Mr. Frank Moler sent to the REG-

### BRIEFS.

A bill appropriating \$75,000 for a public building at Martinsburg passed both Houses of Congress last week. Senator Faulkner and Congressman Wilson accomplished the object by skillful legislative management.

The additional appropriation of \$5,000, which it is thought Congress will make for the Antietam road, will be devoted to a perfect system of drainage along the entire road and an additional layer of macadam on the bed.

At a meeting of the presidents of the boards of education at Charlestown last Tuesday Mr. J. H. Barnhouse, of Harper's Ferry, and Mr. Chas. T. Smootz, of Shepherdstown, were appointed as the board of examiner for the ensuing year.

An African concert will be given in the Baptist Church at Kearneysville on Friday and Saturday evenings, June 13th and 14th, which will be participated in by three native-born Africans. The public is invited to patronize these entertainments.

**Figure 18.** Announcement of a concert by native-born Africans at the Baptist Church in Kearneysville. [\*Shepherdstown Register\*, June 6, 1890](#)

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