

VLR-3/20/79

NP-12-6/27/79

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

St. Paul's Normal and Industrial School

AND/OR COMMON

St. Paul's College (Preferred)

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

St. Paul's College campus, NE of Rt. 46

CITY, TOWN

Lawrenceville

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
Fifth (W. C. Daniel)

STATE

Virginia

CODE

51

COUNTY

Brunswick

CODE

025

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
☐ ACCESSIBLE  
☒ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☒ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

St. Paul's College

c/o President

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Lawrenceville

VICINITY OF

STATE

Virginia 23868

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Brunswick County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Lawrenceville

STATE

Virginia

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey

DATE

1974, 1978

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, 221 Governor Street

CITY, TOWN

Richmond

STATE

Virginia 23219

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. Paul's College occupies a campus of 900 acres in and around the town of Lawrenceville, Brunswick County. The site of the college's early buildings was described by its founder, James Solomon Russell, in his autobiography, Adventure in Faith: "The hill upon which St. Paul's School now stands was a riot of shrubbery and tangled undergrowth, part of it being an old burying-ground..."

The college's oldest buildings include a complex which consists of St. Paul's Memorial Chapel (1904), the Saul Building (1883), and the Fine Arts Building (1904: formerly the president's house). The buildings are adjacent to one another and exhibit diversity of style and materials.

#### ST. PAUL'S MEMORIAL CHAPEL

The most prominent building in the early complex is St. Paul's Memorial Chapel, built in 1904. The Chapel, according to Russell, "marked the beginning of the era of brick structures on the campus. Before this, all our buildings had been frame". Gothic Revival in style, the chapel is a two-and-one-half-story, stretcher-bond brick structure covered by a slate roof. The main (south) elevation is dominated by a three-story bell and entrance tower containing a cornerstone dated 1904". The main entrance is located on the tower's first floor and consists of a double-door, arched entry. The second story contains small paired stained-glass windows on all but the east elevation. The third story is comprised of an open arched lantern with pronounced brick archivolt trim. The tower is capped by a brick battlement, and the gable-roof nave is located to the east of the tower. The south elevation is dominated by a tri-part, stained-glass window encased in cement. This window was originally a part of the north elevation and was relocated during a recent renovation. Three segmental-arch, 1/1 hung-sash windows are found on the basement story. A small, pointed stained-glass window is high in the gable. Corner angled buttresses frame the nave's south elevation.

The bays of the east elevation are defined by buttresses similar to those on the south elevation. The basement story contains paired segmental-arch, 1/1 hung-sash windows. The second story contains paired stained-glass casement windows. A double-door side entrance is contained within a blind arch on the southern bay, and one-bay addition projects from the rear.

The north elevation contains the chapel's apse. Fenestration consisted of a three-part, stained-glass window and a round window that have been blocked by cement. The three-part window has been relocated to the south elevation.

The fenestration of the west elevation consists of paired stained-glass windows between false buttresses. A gable-roof porch contains a side entrance sheltered by a shed roof.

The interior of the chapel has undergone extensive renovation. The original pews have been replaced, the organ has been removed, and the sanctuary modernized. The dominant feature is an exposed timber truss roof.

#### SAUL BUILDING

The Saul Building, the first building erected at St. Paul's, was built in 1888. James Solomon Russell writes of the first building:

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

## 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1904	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1883; 1900; 1904

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Saul Building, Fine Arts Building, and Memorial Chapel form the early core of St. Paul's College. Built over a twenty-year period from 1883-1904, the buildings stand as a symbol of the institution's growth from a one-room parochial school to a four-year, liberal arts college. Established in Lawrenceville in 1883 by the Episcopalian deacon, the Reverend James Solomon Russell, the school was organized to serve the educational and spiritual needs of the region's black community.

James Solomon Russell, the founder of St. Paul's College, was born into slavery in Mecklenburg County in 1857 and later educated at Hampton Institute. While at Hampton, Russell became interested in the Episcopal Church and subsequently trained for the ministry. As a newly ordained deacon, Russell was sent to Lawrenceville, where he arrived on March 16, 1882. According to the autobiographical Adventure in Faith, he found "no church building and but a score of communicants; race prejudice seemed rampant and public opinion indifferent, if not actually hostile..."

The newly ordained clergyman organized the small group of black communicants of St. Andrews Church into a separate congregation. By February 1883 the first St. Paul's Chapel had been constructed and was ready for occupancy. A parochial school was organized in the vestry room of the small frame chapel. Eventually, the quarters of the school became too small for the increasing enrollment, and a three-room structure was built with funds contributed by the Reverend James Saul of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. On September 24, 1888, the St. Paul's Normal and Industrial School was founded in the building known as the Saul Building. The school was formally incorporated by an act of the General Assembly on March 4, 1890. Rapid growth resulted in the erection of classroom and dormitory buildings. In 1904, as evidence of the school's growth, the St. Paul's Memorial Chapel was constructed. The chapel was the first brick building constructed on the campus. At the time the chapel was built, the school's curriculum stressed technical skills, and the building was erected primarily with student labor. The school's development in the liberal arts matured in the following decade.

The school's increased enrollment in pupils from outside the Brunswick County vicinity resulted in an expanded curriculum. A collegiate department of teacher training was started in 1922 and accredited by the Virginia State Board of Education in 1926. The school continued to grow, and the charter was amended on December 30, 1941, to allow for a four-year liberal arts curriculum. At this time the name of the institution was changed to St. Paul's Polytechnic Institute. Degree programs leading to the Bachelor of Science and the Bachelor of Science in Education were started in September 1942.

At its annual meeting on February 27, 1957, the Board of Trustees decided to change the name of the institution from St. Paul's Polytechnic Institute to St. Paul's College. The trustees also approved degree programs in the Bachelor of Arts and Science.

The college presently numbers over 600 full-time students.

VDS/RCC

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bell, Edith Rathburn, Brunswick Story-A History of Brunswick County. Lawrenceville, Va.: Brunswick Times-Gazette, 1957.  
Russell, Dr. James Solomon. Adventure in Faith. N.Y.: Morehouse Publishing Co., 1936.  
St. Paul's Normal and Industrial School. "Thirty-Eight Years, 1887-1925." Lawrenceville, Va., 1925.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A 18 245590 4071930  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING  
C         

QUADRANGLE NAME Lawrenceville, Va.

QUADRANGLE SCALE: 1:24000

B           
ZONE EASTING NORTHING  
D         

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point on E side of campus drive, approximately 400' NE of intersection of said drive with State Route 46; thence extending about 250' NE along said side of said drive, curving E and extending approximately 350'--thus following the drive and the S edge of the parking lot and continuing E to the 220' contour; thence extending about 250' S; thence extending about 500' W to point of origin.

### LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE

March 1979

STREET & NUMBER

221 Governor Street

TELEPHONE

(804) 786-3144

CITY OR TOWN

Richmond

STATE

Virginia 23219

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL   

STATE X

LOCAL   

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Tucker Hill, Executive Director

TITLE Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE MAR 20 1979

### FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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St. Paul's Normal and Industrial School (Preferred), Brunswick County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET #1

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 1

7. DESCRIPTION

We were convinced that the people wanted to learn and that they wanted their children to have advantages which they did not have, and with this conviction as inspiration, we set out to find ways and means to carry on our needed work. We finally built a three-room frame structure with funds which were contributed through the generosity of the Rev. James Saul, of Philadelphia. This we named the Saul Building. It was the genesis of our larger educational program, and it is still standing on the campus... (Adventures in Faith, page 31)

The Saul Building is a two-story, wood-frame structure covered by a gable roof and set on a brick foundation. The south (main) elevation contains two entrances. Each entrance consists of a single door within a simple wood surround. Both entrances are sheltered by a one-story porch covered by a shed roof. Fenestration throughout the building consists of 6/6 hung-sash windows within simple wood surrounds. A side entrance is provided on the east elevation. The original three-room plan of the building was modified when the structure was converted into offices and a club room.

FINE ARTS BUILDING

The Fine Arts Building was erected in 1900 as the residence of the school principal, James Solomon Russell. It was the fifth building constructed for the expanding school. The two-and-one-half-story, wood-frame structure sits on a brick foundation and is covered by a multi-gable roof. The south elevation contains the former residence's main entry. The entrance consists of a raised-panel double doorway, topped by a transom and sheltered by a one-story, bracket-and-spindle porch. Fenestration on the second story consists of a three-part, round-arched window and paired 4/4 hung-sash windows. The attic story is marked by a bargeboard decorated gable containing a lunette. The roof line is further broken by an octagonal cupola covered by a domical roof. A two-story pavilion projects from the main block of the house and contains a paired 4/4 hung-sash window on the first floor and a bay window with multi-paned colored glass on the second floor. The attic gable is similar to that found on the main block of the house.

The north elevation is dominated by a one-story enclosed porch added at a later date. The second story contains a gabled pavilion similar to that on the south elevation. Fenestration on the east and west elevation is comprised of 4/4 hung-sash windows, like those found on the north and south elevations.

The building contains a central-hall plan with an open-well stair ascending to the second floor. The principal first-floor rooms retain their original mantels and over-mantels. The mantels are executed in a highly eclectic Colonial Revival style. Doors and windows on the first floor are framed with symmetrical molded trim and molded corner blocks. Partitions have been put up to facilitate the building's present office and classroom use.

RCC

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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St. Paul's Normal and Industrial School (Preferred), Brunswick County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET #2

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 2

7. DESCRIPTION

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The Chapel, Saul Building, and Fine Arts Building are bounded on the north by a cement walk which cuts through the campus. The eastern boundary of the complex is a line west of the Russell Academic Building. The western boundary, adjacent to the Fine Arts Building, is a paved road that runs off Route 46 on land belonging to the college. The southern boundary is the base of the hill on which the buildings sit. The land area comprises two acres, out of the campus holding of 900 acres. The three buildings that constitute the historic complex were built from 1883 to 1904 and are among the first built at the Normal School. The acreage is drawn to exclude modern intrusions and to conform to walks and roads that abut the buildings.

RCC

ROUTE 46

ENTRANCE

FINE ARTS  
BUILDING

MEMORIAL  
CHAPEL

SAUL  
BUILDING

REGISTER  
BOUNDS

RUSSELL  
ACADEMIC  
BUILDING

ST. PAUL'S NORMAL AND  
INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,  
BRUNSWICK COUNTY, VA.

SKETCH MAP-NOT TO SCALE  
BASED ON ST. PAUL'S  
COLLEGE CAMPUS MAP

(VHLC, 1979)

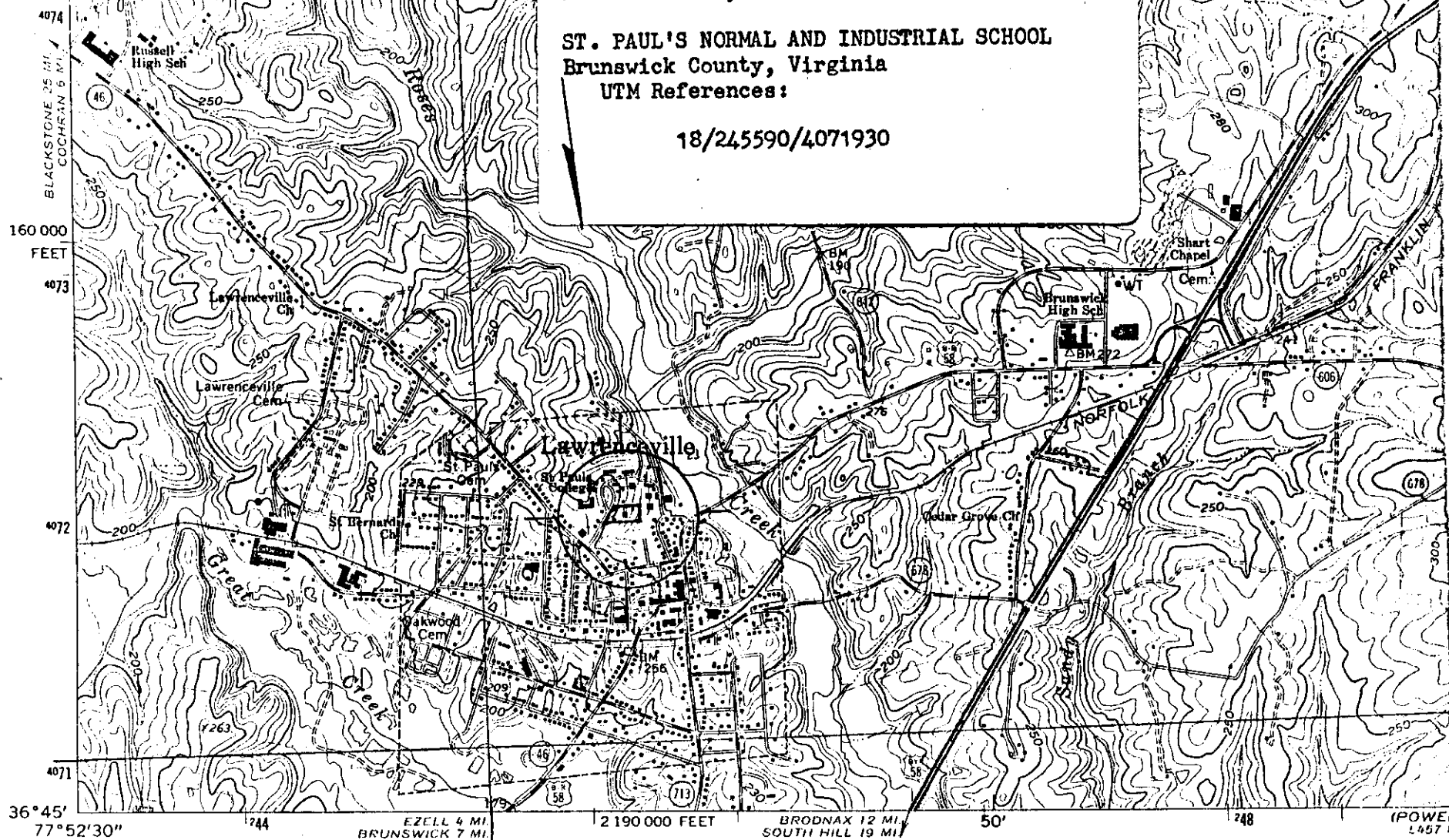
BUSINESS ROUTES



USGS 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)  
Lawrenceville, Va. 1963(PR1973)

ST. PAUL'S NORMAL AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL  
Brunswick County, Virginia  
UTM References:

18/245590/4071930



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

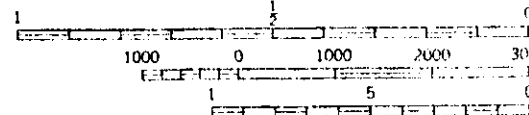
Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial  
photographs taken 1961. Field checked 1963.

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Virginia coordinate system, south zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 18, shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

UTM GRID AND 1973 MAGNETIC NORTH  
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



CONTOUR INT.  
DATUM IS MEAN

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATION  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL

(WHITE PLAINS)  
5457 III NW