

Form 10-445  
(5 62)

<p>1. STATE Virginia                  COUNTY Fairfax                  TOWN --- VICINITY Reston                  STREET NO. Baron Cameron Avenue                  Reston, Virginia                  ORIGINAL OWNER Methodist Church (Trustees)                  ORIGINAL USE Church                  PRESENT OWNER Gulf Reston, Incorporated                  PRESENT USE Community house and chapel                  WALL CONSTRUCTION Frame and clapboard                  NO. OF STORIES 1</p>	<p>HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY                  INVENTORY #8</p> <p>2. NAME Brown's Chapel</p> <p>DATE OR PERIOD c. 1879                  STYLE ---                  ARCHITECT Unknown                  BUILDER Augustus, Joe and Irving Brown</p> <p>3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE</p>
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4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC Yes

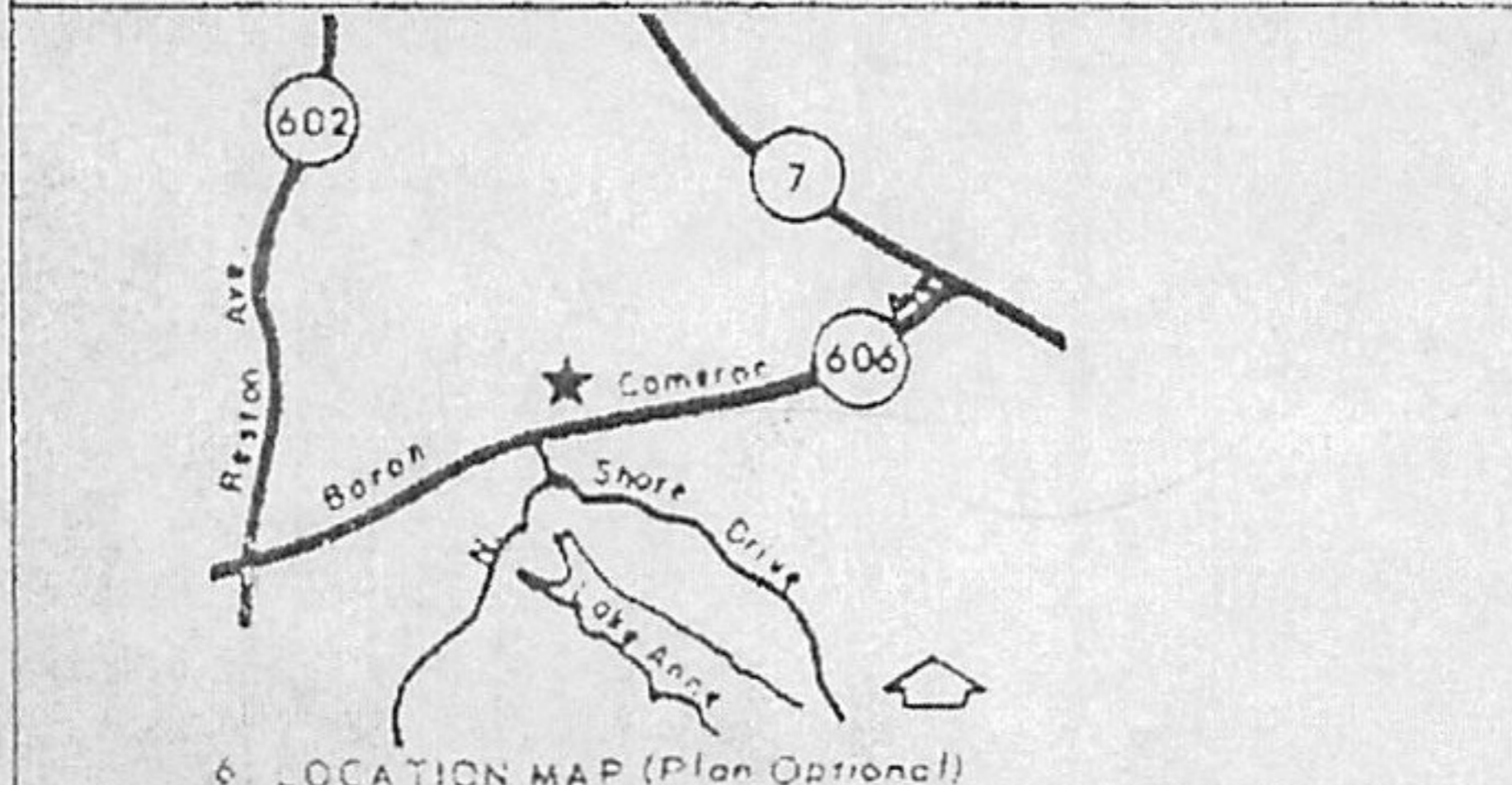
In 1874 Augustus and Sarah Brown deeded a half acre of land to trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church for the erection of a house of worship within 5 years. According to Edward Wagstaff, Curator of Sully, the first services were held in the church in 1879. The Hopkins' Atlas map of that year identifies the church on its original site, the southwest corner of Leesburg Pike and Baron Cameron Avenue. Reverend Augustus Brown and his sons, Joe and Irving, constructed the church building. It served an active congregation until 1967.

In 1968 the Northern Virginia Methodist Board of Missions offered the structure to the Fairfax Historical Landmarks Preservation Commission for relocation. The commission enlisted the assistance of Gulf-Reston, Incorporated, who agreed to move the building to a site on Baron Cameron Avenue, opposite the entrance to the Lake Anne Village Center. The chapel was moved in May, 1968; formally dedicated at the new site in November, 1968; and is now used as a community hall and chapel.

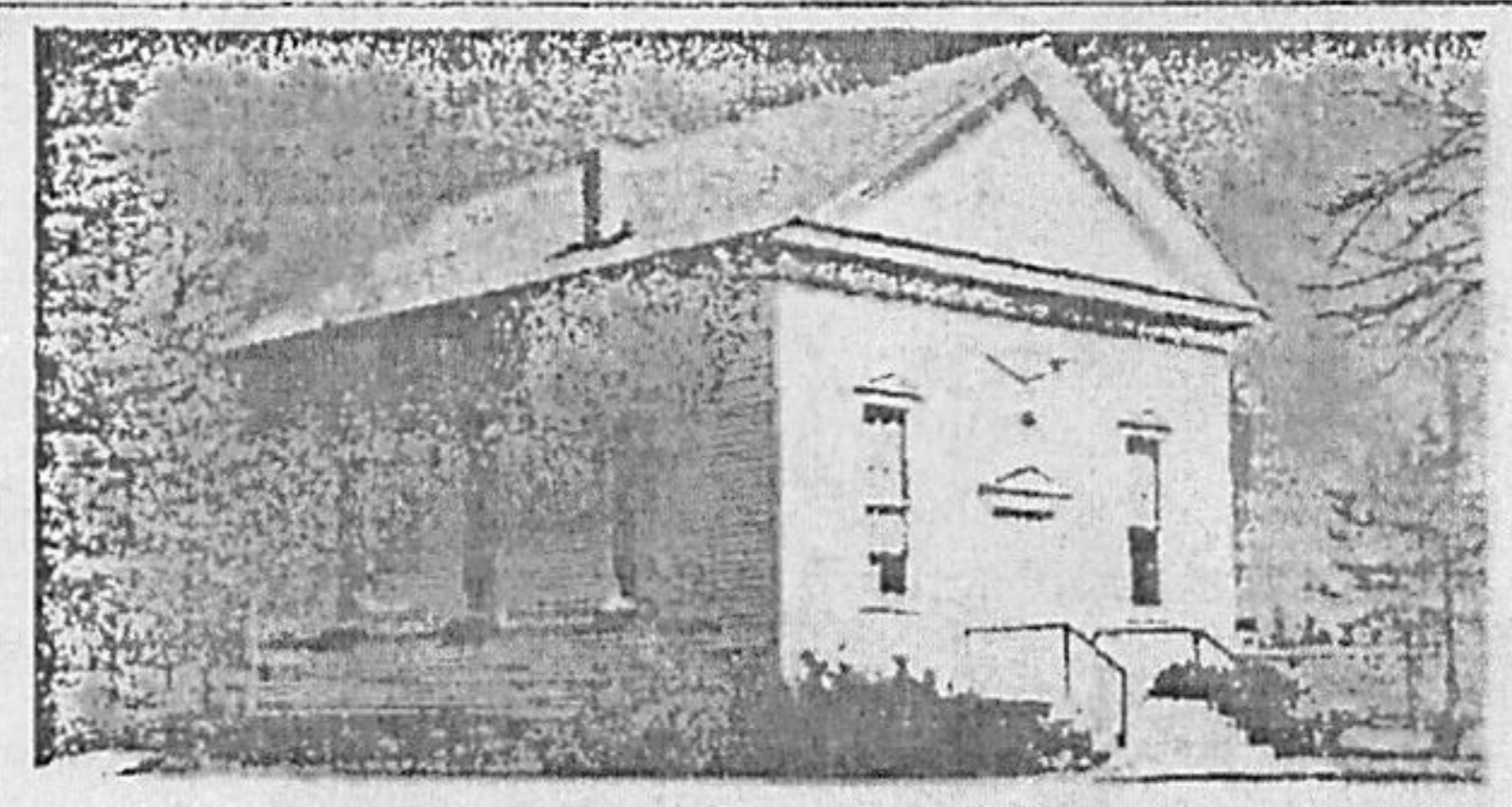
Brown's Chapel is 28 feet wide, 36 feet long, 32 feet high, and weighs 70 tons. The sills supporting the floor are made of tree trunks of different sizes. According to architect Bradford C. de Wolf, the church was not of the Victorian design typical of the period, but of an earlier style based on the Greek Revival period as interpreted in New England, from which the Brown family originated. He states that the low pitched roof and pediments over high windows, in particular, recall the earlier style, of which there are few remaining examples in Fairfax County; and that the church's proportions are excellent--better than those of many earlier buildings.

The building, owned by Gulf Reston, Incorporated, stands on land leased from the John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company. It is used and maintained by the Reston Homeowners Association which will eventually acquire title to both the building and the land.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered No Interior Fair Exterior Fair



6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)



7. PHOTOGRAPH N. Netherton, 1969

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)  
 INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

See Virginia Collection files, Fairfax County Public Library.  
 Tony P. Wrenn, Brown's Chapel, Reston, Virginia, A History, manuscript, 1968.

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER

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DATE OF RECORD 7/13/70

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE