

Ruins of St. George's Chapel
Vic. of Charles Town, Jefferson County,
West Virginia

HABS No. W.VA. 3

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W.VA
19-CHART.V
2-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of West Virginia

Historic American Buildings Survey
Archie A. Biggs, District Officer
Charles Town, West Virginia

RUINS OF ST. GEORGE'S CHAPEL.

HABS
W.VA
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2-

Owner: Col. H. B. Davenport

Date of Erection: Unknown

Builder: Unknown

Present Condition: In ruins, only parts of walls standing

Number of Stories: Two

Materials of Construction:

Built of native limestone. Miss Susan Gregg Gibson in an article from the magazine of the Jefferson County Historical Society, Dec. 1935 states that the woodwork was of cedar, the floors of tile and the roof of copper.

Other Existing Records:

Robert Worthington was the original owner of the tract of land on which St. George's Chapel now stands. He obtained a tract of 3,000 acres by patent in 1734. On this land his son Robert Worthington, Jr. built Piedmont in 1736. In 1770 Piedmont Plantation was purchased by a Mr. Nourse and from this owner was taken land for the church. As the Briscoes bought Piedmont from Nourse in 1780, the church was erected sometime between the dates of 1770 and 1780.

In 1769 an order was given for the division of the original parish (then consisting of all that is now Shenandoah, Page, Warren, Clarke, Frederick, Berkeley, Hampshire and Jefferson Counties) into three, namely, Beckford, Berkeley and Norborne. Jefferson County came under the Norborne Parish and was so named in honor of Norborne Berkeley, Baron de Botetourt, who was governor of the colony of Virginia from 1760 to 1770.

References: History of the Lower Shenandoah Valley- Morris.

3/25/37 W. Arthur A. Biggs