

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NATIONAL REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church
other names/site number Annemessex Chapel S-79

2. Location

street & number St. Paul's Church Road N/A not for publication
city, town Tulls Corner vicinity
state Maryland code MD county Somerset code 039 zip code 21853

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u> </u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>1</u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
		<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
[Signature] 6/28/90
Signature of certifying official Date
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register. Entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet. Mark J. Baker August 3, 1990
 determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet. _____
 determined not eligible for the National Register. _____
 removed from the National Register. _____
 other, (explain:) _____
[Signature] Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

S-79

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious structure

FUNNERARY/cemetery

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious structure

FUNNERARY/cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Gothic Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick

walls wood

roof asphalt

other wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church is a Gothic Revival church and accompanying cemetery surrounded by an early twentieth-century iron fence. Built in 1848, the church is supported by a common bond brick foundation, and it is sheathed with beveled-edge board-and-batten siding. Attached to the south side of the original church is a single-story congregational hall that was attached in 1962. The west elevation of the church is distinguished by a large Gothic arched light of paired lancet windows surrounded by a field of board-and-batten siding. The north side of the church is evenly divided into four bays marked by narrow lancet windows of colored glass. Attached to the east gable end of the main structure is a slightly shorter single-story apse, and a one-bay by one-bay gable roofed sacristy which extends to the north on a perpendicular axis. Inside, the church has a combination of plastered walls and plain wainscoting. An exposed scissors roof truss is covered with a layer of whitewash. The sanctuary is furnished with Victorian period pews and lighted by period chandeliers and wall sconces. The choir area between the sanctuary and the altar was reworked in the mid twentieth century, and the craftsmen attempted to follow simplistic Gothic Revival motifs. A single-story parish hall was erected in 1962. In an effort to design a parish hall compatible with the church, board-and-batten siding and Gothic Revival motifs were used. Surrounding the immediate church yard is an iron fence that was erected in 1908. The west section of the fence is distinguished by a large entrance gate that has tall iron posts supporting a decorative arched sign with "St. Paul's P. E. Church, 1908" in iron letters and numbers within the arch framework.

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church stands near the intersection of Farm Market Road and St. Pauls Church Road west of Tulls Corner, Somerset County, Maryland. The Gothic Revival church faces west with the principal gable oriented on an east/west axis. Accompanying the church is a large cemetery surrounded by an early twentieth-century iron fence with the principal gate on the west side. The cemetery has been enlarged beyond its original fenced boundaries to land north and east of the church.

Built in 1848, St. Paul's P. E. Church is supported by a minimal common bond brick foundation, and it is sheathed with original beveled-edge board-and-batten siding. The steeply pitched gable roof is covered with a layer of asphalt shingles. Attached to the south side of the original church is a single-story congregational hall that was attached in 1962.

The west elevation of the church is distinguished by a large Gothic arched light of paired lancet windows surrounded by a field of board-and-batten siding. The eaves to the roof are slightly extended, and rising from the peak of the roof is a small cross. A narrow brick stove stack protrudes through the southwest corner of the structure.

The north side of the church is evenly divided into four bays marked by narrow lancet windows of colored glass. Rising from northeast corner is a narrow brick stove stack. Attached to the east gable end of the main structure is a

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slightly shorter single-story apse, and a one-bay by one-bay gable roofed sacristy extends to the north on a perpendicular axis. The sacristy has a Gothic arched door opening that is centered on the north wall. The original board-and-batten door has survived along with a glass transom. A small, colored glass lancet window marks each side of the sacristy. Fixed into the northeast corner of the apse foundation is the marble datestone that reads, "St. Paul's Church A.D. 1848." The east apse wall is distinguished by a tripartite colored glass window that lights the altar. The south side of the apse is covered by a shed roofed section.

The south side of the church is similarly detailed with three colored glass lancet windows. The Gothic arched front entrance that marked the westernmost bay is now covered by the hyphen that joins the old church with the board-and-batten frame parish hall. The board-and-batten front doors remain in place.

Inside, the church has a combination of plastered walls and plain wainscoting. An exposed scissors roof truss is covered with a layer of whitewash. The sanctuary is furnished with Victorian period pews and lighting by period chandeliers and wall sconces. The choir area between the sanctuary and the altar was reworked in the mid twentieth century, and the craftsmen attempted to follow simplistic Gothic Revival motifs. The altar is finished in a similar manner as the sanctuary with an exposed rafter ceiling. Beaded board wainscoting covers the lower half of the walls, and a Gothic arched four-panel door opens into the sacristy on the north wall. Hexagonal in profile balusters support the molded altar rail.

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The single-story parish hall was erected in 1962. In an effort to design a parish hall compatible with the church board-and-batten siding and Gothic Revival motifs were used. The single-story parish hall is one bay wide and four bays deep. A double-door entrance is located in the west gable front elevation, and four modern sash windows pierce the south wall. The interior is finished in modern materials.

Surrounding the immediate church yard is an iron fence that was erected in 1908. The west section of the fence is distinguished by a large entrance gate that has tall iron posts supporting a decorative arched sign. Along with the fancy ironwork, the name of the church, "St. Paul's P. E. Church" and the date of the fence, "1908" is detailed in iron letters and numbers within the arch framework. Smaller pedestrian gates are located to each side of the arched entrance. The iron gate posts are marked, "Enterprise Foundry and Fence Company, Indianapolis, Indiana." The cemetery has nineteenth and twentieth century burial sites and markers.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

Architecture

1848

1848

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Significant Person N/A

Architect/Builder Marshall, Issac T., builder

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

Saint Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church, built in 1848, is significant for its architecture as a remarkably well preserved example of a small, rural gothic Revival church taken from the designs of Richard Upjohn, a prominent mid-19th century architect. Upjohn published a series of designs in Rural Architecture for rural churches, parsonages, and schools which were copied or adapted widely by many small parishes nationwide. This church is one of nine known examples of this type of religious building still remaining in Maryland. Many more are known to have been built although a complete inventory of those built has never been made. Saint Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church can be compared with Saint Paul's Episcopal Church (1851, National Register) in Hillsboro, Caroline County, and Saint Andrew's Church (1878, National Register) near Sudlersville, Queen Anne's County. Most striking of these Upjohn inspired churches is Saint Michael's Chapel (1854, National Register) in Reisterstown, Baltimore County. Saint Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church is the earliest of this group of nine buildings. The interior of Saint Paul's retains most of the original furnishings and decorative detailing. The building possesses a high degree of integrity of historic character.

See continuation sheet No. 8.1 for HISTORIC CONTEXT and MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN data.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Vestry minutes of Coventry Parish, 1772-1821, St. Paul's P.E. Church, Marion, MD.

Vestry minutes of Coventry Parish, 1848-? , St Mark's P.E. Church, Pokomoke City, MD.

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties, Maryland Historical Trust Annapolis, MD.

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property 2.5 acres
USGS quad: Marion, MD

UTM References

A

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4	2	0	7	6	2	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C

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B

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Zone Easting Northing

D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet No. 10.1

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet No. 10.1

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian
organization Somerset County Historical Trust date 13 October 1987
street & number P. O. Box 5 telephone (301) 651-1094
city or town Westover state Maryland zip code 21871

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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Eastern Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Agriculture, Landscape Architecture/Community Planning

Resource Type:

Category: building

Historic Environment: rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): RELIGION/religious structure
FUNNERARY/cemetery

Known Design Source: none

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Section number 8 Page 8.2HISTORIC CONTEXT:

St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church occupies an important place in the history of the Anglican church of Somerset County. St. Paul's is the oldest active congregation in Coventry Parish, one of the four original Anglican parishes laid out in 1692. Coventry Parish Church, the principal congregation, was consolidated with St. Paul's around the turn of the century when the Rehobeth church was abandoned. Originally formed as a chapel of ease, Annemessex Chapel, as it was originally known, was begun by 1726 on a site near the head of Coulbourn's Creek. The chapel was moved in 1818 to a new location, and finally in 1848, the fourth building was constructed on yet another site. At the consecration of the 1848 church the name was changed to St. Paul's.

On Easter Monday, 1848, the Vestry of Coventry Parish considered a petition to relocate Annemessex Chapel. It was the opinion of several church members that the site chosen in 1818 was no longer advantageous and that it would, "retard the growth of the Church in that part of the parish and that its prosperity would be much increased by the erection of a chapel in the neighborhood of John H. Miles store." That same day the petition was approved, and a building committee was established to superintend the rebuilding of the chapel. The 1818 church was dismantled, and according to church minutes, the materials were reused in construction of the 1848 structure. Although salvagable materials were reused, the

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new church was redesigned in a wholly new style following the recently introduced Gothic Revival taste. The simple rectangular plan chapel was sheathed in board-and-batten siding and covered with a steeply pitched roof. Providing access to the building were two pointed arch doors, the front door being sheltered originally under a gabled entry. Isaac T. Marshall is documented in the vestry minutes as the contracted craftsman. On December 21, 1848, the new church, the fourth building building to house the Annesmessex congregation, was consecrated as St. Paul's.

The vestry minutes for the following fifty years do not mention extensive changes for the chapel. Not until Easter Monday, 1894, is there a major effort to improve the structure. On March 29, 1894, the rector reported the extensive improvements were made at St. Paul's that involved "renovation, painting, etc. at the cost of nine hundred dollars." It was probably at this time that the beaded board wainscoting was added to the altar walls, and perhaps the colored glass windows were inserted at this time.

After the turn of the twentieth century, the major changes included the addition of the decorative iron fence in 1908, and in 1962, the chapel was enlarged with the parish hall addition.

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St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church is one of fewer than ten surviving churches in Maryland whose construction, form, proportions, and detailing recall patterns published in Richard Upjohn's Rural Architecture. These buildings characteristically have steep pointed gables, lancet windows, decorated barge boards, and an air of fragility which results from the thinness of construction members. Most have board and batten siding -- All Saints, however, has weatherboard siding. Of the nine examples identified in Maryland, seven are already listed in the National Register. The churches are:

St. Michael's Church (BA-53)
Reisterstown, Baltimore County
built 1853-1854
Architect: John Weller Priest, New York
National Register listed 1979

St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Woodlawn (BA-30)
Woodlawn, Baltimore County
built 1873
Architect: Dixon and Carson, Baltimore
National Register listed 1985

St. Paul's Chapel (AA-182)
Crownsville, Anne Arundel County
built 1865
Architect: unknown
National Register listed: 1973

St. Paul's Episcopal Church (CAR-6)
Hillsboro, Caroline County
built 1853-1858
Architect: John Weller Priest
National Register listed: 1975

All Saints' Church (T-83)
Easton vicinity, Talbot County
built 1900 (replicating 1870 building)
Architect: unknown
National Register listed: 1984

Anderson Chapel (G-IV-009)
Swanton, Garrett County
built c. 1882
Architect: unknown
National Register listed: 1984

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St. Andrew's Episcopal Church (QA-179)
Sudlersville, Queen Anne's County
built 1878
Architect: unknown
National Register listed: 1984

St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church (S-79)
Tulls Corner, Somerset County
built 1848
Architect: unknown

All Saints' Church Monie (S-355)
Venton, Somerset County
built 1881
Architect: unknown

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10. VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

All that lot or parcel of land situate in Lawson's Election District, Somerset County, Maryland, beginning at a point along St. Paul's Church Road where the road intersects the north fork of Tull's Branch, from thence by and with the south side of the aforesaid road in a easterly direction for approximately 412 feet to a point near the east fork of Tull's Branch, thence due south along the course of the east fork for approximately 370 feet to a point where the east fork meets Tull's Branch, thence in a northwesterly direction by and with Tull's Branch for approximately 637 feet to the place of beginning containing 2 1/2 acres more or less.

10. BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The 2 1/2 acres that accompany St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church in nomination follows natural or man-made boundaries that have historic relevance to the site. The northern boundary follows St. Paul's Church Road which has served as a property boundary since the church was erected. The south, east, and west lines follow various sections of Tull's Branch, which borders the knoll on which the church stands. This property boundary includes the church yard immediately around main building, but excludes a section of cemetery on the north side of St. Paul's Church Road that does not add to the significance of the site.