

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

K-136

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received APR 23 1986

date entered

JUN 4 1986

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic South Sassafras Parish

and/or common Shrewsbury Church (preferred)

**2. Location**

street & number Shrewsbury Lane N/A not for publication

city, town Kennedyville  vicinity of First Congressional District

state Maryland code 24 county Kent code 029

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Vestry of Shrewsbury Parish

street & number c/o The Rev. Thomas M. Stuhr, Rector

city, town Kennedyville  vicinity of state Maryland 21645

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Kent County Courthouse

street & number High Street

city, town Chestertown state Maryland 21620

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

Maryland Historical Trust  
title Historic Sites Inventory has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1968  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

# 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	date <u>N/A</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

Number of Resources		Number of previously listed National Register properties included in this nomination: <u>0</u>
Contributing	Noncontributing	Original and historic functions and uses: religious
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> buildings	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> sites	
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures	
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects	
<u>3</u>	<u>0</u> Total	

**DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:**

Shrewsbury Church is a rural parish church constructed in 1834 near Kennedyville in northern Kent County, Maryland. Its present vernacular Gothic-influenced appearance is the result of remodeling carried out in 1890. The church is constructed of brick laid in 7-course common bond, three bays wide by three bays deep, with the entrance centered in the south gable end. In 1890 a three-stage buttressed and crenelated tower was added at the entrance, a low one-story chancel was added against the north gable, window openings were reworked to accept round-headed stained-glass windows, and the interior received Gothic influenced walnut furnishings. Around 1910, a small shed addition was made to the west wall of the chancel to accommodate the organ works. The church is located within a tree-shaded cemetery containing monuments dating from the 18th century through the 20th; a c. 1900 frame rectory adjoins the church.

# 8. Significance

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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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

<b>Specific dates</b>	1834; 1890	<b>Builder/Architect</b>	unknown
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**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

Applicable Criteria: A, C  
 Applicable Exceptions: A  
 Significance Evaluated: local

**SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:**

Shrewsbury Church is significant for its architecture, which embodies the evolution of a typical Episcopal parish church on Maryland's rural Eastern Shore through the 19th century. Its construction and subsequent remodeling reflect the effects of changing religious and economic forces over this period. Following the Revolution, its English associations rendered the Episcopal Church unpopular, and membership declined precipitously in many Eastern Shore parishes. Church buildings, lacking regular use or maintenance, fell into decline until a concerted campaign for reorganization and reconstruction was waged by the Bishop of the diocese in the 1830s. Shrewsbury Church exemplifies this trend: the present building, begun in 1834 at the urging of Bishop William Murray Stone, replaced an earlier structure which was reportedly only in "tolerable condition" in 1821. The result of this campaign, consecrated in 1840, was an austere gable-roofed brick building, three bays wide by three bays deep, with a center-aisle plan, typical of rural vernacular churches of the period. The revitalized parish occupied this building for over a half-century before undertaking a major renovation in 1890: a buttressed and crenelated tower was added to the entrance, a chancel addition was constructed on the opposite gable, window openings were reworked and fitted with round-arched stained-glass windows, and the interior received a vaulted ceiling and Gothic-influenced detailing and furnishings. The 1890 remodeling reflects a combination of significant influences: it was enabled by the agricultural prosperity which the upper Eastern Shore enjoyed in the last quarter of the 19th century, and was directed by a general movement toward "victorianization" of Episcopal and Methodist churches in the region during the same period.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

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See Continuation Sheets 7 and 8.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property approximately 2.6 acres

Quadrangle name Galena, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References Lat: 75° 58' 05" Long: 39° 19' 44"  
NO UTM TICKS ON MAP

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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**Verbal boundary description and justification** The nominated property, approximately 2.6 acres, comprises the resource within its immediate setting. Boundaries are depicted on the attached plat.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kathleen B. White, Maynard P. White and Michael Bourne

organization date 11/20/80; revised 1/86

street & number 107 South Mill Street telephone (301) 778-2363

city or town Chestertown, state Maryland 21620

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  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 [Signature] date 4-15-86

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

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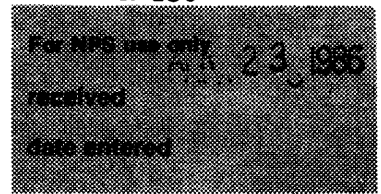
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

[Signature] date 6/4/86  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The main block, constructed in 1834, measures 30' x 45'. Three round-arched stained glass (originally clear glass, multi-paned, rectangular) windows define the three bays on each side; the original entrance way (altered by the entrance tower, 1890) was a double door flanked by two rectangular windows, with two smaller windows above. The north gable wall is obscured by the chancel addition. The overhanging roof at the gables and sides suggests the structural presence of purlins and rafters, the ends of which have an ogee curve in contrast to the plain fascia. This, however, is ornamentation, as the old roof structure of rafters and tie beams remains. In 1890 with the tower addition remodeling, the side windows were arched and stained glass installed, the two upper windows in the south gable removed, and the lower two arched as on the sides and glazed with stained glass.

In 1890 the ten-foot-square brick entrance tower was erected. Laid in common bond with buttresses at each corner, it has stone washes about ten feet above the ground. Vertically the tower is divided into three stages. On the south facade of the first level is the entrance, with semi-circular fanlight above double doors. Each leaf of the double doors has two molded panels; the upper panels are arched. Between the doors and transom are courses of dentils and spool turnings. The fanlight is divided into six petal-like lights. At the second level, the tower is indented by the width of one brick. In the south facade above this break is a blind round window divided into eight segments, each with trefoil petals. At the third level, on all four sides, are louvered rectangular openings which make an open belfry. Above this area, the walls corbel out four courses, from which rise crenelations. Like the buttresses, the crenelations have stone caps.

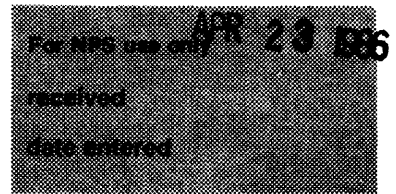
The chancel, also added in 1890, is a symmetrical brick structure, but because the sanctuary is centered on the nave, and the sacristy is on the east side thereof, the fenestration is off center from the north. The three part stained glass window above the altar is thus asymmetrical on the wall. The east wall of the sacristy possesses a window and door, both with semi-circular arches. The entrance contains a four panel door and single pane arched transom above. The window has 2/2 sash with colored glass suggesting diamond panes.

In the northwestern corner where the nave and chancel meet is a 6' x 6' brick lean-to which was added about 1900 for the organ works.

Inside, the vestibule has wainscoting to about three feet, with plaster above. The vestibule is separated from the nave by double swinging doors covered with leather-like material with brass studs forming crosses.

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

Eleven pews on each side of the central aisle fill the nave with four smaller ones at right angle to the organ. A large walnut pulpit stands on the right side of the nave and a brass eagle lectern in memory of a former minister, stands on the left near the organ. As in the vestibule, there is wainscoting (and a heating element at the same level) around the walls with plaster above. Each window is surrounded by dark-stained bolection molding and a decorative flat rail of similar wood runs around the church interior and chancel, approximately two feet above the wainscoting. Possibly this element supported the early kerosene or gas lamps. A single brass Colonial-style hanging fixture is in the center of the ceiling and four double brass sconces are between the windows. The original lamps exist and the church plans to reinstall these in electrified condition. The floor of the vestibule and church is presently carpeted.

Separating the nave and chancel is a 14' wide arch; the chancel is about one foot wider than the arch. On the left of the chancel wall is an arch with decorative organ pipes covering the area and similar to another organ pipe area above the organ and to the left of the wide arch separating nave and chancel. The area behind these pipes now houses a carillon and electronic apparatus. To the right side of the chancel is a four-panel door leading to the sacristy. Adjacent to both openings, extending across the entire chancel, is a walnut communion rail with turned balusters and central double gates. Within the chancel proper stands a white marble altar with black marble columns and a geometric pattern in front, dated 1888.

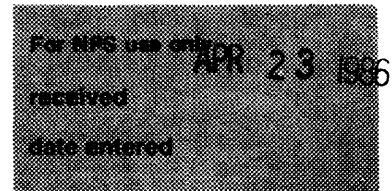
Flanking the altar are two large walnut Gothic bishop's chairs. Behind the altar is a three-part memorial window depicting the Good Shepherd flanked by Mary and Joseph. Originally the window was only a central panel but soon after 1890 the two flanking windows were added. There are three steps to the altar.

The church is set within a small cemetery enclosed by an iron fence; the cemetery contains tombstones dating from the 18th, 19th, and 20th century. Adjacent to the church is a c. 1900 gable-roofed frame rectory, three bays wide by two bays deep, 2 stories high with a broad center gable, with decorative stickwork in the gable peaks. Various elements of its construction, including the floor-to-ceiling casement windows on the first story, appear to have been salvaged from the earlier (1858) rectory which it replaces. Both cemetery and rectory contribute to the significance of the resource.

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**HISTORY AND SUPPORT:**

Shrewsbury Church was not completed for the purpose of consecration until 1840 when visited by then Bishop Whittington. The 1834 church replaced an earlier structure which was reported in only "tolerable condition" in 1821; the prodding of Bishop William Murray Stone reversed the decline of the parish, and construction began in 1834.

Eastern Shore church histories often record the construction of new structures and additions, as well as remodelings, in the 19th century, many following a similar pattern of plan and design. The local economies and religious interests of the area parishes thus supported building and/or redecorating in a manner similar to the 1834 construction and later 1890 and 1910 remodeling of Shrewsbury.

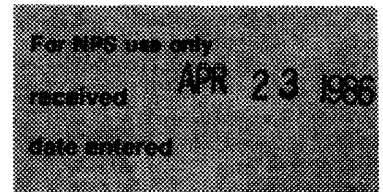
Kent County has been a agricultural community from the time of its early settlement to the present. Wheat and corn had long been the county's and shore's productive farming staples, but because of midwest competition, a variety in crops was sought, with the addition of fruits and vegetables. As of 1830 fruit production became a separate industry and by the 1880s fruits and vegetables, canned and preserved, were the number one employment for Marylanders and were third in value of production in the state (Walsh, p. 483). At this point thousands of acres were devoted to peach orchards. Scribner's Monthly, in an 1872 article on "The Chesapeake Peninsula" describes "orchard of peach" (p. 513) covering the upper shore area, including Kent and Queen Anne's Counties. In 1900 and 1905 fruit canning ranked second in the nation in value of the product (Walsh, p. 484). In the 80s there were a million and a half peach trees in Kent, and in 1896 Mr. Scarborough, manager of four canneries in Kent, paid to the pear growers over \$16,000 (Usilton, p. 117). Farming, especially of fruit during this period, was thus very profitable.

Prior to the railroads, sailing vessels served as transportation for people, produce and products. Early in the 1800s steamboats made regular visits to Kent County locations (Chestertown, Worton Point and Sassafras) along the protected Chesapeake to carry grain, fruits and vegetables to Baltimore. The Chester River Steamboat and Tolchester Lines linked Kent with Baltimore, opening a fast moving avenue for often perishable goods (Usilton, p. 189).

As the railroad lines moved into the shore, additional markets developed to the north, enabling the farmers and merchants to gain their income from new as well as former areas. Prior to 1868 trains traveled north-south, passing through Massey in northern Kent. In that year a contract was let for a railroad from Massey west through Kennedyville to Chestertown. In 1872 the first train arrived in Chestertown, and with it a new, faster means of moving the Kent produce and products to market (Usilton, p. 84).

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

Products other than fruits and vegetables brought income to Kent County. The Chestertown Strawboard Mill opened in 1882 and by 1889 employed 60 and paid "from \$12,000 to \$15,000 per year to the farmers for straw" (Usilton, p. 363). Peach baskets, to supply the local demand, were made at Scotts Point in Chestertown, and the factory's history reports that in 1897 they were over-run with orders. Up to 200 people were employed here (Usilton, p. 366).

The Philadelphia steamer landed at the wharf in Chestertown while running peaches in the summers of 1895 and 1897. At the Chester River Steamboat Company's Wharf, a canner put up corn, peaches and tomatoes and when in operation employed about 100 hands. Near Rock Hall, a peach basket factory was established at Grey's Inn Creek for steamboat service (Usilton, p. 366).

The economic development of Kent County in the latter half of the 19th century is reflected in the opening and operation of local banks. Opening in 1849, the Farmers and Mechanics Bank, Chestertown, existed until 1885. The Kent Mutual Loan Association began in 1869 and in 1890 the Second National Bank opened. Three years later the Kent County Savings Bank organized (Usilton, p. 87). These institutions paid interest to their depositors and handled large (for the period) amounts of money, evidencing a financial wherewithal to support Kent County activities, including the construction and remodeling of religious institutions.

Thus, as Shrewsbury parishioners supported the construction and later, remodeling of their church other parishes also found themselves able to build, rebuild and redecorate.

In addition to the construction of Shrewsbury in 1834, St. Paul's Church, Centreville, Queen Anne's County, was also built in that year, following a similar decline in their structure outside of town at Hibernia. While a somewhat larger brick structure, due possibly to its in-town location and greater drawing capacity for parishioners, St. Paul's also began as a simple central aisle church. Because so many materials from the former church, and it now also appears, from other structures, were used, especially the brick, St. Paul's was soon stuccoed.

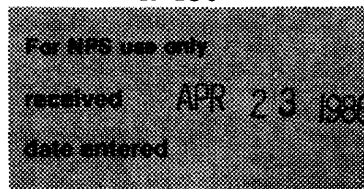
Very similar in appearance to the original portion of Shrewsbury is the 1848 brick addition to St. Joseph's Mission, near Cordova, in Talbot County. The 1782-84 section served first as "half house and half chapel"; (Carley, p. 57) thus the 1848 brick addition, also of simple meeting house plan, became the first section solely for religious use.



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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

Near Shrewsbury, outside the village of Worton, in Kent County, Maryland, Union Methodist Episcopal Church was erected in 1834, next to the ruins of St. Peter's Episcopal Church. A plain edifice, it also was of central aisle plan, of frame construction, and like Shrewsbury, 3 bays wide and 3 in length.

Christ Church, I. U., on the outskirts of Worton, was completed in 1858, on the site of the ruined St. Peter's Church. Because of its later date than Shrewsbury, the brick I. U. possesses a more Gothic appearance, but is of the same 3 bay plan. Its relative simplicity demonstrates the rural atmosphere similar to Shrewsbury and the other churches.

As the century neared its end, area economic conditions held up and even improved and religious institutions embarked on a period of remodeling or "modernization" in the Gothic style of the day. Often the churches, because of the style of their existing structures, could not reach towards the heavens in the Gothic manner. Thus, their means to express Gothic influence was to erect a tower, extending upward beyond the main edifice and pointing heavenward. At this point, 1890, Shrewsbury embarked on remodeling to a modest Gothic chapel, receiving a square tower with bell, a chancel area addition, and stained glass windows. Interior furnishings appropriate to the period were given as memorials demonstrating the financial abilities of the parishioners to fund such major renovations and minor donations. In 1810 a small organ shed was added.

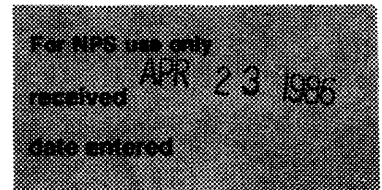
Similarly, in the 1880s St. Luke's, Church Hill, in Queen Anne's County, was "given a new look in the Gothic style fashionable for churches at that time. A square tower was added at the west end, new pews, ...pulpit and other furnishings... and a brick sacristy was built at the northeast end" (Wollon, p. 15).

Significant also, and demonstrating a desire, as well as the financial ability to "modernize," Emmanuel Church, Chestertown, received major alterations in 1880. The balcony was removed, the lower level windows raised in height, the upper tier removed, and the roof lowered 12 feet. Stained glass windows, a recessed chancel and a recessed choir room, as well as new interior furnishings were added, 1905 saw the addition of an entrance and square tower with bell.

St. Paul's Centreville, in 1855, saw the addition of transepts and shed roofed lean-to's on the east wall of each transept, creating a cruciform plan. The interior decoration was "modernized" in the 1880s and 90s and in 1892 a circular apse was added. At some point in the late 1800s (the exact date remains unknown), St. Paul's received the tall, 4-sided steeple visible today.

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Shrewsbury Church

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

St. Joseph's, Cordova, received a clover leaf apse in 1903 and Dudley's Chapel, Sudlersville, modern windows and stove flues in 1869 and a lowered ceiling in 1900. Old Union, Worton, "was improved in 1878 and additional improvements were made in 1889" (Cooper, p. 8). In 1900 the parish supported the construction of a new church, in the village of Worton, and Old Union was left untenanted.

The gravestones in the Shrewsbury churchyard display a wide range of art forms in field and sandstone, marble and granite. The early 18th century stones are simple, low and sometimes flat, with generally a rounded top. Only names and dates are given. Those stones of the 19th century demonstrate a greater and growing attention to art. Symbols depicted included the willow, the lily and other flowers, the dove, cross and vine, a cut-off flower, entwined vine and flowers, the Bible in relief, sleeping lambs, cross within a crown, and a monument pointing heavenward combined with a willow and flower. In addition, several stones display family coats of arms, and various geometric designs. 19th century stones also stand in a variety of shapes, sizes and materials. 20th century stones return to the less elaborate, more formal headstones, generally giving only pertinent details.

Within the Shrewsbury cemetery stands the sole memorial to the Revolutionary soldier, John Cadwalader (1742-1786), his life and achievements. Born in Philadelphia and educated at the College of Philadelphia, Cadwalader married Elizabeth Lloyd, daughter of Col. Edward Lloyd of Wye House, Talbot County, Maryland in 1768. Mrs. Cadwalader had previously inherited land in Kent County, in the vicinity of Shrewsbury Church and on the Sassafras River, totaling 2478 acres (Wainwright, p. 2).

A member of the Philadelphia Committee of Safety, Cadwalader began his military career as Captain of a Philadelphia troop, then Colonel of a city battalion, and next Brigadier-General of the Militia of Pennsylvania. Cadwalader fought at Brandywine, Germantown, Monmouth, the environs of Philadelphia, and at the Battle of Princeton. Washington later requested that Cadwalader organize an Eastern Shore of Maryland Militia and described Cadwalader as "a Military genius of decisive and individual spirit, properly impressed with the necessity of order and discipline and sufficient vigor to enforce it" (Fitzpatrick, p. 548).

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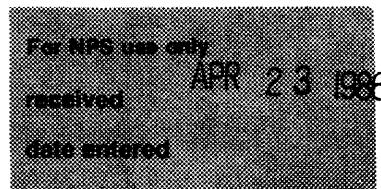
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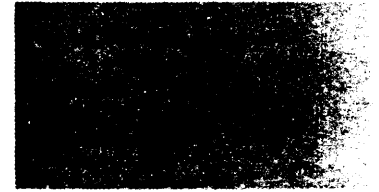
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Shrewsbury Church  
Kennedyville.  
Kent County, Maryland

## DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Approximately twelve benches on each side of the central aisle fill the nave, being at right angles to the others and the organ. A large walnut gothic pulpit stands on the right side of the nave and a handsome brass eagle lectern in memory of The Reverend John Martin stands on the left near the organ. Like the vestibule, there is wainscoting around the walls with plaster above. The ceiling is slightly vaulted. There is a single brass hanging fixture in the center of the ceiling. Double sconces are between the windows.

Separating the nave and chancel is a 14' wide arch. The chancel is about one foot wider than the arch. On the left side of the chancel wall is an arch with decorative organ pipes covering the space similar to another arch on the left side of the wide arch facing the nave. The space behind these organ pipes was the organ room, but it now houses a carillon and electronic amplifiers. On the right side of the chancel is a four-panel door leading to the sacristy. Adjacent to both openings, extending across the entire chancel, is a handsome walnut communion railing with double gates in the center. Within the sanctuary proper is a white marble altar with black marble columns and a geometric pattern in front, in memory of Mrs. Martin, d. 1888.

Flanking the altar are two large walnut bishop's chairs. A small credenza hanging on the wall is in memory of Laura Spencer. On the east wall is a memorial plaque to The Reverend Samuel Edson, Rector, 1895-1909. Behind the altar is a three-part window composed of the Good Shepherd flanked by Mary and Joseph, in memory of the Pennington family. On the east and west walls are small wood plates from which formerly hung kerosene lamps. As most churches are divided, there are three steps to the altar, one beneath the arch, one at the rail, and one at the altar.

The original appearance of the church as built in 1834-1840 can best be described as a basic brick meeting house. An ink sketch done in 1863 by W. J. Clark, Jr. best described the building. On close examination, the brick work shows signs of being altered from this appearance. An interior sketch shows what a basic building it was. It confirms the vestry's stipulation that there would be 24 lite windows, but not the number. The vestry stipulated ten windows, but from both sketches it appears that there were eight 24 lite windows and four 12 lite windows.

These sketches also suggest that the roof may have been rebuilt in the c. 1890 period when the ceiling was altered from a standard flat ceiling to the semi-vaulted ceiling of today. The baptismal font in the interior sketch stands today in the north-east corner and is a small shallow alabaster container.

The building was enlarged around 1890 with the addition of the tower and chancel. Judging from the colour and texture of the brick on the organ shed, it was added after the chancel. Originally, the window over the altar was the only single opening. Sometime soon after 1890 the two flanking windows were added thereto. Memorial stained glass

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Shrewsbury Church  
Kennedyville  
Kent County, Maryland

## DESCRIPTION (Continued)

windows replaced the double hung sash periodically until the last four windows were installed in 1961. Church furniture was given in memory of various rectors and parishoners at intermittent times to the present.

Surrounding the church on three sides is a graveyard. Those monuments on the west side of the church are the earliest, bearing dates beginning in the 1740s. The most important tomb is that of General John Cadwalader, "Who departed this life the 11th Feb. 1786, aged 44 yrs, 1 month, 1 day." General Cadwalader was a very important figure in the Revolutionary war and was a close and respected friend of General Washington. Other tombs are a visible reminder of the faith of those who owned and lived on the plantation in the parish.

Outside the iron fence to the east of the churchyard stands a one story brown shingle structure on a concrete block foundation. It has a "T" plan and was built as a tenant house on the Rich Neck Farm on Grove Neck in Cecil County. It was donated to the parish by Miss Margaret England. It is now used for vestry meetings and catechism classes.

Southeast of the parish house is the rectory, a two story frame structure measuring about 36' by 32' with a lean-to on the north side. The rectory was constructed around 1898 or shortly thereafter, on the foundation of the old rectory constructed in 1858. It is three bays long by two bays deep, and now has a small porch over the front door. The door has sidelights and transom. The walls are covered with asphalt shingles. All of the "windows" of the first story are actually doors, with double doors, having each leaf with three panes and a two pane transom above the doors. They also have paneled shutters on the exterior. The second story windows have 2/2 sash and louvered blinds. In the center of the A roof is a gable facing south with one window. In the apex of the roof is a fretwork bracket. Two chimneys pierce the apex of the roof. The remainder of the building is like the front, very plain.

Its plan is basically a four room with central stairhall plan, and appears to have been the same plan as the 1858 rectory. The two south rooms have double sliding doors, the two back rooms have regular four panel doors. In the northwest room is a kitchen with a secondary enclosed stair to the room above, possibly for servants. The stair ascends in two flights to the second story. Its bold turned newel post and handrail are mahogany and there are two turned balusters per step. The same basic plan exists on the second story, with an enclosed stair to the attic and a room above the front door. The entire house is finished simply. There are three basic types of trim used in the building, possibly being reused from the 1858 building.

An early postcard of the building shows a front porch across the entire facade of the rectory.

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Shrewsbury Church  
Kennedyville  
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## SIGNIFICANCE

## HISTORY AND SUPPORT (Continued)

to be dismantled and rebuilt. Apparently, the general plan of the 1858 rectory was used for the new building. It appears that the foundation was reused and the new building constructed of frame with many of the old members reused.

The parish was never affluent enough to build a vestry house or parish hall. It was not until 1951 that the present parish house or hall was moved from Cecil County.

Apparently, Shrewsbury Parish covered such a large territory in the eighteenth century that it was inconvenient for many of the families to attend services at the parish church. The first mention of a chapel of ease is in 1748 at Georgetown. In 1765, part of the western section of the parish was given over to Chester Parish. In 1789 both church and chapel were listed as being out of repair.

In 1792 a new chapel was ordered built at Massey's Cross Roads, "where the old one stood". It was built of brick. Perhaps this brick chapel is confused by some of the parish historians as being the church itself. There is no mention in published sources of a previous chapel at Massey. Apparently, the Massey chapel was so important that it was made into a parish of its own in 1855.

It is at present uncertain when the chapel at Georgetown was superceded by the chapel at Galena, sometimes referred to as Georgetown Crossroads. A chapel at Galena was in use by the late 19th century and continued into the middle of this century, The building still stands although now converted into residential use.

The vestry records do not exist beyond the year 1862. Consequently, it is difficult to pinpoint the major events in the parish since that time.

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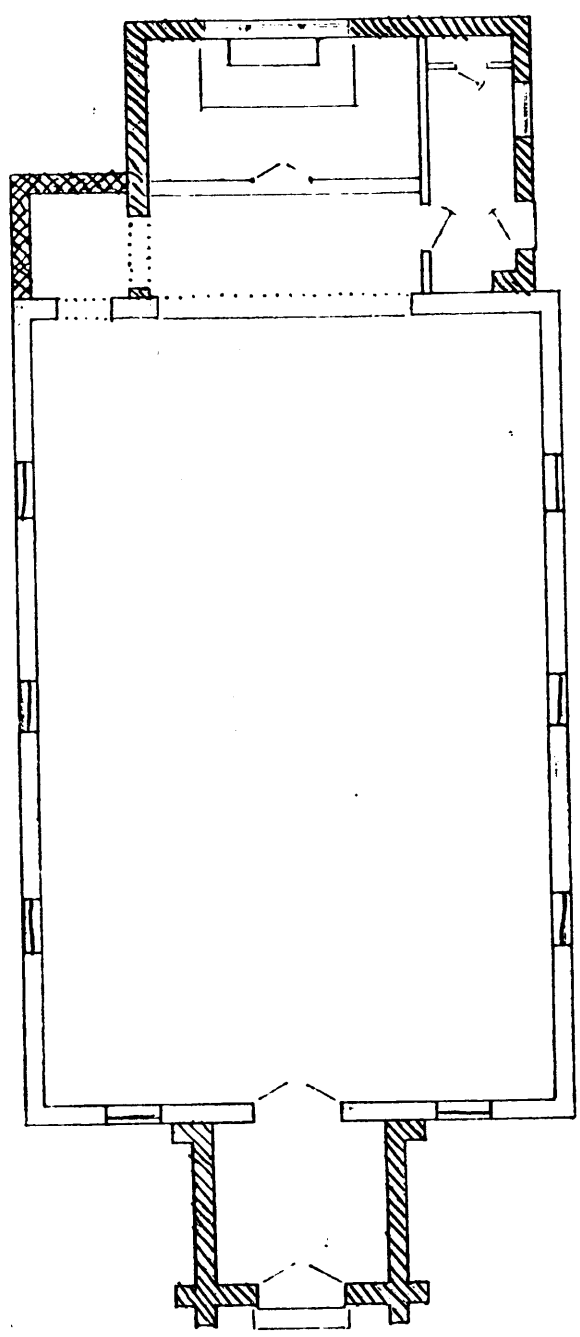
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LEGEND

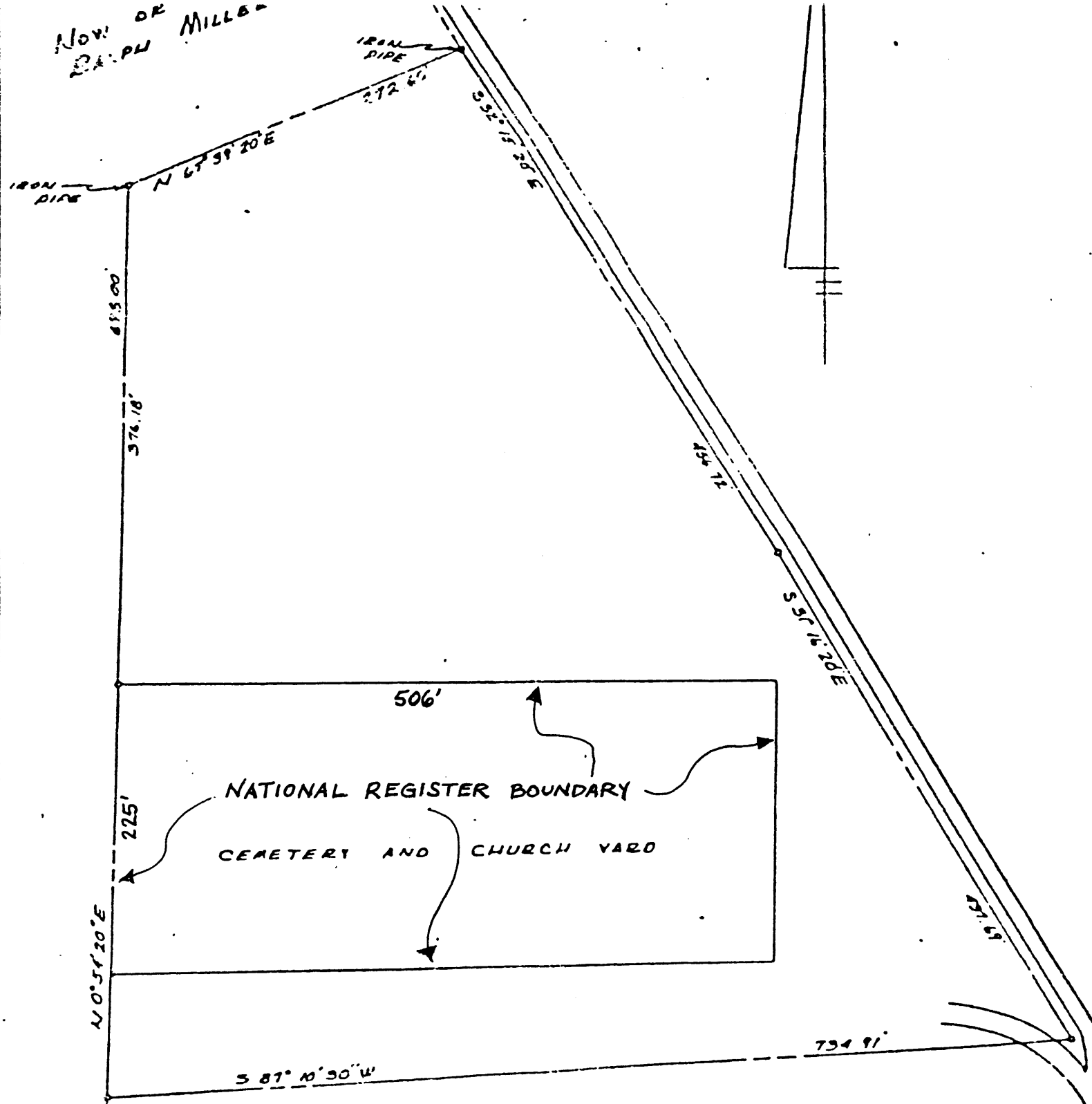
-  - 1834
-  - c. 1890
-  - c. 1900



PLAN OF SHREWSBURY CHURCH  
Kennedyville, Md.  
*Kent Co.*

Scale -  $3/32=1'-0''$   
M. Bourne 11/80

NOV. DE  
D. P. MILLER



LANDS OF CHARLES E. NAU

PLAT OF SURVEY OF  
SHREWSBURY CHURCH  
2<sup>ND</sup> DISTRICT, KENT COUNTY, MO

Scale 1"=100' April, 1964  
J. P. MCCONE JR INC  
CHESTERFORD, MD