Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

098485 DATA SHEET

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

No. mon	
STATE:	
Maryland	
COUNTY:	_
Caroline	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	
MAY 1 2 1975	_

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	St. John's Par		and the second s			
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<i>4</i> ···	LOCATION STREET AND NUMBER:		5 cm			
	One block sout	h of alte	nnate Mary	land 404		
	CITY OR TOWN: Hillsboro	,		congression First	AL DISTRICT:	
	Maryland		24	county: Carol	ine	CODE
3.	CLASSIFICATION		1	l		1011
	CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
	District Building	☐ Public	Public Acquisiti	on:	Occupied	Yes:
	Site Structure	☐ Private	☐ In Proc	cess	Unoccupied	Restricted
	Object	☐ Both	☐ Being	Considered	Preservation wa	ork Unrestricted
					in progress	1477
	PRESENT USE (Check One or	More as Appropriat	e)			(6)
	☐ Agricultural ☐ G	overnment	☐ Park		Transpertation	☐ Comments
	Commercial I	ndustrial	Private Reside	nce _	Other/(Specify RE	CEIVED \\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\
	☐ Educational ☐ M	ilitary	🙀 Religious		 	
	Entertainment M	useum			Mark sales and	
			Scientific		FEB	13 1975
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					(Check One)		
COMPUTION	M	Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	Deteriorated	Ruins	Unexposed
CONDITION			(Check O	ne)		(Che	ck One)
		☐ Alter	ed	Unaltered		Moved	Original Site

Located in Hillsboro, one block south of alternate Maryland 404, is St. Paul's Episcopal Church, an excellent example of Gothic Revival. Its cornerstone laid in 1853, St. Paul's was consecrated in 1858. Constructed of board and batten siding, painted gray, it sits on a brick foundation, its steep roof covered with wood shingles. A small entrance porch is situated in the west bay of the north side. On the east and west sides of the porch are small lancet windows with leaded stained glass. The double door has three panels in each half, the top one being a pointed arch panel. East of the entrance are two stained glass lancet windows in the nave with two smaller windows on the north side of the chancel.

The west end has two stained glass lancet windows between which, centered in the gable, is an oval window with the larger axis on the vertical. A quatrefoil pattern is cut out of the barge boards on this end and the east gable of the chancel. At the peak of the west gable is a belfry still holding the original bell.

The south side of the nave has four lancet windows, two close together near the center and two near the east and west corners. Between the west window and the west corner, is a tall, narrow red brick chimney with a brick, arched hood. Attached to the south side of the chancel is a shed-roofed vestry room. It has a Gothic-arch door with a small hood above it on the west side. To the right of the door is a lancet window divided horizontally into four lights. There are two identical windows on the south side.

On the east end of the chancel is a large Gothic window, with tracery dividing it into three narrow lancets, dated 1857. There is a single lancet window on the east side of the vestry room.

The nave of the church has a center aisle with box pews, most of which are original, on both sides. The pew ends have a single, recessed Gothic-arch panel. On both the north and south walls are four equally spaced bracketed posts with chamfered edges. The rafters in the nave are supported by a collar beam resting on which are two braces forming a "V". In the chancel the rafters are supported by crossed braces. All of these are exposed. Across the chancel is a railing with a quatrefoil pattern. The arch separating the chancel from the nave also has chamfered edges.

Near the center of the west wall are two vertical beams which extend the full height of the roof and support the belfry on the exterior.

The church also retains the original baptismal font and its silver communion service.

St. Paul's has been very successfully restored and is well maintained. To the south and east of the church is a small cemetery. Along the north side of the yard, paralleling the street, is a wrought iron fence with crosses on top of the poles.

SIGNIFICANCE				
PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)			
☐ Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century	
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	🖄 19th Century		
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicat	ole and Known) 18	53-1858		
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Approp	riate)		
Abor iginal	Education	☐ Political	Urban Planning	
☐ Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)	
☐ Historic	☐ Industry	losophy		
☐ Agriculture	Invention	Science		
Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture		÷.
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-		
☐ Commerce	Literature	itarian		
Communications	Military	Theater		
☐ Conservation	☐ Music	☐ Transportation		
L				

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In the 1840's and 1850's, the Gothic Revival as espoused by the ecclesiological movement in England became widely accepted and practiced in the United States. Individual architects designed churches following the rules for church architecture established by the Ecclesiological Society in England. Some of them published books of their designs so that parishes could build in the "accepted" style without the expense of an architect. St. Paul's Church, Hillsboro, is valuable as an example of the attractive and practical buildings that could be executed by the local craftsmen from these published plans and drawings.

St. Paul's is a church of St. John's Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland. The parish, lying in Caroline, Queen Anne's and Talbot Counties, was formed in 1748 by an act of the Maryland Assembly. The parish church, at that time, was in Queen Anne's County not far from Hillsboro, then known as Tuckahoe Bridge. In 1768, a new church was built on this site, the old one having deteriorated too much to be repaired. In the early 19th century, the church was once again in "a very ruinous State", owing to the growing strength of Methodism on the Eastern Shore.

With the coming of the Reverend Robert William Goldsborough in 1842, the parish once again began to thrive. Born nearby at Myrtle Grove in Talbot County, Goldsborough attended seminary in New York. He was assigned to St. John's Parish as a missionary to revive its lagging membership. Apparently he succeeded, earning the respect and love of the parishioners. When he died in 1857, his successor reported that the congregation had by then grown to a good size.

Rev. Goldsborough's rejuvenating effect on the parish was such that in 1850 he could write that "the desire for the renewal of the old church was strong, and that many whose ancestors had worshipped within its walls began to show a liking toward its venerable ruin." 2 Together these people

- 1. "Bishops Create Association to Save St. John's Church," County Record (Denton, Maryland), December 7, 1966.
- 2. "Bishops Create," County Record.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES								
"Bishops Create Association to Save St. John's Church." County Record (Denton, Maryland), December 7, 1966								
Noble, Edward M., and others. History of Caroline County, Mary- land, from Its Beginning. Reprint of 1920 ed. Baltimore:							Mary-	
Regional Publishing Co., 1971 "St. John's Parish, Hillsboro." The Eastern Shore Churchman (Vol. IV), February 1926. Microfilm M282. Hall of Records,							<u>n</u> (Vol.	
Annapolis, Maryland Stanton, Phoebe B. The Gothic Revival and American Church Archi						į		
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11. FORM PREPARED BY		o contro o	1,00041	. C11 113				
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organization Maryland H	rust				8/73			
STREET AND NUMBER: 2525 Riva	Road				* (*			
CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis,			state Mar	ryland			CODE	
12. STATE LIAISON OFFIC	ER CERTIFICATION	4	NA	TIONAL F	REGISTER \	/ERIFICATIO)N	
As the designated State Liaison 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			I hereby o	•	t this proper	ty is included	d in the	
forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:			Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation					
National Name	National			Date5/12/75				
Arthur C. Townsend Title State Historic Preservation Officer					16	1. U		
		<u>rvatio</u> n	act	Keeper	of The Natio	na Register	alley	

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

RECEIVEDNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES FEB 1 3 1975 NVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Caroline	
FOR NPS USE ONL	Y
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
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NATIONAL'

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

8. Significance-continuation

and their minister raised enough money to build a new church. The cornerstone was laid for this in 1853. In that same year the partly constructed building was much damaged in a windstorm, but the work was continued and the finished church consecrated in 1858.

St. Paul's Church was built in the Gothic Revival style common to the ecclesiologist-influenced Episcopal Church in the 1850's. The design was taken from Richard Upjohn's book of plans and sketches called Upjohn's Rural Architecture, which was published in 1852. This book included "drawings for a small mission church, a chapel, a parsonage, and a schoolhouse." The following description of the church design is given by Everard Upjohn in his biography of the architect:

The church, estimated to cost about \$3,000, the exact sum naturally depending on local conditions, would seat between 125 and 150. Though simple, it was churchly, and it was provided with a lateral tower, nave, chancel, and robing room. The design and estimate included all essential furniture. The style is Early English, with plain lancets in the nave and a triple lancet in the chancel. The tower, containing a belfry, was to be crowned with a broach spire and shingled.... A simple pitched roof over both nave and chancel was supported by arched braces. Internally the walls were to be plastered, and externally they were to be covered with boards and battens.

This description could be one of St. Paul's Church except that the bell tower was not constructed. Instead, a very simple bell cot was built on the roof at the west end of the building. Several more minor changes were also made in the plans as they were published. The three-part window in the east end of St. Paul's is slightly different in design than Upjohn's. There is a shed-roofed vestry room on the south side of the chancel which is not present in the published plan, and the entrance porch was placed where the tower was to have been, rather than in the west end of the nave. Changes such as these were meant to be made, however, as Upjohn developed the sketches and plans to be used as guidelines rather than strict rules.

- 3. Everard M. Upjohn, Richard Upjohn, Architect and Churchman (New York: Columbia University Press, 1939), p. 117.
- 4. Upjohn, pp. 117-118

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) 2

ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
FOR NPS USE ONL	Υ
Caroline	
COUNTY	
Maryland	

(Number all entries)

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

8. Significance-continuation

In his book, <u>Richard Upjoh</u>, <u>Architect and Churchman</u>, Everard M. Upjohn wrote of the churches built from <u>Upjohn's</u> Rural Architecture that

Though not startlingly beautiful, they retain the naive, quaint charm of the drawings to a surprising degree. That fortunate result is due to their complete lack of pretense...The usually meager funds of the parish and the natural tendency of the architect alike eliminated all superfluous adornment. Stripped to their essentials, they must rely on admirable proportions and the balance of asymmetrical masses. 6

The simple, graceful lines of St. Paul's Church, Hillsboro, show it to be one such successful use of Upjohn's design.

6. Upjohn, p. 120

9. Major Bibliographical References-continuation

Upjohn, Everard M. Richard Upjohn, Architect and Churchman. New York: Columbia University Press, 1939.

