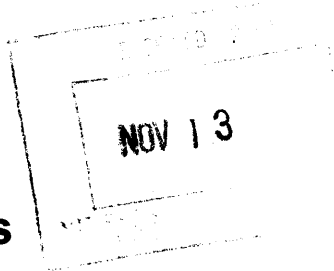


1224

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

1. Name of Property

historic name: All Faith Church

other names/site number: All Faith Protestant Episcopal Church, SM-83

2. Location

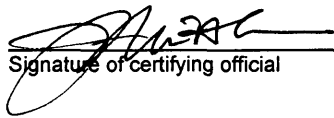
street & number: 38885 New Market Turner Road not for publication:

city or town: Charlotte Hall vicinity: X

state: Maryland code: MD county: St. Mary's code: 037 zip code: 20622

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)


Signature of certifying official

11-12-03
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

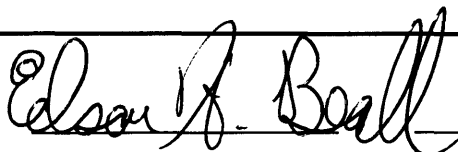
Date


State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain):

 12/29/05


Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 1 </u> buildings
<u> 1 </u>	<u> </u> sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
<u> 2 </u>	<u> 1 </u> Total

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building (s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register:

Name of related multiple property listing:

 N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Religion Sub: Religious Facility
 Funerary Cemetery

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Religion Sub: Religious Facility
 Funerary Cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

 Colonial (Georgian)

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick
roof Wood (Shingle)
walls Brick
other

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheets.

8. Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all boxes that apply)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
Religion

Significant Dates

1766
ca. 1830
ca. 1890

Period of Significance

1766-ca. 1890

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

Richard Boulton
Samuel Abell, Jr.

Architect/Builder

Richard Boulton (designer)
Samuel Abell, Jr. (builder)

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheets.

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

Name of repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 8.918 acres
USGS quadrangle Mechanicsville, Md

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1.	<u>18</u>	<u>349010</u>	<u>4258100</u>	3.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	4.	_____	_____	_____

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kirk Edwards Ranzetta/Historic Sites Surveyor
organization St. Mary's County Department of Planning & Zoning date 10/99; revised 11/03
street & number PO Box 653 telephone 301-475-4662
city or town Leonardtwn state Maryland zip code 20650

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7. Description

Narrative Description

All Faith Church is located on the southeast side of New Market Turner Road near Charlotte Hall, Maryland. Oriented on an east/west axis, the church is on a three acre tract overlooking the rural two lane road and a surrounding cemetery. Both the church and the cemetery are contributing resources. The property also contains a non-contributing parish hall and bell tower - both located to the southeast of the church.

Built between 1766-1769, the church is a one story, brick building with a wood shingle, gable roof. The building exhibits a cross-axial plan with a rear chancel. A small vestments room, added on in the mid to late-nineteenth century, is attached to the building's southeast corner.

The church is constructed of brick laid in Flemish bond with a molded brick watertable. Typical of Episcopal churches of the period, the primary elevation is situated on the building's west side. Here, a series of three, symmetrically aligned, compass-headed bays pierce the façade. The bays consist of a centrally located set of paneled French doors flanked on either side by a twelve-over-sixteen, double-hung window. Perhaps the most distinctive component of this elevation is a three part Palladian window composed of two smaller six-over-nine double-hung sash that flank a larger eighteen-over-sixteen, single-hung sash. A small fluted keystone highlights the top of the central window's architrave. This elevation is further embellished through a pair of cornice returns as well as modillions that lie just under the eaves.

The north and south sides of the church reveal an identical rhythm of openings. Symmetrically aligned, the bays consist of a centrally located set of paneled French doors flanked on either side by eighteen-over-sixteen, single-hung sash windows. The east gable end is pierced by a circular stained-glass window, although the original compass headed window opening is discernible in a brick patch in this area.

The vestments room, located at the church's southeast corner, is constructed of brick laid in a five-to-one common bond and features a low hipped roof. A segmental arch six-over-six, double-hung sash window is situated on the addition's south side and an exterior door is visible on the west side.

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Although the pews were replaced, probably in the late 19th century, the interior retains much evidence of the church's original cross-axial plan, including sunken aisles and a remarkable series of fluted, square columns with Ionic-order capitals, essentially aligned with the building's side aisles. A plastered, barrel-vault ceiling springs from the capitals. Two identical, but opposing, winder stairs permit entry into the church's gallery that extends along the entire west end of the building, while a chancel lies at the east end.

A raised dias, approached via two steps, precedes the chancel. Raised above its original height probably in the late nineteenth century, the chancel is demarcated by a reproduced chancel rail and a communion table. As mentioned above, the large compass headed window once located in the eastern end of the church was replaced in the 1950s with a smaller circular window filled with stained glass. The window on the south side of the chancel was replaced by a door that now permits entry into the small vestments chamber.

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8. Significance

Summary Statement of Significance

All Faith Church, built between the years 1766 and 1769, is significant under National Register Criterion C for its architectural character, as one of the best examples of reserved Georgian ecclesiastical design and construction in St. Mary's County. In addition to the outstanding character of its original construction, the building also embodies architectural evidence of changing liturgical practices in alterations carried out in the 19th century. All Faith Church derives additional significance under National Register Criterion B for its association with builder/designers Richard Boulton and Samuel Abell, Jr., whose documented work throughout Southern Maryland includes some of the best examples of eighteenth century Georgian architecture in the region.

The period of significance, 1766-ca. 1890, begins with the original construction date of the church and extends through the final campaign of alterations in the late 19th century, during which period the church substantially achieved its existing form and appearance.

Resource History and Historic Context:

All Faith Parish was first organized in 1692 when the area around the present All Faith Church was still considered part of Calvert County. Following the coup that replaced the mainly Catholic-run government of St. Mary's City with a Protestant based legislature in Annapolis, all countians became responsible for the financial support of an Episcopal parish church. A contract signed in August of 1693 by the All Faith Parish vestry and John Prise (Price), a carpenter, indicates that an Episcopal church building was standing near the present site of All Faith Church prior to this 1693. Situated near the geographic center of the parish, the church followed the locational patterns dictated by the decentralized population; a characteristic endemic to tobacco growing regions. Curiously, the vestry hired John Prise to replace 10 "seeder" posts. Like many of the buildings that surrounded it, the first All Faith Church was probably of earthfast construction. By 1695, All Faith Parish and the earthfast church that serviced it became part of St. Mary's County.

The present All Faith Church, built between the years 1766 and 1769, is one of the best manifestations of reserved Georgian ecclesiastical design and construction in St. Mary's

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County. While Georgian in style, the church also embodies architectural conventions of eighteenth century Episcopal belief and worship.

All Faith Church represents the composite of the structured architectural conventions demanded by the vestry and the architectural vocabulary of its builders Samuel Abell, Jr. and Richard Boulton. A building contract struck between the builders and vestry incorporates detailed specifications for the methods and materials used in the building's construction and for its Georgian architectural features. Much of the surviving details, such as the compass head window and door openings, Palladian window, barrel-vaulted ceiling, fluted Ionic columns, dentilated cornice, and west end gallery are all woven into the contract.

Some details mentioned in the contract no longer survive. The specified raised pulpit and canopy are not presently evident. Vestry minutes indicate that in the 1830s, the pulpit, probably located near the building's northeast corner, was removed. Following the changes undertaken by other Episcopal parishes in St. Mary's County, the All Faith vestry removed the raised pulpit to create a more linear or axial focus for the congregation and service. Other parishes were bolder in their alterations. The vestries of both Christ Church (SM-70) in Chaptico and St. George's Church (SM-12) covered over the side doors to create an axial plan interior arrangement in the 1830s and 1880s respectively and thus comply with larger American sensibilities concerning religious worship. By keeping the cross-axial plan, therefore, the vestry of All Faith slowly accepted the changing worship conventions of Protestant and Catholic churches in the nineteenth century. While many of these changes have garnered their own significance, they do not diminish the integrity of the church's overall Georgian design.

All Faith Church is also noteworthy as a product of the collaboration between builder/designers Richard Boulton and Samuel Abell, Jr. Boulton and Abell represent one of the first well documented partnerships of builders/designers in St. Mary's County. Building contracts, administrative accounts, and oral history have connected the pair to some of the best examples of eighteenth century Georgian architecture in all of Southern Maryland. Contracts indicate that Boulton and Abell were involved in the construction of both All Faith Church and St. Andrews Church (SM-66, NR) as well as Bushwood (c. 1780s, SM-110, burned 1934) and the staircase and parlor of Sotterley (Period V, 1780s, SM-7, NHL).

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Judging from these examples, the pair displayed a diverse architectural vocabulary that allowed their clients to achieve distinction and invoke architecture's symbolic power. All Faith Church and St. Andrews Church, for instance, are an interesting study of architectural competence. Very similar in terms of plan and interior architectural arrangements, the two churches portray radically different exteriors. While All Faith Church presented a very rational, severe, and conservative exterior, St. Andrews Church featured an exterior encrusted with architectural embellishment. The primary or west elevation alone boasted brick quoins at its corners, matching pyramidal roofed towers, a central Palladian window that projected over a covered portico, a totally segregated entrance for slaves and free blacks, and niches lined with bricks laid in an all header bond. By utilizing such a different architectural mindset, St. Andrews Parish immediately differentiated itself from All Faith Parish to the north and William & Mary Parish to the south. Having been formed from both of these parishes in 1744, the St. Andrews vestry probably sought to attract new congregants as well as convey the wealth and success of its congregation that included people such as future Maryland Governor George Plater.

Aside from Plater's involvement in overseeing the design and construction of St. Andrews Church as a vestry member, several records, including administrative accounts, personal letters, as well as oral narrative link George Plater to Richard Boulton and Samuel Abell. With this connection established, it remains feasible for Boulton to have built the renowned Chippendale stair case in Sotterley's central hall as well the elaborate northern parlor in the 1780s. As recently conveyed by Colonial Williamsburg's analysis, the stair case represents some of the most delicate carpentry seen in Colonial America. Interestingly, it was replicated at Edmund Plowden's Bushwood when it was built in the 1780s. Unfortunately, Bushwood burned in 1934.

Surviving works attributed to Samuel Abell and Richard Boulton reveal the pair's role as architectural enablers who negotiated the intricacies of domestic and ecclesiastical Georgian architecture. Drawing from personal knowledge of architectural design and construction, the pair satisfied their clients' varying aspirations, desires, and visions. As with many builders/designers of the eighteenth century, however, the architectural competency of Abell and Boulton was open only to the select few who could afford it. While only a selective sample of their work survives, it is nonetheless clear that these builders had a tremendous impact upon pre and post-revolutionary Georgian architecture in St. Mary's County.

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Context: Eighteenth Century Episcopal Churches in St. Mary's County, Maryland

With the overthrow of Lord Baltimore's Catholic-oriented government in the late 1680s and early 1690s, all St. Mary's Countians, regardless of their religion, became charged with the support and propagation of the Episcopal denomination. As a result, the county was divided into a series of parishes which were responsible for building churches accessible to all members of the parish. The first attempts to build permanent church buildings did not begin until the 1730s. Between 1736 and 1799, four brick, cross axial plan churches were built in St. Mary's County, all of which survive intact today.

Eighteenth century Episcopal churches in St. Mary's County are immediately distinguished by their relatively isolated locales and by the large cemeteries that accompany them. While situated near major roads, these buildings were typically located near the geographic center of their respective parish. The four surviving early Episcopal churches in St. Mary's County follow similar architectural conventions in terms of construction and plan; common characteristics include Flemish-bond brick construction, compass-headed window and door openings, symmetrical fenestration, evidence of an original cross-axial plan, east/west orientation, a Palladian window in the west gable end, barrel-vault ceiling, and Georgian or Federal-style decorative detailing. Two of the 18th-century churches in the county retain early paneled box pews, and two buildings exhibit separate entries providing segregated access to slave galleries. After 1800, changes in the conduct of the Episcopal worship service resulted in significant alterations to the church buildings, including reorientation of their floor plans, relocation of the pulpit, and rearrangement of pews; on the exteriors, entries were relocated. These alterations are significant in their own right as architectural evidence of the evolution of religious practices over time. Documentary and architectural evidence indicates that the interiors originally had raised and covered pulpits, generally in a central location against the long wall. In the early nineteenth century, liturgical practices were changed, and sermons came to be preached from a raised dias or altar at the east end of the building, a space distinguished from the pews by a chancel rail. In order to accommodate this change, the cross-axial plans were changed to axial plans, with the removal of the pulpit and rearrangement of pews.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

All Faith Church Vestry Records, Microfilm, St. Mary's County Historical Society.

Informal interviews with Hope Grace, Spring, 1999.

Isaac, Rhys. *The Transformation of Virginia, 1740-1790*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1982.

Middleton, Canon Arthur Pierce. *Tercentenary Essays Commemorating Anglican Maryland 1692-1792*. N.a: Donning Company Publishers, 1992.

Ranzetta, Kirk Edwards. "Sotterley" National Historic Landmark Nomination, 1999.

Upton, Dell. "Anglican Parish Churches in Eighteenth-Century Virginia." *Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture, II*. Camille Wells, ed. Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1986.

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10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property consists of two parcels as described among the land records of St. Mary's County in the following deeds. Parcel A: Liber JMM 8, Folio 3, dated March 23, 1932. Parcel B: Liber DBK 197, Folio 101, dated July 10, 1973.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property, 8.918 acres, comprises two adjoining parcels that represent the remnant of the property historically associated with the resource which retains integrity and encompasses all elements of the resource within an appropriate setting.