

PH0022836

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Maryland
COUNTY:	Harford
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	APR 16 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
St. Ignatius Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Same

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
533 East Jarrettsville Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Forest Hill

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
First

STATE: Maryland CODE: 24 COUNTY: Harford CODE: 025

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Lawrence Cardinal Shehan, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Baltimore, / Corporation Sole

STREET AND NUMBER:
Catholic Center, 320 Cathedral Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Baltimore

STATE:
Maryland

CODE:
24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Clerk of the Circuit Court, Harford County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
40 S. Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Bel Air

STATE:
Maryland

CODE:
24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

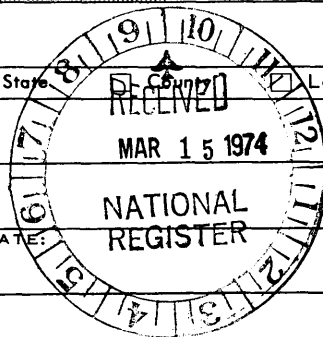
STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Harford

ENTRY NUMBER: APR 16 1974

DATE: APR 16 1974

FOR NPS USE ONLY



7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

 Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

 Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

 Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. Ignatius Church is a rubble stone, one story rectangular structure of five bays, with a tall tower at the west end and a rubble stone two story rectangular addition of four bays to the south. The three westerly bays, of approximately equal size, comprise the original 35' x 50' church of 1786-1792; the two easterly bays, each slightly longer than the three original bays, comprise the 34' addition of 1848. The tower was added externally at the west end in 1865. The two story wing to the south was added in 1822 as a Priest's residence, later gutted of interior partitions for use as a parish hall. A small frame sacristy was added to the south side of the east bay in 1887.

Arched windows retain their original frames with complete exterior architraves broken by wood impost blocks and keystones; the south windows, and a semi-circular window in the east gable, retain their original moulded sills, while the north windows, and two lower east windows, have concrete replacement sills. The remains of muntins, defining rectangular lights, 33 over 20, can be seen in the sash of all north and south windows, cut out in 1887 for stained glass. The three windows of the east end retain their original sash, intact. The thirteen lights of the semi-circular window in the gable suggests the original pattern in the heads of the side windows of the nave.

The stonework of the original central bay on the south side suggests that a door was filled in, and the pitch of the interior sill is slightly different. A door in this location is consistent with English church design in this period, but there is no known record of a door at this location,

No window exists in the south side of the west bay; a small, square headed door at the foot of the gallery stair (see below) opens into the south wing.

Above the double doors centered on the west end is a Palladian window under a simple stone relieving arch. Stucco covers rubble stone between this relieving arch and the frame structure of the Palladian motif. The tower hides this feature externally, but it may be seen from the second story of the tower. Sash of the side lights remain, but the center sash have been replaced by utilitarian doors of the late nineteenth century, providing access to the upper stories of the tower from the interior gallery.

The 1848 windows are nearly perfect copies of the originals, with very slight variations in the mouldings -- an unusual instance of an early conscious attempt to match original work.

The three windows of the east end were relocated there in 1848 from the "pentagonal sacristy" (probably an apse or apsidal shaped projection consisting of five sides of a regular octagon) which this addition replaced.

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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 Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St. Ignatius' Church in Harford County is one of the few known eighteenth century churches in Maryland and is the oldest extant church in the Archdiocese of Baltimore. The lack of eighteenth century Catholic churches in a colony founded by Roman Catholics indicates the strict nature of English anti-popery laws. Roman Catholics could not vote or hold office; mass was allowed but only if celebrated in private homes. However, after independence could Roman Catholics openly worship and erect churches. St. Ignatius' Church, constructed between 1786 and 1792, provides a reminder of the religious freedom won by the Revolution and guaranteed by the Constitution.

St. Ignatius is located on a two acre tract purchased by Charles Sewall, S. J. in 1779. Sylvester Boorman, S. J., supervised the construction of the building; his fellow Jesuits provided the first parish priests. The preponderance of Jesuits in the early history of St. Ignatius' exemplifies the major role the Society of Jesus played in the foundation of the Roman Catholic church in Maryland. The order, dedicated to missionary work, came to Southern Maryland with the first settlers. A century later (1743) Jesuits acquired property in Harford County and established the Mission of St. Joseph. They constructed a dwelling and reserved one room for a chapel for their use and for the community.

The Jesuit Mission of St. Joseph administered St. Ignatius' Church through the second decade of the nineteenth century. In 1813 the mission was unable to provide priests and for two years the parish had no clergy. Archbishop John Carroll provided a priest from the regular clergy of the Archdiocese of Baltimore for a year. Then the Jesuits resumed responsibility. In 1817 Archbishop Ambrose Maréchal assumed control of the church which has remained in the archdiocese to the present.

During the nineteenth century the parish grew as is evidenced by the expansion on to and around the original church. In 1822 the south wing was added for a residence.

The original sacristy was enlarged by thirty-five feet in 1848 replacing the first pentagonal structure. This proved insufficient by 1887 when a third sacristy was constructed on to the south facade at the eastern end. The final year of the Civil War saw the construction of the bell tower and installation of the bell. After a closure of two years the church reopened in 1969. This inaugurated a thorough renovation of the building (1969-1970) and a renewed interest in its history.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Joerndt, Clarence V. St. Ignatius, Hickory and Its Missions.
 Manuscript being prepared for publication.

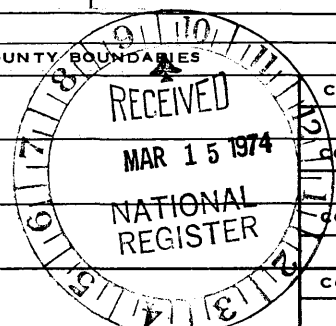
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		39° 34' 26"	76° 21' 18"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: two acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Clarence V. Joerndt, 316 E. Belcrest Rd., Bel Air, Maryland 21014 (See Continuation Sheet #3)

ORGANIZATION: Assisted by members of the Harford County Committee DATE: Sept. 14, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER: the Maryland Historical Trust, 2525 Riva Road,

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Orlando Ridout IV
Orlando Ridout IV

Title State Historic Preservation Officer for Maryland

Date March 12, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

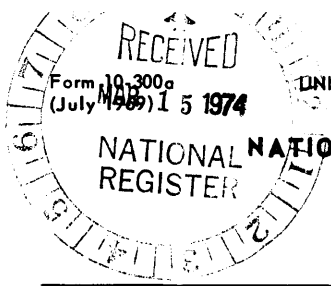
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

A. A. Montross
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 4/16/74

ATTEST:
George F. Emery
 Keeper of The National Register

Date April 11, 1974



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet) #1

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Harford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 16 1974

(Number all entries)

ST. IGNATIUS CHURCH

#7 Description (Continued)

The simple wood cornice, showing no evidence of the extension, is probably of 1848, or later.

The roof of the nave is now covered with slate, but under the roof of the 1822 south wing, original wood shingles survive in situ on the nave roof, of cypress or pine, round butted, fastened with wrought iron nails; the shingles clearly show about thirty years' weathering.

The double west doors, each with three partially raised panels, together form a typical six panel door design. They may be original, or may date from the 1848 extension; while they now swing outwardly, they originally swung inwardly, and wrought iron brackets remain in the door frame which once held a wooden security bar.

Above a wainscot to windowsill height, the walls and ceilings are plastered, the latter semi-elliptical in profile, with no cornice or other break at the spring line. The floor is of wood.

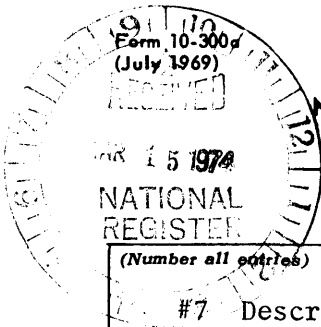
The wainscot of the original structure has a moulded baseboard and fully raised panels, while the wainscot in the 1848 extension has panels partially raised, and a slightly different cap moulding, another instance of later work consciously trying to be matched to original.

Windowsills are boldly pitched up to the exterior sills, and the windows themselves are set close to the exterior surface of the walls. The deep jambs are plastered, without trim.

A choir gallery occupies the west bay, supported by the west wall and four square columns, but not by the south and north walls, which are about 4 1/2' beyond the limits of the gallery. The square, fluted columns are of hand-planed material, with moulded caps and bases, probably original. The gallery floor structure is faced with a full cornice, including a crown moulding and dentils. The gallery was extended about 4' to the east to accomodate the present organ (see below), and the mouldings and railings were matched for this extension, which is supported on diagonal brackets from the four columns.

An open string stair rises from the southwest corner of the nave. The square newels of the stair, and of the gallery, appear as four square ballusters, spaced apart about by their own width, joined top and bottom and capped by the moulded rail, with curved easements, further supported by square ballusters. A half rail is applied to the opposite wall, reflecting the same pattern. Mortises in the top of the gallery rail suggest the former existence of a secondary rail above, perhaps as a musician's rail. A similar stair rail exists in a contemporary, carefully designed brick house about two miles distant.

(See Continuation Sheet #2)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)#2

STATE	Maryland	
COUNTY	Harford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		APR 16 1974

(Number all entries)

ST. IGNATIUS CHURCH

#7 Description (Continued)

The free-standing walnut cased organ is a tracker-action instrument of about 8 1/2 ranks, two manuels and pedals, made by Hook and Hastings of Boston and installed in 1884; it is one of the few surviving unaltered instruments of this type and age in America. The superb acoustics of the long rectangular structure with its arched plaster ceiling further enhances the excellent tonal quality of this instrument.

The ceiling plaster is applied on sawn lathe, but the blocking for the profile in the original section is fastened to the wood trusses by wrought iron nails, indicating that the profile is original, but the plaster was replaced at the time of the 1848 extension, or later.

A false east wall hides the three east windows from interior view. The wooden floor structure is a twentieth century replacement; the original floor was also of wood, above a crawl space.

The roof is supported by modified scissors trusses with king posts and a horizontal chord. Seven trusses of hewn oak, about 8' on center, are above the original section, but only two of similar design, in sawn pine, are above the 1848 extension. Purlins at the third points diagonal wind braces and common rafters complete the roof structure of the original portion, but wind braces were omitted in the 1848 extension. Two longitudinal steel trusses, spanning from the west gable to the east, on either side of the king post, were bolted together in place within the attic in 1970 to relieve the excessive stress imposed on the original trusses and bearing walls. The steel trusses were designed by structural engineer Carl L. Redd of Baltimore.

The pews date from the 1848 extension, and were, prior to 1911, arranged with two side aisles, a wide bank of pews in the center of the nave and a narrower bank of pews between each side aisle and the exterior wall. Now, the shorter pews from the sides have been joined to form pews of length equalling the original center pews, and they are arranged on either side of a center aisle, with narrow aisles against the exterior walls. A few benches survive which may be the original 1786-1792 pews.

Photographs are preserved of several stenciling schemes which have appeared on the interior walls, the first applied in 1887.

Sanctuary furnishings are mostly of the twentieth century, but portions of the more ornate late nineteenth century fittings survive in storage. In the sacristy is an interesting early nineteenth century vestment case, said also to have served as a sacristy altar and tabernacle. Also in the sacristy is an early safe, locked with a massive key.

(See Continuation Sheet#3)

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)#3

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Harford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 16 1974

(Number all entries)

ST. IGNATIUS CHURCH

#7 Description (Continued)

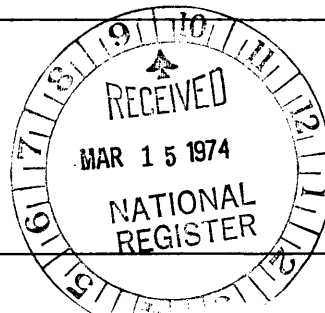
Four stories of the five story tower of 1865 are of brick, stuccoed, and originally painted in imitation of ashlar. The first three stories, at a point above the nave roof ridge, are finished with a wood cornice. Double doors open into the ground floor from each of the three exposed sides, and a six over six window on each exposed side lights each upper story. The fourth story, its walls slightly recessed from the lower walls, is decorated by wood pilasters at the corners, supporting a second, full cornice. A six over six window is in each side. In the fifth story, which is of frame construction, a short podium, recessed from the fourth story, supports four free-standing round Tuscan columns which, in turn, support a third cornice and a small domical roof covered with sheet copper. A cross is on top of the dome. The frame belfry walls, with arched panels of louvres on each side, is within the columns.

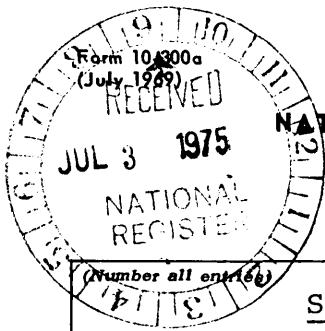
Heavy timber corner posts, girts and diagonal bracing built within the brick walls, visible inside, were undoubtedly included to absorb racking forces caused by the 1100 pound bell, made by Joshua Register of Baltimore, installed when the tower was completed. This bell, unusually large for a parish church, rings with a rich, deep tone, audible at least three miles away in the right weather conditions.

In the south wing, a door in both east and west sides of the bay next to the church opened into what was, originally, a stair hall; the stair is next to the church. All interior partitions were gutted late in the nineteenth century, and the addition was converted to a parish hall, its use today. A small, two story frame service addition at the south end replaced an earlier, one story frame addition in 1971. All windows of the south wing are six over six.

#11 Form Prepared By (Continued)

James T. Wollon, AIA
 Craig's Corner Road
 Havre de Grace
 Maryland 21078





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet) #1

STATE	Maryland	
COUNTY	Cecil	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	10	DATE
		OCT 10 1975

St. Francis Xavier Church and Rectory

7. DESCRIPTION, continued

side of the "A" roof and three on the opposite side, each with six over six sash. A large stuccoed chimney rises from each gable.

Beneath the "A" roof of the kitchen is the basement entrance and frame entry to the kitchen. The window and door frames appear to be of an earlier date, possibly reused from the former building when the present rectory was built in 1825. At one time the kitchen was two stories as shown in old pictures and because of the presence of a door window in the gable of the rectory. Likewise, the hyphen was also two stories which is outlined in stucco on the opposite gable of the rectory.

The interior of the church consists of a vestibule in the tower, and a nave and sanctuary in the main body of the church. Access to the balcony is gained from an open string stair in the vestibule. Between the vestibule and church is a double door with a fanlight, the same size and shape as the main entrance. The pew plan consists of four tiers of open benches with three aisles. In the two side tiers, about center is a section of brick floor and walls indicating the position of former heating stoves. The benches are painted white with natural wood trim. The floor is 3 inch wide yellow pine.

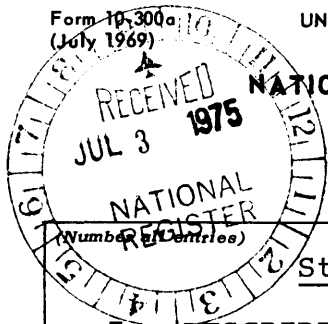
Turned posts flanking the center aisle support the balcony which occupies the rear bay of the structure. The balustrade of the balcony consists of narrow beaded boards typical of the early twentieth century. At window sill level is a molded chair rail which stops at the position of the former stoves. In the south corner, beneath the balcony, is a plain wooden confessional. Located one step higher than the nave, and separated by a bold balustrade, the sanctuary contains a large tiered altar with pedimented Ionic baldachin. At the level of the cornice of the baldachin, the dentil cornice continues around the base of the arched pressed tin ceiling. Iron tie rods were added for support prior to the fire of 1912 as shown in early pictures. The reconstructed interior of 1912 was not based upon either an academic study of its original appearance or its appearance prior to the fire. From old photos in the collection of the historical society, the church apparently was remodeled late in the nineteenth century. The architect for the reconstruction is not known.

The sacristy is a small square room with ceiling following the roof line. It has plaster walls, wood floors, and is lighted by a window on each side. Access to the church, outside and the rectory is gained through paneled doors. In the

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet) #2

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Cecil	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	OCT 10 1975



St. Francis Xavier Church and Rectory

7. DESCRIPTION, continued

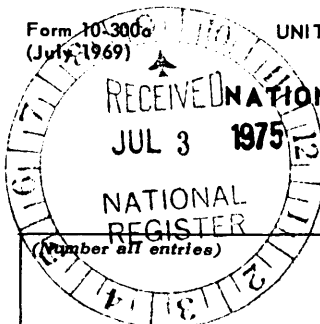
room is the furnace for the church and an oak vestment case. The floor plan of the rectory consists of a central stair hall with a large room on the northwest and a room and hall on the southwest. Northwest of the larger room is a kitchen.

The northwest room has a fireplace with a period mantel. On the north side is a door to the kitchen and a cabinet. On the other side are two cabinets, the one closest the fireplace being recessed from the face of the chimney. Both sides of the fireplace were alike originally, but access to the kitchen eliminated one of the cabinets. Both cabinets in the corner have doors with an earlier molding and the raised paneling typical of the eighteenth century. The remainder of the woodwork has raised panels with beaded trim typical of the early nineteenth century. The doors are hung on "H" hinges except the recessed cabinet mentioned previously, which is hung on butt hinges. In the center of the ceiling is a nineteenth century plaster medallion in the Gothic style. The original window trim consists of a beaded board and ovolo molded backband. The walls of the first floor have been furred out some time prior to 1953. A wide beaded baseboard separated the plaster wall from the wide yellow pine floor.

Brick interior partition walls separate the stair hall from the flanking rooms. The door jambs have recessed panels with beaded trim. The open string stair has two balusters per step and a simple double carved step end. There is a large nearly-round walnut handrail. The triangular area beneath the stair has diagonal beaded boards. Both front and back doors have three-pane transoms and recessed panel doors. The door beneath the stair has a four panel door of eighteenth century design hanging on "L" hinges. From the closet access at one time was opened to the east room. Over 90 percent of the fabric of the rectory is original to its construction in 1825.

The second floor plan is the same as the first, although there were originally two rooms above the northwest room. Fireplaces exist in the two northerly rooms. The treatment is plainer than the first floor, and the ceilings are lower. A partition has been added across the southwest end of the third floor which has three plastered rooms lighted by the dormers mentioned earlier. The floor boards on the third floor vary in width from 12 inches to 20 inches and appear to be white pine. According to Jesuit records the timber used in the church and rectory was cut from the woodland on the plantation and fabricated in the water powered saw mill.

STATE	
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COUNTY	
Cecil	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	OCT 10 1975



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet) #3

St. Francis Xavier Church and Rectory

7. DESCRIPTION, continued

The building is well maintained by the Historical Society.

Located northwest of the rectory are two barns and machinery sheds housing a display of early hand tools and farm equipment. A twentieth century house is located west of the rectory. The Historical Society has reacquired the farm (which was sold in 1931) bounded by two branches of the Little Bohemia River and the country road.

8. SIGNIFICANCE, continued

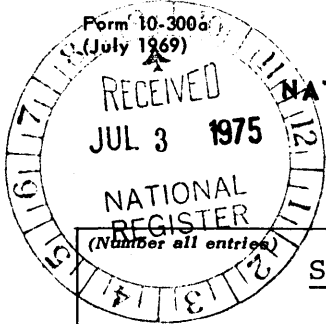
remaining from the eighteenth century. (The academy was demolished and its bricks used in the 1825 rectory). Some of the woodwork and cabinets of this earlier building were also moved into the 1825 rectory. Drawings made by Pope and Kruse in 1956 as a result of their research and exploratory work show the foundations of the original house-chapel-academy building. Its presence provides a reminder that the Jesuits served as parish priests in addition to being missionaries and educators. The church drew worshipers from the northern Eastern Shore, including Kitty Knight who defied the British when they threatened to burn her home during the War of 1812.

Many of the Jesuits associated with Old Bohemia stimulated the growth of the Roman Catholic Church. Joseph Greaton founded Old St. Joseph's Church in Philadelphia (1733). John Lewis became vicar general of the Roman Catholic missions in the English colonies after his tenure at Old Bohemia (1753-1764).

Mathias Manners established the first Catholic church in Delaware (1772). Charles Whelan was instrumental in the founding of Old St. Peter's Church in New York City. The cemetery at Old Bohemia contains the graves of all of these men. Other notable personages associated with Bohemia were:

Joseph Mosley, S. J., Superior at Bohemia 1764-65. He established the following missions farther down the Eastern Shore: St. Joseph's at Cordova, St. Peter's at Queenstown and St. Mary's at Meekin's Neck (Dorchester County).

Robert Molyneux, S. J., Superior at Bohemia 1788-1790 and later fifth president of Georgetown College. Ambrose Marechal, S. S., Superior at Bohemia 1793-1799. He completed the present church which had been started in 1792, member of St. Mary's Seminary Staff in Baltimore and became the third Archbishop of Baltimore 1817-1827.



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet) #4

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Cecil	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	107 1 8 1975

St. Francis Xavier Church and Rectory

James Rumsey, inventor of a steamboat that was demonstrated in 1786 on the Potomac River in the presence of George Washington, was born just across the fields from Old Bohemia.

Kitty Knight defied the British when they threatened to burn her home in nearby Georgetown on the Sassafras River during the War of 1812. A member of the Old Bohemia congregation, she lies buried at the south side of the church. A great wit and admirer of Ambrose Marechal, she once said that she would not attend church unless he returned as rector at Bohemia.

In 1953 the Old Bohemia Historical Society, Inc. was formed to restore and maintain the historic site. During the archaeological explorations in 1956 under the direction of Pope and Kruse of Wilmington, several foundations were unearthed northwest of the rectory and in front of this building. From artifacts found during the dig, the foundations in front of the present rectory are apparently the remains of the original house-chapel-academy building.

The site is open to the public every Sunday during the summer months and by appointment at other times. Mass is celebrated in the church from June through September on the third Sunday of the month at 4 p.m. Weddings and funerals are also conducted in the church.

The following is quoted from the United States Department of the Interior, August 24, 1974:

It is a pleasure to send you the enclosed certificate indicating that the St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church (Old Bohemia) in Warwick Vicinity, Maryland, has been recorded by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS), a historic preservation program of the National Park Service.

A record of the appearance and condition of the buildings as of 1963 has been deposited in the Library of Congress, where it will be preserved for permanent reference.

11. FORM PREPARED BY, continued

Michael Bourne, Survey and Inventory Coordinator
Maryland Historical Trust
2525 Riva Road
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
September to December, 1973