

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Maryland
COUNTY:	Baltimore City
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	MAR 27 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:
St. John's Church, Huntingdon

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
3009 Greenmount Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Baltimore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Seventh

STATE: Maryland CODE: 24 COUNTY: Baltimore City CODE: 510

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input 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 <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <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) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
The Vestry of St. John's, P. E. Church, Huntingdon

STREET AND NUMBER:
3009 Greenmount Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Baltimore

STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Hall of Records

STREET AND NUMBER:
St. John's College Campus

CITY OR TOWN:
Annapolis

STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

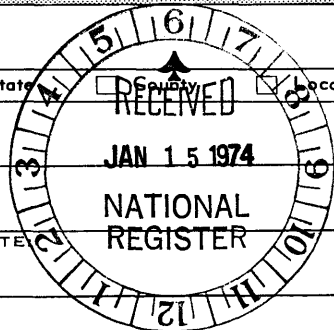
DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State Dependent Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Maryland	ENTRY NUMBER: MAR 27 1974	DATE:
COUNTY: Baltimore City		

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One):			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

"St. John's was the first in a series of American churches inspired by the plans of St. Michael's, Long Stanton, (England) and St. James the Less (Philadelphia)." (1) Erected in 1847, this church was representative of the Ecclesiological movement in church architecture, for "in the 1840's mature Gothic revivalism appeared in American architecture largely because the Cambridge Camden Society (later the Ecclesiological Society), an English and eminently Anglican group, had resolved to do what it could to influence the design of churches outside the British Isles." (2) Bishop William R. Whittingham of Maryland became an early member and patron of the society and through his influence St. John's was built in the Gothic style recommended for American country churches and exemplified by the above mentioned models. No architect can be assigned; however, parish records name Abraham Bucher as "in charge of building the church."

The appearance of St. John's as it was built in 1847 will never be known, for it was burned in 1858 and rebuilt on the remains of the original walls and foundations. The characteristic arrangement of chimney and south porch have survived. The tower was added in 1849 according to plans suggested by Frank Wills. The transepts and chancel were later additions (1878).

The present structure is of stone with granite and wood trim and Early English in style. The nave consists of four bays each with lancet window and stone buttresses. On the south is the porch and chimney already mentioned. The south transept also contains a double door with stained glass lights and transom, flanked by lancet windows. Above this door is a large cinquefoil window. The north transept is similar, although there has been a shallow addition along the north side of the nave which does not interfere with the integrity of the whole.

The chancel and choir are on the east as dictated by tradition. Above the altar is a tripartite window with the figure of Christ flanked by St. Matthew and St. Luke.

The bell tower on the northwest corner contains an arched doorway surmounted by double lancet windows with a large pointed louvered aperture above, which is repeated on all four sides. The spire is of the broach type, broken at intervals by small triangular windows. The remainder of the west facade contains a large pointed stained glass window.

Inside, the walls are finished in plaster with exposed ceiling ribs. The carved pews and richly carved reredow are stained oak. Several of the original stained glass windows have survived.

¹ Phoebe B. Stanton, The Gothic Revival and American Church Architecture, (Baltimore, 1968) p. 274.

² Ibid., p.3.

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) 1847 and 1868

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" 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/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church of Huntingdon, situated at the corner of York Road and Old York Road in Waverly was founded in 1843. The name Huntingdon derives from the early community laid out on land originally granted to Tobias Starnboro in 1688 and known as "Huntingdon." This name was changed to Waverly in 1881 as a result of its rapid growth in the 19th century and the establishment of a post office there.

The first regular services were held in a stone building located thirty yards southwest of the present church and known as The Barracks, a powder magazine and post for Federal troops. The Reverend W. A. Hewitt was sent to the village by Bishop William R. Whittingham at the request of Thomas A. Hart who wished to have some of his grandchildren baptized. As a result, a vestry was incorporated on July 10, 1844, and in the succeeding August, The Barracks property was purchased by the Charles C. Gibson family from the federal government for \$12,000 and presented to the congregation. In 1845, Mr. Hewitt became the rector and on April 22, 1847, the cornerstone of the church was laid.

In January, 1849, Doctor W. T. Wilson purchased a lot adjoining the churchyard on the south and erected a parish school building at his own expense. This school was well attended until the public school system became popular and it was finally closed in 1902. The building is still standing and in use for offices and a parish hall.

On May 15, 1858, the church was set on fire by an arsonist who first burglarized it. It was virtually destroyed. A new structure was begun almost immediately, using the remains of the foundations and walls. This church building was consecrated in 1860 and is the present church. A rectory was built to the north in 1868 and an orphanage for boys was established in 1885. (The latter was closed in 1912 and has been demolished). The cemetery which was begun in the 1850's, completes the complex - a charming bit of Victoriana surviving amidst the hustle of commerce and traffic which is the Waverly of today.

Prominent among the parishoners of St. John's were Jacob Aull, a builder, who constructed many of the fine homes in the original Huntingdon community. Mr. Aull published a book, Baltimore Landmarks, in 1843 in which were pictured many of the nearby structures, including The Barracks.

(see continuation sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

J. Thomas Scharf. History of Baltimore City and Baltimore County. Louis H. Evarts. (Philadelphia, 1881), p.888.

Phoebe B. Stanton. The Gothic Revival and American Church Architecture. The Johns Hopkins Press. (Baltimore, 1968), pp.3, 274.

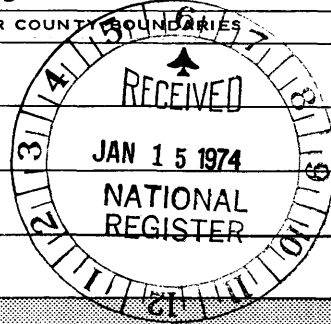
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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
NW	° ' "	° ' "		39°	19'	31"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		76°	36'	33"
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: five 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: Catharine F. Black mh

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust DATE: May 11, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER: 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 Preservation Officer for Maryland

Date July 2, 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

[Signature]
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 2/27/74

ATTEST:
[Signature]
acting Keeper of The National Register

Date 2-27-74

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Baltimore City	
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	MAR 27 1974

(Number all entries)

St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church

No. 8. Significance continued.

Samuel Wyman, a wealthy merchant and philanthropist, was responsible for many of the improvements to the church and gave an anonymous gift of nearly one half of the cost of rebuilding following the fire. Charles H. Dickey, another member of the parish, was President of the Consolidated Gas Company of Baltimore, and Talbot Denmead, President of the Maryland State Game and Fish Protective Association, donated land beyond the city limits for the establishment of a mission, St. Michael's Chapel. Perhaps the most beloved and best known of the many prominent parishoners was a woman, Lizette Woodworth Reese, a teacher and writer who immortalized St. John's in two of her books, A Victorian Village and The York Road. She taught at the parish school from 1873 to 1875 and following a long career as a teacher in the Eastern High School, was buried in St. John's Cemetery.

