Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

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ш ш UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

STATE:
Maryland
COUNTY:
Howard
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

				ENTRY DATE		
(Type all entries	s - complete app	licable sectio	ns)		AY 6 1	974
NAME						
COMMON:						
Trinity Church						
AND/OR HISTORIC:						
LOCATION STREET AND NUMBER:						
7474 Washington	n Boulevard	l				
CITY OR TOWN:			CONGRESSI	DNAL DISTRICT:		
Elkridge			Sixth			
STATE		CODE	COUNTY:			CODE
Maryland		24	Howar	d		027
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CATEGORY		OWNERSHIP		STATUS		ESSIBLE
(Check One)		· ·				E PUBLIC
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Site Structure	X Private	☐ In Pro		Unoccupied	, —	estricted
☐ Object	☐ Both	Being	Considered	Preservation w	ork No	
				in progress		
PRESENT USE (Check One or M	More as Appropriate)					
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7.	DESCRIPTION	<b>,</b>							
					(Check	One)			
	CONDITION	☐ Excellent	<b>⊠</b> Good	☐ Fair	Deteri	orated	Ruins	Unexposed	
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	DESCRIBE THE PE	X Alter		Unaltered			☐ Moved	XX Original Site	

Trinity Church is a rectangular frame church of three bays with shingled walls and on the east end, a semi-octagonal apse of stone to window sill height, and half-timbering above, the roof of which forms an octagonal pyramid or low spire. An entrance porch is on the north side of the west bay, which is somewhat longer than the other bays, and a shingled rectangular sacristy extends south from the east bay. A tall, thin shingled bell tower of six sides (not a regular hexagon, but rather, part of an octagon with elongated north and south sides) rises from the east corner of the sacristy-nave intersection. In its present form, the result of additions in c. 1890, Trinity Church belongs to the "Shingle \$tyle".

When originally constructed, Trinity Church was a rectangular structure, externally finished with horizontal weatherboards. Prior to the additions of 1890, the entrance was centered in the east end, toward the road, and was sheltered by a small hood supported on curved brackets. A window, with a semi-eliptically arched head and diamond leaded glass, and a label lintel, was high in the east wall above the door. The weatherboard bell tower stood in its present location as the principal exterior ornamental feature.

A pre-1890 photograph indicates nave windows in their present locations, and of their present widths; foliage obscures the shape of their heads, however.

Shingles are uniform in width, with butts semi-octagonal in shape, all stained a dark brown color, and, except for those on the sacristy, they appear original. On the north side — the principal approach and entrance side — and on the porch, the stone foundation extends to window sill height, its face forward of the wall above, and the lower five courses of shingles are splayed out over it in a bold curve. As this detail does not exist on the west and south sides (the shingles extend to the ground) the stone may be a veneer added over the original frame walls with the stylish additions of c. 1890.

Nave windows, three on each side, have semi-eliptically arched heads. A secondary entrance to the nave is through the west end near the south corner, sheltered by a simple bracketed hood.

The nave roof, with moderate pitch and overhang, is covered with standing seam tin.

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) #1

STATE Maryland	
county Howard	
FOR NPS USE ON	LY
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
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NATIONAL REGISTER

TRINITY CHURCH

#7 Description (Continued)

The stone foundation of the apsidal chancel is higher than that of the nave. A round headed window is in each of the three east sides. The chancel roof or low spire is covered with flat seam tin, and is topped with a decorative metal cross.

The walls of the entrance porch are similar to the north wall of the nave with stone foundation and splayed lower courses of shingles. The gabled roof extends forward, its decorative plate supported by a pair of turned columns flanking the double doors; the columns stand on stone podia capped by a rock-faced granite slab. The tympanum of the gable is ornamented with applied stick tracery. The porch roof is of square butted wood shingles. The pair of wood paneled square headed doors have decorative iron hinges and escutcheons. In the east and west wall is a small window, with a semi-eliptical arched head. Another pair of doors, with leaded glass, separate the porch from the nave.

The sacristy, which the foundation stonework suggests was lengthened a few feet to the south, is similarly constructed with semi-octagonal butted shingle walls, boldly splayed over a high stone foundation.

The bell tower has a tall rectangular panel of wood louvres in each face. An entrance in its own very small projection, or porch, is at the intersection of the bell tower and the apse.

On the south side of the nave, a broad, brick chimney rises with decorative triangular pilasters toward the top, corbeled cap courses, brick piers and stone cap. A hatch access to the basement is beside the chimney.

Interior walls and ceiling are plastered, their intersection rounded in a broad, unornamented plaster cove. The nave floor is of dark resilient tile over concrete. All windows are filled with nineteenth century leaded glass, each slightly different, but all of the same period and style: bright colored borders surrounding subdued fields of frosted and etched decorative glass in Christian symbolic patterns. In the center west window is a symbolic explanation of the Trinity.

A complete set of single and double wall sconces, containing (electrified) kerosene lamps with globe shades, surrounds the nave, and they are the only source of artificial light.

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

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

Maryland	
COUNTY Howard	
FOR NPS USE ONL	Υ
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TRINITY CHURCH

#7 Description (Continued)

Walnut pews of very simple design date from the mid-twentieth century. The chancel is separated from the nave by a wide opening to the nave ceiling height, decorated with a wooded, roundarched beam, suggesting a medieval roof arch, but extending to a point tangent with the flat head. A round wood tracery circle fills each spandrel.

The chancel, several steps higher than the nave, has an oak floor, decorative oak wainscotting to window sill height with a mounded oak cap, and plaster walls and ceiling, the latter several feet higher than the nave ceiling. Simple wood brackets extend from the walls at each corner of the apse to support the ceiling. Access to the nave attic is through a small door over the chancel arch, facing the chancel. The chancel windows are of a slightly different character from the nave windows, and consist of intricate geometric patterns and Christian symbols, and contain many inserts of faceted glass in bright colors. Furnishings approximately contemporary with the structure include a walnut table altar consisting of Gothic columns and arches, a walnut communion rail with walnut columns and ornamental brass brackets, a walnut lectern, an ornamental brass pulpit on a walnut base, a walnut bishop's chair, two walnut prayer desks and a marble font, which stands at the west end near the church entrance in the medieval tradition. The pipe organ of 1936 was made by M. P. Moller of Hagerstown, Maryland, and is a pneumatic action type with the console in the northeast corner of the nave and the pipes next to the nave within the sacristy wing.



PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	X 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicat	ole and Known) $1856-18$	857, 1890	
REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropr	iate)	
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	

Trinity Church was built in 1856-57 as a chapel-of-ease in Queen Caroline Parish, the mother church of which was, and still is, Christ Church, Guilford, near Columbia, Maryland. When originally built, Trinity was a very simple rectangular frame chapel finished externally with horizontal weatherboarding; its entrance was in the east end, toward the road.

This structure's chief architectural significance is that it was first built as a very simple building, but received several unique, distinctive and ingenious additions which deliberately and successfully created a picturesque effect.

In 1890, the orientation of the building was reversed with the addition of a half-timbered apse at the east end and a porch at the west, thus creating an orientation in the medieval tradition, with the altar in the east end. The shingles and additional stonework were added to the walls, thus placing Trinity Church in the "Shingle Style" of the nineteenth century. Its significance is increased by its setting; the church stands in a grove of mature trees on some six acres of land, within an industrial corridor of long standing and little beauty. The church is far enough from the highway, to seem isolated from it, but near enough to it to seem a part of it, and to be an influence on all who travel this route U.S. 1, between Baltimore and Washington.

The area probably will remain commercial and industrial, but the land immediately surrounding the church, and owned by it, is sufficient to preserve the immediate setting, which speaks of antiquity and tranquility, a stable element in a rapidly changing world.



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