

PH0026174

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STATE: Maryland	
COUNTY: Prince George's	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
APR 10 1972	

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
St. Matthew's Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Addison Parish, Addison Chapel, Piscataway Parish, Broad Creek Parish

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Addison Road and Sixty-second Place

CITY OR TOWN:
Seat Pleasant

STATE Maryland	CODE 24	COUNTY: Prince George's	CODE 033
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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"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> Components
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:
Vestry of Addison Parish, Diocese of Washington, Inc.

STREET AND NUMBER:
Addison Road and Sixty-second Place

CITY OR TOWN:
Seat Pleasant

STATE: Maryland	CODE 24
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Prince George's County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:
14735 Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Upper Marlboro

STATE: Maryland	CODE 24
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Maryland Register of historic sites and landmarks

DATE OF SURVEY: 1970 Federal State County Local

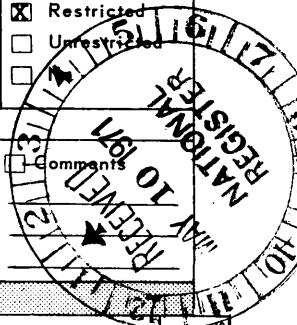
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER:
94 College Avenue (Post Office Box 1704)

CITY OR TOWN:
Annapolis

STATE: Maryland	CODE 24
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Prince George's

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DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" 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. Matthew's Church is located southeast of the intersection of Addison Road and Sixty-second Place, Seat Pleasant, Maryland.

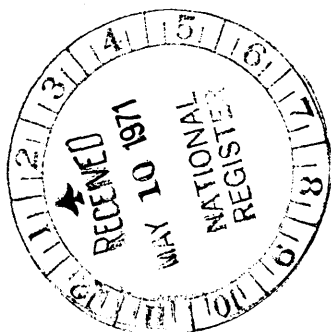
This small rectangular building, approximately 28 X 40 feet (excluding recent lean-to addition on the north side), is built of brick lain in Flemish bond with occasional glazed headers on a stone foundation and a three course brick water table. The church is two bays by four bays; the south side has four windows with splayed brick lintels (flat arches), whereas two of the opposite north windows have been obscured by the new addition. The south side windows, however, have segmental brick arches as do the two entrance doors on the east side. The two windows on the west entrance behind the altar have been bricked up. All glazed windows have recent iron grates. The gable roof, running east/west has been sharply pitched. The older pitch is visible on the brick work and a decorative tie-beam has been added onto the eave. There is a circular vent over the entrance door; a similar circular vent over the west end contains stained glass.

St. Matthew's is situated in a large graveyard containing some early stones, the most notable being that of Benjamin Stoddert.

St. Matthew's is an example of a plain style Anglican Church of the early period; the simple rectangular plan sharing the meeting-house tradition with other Protestant denominations and reflective of early Church of England structures in this country. Similar church edifices are seen at St. George's, Valley Lee, St. Mary's County; and at Durham Church, near Ironsides, Charles County. This plain style was followed by churches of the very elaborate and fashionable Gothic Revival style about a century later. St. Matthew's has had its structure somewhat altered.

DR (SL6)
1 (1902)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

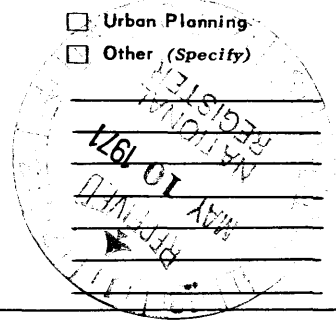
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1809-1816

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/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 | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The history of St. Matthew's Church encompasses Benjamin Stoddert, the first Secretary of the United States Navy who lies buried in the cemetery, and Thomas Claggett (Claget), the first Protestant Episcopal Bishop of Maryland. The names associated with the church -- Pinkney, Dulany, Addison, Lowndes and Calvert -- make up a roster of Maryland's most important families. An eighteenth-century rector, Walter Dulaney Addison, was humane and ahead of the times when he freed his slaves gradually in order to absorb them into the community without distressing his neighbors.

In 1812 St. Matthew's Church, then called Addison Chapel, served as temporary headquarters for the British Army during the advance on Bladensburg, Maryland. William Pinkney's (1810-1833) innovative programs for Maryland slaves and emancipation, and inter-church cooperation, made him famous throughout the state.

The grave yard of St. Matthew's Church is the final resting place of Benjamin Stoddert, (1751-1813) the first Secretary of the United States Navy. Stoddert, born in Charles County, Maryland, was the only son of James Stoddert, the grandson of James Stoddert, the latter a Scottish immigrant (1650) who was an associate of Colonel John Addison, the donor of the land on which St. Matthew's was built. Benjamin Stoddert (1751-1813), who had been brought up to be a merchant, turned from this pursuit in 1777 and joined a Continental Regiment of Cavalry.

Major Benjamin Stoddert's distinguished service terminated after he was wounded at Brandywine. In 1783 he and his family set up a residence in Georgetown, D. C., where he returned to mercantile pursuits. Stoddert married Rebecca Lowndes, of Prince George's County, whose family had a long association with St. Matthew's Church.

On May 21, 1798, President John Adams appointed Benjamin Stoddert the first Secretary of the Navy. The next year Stoddert served as one of the pallbearers for George Washington whose funeral services were conducted by the Reverend Walter

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Recorders: Michael Bourne, Field Surveyor, Maryland Historical Trust, June 1968.

William Morgan, Field Surveyor, Maryland Historical Trust, June 1969.

Nancy Miller, Historian, Maryland Historical Trust, November 1969.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

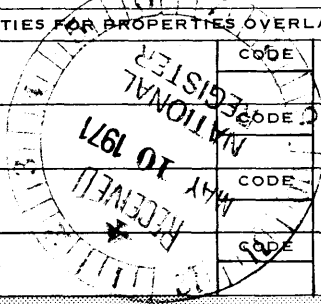
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	
NW	Degrees Minutes Seconds 38° 53' 59"	Degrees Minutes Seconds 76° 54' 41"		Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "	Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "	
NE	38° 53' 59"	76° 54' 31"				
SE	38° 53' 51"	76° 54' 31"				
SW	38° 53' 51"	76° 54' 41"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 16 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mrs. Preston Parish, Keeper of the Maryland Register

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust DATE: March 18, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:
94 College Avenue (Post Office Box 1704)

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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
Title: State Liaison Officer for Maryland
Date: March 27 1971

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

Robert W. Utsey
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
Date: 4/10/72

ATTEST:
William J. Mantel
Keeper of The National Register
Date: APR 10 1972

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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St. Matthew's Church

#8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

Dulany Addison, a rector for St. Matthew's.

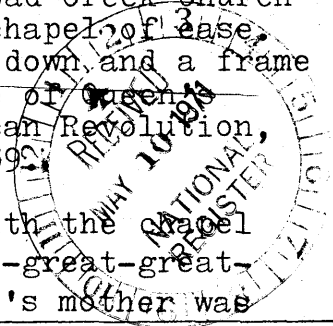
June 1, 1800, President Adams appointed Benjamin Stoddert Secretary of War, a position he held until March 1801, as well as serving as Secretary of the Navy.

The next year Rebecca Lowndes Stoddert died and was buried in St. Matthew's Church graveyard (then Addison Chapel). A decade later the body of Benjamin Stoddert was interred in the chapel graveyard. The grave is marked with the plaque of the Daughters of the American Revolution which reads "In memory of the first Secretary of the Navy by the Army and Navy Chapter, DAR."

The history of St. Matthew's (also called Addison Chapel) began in 1696 when local residents through private subscriptions erected a log church on land near the site of the present (1969) church. Beginning in 1744, it served as a chapel of ease for Broad Creek Church. The church was founded in 1692 upstream and east of the Potomac River from Mount Vernon at Oxon Hill. George Washington worshiped there. The land on which the log chapel was erected was donated by Colonel John Addison of Oxon Hill who immigrated to America from England in 1667. Addison's name was used for the first name of the church as well as the present name of the parish. Colonel Addison was on the Council of Maryland (1692-1693); was the Chancellor and Keeper of the Great Seal (1696-1699); a Colonel in the Charles County Militia (commissioned August 17, 1694) and in the Prince George's County Militia (commissioned August 17, 1695); as well as being the uncle of Joseph Addison of the seventeenth-century English newspaper, The Spectator.

The close association of the Addison family with St. Matthew's continued when Henry Addison (1717-1789), a descendant of Colonel John Addison, became the rector of Broad Creek Church as well as St. Matthew's Church (Addison Chapel) chapel of ease. In 1760 Henry Addison had the log structure torn down and a frame church erected in its place. Addison, a graduate of Queen's College, Oxford, and a Loyalist during the American Revolution, remained rector of both churches from 1751 to 1789.

The next Addison to be closely associated with the chapel was Walter Dulaney Addison (1769-1848), the great-great-great-grandson of Colonel John Addison. Walter Addison's mother was



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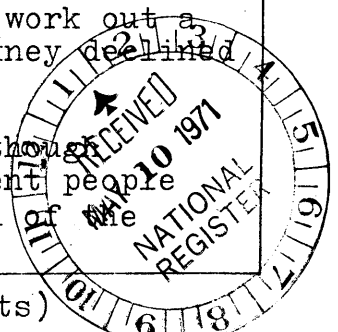
St. Matthew's Church

#8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

Rebecca Dulaney, daughter of Walter Dulaney of Annapolis. Born in Annapolis and educated in England, Walter Addison gave his extensive land holdings to his family when he became a priest. Walter Addison was ordained in 1793 by Bishop Thomas Claggett. He freed his slaves in a gradual manner so as not to adversely affect other slave owners. In 1799, two years before beginning his ministry at St. Matthew's, he officiated at the funeral of George Washington. Under the Reverend Addison's guidance the 1760 frame church, erected by Henry Addison, was replaced with a brick structure completed in 1816. As early as 1809 the inadequacies of the frame church were evident and construction of a new building was instigated. Bishop Thomas John Claggett (1743-1816), the first Protestant Episcopal Bishop of Maryland and the first Protestant Episcopal Bishop to be ordained in the United States, visited the chapel on August 13, 1809, and found it in 'ruinous condition'. Bishop Claggett recorded this in his Notitiae May 24, 1809, to June 13, 1810, Appendix to Maryland Diocesan Journal of 1810. The Bishop also wrote in his Notitiae that he had 'preached to a large congregation, and extorted the people to carry into effect the good design which they had long contemplated of building a new church; this design hath since been put into operation, and is progressing; the walls of a new brick building have been erected, and a roof has been placed over them.'

Another prominent Episcopal priest associated with St. Matthew's was William Pinkney (1810-1883), the fifth Bishop of Maryland (1879). A convert from Methodism, and a graduate of St. John's College, Annapolis, and of Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, New Jersey, Pinkney was ordained in 1835. The next year he came to St. Matthew's Parish (the eighteenth-century name of the parish) which, in 1836, embraced St. Matthew's Church, formerly Addison Chapel, and St. Mark's, the latter four miles north of Bladensburg. While in Prince George's County, Pinkney had St. Matthew's Church repaired and supervised the construction of three additional chapels within his parish. He also founded 'Association' services with nearby Episcopal churches which marked a beginning of inter-church cooperation. In 1855 Pinkney, admired throughout the county, was asked to work out a program for missionary work to Maryland slaves. Pinkney declined the offer and the project died.

The records of St. Matthew's, Seat Pleasant, although erratic, indicate that the church enticed the prominent people of Prince George's County to attend. The association



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St. Matthew's Church

#8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

Addison family helped. Names such as Lowndes and Calvert can be found among the communicants as well as that of Christopher Clark Hyatt, founder of Hyattsville, Maryland, and 'Joshua - a colored man.'

In 1969 the Maryland Historical Trust received a request to become custodian of a trust fund, for which the Trust accepted responsibility, from the Vestry of Addison Parish for the perpetual care of the interior and exterior of the St. Matthew's Church and the cemetery. In 1970 the Vestry gave the Trust an historic easement on the church and five acres of adjacent land for the perpetual preservation of the historical and architectural character of the structure and of its immediate environment.

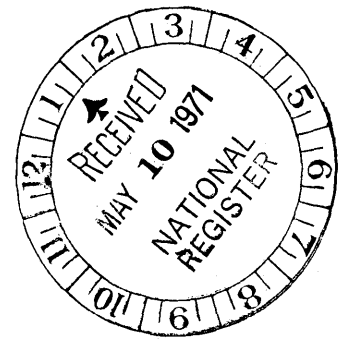
#9. REFERENCES continued

Bowie, Effie Gwynn. Across the Years in Prince George's County. Richmond: Garrett and Massie, 1947.

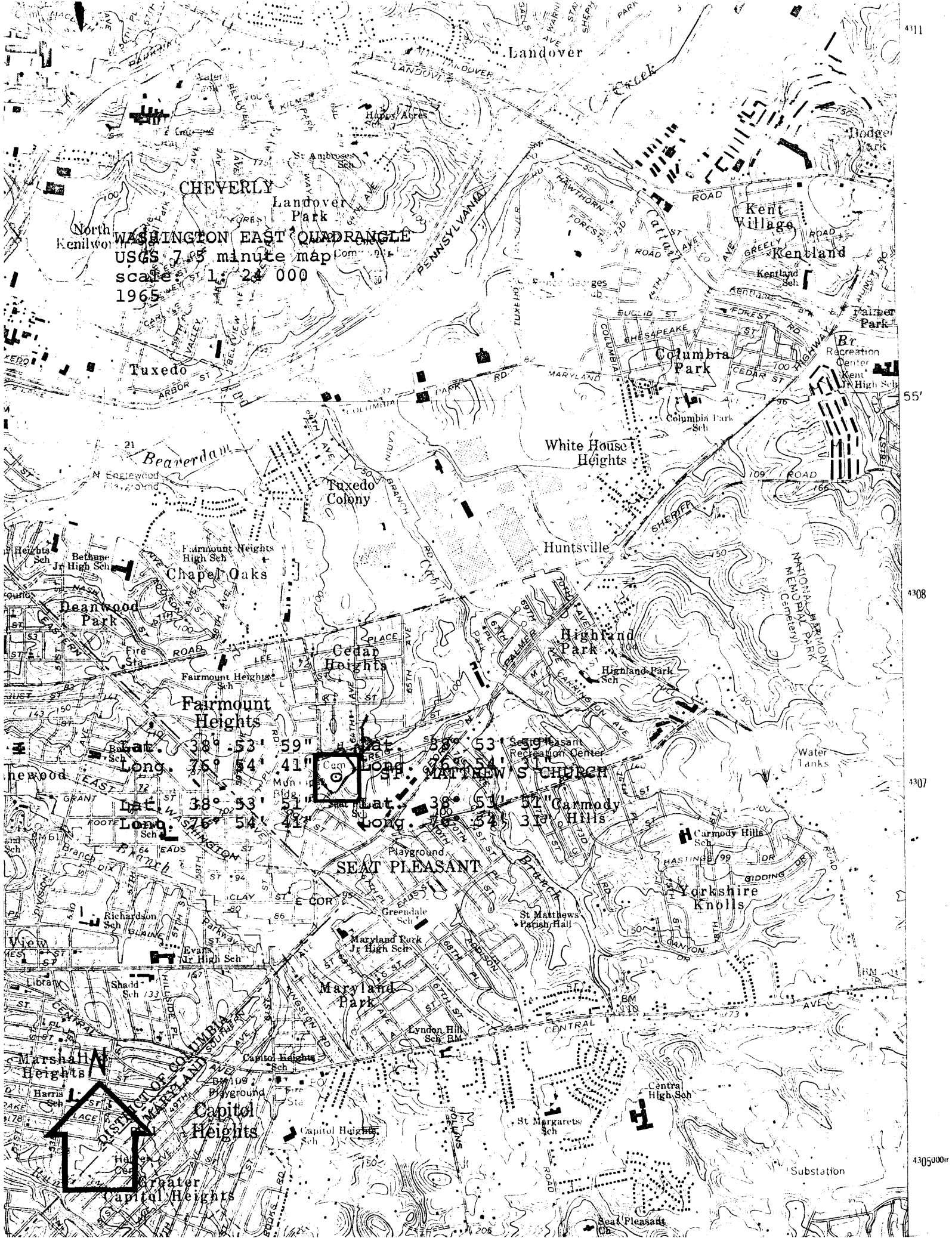
Claggett, Rt. Rev. Thomas. Notitiae May 24, 1809 - June 13, 1810. Appendix to Maryland Diocesan Journal of 1810. (Office of Diocese of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland.)

Committee on the History of the Diocese [of Washington, D. C.]. Historical Sketches of the Parishes and Missions in the Diocese of Washington. Washington, D. C.: Diocese of Washington, 1928.

Hotchkiss, Betty and Neil Hotchkiss. "St. Matthew's Parish, Prince George's County, Maryland, 1811-1916." pamphlet, Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, Maryland. [1961]



WASHINGTON EAST QUADRANGLE
USGS 7.5 minute map
scale: 1:24,000
1965



411

55'

4308

4307

4305000r