

PH010 4507

# DATA SHEET

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:	Wicomico
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE:	JUN 5 1975

### 1. NAME

COMMON:  
Green Hill Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church (Old Green Hill Church)

### 2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Green Hill Church Road

CITY OR TOWN:  
Quantico

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
First

STATE: Maryland      CODE: 24      COUNTY: Wicomico      CODE: 045

### 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 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) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

### 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
Vestry of Stepney Parish, Green Hill Church

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Green Hill Church Road

CITY OR TOWN:  
Quantico

STATE:  
Maryland

CODE:  
24

### 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Wicomico County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Salisbury

CITY OR TOWN:  
Salisbury

STATE:  
Maryland

CODE:  
24

### 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:       Federal       State       County       Local

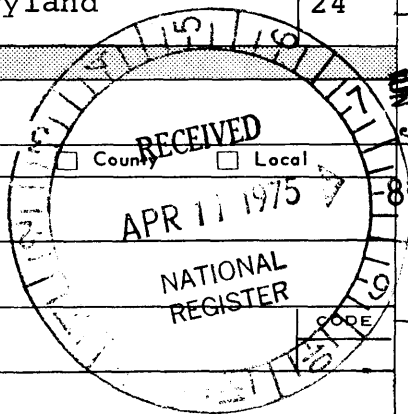
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE:	Maryland
COUNTY:	Wicomico
ENTRY NUMBER:	
DATE:	

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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 type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Green Hill Church is situated on the north bank of the Wicomico River approximately one mile southeast of Green Hill on Green Hill Church Road. This one-story church is two bays wide and four deep and has a steep gable roof with wood shingles. The church is brick laid in Flemish bond and rests on a brick foundation. The top course of the step watertable is all stretchers. The east end has two twelve over twelve sash windows, one in each bay, with four-panel shutters. Surmounting the windows are brick segmental arches. Between the first and second story levels is a three-course belt laid in Flemish bond with glazed headers. Above the second story level is a two-course belt formed of stretchers. Immediately below this belt is the year 1733 formed in the brickwork with glazed headers.

The north side has a twelve over twelve sash window in each of the four bays. These also are surmounted by segmental arches. The Flemish bond brick wall has random glazed headers. A narrow chimney stack pierces the roof between the first and second windows from the east. There is a box cornice along the roof.

The Flemish bond on the west end has glazed headers. There is a double door with a four-light transom in each bay. A stretcher and two headers alternate in forming the voissoirs of the segmental arch over each door. The bottom headers are glazed. As on the east end there are two belt courses. In the center of the gable is a narrow, rectangular six-light window. A plaque to the right of the south door reads, in part:

"Old Green Hill Church  
St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church  
Parish Church of Stepney Parish  
which was laid out in 1692 built in 1733  
replacing first building, which stood about  
150 yards north of present site..."

The south side is nearly identical to the north. The only difference is the use of glazed headers in the Flemish bond and the segmental arches as on the east end over the doors.

On the interior there are two brick aisles with box pews along both side walls and through the center. The floor under the pews is also brick but is one step higher than the aisles. The pews are panelled and have benches on three sides. There are wide wood frames surrounding the windows with simple moldings. The frames are pegged as are the sashes. Centered on the south wall is a high paneled pulpit. The arched ceiling runs east-west. There are three large cross beams with beaded lower edges. Between the beams are four steel tie rods.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1733**

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 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

Green Hill Church (also called Old Green Hill and St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church), in Stepney Parish, is architecturally significant for the quality of its brickwork and original interior woodwork and for the authenticity of the eighteenth century structure. "Fortune has smiled on Green Hill Church because the vestries over a two-hundred year period have not given in much to the urge for 'restoration' perhaps the building has been saved by its splendid isolation and the conservative-mindedness of its owners. What is especially interesting is that the building preserved most of its original pew system of 1733."<sup>1</sup>

Stepney Parish was one of the thirty original parishes laid out after the Maryland Assembly (June 1692) enacted the "Act for the Service of Almighty God and the Establishment of the Protestant Religion in This Province," making the Church of England the Established Church in the Province and providing for the election of vestries, the laying out of parishes, the erection of churches and chapels where needed, and the taxing of all freeholders to support the churches.

The first parish church in Stepney Parish was erected on a lot near the mouth of Haste's Creek, on the west side of the Wicomico River, early in the eighteenth century. References to "Stepney Church" can be found in the Somerset County Judicial Record for the years 1722-1724, which stated that two overseers were appointed to maintain the roads from the church to nearby ferries. And in a letter to the Bishop of London in 1711, the Reverend Alexander Adams, Rector of Stepney Parish from 1704 to 1769, was probably referring to the first Green Hill Church when he complained that "six congregations are supplied by me which obliges me to travel 200 miles per month besides my pastoral charge in

<sup>1</sup>Henry Chandlee Forman. Old Buildings Gardens and Furniture in Tidewater Maryland. (Cambridge: Tidewater Publishers, 1967), p. 154.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Dashiell, Cassius M. "History of Stepney Parish." Unpublished manuscript, 1892.  
 Forman, H. Chandlee. Old Buildings Gardens and Furniture in Tidewater Maryland. Cambridge: Tidewater Publishers, 1967.  
 Torrence, Clayton. Old Somerset on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1966.  
 Land and Judicial Records for Somerset County, Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

TC 17A  
 187-0770  
 42-8280

**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	0 ' "	0 ' "		38 ° 18 ' 26 "	75 ° 45 ' 45 "	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 acre

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

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
Ann E. Hill, Summer Intern; Lois Snyderman, Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust DATE: July 30, 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 Arthur C. Townsend  
 Arthur C. Townsend

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date April 10, 1975

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

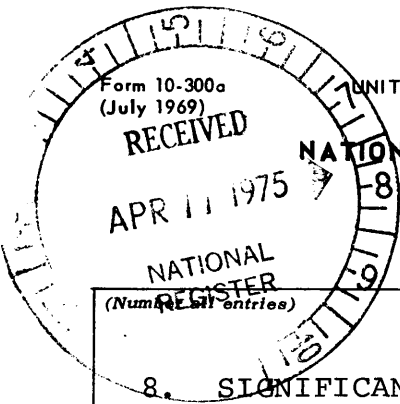
Carl M. Peterson  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 6/5/75

ATTEST:  
W. H. Taylor  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date JUN 4 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



Form 10-300a  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) #1

STATE	Maryland	
COUNTY	Wicomico	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		JUN 5 1975

Old Green Hill Church

8. SIGNIFICANCE, continued

my own Parish which has a church and a chapel..."<sup>2</sup>

This early structure stood about 100 yards northeast of the present church, and its location was noted on a plot of the town and port of Green Hill, drawn by county surveyor William Whittington in 1707. By a deed dated April 19, 1731, Neal McClester conveyed to the vestry of Stepney Parish Lot Number 16 in Green Hill Town,<sup>3</sup> for 38 shillings. The existing brick church was erected on this site in 1733, with the date of erection formed in the brickwork on the east end gable with glazed headers.

Entries in the Stepney Parish Vestry Ledger<sup>4</sup> for the years 1768 to 1775 record that in August of 1770 the vestry paid John Hobbs almost £33 for work done at Green Hill:

By your Agreement to Build a Gallery in Green L28 10s Hill.

By winscuting under Banistors	£1	10s
By making 2 prs. of Windowshutters	£2	7s 6
	£32	7s 6

The Reverend John Huett was the first minister of Stepney Parish. Apparently the first resident clergyman of the Church of England to serve in Somerset County, he arrived from England in 1681 and was the only minister of that faith in the county until 1696. Active in political and civic affairs as well as in the ministry, Huett was elected in April of 1692 to represent Somerset County in the Lower House of the Assembly which met at St. Mary's City in May of 1692.<sup>5</sup> In 1694, when Maryland Governor Francis Nicholson proposed the erection of a free school for the Province to be built in Anne Arundel Town (now Annapolis), Reverend Huett was appointed a trustee of the proposed institution.

<sup>2</sup>Cassius M. Dashiell, "History of Stepney Parish." (unpublished manuscript, 1892), p. 5.

<sup>3</sup>In April of 1706 the Assembly passed an "Act for the Advancement of Trade and Erecting Ports and Towns in the Province of Maryland." According to this a town and port were to be erected on the northwest side of Wicomico River, below Haste Creek, and called Green Hill Town; but Green Hill Town was never built.

<sup>4</sup>Stepney Parish Vestry Ledger, 1768-1775, Accession Number 16491, Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

<sup>5</sup>When the Lower House met the question was raised as to the right of men in "holy orders" to occupy "the seats of the mighty," and Huett was "deprived and debarred" from his seat in the Assembly. However, the same body immediately appointed him as their chaplain.

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

(Continuation Sheet) #2

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Wicomico	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 5 1975

(Number all entries)

Old Green Hill Church

8. SIGNIFICANCE, continued

The Reverend Alexander Adams, rector of Stepney Parish for 65 years, in 1752 presented a silver Communion Service to the Parish which is still in use. Coming to the Parish from England in 1704, he saw the need for the appointment of an American bishop, and in his letters to England urged the Bishop of London to create such a position.

From 1776 to 1783, during the Revolutionary period, there is no record of a rector in Stepney Parish. The Revolution brought the disestablishment of the Church of England and caused unsettled conditions; clergy were deprived of their financial support, vestries ceased to exist in their official capacity and many churches were forced to close.

The nineteenth century brought a number of important changes to Stepney Parish and Green Hill Church. In 1827 Stepney Parish was divided, part of it becoming Spring Hill Parish, which was served by the former chapel of ease for Stepney Parish, Spring Hill Church. During the Civil War attendance at Green Hill fell, and the church was virtually abandoned. Restoration work began after the War but was not completed until 1885, when services were again held in the building. In 1887 the restored Green Hill Church (which had become part of Wicomico County when Wicomico was erected from parts of Worcester and Somerset Counties in 1867) was reconsecrated by the Bishop of Easton and given the name of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church. At the present time, Green Hill Church is open only on St. Bartholomew's Day, August 24, when services are held.

A view of Green Hill Church is engraved on the gravy boat which is part of the silver dinner service (consisting of 48 pieces) presented to the armored cruiser "Maryland" in May 1906 and then to the battleship "Maryland" after its commissioning in 1921, as a gift from citizens throughout the state. The designs (scenes from each county decorate the serving pieces) were executed by Samuel Kirk and Sons, Inc., silversmiths in Baltimore since 1815, and the entire service is now on exhibit at the State House in Annapolis, Maryland.

