

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Maryland</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Baltimore City</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	<b>MAR 30 1973</b>

1. NAME

COMMON:  
**St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church**

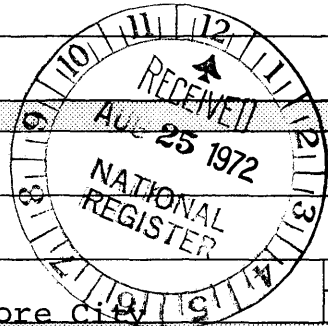
AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**Old St. Paul's Church**

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**233 North Charles Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Baltimore**

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
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 St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**233 North Charles Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Baltimore**      STATE: **Maryland**      CODE: **24**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Baltimore City Hall**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**100 North Holiday Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Baltimore**      STATE: **Maryland**      CODE: **24**

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:  
**2525 Riva Road**

CITY OR TOWN: **Annapolis**      STATE: **Maryland**      CODE: **24**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **Maryland**

COUNTY: **Baltimore City**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER: **MAR 30 1973**

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

## 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 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

The original design for St. Paul's Church, indicated in Richard Upjohn's perspective rendering of the facade, was a brick basilica, painted yellow, with a six-storied bell tower.<sup>1</sup> The tower was only partially completed but the structure has nevertheless been called one of Upjohn's best by Henry-Russell Hitchcock.<sup>2</sup>

Structurally, the church is an eclectic juxtaposition of twelfth-century Italian elements on the exterior and Romanesque elements on the interior. The facade is divided into flat sections, broken by pilasters. The portico is supported by corbel arches. The basilican design of the nave and aisles is articulated by round arches and barrel vaulting.

The two bas-reliefs on the facade, executed by the Italian sculptor Capellano, depict Moses Holding the Tablets of the Law and Christ Breaking the Bread. They were originally part of the facade of the 1814 church, which burned. With their pedimental frame, they supply another neo-classical element.

The church is rich in extant artifacts, five of which (including the aforementioned relief panels) were rescued from the fire. The others are the stained glass window of the risen Christ over the entrance; the marble baptismal font; and the Bishop's chair, given to St. Paul's in 1813 by George Grundy.

The white marble altar and the Caen stone reredos set with mosaics have a central motif of the cross and peacock, an early resurrection symbol. The Greek cross in the tiling of the chancel floor is decorated with fleur-de-lis, an early symbol of the Trinity. These are among the predominant artistic features of the church's interior.

The altar window was installed in 1902 and designed and executed by Maitland Armstrong of New York. The decoration around the side windows, forming a border just above the wainscotting, is infused with the symbology of Christ and the Resurrection.

Modification of the 1854 structure began in 1892 with the installation of three memorials on the parish's 200th Anniversary. Two stained glass windows, "St. Augustine and his Mother" and "St. Luke, the Good Physician," were designed by the Tiffany Glass Company and erected on this occasion. The former is a

<sup>1</sup>Francis F. Beirne, St. Paul's Parish, Baltimore, p. 178.

<sup>2</sup>Henry-Russell Hitchcock, Early Victorian Architecture in Britain, p. 130.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## SIGNIFICANCE

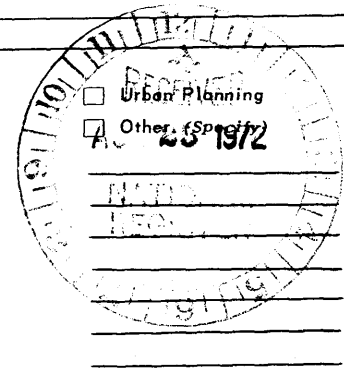
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian     16th Century     18th Century     20th Century  
 15th Century     17th Century     19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1854-1856

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal     | <input type="checkbox"/> Education                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric    | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <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 type="checkbox"/> Architecture   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian            |
| <input checked="" 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. Paul's Church in Baltimore has both architectural and historical importance. Designed by Richard Upjohn, one of the chief imitators of the Gothic Revival in America, it is one of Baltimore's most important landmarks. Its historical associations stem largely from the numerous important figures who were members of the parish, including Samuel Chase, John Eager Howard and Thomas Johnson.

In 1729, when Baltimore was laid out, the Vestry of St. Paul's Parish took up Lot 19, the highest point in the new town, and erected a small brick church. With this action they provided Baltimore with its first public place of worship and established the Mother Church of all Episcopal congregations in the city. The present structure still occupies part of that original land. It is the only property in the city which has remained continuously under the same ownership since the original survey of the town and division of lots.

The congregation of St. Paul's was formed in 1692 at Patapsco Neck by the Reverend John Yeo. Authority for establishing the congregation came from the 1692 Act of the Maryland Assembly which divided Baltimore County into three parishes. Patapsco was the first organized of these three.

Moving into Baltimore Town in 1731, the congregation constructed its first church on this site, a view of which is given in John Moale's 1752 drawing of Baltimore which is at the Maryland Historical Society. A second church was erected between 1779 and 1784, located slightly south of the original building.

Both of these structures were surrounded by a graveyard which was later moved to its present location at Fremont and Lombard Streets. Among the historic personages buried there are Colonel John Eager Howard, Justice Samuel Chase and General George Armistead.

A fourth and larger St. Paul's was begun in 1814 and consecrated in 1817. Designed by Robert Cary Long, Sr., in the neo-classical style, this building was destroyed by fire in 1854.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Recorders: Mrs. Walter Black, Jr., Maryland Historical Trust  
2525 Riva Road, Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Miss Pamela Cohen, Volunteer, Maryland Historical Trust, Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation, 402 City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland

See Continuation Sheet

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES						
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		OR	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE	
	Degrees	Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes Seconds
NW	°	' "	°	' "		39°	17' 21.20"	76°	36' 54.71"
NE	°	' "	°	' "					
SE	°	' "	°	' "					
SW	°	' "	°	' "					

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **.38 acre**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Catharine F. Black, Commission Member  
Pamela Cohen, Volunteer

ORGANIZATION: Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation  
DATE: July 5, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER: 402 City Hall

CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore  
STATE: Maryland

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION	NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION
<p>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:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>Orlando Ridout IV</u> Orlando Ridout IV</p> <p>Title <u>State Liaison Officer for Maryland</u></p> <p>Date <u>July 11, 1972</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>Robert M. Utley</u> Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>3/30/73</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>3/23/73</u></p>

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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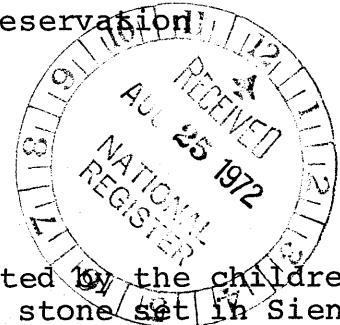
(Continuation Sheet)

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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS continued  
Landmark List State x

Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation  
Room 402, City Hall  
Baltimore, Maryland State Code 24



## 7. DESCRIPTION continued

memorial to Bishop Wittingham and was contributed by the children of the congregation. A mural monument of Caen stone set in Siena marble was designed in Italian Renaissance style by the Baltimore architects Wyatt and Nolting, and installed in memory of Reverend Thomas B. Chase, the father of Samuel Chase, Signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Another addition to the church was the installation in 1902 of four circular medallions depicting the four evangelists as symbolic figures above the pillars of the nave. The 1946 restoration by extensive sand-blasting removed all the yellow paint from the brick exterior. The addition of a brick-paved garden containing a columbarium, and the construction of an assembly room, six classrooms and a kitchen, comprise recent chapters in the long and varied history of St. Paul's.

The present edifice was erected in 1854 upon the foundation of the Church built in 1817. This earlier building was destroyed by fire on April 28, 1854. As far as we have been able to ascertain there has never been a location survey made. The dimensions issued are taken from the Real Property Plat made by the City of Baltimore, Department of Public Works in November 1966.

## 8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

It was replaced by the present basilica-style church, designed by Richard Upjohn, a leading New York architect.

Through the years, members of St. Paul's Church have played important roles in civic and historic events. Among the most prominent are: Samuel Chase, Signer of the Declaration of Independence and a Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court; Richard Gist, William Hammond and George Buchanan who were among the commissioners appointed to lay out Baltimore Town; Robert Alexander, member of the Congress of 1776; Charles Carroll, the Barrister, who was the framer of the State Constitution; Colonel John Eager

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## 8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

Howard, hero of the Battle of Cowpens, member of the Congress of 1787, Governor of Maryland and twice a U.S. Senator; Thomas Johnson, Governor of Maryland and Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court; General George Armistead, Commander of Fort M'Henry during the War of 1812 and Colonel Tench Tilghman who carried the news of Cornwallis' surrender at Yorktown to the American Congress at Philadelphia.

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES continued

## Sources:

- Allen, Ethan. "Historical Sketches of St. Paul's Parish in Baltimore County, Maryland." (Baltimore: 1855). Unpublished manuscript in Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore.
- Beirne, Francis F. St. Paul's Parish, Baltimore: A chronicle of the Mother Church. (Baltimore: Horn-Shafer, 1967). Footnote #1. p. 178.
- Herring, Thomas R. Concerning Old Saint Paul's (Baltimore, 1946). Unpublished manuscript in the Maryland Room, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore.
- Hitchcock, Henry-Russell. Early Victorian Architecture in Britain. (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1954). Footnote #2. P. 130.
- Howland, Richard H. and Eleanor P. Spencer. The Architecture of Baltimore. (Baltimore: John Hopkins University Press, 1953).
- Kinsolving, Arthur B., D.D. A Short History of St. Paul's Parish, Baltimore, Maryland, 1692-1939. (Baltimore, 1939). Pamphlet in the Maryland Room, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore.
- Scharf, J. Thomas. The Chronicles of Baltimore. (Baltimore: Turnbull Brothers, 1874).
- Snyder, William T., Jr. "Old St. Paul's, Baltimore, XXXVI, No. 3. (December, 1942).

Form 10-300a  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES continued

Stanton, Phoebe B. The Gothic Revival and American Church Architecture: An Episode in Taste, 1840-1856. (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1968).

Upjohn, Everard M. Richard Upjohn: Architect and Churchman. (New York: Columbia University Press, 1939).

