

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED NOV 18 1977

DATE ENTERED MAY 5 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC TRINITY METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

AND/OR COMMON

Trinity Methodist Church

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

North side of Rd. 31 between Rds. 573 & 574

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Dublin Hill

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Delaware

 VICINITY OF

CODE

10

COUNTY

Sussex

One

CODE

003

3 CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | PRESENT USE |
|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT | <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE | <input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: |

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church

STREET & NUMBER

c/o Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Warrington, R. D. 2, Box 39

CITY, TOWN

Bridgeville

STATE

Delaware 19933

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Sussex County Court House

STREET & NUMBER

The Circle

CITY, TOWN

Georgetown

STATE

Delaware

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Delaware Cultural Resource Survey; S-329

DATE

1973

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDSDivision of Historical & Cultural Affairs; Bureau of Archaeology
and Historic Preservation

CITY, TOWN

Hall of Records, Dover

STATE

Delaware 19901

7 DESCRIPTION

| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The frame building is distinguished by exceptionally delicate detailing of its trim, both interior and exterior. The facade, which is virtually unaltered, is the south gable wall. Corner pilasters with lancet insets terminate in capitals. A frieze supports a dentil cornice, which is raked on the gable. The doorway is surmounted by a large lintel. The two first-floor windows retain their original shutters and their original 9-over-9 sash. The gallery windows above are glazed with 6-over-6 sash.

The three side windows on the east wall and the two surviving side windows on the west wall repeat the first-floor front windows.

A small apsidal chancel, with narrow windows, is the center of the north wall.

The Sunday School annex, a recent clapboard building, is attached at the northwest corner of the church, and communicates with the main building at the site of the former north window.

Inside, the original pews survive, attached at the walls to the original plank wainscot. The center pews, between the side allees, are divided by a central axial wainscot partition. On either side of the front door are stairs to the rear gallery. The flooring has been replaced in oak.

Formerly, there were wood stoves in the middle of each side wall; they have been replaced by floor furnaces in the corners. The stovepipes were hung from the ceiling, and joined at the center. In the ceiling today is a large circular plaster ornament with a hole where the chimney formerly exited. The old brick chimney, which rested on the center of the ceiling joists, has been removed.

The wall, formerly plaster, have been covered with an acoustical sheet material and venetian blinds have replaced cloth shades. Otherwise, the interior remains intact. Two choir pews in the northeast corner have been removed, leaving only one. The removed pews stand where the former wood stoves were.

In the raised chancel is a Gothic-style pulpit, behind which is a Victorian sofa for the minister. The Communion rail is solid, but delicately curved around the chancel at floor level.

The church, which still is used for regular services, stands in a clearing near a country road. It faces a cultivated field, and is surrounded on three sides by woods.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

| PERIOD | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW | | | |
|---|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| —PREHISTORIC | —ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | —COMMUNITY PLANNING | —LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION |
| —1400-1499 | —ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | —CONSERVATION | —LAW | —SCIENCE |
| —1500-1599 | —AGRICULTURE | —ECONOMICS | —LITERATURE | —SCULPTURE |
| —1600-1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | —EDUCATION | —MILITARY | —SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| —1700-1799 | —ART | —ENGINEERING | —MUSIC | —THEATER |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | —COMMERCE | —EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | —PHILOSOPHY | —TRANSPORTATION |
| —1900- | —COMMUNICATIONS | —INDUSTRY | —POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | —OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | | —INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES 1885

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Trinity Church is a virtually unaltered example of the type of country chapel that once was common throughout Delaware. Few remain today, since congregations are being consolidated and older churches are being modernized. Trinity has been spared the aluminum siding, brick sheathing, extensive wings, and other changes that have altered so many similar churches. Only a Sunday School wing has been added near the rear.

Isolation and relatively poor resources have marked the history of Trinity from its establishment in 1843, when a log house of worship was built. This log church was replaced in 1867 by the first frame church on the present site, about fifty yards away from the first. The 1867 church burned in 1885, and the present structure was built soon thereafter.

The log church was given to a black congregation and survived for some years before it, too, was replaced.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Frank A. Zebley, The Churches of Delaware.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Under 1/2 acre

UTM REFERENCES

| | | | | | | | |
|---|------|-------------|-----------------------|---|------|---------|----------|
| A | 1 8 | 4 4 1 4 4 0 | 0 9 0 4 2 8 9 - 4 4 0 | B | | | |
| | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING | | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING |
| C | | | | D | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated area is bounded by woodland. The frontage is approximately 125 feet. It extends back about 100 feet.

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

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Edward F. Heite, Historic Registrar

ORGANIZATION

Division of Historical & Cultural Affairs

DATE

May 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Hall of Records

TELEPHONE

(302) 678-5314

CITY OR TOWN

Dover

STATE

Delaware 19901

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

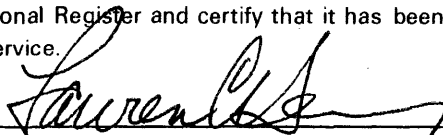
NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

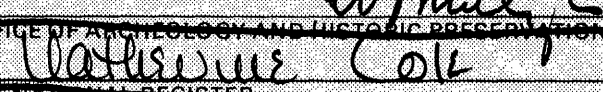


TITLE Director, Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs

DATE 11/14/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST 
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 5/5/78
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
 DATE 4-25-78



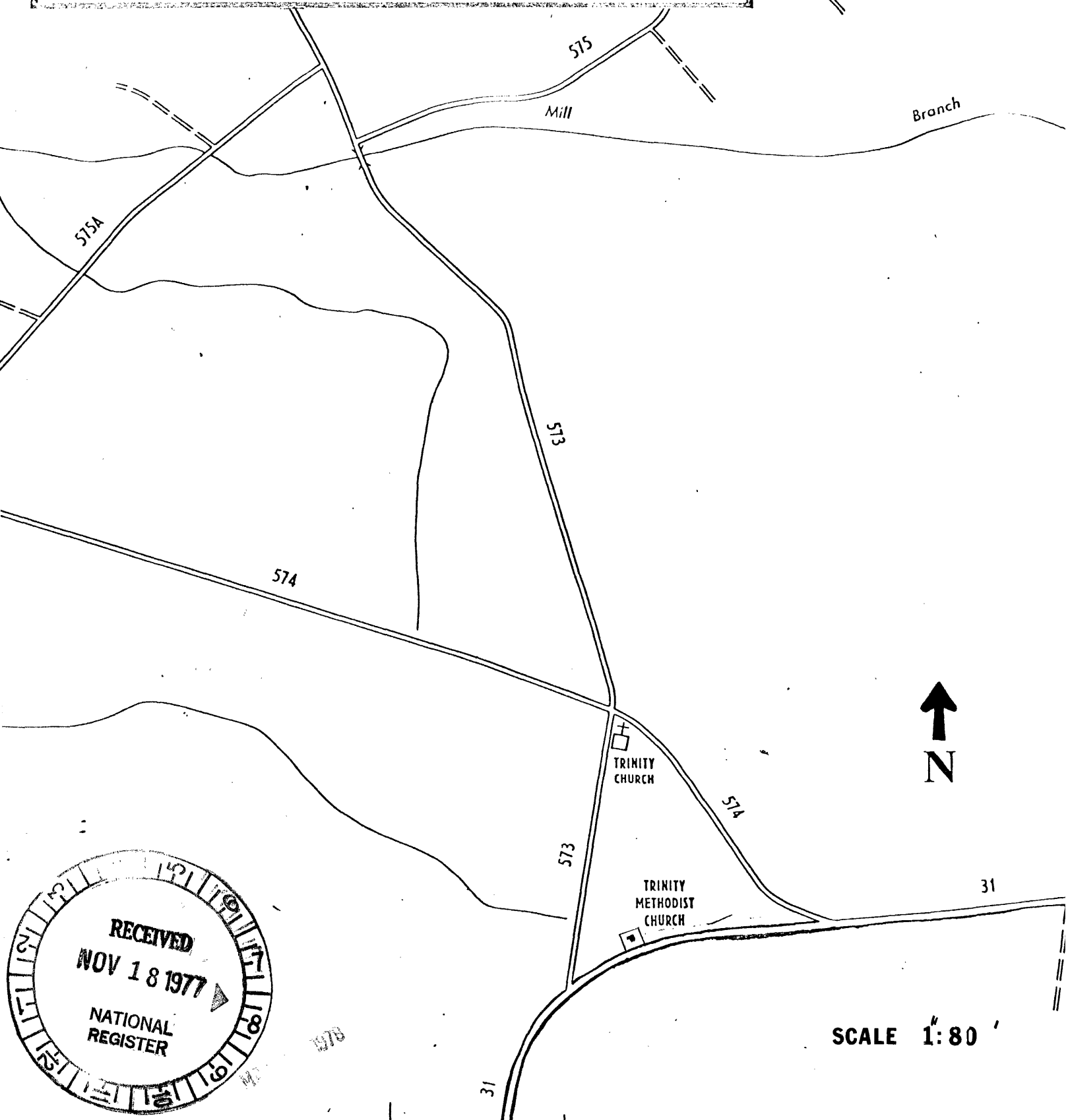
DELAWARE DIVISION OF HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

DRAWN BY jea

DATE 9/77

FILE S-329

TITLE sketch map



SCALE 1" = 80'