K-123, 124

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
St. Paul's Church

AND/OR COMMON
Old St. Paul's

2 LOCATION   S of Fairlee

STREET & NUMBER Northeast corner Sandy Bottom Road and Ricaud's Branch-Lankford Road

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN			CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
~~Chestertown~~	X VICINITY OF	Fairlee	First

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Maryland	24	Kent	029

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	__PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	__ENTERTAINMENT	X RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	X YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME   Vestry of St. Paul's Church   /

STREET & NUMBER
R. D. #2, Box 657A

CITY, TOWN		STATE	
Chestertown	__ VICINITY OF	Maryland	21620

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.   Kent County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
High Street

CITY, TOWN	STATE	
Chestertown	Maryland	21620

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE
around 1940   X FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS   Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN	STATE
Washington	D. C.

⧉ DESCRIPTION

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Saint Paul's Church is located in southwestern Kent County at the headwaters of the west branch of Langford Creek, approximately seven miles west of Chestertown. It is situated in a grove of old trees on the west side of a mill pond. The building is surrounded by a graveyard with a few stones bearing 18th century dates; most, however, are later. At the western boundary, along Sandy Bottom Road, stands the vestry house, constructed in 1766. East of the parking area, and not included in the nomination, are the mid-20th century parish hall and rectory.

The church was constructed in 1712 by Captain James Harris for the sum of 70,000 pounds of tobacco and was finished in the following three years. Ordered to be erected by the vestry in 1711, it measures thirty by forty feet with a semi-circular apse on the east gable. After 1841, a robing room was built on the north side of the apse, which was enlarged in 1967. Around 1908, an organ room was built on the north side of the nave.

Facing west, St. Paul's entrance gable is laid in Flemish bond brickwork interrupted only by the semi-circular arched entrance and window above. A pair of rectangular doors closes beneath the arched panel with quatrefoil fret. The window has four-over-four sash and appears to have been lengthened from its original size. There is a slight kick to the eaves, as in several churches in Virginia. An overhanging eave is a 19th century feature, as are the cornice returns with their shaped modillions.

On the south side the orignal cornice with plain modillion blocks can be seen. This facade is also laid in Flemish bond and is interrupted by two wide, semi-circular arched windows and a former entrance with arches of rubbed and gauged brick. The west window has a pair of nine-over-nine sash windows with a panel above like that of the west entrance and a pair of louvered blinds. The east window is completely filled with a stained glass representation of Christ bearing a lamb. The stained glass was installed in 1912. A modern bulkhead was installed in 1940, when a small cellar was dug for the heating plant. A brick chimney rises nearly in the center of the wall.

Glazed headers enliven the Flemish bond of the east apse. In the center of the apse is a large opening, which is arched and has a three-part 19th century window with semi-circular headed units. The stained glass has the symbols of the Trinity, Holy Spirit, and the Episcopal Shield. A conical roof covers the apse.

Protruding from the north side of the apse is the two-part robing room, with distinct difference in the color of the brickwork between the mid-19th century and mid-20th century sections. Adjacent the robing room on the west side is the larger organ room. It is built of even-colour, machine-made brick with very narrow mortar joints. In its west gable is a small lunette. On its west side are a pair of windows with leaded stained stone. This organ room covers the original east window of the north facade of the church, but the west window remains and is identical to its corresponding window on the south side. There appears to have been an entrance centered on the north facade, but the arch has been removed and the brickwork re-laid.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
_PREHISTORIC	_ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	_COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	X RELIGION
_1400-1499	_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	_CONSERVATION	_LAW	_SCIENCE
_1500-1599	_AGRICULTURE	_ECONOMICS	_LITERATURE	_SCULPTURE
_1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	_EDUCATION	_MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
X 1700-1799	_ART	_ENGINEERING	_MUSIC	_THEATER
_1800-1899	_COMMERCE	_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	_PHILOSOPHY	_TRANSPORTATION
_1900-	_COMMUNICATIONS	_INDUSTRY	_POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)
		_INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES   Parish established 1692   BUILDER/ARCHITECT   Captain James Harris
                 Church 1712

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

    St. Paul's architectural significance lies in the fact that it is the earliest existing Episcopal church building on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, except for the restored Trinity Church, Church Creek. The brickwork, semi-circular apse, and original fenestration are rare survivors from the early 18th century. St. Paul's is an obvious amalgam of three centuries of growth and change and boasts of that character. Its vestry building is a remarkable survivor from the 18th century, and the graveyard is the handsomest on the Eastern Shore because of the huge boxwood and oak trees and location adjacent to the mill pond.

    From the standpoint of religion, St. Paul's is one of the first parishes established by the Colonial Assembly in 1692 for the dissemination of the Church of England throughout the province. It has remained an active parish from that time.

    St. Paul's is one of the thirty parishes laid out in the Province of Maryland, pursuant to an Act of Assembly in the year 1692. The records indicate that two church buildings were erected very close to the present one between 1692 and 1707. Due to inferior workmanship and materials, they did not endure.

    Excerpts from a few minutes of some vestry meetings:
1711 August 27 - "This vestry doth agree with Mr. James Harris, as undertaker, to build a church for the use of this parish of St. Paul's in Kent County according tot he dimensions following: 40 feet long in the clear and thirty feet wide in the clear; to 16 feet from the ground; 5 windows, 2 doors and cases; the brick wall to be 2½ bricks thick to the water table and two bricks thick from thence upwards; a circle to be at the east end for the Communion, and in consideration the Vestry doth agree to pay Mr. Harris 70,000 pounds of tobacco."
1713 February 2 - "This day, Capt. James Harris having complied with his obligation to the Vestry for building the Church hath made delivery of said Church and has taken up his bond."
1713 February 20 - The Vestry contracted with William Salisbury of Queen Anne's County to erect and set up 34 pews, a Pulpit and Reading Desk."
1715 May 16 - "The Vestry agreed with William Mackey to build a gallery in the Church and to make use of the old stuff from the old church."
1715 - "The Vestry agreed with Thomas Cook to plaster the Church and chancel to lay the aisles and altar with brick. The brick to be laid in herring-bone fashion."
1766 - "The Vestry House was built. A small simple structure of no particular architectur with a fireplace at each end, it was completed within a year at a cost of 20,000 pounds of tobacco"
. . ."Colonial elections were held in the Vestry House and furing the War of 1812 it was used as a barracks for Troops".

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY ___12+ acres___

UTM REFERENCES

A| 1,8| |3| 9,8| 3, 1, 0| |4, 3| 3, 8| 0, 4, 0| B| 1, 8| |3| 9,8| 1, 6, 0| |4, 3| 3, 7| 8 0 0|
ZONE   EASTING   NORTHING   ZONE   EASTING   NORTHING

C| 1,8| |3| 9,7| 8, 9, 0| |4, 3| 3, 7| 8, 8, 0| D| 1, 8| |3| 9, 7| 9, 4, 0| |4, 3| 3, 7| 9, 7, 0|

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See attached plat map.

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 **Mrs. Owen Selby, Historiographer and Michael Bourne, Restoration Consultant**

ORGANIZATION	DATE
St. Paul's Church	**December 28, 1978**

STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
Mrs. Selby-Box 43, Michael Bourne-P.O. Box 716	**778-0966/778-0069**

CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Chestertown	**Maryland 21620**

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___   STATE _X_   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.
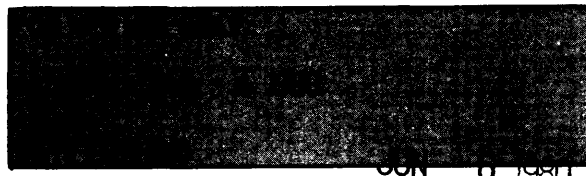
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE _____ 12-28-79

TITLE   STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER   DATE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET Saint Paul's Church
Kent County
Maryland · **ITEM NUMBER** 7 **PAGE** 1

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

The interior of St. Paul's is composed of a large rectangular nave with a vaulted ceiling. On the east end is the semi-circular apse containing the sanctuary and lecturn It is separated from the nave by a broad, semi-circular arch. In the northeast corner of the nave is the choir with screen from the first pipe organ built in the arched recess behind. Above the entrance on the west wall is a gallery. There are two aisles with box pews flanking them.

In 1978, the pews were stripped and refinished in a medium brown stain on the body of the pews and doors, contrasting with a natural walnut of the arms and top rails. This was accomplished after a thorough paint colour and analysis was prepared by Frank Welsh. Generally, the pews date from the mid-19th century.

The Gothic-style benches in the choir date from around 1900. The beaded wainscot board around the entire church also appears to date from 1900. They have recently been painted white.

The Communion Rail is on the arc of a circle and dates from the second half of the 19th century. Its gothic trefoil design balustrade is a repetition of the gallery railing. The altar is essentially that described in 1893 as being made of white marble donated by Mrs. Sarah Jones, and portions of the old wooden altar. Behind the altar are three tall, narrow windows with symbols appropriate to the Episcopal Church, i.e., t shield of the Episcopal Church, the Trinity, and the Holy Spirit.

On the left of the north side of the sanctuary is the Bishop's Chair and on the right is a credence table. A pair of 17th century English chairs are recent additions to the Sanctuary.

Returning to the nave, on both sides of the east wall are plaques, the north in honour of the services of Reverend Denroche and the south in memory of the original vestrymen of St. Paul's. A modern organ is located below the latter. Behind the organ is a stained glass window depicting Christ as the good shepherd given by Alverta P. Beck in 1912. Hanging from the center of the vaulted ceiling is a cast-iron electrified oil chandelier given by Miss Maria Gamble in 1882.
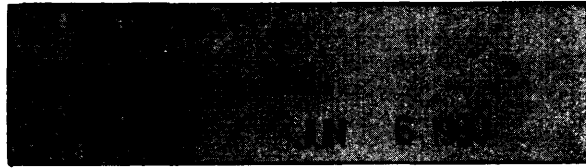
St. Paul's interior is the result of a gradual development over 266 years with the majority of its appearance being a product of the mid and late 19th century. The three small additions have been built in such a manner that they enhance the service-ability of the structure without detracting from its appearance.

West of the church, along the road, stands the 18th century vestry house. As is evident from the glazed date in the north gable, the one-story brick building was constructed in 1766. The initials IOT beneath the date probably identify the builder.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #2.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET
St. Paul's Church
Kent County
Maryland
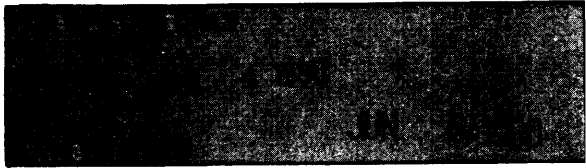. **ITEM NUMBER** 7 **PAGE** 2

(DESCRIPTION, CONTINUED)

Each side facade is identical, with two windows with six-over-six sash and paneled shutters and a paneled central door. The chimney on the south end of the building is built on the outside of the structure, while the chimney on the north end is within. Both side facades are laid in Flemish bond with glazed headers. The brick bond and date resemble Ringgold's Fortune only a mile away.

Inside, the only features original to the building are the two fireplaces. Paneling, plaster, and the brick paving are additions/restorations of the 1960's.

In 1954 a parish hall was built north of the church from the design of Bryden B. Hyde, A.I.A. Shortly thereafter a house was erected for the pastor to the east of the parish hall.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

	St. Paul's Church				
	Kent County				
CONTINUATION SHEET	Maryland	**ITEM NUMBER**	8	**PAGE**	3

(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

The stained glass chancel window was installed in 1864 at a cost of $250.00.
With the exception of the organ chamber, which was added in about 1895 and the enlargement of the robing room in 1968, the dimensions of the church remain the same.

St. Paul's has ministered to the spiritual needs of no less than ten generations. The family of Captain Lambert Wickes of Revolutionary War fame were communicants and still are to the present date. Its rural situaiton is ideally located to serve people living within a radius as far as 12 miles distant. The average attendance recorded in 1732 is just about the same as that at present. The guest book lists visitors from all parts of the world.

In the original church yard of ten acres, there are massive, centuries old oaks, sycamores, and spruce and handsome boxwood. It is second to none in quiet grandeur and exquisite beauty.

St. Paul's, rich in experience and rooted deeply in tradition, seems not to mind the turmoils of the day. It has learned that Time is the Great Physician and that Virtue is its own Reward. It stands as a silent witness to the piety of past generations and is today a sign and symbol that "Man shall not live by Bread alone".

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

St. Paul's Church
Kent County
CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland   **ITEM NUMBER** 7 & 9 PAGE

#7.   DESCRIPTION

    The round arch doorway along the south elevation that is bricked
in is believed to be original to the structure but closed sometime
during the 19th century. No documentation is known to support the
why or when of the closing.

#9.   MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

    Hanson, George A. Old Kent. Baltimore: John P. Des forges, 1876.

    Swain, Robert L, Jr. Colonial Saint Paul's. n.p.,n.d.

    Deuroche, Rev. Christopher. "A Souvenir History of the Parish
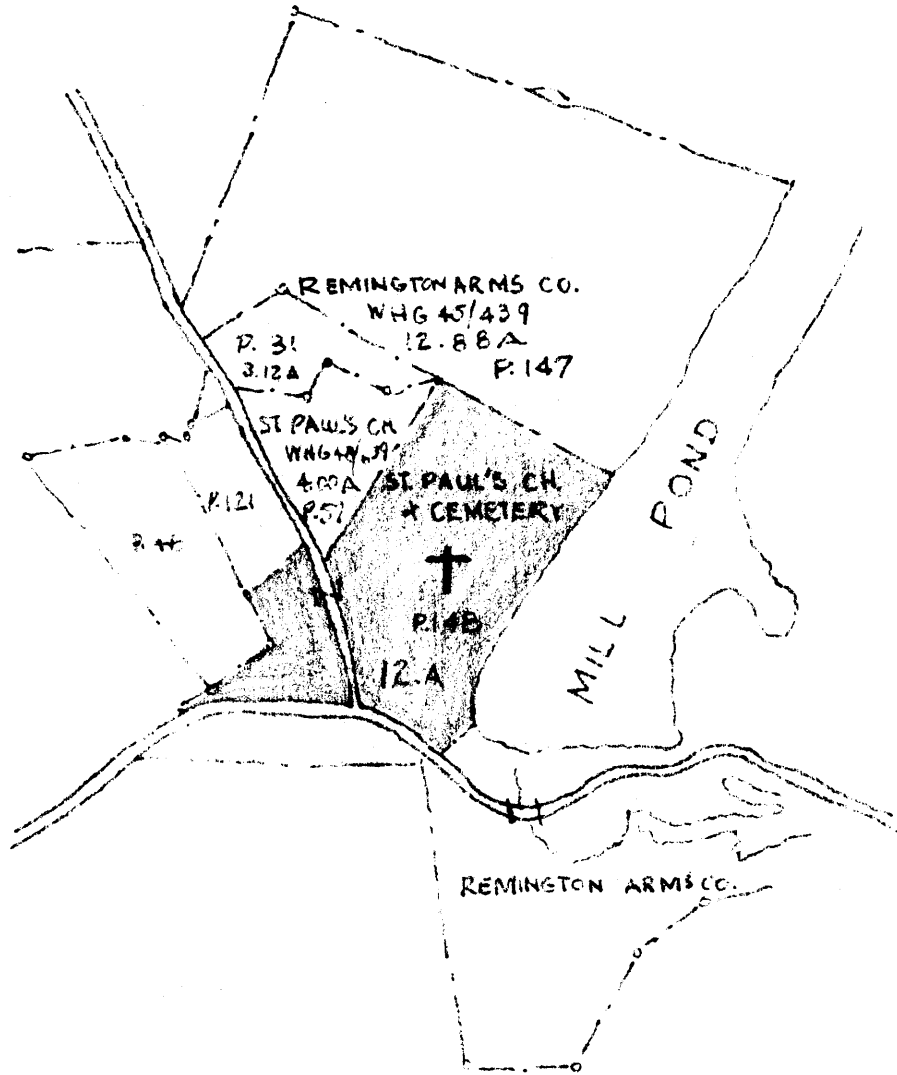   of St. Paul's, Kent County, Maryland." n.p. 1893.

    Saint Paul's Parish Register.
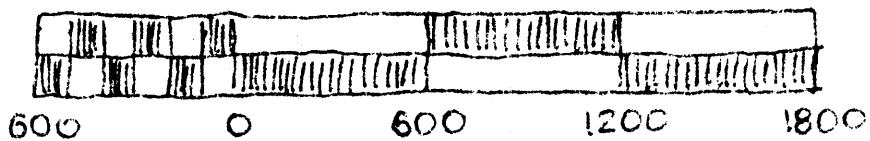
St Paul's Church
Kent Co., Md.
Parcels: 31, 57, 148
traced by M. Bowne 2/70

REMINGTON ARMS CO.
WHG 45/439
12.88 A
P. 147

P. 31
3.12 A

ST PAUL'S CH
WHG 4/19
4.00 A
P. 57

P. 121

P. 11

ST PAUL'S CH.
+ CEMETERY

P. 148
12. A

MILL POND

REMINGTON ARMS CO.

N

KENT COUNTY, MD.
ASSESSMENT MAP #. 42

600   0   600   1200   1800

JAN 4 1980

Kent

↑ to Tolchester Beach

JAN 4 1980

to Chestertown

BM × 33

21

Md. Rte. 21

49

Wheat Bins

80

90

× 34

60

21

McCleans Corner

64

40

Sandy Bottom Rd.

60

Sandy Bottom

St Pauls Millpond

P

St Pauls Ch

St. Paul's Church Rd.

Md. Rte. 20

O

Cem

40

15

P

Ricauds Branch-Lankford

A

P

West

R

20

20

Rock Hall Quad

N

20

20

E

M

Creek

C

6

K

20

Sinai Cove

to Rock Hall

25

Shipyard Landing

8 BM × 4

Shipyard

20

N

E

8

Millstone Pt

Fox Pt

Hadaway Chapel