

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:  
**New Jersey**

COUNTY:  
**Gloucester**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	<b>JAN 29 1973</b>

47711  
A  
2/29/73

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Trinity Church**

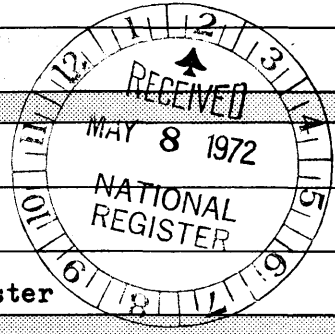
AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**Old Swedes Church**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**N.W. Corner of Church Street and King's Highway**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Swedesboro**

STATE: **New Jersey**      CODE: **34**      COUNTY: **Gloucester**      CODE: **015**



**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) _____ Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Rectors, Wardens, and Vestrymen of...Church commonly known as Trinity Church**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**208 King's Highway**

CITY OR TOWN: **Swedesboro**      STATE: **New Jersey**      CODE: **34**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**County Clerk's Office, Gloucester County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Broad and Delaware Streets**

CITY OR TOWN: **Woodbury**      STATE: **New Jersey**      CODE: **34**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**Historic American Buildings Survey (NJ-85)**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1938**       Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**Library of Congress**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**-**

CITY OR TOWN: **Washington**      STATE: **D.C.**      CODE: **11**

STATE: **New Jersey**

COUNTY: **Gloucester**

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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

Trinity Church was built 1783-1791, with a tower added in 1836-1838 and with some interior alterations in 1854.

1. Exterior: The exterior of the church is red brick (Flemish bond on three sides and common bond on the west side and on the tower). There is a water table and belt course on three sides also. There is a single brick buttress in the middle of both the north and south sides, probably added to the original fabric. The doorways have broken pediments, arched fan lights, and wooden guttae with flanking Tuscan columns in the Federal style. The windows are also arched with wooden keystones and impost blocks, with original arched sash with arch lights and 12/12 single hung sash. There is a Venetian (Palladian) window over the main east entry doorway and a circular datestone above that with quadrant blocks and the date "1784." The church is two stories with a five-story tower, plus a wood porch and wood spire; (the tower was apparently anticipated in the original design as the west facade of the church is common bond while the other sides are all Flemish bond). The cornice is a simple wood cornice and forms a broken pedimented gable on the east interrupted by the upper portions of the Venetian window. The roof is gable with slate shingles.
  
2. Interior: The plan is rectangular, three bays by five bays with a main entry vestibule on the east and another entry doorway on the south; with an interior balcony on three sides supported by fluted Doric columns. The entry doorway on the east leads to a narrow vestibule with flanking stairways to the balcony and two doors leading to the two aisles of the church. The aisles separate boxed pews with raised paneling. The chancel, renovated in 1854, is raised and flanked by fluted Ionic pilasters. Above the chancel there is a circular stained glass window lit artificially. Other windows are clear glass with early wood Venetian blinds rebound and still in use.
  
3. Site: The church is located on the northwest corner of the main street of Swedesboro with brick, cast iron and stone fences enclosing the church and graveyard to the north and west of the church. The site overlooks Raccoon Creek to the north of the graveyard.

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) **Built 1786, spire 1836-1838, renovated 1854**

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			

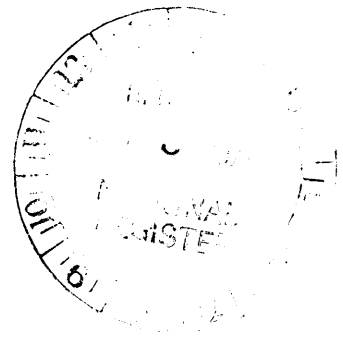
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Swedish Lutherans, who built a log church on this site c.1703, were among the earliest congregations formed in southern New Jersey. The present church was designed and built by the Swedish Lutheran minister Reverend Nicholas Collin in 1784, who described the construction in his journal. Two years after its completion the church was deeded to the Episcopal Church.

The church is a notable example of the Georgian style in a small-scale rural church. The Venetian window and other arched windows are similar in design to those of its prototype, Christ Church in Philadelphia. This church contains many handsome details, such as the pedimented doorways and the brick belt courses. The pleasant interior is notable for its original boxed pews.

Congressional Representation  
 Honorable Clifford P. Case  
 Honorable Harrison A. Williams  
 Honorable John E. Hunt  
 First Congressional District

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Gorska, Hanka Inventory of Historic Sites, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, 1969, p.204.

Heston, A.M. South Jersey A History 1664-1924, Five Vols., New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, Inc. 1924, Vol. I pp. 447-450.

Johnson, Amandus The Journal and Biography of Nicholas Collin 1746-1831, Philadelphia: The New Jersey Society of Pennsylvania, 1936, pp.291-295.  
"Old Swedes Church...How the Church was Built," Bulletin, Gloucester County Historical Society, Vol.4, No.1, September 1953, p.1.

**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	° ' "	° ' "		39° 45' 01"	75° 18' 27"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **2.5 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

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**William B. Bassett, Architectural Historian**

ORGANIZATION: **John M. Dickey, Architect**      DATE: **March 4, 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**206A West State Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Media**      STATE: **Pennsylvania 19063**      CODE: **42**

**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: *Richard J. Sullivan*  
**Richard J. Sullivan**

Title: Commissioner, Dept. of Environmental Protection

Date: May 1, 1972

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

*Robert Van Utley*  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 1/29/73

ATTEST:  
*Lorna Muntz*  
Keeper of the National Register

Date: 1/26/73

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