

PH0011389

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Delaware	
COUNTY: New Castle	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 8 1973

1. NAME

COMMON: Saint James Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Saint James Church Road

CITY OR TOWN: Stanton

STATE: Delaware CODE: 10 COUNTY: New Castle CODE: 003

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input 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) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Rector, Wardens, and Vestry of St. James Church

STREET AND NUMBER: Saint James Church Road

CITY OR TOWN: Stanton STATE: Delaware CODE: 10

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Public Building

STREET AND NUMBER: Rodney Square

CITY OR TOWN: Wilmington STATE: Delaware CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey number DEL-56 (55)

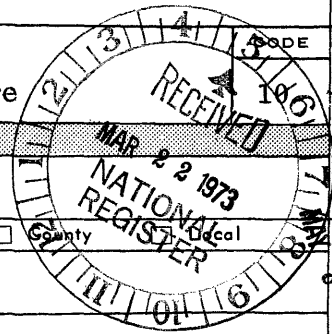
DATE OF SURVEY: 1937, 1965  Federal  State  County

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_  
ENTRY NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent     Good     Fair     Deteriorated     Ruins     Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered     Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved     Original Site

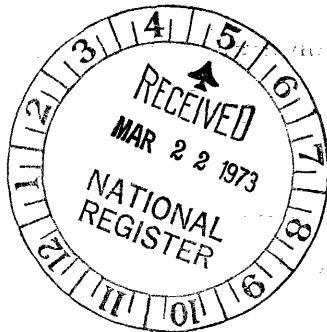
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. James Church is a stone church, built in 1822 at the intersection of Capitol Trail and St. James Church Road in Stanton. The site had been occupied since 1716 by one or more frame churches; a deed of 1720 from James Robinson to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel describes the ten-acre churchyard where a church already had been constructed. A frame church, which may have been the original edifice on the site, burned in 1820. The present stone church was built almost immediately after the fire, on approximately the same site.

The stone structure was consecrated August 14, 1823, by Bishop William White of Pennsylvania, and has continued to the present as a parish church.

As built, the church was a simple rectangle, nearly square (35' by 39') with a rounded apsidal chancel projecting from the north wall. Entrance and stair towers, which survive in a much-altered state, projected from the east and west walls. On the south, the main door is set flush with the wall and crowned by a semicircular transom. The east tower has been considerably enlarged to accommodate a belfry, and the west tower now serves as a workroom or janitor's closet. The original Palladian chancel window has been supplanted by a stained glass window; rather than discard this original feature, however, the remodellers moved it to the belfry tower, complete with its rounded frame.

The interior finish of the church is largely original. A balcony on the south, east, and west walls features reeded trim with bullseye corner blocks and is supported by tuscan columns. The original low box pews survive, with a considerable amount of original hardware. The chancel has been renovated several times, and now contains the Victorian Holy Table that was installed around 1890. The chancel rail is a modern replacement, as are most of the altar fittings and small furnishings.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1820-1823**

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**

Services of the Anglican communion were held in Mill Creek Hundred during the seventeenth century, but not until 1717 was there a church building for that faith. The frame for the first St. James Church on the present site was raised in December of 1716, and the church was occupied the following year, even though the deed to the churchyard was not conveyed until 1720.

Like most other Delaware churches, St. James was a mission of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel; sometimes it was served by the minister at New Castle, and sometimes by circuit-riding SPG ministers from Pennsylvania. On other occasions, the congregation was supplied by Swedish Lutheran ministers from Wilmington.

Until recent suburban expansion engulfed it in housing developments, St. James Church stood on a rise near the edge of the town of Stanton, a small trading and milling community that was settled early in the eighteenth century by Quaker and Swedish Lutheran families. Ironworks, gristmills, and potteries gave the village a degree of prosperity as a local trading center. The first communicants of St. James Church were largely drawn from the Swedish settlers and from their few English neighbors who were not Friends. Since the Swedish Lutheran church at Wilmington and the Anglican church at New Castle were virtually inaccessible from Mill Creek Hundred, St. James was established to serve the people of both backgrounds.

Although the minister at New Castle, George Ross, considered St. James to be a chapel of his parish, his counterpart at Old Swedes, Andrew Hesselius, regularly ministered to the Stanton congregation. Since the Swedish Lutherans and the Anglicans frequently shared pulpits and duties, the dividing line between them became less and less distinct as the eighteenth century passed. The Swedish Lutheran Church in Wilmington finally passed out of existence in 1795.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Rightmyer, Nelson Waite. The Anglican Church in Delaware. Philadelphia: The Church Historical Society, 1947.

Zebley, Frank R. The Churches of Delaware. Wilmington: the author, 1947.

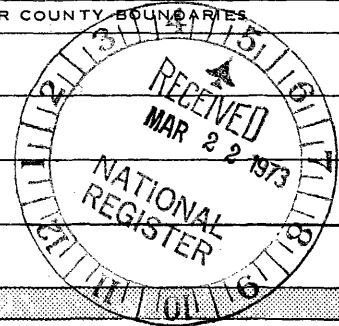
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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
NW	° ' "	° ' "		39°	43'	08"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		75°	39'	43"
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **10**

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



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Edward F. Heite, Historic Registrar**

ORGANIZATION: **Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs** DATE: **October 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Hall of Records**

CITY OR TOWN: **Dover** STATE: **Delaware** CODE: **10**

**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 *E. Berkeley Tompkins*  
 Dr. E. Berkeley Tompkins, Director  
 Division of Historical and Cultural  
 Title Affairs  
 State Liaison Officer for the National  
 Register  
 Date 3-12-73

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

*Robert H. Tuttle*  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 5/8/73

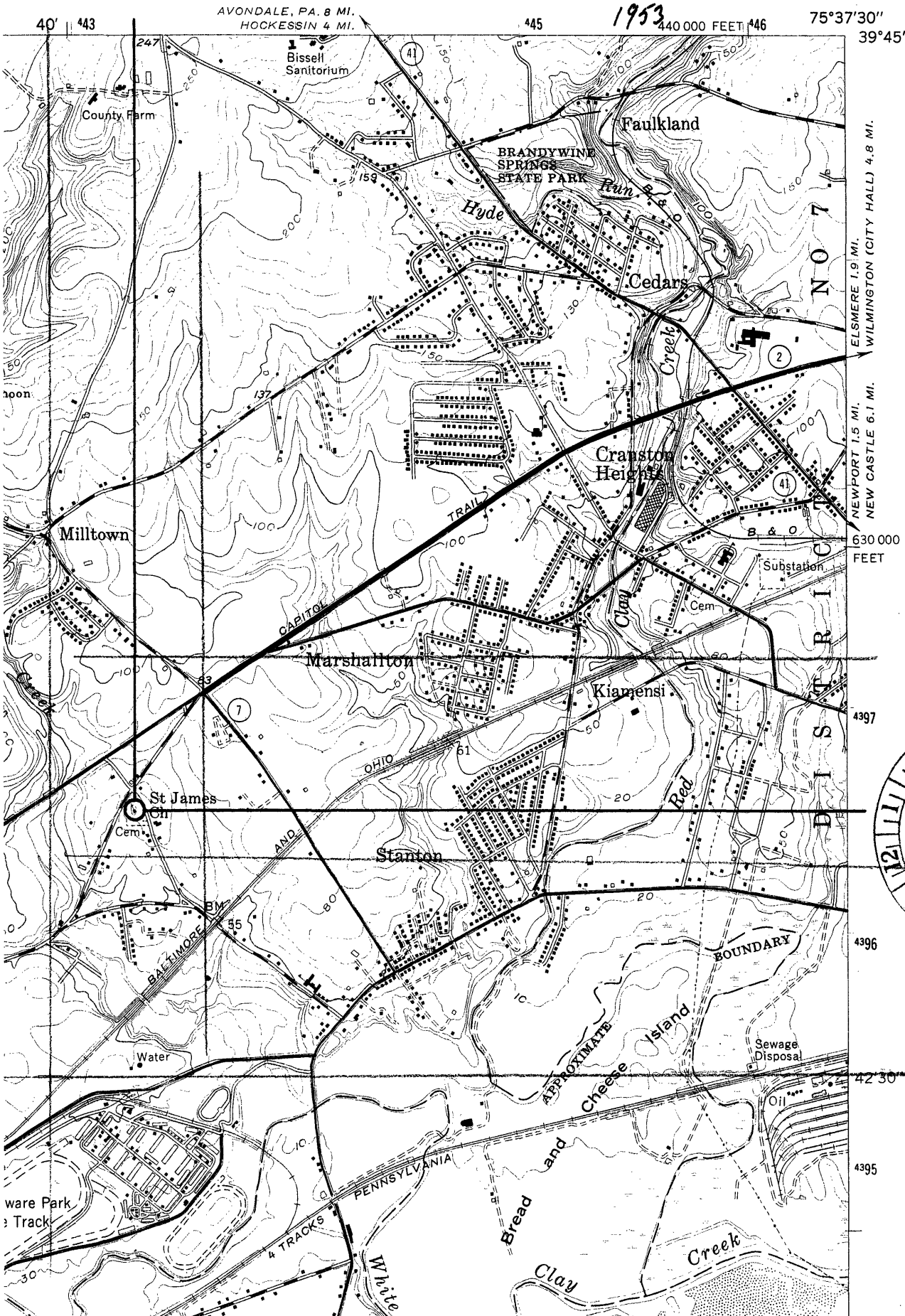
ATTEST:  
*[Signature]*  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 5 2 73

75° 39' 43"

# NEWARK EAST QUADRANGLE DELAWARE—NEW CASTLE CO. 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC) NW/4 WILMINGTON 15' QUADRANGLE

5863 1 SE  
(WILMINGTON NORTH)



DELAWARE

WILMINGTON (CITY HALL) 4.8 MI.  
NEW CASTLE 6.1 MI.  
ELSMERE 1.9 MI.  
NEWPORT 1.5 MI.

