

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

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**SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD**

NRIS Reference Number: 01001336 Date Listed: 12/07/2001

Property Name: Epiphany Chapel and Church House County: Anne Arundel State: MD

\_\_\_\_\_  
Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

*for* Patrick Andrus  
Signature of the Keeper

12/7/2001  
Date of Action

=====  
Amended Items in Nomination:

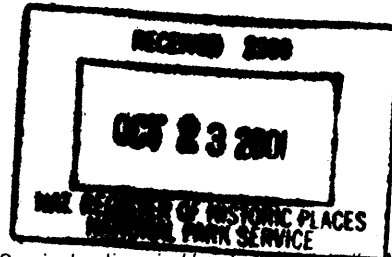
The registration form checks Criterion A, but does not provide a corresponding Area of Significance. Section 8 of the form notes that the chapel "is significant under Criterion A for its association with the mobilization for World War I." The registration form is officially amended to add Military as an Area of Significance.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

- National Register property file**
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

13286



National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word process, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

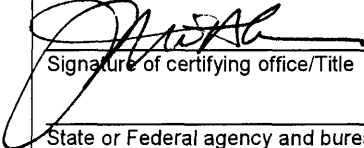
historic name Epiphany Chapel and Church House  
other names Epiphany Episcopal Church; AA-1029

2. Location

street & number 1419 Odenton Road  not for publication  
city or town Odenton  vicinity  
state Maryland code MD County Anne Arundel code 003 zip code 21113

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination   
request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic  
Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does  
not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (  
See continuation sheet for additional comments).

  
Signature of certifying office/Title

10-19-01  
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying office/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

- I hereby certify that this property is:
- entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
  - determined eligible for the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
  - Determined not eligible for the National Register.
  - removed from the National Register.
  - other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper Patrick Andrews Date of Action 12/7/2001

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	Buildings
		Sites
		Structures
		Objects
1	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK

walls WOOD

roof ASPHALT

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history.
- B** Property associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property as yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

**Area of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

**Period of Significance**

1918

**Significant Dates**

1918

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Riggin Buckler, architect

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

**Previous documentation on files (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Epiphany Chapel and Church House  
Name of Property

Anne Arundel County, Maryland  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property Approximately one acre

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet) Odenton, MD quad

1	1 8 Zone	3 5 2 2 0 0 Easting	4 3 2 7 6 0 0 Northing	3			
2				4			

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Peter E. Kurtze  
organization Maryland Historical Trust date August 2001  
street & number 100 Community Place, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor telephone (410) 514-7649  
city or town Crownsville state Maryland zip code 21032-2023

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

- A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional Items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

name Vestry of Epiphany Episcopal Church, c/o Mr. James Conboy, Senior Warden  
street & number P. O. Box 110 telephone (410) 674-8819  
city or town Odenton state MD zip code 21113

**Paperwork Reduction Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et. seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Epiphany Chapel and Church House

Name of Property

Anne Arundel County, Maryland

County and State

Section 7 Page 1

## DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

Epiphany Chapel and Church House is a one-story gable-roofed frame building constructed in 1918. It is laid out on a cruciform plan and features decorative detailing in the Arts and Crafts style. The building exhibits a high degree of integrity, and retains many of its original furnishings.

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The one-story frame cross-plan structure has a gable roof. The building is located on the south side of Odenton Road at its intersection with Morgan Road in the older section of Odenton, and is oriented with the principal facade facing west. The east-west portion of the church is slightly higher than the flanking north-south wings, signifying the importance of the east-west section which houses the narthex, nave and chancel areas of the church. A small gable-roofed vestibule wing extends from the facade (west elevation), covering the entrance to the narthex. A square two-story tower with a pyramidal roof extends from the south elevation of the church at the southeast end. This tower presumably functioned as the bell tower with its strategic location near the chancel. A narrow steeple, supporting a cross, rises from the roof at the juncture of the cross gables. An interior brick chimney with a corbeled cap pierces the roof line of the south wing.

The exterior walls are covered with aluminum siding. However, historic photographs show that the church was originally covered with board and batten siding and later with wood shingles. The roof which is currently covered with asphalt shingles was covered with wood shingles, according to the historic photos. Most of the windows are multi-paned casements with their original hardware. The nave of the church is lit by six, three-part stained glass windows: three on the north elevation and three on the south. A Gothic-arch stained glass window flanked by narrow rectangular stained glass windows are located on the east elevation of the chancel.

The principal entrance to the church is through the vestibule on the west elevation. Wood double doors with five horizontal panels each lead into the vestibule which in turn opens through another pair of paneled doors into a large, almost square hall or narthex. The interior walls and ceilings of this room and the nave are covered with thin wallboard panels secured by a grid of narrow wood battens. The board panels are painted white and contrast with the dark wood battens, a traditional wall and ceiling treatment of the Arts and Crafts period.

The narthex is divided from the nave by a series of wood, five horizontal panel folding doors. The narthex has a stair in the northwest corner which leads to a second floor. The square newel posts and balusters are characteristic of the Arts and Crafts period. A fireplace is located on the south wall of the narthex. Access to

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Epiphany Chapel and Church House

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the flanking wings of the church is from the narthex: to the north is an office, Sunday School room and bathrooms, and to the south is a large Sunday School room and a kitchen.

The narthex contains many pieces of Mission-Style furniture that are original to the church, including tables and chairs. The nave has a central aisle flanked by wooden pews.<sup>1</sup>

Also on the property is a recently constructed multipurpose building which, although it is compatible with the historic building in scale, form, and materials, does not contribute to the significance of the resource.

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<sup>1</sup> The foregoing description is taken from Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties form AA-1029, prepared in 1989 by Donna Ware, on file at the Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland.)

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Epiphany Chapel and Church House

Name of Property

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## SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

Epiphany Chapel and Church House is significant under Criterion A for its association with the mobilization for World War I. Constructed adjacent to Camp Meade [now Fort George G. Meade], a major training camp for troops bound for the front, the Chapel and Church House provided facilities for religious services and also accommodations for visitors to the camp, including soldiers and their families. It achieves significance at the state level as the only known World War I-era resource in Maryland that combined these functions. The building derives additional significance under Criterion C for its architectural character, reflecting the Arts and Crafts style in its simple form and massing, multi-paned casement windows, and the use of natural materials. Its design was an early work of the prominent Baltimore architect Riggins T. Buckler (1883-1955).

## RESOURCE HISTORY AND HISTORIC CONTEXT:

The Epiphany Episcopal Church was built in 1917-1919 as the Epiphany Chapel and Church House of St. Peter's Parish. Designed by a prominent Baltimore architect, Riggins T. Buckler, the church embodies the characteristics of the Arts and Crafts Style of architecture. It was built to replace St. Peter's Church which was located on Camp Meade property (now Fort George G. Meade). The arrangements for construction of a new chapel were made by the granddaughters of General George G. Meade, Margaret Buckingham and Isabel Freeman (sisters) of Washington D. C.

As the country mobilized for World War I, the War Department appointed an Army Camp Site Board to select cantonment areas for training the new National Army. The area near Odenton was attractive for several reasons. It was located equidistant between the urban centers of Washington and Baltimore, on the line of the newly-electrified Washington, Baltimore and Annapolis Railroad. It appeared feasible to assemble the 19,000 acres which the Board had estimated would be necessary for the various functions of the camp; a previous plan to create a major urban center in the area had not materialized, and the land remained in agricultural use or undeveloped. The terrain was appropriate for the purpose, water supplies were adequate, and electricity could be furnished from the railroad's existing transmission lines.

Construction started July 2, 1917. In 5-1/2 months, 1,460 buildings capable of housing more than 42,000 men had been erected at a cost of \$15,600,000. The camp opened on September 15, 1917, and received some 25,000 troops within four days.

The first phase of land acquisition encompassed approximately 9,400 acres, and resulted in the displacement of numerous farm families. In addition, the camp surrounded St. Peter's Episcopal Church, and General Meade's granddaughters promptly began making arrangements to build a chapel just outside the boundaries of the base. Several sites were considered; the property that was chosen amounted to one acre and had an old blacksmith shop on it. General Meade's granddaughters, parishioners of Epiphany Episcopal



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Church, Washington, made a major contribution toward the construction and furnishing of the project, with the understanding that it would be called Epiphany Chapel. The land was acquired from the Watts family in 1917. Construction began in the Spring of 1918, and the building was finished in 60 days. The Baltimore Sun announced the opening:

The new Episcopal Chapel at Odenton, which has been built for the benefit of the soldiers of the cantonment, will be opened tomorrow morning . . .

The church, which is in the form of a cross, will serve a twofold purpose. It will minister to the spiritual, mental, and bodily needs of the men. There is in the building a fine dormitory, which will provide sleeping quarters for about 50 persons. Many of the male visitors to this camp who wish to remain overnight on Saturdays or Sundays, instead of going all the way to Baltimore or Washington for hotel accommodations, will be taken care of at this dormitory. There will be social and recreational rooms for the soldiers and their friends. Games have been installed in these rooms, as have pianos. Victrolas and other musical devices and baths have been installed (Sun, May 23, 1918).

The Rev. Dr. J. A. Montgomery, professor of the Old Testament at the Episcopal Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, and professor of archaeology at the University of Pennsylvania, officiated at the opening. The formal consecration took place on June 3, 1918, with Bishop Murray of Maryland, Bishops Rhinelander and Garland of Pennsylvania, and Bishop Harding of Washington all present. Several dignitaries attended the ceremony, including Congressman J. Charles Linthicum, the sponsor of legislation that made the "Star Spangled Banner" our National Anthem. Miss Anna M. Meade and Major P. F. Meade, daughter and nephew of General George G. Meade, presented the church with the General's sword and portrait.

A joint effort of the Episcopal dioceses of Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Washington, the chapel and church house welcomed members of all denominations. Its mission was to be a "home away from home" for military personnel on their way to the front and for visiting families. It provided not only a sanctuary, but also domestic space: a living room with a fireplace, dining room, kitchen, and bedrooms upstairs. Five army chaplains from Camp Meade celebrated religious services, offered counseling, and organized social activities for the soldiers and their visiting families.

The building's design was the work of architect Riggin T. Buckler (1883-1955) who clothed its unique combination of functions in a simple and straightforward expression of the Arts and Crafts Style. Epiphany Chapel and Church House was an early project in Buckler's career, and presaged his emergence as one of Baltimore's most prominent architects. He reportedly accepted no fee for his work at Epiphany.

Born in Baltimore, the son of Dr. & Mrs. Riggin Buckler, he attended the Marston School, Ruxton, and graduated from Johns Hopkins University in 1904. Buckler received a degree in architecture from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and continued his studies at the Sorbonne, Paris. He worked in the offices of McKim, Mead & White from 1908 to March, 1910, after which he began his architectural practice, and became

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Epiphany Chapel and Church House

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a member of the AIA in 1919. In 1921, he founded the firm of Buckler & Fenhagen in partnership with George Corner Fenhagen. Early in its history, Buckler & Fenhagen achieved celebrity by winning two important design competitions, for the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond (1922) and the Baltimore City College (1924). Other projects of the firm include Shriver Hall of Johns Hopkins University; Samuel Ready School; Mount Wilson State Hospital; Washington County Hospital, Hagerstown; a new wing at St. Luke's Hospital, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania; Arlington (Virginia) Community Hospital; St. Mary's Academy, Alexandria, Virginia; Reformatory for Males, Breathedsville, Maryland. Buckler was a close friend of Dr. Victor Cullen, and the firm designed several of the tuberculosis sanatoria in Maryland, including those at Henryton, Mount Wilson, Pine Bluff, and Sabillasville. He died at his home on Woodbrook Lane, April 27, 1955.

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Epiphany Chapel and Church House

Name of Property

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References:

Archives, Episcopal Diocese of Maryland, 4 East University Parkway, Baltimore, Maryland 21218.

Hammond, Dorothy. Research notes.

Heritage Times: Special Edition. Odenton Heritage Society, Inc., n. d.

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties, Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland.

O'Malley, Catherine L. Odenton: The Town a Railroad Built. Annapolis and St. Michaels, Maryland, 1973.

## 10. Geographical Data:

Verbal Boundary Description: Boundaries of the nominated property are described on the attached plat entitled "Plat of Odenton Chapel Lot" (source: Maryland Diocesan Archives, Baltimore, Maryland).

Boundary Justification: The nominated property comprises the land historically associated with the resource, and encompasses the church within its immediate setting.

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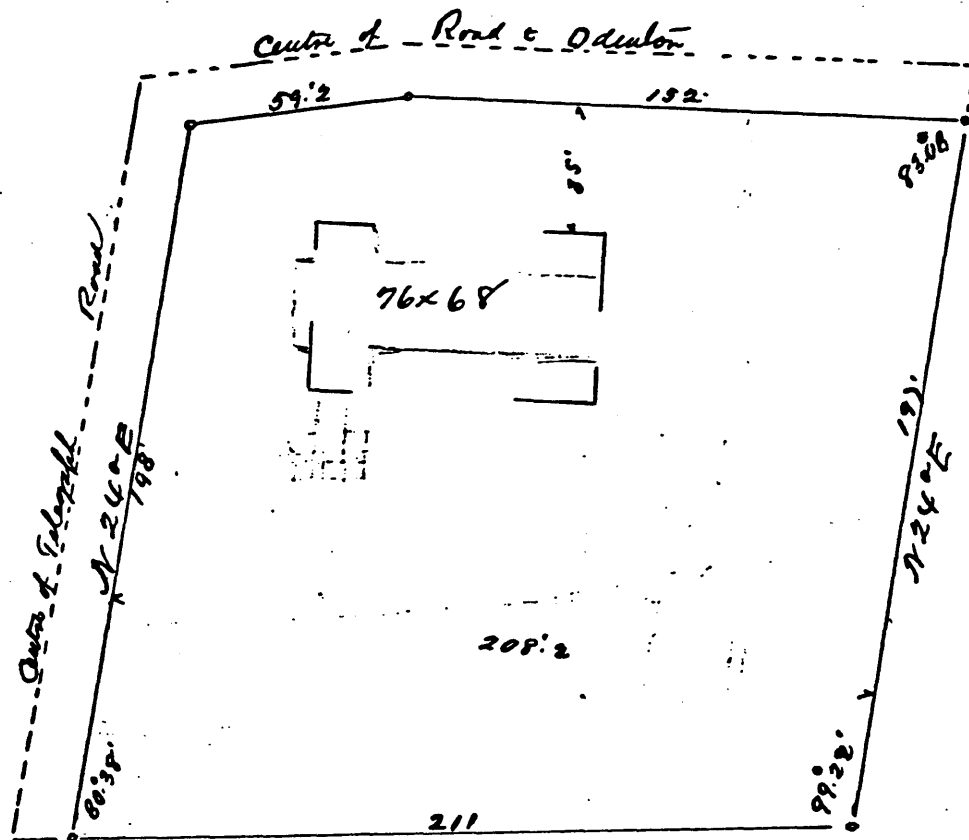
Name of Property

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## Property Plat



*Plat  
of  
Odenton Chapel  
Lot*

THOMAS H. DENNEY,  
Engineer and Surveyor -  
210 E. Lexington St