AA-71 **1920s**
St. Mark's Chapel of St. James' Parish
385 Deale Road, Tracys Landing
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Deale Quad
Church

St. Mark's Chapel is an eclectically-styled Anglican chapel of ease. Built in the early part of the 20th century, St. Mark's is an unusually late example of this type of building. These secondary churches, built some distance from the main parish church, were quite common in large Anglican parishes during the colonial and early federal period, but became unnecessary as transportation methods and roads improved throughout the 19th century.

With respect to style, St. Mark's presents an interesting mix of Dutch Colonial Revival and Gothic Revival style elements.

Survey No. AA-71

Magi No.

DOE ____ yes ____ no

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic St. Mark's Chapel of St. James' Parish (preferred)

and/or common St. Mark's Episcopal Church

2. Location

street & number 385 Deale Road ____ not for publication

city, town Tracys Landing ____ vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Anne Arundel

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	x yes: restricted	____ government	____ scientific
	____ being considered	____ yes: unrestricted	____ industrial	____ transportation
	x not applicable	____ no	____ military	____ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Herrington Partnership of St. Mark's Church

street & number P.O. Box 40 telephone no.:

city, town Tracys Landing state and zip code: Maryland 20779

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Anne Arundel County Courthouse liber 9248

street & number Franklin Street folio 210

city, town Annapolis state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

e ____ federal ____ state ____ county ____ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. AA-71

Condition		Check one	Check one
x excellent	deteriorated	x unaltered	original site
good	ruins	altered	moved date of move
fair	unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

St. Mark's Chapel is located in the southern Anne Arundel County community of Traceys Landing, on the south side of Herring Bay Road at its intersection with Deale Road (Rt. 256). This small but boldly articulated frame chapel sits back from the road on a 1.97 acre grass lot. A small cemetery containing mostly mid- and late-19th century graves is located approximately 300' west of the church, and is surrounded by a low picket fence. The Herrington Harbor North marina complex sits directly east and is separated from St. Marks by a collection of relocated, small, late-19th and early-20th century buildings.

Facing northeast and measuring 40' x 24', St. Mark's Chapel is a one-story, gable-front frame church. Walls are sheathed with modern vinyl siding (presumably covering weatherboards) and rest on a partially brick-veneered concrete block foundation. St. Mark's displays hallmarks of both the Gothic Revival and Dutch Colonial Revival Styles. The building's lancet windows and door transom affiliate it with the former taste, however, the chapel is most defined by its Dutch Colonial Revival gable roof and pyramidal steeple. Both roof and steeple feature the flared eaves that are hallmarks of the Dutch Colonial Revival style. The already distinctive roofline is further accented by the location of a steeple on top of the front gable end. Its position interrupts the run of the ridgeline, while the front cornice treatment runs across the steeple's base, parallel with ground and cornice of the steeple. As a result, when viewed from the front, the building's gable roof form is hidden and instead presents itself as having a flat-top, tripartite roof construction. The chapel's proportions, combined with its roof form, convey a horizontal emphasis contrary to the vertical thrust of the windows and doors.

Front façade fenestration is restricted to the centrally placed pair of modern metal doors and its lancet-shaped, clear-glass transom light. The steeple's walls are punctuated by louvered, lancet-shaped ventilation windows; the front aligns with the double-door entry below. A small wooden cross tops the steeple's low-pitch pyramidal roof.

East and west facades were originally identical, with each wall containing five evenly-spaced, six-over-six windows with lancet-top, clear-glass transoms. Windows are complete with functional exterior louvered shutters. The fourth window bay of the west wall has been converted into a door and is accessed by a concrete ramp that runs most of the length of the west wall. The chapel's rear (south) elevation lacks doors or windows.

St. Mark's Chapel features a classic center-aisle plan, flanked on either side by six, wooden, Gothic Revival style oak pews. In the south end two, low, full-width steps lead up to the altar and a simple, oak communion rail. The building was originally open to the rafters, but following the 1930s fire received a tongue-and-groove ceiling. Two laterally-placed, narrow-gauge, steel tie bars engage the walls at sill level. Presumably, these were added to provide structural stability following the last fire. Two small rooms, measuring approximately 6' x 5', are situated in the corners opposite the front entrance. That in the northwest corner serves as a garment room, while the other is currently used for general storage.

Both the building, grounds and cemetery of St. Mark's Chapel are well maintained and in very good condition.

8. Significance

Survey No. AA-71

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
____ 1700-1799	____ art	____ engineering	____ music	____ theater
____ 1800-1899	____ commerce	____ exploration/settlement	____ philosophy	____ transportation
x 1900-	____ communications	____ industry	____ politics/government	____ other (specify) (recreation)
		____ invention		

Specific dates **Builder/Architect**

Check: Applicable Criteria: x A ____ B x C ____ D

and/or

Applicable Exception: ____ A ____ B ____ C ____ D ____ E ____ F ____ G

Level of Significance: ____ national ____ state x local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

St. Mark's Chapel is a fine and largely intact early-20th century example of an Anglican chapel-of-ease. This eclectically-styled building was constructed in the 1920s to replace an earlier chapel. The building's significance derives principally from its association with the chapel-of-ease system of the Anglican Church.

A chapel-of-ease was a small church constructed some distance from the main Anglican parish church for convenience of distant parishioners living in the region. The Anglican church was the colonial extension of the Church of England and in 1692 the Maryland Assembly passed the Act of Establishment, making this the colony's official religion. St. James Parish, formerly Herring Creeke Parish, was one of four Anne Arundel County parishes created by the Act of Establishment (1). St. James' parish is bounded on the north by Polling House Rd. and, what is now, Owensville Road; on the west by Prince Georges County; on the south by Calvert County, with the Chesapeake Bay serving as the eastern terminus. It contains approximately 150 square miles.

Anglican parishes in many parts of Maryland, Virginia and the Carolinas were extremely large, occasionally encompassing several hundred square miles. In the more settled regions along the coast, richer parishes erected one or more chapels-of-ease for their distant members. On May 15, 1699 the St. James' vestry approved a motion to "find a Convenient place for a Chappelle of Ease in ye part of ye parish" and to "take such land and subscriptions, to receive Such money, tobbo or other things, which may be Serviceable to ye Errecteing of ye Sayd Chappel"(2). St. James' Parish records through 1799 make no further mention regarding the construction of a chapel of ease. The first chapel of ease for this parish is therefore believed to have been constructed in the early 19th century. Disrepair prompted its replacement in the later part of that century. The second chapel burned in the 1920s and was replaced by the present structure in the same location (3). In the early 1930s arson damaged the interior. As a result, the present interior is a mix of 1920s and 1930s elements.

St. Mark's is a particularly late example of a chapel of ease. These secondary churches became unnecessary as transportation methods and roads improved throughout the 19th century. With respect to style, St. Marks is an interesting mix of architectural details extracted from the Gothic Revival and Dutch Colonial Revival styles. The building is in excellent physical condition and retains a substantial amount of historic integrity.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No AA-71

(1) Edith Stansbury Dallam, St. James' Parish: Old Herring Creeke Parish, Anne Arundel County, Maryland 1663-1799. Port City Press, 1978.
(2) ibid, p. 132.
Personal communication from Rev. Bill Ticknor, rector of St. James Church, November 1998.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1.97 acres

Quadrangle name Deale

Quadrangle scale 1: 24,000

UTM References Do NOT complete UTM references

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

The proposed boundary is the legal boundary as recorded on Anne Arundel County tax map 77, block 12, parcel 116. This 1.97 acre parcel encompasses both the church and associated cemetery.

t 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 Sherri Marsh

organization Anne Arundel County Historic Sites Survey date 6/20/99

street & number Department of Planning, 2664 Riva Road

city or town Annapolis state MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCP/DHCD
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Annapolis, Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Survey Number: AA-71
St. Mark's Chapel of St. James' Parish

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance (1870-1930)

Historic Period Theme(s): architecture & religion

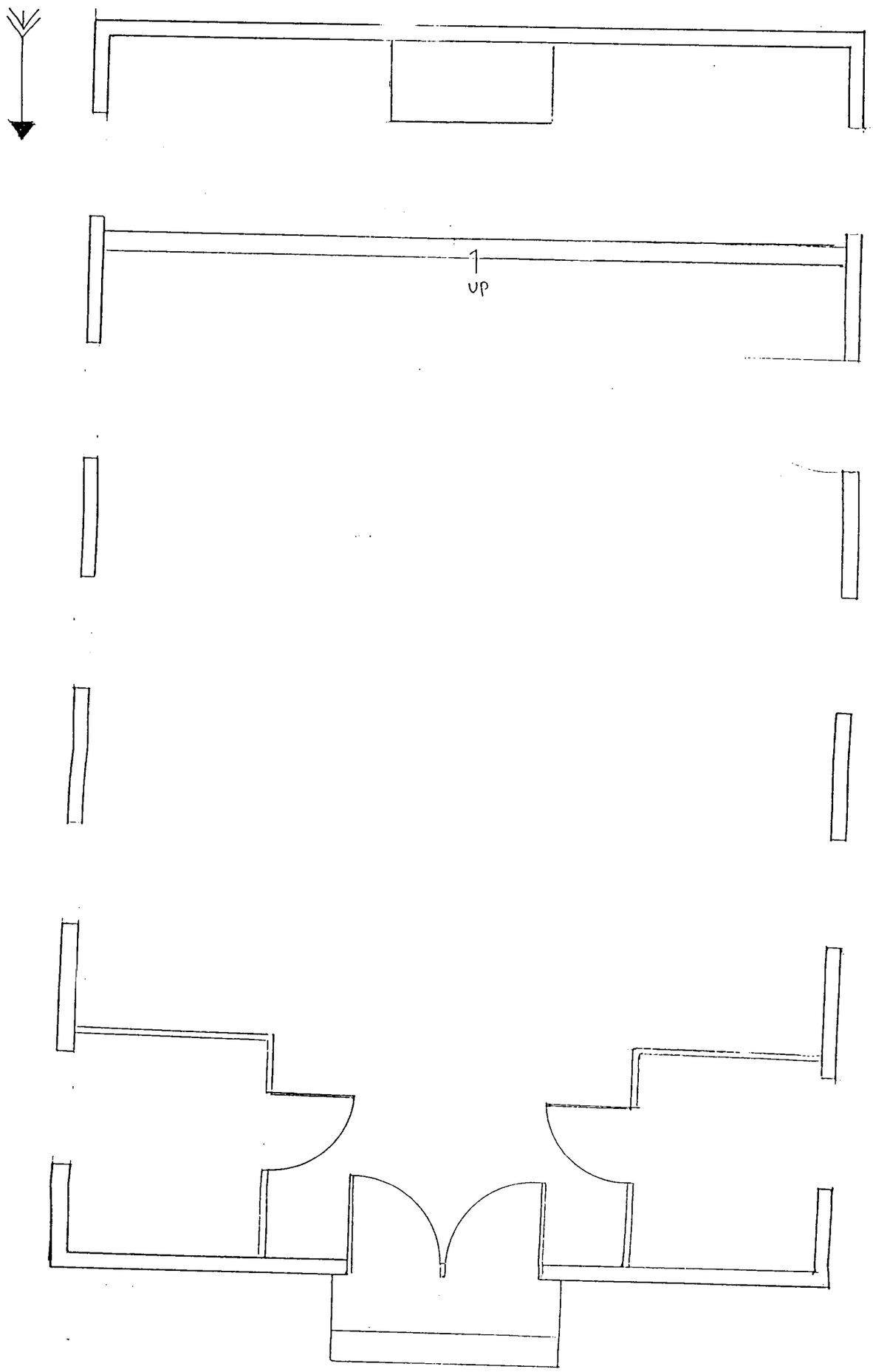
Resource Type:

Category: building

Historic Environment: rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): chapel of ease/church

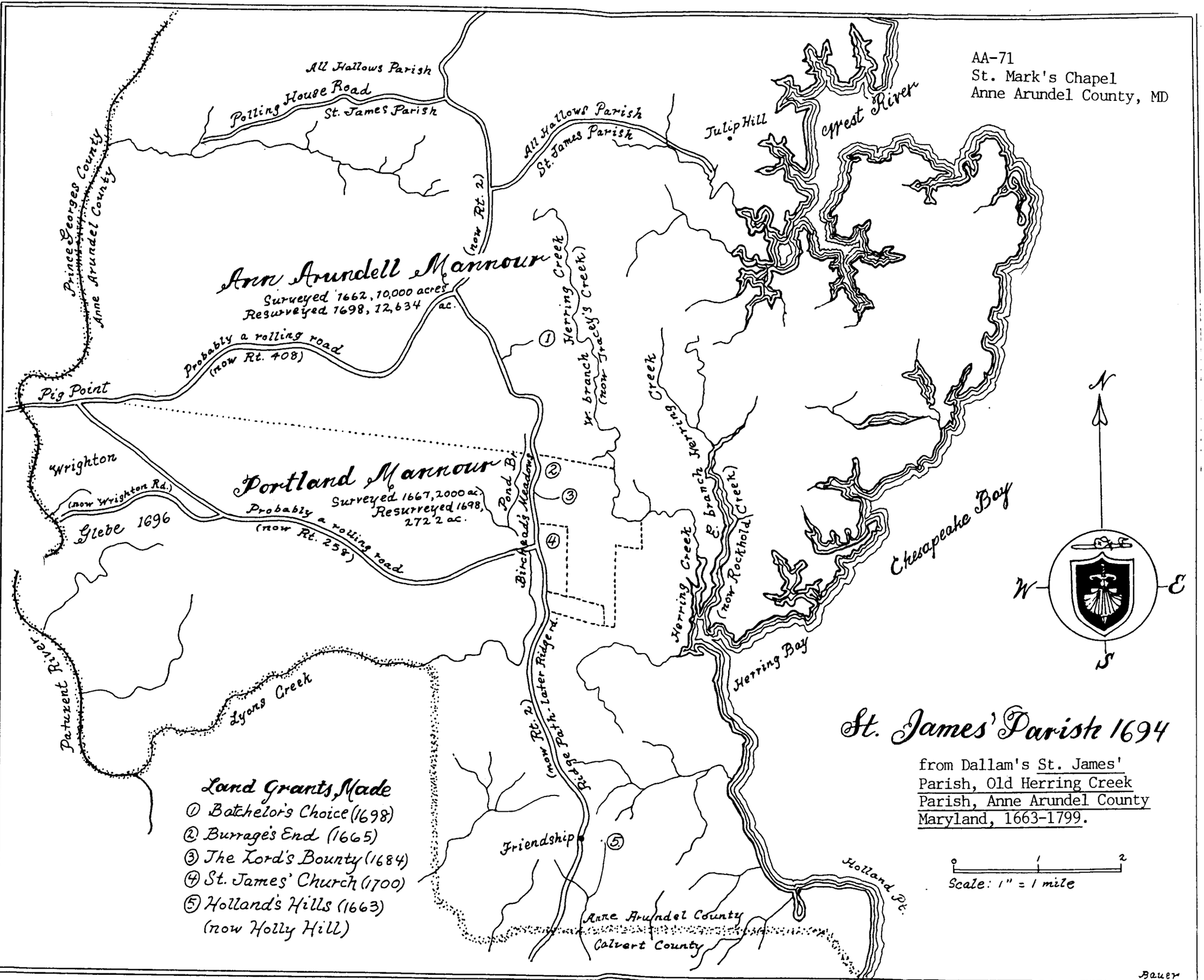
Known Design Source: none



AA-71
'. Mark's Chapel of St. James' Parish
385 Deale Road
Tracys Landing, Maryland

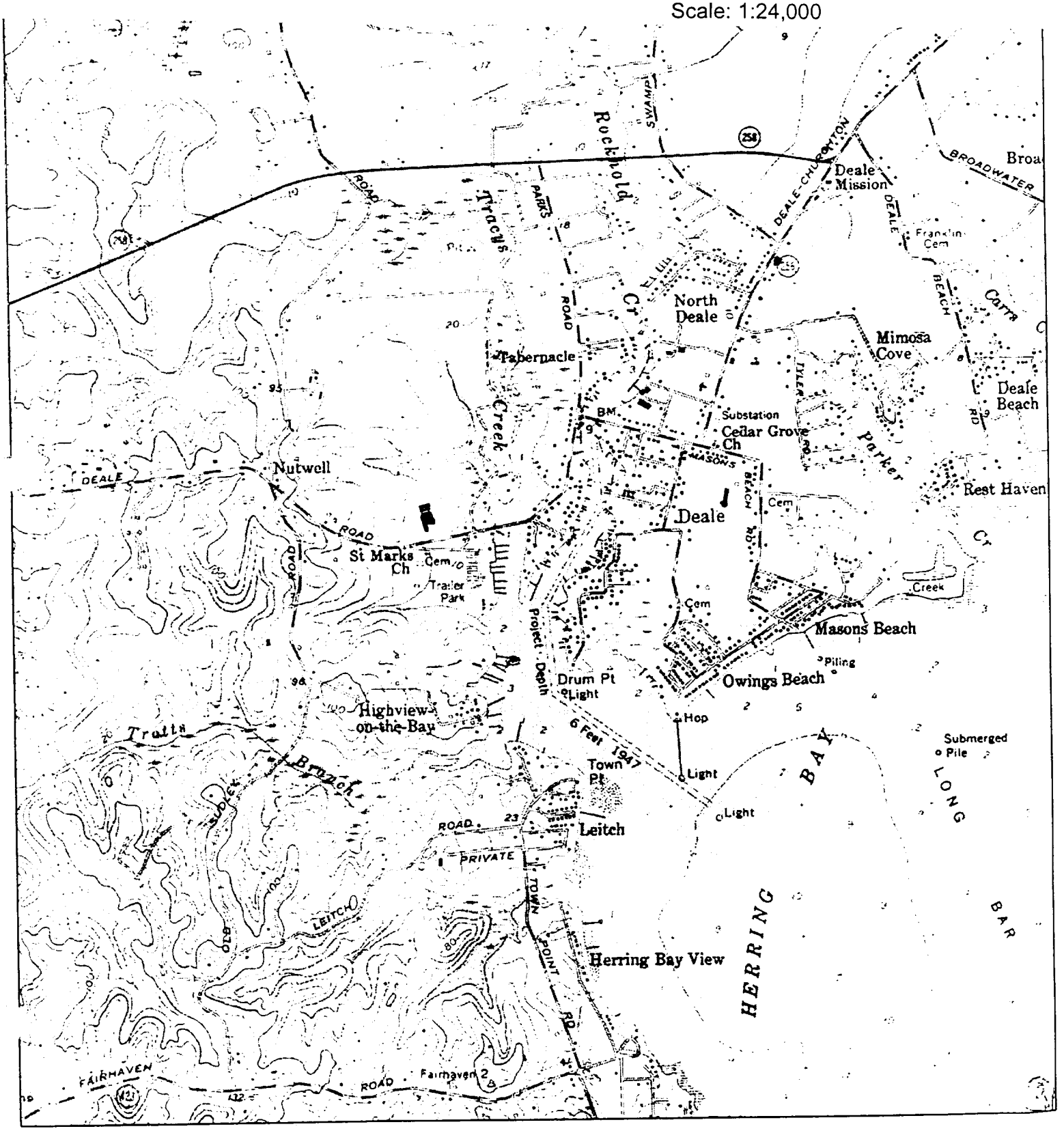
Scale: ¼" = 1'
By Sherri Marsh
November, 1999

AA-71
St. Mark's Chapel
Anne Arundel County, MD



AA-71 (St. Mark's Chapel of St. James' Parish)
385 Deale Road
Tracys Landing, Maryland

USGS Quad: Deale
7.5 minute series
1957, revised 1979
Scale: 1:24,000



AA-71

St. MARK'S Chapel of St. James' PARISH

Deale Road, TRACYS Landing, ANNE ARUNDEL CO.

by Sherri MARSH

February, 1999

Negative at Maryland SHPO

South elevation

Photo 1 of 5

AA-71

St. Mark's Chapel of St. James' Parish

Deale Road, Tracys Landing, Anne Arundel Co.

by Sherri Marsh

February, 1999

Negative at Maryland SHPO

SE perspective

Photo 2 of 5

AA- 71
St. Mark's Chapel of St. James' Parish
Deale Road, Tracys Landing, Anne Arundel CO
by Sherri Marsh
February, 1999
Negative at Maryland SHPO
Interior
Photo 3 of 5

AA-71
St. Marks Chapel of St. James' Parish
Deale Road, Tracys Landing, Anne Arundel Co
by Sherri Marsh
February, 1999
Negative at Maryland SHPO
Interior
Photo 4 of 5

Born
Died
THEODORE
MARGARET E.
J. B. W.

AA-71
St. Mark's Chapel of St. James' Parish
Deale Road, Tracys Landing, Anne Arundel Co.
by Sherri Marsh
February, 1999
Negative at Maryland SHPO
adjacent cemetery
Photo 5 of 5