

Anne Arundel - 770
Our Lady of Sorrows Roman Catholic Church (Site)
Owensville Rd.
West River, MD 20881

1866, 1884, 1927, 1951

The original church on this four acre tract was a board and batten building similar in construction to Christ Episcopal Church of Owensville. The present church is a copy of the restored St. Bede's Church at Williamsburg, Va. It was designed by the architectural firm of Williams, Coile & Blanchard of Newport News, Va. This church has always had black and indian members (the indians are called "Wessarts" and are of black & indian extraction). Our Lady of Sorrows has been home to black Catholics in this rural area for 124 years.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Our Lady of Sorrows Roman Catholic Church (Site)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Owensville Road

CITY, TOWN

West River (Owensville) VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Fourth

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY
Anne Arundel

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Archdiocese of Baltimore

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Catholic Center
320 Cathedral St.

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
MD, 21201

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Anne Arundel Co. Courthouse

Liber #: SH 7
Folio #: 293

STREET & NUMBER

Church Circle

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

N/A

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE 1866

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The present Our Lady of Sorrows Roman Catholic Church was built in 1951. It is situated on the southside of Owensville Road in Owensville (West River). The church is a copy of the restored St. Bede's Church in Williamsburg, Va. The building was designed by the architectural firm ...Williams, Coile & Blanchard of Newport News, Va. The new church was a gift of Richard Bennett Darnall.

The original church on this four acre tract was a board and batten building similar in construction to Christ Episcopal Church of Owensville. The church was erected in 1866, renovated in 1884 and 1927 and demolished in 1951.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Our Lady of Sorrows Roman Catholic Church was founded in 1866 on land originally purchased by the Stewart family. Martin J. Spaulding, Archbishop of Baltimore is said to have given \$365 for two acres of the present four acre tract. William C. Peake, a West River Methodist also donated some of the property.

This church has always had black and indian members (the indians are called "Wessarts" and are of black & indian extraction). There has never been a black Catholic Church in Anne Arundel County with the exception of St. Augustine's in Annapolis. That church was built in 1950 and demolished in the 1970's. Our Lady of Sorrows has been home to black Catholics in this rural area for 124 years.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"A Centenary for Our Lady of Sorrows,
Owensville, Maryland 1866-1966"
Pub. at Owensville, 1951 (no author)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE _____ COUNTY _____

STATE _____ COUNTY _____

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

James W. Clark, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION Maryland Commission on Afro-American
History & Culture

DATE

STREET & NUMBER
20 Dean Street

TELEPHONE

269-2893

CITY OR TOWN Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

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
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

AA-770

INTERIOR
EY

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
5661 1 NE
3 MI. TO MD. 214
SOUTH RIVER 2.1 MI (SOUTH RIV.)

9 MI. TO U.S. 50
BIRDSVILLE 2 MI. 361
Marriott Hill
Microwave
Tower



AA-770
OUR LADY OF SORROWS
R.C. CHURCH

DEANE



Our Lady of Sorrows Roman Catholic Church
West River, Anne Arundel Co., MD AA-770
Michael Hosford

Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD
Northwest elevation
2/81



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