Survey No. AA-850

Magi No. 0208505808

DOE __yes __no

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 826 West Central Avenue ___ not for publication

city, town Davidsonville ___ vicinity of 4th congressional district

state Maryland county Anne Arundel

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	___ occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
X building(s)	X private	X unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	X religious
___ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	X yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	X not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ other:

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

name Archdiocese of Baltimore

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Anne Arundel County Courthouse liber 2616

street & number South Street folio 353

city, town Annapolis state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. AA-850

Condition		Check one	Check one
X excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	X original site
___ good	___ ruins	X 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.

The Holy Family Catholic Church is located on the north side of Maryland Route 214, approximately 1,000 yards west of the intersection of Maryland Routes 424 and 214 in Davidsonville, Md. The church faces south.

The cornerstone, which reads "Aug. 15, 1929," is the middle block in the southeast corner of the front foundation. According to local sources, the building is a prefabricated structure ordered from Sears, Roebuck and Co. in 1928.

The church is a simple, small, white wooden structure. The main section is a 20′ x 40′ rectangular structure with a steeply pitched gable roof. A small entrance vestibule is centered on the south gable end and small transepts project from the north end of each facade wall. The transept roofs are lower than the main roof. The vestibule and transepts also have gabled roofs with the same pitch. A small steeple is centered near the front gabled end. The entire structure is symmetrical.

The exterior walls are covered with white wooden shingles. The wooden shingles and trim on the steeple have been replaced with vinyl. The roof is covered with new asphalt shingles, modern rain gutters are in place. The foundation consists of three courses of ashlar concrete blocks. Atop the bed moulding and plain apron is a narrow wooden water table.

The entrance vestibule is ten feet wide and projects six feet from the center of the south gable. Above the vestibule, centered in the gable of the main section, is a circular window with a blue-grey colored center and six amber colored sections radiating from the center. Flanking the vestibule are single windows. These windows, as well as all the others, are fitted with double-hung sash. Each sash consists of a large, rectangular blue-grey center section and a border of seven small amber rectangles, two down each side, one along the bottom, and two squares in the corners. Each window has a plain, narrow trim. On the east and west facades of the main section are four pairs of windows uniformly spaced.

Extending to either side of the main structure is a transept which has porches at each end. The north facade is plain except for a small louvered circle in the gable. A cellar entrance, with a metal bulkhead, is near the northeast corner.

The base of the steeple is square shaped with vinyl shingles; the pyramidal top is covered with roof shingles. Atop the steeple is a yellow wooden cross with a lightning rod. On all sides of the steeple are double louvered panels. Superimposed over the front and rear louvers is a Gothic arch-shaped trim, and superimposed over the side louvers is a rectangular shaped trim.

8. Significance

Survey No. AA-850

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	___ architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
___ 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
X 1900–	___ communications	X industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates 1929 **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: __A __B __C __D
and/or
Applicable Exception: __A __B __C __D __E __F __G

Level of Significance: __national __state __local

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

According to local tradition, the Holy Family Catholic Church was ordered from the 1928 Sears and Roebuck catalog.

A precusor of the pre-cut homes of today, this church still stands 56 years later as testimony to American ingenuity. For a very reasonable price all materials needed for construction were delivered by rail and then wagon or truck to the building site. Since the structure was provided pre-cut and well documented with plans and instructions, building time was minimal compared to on-site preparation by craftsmen. This type of construction also kept costs down, allowing the community to assume financial responsibility for its purchase and construction.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. AA-850

2616-353
FSR44-374

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____ Quadrangle scale _____

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

List 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 Davidsonville Survey Group

organization Davidsonville Area Civic Association date 5/84

street & number 1521 Themes Drive telephone 798-6145

city or town Davidsonville 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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

PS-2746

There is a wide roof overhang on the main section, vestibule and transept. The narrow barge boards on each gable are plain with an S-shaped cut-out at each end. The same S-shape is repeated for the brackets that support the overhangs. Twenty of these brackets extend along each side of the main structure. One is in the corners, then four more continue along each of the sides of the transept and four are along each side of the vestibule.

Above the doors is a Gothic arch. The plain trim around the doors continues around the arch. In the upper portion of the arch is a recessed cross shape. In the recess is a raised wooden cross painted yellow.

Leading up to the front doors are new concrete steps with wrought-iron handrails. On the east and west facades of the vestibule are single windows.

On each porch of the transept is a gabled canopy above the doors. On the south facade of the transept are double windows. The north facade of the transept has no openings. The doors of the transept have single bottom panels of the same tongue-and-groove boards as the soffit. At the top is a single light of the same, but larger design as the windows.

The canopies are supported by open triangular brackets with similar smaller S-shaped ends as found on the overhang brackets. The undersides of the canopies have narrow tongue-and-groove boards. There are three rafter braces with S-shaped ends supporting the roof of the canopies. The porches have two large square posts and small square balusters. The top rails are contoured. Four wooden steps lead up to each porch. There is no railing. The flooring of the porches consists of tongue-and-groove boards. On the west end of the transept is a brick chimney used as a vent for the furnace.

The vestibule is entered through the paired exterior doors. Entry into the nave is through a second pair of doors. These doors have four lights of opaque glass above a single panel. The panel is composed of the same narrow grooved boards which are observed on the exterior soffit, the interior ceiling, and the wainscoting. These boards appear to be 1 1/2 inch wide. Actually they are 3 inches and have a central "V" groove to simulate a narrower width.

The ceiling structure of the nave is completely exposed. There are three principal rafters, each with a tie beam and a king post. Suspended from these rafters are hexagonal brass and milk glass chandeliers. On the walls below these rafters are smaller matching semi-hexagonal lighting fixtures. Between each main rafter are four common rafters. All are joined by two purlins.

In the southeast corner of the nave is a three part stairway leading to the open balcony. The first run has five steps and turns 90 degrees by means of two winders to three more steps. These end in a quarter landing with three more steps reaching the balcony. The small balcony holds the organ and a few chairs. The newel post and intermediate posts are alike, having a 5 1/2 inch square base and top block with a turned central portion. Each is topped with a ball.

AA-850

Where the rafters meet the wall and ceiling is a six inch molded trim board. The walls are plastered above a four foot high wainscoting. The latter has a molded cap and a seven inch baseboard with a molded toe base.

The paired windows have simple molded surrounds and are separated by a 6 1/2 inch flat, beaded board.

On each side of the nave are ten built-in pews. The apse is separated from the nave by a single step platform. An earlier altar rail has been removed. The ceiling area is separated from the nave by a plastered arch which is flat until it reaches the walls with quarter round curves. The head of the apse is vaulted and there are two large Gothic arched niches on either side.

The east wing of the transept serves as a confessional and it also has a small closet. The opposite wing is the sacristy.