MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

BA-256

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC: Saint John the Evangelist

AND/OR COMMON:

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: Long Green Pike

CITY, TOWN: Baldwin — X VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 2

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Baltimore

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	__OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	X YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME: Archdiocese of Maryland

Telephone #: local (301) 592-6206

STREET & NUMBER: St. John The Evangelist

CITY, TOWN: Baldwin — __ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code: Maryland 21013

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Baltimore County Courthouse

Liber #: "see file card"
Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER: 401 Bosley Avenue

CITY, TOWN: Towson

STATE: Maryland 21204

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE: Baltimore County Historic Sites Survey BA 256

DATE:

__FEDERAL __STATE X COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Baltimore County Office of Planning & Zoning

CITY, TOWN: Towson

STATE: Maryland 21204

7 DESCRIPTION

BA-256

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
X EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	X UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	__RUINS	__ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The CHURCH of ST. JOHN the EVANGELIST is of stone, quarried just across the road, in the Early English Gothic Revival style, dating from 1855. It consists of a nave with a steep gabled roof and narrow lancet windows; the principal entrance is in the west end with the altar in the east end, the proper liturgical orientation.

The nave ceiling is covered with plaster vaulting with plaster ribs at the trusses, the whole polychromed. A gallery is at the west end. Windows are filled with stained and stencil-etched leaded glass; a representation of the church's Patron Saint is above the altar. The pews on either side of the central aisle may be original or at least contemporary with the structure. The white marble altar has a two-step reredos and tabernacle. Other furnishings and fittings date primarily, from the nineteenth century.

The Rectory is immediately south of the church, its principal facade to the west. A two story frame house, five bays in length, its central bay projects forward with a gable; eave and rake fascias are jig-sawn, American Gothic Revival motifs to relate it to the church.

A two-compartment privy is east of the church, of frame construction with a hipped roof.

The cemetery is north of the church and it extends some distance to the east. Established at the time of the church's construction it contains representative cemetery sculpture and lettering spanning the mid-nineteenth century to the present day.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	X RELIGION
400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	X SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1855 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Church of ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST is a carefully designed and executed example of the Early English Gothic Revival, undoubtedly the work of an architect as yet unidentified. Dating from 1855, it is in the earliest group of Gothic Revival churches in America. The RECTORY (BA 1877) is a traditional house of the same period, its projecting central bay and jig-sawn eave and rake fascias being Gothic Revival touches. The large parish cemetery contains examples of cemetery sculpture and lettering from the mid nineteenth century to the present day.

ST.JOHN'S is significant as the oldest Catholic parish in Baltimore County, and also for its association with the Jenkins family, prominent landholders in Long Green Valley in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Catholics in Long Green Valley were served from the mid eighteenth century by Jesuit circuit riders from Priest Neale's Mass House on Deer Creek in what later became Harford County. In 1792, St. Ignatius Church was built nearby at Hickory -- the first Roman Catholic Church erected after the Revolution. Priests from St. Ignatius celebrated mass at the homestead of Michael Jenkins who had patented Jenkins' Purchase in 1773 (n.b. not in 1723, as is commonly reported; Micahel Jenkins was born in 1736). Josias

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

see p. 8-2

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

BA-256

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 9.02

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 T. Wollon, Jr. A.I.A.; Elmer R. Haile, Jr.

ORGANIZATION
Historic Long Green Valley Inc.

DATE
August 3, 1981

STREET & NUMBER
c/o Julia Randall 5539 Hillrise Road

TELEPHONE
(301) 592-2629

CITY OR TOWN
Glen Arm

STATE
Maryland 21057

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

Jenkins succeeded his father.

> There is no record of how St. John's came to be; it is recorded is Archbishop Marechal's diary that on his visit of 1819 to St. Ignatius, Hickory, he visited Mrs. Henry Carroll, owner of Quinn House, and Mr. Josias Jenkins. Three years after these meetings, there was a church under construction.[1]

This was St. John's on the Ridge, one of the six daughter churches of St. Ignatius. The frame church, consecrated in May, 1822, was located at Carroll Manor a quarter mile northeast of the present Carroll Manor School. It burned in February, 1855.

By 1855 Josias Jenkins and his eldest son John Hillen, to whom he had entailed the esate, had both died, John Hillen without issue. A court case assured a more equitable distribution of the property among his widow Elizabeth and others of his children. His daughter Sarah, who had married her cousin Edward Jenkins, bought 169 acres from her mother and was in process of constructing MONTROSE (BA 1392, q.v.) In November, 1855, Edward and Sarah Jenkins, on behalf of the entire family, sold Archbishop Kenrick two acres for $5, the site on the east side of Long Green Pike (then the western branch of Harford Turnpike) now occupied by the second ST.JOHN'S. Limestone for the small Gothic church was hauled from the quarry at the Jenkins homestead, under the supervision of P.T.George, husband of Sarah's sister Ellen. The builders were Abram Spicer and Sons; no architect has been identified. The first mass was celebrated December 30, 1855. Until a RECTORY (BA 1877) was built, Father Jacob Ambrose Walter, Long Green's first resident pastor, made his home with a third sister, Ann, who had married her cousin Mark Jenkins. Their house, Hillendale, now vanished, stood east of the

see p. 8-3

church, on Church Lane. The Mark Jenkinses set aside a plot of ground 40' by 50', surrounded by a stone wall, reserved for the Jenkins deceased. The remains were removed from St. John's on the Ridge and from the homestead to this new plot.

A school was established at ST.JOHN'S in 1858, and a "school house lot" conveyed to the church by the Edward Jenkinses in 1873. The present brick school building was dedicated in 1951.

The third St. John's, adjoining the second to the south, is a modern structure of stone, redwood, and glass with hall below, dedicated in 1969.

Notes

1. St. John the Evangelist Parish in Long Green Valley 1822-1972. Souvenir book commemorating the 150th anniversary, p.5. Cf. also Clarence V. Joerndt, St. Ignatius Hickory and its Missions. Baltimore, Publication Press, 1972.

030256538

Form 10-445
(5-62)

1. STATE Maryland
COUNTY Baltimore
TOWN
VICINITY Dist. XI
STREET NO. Long Green Pike

ORIGINAL OWNER
ORIGINAL USE
PRESENT OWNER
PRESENT USE
WALL CONSTRUCTION
NO. OF STORIES

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
INVENTORY BA-~~259~~ 256

2. NAME St. John's Catholic Church

DATE OR PERIOD 1822
STYLE
ARCHITECT
BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

OPEN TO PUBLIC

First Catholic church in Baltimore County, corner stone laid in 1822. Built of stone, Gothic style; Destroyed by fire in 1855 and rebuilt same year; first mass offered there on Dec. 30, 1855.

(second HABS report)
E. Frances Offutt
HABS COMMITTEE OF BALTIMORE
COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
March 20, 1968

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered Interior Exterior

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

7. PHOTOGRAPH

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

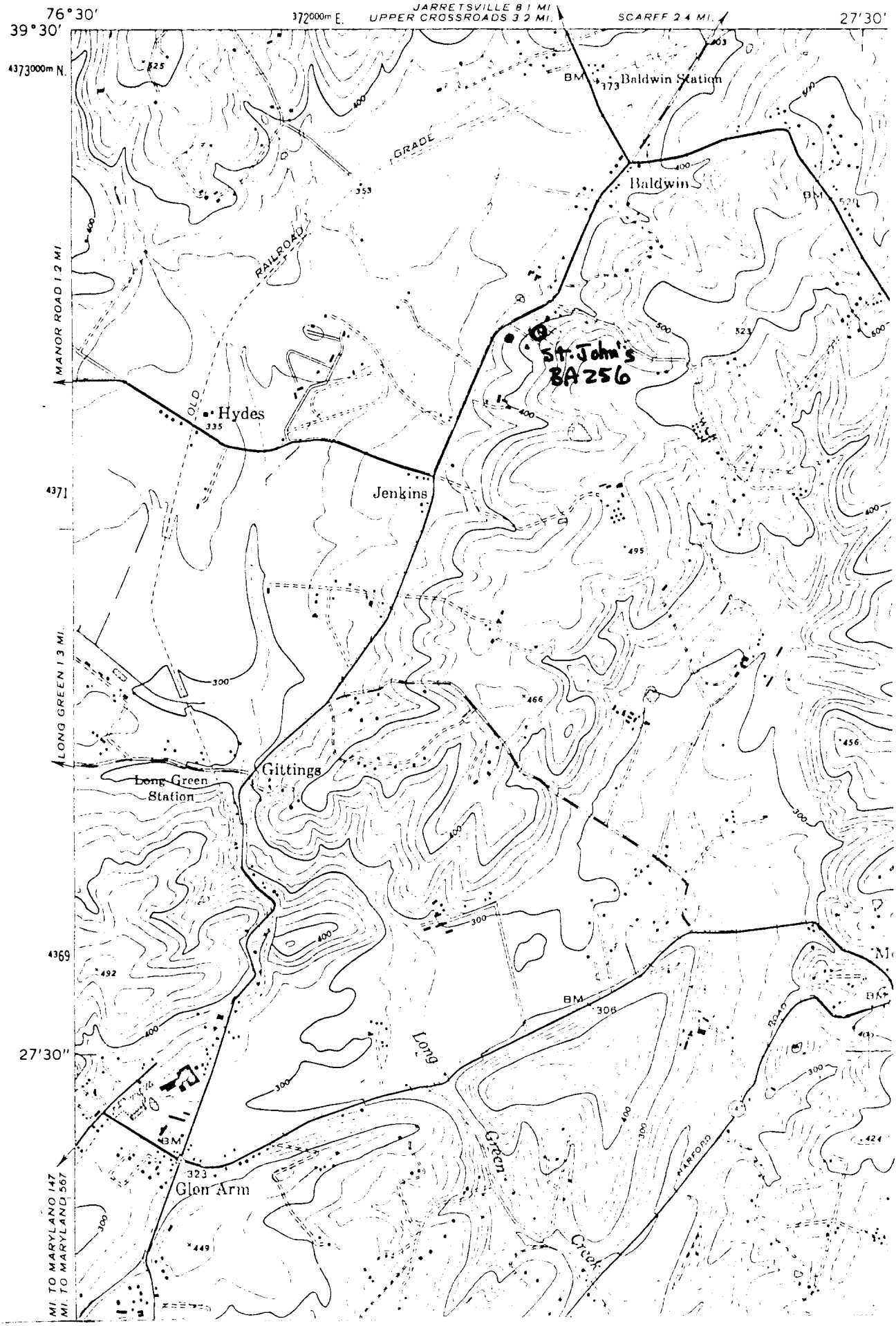
9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER

DATE OF RECORD

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

BA-256

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
WHITE MARSH QUAD

5663 II SE
(PHOENIX)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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