MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

31 E. Church Street

CITY, TOWN

Frederick ___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Frederick

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
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE, zip code

___ VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Frederick County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

N. Court Street

CITY, TOWN

Frederick, Maryland

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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

This is a detached Norman Gothic Revival church being ninety-seven feet long by seventy-four feet wide with twin towers supporting tapering spires reaching to 150' in height. Between the towers, the front facade consists of a low tower topped by a pediment in the center. This extends up to the front gable of the steep "A" frame roof and houses the narthex. This section contains three Gothic stained glass windows and adorned by belt courses and pendants of Connecticut brownstone which is used for all other facade trim such as the ashlar base, coping, window sills, buttress caps, etc. The center doorway is in the base of this section and is topped by a peaked gable and round window. Smaller side doors are on either side in the base of the towers. All front doors are of wood with four panels and paneled wood Gothic arched top enclosures. The first floor level is reached by five brownstone steps before each door.

The steep "A" frame roof of the nave is covered by shingles. Round metal louvered stacks are used at the peak of the ridge in lieu of chimneys. The spires are covered by metal panels. Small louvered Gothic pointed windows adorn four sides of the spires and the bottom corners of the spires are peaked with small round window designs within. The spires taper into long moulded finials topped by gold leaved weathervanes and a thin capped spike. These twin spires contribute to the trademark of the City's "Clustered Spires." The west tower contains two bells cast in London in 1771. The fourth level of the towers contains Gothic louvered windows on each side while the second and thir levels contain stained glass windows. There are also two narrow stained glass window. on either side of the front center entrance. Brownstone pendants adorn the third level of the towers to match the center section. On the sides of the nave are five pairs of tall Gothic arched stained glass windows separated by rectangular buttresses.

The church walls are of a rough cast brick and covered with stucco. Fronting the church is a herringbone pattern brick sidewalk.

The remains of an older church of 1762 abuts the present church to the rear. This building was altered to one-half its length to accomodate the new church. The rear section is commonly called the "Chapel" and is five bays square. It presently serves educational and social needs. Side windows of the "Chapel" are 9/6 and 6/6 sash with two large 12/8 windows on the second floor of the rear facade. Brick sills and flat arches are covered by the stucco covering the walls. Wood paneled doors are on either side of the building. The east side which is exposed has a three string brick cornice. A full length wing extends off the west side of the building and has a metal shed roof. The "Chapel" roof is of metal "A" frame construction and has a steep slope. To the rear of the Chapel is a landscaped garden and lawn with a row of early tombstones dating back to the founding of the church in the 18th century.

ITEMS FROM THE DIARY OF JACOB ENGELBRECHT:

"August 20, 1854 - The cornerstone of the new church was laid."
"August 10, 1855 - The bells of the old Lutheran Church were hung in the new steeple (West). They were cast in London in 1774."
"December 8, 1855 - The new church has been dedicated."

NY slide no 53285

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	X 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
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	X OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	
1854-Cornerstone ~~1762-Old Chapel~~	Built by Niernsie and Nelson of Baltimore	Historic

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Evangelical Lutheran Church was built in 1854-1855 by a Baltimore firm of architects - Niernsie and Nelson.

It was organized as a congregation in 1738 by John Caspar Stover, a missionary pastor from Pennsylvania. It is the oldest Lutheran Church in Maryland. Its constitution was written by Pastor Henry Melchior Muhlenburg (one of the early organizers of the Lutheran movement in America).

The town of Frederick was laid out in 1745 and in 1746 the Lutherans erected a log church where the present parsonage now stands.

On May 30, 1752, Daniel Dulaney, the proprieter of Fredericktown, donated a lot between Church Street and Second Street for a new church. As a result of the French and Indian Wars, work had to cease and was not resumed until peace came in 1759.

In 1762, the church of native blue limestone with a single spire of 60 feet was dedicated. The building was square, 45 feet on each side. In 1771, two beautiful bells were bought from Peck and Chapman, London, England for a total cost of about $900.00.

In 1800, a new tower was built on the front of the church facing Church Street.

In 1825, the 1762 church was enlarged by adding 28 feet to its length.

In 1846, a parsonage was completed next to the church.

In October 1853, the congregation planned to build a new church with twin towers. It was necessary to tear down the front half of the 1762 church to make room for the new church which was built between 1854-1855. It was often called "The White Temple" because after its completion, the rough red brick was stuccoed and painted white. The part of the old 1762 church left standing was also stuccoed and became known as the "Old Chapel." The bells which had been bought in 1771 were repaired and hung in the west tower of the 1854-1855 church.

During the Civil War the Lutheran Church, as well as other buildings, was used as a hospital for the wounded, especially after the battle of Antietam. The church was ized by the military on September 15, 1862 and not evacuated until January 1863. ..omen of the church gathered supplied and sewed, collected money and served as nurses.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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 *DOUGLAS M. GREENE*
ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ORGANIZATION *HISTORICAL DISTRICT COMMISSION*
CITY of FREDERICK, MD. 21701

DATE MARCH 1973

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

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