

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

TRINITY CHAPEL

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

W. Church Street

CITY, TOWN

Frederick

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Frederick

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

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

10-4-43

# 7 DESCRIPTION

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED	DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED			
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED				

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The central front tower of local fieldstone is one bay square and rises up four stories in height. On either side and slightly recessed ~~ate~~ one bay square, two story sections with steep, shingled, hipped roofs sloping into the front wall of the nave to the rear. The tower is topped by a steeple composed of three octagonal wood framed and sided cupolas, mounted one upon the other, and each progressively smaller. Each section is accented by a narrow metal roof painted red surrounding it. The first section contains the set of chimes operated by levers in the tower below. It has four round arched open windows with balusters on each side. The section above contains the four large faces of the "Town Clock" and is enclosed. The top section is arcaded with eight round arches and balusters. The steeple is surmounted by a tapering shingled spire with a baluster shaped finial topped by a large gold leaved ball and a weather-vane with the date of 1807 in large letters. This spire rises to a height of 141' from the ground. A large wooden carved urn graces each of the four corners of the top of the stone tower.

The central recessed doorway is entered by large double doors of six panels topped by a half round fan window. The whole is elaborately framed by wide paneled pilasters and surmounted by a Georgian style broken pediment. The recessed doorways on either side are also paneled and contain more narrow double doors of ten panels, a paneled architrave and topped by pediments. Windows on the front facade, including the tower, are of an intricate design with the top sash having two rows of five small square panes over three rectangular panes with a four pane lower sash. Front window cornices are of styles 1) segmental 2) pediments and 3) flat arched, and all of wood. Wooden boxed cornices run around the top of the tower across the front of the side sections and the tops of each cupola and are trimmed with rows of dentils. A sandstone belt course runs across the front facade beneath the second story windows. The nave is two tall stories high and eight bays long with four rectangular brick buttresses supporting the sidewalls and some containing chimneys. All brickwork is of unpainted common bond. The shingled roof is of a very steep pitched "A" frame construction and rises to a height of approximately two more stories. All side and second story rear windows are 12/9 sash with a wide center section in the lower sash and have sandstone sills. Those on the top floor have wood lintels and those on the first floor have segmental two row header arches. A twelve paned stained glass window occupies the center of the rear wall and is surrounded by first floor windows of four wood panels over 8/8 sash. Second story windows resemble those on the sides. The building has a low fieldstone foundation and a front cornerstone has dates of 1881 and 1768. A monument in the rear church yard is a memorial to those buried there dating back to 1769.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

53-663

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
Cornerstone 1768 & 1881				Historic	

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This tract of land was given to the German Reformed Church by David Dulany, the original owner and developer of the City of Frederick in 1745. A church was built and a colonial style steeple was added shortly after 1764 by Stephen Steiner, a highly skilled local architect. This became the first of the Frederick's famous "Clustered Spires." In 1797, a town clock with four faces, wooden works, and wound by hand was made and installed by a local craftsman. In 1807, the present tapering spire was added to the steeple by the same architect. The original church was replaced with the present building in 1881 but the base of the original stone tower and the steeple were retained as it appears today. A ten bell peal of chimes was installed in 1893 and is still used regularly for the playing of hymns and striking the hours of the "Town Clock." The original clock works were presented to the Smithsonian Museum, Washington, D.C. during the 1920's and replaced with a new mechanism.

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

*MAY 1973*

STREET &amp; 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