nO-382
GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 1911
Elkridge,
Private

The congregation of Grace Episcopal Church was begun in 1841 when the Reverend Robert Piggott held Sunday afternoon services at Rockburn and other surrounding Elkridge homes. In 1845 it was admitted into the diocese of Maryland as a parish.

Two previous buildings were destroyed by fire before the present structure was erected in 1911.

Designed by George Worthington, a vestryman of Grace Church, it is an exceptionally fine example of English perpendicular in a cruciform plan with high pitched intersecting gabled slate roofs, located on the crest of a hill commonly called Elkridge Heights south and west of the B&O railroad.

1403823708
HO-382
District #1

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Grace Episcopal Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Southeast Side of Main Street & B & O Railroad/West, B & O Railroad/West

CITY OR TOWN: Elkridge Heights -- Elkridge

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Howard

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
[X] District [ ] Building [ ] Site [ ] Structure [ ] Object	[ ] Public [X] Private [ ] Both	Public Acquisition: [ ] In Process [ ] Being Considered	[X] Occupied [ ] Unoccupied [ ] Preservation work in progress	Yes: [ ] Restricted [X] Unrestricted [ ] No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

[ ] Agricultural	[ ] Government	[ ] Park	[ ] Transportation	[ ] Comments
[ ] Commercial	[ ] Industrial	[ ] Private Residence	[ ] Other (Specify)	
[X] Educational	[ ] Military	[X] Religious		
[ ] Entertainment	[ ] Museum	[ ] Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Grace Episcopal Church c/o Robert Gaurlay

STREET AND NUMBER: 5805 Main Street

CITY OR TOWN: Elkridge

STATE: Maryland 21227

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Hall of Records

STREET AND NUMBER: Howard County Court House

CITY OR TOWN: Ellicott City

STATE: Maryland 21043

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): Map 38, Blk 14 /P. 592 40/243 6/227 46/1

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Howard County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: 1976 [ ] Federal [X] State [ ] County [ ] Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER: 21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis

STATE: Maryland 21401

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)		
	[X] Excellent [ ] Good [ ] Fair [ ] Deteriorated [ ] Ruins [ ] Unexposed		
	(Check One)	(Check One)	
	[ ] Altered [X] Unaltered	[ ] Moved [X] Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (*if known*) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Grace Church is located on the crest of a sloping hill commonly called Elkridge Heights south and west of the railroad. It is an exceptionally fine, well crafted representation of English perpendicular in a cruciform plan with high pitched intersecting gabled slate roofs.

The west entrance has a low pitched gable roofed portico supported by three square columns on each side, one of which is inset into the west wall on either side of the entrance. A stone wall connects the columns and creates a semi-enclosed portico. A tripartite gothic window with perpendicular vertical stone lintel and stone sill is inset into the A formed by the roof gable. A stone cross in relief is above the Keystone of the lintel. Two splayed brick steps lead to the patterned brick entranceway and perpendicular double entrance door.

The western prong of the cruciform plan is four bays long and forms the nave of the church. Its windows are tripartite, vertical leaden glass casement windows with leaden glass transoms and fine projecting stone lintels.

The south entrance is three bays wide and two bays deep. Its west wall contains a north bay tripartite window with central stained glass window and side panels of leaden glass. A square window is inset into the south bay of the wall. The south entrance has a perpendicular double wooden door with a vertical stone arched lintel, decorated by a projecting stone band. It is flanked by perpendicular leaden glass windows.

Three vertical rectangular leaden glass windows are inset into its east wall. A stone campanile is at the apex of the roof. Vertical projecting stone bands drop from the gable to meet the flat arched stone lintels of the second story windows. A square vent is between these bands.

The east wall of Grace Church holds a perpendicular tripartite window similar to that on the west wall inset into the A formed by the gabled roof.

The north entrance has a crenolated closed porch with perpendicular double wooden door similar to that of the entrance on the south porch. Stone brackets hold the cornice line which holds a crenalated wall.

A tripartite window similar to that on the east and west lies above. The north door is flanked by stone perpendicular recesses which appear to be ready to hold future windows similar to those of the south entrance.

A circular drive runs around the church to a cemetary located north of the structure next to the railroad.

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8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- [ ] Pre-Columbian
- [ ] 15th Century
- [ ] 16th Century
- [ ] 17th Century
- [x] 18th Century
- [x] 19th Century
- [ ] 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) *(If Applicable and Known)*

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- Aboriginal
  - [ ] Prehistoric
  - [ ] Historic
- [ ] Agriculture
- [x] Architecture
- [ ] Art
- [ ] Commerce
- [ ] Communications
- [ ] Conservation
- [ ] Education
- [ ] Engineering
- [ ] Industry
- [ ] Invention
- [ ] Landscape Architecture
- [ ] Literature
- [ ] Military
- [ ] Music
- [ ] Political
- [x] Religion/Philosophy
- [ ] Science
- [ ] Sculpture
- [ ] Social/Humanitarian
- [ ] Theater
- [ ] Transportation
- [ ] Urban Planning
- [ ] Other *(Specify)*

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The congregation of Grace Episcopal Church was begun in 1841 when the Reverend Robert Piggott held Sunday afternoon services at Rockburn and other homes as well as the building owned by Melville Chapel near the railroad tracks where Toomey's coal yard now stands.

The 1845 Convention of the Diocese of Maryland admitted Grace Church of Elkridge as a parish. Land was bought from the B&O Railroad and a wooden church built "situated on the Washington Turnpike Road, near the place in said landing where the railroad crosses the Turnpike".

In 1855 this building was destroyed by fire and a new building built and dedicated in 1856. Two years later, a Sunday School building was opened.

The Reverend John C. Gray was priest at Grace Church during the 1890's and founded St. John's Chapel in Relay.

On August 10, 1909, another fire destroyed the church building, the Sunday School building, and the carriage sheds. A new rectory, located southwest of the church built after an 1899 fire damaged the old rectory, survived the 1909 fire.

After this fire, a new Parish House was built within three months and a decision made to move the church up the hill, farther from the railroad, resulting in the present structure.

George Worthington, the architect, was a vestry man of Grace and the son of the first registrar of the first vestry of the church. The building was consecrated on October 8, 1911.

In 1957 a new rectory was built on Lawyer's Hill and the old one on Main Street sold.

In 1966 a new Parish House on Montgomery and Landing Roads was opened which is the location of Sunday School classes on Sunday mornings and of community meetings. A day care center is held there on weekdays.

Significant as a congregation of 135 years old it is also significant architecturally as a unique example of English Gothic perpendicular. It is constructed of fine material.

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Sipes, Betsy. "Grace: Stone Church By the Tracks" Elkridge: A Bicentennial Journal. June, 1976.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY									OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES					
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE						LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds				Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"				°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"									
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"									
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"									

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

Please see Tax Map 38 Blk 14 P. 592 40/243 6/227 46/1

1.50 Acres

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist

ORGANIZATION: Office of Planning and Zoning - Comprehensive Planning

DATE:

STREET AND NUMBER: 3450 Court House Drive

CITY OR TOWN: Ellicott City

STATE: Maryland

21043

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

BALTO. CO.
MAP 113
BALTIMORE CO.
GRACE E. CHURCH
ELKRIDGE, MD.
M.32-P.31
P 32-24
HARLES E
IRBY
15/514
P.46
P 47
1.96A.
P.48
MD STATE HOUSING CO
236/10
P.782
FURNACE AV
M.E. CHURCH
P.592
P 333
P 334
M G GORDON
390/684
2.5A
P 635
P 457
P 452
P 455
P.456
CHAS. E. TOOMEY
81/36
P 162
Elkridge Hts. Road
PATAPSCO HGHTS. LAND DEV. CORP.
447/574
25.00A.
P.163
ST. AUGUSTINE CHURCH
DAVIS & HEMPHILL INC
395/118
3.18A.
P.429
M FITZGERALD W/P
P.313
ST OF MARYLAND
319/35
P 339
ST OF MD
270/366
P.337
STATE OF MARYLAND
315/154
36.24A.
P.503
P.425
P.373
MARY E HARDNEY
327/462
6.7A.
P.553
AREA REALTY, INC.
479/122
38.67A.
PHYLLIS M. ADCOCK
229/73
14.72A
RUN

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Grace Episcopal Church, Elkridge

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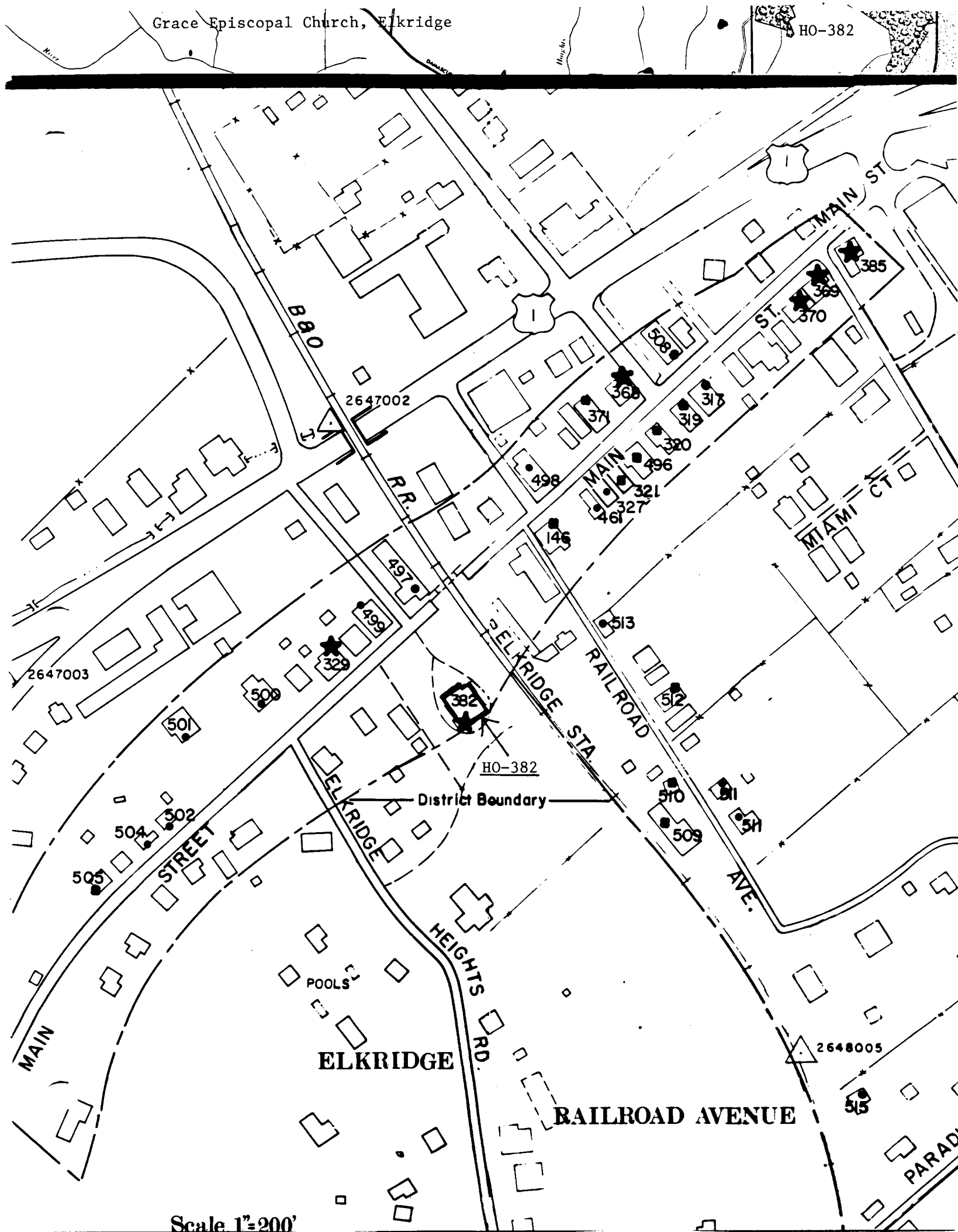
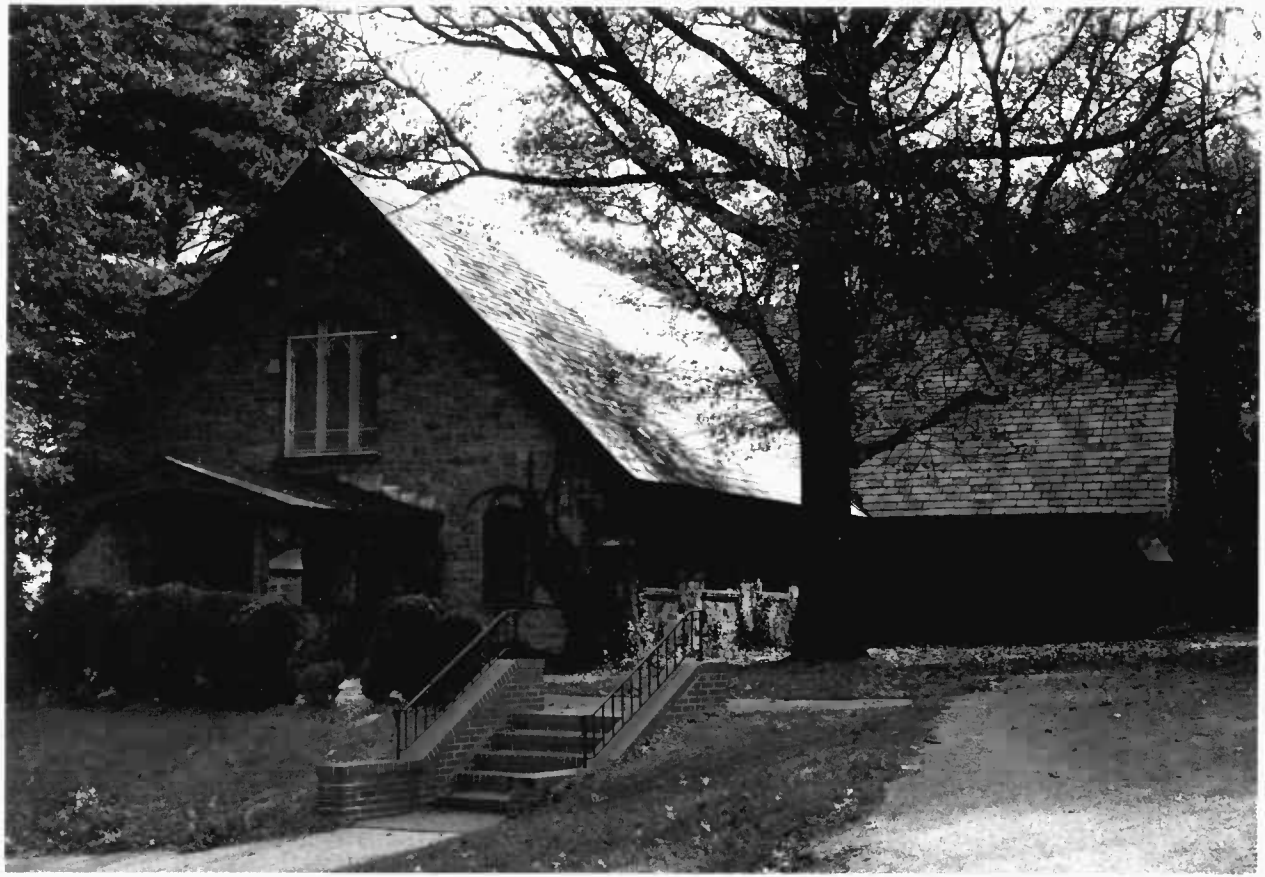
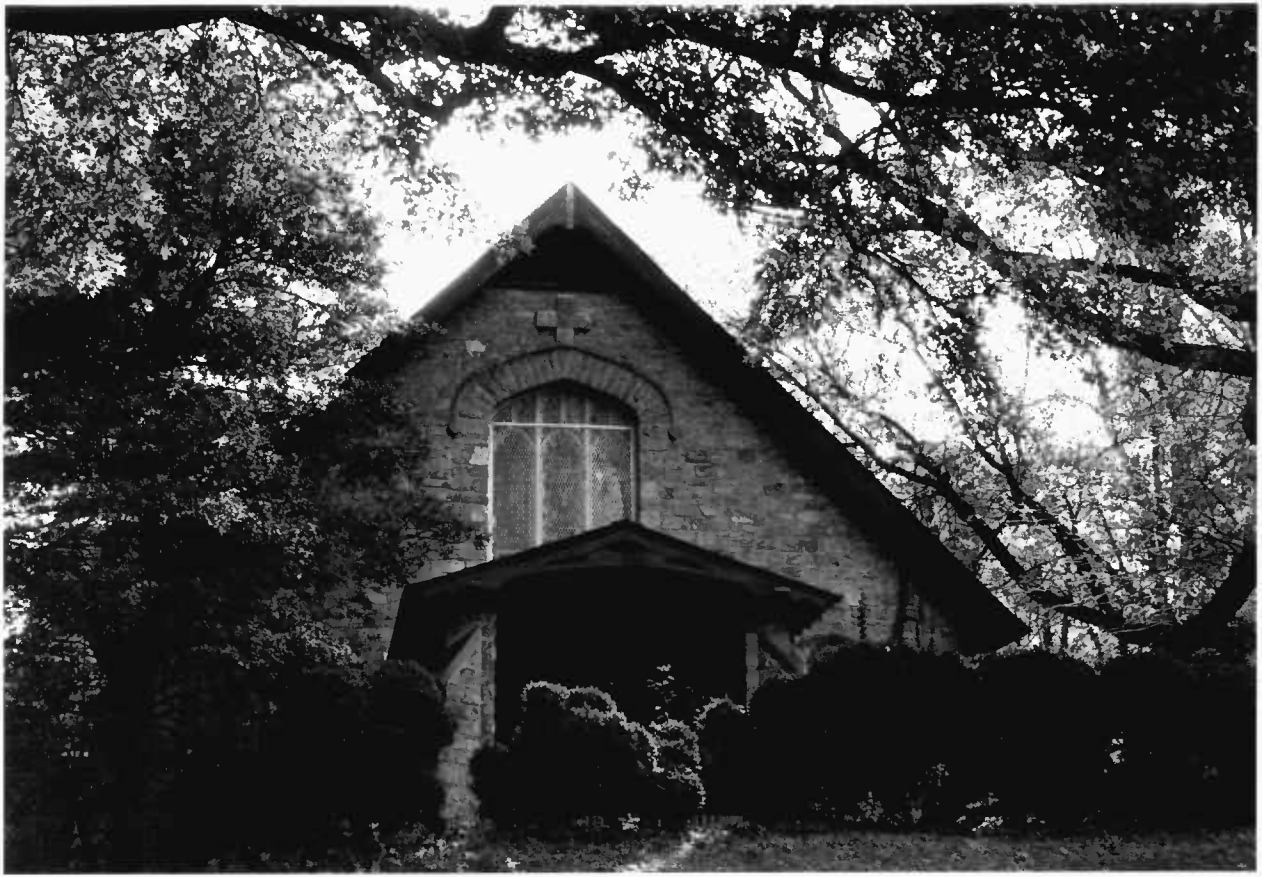


Scale 1"=200'



HO-382 DIST 1.
GRACE EP. CH.

BARNES THOMPSON
ING CONSULTANT
STORICAL SITES SURVEY



HO-382 DIST 1
GRACE EP. CH.

CLEORA BARNES THOMPSON
PLANNING CONSULTANT
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY